WAITANGI TRIBUNAL

Wai 3564

CONCERNING the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975

AND an application for an urgent hearing by Larz Ngawaka on behalf of the Māori Fintech Consortium

MEMORANDUM-DIRECTIONS OF THE DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

1. On 20 April 2026, the Tribunal received a statement of claim and an application for urgent hearing (Wai 3564, #1.1.1) from Larz Ngawaka on behalf of the Māori Fintech Consortium. The claim concerns the digital currency regulatory framework currently being developed by Te Pūtea Matua Reserve Bank of New Zealand.

2. I now direct the Crown and any interested parties to respond to the application for an urgent hearing by no later than **midday, Thursday 7 May 2026.**

3. I also direct the applicant to file submissions in reply to those of the Crown and interested parties by no later than **midday, Thursday 21 May 2026.** This reply is to be confined to reply to what has been said in terms of paragraph [2] above. It is not a further opportunity nor is it proper to replead or repeat the claim. Assertions are not to be made, except on matters raised by the Crown or the opposing parties.

4. Parties are to ensure any forthcoming submissions comply with the new standardised procedure regarding the management of urgencies, as set out in the recently released practice note of the Tribunal.[1]

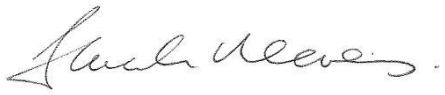
5. Failure to comply may result in the rejection of documents or significant delay in deciding whether or not to grant urgency.

[1] Waitangi Tribunal, *Te Tukanga Taihoro: An Expedited Urgent Inquiry Process* (2025), Practice-Note-Te-Tukanga-Taihoro-Urgency-Inquiry-Process.pdf.

The Registrar is to send a copy of this direction to counsel for the applicant, Crown counsel and those on the notification list for:

- Wai 3564, the Māori Fintech Urgent Claim; and
- Wai 3550, the Economic Development Kaupapa Inquiry.

DATED at Wellington this 22nd day of April 2026



Judge Sarah Reeves
Deputy Chairperson
WAITANGI TRIBUNAL