

## HE PANUI

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**One land, many dialects** -The Māori language evolved in Aotearoa over several hundred years. There were regional variations that probably widened because local populations were relatively isolated. These variations had their origins in the fact that the ancestors of modern Māori came by canoe from different villages and islands in eastern Polynesia. Māori had no written language, but the symbolic meanings embodied in carving, knots and weaving were widely understood. [NZHistory.govt.nz](http://NZHistory.govt.nz)

### Farming is still a tough game

I am sure that many people in the country would much rather write 2020 off and start again next year and probably none more so than those connected to the land. While during the COVID-19 lockdown, there seemed to be a newfound love for farmers and their ability to “box on” and keep the country, and the world, fed during the crisis. While much of the country had an unplanned “*stay at home holiday*”, for everyone on the farm, nothing changed, other than it being slightly more difficult to do business. Coming out the other end of this we have seen a new set of challenges coming back at us.

The Government has recently announced its “*Action for Healthy Waterways – Nga Mahi Mo Te Whakaroa Wai*” which is the nation’s new approach to managing the health of freshwater in New Zealand. Much of this is focused on more fencing of waterways, cropping practices, wintering of stock (mainly cattle) which is all things that farmers have become far more aware of over the last decade. There is also a focus on getting “resource consents” for key farming practices noted above – who wins out of this? Well it is certainly not the farmer or the taxpayer. The big problem is that the consultation with the rural sector on this one was pretty poor and many of the rules that have been written are very impractical. What seems to be forgotten is that all farmers inherently want to do the “*right thing*” for the environment, something that has been at the forefront of the Te Uranga mindset for many decades. We look back now at some of the farming practices of 50 years ago and they are perhaps now considered “*wrong*” but our fathers and grandfathers did not know this at the time, they thought they were doing the best they could. In the primary sector we are now

unwinding many years of less than perfect practices, but this takes time (and money) and we can only hope that some common sense prevails here, and farmers are given some breathing room.

Why is this important to the shareholders of Te Uranga B2 Incorporation? This will all impact on how the land can be farmed moving forward and is just one example of the many challenges that your Committee is considering and negotiating its way around to ensure the ongoing success of the Incorporation.

“*Whatungarongaro te tangata toitu te whenua*” – this whakatauki has never been more important than now.

*Darren McNae, AgFirst*

### The impacts of drought & Covid 19

With 11 of the 12 months of the financial year over the short-term impacts of the extraordinary past 3 months events can be assessed. The Incorporation’s financial results will end up close to budget (a budget set this time last year!) and will be similar to those presented to shareholders in 2019.

It’s fair to say that the drought has had more immediate economic impact on farm income, through reduced production and earlier herd dry off on the dairy farms, than the pandemic lockdown.

Looking at the short to medium horizon the pandemic’s impacts on farm incomes is simply unknown. Uncertainties around key market economies and exchange rates alongside domestic economic conditions and the present governments capabilities to address them plus a year end election certainly presents challenges to set a budget for 2021!

However, one fundamental condition remains – your Incorporation has very strong financial

foundations to help weather any challenges its presented with.

*Peter Topham, Peak Chartered Accountants*

### **Young animators demonstrate their talent**

Taumarunui was host to a team of movie animators who delivered a two-day workshop with 30 local school children during the last school holidays.

Led and facilitated by Nikora Ngaporo who worked on movies such as Avatar, The Hobbit, Tintin. Nikora left Weta Workshop to set up his own company, Young Animators to be able to share his passion and harness the creative abilities of young people.

The team of young animators travel the country with iPads and film making equipment in tow and basic 3D stop motion techniques cultivating skills which can transfer across virtual and real-world scenarios.



Children are then challenged to create their own narratives working in teams. After the two-day workshop, each team presents a short-animated film.

“The students here in Taumarunui are so talented, I can only imagine what they were to produce if they had two weeks,” says Nikora.

“There are definitely film makers and budding young tech savvy gurus in this town; I am excited for their future.”

Young Animators would like to thank the many parents and students who attended and acknowledges the sponsor Te Uranga B2 Incorporation and assistance from CKC REAP for the wonderful opportunity provided to the children.

*Donna Tuwhangai, Committee of Management.*

### **Delayed Start**

Last year’s annual general meeting at the Upoko woolshed got off to a late start for the first time in my 30 years of attending AGMs.

Before meetings can start we need a quorum of 20 shareholders and if 20 including proxies, are not present within 1 hour of the meeting start time then the meeting will be set for another time. If a quorum is not achieved at that time, then the meeting shall lapse and all reports sent to the Registrar of the Māori Land Court.

Generally annual general meetings must be held within 6 months of the close of the financial year (Te Uranga’s is June 30<sup>th</sup>). Many of our shareholders are also in other land blocks that have their agms around the same time so often it’s a toss up for which one to go to!

**2020 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING  
SATURDAY 21 NOVEMBER,  
Ngakonui Hall**

**Subject to restrictions, at that time, of  
COVID 19 Levels.**

Unite Against Covid19 – visit Government

Website - <https://covid19.govt.nz/>

**Feedback Welcome**  
[derekwooster@outlook.com](mailto:derekwooster@outlook.com)



