

Wednesday 6 May 2026

Tēnā koutou e ngā Executive o Ngā Tauiira Māori,

I am writing to follow up on my letter of Thursday 2 April regarding the temporary hold on the University's official recognition of Ngā Tauiira Māori (NTM), and to formally advise you of the outcomes and next steps arising from recent discussions.

Members of the Clubs Support & Engagement Committee (CSEC) and advisors, comprising of myself, Christina Partridge, [REDACTED], Cathrine Dunphy, Gemma Skipper, Mark Treleaven and [REDACTED], have met to consider the matters outlined for review and to discuss next steps, with guidance from the Office of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor Māori. We also acknowledge the ongoing engagement between NTM portfolio holders, He Āhuru Mōwai, and the Office of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor Māori to support continuity of activities for tauiira Māori where appropriate.

Following its consideration of the points of review, CSEC has agreed on the following matters and actions that are required before the University's official recognition of NTM can be made active again.

1. Executive membership and enrolment status

CSEC has reviewed enrolment information relating to a former Treasurer and identified that he was not actively enrolled during the period when the role was held. To maintain official recognition, all members of a student organisation's executive team must be actively enrolled students (i.e. enrolled in one or more courses at the Waipapa Taumata Rau).

The next steps for NTM are therefore to:

- Establish an executive team of actively enrolled members, consisting of at least a President, Secretary and Treasurer in accordance with University requirements and your constitution; and
- Ensure that an appropriate handover of the Treasury role has been completed, including signatory access to the NTM bank account.
- The Student Groups team can check enrolment status at any time upon request.

2. Use of University and Student Levy funds

At the end of each academic year, student organisations are required to provide financial reporting, including the provision of receipts for all expenditure, to ensure the appropriate use of University and Student Levy funds.

CSEC request NTM provide a report on the use of the funds that have been provided this year for all activities undertaken so far, including identification of any unused funds available to be allocated to future activities. This report is required to enable CSEC to confirm funds have been spent within NTM's authorised activities which will support consideration and approval of future funding.

The Student Groups team is available to guide and support you through this reporting process and to clarify requirements as needed.



3. Culture, conduct, and future support

[REDACTED]

PVC Māori and CSEC are committed to working alongside NTM to support the collective strengthening of a positive, supportive, and values aligned culture, grounded in tikanga and shared leadership between NTM and the University.

The University has a range of services, staff and alumni of NTM who are invested in seeing the association flourish. We also have a duty of care to support the ongoing wellbeing and sustainability of NTM members and are reflecting on what CSEC can do to refresh its own processes to support this, including supporting leadership opportunities for the executive.

Taking this into consideration, CSEC has agreed that a new Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) should be established between the University and NTM. This MOU will function as a relationship-focused agreement, grounded in shared values, tikanga-informed practice, and mutual accountability.

Summary

To provide clarity and support progress, the following is a summary of the requirements established by CSEC to reinstate official recognition:

- 1. Confirmation of a proposed executive team of actively enrolled members.
- 2. Completion of the Treasury handover process, including confirmation of bank account signatories.
- 3. Submission of a financial report covering expenditure to date, including relevant receipts and identification of any unallocated funds.
- 4. Commencement of discussions between NTM, Student Groups and the Office of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor Māori to develop the new Memorandum of Understanding and to confirm culturally appropriate support arrangements.

Subject to completion of these requirements and a review of expenditure satisfactory to CSEC, NTM will be able to be reinstated.

Indicative timeline and support pathway

To ensure momentum is maintained and that the University remains actively engaged in supporting NTM to return to official recognition, the following indicative timeline and support pathway has been developed. These timeframes are intended to provide structure and transparency and may be refined through discussion with NTM.

Timeframe	Group	Action
<i>Following receipt of this communication</i>	SG	Student Groups to contact NTM to confirm understanding of the requirements outlined above and to provide guidance on executive confirmation, enrolment checks, and financial reporting.
	PVC Māori	The Office of the Pro Vice Chancellor Māori to extend an invitation to NTM to wānanga



<i>By Friday 29th of May</i>	NTM	NTM to advise Student Groups of proposed executive membership so enrolment status can be confirmed.
	NTM	NTM to confirm completion of the Treasury handover, including bank account signatories.
	NTM SG	NTM, with support from Student Groups, to submit the requested financial report for 2026 expenditure to date.
<i>1 Week after the above items have been completed</i>	SG CSEC	Student Groups to confirm that all required actions have been completed and information received and provide clarity to NTM on the remaining steps CSEC will take to progress reinstatement of official recognition.
<i>By Friday 19th of June</i>	PVC Māori NTM SG	Commencement of discussions between NTM, Student Groups, and the Office of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor Māori to draft the new Memorandum of Understanding, focused on shared values, tikanga-informed practice, and mutual responsibilities.
<i>Following completion of the above and by Friday 3rd of July</i>	CSEC	CSEC to decide if the actions have been satisfactorily completed and reinstatement of official recognition can proceed.
	SG PVC Māori	Student Groups and the Office of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor Māori to notify NTM of the outcome and, if reinstated, provide coordinated onboarding support for the transition back to official recognition.
	PVC Māori NTM	PVC Māori to schedule a wānanga / hui with NTM representatives and members (as appropriate) to support collective kōrero, leadership development, and alignment on expectations and support needs.

As outlined previously, the temporary pause on official recognition will continue while these matters are being worked through. During this time, NTM is asked to refrain from delivering events using University and/or Student Levy funds, representing the University, or using the University's name or resources. We appreciate your cooperation and engagement throughout this process.

We remain strongly committed to NTM and to the vital role it plays in uplifting and supporting taurua Māori. Our intention is to work constructively alongside you to support NTM's pathway back to official recognition with clarity, stability, and confidence.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of the above or would find it helpful to meet to discuss next steps, please contact Gemma Skipper or Catherine Dunphy in the Office of the Pro-Vice-Chancellor Māori (pvc.maori@auckland.ac.nz), or Christina Partridge, Student Engagement Manager (christina.partridge@auckland.ac.nz).

We also encourage you to continue prioritising your personal wellbeing during this time.

Nā māua noa, nā

Dr Nicky Rawnsley

Associate Director, Student Engagement & Wellbeing