WAITANGI TRIBUNAL

Wai 3583

CONCERNING the Treaty of Waitangi Act 1975

AND an application for an urgent hearing by Sarah-Kay Coulter on behalf of herself

MEMORANDUM-DIRECTIONS OF DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

1. On 3 September 2026, the Tribunal received a statement of claim (Wai 3583, #1.1.1) including an application for an urgent hearing from Sarah-Kay Coulter on behalf of herself. The claim concerns the Crown's exercise of authority over education in Aotearoa and the implications of the Education and Training Amendment Act 2025.

2. Noting the claimant refers to evidence intended to be relied upon at pages 17 and 18 of her statement of claim, I now direct the applicant to file any outstanding evidence relevant to the application by **5 pm, Monday 7 September 2026**. I note that at this interlocutory stage, supporting evidence should focus on the criteria for urgency rather than the substance of the claim.

3. I direct the Crown and any interested parties to respond to the application for an urgent hearing by no later than **5 pm, Monday 21 September 2026.**

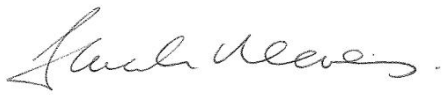
4. I also direct the applicant to file submissions in reply to those of the Crown and interested parties by no later than **5 pm, Monday 5 October 2026**. This reply is to be confined to reply to what has been said in terms of paragraph [3] above. It is not a further opportunity nor is it proper to replead or repeat the claim. Assertions are not to be made, except on matters raised by the Crown or the opposing parties.

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

6. On 22 August 2025, the Chairperson released a practice note outlining a new and standardised procedure regarding the management of urgencies for the Tribunal to trial for 12 months. Parties are to use this practice note in the preparation of any forthcoming submissions regarding this application. The practice note is **appended** to this memorandum-directions for parties' reference.

The Registrar is to send a copy of this direction to the applicant, Crown counsel, those on the notification list for Wai 3583, the Māori Educational Authority (Coulter) claim

DATED at Wellington this 4th day of September 2026



Judge Sarah Reeves
Deputy Chairperson
WAITANGI TRIBUNAL