



Q&A for TRoNT Representatives and Alternates

Updated 30 April 2020

What are you doing for Papatipu Rūnanga & Ngāi Tahu whānau?

- Supporting whānau, supporting Papatipu Rūnanga and rebuilding our regions is at top of mind for Te Rūnanga at this extremely challenging time. We are very conscious that this is a marathon not a sprint, and the impacts of COVID-19 will be felt for a long time yet. Those who are not struggling right now may well need our help in a few months' time. With that in mind, we are allocating resource and pūtea responsibly based on actual need and robust data.
- Our Papatipu Rūnanga and health providers have continued to lead the primary response on the ground in their own rohe, ensuring that their whānau needs are understood and addressed. Additional financial support has been provided by Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu directly to the seven Ngāi Tahu Health Providers to ensure their ongoing viability given the critical role they play on the frontline in our communities.
- The government and various other agencies are also providing much-needed support alongside this, which can be accessed by whānau and Papatipu Rūnanga e.g. wage subsidies, benefit increases, health information and advice, food/care packages and community grants or funding.
- Our Emergency Operation Centre at Te Rūnanga is activated to ensure we are across the needs of Papatipu Rūnanga, whānau and kaumātua and able to action anything urgent. This group has been coordinating everything from the gathering and analysis of government intel and communicating critical information out to whānau, right through to

bulk purchasing PPE and hand sanitiser for papatipu rūnanga and calling over 7000 registered kaumātua to address urgent needs.

- We've also launched our Tahu News service, which airs a video several times each week, to keep up engagement and connection among whānau, and we're keeping our website, radio station and social media channels up to date with resources and information.
- A lot of work is also occurring behind the scenes at a leadership level. This includes influencing government decision-making to ensure it meets our needs and requesting data from the government to support our own decision-making as we move into the recovery and rebuild phase.

My job, income and/or business has been impacted – what support can the iwi offer?

- Anyone struggling with loss of employment or income at this time should first explore the government's substantial economic package, which offers immediate financial support: <https://covid19.govt.nz/government-actions/financial-support/>. This is by far the quickest and most effective way to get financial support at this time – even if you're still working, you may be eligible for support from Work & Income to cover urgent or unexpected costs, such as food, accommodation, power, gas, water, heating, medical or dental bills.
- Whai Rawa members can also withdraw savings in some cases – please email whairawa@ngaitahu.iwi.nz or visit the Whai Rawa website (<https://whairawa.com/>) for information. This also applies to Whai Rawa members in Australia.
- Depending on resources, some Papatipu Rūnanga are also able to support whānau with care or kai packages, or help you source other support from providers operating in your local community.
- Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu is working alongside the government and considering what support we can offer to complement government packages as we move through the response into the recovery and rebuild phase. This includes aligning with the agencies responsible for administering these packages designed specifically for Māori e.g. Te Puni Kōkiri, Māori Health services, Whānau Ora commissioning agencies and Te Arawhiti.
- All our Ngāi Tahu businesses owners are connected in through our various networks such as Puna Pakihi and Te Pou Here, and have been receiving regular updates from our Tribal Economies team to ensure they are aware of the government support available and to offer mentoring and advice services from the iwi during this challenging period.

- Anyone living overseas should first look at what government or community support they might be eligible for in their place of residence. For example, New Zealanders in Australia on 444 visas are currently eligible for financial support.
- We know this is a challenging time for many whānau right now – the last thing we want is whānau members to be sitting at home worried about putting food on their kids' plates. We encourage you to explore all options available to you at this time from the government and via your local community and Papatipu Rūnanga and stay in contact with the iwi as we continue to share information about our response.

Why is Ngāi Tahu not doing food deliveries or care packages?

- The majority of our Papatipu Rūnanga have been distributing food and general care packages to whānau within their rohe.
- We know that our Papatipu Rūnanga are best placed to identify what support and resources their whānau need, so we remain in regular contact with them through our Emergency Operations Centre. This will continue as the impacts of COVID-19 continue to be felt because we know that those not struggling right now may need our support in a few months' time.

Why aren't we doing things like other iwi?

- Each iwi is different and has unique factors to take into consideration. The Ngāi Tahu takiwā spans the majority of Te Waipounamu, and our 18 Papatipu Rūnanga have different needs. Many of the iwi up north have a much smaller takiwā and therefore a more concentrated geographic area and population base.
- We are conscious that the impacts of COVID-19 will be felt for a long time yet, so resource allocation needs to be carefully considered to ensure it is used most effectively.

What's happening with Ngāi Tahu Holdings & the pūtea? Is it affected?

- Like many businesses around Aotearoa and the world, our commercial arm Ngāi Tahu Holdings has been hit hard by COVID-19.
- This is especially true for our Ngāi Tahu Tourism, which has been heavily reliant on international visitors and as a result of COVID-19 is now undergoing a significant change process which unfortunately may result in more than 300 job losses and the

closure of all Tourism businesses for the time being. A final announcement is due in early May 2020.

- We are confident we will recover in time thanks to our diverse portfolio of assets and the strong and experienced leadership team in place.
- While no other major changes are expected at present, we are reforecasting our budgets across Te Rūnanga Group ahead of the next financial year given the current financial climate and expected lower returns.

I'm overwhelmed with information from various sources – where should I go for help?

- Government's "Unite Against COVID-19" website: www.covid.govt.nz
- Financial support available: <https://covid19.govt.nz/government-actions/financial-support/>
- Te Rōpū Whakakaupapa Urutā website: <https://www.uruta.maori.nz/for-whanau>
- Healthline if you have symptoms: 0800 358 5453 (or call your GP)
- Ngāi Tahu website COVID-19 information: <https://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/whanau/covid-19/>
- Mental wellbeing advice: <https://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/get-help/covid-19/>
- Resources available for businesses: <http://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/whanau/covid-19/business-support/>
- Resources for teaching your tamariki at home: <http://ngaitahu.iwi.nz/whanau/covid-19/covid-19-education-resources/>

How can I stay connected with the iwi at this time?

- Follow Te Rūnanga o Ngāi Tahu on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/TeRunangaNgaiTahu>
- Follow @terunangaongaitahu on Instagram
- Tahu FM (download the app worldwide or tune in to 99.6FM in Invercargill, 95FM in Dunedin, 89.1FM in Timaru, 90.5FM in Christchurch, 90.7FM in Kaikōura).
- Make sure your contact details are updated with us so you receive our email pānui – email info@ngaitahu.iwi.nz to check.