OFFICIAL

Wai 2374, #3.1.22
Wai 2378, #3.1.10

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Registrar
Waitangi Tribunal

14 August 2012

By email

Dear Sir/ Madam

Wai 2374 - The Latimer and Piripi Claim and Wai 2378 - The Legal Aid (Holloway, Mack and Mahara) Claim

Please place this letter before the Tribunal dealing with the above claims.

I am not involved in this matter either as a party or as counsel. However, for reasons of which I am unaware I have been added to the distribution list. I therefore am aware that I have personally become a topic of conversation between counsel for the parties.

The evidence filed by the Ministry of Justice appears precipitous. Before this evidence was filed the Ministry had approached me to arrange a meeting to discuss various matters including the one that was the topic of that evidence. This meeting has not yet taken place and is currently scheduled for 4 pm on 15 August 2012. The position that the Ministry has been taking privately with me in setting up this meeting is not wholly consistent with the one that appears in the sworn evidence placed before the Tribunal.

It is my hope that after my discussions with the Ministry it may be possible for a joint memorandum to be filed by myself and the Ministry clarifying the situation. Otherwise, while I am very reluctant to be dragged into this matter personally, I am available to refute much of the evidence filed by the Ministry including the claim that my dispute with the Ministry was placed in the public domain wholly by me and not by the Ministry.

I am scheduled on an international flight on 16 August 2012. I may therefore be unable to communicate the result of my meeting with the Ministry until early in the week commencing 20 August 2012.

I ask that the Tribunal not take any steps in relation to this matter that would prejudice my ability to provide a response if a response is required.

Please let me know if you have any queries.

Yours sincerely

Felix Geiringer
Barrister

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Waitangi Tribunal
14 August 2012
Ministry of Justice
WELLINGTON