



Maori Women's Welfare League
TATAU TATAU

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Co-governance: Māori Leadership United in Support of Co-governance

National Iwi Chairs Forum, the New Zealand Māori Council and the Māori Women's Welfare League declare support for co-governance and calls on the government to actively promote co-governance because it is good for all New Zealanders.

Prominent Māori leaders agreed earlier today during a Kotahitanga Wānanga (Conference) hosted by the National Iwi Chairs Forum, to release a joint statement in support of co-governance. The wānanga included representation from a range of Māori organisations including the New Zealand Māori Council and the Māori Women's Welfare League.

We see great potential in any model of co-governance that supports the elimination of inequities, inequalities and upholds Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Proven existing co-governance arrangements are one way of giving effect to Te Tiriti o Waitangi that involves equally Crown, Iwi and Community Leaders working together and making decisions about matters that affect all New Zealanders.

The intent of co-governance (or by any other name) need not be lost on politicians who are denouncing their support of co-governance, and contributing to community fear and distrust of Māori because of ideas that are incongruent with the models to date.

National Iwi Chairs Forum, the New Zealand Māori Council and the Māori Women's Welfare League, invite all political parties to sit down with us to have healthy discussions because New Zealanders are entitled to balanced information, and to see all the potential we as a country have to offer our future as a nation.

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