

PUKEAHU NATIONAL WAR MEMORIAL PARK VISION, VALUES AND MISSION STATEMENTS

Introduction

The First World War had an unprecedented effect on New Zealand. Of the 100,000 New Zealanders who served overseas during the First World War, nearly 17,000 did not return. Many of those who did come home were severely affected by their experiences. Everyone living in New Zealand at the time was affected in some way by the First World War, whether through military service or experiences on the home front.

Throughout New Zealand there was a strong desire to commemorate this loss of life with suitable memorials, including a national war memorial. Cabinet established a National War Memorial Committee which at its first meeting in 1920 adopted what could be described as the original vision for the National War Memorial:

The memorial should be so designed as to embody the objects and sacrifices of the war, and the virtues displayed therein, in such a way that they will be an education, and an inspiration, not only to present but to future generations, and so be of immense influence in the formation of New Zealand character. (Dominion, 18 February 1920)

The vision was not specific as to the form the memorial should take, and it was nearly a decade before the idea of a carillon was settled upon and final designs were called for. By this time the concept of a national war memorial had become incorporated into a larger proposal that included a national museum and national art gallery located on the prominent Wellington site of Mount Cook. Prior to the arrival of Pākehā the site was known as Pukeahu and it is still regarded by Māori as a wāhi tupuna.

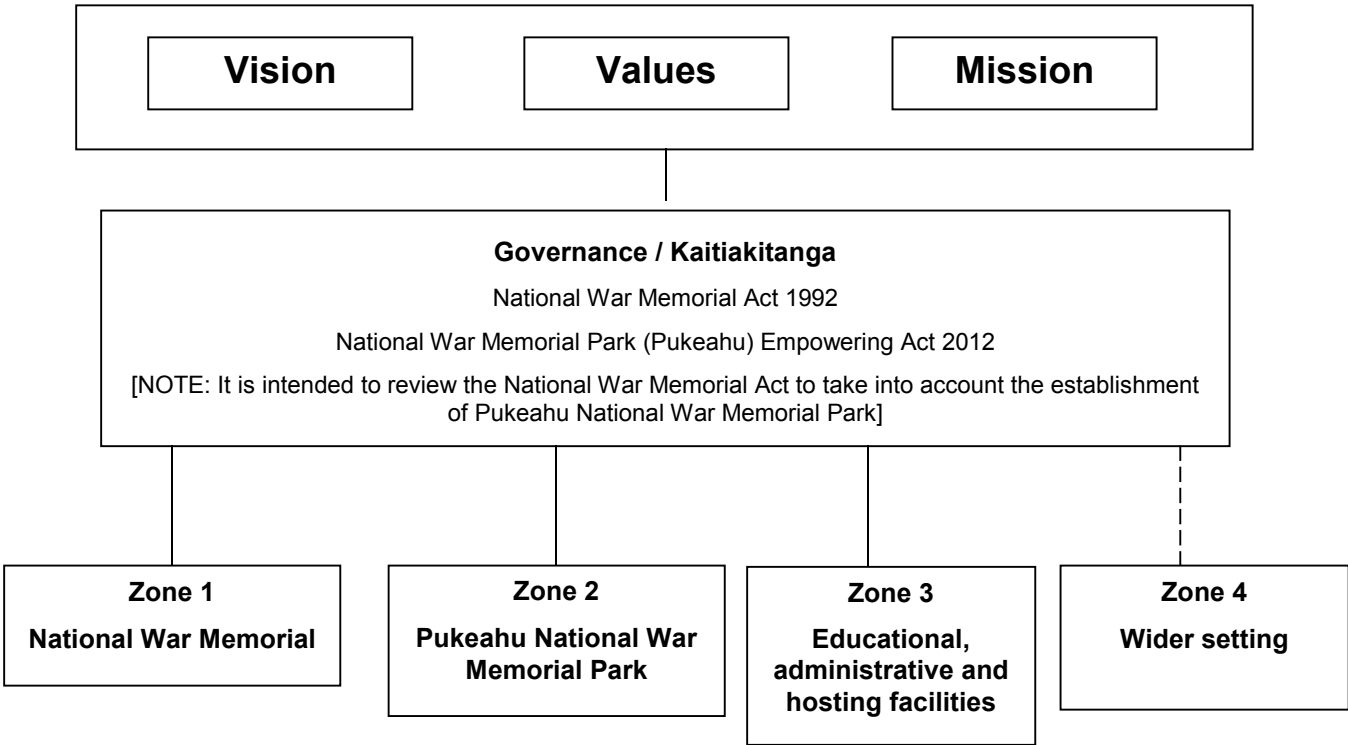
Since the National War Memorial's dedication on Anzac Day in 1932, New Zealanders have been involved in a number of wars, including the Second World War. These wars and conflicts are also commemorated at the National War Memorial. The National War Memorial has seen a number of changes, including the addition of the Hall of Memories (1964) and the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior (2004). It is the focus of ceremonies throughout the year, including key commemorations such as Anzac Day and Armistice Day. It is visited by foreign dignitaries, tourists, school parties and the general public.

Now, nearly 100 years since the beginning of the First World War, the National War Memorial is going through its greatest transformation to date. With the addition of Pukeahu National War Memorial Park (Pukeahu), the National War Memorial will become the core of Pukeahu dedicated to honouring New Zealanders' experiences of military conflict, and the enduring relationships forged between New Zealand and other nations by these experiences. As a result, there is a need to formulate guiding vision and mission statements, and to reconfirm the values that are the foundation of the National War Memorial and which will now apply to the entire Pukeahu. The values, vision and mission statements will guide how the Pukeahu will be governed in the future.

Description of Pukeahu

Pukeahu is divided into four zones:

- Zone One: National War Memorial – the protected ceremonial heart of Pukeahu (includes the Carillon, Hall of Memories and the Tomb of the Unknown Warrior).
- Zone Two: Pukeahu National War Memorial Park – the Australian Memorial, memorials from other nations, New Zealand memorials, the Tangata Whenua Gardens, and the Plaza (marae or atea).
- Zone Three: Educational, administrative and hosting facilities. While nominally a spatial zone it also has capacity to reach across the other zones.
- Zone Four: Strictly outside Pukeahu but still an integral part of the overall concept. This zone includes the wider setting of Pukeahu, including a boulevard linking Pukeahu to the city and waterfront. This area provides other options for memorials.



Vision statement

Vision statements should be inspirational and provide guidance for those charged with achieving the vision. Vision statements sum up what we want to achieve by some future date.

Pukeahu National War Memorial Park is the national place for New Zealanders to remember and reflect on this country's experience of war, military conflict and peacekeeping and how that experience shapes our ideals and sense of national identity.

Values statements

In defining the scope and focus of Pukeahu it is important to identify the core values which will underpin its development. These core values, which are based on those expressed by the original National War Memorial Committee in 1920, are unlikely to change over time, but how we express them to make them meaningful to successive generations may change.

Honour and respect

Pukeahu National War Memorial Park is the national tribute to the sacrifices made by New Zealanders and others in war, military conflict and peacekeeping. It is a place to recognise and respect the comradeship, compassion, courage and commitment of these people.

Remembrance and reflection

Pukeahu National War Memorial Park is the place for national remembrance and reflection. It is a recognition of the nation's commitment that the contribution made by New Zealanders and others in times of war, military conflict and peacekeeping will not be forgotten.

Inspiration and education

Pukeahu National War Memorial Park is a place which will inspire and educate present and future generations on the role New Zealanders and others have played in war, military conflict and peacekeeping.

National identity

Pukeahu National War Memorial Park is a place for all New Zealanders. It allows us to consider how the experience of war, military conflict and peacekeeping shapes our ideals and sense of national identity. It is also an expression of a shared history and helps define New Zealand as a diverse nation. As one of a number of cultural landmarks in the nation's capital, Pukeahu illustrates the enduring friendships between New Zealand and other nations forged through shared experiences of war, military conflict and peacekeeping.

Mission statement

A mission statement builds on a vision statement by describing the activities an organisation undertakes, who it does them for, and how it achieves its desired outcomes. A mission statement is important because it acts as a reference point to keep an organisation on track with its vision in sight.

Pukeahu's mission statement:

To provide present and future generations of New Zealanders with a dedicated place to commemorate our experience of war, military conflict and peacekeeping, and to reflect on how that experience shapes our ideals and sense of national identity by:

- *encouraging and promoting community use of Pukeahu's environs;*
- *providing an environment for ceremonies and activities consistent with the values of the National War Memorial;*
- *maintaining and enhancing the experience of Pukeahu National War Memorial Park;*
- *engaging visitors in New Zealand's history of war, military conflict and peacekeeping through interpretation and educational opportunities;*
- *developing strategic relationships to further develop Pukeahu National War Memorial Park.*