



**A SUBMISSION TO THE  
CHRISTCHURCH CITY COUNCIL**

**REGARDING**

**THE DRAFT LONG-TERM  
COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN  
(LTCCP)**

**May 2005**

## 1.0 SUBMITTER DETAILS

### 1.1 SUBMITTING PARTIES

This submission is from Te Runaka ki Otautahi o Kai Tahu, and is supported by the Otautahi Branch of the Maori Women's Welfare League.

### 1.2 HISTORY AND MEMBERSHIP

Te Runaka ki Otautahi o Kai Tahu (often referred to as the Otautahi Runaka) is a Kai Tahu (Ngai Tahu) tribal council based in urban Christchurch. First set up in 1936, it established a Charitable Trust as its governing body in 1991. Since its inception, the Otautahi Runaka has been responsible for the social and cultural development and enhancement of Māori and others of the Christchurch area, focusing over the past 15 years in resource and service delivery in the health, mental health, education and social service sectors.

The Otautahi Runaka chose not to be aligned with the Papatipu Runaka structure of Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu when this was created by Act of Parliament in 1996, and as such is not a formal constituent member this group. However, the Runaka continues to facilitate the meeting of the aspirations and needs of Māori people in Christchurch.

Since its establishment, the purpose of Te Runaka ki Otautahi has remained the same, that is, to provide for the social, cultural and spiritual needs of all Māori living in the Christchurch area.

The primary philosophical foundation of the Runaka is based on the axiom:

“Aroha ki te Takata”, or “Love and Hospitality to all People”,

and this extends to all peoples and all cultures. The monthly General Meetings of the Runaka offer a forum for many groups and individuals in the city to network concerning issues of relevance to Māori, and the organisation is accessed for advice on many matters relating to Tikaka (culture), Te Reo (language), Treaty of Waitangi issues, policy advice, social development, cultural enhancement and spiritual nurturing.

The Otautahi Runaka currently has a membership of over 1000 people. While the Runaka has a base membership of people with whakapapa to the iwi of Kai Tahu, Kati Mamoe, and Waitaha from the Runaka outside of the Christchurch Metropolitan area, in response to the philosophy noted above, membership also includes numerous Māori from other iwi, as well as many non-Māori people.

A large proportion of our wanaka (teaching and learning sessions) and hui (gatherings) are supported by our volunteer base which comprises members of our Runaka and others in the wider community.

### 1.3 APPEARANCE IN PERSON

**We wish to appear before the Christchurch City Council and speak to this submission.**

We understand that the Christchurch City Council is hearing submissions, and Te Runaka ki Otautahi o Kai Tahu wishes to make an oral presentation to the Council.

## 2.0 POSITION ON THE DRAFT LONG-TERM COUNCIL COMMUNITY PLAN (LTCCP)

### CONCERN REGARDING THE DRAFT LTCCP

Te Runaka ki Otautahi o Kai Tahu holds serious concerns about the Draft LTCCP and wish to see it amended.

The main reasons for our position are outlined below.

2.1 The Plan does not outline in any way how the Council intends giving effect to the Local Government Act 2002, Section 81, which states that a local authority must:

- establish and maintain processes to provide opportunities for Maori to contribute to the decision-making processes of the local authority;
- consider ways in which it may foster the development of Maori capacity to contribute to the decision-making processes of the local authority;
- provide relevant information to Maori for the purposes of the previous two points.

The process by which the Draft LTCCP has been developed has been inappropriate, and meaningful consultation with Maori has not taken place in any way, shape or form. This is in breach of the Local Government Act, which makes the Draft LTCCP an illegal document.

2.2 The Local Government Act also:

- requires the Council to be systematic in its decision-making, to keep the public (including Maori) well-informed and consider their views.
- Binds Councils to ensure they make decisions subject to the requirements of other legislation.
- Has Principles that include openness, transparency, effectiveness, having regard to community views, opportunities for Maori to contribute to decision-making and collaboration.

None of these have been apparent to date in the LTCCP process in relation to Maori.

2.3 The plan makes no reference whatsoever to specific issues for Maori, particularly those that the Council have been working with for a number of years. These include:

- the Leaders' Committee that was working together with the Mayor to establish meaningful and long-term relationships between the Council and Maori. Membership of this Committee comprised of Mayor Garry Moore, Mark Solomon (Kaiwhakahaere, Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu), Rakihia Tau (Upoko, Te Ngai Tuahuriri Runanga), Rev. Maurice Gray (Upoko, Te Runaka ki Otautahi o Kai Tahu) and Henare Edwards (Chair, Te Runanga o Nga Maata Waka). This Committee has not met now for over two years.
- Maori-specific positions and/or focus within the Council's infrastructure.
- Inclusion of Maori in Council decision-making.
- Preservation of places of significance for Maori (including wahi tapu and historical sites).

2.4 We acknowledge that the Council wishes to establish a relationship with Ngai Tahu in the first instance, and has attempted to carry out discussions with Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu regarding a Memorandum of Understanding, and the building of relationships in the Council's area. However, this process has taken well over two years so far, with no tangible results.

The result of this is that "consultation with Maori" is only taking place with one party, and is therefore not consultation. The Council has not spoken or consulted with other Runaka, Maori groups or organisations in the drafting of the LTCCP. These groups make up a sizeable number of the Maori population of Christchurch and Banks Peninsula, and include:

- The Runaka of Tuahuriri, Rapaki, Wairewa, Koukourarata, Onuku, Taumutu and Otautahi;
- Te Runanga o Nga Maata Waka and other Iwi groups;
- Maori agencies, community groups and organisations.

The Christchurch City Council continues to expect the Maori community to wait in the wings while it takes unacceptable amounts of time to begin its relationship out with Te Runanga o Ngai Tahu. Many of these groups and organisations work at the coal-face of the community, carrying out significant work with and for Maori in Christchurch, without any recognition whatsoever by the Council.

Meanwhile, the Council continues to put in place processes that it has utilised for years now, and that have failed. We urge the Council to rectify this situation forthwith.

2.5 The Plan is also in breach of the Treaty of Waitangi, as follows:

- Article I: The Plan does not promote and enable Maori to have input into decision-making at all levels, including governance and senior management.
- Article II: The Plan does not enable the Maori community to make decisions about their own future direction, nor does it allocate the resources to do this.
- Article III: The Plan does not ensure that all Maori enjoy the rights of equal citizenship, because the majority of the Maori community have not had the chance to contribute to the Plan.

2.6 The Plan does not specify what “Maori capacity building” entails.

2.7 “Cultural” services (pp.102-108) refer only to facilities such as the Art Gallery, libraries, Museums and Our City O-Tautahi. There is no reference in this section to Maori assets such as local marae.

### 3.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

Te Runaka ki Otautahi o Kai Tahu recommends to the Christchurch City Council that:

- 3.1 The Council make itself accountable in law to the Local Government Act, including the provision of training to Councillors and other relevant Council representatives about the Act and how to apply it appropriately.
- 3.2 A structure and process be established immediately, in consultation with key groups within the Maori community, that will enable meaningful consultation and discussion with Maori in relation to the Draft LTCCP.
- 3.3 The Council reinstate the Leaders' Committee and ensure that regular meetings are held in the future.
- 3.4 The Council develop (or in some cases reinstate) clear, well-resourced and transparent structures that support Maori capacity to contribute to decision-making (such as Standing Committees, Working Parties or Advisory Groups).
- 3.5 The LTCCP be amended to reflect the importance of local Maori sites of significance, including wahi tapu, historical sites and marae.

#### 4.0 CONCLUSION

The Draft Long-Term Council Community Plan is unacceptable in its current form, and is in breach of the Local Government Act 2002 and the provisions of the Treaty of Waitangi.

Te Runaka ki Otautahi o Kai Tahu is disappointed that the Christchurch City Council has seen fit to develop this document in the way it has, and we look forward to the opportunity to further clarify our position in an oral presentation to the Council's representatives in the near future.

No reira, kua mutu noa iho tenei korero e pa ana ki tenei take nunui i waekānui i a tatou o te rohe Otautahi whānui, no reira, e te Kaunihera, tena koutou, tena koutou, tena koutou katoa.



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Upoko Runaka  
On behalf of Te Runaka ki Otautahi o Kai Tahu

#### 5.0 CONTACT DETAILS

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