



NKII TRIENNIAL ELECTION INFORMATION PAPER

Submitted by: Smart Services Director – Ruth Wong

Date: 30 July 2021

Subject: *Ngāti Kahungunu Elections 2022*

Purpose

The Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated (NKII) triennial Board Election is due to take place on Tuesday 26 April 2022. This decision paper has been prepared with information and a timeline proposal for the 2022 NKII Board election process.

Background

The Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated Board Elections take place every three years. Nine (9) elections take place simultaneously for ten (10) positions on the Board as follows; The election of six (6) Taiwhenua/Rohe representatives, two (2) Taurahere representatives (from the new Northern and Southern Districts), one (1) Kaumātua representative and (1) Chairman position.

Discussion

All members currently on the NKII Board were participants of the 2019 NKII Board election process. All participants whether candidate, nominator or voter, must be registered to participate in this election. All registered participants must be Nga Uri a Kahungunu – descendants of Kahungunu, 18 years of age or over at the time of the election (26 April 2022).

MARAE, TAIWHENUA/ROHE & TAURAHERE NOMINATIONS

Marae/Taiwhenua elections are held and run in accordance to their own constitutions. It is important that Marae/Taiwhenua elections are completed by the 1st February 2022 in order for newly elected board members to participate in the iwi elections if they so desire.

- The Taiwhenua/Rohe Boards are made up of registered Marae representatives who have been appointed or elected by their respective marae and/or they have been elected in accordance to their respective constitutions.
- The Taurahere Boards are made up of registered Kahungunu representatives who reside outside the Kahungunu rohe.
- Candidates for the Taiwhenua/Rohe/Taurahere representative positions on the Board will come from the current pool of active Taiwhenua/Rohe/Taurahere Board members at the time nominations open for the iwi election which is 4 February 2022.

KAUMĀTUA NOMINATIONS

Kaumātua nominees come from an open pool. Candidates must be able to tick yes to **all** of the questions below to be eligible.

- Be a registered tangata whenua member of Kahungunu descent?
- Be 60 years or older?
- Be interested in the future of Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi?

- Be registered to participate in the 2019 election?
- Be proficient in Kahungunu tikanga, kawa and reo?
- Reside in the Kahungunu rohe?

CHAIRMAN NOMINATIONS

Nominations for the Iwi Chair position will come from the pool of Taiwhenua Board members who meet the criteria requirement at the time nominations open for the iwi election which is 4 February 2022. The incumbent Chair becomes an eligible candidate to the position of Chairperson without going through a marae/Taiwhenua election process as stated in 9.2.1 in the Constitution.

IWI ELECTION TIMELINE 2022

This is the proposed timeline. This timeline was approved at the NKII Board Hui held on Friday 30 July 2021.

Friday 30 July 2021	Election Process approved by the NKII Board
By Tuesday 1 February 2022	Taiwhenua and Taurahere elections are completed (separate process)
Friday 4 February 2022	Nominations Open
Friday 28 February 2022	Nominations Close (12noon)
Friday 28 February 2022 – 11 March 2022	Public Notice – Candidate Names announced
Monday 7 March 2022	Receive Members Data
Thursday 24 March 2022	Delivery of Voting Mailers
	Progressive roll scrutiny , Early processing, Special Voting period
Tuesday 19 th April 2022	Registrations Close (4pm)
Tuesday 26 th April 2022	Election Day, Voting closes (12noon)
Tuesday 26 th April 2022	Special General Meeting (4:30pm)
Tuesday 3 May 2022	Declaration of Results

INDEPENDENT RETURNING OFFICER

Since the 2007 NKII Board Election, Dale Ofsoske of Election Services, has been appointed by the NKII Board as the Independent Returning Officer for the triennial NKII Board Elections. Their work is highly recommended. The 2022 Independent Returning Officer is Dale Ofsoske of Election Services.

Attachments:

Appendix 1. NKII Board Constitutional Requirements for the Board Election

Appendix 2. Schedule 5 Election Process

APPENDIX 1

(The Board Section 9-9.5 of the 'NKII Constitution')

9. THE BOARD

9.1 The Board shall control and manage the business and affairs of NKII.

9.2 **Board Membership:** The Board Membership shall comprise of 10 Tangata Whenua Members as follows:

9.2.1 one (1) Chairperson elected from the Board Members of each Taiwhenua, who resides within the Kahungunu rohe; is proficient in Kahungunu Tikanga, kawa and reo; is a Tangata Whenua Member and who agreed to stand for election as Chairperson, elected by Nga Uri a Kahungunu;

9.2.1 (a) The incumbent Chair becomes an eligible candidate to the position of Chairperson without going through a marae/Taiwhenua election process.

9.2.2 one (1) Board Member elected from the Board Members of the Ngati Kahungunu Wairoa Taiwhenua at the time of the election who reside within the Ngati Kahungunu Wairoa Taiwhenua rohe and who are Tangata Whenua Members elected by Nga Uri a Kahungunu affiliated to the Ngati Kahungunu Wairoa Taiwhenua district;

9.2.3 one (1) Board Member elected from the Board Members of the Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui-a-Orotu at the time of the election who reside within the Te Whanganui-a-Orotu Taiwhenua rohe and who are Tangata Whenua Members elected by Nga Uri a Kahungunu affiliated to the Te Taiwhenua o Te Whanganui-a-Orotu district;

9.2.4 one (1) Board Member elected from the Board Members of the Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga at the time of the election who reside within the Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga rohe and who are Tangata Whenua Members elected by Nga Uri a Kahungunu affiliated to the Te Taiwhenua o Heretaunga district;

9.2.5 one (1) Board Member elected from the Board Members of the Te Taiwhenua o Tamatea at the time of the election who reside within the Te Taiwhenua o Tamatea rohe, who are Tangata Whenua Members elected by Nga Uri a Kahungunu affiliated to the Te Taiwhenua o Tamatea district;

9.2.6 one (1) Board Member elected from the Board Members of the Kahungunu ki Tamaki Nui A Rua Trust at the time of the election who reside within the Kahungunu ki Tamaki Nui A Rua Taiwhenua rohe, who are Tangata Whenua

Members elected by Nga Uri a Kahungunu affiliated to the Kahungunu ki Tamaki Nui A Rua Trust district;

9.2.7 one (1) Board Member elected from the Board Members of the Kahungunu ki Wairarapa at the time of the election who reside within the Kahungunu ki Wairarapa rohe, who are Tangata Whenua Members elected by Nga Uri a Kahungunu affiliated to the Kahungunu ki Wairarapa district;

9.2.8 one (1) Board Member elected from the Board Members of the Taurahere Runanga in the Northern District (as specified in schedule 5), at the time of the election who are Tangata Whenua Members and are elected by Ngā Uri o Kahungunu affiliated to the Taurahere Northern District' and one (1) Board Member elected from the Board Members of the Taurahere Runanga in the Southern District (as specified in schedule 5), at the time of the election who are Tangata Whenua Members and are elected by Ngā Uri o Kahungunu affiliated to the Taurahere Southern District;

9.2.9 one (1) Board Member who is a Ngati Kahungunu Kaumatua, who resides within the Kahungunu rohe; is proficient in Kahungunu Tikanga, kawa and reo; and is elected by Ngati Kahungunu Kaumatua.

9.3 **Affiliations for Board Elections:**

9.3.1 for the purpose of participating in the election of representatives, Nga Uri a Kahungunu shall notify the Secretary not less than two months prior to the election, as to which of the Taiwhenua districts that they wish to affiliate to, or whether they wish to affiliate to the Taurahere district. The Secretary shall record such advice on the Electoral Register.

9.3.2 for the purposes of participating in the election of the Kaumatua representatives, Ngati Kahungunu Kaumatua shall notify the Secretary that they wish to be recorded on the Kaumatua Roll, and the Secretary shall record such advice on the Electoral Register.

9.4 **Board Appointments and Elections:** The Board shall be elected in accordance with procedures determined by the Board but which comply with Schedule 5. In the event that any question arises as to the eligibility of a candidate to stand for election to the Board, the question shall be referred to the Kaumatua Taumata, whose decision shall be final.

9.5 Alternate Board Members:

- 9.5.1 each Board Member except the Chairperson shall have an Alternate Board Member who will be subject to the same procedure for appointment and election as the Board Member.
- (a) Each Taiwhenua and Taurahere Board will notify a minimum of two candidates for the Board positions to the Returning Officer by the due date as stipulated in the election timeline;
 - (b) The Alternate Board Member shall be the person who, in the Board Elections, receives the number of votes which is second only to the elected Board Member.
- 9.5.2 Alternate Board Members may, but are not required to, attend all meetings of the Board but will only vote at meetings in the place of the absent Board Member.
- 9.5.3 Alternate Board Members are afforded the same rights and obligations as Board Members when acting in the capacity of a Board Member.
- 9.5.4 where the Chairperson is not present, the remaining Board Members shall elect a Chairperson for that particular meeting.

APPENDIX 2

Schedule 5 Election Process

Time of Elections

1. The Board Members must arrange and conduct an election of Board Members in accordance with the electoral provisions set out in Rule 9 and Schedule 5 of this constitution at such times as shall ensure that no person who is an elected Board Member shall hold office for a period longer than 3 years without facing re-election.
 - 1.1 The triennial Board Elections shall be conducted by an Independent Returning Officer appointed by the Ngati Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated Board.
 - 1.2 The election timeline and process will be ratified by the Ngati Kahungunu Iwi Incorporated Board.

Eligible voters

2. All Adult Nga Uri a Kahungunu, including Tangata Whenua Members shall be eligible to vote on any resolution required by 12.6.5 of this constitution or the election of Board Members and any votes cast as per this Schedule 5 shall be received:
 - (a) by postal vote and received before 5pm on the day of the General Meeting; or
 - (b) by electronic voting.

Nominations for Board Member

3. The Board must, no later than 35 working days prior to the general meeting at which the election of Board Members will be held, publicly notify Nga Uri a Kahungunu, including Tangata Whenua Members, of the members of the Taiwhenua and/or Taurahere Runanga who are standing for election for the position of Chairperson and/or as representative of the Taiwhenua Districts and/or Taurahere Districts. The information included with the list of candidates shall:
 - (a) contain details of the nominee's full name, address and contact number;
 - (b) the position(s) that the nominee is/are standing for ;
 - (c) include a declaration signed by the nominee that declares that the nominee has agreed to the nomination and is not a person who is precluded from holding office as a Board Member on the basis of one or other of the matters specified in Rule 10.15.3 of the constitution;
 - (d) be accompanied by a brief statement containing details of experience and objectives relevant to the position of Board Member.

4. The Board must, no later than 35 working days prior to the General Meeting at which the election of Board Members will be held, publicly notify Nga Uri a Kahungunu, including Tangata Whenua Members, of the Ngati Kahungunu Kaumatua who are standing for election as the Kaumatua representative on the Board. The information included with the list of candidates shall:
 - (a) contain details of the nominee's full name, address and contact number;
 - (b) include a declaration signed by the nominee that declares that the nominee has agreed to the nomination and is not a person who is precluded from holding office as a Board Member on the basis of one or other of the matters specified in Rule 10.15.3 of the constitution;
 - (c) if the nominee so chooses, a brief personal statement.

Taurahere Runanga Districts

5. The election of Taurahere representatives on the Board is outlined in Section 9 of the Constitution and requires a definition of Northern District and the Southern District
 - The Northern District is North of the Wairoa Boundary
 - The Southern District is South of the Wairarapa Boundary

PART B: All Votes

Notice of Voting and General Meeting

6. The procedure determined by the Board Members in respect of any vote, must be publicly notified not less than 20 Working Days before the date of the vote and, if the vote is to be at a General Meeting of NKII, the notice procedures must comply with those specified in the Maori Fisheries Act, which at the date of this constitution are:
 - (a) Public Notice that includes:
 - (i) the date, time, venue and agenda of the General Meeting, the place where explanatory documents may be viewed or obtained, and any other information specified in the Act;
 - (ii) advice that a vote is to be taken to ratify or amend the constitutional documents of NKII;
 - (iii) advice on the method by which the vote will be counted, and
 - (b) Private Notice to every Adult Nga Uri a Kahungunu, including Tangata Whenua Members who has requested such from the Board in writing, that gives:

- (i) the information in the preceding sub-paragraph of this Schedule;
 - (ii) a copy of the Voting Paper; and
 - (iii) the address and return date for the Voting Paper.
- (b) Private Notice to every Adult Nga Uri a Kahungunu, including Tangata Whenua Members if there is to be a vote taken to ratify the constitutional documents of the Mandated Iwi Organisation that gives the information in sub paragraphs 6(a)(i) to (iii).

Valid votes

7. In the case that a resolution is to be sought in accordance with Rule 12.6.5(b), the conduct of a vote of Nga Uri a Kahungunu, including Tangata Whenua Members at a General Meeting must provide that:

- (a) In order for a vote to be validly cast:
- (i) the Board must, where the person is already registered as Tangata Whenua Member or a Nga Uri o Kahungunu in accordance with Rule 9.9.2, record the membership number on the Voting Paper; and
 - (ii) the person casting the vote must:
 - ensure that he or she is registered; or
 - where the person is not registered at the time of the vote, also complete a registration application in the form set out in Schedule 4 which shall be attached to and form part of the Voting Paper;
- (b) No vote cast under either paragraph 2 or paragraph 6(a) of this Schedule 5 shall be finally counted unless the details provided on the Voting Paper (except the ancillary information) are correct and the affiliation of the voter to Ngati Kahungunu has been confirmed either:
- (i) because that person is an Adult Nga Uri a Kahungunu, including Tangata Whenua Members at the time they cast their vote; or
 - (ii) if that person has applied at the time that their vote was cast, to become an Adult Nga Uri a Kahungunu, including Tangata Whenua Members, because their registration was accepted in accordance with Rule 5.6.

except that a provisional result, disclosing the number of such persons and counting their votes for provisional purposes only may be declared at any time.

Secret Ballots

8. All Votes shall be conducted so as to ensure that:
 - (a) the manner in which a vote is cast shall be known to the returning officer or persons assisting the returning officer, but not to others;
 - (b) that the returning officer and those persons shall undertake to keep that information confidential; and
 - (c) that the Voting Papers are destroyed by the returning officer after the date of completion of the final count plus a period of one month thereafter.