

12 July 2021

Piremia Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern

Cc Nā Bernadette Cavanagh
Tumu Whakarāe

Tēnā koe Piremia

I am writing today to attach Margaret Brough's submission to the Petitions Committee for your information and reflection.

I don't know if you recall your words on Waitangi Day in 2019, but I do.

You asked Māori to hold you and your government to account.

You said "for a long time, there has been rhetoric about Māori and Pākehā meeting in the middle and yet how often did we truly walk that bridge together. And rather how often did we expect Māori to come all the way over to the other side."

We were sitting together at the time and I recall pointing to the Marae and Hobson's house and reflecting it is only a short distance between them.

However, disappointingly, today I find myself needing to hold you and your government to account.

While Margaret raises many valid points as they relate to Erebus families, the Waitemātā Local Board, the community and the broader process, I specifically draw your attention to the following:

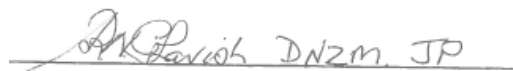
- Iwi and Mana Whenua were not consulted properly and Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei engaged only as an afterthought.
- When legitimate questions were raised about the site and support from the Erebus families, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei were advised that the Erebus families were "*unanimous*" in their desire for a park like location and that the response to the site selected was "*overwhelmingly positive*". The facts reveal that is patently untrue.
- Critical information (Boffa Miskell and the Colmar Brunton Survey) was withheld from Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei when seeking support for the location.
- Mana Whenua was also denied an opportunity to contribute to the selection of the final design that would ultimately rest on their whenua.
- Broader Mana Whenua were deliberately excluded from early consultation, even though Auckland Council staff advised MCH they should be part of the consultation and went so far as to make arrangements for MCH to attend the Mana Whenua Kaitiaki Forum on 31 October 2018, which MCH chose not to attend.

- MCH instead chose to deal exclusively with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei and only consulted more widely when required to gain regulatory approvals. Your Ministry has deliberately divided Mana Whenua by their actions.
- Even when they were required to consult with wider Iwi at resource consent stage, it was clear they had no intention of allowing any meaningful contribution.
- By not voluntarily notifying resource consent MCH knowingly shut down the voices of those who could have rightfully and meaningfully raised concerns and objections, including Mana Whenua.
- For a Ministry, whose core responsibility is to protect our Heritage, to deliberately take steps to limit the understanding of the history and heritage of the whenua, is simply unacceptable and lacks integrity.
- Your Ministry has undertaken no assessment of the great Pōhutukawa from a Māori cultural perspective, nor have they considered the impact on the Tupuna Rakau over the next 800 years of its natural life.
- Iwi have been treated disrespectfully as an afterthought and not engaged with in a meaningful manner as one would expect when the Crown deals with their Treaty Partner.

The Erebus Memorial clearly cannot be placed in the proposed location. I respectfully ask that you abandon your plans for this memorial on this site and walk with Māori to find a more appropriate home for this important National Memorial.

That is the path I would be happy to walk with you.

Ngā manaakitanga



Dame Rangimarie Naida Glavish DNZM JP

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