

□ Yesterday marked a new beginning for Te Urewera and Nga Tuhoe with the arrival of Waikaremoana Authority establishment manager Barry Bouton, pictured second from left with Te Urewera Board Waikaremoana representative Lorna Taylor (left) and Ivan Turipa and Toko Hitaua at Waimako Marae.



Te Urewera reborn

Tribe sets up management structure

A NEW chapter for Te Urewera and Nga Tuhoe began yesterday with the welcoming of an establishment manager for the Waikaremoana area.

Waikaremoana Authority establishment manager Barry Bouton will head the Waikaremoana area of Te Urewera.

The management of Te Urewera has been split into four areas — Waikaremoana, Ruatohu, Ruatoki and Waimana — each with their own manager.

The overall governance of Te Urewera is by Te Urewera Board with Lorna Taylor the Waikaremoana representative.

Mrs Taylor said yesterday was a historical moment for Tuhoe because it was the beginning of Tuhoe development, an active Tuhoe presence at Waikaremoana and around the lake.

Waikaremoana Tribal Authority chair Lance Winitana said this was part of Nga Tuhoe's 40-year vision to be autonomous, with its people enjoying full employment and contributing back into each area.

Members of Te Urewera Board were appointed by Tuhoe Te Uru Taumatua, the Tuhoe governance entity, Treaty of Waitangi Negotiations Minister Christopher Finlayson and Conservation Minister Nick Smith.

For the first three years, the board has an equal membership of Tuhoe and Crown appointed persons — four each. The board will then increase by one and the ratio will change so that six persons are Tuhoe-appointed and three are Crown-appointed.

Mr Bouton said he was looking forward to being a part of this start-up, assisting indigenous people achieve their own destiny.

During his tenure he would like to see an economically sustainable tribal authority embedded in the principles of Tuhoe including the kaitiakitanga or guardianship of resources that have been entrusted to their care.

He was born in Zambia and grew up in what was then Rhodesia, Central Queensland and South Africa.

He moved to New Zealand in 1992

and before his new appointment, he worked in northwestern Australia with an aboriginal tribe for two years.

As well as work in the public and energy sectors, Mr Bouton has worked with Ngai Tahu and Raukawa developing policies and strategies after they achieved settlements with the Crown.

The Waikaremoana authority will be based at the Aniwanui visitor centre initially, with work on a new centre due to begin shortly.

The new building will be sited near the Waikaremoana Holiday Park, facing the lake but set back in Te Urewera, off the lake bed.

Mr Winitana hopes to formally open and bless the new Te Urewera Tuhoe information and taonga centre in March 2016.

**Ko Panekire te mauna
Te nohana o Te Umuariki
Ko Te Waikaukau o na
matua tipuna
Ko Hamapuhia te tipua
Ko Tuhoe te iwi**

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