

DION TUUTA

SUMMARY OF EVIDENCE

My full name is Dion Joseph Tuuta. I am the Pouwhakahaere / CEO of Te Kotahitanga o Te Ātiawa Trust and Te Ātiawa Iwi Holdings Limited Partnership:

- Te Kotahitanga is the post-settlement governance entity responsible for managing Treaty settlement assets of Te Ātiawa Iwi in Taranaki.
- Te Ātiawa Holdings Limited Partnership manages the commercial assets received under our settlement and the ongoing commercial development and operations of Te Kotahitanga.

This is a momentous day for Te Ātiawa. It is the first time we have ever appeared in support of an application for one of our own projects. It is a privilege for me to speak today on behalf of our people and our project. A project which is about providing opportunity to our whānau.

Our 2016 Treaty settlement was an attempt by the Crown to provide a form of redress for five generations of lost opportunity for Te Ātiawa Iwi caused by land loss. It was an attempt to restore access to whenua and remove barriers to our collective progress and wellbeing. The property at 51 Barrett Street is a settlement property and we are seeking to realise our collective vision for modern day papakāinga through this project.

For Te Kotahitanga, the development of papakāinga is about creating an environment where our whānau can live together positively in a space designed to reflect their Te Ātiawatanga.

The development design speaks to the importance of Taranaki Maunga to Te Ātiawa and the site's connection to Ōtumaikuku – a pā site and kainga located across Barrett Street.

51 Barrett Street has been gifted the name Papa Pounamu by the local hapū, Ngāti Te Whiti. Papa Pounamu is the Ngāti Te Whiti name of a stream that flows near Ōtumaikuku.

The housing project is a beginning. At a time of great housing need within our whānau – and the wider community, this project realises our aspiration to provide high quality housing options for our Iwi members through Te Uru Kāinga, our Te Ātiawa housing programme.

Once complete, the housing at Papa Pounamu will be offered as affordable rentals to Iwi members. Rental prices will be capped at 80% of market rates and long-term tenancies will be offered to provide security of tenure. It is our hope and intent that this will be a step in their own journey towards independent home ownership.

Papa Pounamu is an important first step in Te Ātiawa improving housing opportunity and security for Te Ātiawa whānau within their tribal area, and in the re-emergence of Te Ātiawa design on our urban landscape. We have worked hard through the PDP

process to ensure the plan was poised to permit such steps, and it is exciting to present today to move the project forward in that context.

Tena koutou