

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern

Associate Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

NATIONAL EREBUS MEMORIAL – UPDATE AND CONSTRUCTION TIMELINE

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Contact	Tamsin Evans, Deputy Chief Executive, Delivery, ph. 9(2)(a)		

Purpose

- 1 This Aide Memoire updates you on a potential application for judicial review of processes and decision making by Manatū Taonga Ministry for Culture and Heritage, Auckland Council and the Waitematā Local Board, with regard to the National Erebus Memorial.
- 2 Following recent correspondence by two separate iwi authorities, this paper provides an update on iwi and hapū engagement.
- 3 A plan for construction of the Memorial is set out here that will enable an unveiling ceremony in November 2021.

Current status of the project

- 4 On 17 November 2020 the Waitematā Local Board granted landowner approval for the Ministry to use the site at Dove Myer Robinson Park for the National Erebus Memorial. Since the decision to grant landowner approval, the Ministry has proceeded with preparing for the construction phase of the project.
- 5 The construction contract with Naylor Love, the main contractor, is currently under negotiation. It is due to be executed (signed) by the week starting 22 February and site work (such as fencing, haul road) should then commence in the week starting 1 March (a work schedule is provided in paragraph 28).
- 6 Throughout the Memorial project we have provided the local community with detailed and accurate information about the project such as a flyer to local residents explaining the mitigations in place to protect the site during the construction phase. The Ministry also continues to provide project information to members of the public under the Official Information Act. Since the landowner approval was granted in November, some members of the public have continued to publicly oppose the Memorial being placed at Dove Myer Robinson Park.

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Iwi and hapū engagement

Iwi and hapū engagement early in the project

- 16 Iwi and hapū engagement commenced in 2018 when Dove Myer Robinson Park was identified as the preferred Memorial site. Auckland Council advised the Ministry that, while there were a number of intersecting iwi and hapū interests in the area, the Park was an important site within the rohe of Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei, and it would be necessary for the Ministry to engage with that hapū about the Memorial placement. Manatū Taonga contacted Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei to seek their support and endorsement of the site for the Memorial. Since their endorsement, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei and the Ministry have worked closely together on the Memorial project.
- 17 As part of the Resource Consent process, the Ministry engaged with a broader group of iwi and hapū identified as having mana whenua interests in the Memorial site. In July and August 2019, 13 iwi and hapū were contacted by email which attached the Memorial design and archaeological report. The groups were made aware of the Memorial project and invited to provide any questions or feedback on the attached documents.
- 18 Only two groups substantially responded:
 - a. A representative from Ngāti Paoa Iwi Trust responded saying Ngāti Paoa fully supported the Ministry's engagement with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei and their vision for the kaupapa.
 - b. Mike Baker of Ngāti Whanaunga responded asking for the Ministry to fund a review of the design by iwi and a subsequent report.
- 19 The Ministry responded to Mike Baker advising that as Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei had been engaged from the commencement of the project, we had not anticipated an extensive review of the design would be required by other hapū or iwi, but invited discussion on any aspect of the design or archaeological assessment that were

of concern. No further correspondence was received from Ngāti Whanaunga at that time.

Recent iwi engagement

- 20 On 23 December 2020 the Ministry received correspondence regarding the Memorial from two groups: Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua and Ngāti Whanaunga.

Te Runanga o Ngāti Whātua communications with the Ministry

- 21 On 23 December 2020 Dame Naida Glavish and Alan Riwaka of Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua wrote to the Ministry seeking assurance the Mataharehare Pā site be protected and that there be no removal or alterations to the pōhutakawa at the Memorial site. The letter also stated that Te Runanga was the sole representative body and authorised voice for issues affecting the whole of Ngāti Whātua.
- 22 On 26 January 2021 the Ministry's Chief Executive wrote to Te Rūnanga (a copy of this letter was provided to your office) explaining that the Ministry had been and continued working closely with Ngāti Whātua Ōrakei through the planning and development of the Memorial, and had consulted other Auckland iwi and hapū in July and August 2019. The Ministry also assured Te Rūnanga that heritage and environmental values in the site would be protected.
- 23 The Ministry is scheduled to meet with Te Rūnanga in mid-February to further discuss their interests in the site.

Ngāti Whanaunga communications with the Ministry

- 24 Also on 23 December 2020, one of the Ministry's Pou Mataaho (Deputy Chief Executives) was contacted directly by Gavin Anderson, representing Mike Baker, the Chair of the Ngāti Whanaunga Board. Mr Anderson sought assurance that work on the site was not going to start immediately, and requested a meeting with the Ministry to better understand the Memorial project and discuss Ngāti Whanaunga's interests in the site.
- 25 On 29 January 2021, two of the Ministry's Pou Mataaho met with Ngāti Whanaunga at the Memorial site in Auckland. Ngāti Whanaunga gave an overview of their iwi and their relationship with the site, and indicated they did not want to derail the Memorial project. They wish to remain engaged with the Ministry and to have their interests in the site recognised in some way. Both parties said they will consider how that might best happen as the project progresses. The Ministry will contact Ngāti Whanaunga in the week commencing 9 February to follow up the kōrero of 29 January.

Cultural Monitoring Plan and future iwi and hapū engagement

- 26 As part of the Ministry's obligations under the Resource Consent for the Memorial's construction, a cultural monitoring plan is required to ensure any artefacts discovered are treated appropriately and the site is protected during construction.

- 27 The Ministry will be engaging with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei to establish the cultural monitoring plan and to make them aware of Ngāti Whanaunga’s and Te Rūnanga o Ngāti Whātua’s request to be kept up to date on the project.
- 28 As part of the Memorial site, an additional element is being designed by a Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei-nominated artist (Graham Tipene) to recognise the role mana whenua have played in the project and their relationship to the area. The exact form of that element has not yet been finalised and Graham will be working on it with the Memorial design team.

Construction planning and timeline

- 29 Site work can commence once contracts are signed. The target date for this is 1 March. The work programme can be summarised as follows:

Construction stage	Target date
Contract negotiations completed	22 February
Pre-Start Meeting with Auckland Council to confirm all logistics and health and safety are in place for construction	22 February
Contract executed with Naylor Love	1 March
Cultural monitoring plan confirmed with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei	
Site setup (i.e. fencing, haul road) completed	1 March - 22 March
Main Structure (foundations, reinforcing)	23 March – 4 May
Slab construction (concrete wall, steel wall, lighting)	5 May – 4 October <i>(includes 30 days contingency)</i>
Path construction	19 July – 9 August
Final works (seating, in ground lighting, seed lawns, Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei artwork installed)	19 July – 14 October
Completion (inspections and sign off)	15 – 22 October

- 30 If the programme of work stays close to this timeline the unveiling ceremony can occur on the 42nd anniversary of the Erebus accident on 28 November 2021.

- 31 9(2)(h) [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] In the event of a significant delay it should be noted costs would be likely to increase again but a quantum cannot be estimated at least until current contract negotiations have been completed.

Next steps

- 32 The Ministry will develop a plan to keep iwi and hapū with an interest in the site (including Ngāti Whanaunga) updated on the project.
- 33 We will continue to work towards a construction start date of 1 March by ensuring the main contractor's contract is in place by 22 February. Once construction is underway, the Ministry will engage with Auckland Council and iwi and hapū with an interest in the site to review the signage for the park and investigate ways to inform visitors of the pre-1840 history of the site.
- 34 The Ministry will work in partnership with Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei on a Cultural Monitoring Plan. We will work with all interested iwi and hapū on an appropriate site blessing prior to foundations being laid in March.

9(2)(a)



Tamsin Evans

Pou Mataaho o Te Hua / Deputy Chief Executive, Delivery Group

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