

In the Waitangi Tribunal Health Services and Outcomes Kaupapa

Inquiry

WAI 2575

WAI 2109

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Waitangi Tribunal

4 Nov 24

Ministry of Justice
WELLINGTON

In the Matter of the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975

and

In the Matter of the Health Services and Outcomes
Kaupapa Inquiry (Wai 2575)

and

In the Matter of a claim by Maaka Tauranga Tibble for
himself and on behalf of all Kaapoo
Maaori (Maaori blind, vision impaired, and
deaf blind persons) and their whaanau
and Kaapoo Maaori Aotearoa/New
Zealand Incorporated (Wai 2109).

Reply Brief of Evidence of Nigel Tukotahi Ngahiwi (MNZM)

Dated: this 6 day of August 2024

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May it please the Tribunal:

I, Nigel Tukotahi Ngahiwi, of Waikato, say:

1. I have prepared this evidence in reply to the brief of evidence of Ms Amanda Bleckmann dated 21 December 2023 (#L12).
2. At paragraph 88 of her evidence, Ms Amanda Bleckmann states that **“Whaikaha does not have a record of the \$20,000 retained by RNZFB to provide cultural training to existing staff referred to in Ms Cowan’s response to the panel’s request for further information.”**
3. I was with Chrissie Cowan when we met with the Ministry of Health, it was some time ago, over 10 years and was before Whaikaha. It goes back to when we originally found out that the Royal New Zealand Foundation of the Blind (**“RNZFB”**) were not able to provide Maaori Services to Kaapoo Maaori, we found out through emails and back and forth that RNZFB were not providing services for blind Maaori. We went to the Ministry and said if they aren’t going to do it, we should get the contract.
4. We met with the senior contracts manager for the Ministry and a senior manager for operations for the Foundation to negotiate the contract. That is where the

Ministry agreed to the response from RNZFB that they wanted to retain \$20,000 because that was to go towards their cultural competency. If they were going to come up to date, \$20,000 was needed to provide professional development about cultural competency.

5. There was a meeting in Wellington at the Ministry's office. I do not have the names, but we met with the Ministry contract manager and RNZFB. We did not realise RNZFB was going to be there, so it was Chrissie and I, the RNZFB rep, and the finance manager.
6. The contract was to provide Maaori services to blind Maaori. Maaori Services Contract I think it was called.
7. I clearly recall this as we were not impressed, it limited us on what resources we could supply for our members. The \$20,000 would have gone a long way for Kaapoo Maaori Aotearoa to getting our services out to our people.

Dated this 6 day of August 2024

Nigel Tukotahi Ngahiwi

Signed by Nigel Tukotahi Ngahiwi at Wellington this
day of 2024, before me, and I certify that I first read
and explained the foregoing brief of evidence in reply to
Nigel Ngahiwi, who appeared to perfectly understand the
brief of evidence in reply and added his stamp signature or
made his mark in my presence:

A Solicitor of the High Court of New Zealand/Justice of the
Peace/Registrar of the High Court of New Zealand