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 THE DEPUTY CHAIRPERSON

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

2. On 4 September 2026, I directed the applicant to file any outstanding evidence relevant to the application by 5pm on 7 September 2026 (Wai 3583, #2.5.1).

3. I also directed the Crown and any interested parties to respond to the application for an urgent hearing by 5pm on 21 September 2026, and for the applicant to file any submissions in reply to those of the Crown and any interested parties by 5pm on 5 October 2026 (Wai 3583, #2.5.1)

4. On 21 September 2026, the Tribunal received a memorandum of counsel for the Crown responding to the application for urgency (Wai 3583, #3.1.1).

5. On 2 October 2026, the applicant informed the Tribunal, via email to the Tribunal Registry, that she no longer wishes to seek an urgent inquiry in relation to her substantive claim. She also confirms that she wishes to withdraw her claim.

6. Pursuant to the *Guide to Practice and Procedure of the Waitangi Tribunal* (2023), the applicant may withdraw an application for urgency by notifying the Tribunal Registrar in writing at any time prior to the release of the determination of their application.[1] Any claimant may also withdraw their claim at any stage by advising the Registrar in writing.[2]

7. I confirm the withdrawal of Dr Coulter's urgency application. All further filing deadlines and next steps regarding the application are similarly abandoned.

8. I also grant the request to withdraw Dr Coulter's claim. The Registrar is directed to withdraw the Māori Educational Authority (Coulter) claim from the Tribunal's register of claims.

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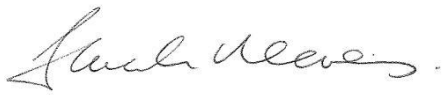
1 Waitangi Tribunal, *Guide to the Practice and Procedure of the Waitangi Tribunal* (2023) at [3.48].

2 At [3.64].

9. Once claims are withdrawn from the register of claims, the Tribunal no longer has the jurisdiction to inquire into them. I accordingly give notice to the applicable Presiding Officers that the above claims are no longer eligible for participation in the Tomokia ngā tatau o Matangireia – the Constitutional (Wai 3300) Kaupapa Inquiry and the Education Services and Outcomes (Wai 3310) Kaupapa Inquiry.

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

DATED at Wellington this 2nd day of October 2026



Judge Sarah Reeves
Deputy Chairperson
WAITANGI TRIBUNAL