

WAITANGI TRIBUNAL

Wai 2925

CONCERNING

the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975

AND

the Mana Wahine (Durie) claim

MEMORANDUM-DIRECTIONS OF THE PRESIDING OFFICER

The Registrar is directed to add to Wai 2925 an amended statement of claim received on 27 February 2026 and to record its date of receipt in the register of claims.

This amendment seeks to add further allegations to the claim concerning mana wahine. These allegations include that the Crown has breached the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi by:

- failing to recognise mahi aroha, including child raising responsibilities, diminishing the status of wāhine Māori causing cultural and social harm;
- undermining the traditional whānau structure through promotion and prioritisation of the nuclear family model;
- failing to implement policies that specifically address the disparities created through colonisation, resulting in continued disadvantage for wāhine Māori across education, training and employment;
- failing to ensure wāhine Māori representation in the curriculum, further reinforcing a distorted cultural identity for wāhine Māori, contributing to ongoing disparities in educational achievement and employment outcomes; and
- failing to show mutual respect to wāhine through imposing a hierarchy between tāne and wāhine.

The claimant seeks a variety of relief, including recommendations that the Crown:


- recognises the contribution that the mahi aroha of wāhine Māori adds to New Zealand's GDP;
- addresses the stigmatisation of wāhine who are on social welfare;
- recognises the unpaid and voluntary work that wāhine carry out while on the benefit; and
- amends the education system and New Zealand curriculum to:
 - reflect the histories and experiences of wāhine toa;
 - recognise traditional status and roles of wāhine Māori;
 - incorporate wāhine Māori;
 - allow for representation without relying on extramural effort of others;
 - include a reformulation of values pushed by the curriculum;
 - challenge the Western conception of what constitutes employment and recognise the roles wāhine held with the same importance; and
 - reflect the importance of mahi aroha and place value on hidden labour.

The amendment is to be entered on Wai 2925, the Mana Wahine (Durie) claim, as document #1.1.1(f).

The Registrar is to send a copy of this direction to the claimants and give notice of the amendment to those on the notification list for:

- Wai 2925, the Mana Wahine (Durie) claim; and
- Wai 2700, the Mana Wahine Kaupapa Inquiry.

DATED at Victoria, British Columbia, Canada this 13th day of March 2026

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Sarah Reeves".

Judge Sarah Reeves
Presiding Officer

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