CHAIR

His Hon Chief Judge Joe Williams, Ngāti Pukenga and Te Arawa (Waitaha, Tapuika)

Judge Williams was appointed Chief Judge, Māori Land Court in 1999. He is also the Chairperson of the Waitangi Tribunal. He completed an LLB at VUW in 1985 and a Masters at the UBC in Vancouver in 1988. While in practice he specialised in litigation in areas of resource management and environmental law, Māori issues and Treaty of Waitangi claims, Māori land law, and all areas of administrative and public law.

SPEAKERS

Peter Andrew, Barrister, Auckland

Peter specialises in public law litigation, including Treaty of Waitangi claims. He was previously a Team Leader of the Treaty Issues and International Law team at the Crown Law Office. He has represented the Crown in a number of Tribunal inquiries. He has also been a Crown negotiator on Treaty settlements, including Ngai Tahu and Turangi.

Stephen Clark, McCaw Lewis Chapman, Hamilton

Stephen is a litigation partner at McCaw Lewis Chapman. He specialises in Māori legal issues acting for claimants in the Waitangi Tribunal, Māori Land Court and Māori Appellate Court. He leads the Māori Legal Issues team at his firm.

Dean Cowie, Office of Treaty Settlements

Dean Cowie is currently Acting Director of the Office of Treaty Settlements. He has worked for over four years as a Manager of Negotiations and Policy at OTS. This has included managing four Taranaki settlements through to conclusion. Prior to working at OTS Dean was Deputy Chief Historian at the Waitangi Tribunal.

Ben Dalton, Crown Forestry Rental Trust

Ben is the Chief Executive for CFRT, a position held since early 2004, and lectures for the University of Auckland Business School. Past positions include an appointment to the Māori Economic Development Commission and two terms as the Executive Officer for Te Runanga A Iwi O Ngapuhi. He has grass roots experience in Whanau, Hapu and Iwi development.

Kathy Ertel, Kathy Ertel & Co, Wellington

Kathy has practised law for the past 14 years. She specialises in Treaty of Waitangi litigation and administrative law. She also has a strong interest in the rights of people with disabilities, Māori and Pacific rights and the ways in which those rights can be strengthened by education and legal precedent.

Virginia Hardy, Crown Law

Virginia heads the Treaty of Waitangi and International Law team at the Crown Law Office. Virginia has held that position since 1999. Before that Virginia specialised in employment law in Wellington and New York City and taught in the Victoria University law faculty.

His Hon Judge Layne Harvey

Judge Layne Harvey was appointed to the Māori Land Court bench in 2002. While in private practice his work included acting for Māori parties towards Waitangi Tribunal claims and settlement negotiations, providing general advice to Māori organisations, and working in trust law and iwi legal and post settlement governance structures.

David Howden, Legal Services Agency

David left private practice and joined the LSA as a National Specialist Adviser in 2002. He had also previously been the presiding member of the Wellington District Legal Aid Committee under the 1991 Act. As part of his role with the agency, David deals with complex civil and family matters and has a particular emphasis on Waitangi Tribunal files.

Don Loveridge, Historian, Wellington

Don has acted as a historical consultant for the Crown Law Office from 1988 to the present, dealing with various claims and projects. Since 1999 Don has also assisted with the OTS negotiations (Taranaki, Te Roroa, Auckland). He was previously Chief Historian and Director of Research Unit, CFRT.

Joanne Morris, Waitangi Tribunal

Joanne has been a Waitangi Tribunal member for 16 years. She is currently involved in the Urewera inquiry and was previously involved in a large number of mainly contemporary inquiries, including as presiding officer in three inquiries. She is currently Chair of the Broadcasting Standards Authority, is a past board member of the LSA, and a Law Commissioner.

Grant Powell, Powell Webber & Associates, Auckland

Grant specialises in Treaty of Waitangi claims and Māori issues.

Paul Radich, Izard Weston, Welington

Paul is a litigation partner with Izard Weston. He has a specialist public law practice which includes appearing for iwi in the Waitangi Tribunal and negotiating Treaty settlements with the Crown. Paul is an author of text books and articles in the public law and trial advocacy areas.

Bruce Stirling, Historian, HistoryWorks, Wellington

Bruce has more than 15 years experience in preparing and presenting historical evidence to the Waitangi Tribunal and other fora. He has worked for a wide variety of agencies and Māori groups in that time and is currently a Director of HistoryWorks, a public history and mapping company.

Annette Sykes, (Ngati Pikiao), Rangitauira & Co, Rotorua

Annette is a partner in her law firm. She has a strong focus on all aspects as they affect Māori, especially constitutional change and Māori land rights, and appears regularly before the courts and the Waitangi Tribunal. She was a founding member of the Māori Broadcasting Agency and is a member of the Māori Law Commission.

David Tapsell, (Te Arawa/Tainui), Bell Gully, Wellington

David is a commercial services partner at Bell Gully. Bell Gully have advised seven iwi to successfully negotiate and settle Treaty claims with the Crown, and currently advise a number of iwi who are still in negotiations with the Crown. In his personal capacity, David was the chief negotiator for the Te Arawa Lakes Settlement.

Her Hon Judge Carrie Wainwright

Carrie Wainwright was appointed as a Māori Land Court judge in 2000. Since then she has also become the Deputy Chairperson of the Waitangi Tribunal. She chairs two district inquiries of the Tribunal, and has been closely involved in the evolution of its processes in the last few years.

Greg White, Ngati Tama Development Trust, New Plymouth

Greg is an Executive Officer for Te Runanga o Ngati Tama, Chair of Te Whare Punanga Korero Trust (Taranaki Maori Health Forum), Chair of Te Korimako o Taranaki Trust (Taranaki Maori Radio Station) and Managing Director of Te Tai a Kupe Ltd (Taranaki Iwi Fishing Company).

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