

**IN THE MATTER OF** The Treaty of  
Waitangi Act 1975

**AND**

**IN THE MATTER OF** Claims by  
HUHURERE  
TUKUKINO and  
OTHERS known  
as the HAURAKI  
CLAIMS

**STATEMENT OF EVIDENCE OF JOSEPH TE WHARAU MOORE  
MCENTEER ON BEHALF OF THE CLAIMANTS**

1. My name is Joseph Te Wharau Moore McEnteer. I am of Ngati Maru descent through Te Ngako to Naunau, My whanau is Watana. My dad is the claim manager so he has given my whakapapa but for your information I have attached my whakapapa to this evidence. I understand that my middle name Te Wharau links to my great, great, great grandfather who was Te Wharau Watana. Te Wharau is also the name of a large block of land near Te Puru on the Thames coast.

2. I am 14 years old and live in Wellington but I have lived at Tararu in Thames for three or four years before moving to Wellington. When I was living in Thames I used to go with Dad to different hui at marae all over Hauraki such as Matai Whetu and the ones in Paeroa. Although I do not remember it clearly, I went to a hui in 1989, when I was 4 years old where there was a big discussion on the Treaty claims and uncle Shu said it was to be continued by the Trust Board. I remember Uncle Shu had a big carved walking stick. I think he also used to wear big black thick glasses.
3. Last year I came to the opening day of the tribunal hearings and helped put up all the banners. Mostly at these earlier hui I would sit and draw while everyone was speaking. But now when I go I listen to what the people are saying and if I feel the need to contribute I say something. I may disagree with an issue or I will have a good idea - I make myself heard. For example, a few years ago at a general meeting of the Pakirarahi Trust, I was concerned at the way contractors were taking out old kauri logs from the land. They were not being careful and some erosion could have occurred if they kept doing it that way. After that the contractors were told to be careful and change their techniques so as to protect the land.
4. Pakirarahi is special to me because it is a place I like to go whenever I get the chance to. I really like the bush- this place is good, it's like my backyard. When I was 4 years old I remember Dad taking me up to the land. We drove up to near the beginning of it and had to walk up a track a long way because there wasn't much of a road. We walked all day to the "bluffs". I remember having a lot of rest stops. We went up to the bluffs and set up a tent. I sat on a big rock look out and admired the massive view- I could see all the way to Pauanui and down to Tauranga. The next day we got up and started walking all the way across to the Stadia Stream on the Kopu Hikuwai road and then

hitchhiked back to Paeroa and got a bus to Hamilton. I go back to Pakirarahi every chance I get. Most recently, last Easter, we went up and stayed the night at the same place except we drove up and drove around in the Land cruiser checking out things and see what's going on. I also go and walk over our other family land in Thames behind the Thames Coastal motel. I remember finding a large quartz crystal one-day, which I still have in my room to remind me of this special place.

5. Dad takes me and my brother and sisters to tangi when we can. Sometimes in Wellington or up here in Hauraki. At Easter we went to Uncle Tai Turoa unveiling at Waiouru.
6. One day I want to be able to take my children across our lands to those places I walk across. I don't want any more land taken from us and I want to see the land taken by the government, without proper reason, given back to us.
7. I like living in Wellington but if there was land and money given back to the people in Thames it would give me and others the choice of coming back here to live and enjoy this place.
8. Thank you for listening to me. Kia ora.