

## **Hon Nanaia Mahuta**

### **Te Minita Whanaketanga Māori**

Proposed Overseas Travel – North America: Hon Nanaia Mahuta

Cabinet

**These documents have been proactively released via the Te Puni Kōkiri website**

Date: 23 April 2019

Title: Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Nanaia Mahuta

Author: Te Tari a te Minita Whanaketanga Māori

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CAB-19-MIN-0177

These documents relate to Cabinet's agreement with regard to travel to North America.

These documents have been proactively released in full.



# Cabinet

## Minute of Decision

*This document contains information for the New Zealand Cabinet. It must be treated in confidence and handled in accordance with any security classification, or other endorsement. The information can only be released, including under the Official Information Act 1982, by persons with the appropriate authority.*

### Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Nanaia Mahuta

**Portfolio**                      **Māori Development**

On 15 April 2019, Cabinet:

- 1     **authorised** the absence of Hon Nanaia Mahuta from New Zealand, from 21 to 30 April 2019, to travel to:
  - 1.1    New York, United States of America to attend the United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues;
  - 1.2    Toronto, Canada to attend ANZAC Day celebrations, meet with indigenous communities, and undertake portfolio-related meetings;
- 2     **agreed** that she be accompanied by one member of staff;
- 3     **approved** the estimated expenditure of up to \$57,263 for the travel expenses of the Ministerial party, as a charge to Vote: Internal Affairs (Members of the Executive – Travel);
- 4     **agreed** that in her absence:
  - 4.1    Hon Willie Jackson act as Minister for Māori Development;
  - 4.2    Hon Kris Faafoi act as Minister of Local Government;
- 5     **noted** that leave from Parliament has been approved.

Michael Webster  
Secretary of the Cabinet

**Hard-copy distribution:**

Prime Minister  
Deputy Prime Minister  
Hon Nanaia Mahuta

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Office of the Minister for Māori Development  
Chair, Cabinet

### Proposed Overseas Travel: Hon Nanaia Mahuta

#### Proposal

- 1 I seek Cabinet approval to travel to North America (the United States of America and Canada) and conduct a program of activities under the title Aotearoa ki te Honu Whenua (the indigenous titles for both homelands) from 21 April to 30 April 2019. While in the United States of America, I will be attending the 18<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations Permanent Forum (Permanent Forum) on Indigenous Issues.
- 2 The Prime Minister has approved the travel in-principle, and House leave has been approved by the Party Whip.

#### Purpose of Travel

- 3 Indigenous to indigenous connections and tikanga Māori bring value to New Zealand's international reputation. I will use this mission to re-emphasise New Zealand's recognition that indigenous development is fundamental to strengthening relationships between indigenous peoples and their governments, and between indigenous peoples internationally.
- 4 In order to maximise my time in North America, my programme is led by my Māori Development objectives and supported by engagements relevant to my other portfolios - Minister of Local Government, Associate Minister of Housing (Māori), and Associate Minister for the Environment.
- 5 New Zealand's reputation as a leader in indigenous rights and interests is a unique contribution to our international profile. Attending the Permanent Forum is an opportunity to raise the profile of New Zealand's commitment to an international rules based system and our recognition of the value that Māori and indigenous models offer to wellbeing, particularly in a legal, policy and service delivery context. As part of this, it will seek to achieve the following objectives:
  - 5.1 Promote New Zealand's leadership in addressing indigenous rights and interests
  - 5.2 Conduct open dialogue with my counterparts on the benefits that indigenous models provide in policy development and service delivery
  - 5.3 Amplify the unique contributions of kaupapa Māori models to wellbeing discourses and kaitiakitanga practices
  - 5.4 Identify practical opportunities for Māori to build connections in North America to enable them to explore social, cultural and business opportunities in the region
  - 5.5 Establish reciprocal connections between myself and my counterparts and their departments in the North America.

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- 6 I will travel to New York to attend the Permanent Forum. I propose to discuss New Zealand's roadmap for addressing intergenerational wellbeing and the indigenous models that enable us to achieve Māori development objectives.
- 7 My time at the Permanent Forum will include bilateral meetings with relevant Government Ministers as well as the intent to participate in forum discussions in the following key sessions:
  - 7.1 Indigenous peoples Traditional knowledge, generation, transmission and protection
  - 7.2 2019 International Year of Indigenous Languages
  - 7.3 General discussion with the intension to deliver New Zealand's National Statement.
- 8 The success of the World Indigenous Business Forum, hosted in Rotorua in October 2018, highlighted that discussions between states on indigenous models and development strategies produces learnings and collaboration opportunities that are reciprocal and benefit all involved. This provides an opportunity to continue these discussions and will be considered when confirming bilateral discussions.
- 9 I will also participate in ANZAC Day celebrations in New York and Toronto. In New York an ANZAC service is planned as part of the Permanent Forum on Tuesday 23 April. I also intend to take part in the Embassy's full ANZAC Day programme in Toronto.
- 10 My time in Toronto will include site visits and meetings with indigenous communities and organisations involved in programmes addressing wellbeing, indigenous housing issues and environmental kaupapa. I intend to meet with the Homeless Hub, the national observatory on homelessness that works with First Nations people in Canada.
- 11 I intend to visit the Rouge National Urban Park located in the Greater Toronto area. Established in 2015, Rouge National Urban Park required development of the world's strongest legislation for a protected urban area. The Park is also the largest of its kind in North America and protects a range of natural values and landscapes while allowing for a range of uses including tourism, conservation and farming.
- 12 I also intend to meet with the Local Governments for Sustainability (ICLEI – formerly International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives), an international organisation, with a Canadian branch based in Toronto. The organisation aims to connect urban sustainability professionals in local governments, and develop tools and partnerships to advance local government sustainability activities. ICLEI has developed the Local Action for Biodiversity (LAB) programme, in partnership with the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Customised for local and regional authorities around the world, the programme seeks to improve biodiversity planning and management at the local level. A large part of the LAB programme in Canada focuses on capacity building to empower local action on biodiversity. This is achieved through provision of the knowledge, tools and resources needed to integrate biodiversity management into local council sustainability planning. A number of New Zealand councils are members of ICLEI.

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**Ministerial Party**

- 13 I propose that my Ministerial Advisor accompanies me, with costs being met by Vote: DIA (International travel:, Members of the Executive).

**Travel Costs**

- 14 The estimated cost for this travel to ministerial services is:

Flights	\$35,758
Meals, incidentals and communication	\$2,000
Accommodation	\$9,000
Insurance	\$300
Events	\$1,000
Airport Facilitation	\$2,500
Ground transport	\$1,500
Contingency	\$5,205
Total:	\$57,263

**Acting Ministers**

- 15 I propose that Hon Willie Jackson will act in my Māori Development portfolio, Hon Kris Faafoi in Local Government portfolio, Hon Phil Twyford in Associate Housing and Urban Development (Māori Housing) portfolio and Hon David Parker in Associate Environment portfolio.

**Proactive Release**

- 16 I propose to release in full.

**Recommendations**

- 17 I recommend that Cabinet:

17.1 authorise my absence from New Zealand, subject to leave from Parliament being secured, North America (the United States of America and Canada) from 21 April to 30 April 2019 and agree that I be accompanied by my Ministerial Advisor

17.2 approve the estimated expenditure of \$57,263 for the travel expenses of the myself and my Advisor, as a charge to Vote: DIA (International travel:, Members of the Executive).

17.3 agree that in my absence:

17.3.1 Hon Willie Jackson will act in my Māori Development portfolio; Hon Kris Faafoi will act in my Local Government portfolio; Hon Phil Twyford will act in my Associate Housing and Urban Development (Māori Housing); and Hon David Parker will act in my Associate Environment portfolio

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17.4 note that leave from Parliament has been approved by the Party Whip.

Authorised for lodgement

Hon Nanaia Mahuta

Minister for Māori Development and of Local Government, Associate Minister for the Environment and Housing and Urban Development (Māori Housing)

Released by the Minister for Māori Development