

Hon Chris Hipkins

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Dear Michael

Thank you for your email of 3 February 2021 to Hon Carmel Sepuloni regarding the draft Aotearoa New Zealand's histories curriculum content. I have been asked to respond as the issues you raise fall within my portfolio responsibilities.

I would like to thank you for the contributions you, and other members of New Zealand Historical Association, have made to the development of the draft Aotearoa New Zealand's histories curriculum content to date. I understand this includes participation in the Ohu Matua reference group and the Royal Society Expert Advisory Group. I am confident that the draft curriculum content is of high quality and its addition to the National Curriculum will help to ensure that this important learning is not left to chance.

The Government and the Ministry of Education believes that all New Zealanders should have knowledge of key aspects of our nation's history, where students will become aware of where New Zealanders have come from and the way people have experienced our histories differently. As you know, the draft curriculum content has recently been released for public feedback and can be found at education.govt.nz/aotearoanzhistories. Opportunities for feedback close on 31 May 2021.

I note that you have requested to meet to discuss the New Zealand Historical Association's potential to support public discussion about the draft curriculum update, and more broadly support the country's understanding of its past. Your advice so far has been valuable in the development of the draft curriculum content. I am pleased to accept your invitation to meet and my office will be in touch to organise the details.

Thank you again for writing. I wish you, and everyone at New Zealand Historical Association, all the very best.

Yours sincerely

Chris Hipkins
Minister of Education