

**Received by:** Online form

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**Organisation if applicable**

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**Comments** Tena koe.

My name is Clarke Koopu. I am submitting to the request of Te Whanau A Apanui to have returned the reserves under Opotiki administration.

Ko Motu te Awa  
Ko Otukani te Maunga  
Ko Te Iwarau te Wharenui  
Ko Te Whanau a Hikarukutai te Whanau  
Ko Te Whanau a Apanui te Iwi

Can I please acknowledge and commend Opotiki District Council (ODC) for considering the return of the reserves.

I support the return of the six reserves back to Te Whanau a Apanui (TWAA) .

For a long time my people have always aspired to govern their lands, rivers and mountains. By supporting this, ODC will be enabling our Iwi to manage and protect these special places as well as the future aspiration of Governing our selves on the coast.

Here are my key points for ODC to consider:

1. I support that the reserves to keep their status / designation. This is a key step to ensure that the special places are protected and conserved for all to enjoy. By keeping the status will also allow the foot print of visitors to be managed.

2. Support Option 2 in part with conditions of a managed retreat of council with the desire to Govern and administer all affairs for Te Whānau a Apanui. Over a set period of time ODC retreat, giving the Iwi the time and space to transfer over skills, resources and decision making. And in due course the full administration is handed over to TWAA.

3. I would like council to also consider a lease agreement with the Iwi / Hapu if the current status remains. As a rate payer I will be more than happy to have my rates be put into the administration of these reserves.

Nga mihi mahana  
Clarke Koopu

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