

Waitangi reprioritisation announcement PR – DRAFT

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Government investment safeguards Waitangi Treaty Grounds

The Government is supporting one of Aotearoa New Zealand’s most significant historic sites through a strategic investment to support the Waitangi National Trust Board’s COVID-19 recovery.

“I am excited to announce we are investing three million dollars to support the Waitangi National Trust Board to recover from the impacts of COVID-19 so that they can continue to protect the Treaty Grounds and taonga it looks after,” says Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage Carmel Sepuloni.

“The Waitangi National Trust Board has been hit hard by COVID-19 and the lack of tourism, so it is critical we invest now to ensure the economic recovery of one of Aotearoa New Zealand’s most significant historic sites.

“This investment will ensure the Trust are fully equipped to care for the Waitangi Treaty Grounds so that Aotearoa New Zealand’s first [National Historic Landmark](#) and national taonga are accessible for future generations.

“Cruise ships have started to return to the Bay of Islands, and visitor numbers are gradually starting to increase. Supporting the Trust will enable them to make the most of the return of tourists and contribute to the Northland economy,” says Carmel Sepuloni.

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