

2024 TRUSTEE ELECTIONS CANDIDATE PROFILES Te Hika a Pāpāuma ki Whakataki Marae

Election of one Trustee

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Demetrius **POTANGAROA**

I have been a registered member of the Trust since its inception, and I have actively engaged and supported the trust from the outset.



Why am I standing to represent Te Hika a Pāpāuma ki Whakataki Marae Hapū Karanga?

- 1. To advocate for better communications between our Hapū Karanga reps and our whanau. We have had minimal comms in the last 4 years. 1 HK hui is not good enough.
- 2. Our Hapū forfeited our 30% interest in Ngāumu Forest for the sake of both lwi, without our knowledge. I will advocate for better consultation between all Hapū and external parties.
- 3. Marae funding. How is this administered and by whom? We want to know.
- 4. MACA our Settlement Trust should support all our Hapū in this space.
- Castlepoint School to ensure we are kaitiaki, as promised, and we are consulted and informed on all matters regarding the school, including upgrades.
- 6. Urgent review of all sub-committees, policies and strategies going forward.
- 7. Urgent review of all Hapū Karanga Whakapapa Committees.
- 8. Rule 6.2 what skills current trustees and any sub committees have? How does this serve us?

I currently serve in multiple governance roles; I am aware of the grievances our Whanau have with the current board and if elected will advocate for all of us.

Te Hika a Pāpāuma have been gifting for too long. I am standing to ensure our place at the table is a presence ... not a present. Tihei Kahungunu.

Robin **POTANGAROA**

Ko Taharangi raua ko Te Ahuarangi nga Maunga

Ko Whakataki Te Awa

Ko Matira Te Whare

Ko Whareaute Te Tipuna

Ko Te Hika a Papauma ki Whakataki Te Hapu

Ko Ngati Kahungunu ki Wairarapa Te Iwi

Ko Takitimu Te Waka

Tihei Kahungunu.

Tena Koutou e Te Whanau.

As your trustee, I have been privileged to have been a negotiator and Chair that led our Iwi claims into settlement with the Crown in 2021.

We were the largest Ngati Kahungunu settlement at \$115 million, plus another \$5 million for the Wairarapa Moana clean-up fund.

Our settlement today is worth circa \$165 million in just 2 short years.

This year the Settlement Trust has held hui around the country and inclusive of Hapu Karanga hui to help develop the Trust's 5 Year Strategic Plan.

Those who attended the recent Papauma HK hui, by show of hands, indicated that the strong preference for the reestablishment of the Marae at Whakataki. The Trust will now implement this decision within the Strategic Plan as part of Hapu development.

Earlier this year I represented the Trust as the claimant for the Iwi Marine and Coastal Act application before the High Court. I also did the same for the Papauma Marae Trustees.

Suffice to say that 35 years of learning the history and whakapapa of our Hapu and lwi was clear and evident.

In closing I believe I still have more to offer our Hapu and lwi moving forward.

No reira Tena Koutou Katoa.

Robin.

