



Keeping in Touch

Newsletter for New Zealand History Federation Inc
Te Kotahitanga o nga Hitori o Aotearoa
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www.nzhistoricalsocieties.org.nz

February 2021

The Draft “Aotearoa New Zealand Histories Curriculum”

Earlier this month, the Ministry of Education published their draft of the new NZ history curriculum online for public submissions, which close 31 May 2021.

<https://www.education.govt.nz/our-work/changes-in-education/aotearoa-new-zealand-histories-in-our-national-curriculum>

The key word here is: online. You'll find a link to the draft document to read on the page, but if you have any problems, let me know and I'll send you the pdf, along with the community info pack.

There is an online only survey for feedback on the draft curriculum. This will be limiting for those of our member societies who are not accustomed to online surveys, but it appears there is no other option.

My own take (personal opinion again, folks) on the draft curriculum is that there are logical elements to it, and I do support that the basis is from Maori history, working on up from that foundation through various themes such as colonisation in the broader context of world history, the Treaty, rohe and local contexts (that is where local historical societies and museums have a part to play), migration, international conflicts, natural resources, the New Zealand land wars. The curriculum starts from Year 1 and extends to Year 10, with progressively deeper threads of understanding of topics as the age of the students rises.

It may take more than just one read of the draft document to get the gist. There are a number of buzzwords sprinkled here and there, and the “Learning that cannot be left to chance” used as the draft weaves the three threads of understanding, knowledge and doing together sounds more of a slogan than anything else to me, but I take it they mean that each school shall have the same kit and capabilities to impart the necessary lessons that are required.

What I particularly welcome appears to be a leaning and emphasis on critical thinking, the students encouraged to assess from the information and themes and being encouraged to draw their own conclusions. Critical thinking, gathering and assessing historical elements to get a better a deeper understanding of even what happened on the local level is a skill that takes years of experience and knowledge. Hopefully, this curriculum will engender those skills in young Kiwis for the future.

Aotearoa New Zealand's histories in our national curriculum

Aotearoa New Zealand's histories are being incorporated into the national curriculum to ensure that all ākonga in all schools and kura learn how our histories have shaped our lives.

*Me mātai whakamuri, kia anga whakamua
To shape New Zealand's future, let's start with the past*

The public statement:

“We have partnered with a wide range of people to design draft Aotearoa New Zealand’s histories curriculum content. Testing of the content is underway in schools and kura. We would like as many schools and kura as possible to test the draft content for Aotearoa New Zealand’s Histories in Term 1 and Term 2 2021.

“Public engagement on the content and an online survey is open until 31 May 2021.

All feedback will be considered before the content is finalised. This is part of a wider refresh of our national curriculum to ensure it is fit for purpose now and in the future and supports the languages, identities, cultures and wellbeing of all students in Aotearoa New Zealand.

“When final content is approved, updates to the national curriculum (The New Zealand Curriculum and Te Marautanga o Aotearoa) will be confirmed by publication in the *New Zealand Gazette* (often referred to as ‘gazetted’), and the curriculum changes will come into effect in 2022.”

Again, if any of this is still confusing, or if you simply have any “what on earth is this bit?” questions, get in touch. Lisa Truttman, waitemata@gmail.com

A Word from National Library

Resourcing the Aotearoa New Zealand’s histories curriculum, with a local lens

The Aotearoa New Zealand’s histories: NZ Curriculum (draft for consultation) presents a range of opportunities across the history and heritage sector to provide access to quality resources to inspire and inform learning about people, events, stories, and concepts that are both nationally and locally significant.

Teaching and learning using the curriculum will require quality resources to:

understand the three big ideas:

1. Māori history is the foundational and continuous history of Aotearoa New Zealand
2. Colonisation and its consequences have been central to our history for the past 200 years and continue to influence all aspects of New Zealand society
3. The course of Aotearoa New Zealand’s history has been shaped by the exercise and effects of power

know the three national contexts:

1. Whakapapa me te whanaungatanga, including: migration and mobility, identity, and international conflicts
2. Tūrangawaewae me te kaitiakitanga, including: land, water, and resources, and mana motuhake
3. Tino rangatiratanga me te kāwanatanga, including: Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the state and the people, and the state and the Pacific

connect with “rohe and local contexts, including:

what stories local iwi and hapū tell about their history in a rohe, and what stories about the people, events, and changes that have been important in an area.”

Some key opportunities for those in the history and heritage sector include focusing on:

- access to te reo Māori and tirohanga Māori resources in particular
- access to ‘junior appropriate’ resources – as the curriculum starts from Year 1
- thinking about resources as both inspiration and information for learning
- knowing about current demands for access to resources from local schools, teachers, and students

- considering if and how those demands are being met, and how potential increased demands can be met
- auditing collections against the resource requirements of the Aotearoa New Zealand histories curriculum – especially the three national contexts.

As a provider of quality [print](#) and [digital](#) resources for a good number of years, National Library Services to Schools is focused on collecting, curating, and making accessible resources for the Aotearoa New Zealand histories curriculum through our nationwide provision of products and services to schools. We recognise members of the New Zealand History Federation as important in providing access to collections – especially those that relate to the histories of local rohe.

If you want to know more about resourcing the Aotearoa New Zealand histories curriculum, with a local lens then the upcoming [history and heritage sector hui](#) are an opportunity for organisations to discuss the planned curriculum changes and what they may mean for their work and community.

I am also interested in feedback from members of the History Federation about thoughts, plans, views on the proposed curriculum – especially as it does have a very localised focus (requiring access to local resources). Contact National Library Services to Schools - servicestoschools@dia.govt.nz, using 'Aotearoa New Zealand histories curriculum resources' in the subject line and we can endeavour to answer your queries.

Samuel Beyer
Team Leader, Online Services to Schools
National Library of New Zealand | Te Puna Mātauranga o Aotearoa

The Privacy Act 2020

The 2020 Act tightens things up from the 1993 Act it replaced, but the essentials are the same when it comes to heritage organisations and institutions like museums etc: an agency is any organisation operating in New Zealand, whether or not you operate for profit, if you are collecting information from people.

They've tightened up the section under "information held by an agency" to now include information held by an individual who is an officer, employee or member of the agency.

There are 13 privacy principles. You can read them in full here, and I do recommend you do so:

<https://www.legislation.govt.nz/act/public/2020/0031/latest/LMS23342.html>

With particular reference to the Federation and our members:

Information privacy principle 1: Purpose of collection of personal information

Personal information must not be collected by an agency unless—

(a) the information is collected for a lawful purpose connected with a function or an activity of the agency; and (b) the collection of the information is necessary for that purpose.

Information privacy principle 2: Source of personal information

If an agency collects personal information, the information must be collected from the individual concerned.

Information privacy principle 3: Collection of information from subject

If an agency collects personal information from the individual concerned, the agency must take any steps that are, in the circumstances, reasonable to ensure that the individual concerned is aware of—

- (a) the fact that the information is being collected; and
- (b) the purpose for which the information is being collected; and
- (c) the intended recipients of the information; and
- (d) the name and address of—
 - (i) the agency that is collecting the information; and
 - (ii) the agency that will hold the information; and
- (e) if the collection of the information is authorised or required by or under law,—
 - (i) the particular law by or under which the collection of the information is authorised or required; and
 - (ii) whether the supply of the information by that individual is voluntary or mandatory;
 and
- (f) the consequences (if any) for that individual if all or any part of the requested information is not provided; and
- (g) the rights of access to, and correction of, information provided by the IPPs.

[Where a historical society, for example, gathers names, addresses, possibly phone numbers and email addresses when signing up new members, the purpose(s) of the Society having that information must be clear to the person providing it, and the information should not be used for any other purpose. I've had experience of folks who are real estate agents joining societies, then asking to have copies of the membership list — flat out NO on that one. Similarly, when the Federation was setting up the website, we took pains to ask if the contact details provided during the accompanying membership audit could also be used online.]

Information privacy principle 5: Storage and security of personal information

An agency that holds personal information must ensure—

- (a) that the information is protected, by such security safeguards as are reasonable in the circumstances to take, against—
 - (i) loss; and
 - (ii) access, use, modification, or disclosure that is not authorised by the agency; and
 - (iii) other misuse; and
- (b) that, if it is necessary for the information to be given to a person in connection with the provision of a service to the agency, everything reasonably within the power of the agency is done to prevent unauthorised use or unauthorised disclosure of the information.

An individual's access to their information is covered by Principle 6, and right to have the information corrected under Principle 7.

Currently, the Federation Executive Committee has made the decision that our Membership Officer should be the Privacy Officer, as required under the Act (each organisation must appoint a Privacy Officer). At the moment, up until this year's AGM, that position is held by David Verran.

The Committee also decided to offer take any questions from the membership on what the Privacy Act means for the way you operate to the Privacy Commissioner's office for clarifying answers. So, please — get in touch.

Or, contact the Privacy Commissioner's office here:

<https://www.privacy.org.nz/privacy-act-2020/privacy-act-2020/>

The Trusts Act 2019

Along with all the changes to the Privacy Act, the Federation executive committee at our meeting eventually held this month (after Covid-related delays, etc.) decided that mention should also be made here in KIT to the Trusts Act 2019, which came into effect at the end of January 2021.

Quoting from the Justice Department's site: "The Act updates and improves the law governing trusts for the first time in more than 60 years. It will apply to all existing trusts in New Zealand, as well as any trust created on or after 30 January 2021 ... The Act doesn't significantly change the underlying law, so the basic rules of a trust will stay the same ... The Act explains the nature of a trust and the role of a trustee in clear and modern language. For example, the Act sets out:

- the key features of a trust to help people understand their rights and obligations
- duties that trustees must carry out under law
- requirements for managing trust information and disclosing it to beneficiaries
- clear rules around trustee liability.

Clarifying the trustee role could mean in practice trustees need to widen their current level of responsibility. For example, the Act makes it clear that trustees need to be actively involved in trust administration. A trustee will also need to proactively disclose information in some cases ..."

More here: <https://www.justice.govt.nz/justice-sector-policy/key-initiatives/trust-law-reform/>

The Public Trust Office offers a trust review service, about which you can find out more here: <https://www.publictrust.co.nz/personal/trusts/trusts-act>

The Federation, and Health & Safety

Also at the February Committee meeting, it was resolved to no longer have a health and safety officer position. This is the first part of the report I submitted to the committee:

"Firstly, there is no need for the NZ History Federation Inc's committee to have a health & safety officer. We are a voluntary association, as defined under the Health & Safety At Work Act 2015, Section 17(2). Under Section 17(1)(b)(ii), volunteer associations are specifically excluded from being considered a Person Conducting a Business or Undertaking or PCBU where there is no one being employed by that volunteer association.

"Secondly, we are not an umbrella organisation where our members are "branches." I have seen this concept of thinking creeping in over the past few years, and it is fundamentally incorrect. Our members are stand-alone entities. They have membership with us, just as they also subscribe to Heritage New Zealand. Neither we, nor Heritage New Zealand, instruct our members how they may run their administrative processes. We offer guidance where required, in the form of where to obtain information so that the decisions made independently of each member are informed ones.

“Thirdly, we must not, and should not, ever be seen to recommend or associate ourselves (by use of Federation email addresses, letterhead, and other identifiers with a consultant’s correspondence) with specific goods and service providers to our membership. This is especially important in the field of Health & Safety, where since the passage of the Health & Safety At Work Act 2015.”

Back in the mid 1990s, I did volunteer work for a time with the Citizens Advice Bureau in Avondale here in Auckland. I see Federation having a similar role and practice as the way CABx function, in that our role is to bring necessary changes that have real or potential impact on the way our members function to your attention, and point you in the direction of where you can get additional help of information on these changes. The CABx are very careful not to recommend professional services or consultants, nor to appear in any way associated with these.

At the end of the day — the Federation does not tell our members how to run their organisations. You are not branches of the Federation, we are just the ones assisting you, the collective, with information and advice as to where to get expert help.

As I’ve said earlier — the best place for you to seek advice as to whether or not your organisation requires a health and safety officer, or any other matters related to the Health & Safety At Work Act, is Worksafe.

<https://www.worksafe.govt.nz/>

The Federation does not recommend, nor has any affiliation or professional connection with, any health & safety consultant or firm.

— Lisa J Truttman

Other topics from the February committee meeting

I visited Waiuku at the beginning of February to chat with Richard Garvey, the President of the Waiuku Museum Society and members of his team. Hopefully, registration information for the 2021 Conference set for 30 April to 2 May at this stage should be out to Federation members next month (March). Of course, we still have pandemic levels uncertainty (and I write this while Auckland is at Level 2) but — hope springs eternal, doesn’t it?

The Executive Committee decided at the meeting this month, in recognition of both the changed status to publication of *NZ Legacy* at the moment until a decision is reached from the membership at this year’s Annual General Meeting, and the likely disruptions as banks shift from cheque-based transactions to digital/internet this year, to not send out subscription reminders/invoices. Those who have paid in full up to the 2020 year will have voting rights at the AGM, but subscriptions will be waived for this calendar year.

Robin Astridge has been hard at work, compiling a booklet to mark the 50th anniversary of the NZ History Federation. Copies should be available at the conference.

At the moment, after the large draining of our funds over the past few years, it does look like our remaining balance is holding steady, and has actually improved under the watchful eyes of our Treasurer, Susan Verran and her husband David.

All the best to all of you, and hopefully we all have far fewer bumps in the road this year.

Lisa J Truttman
President & KIT Editor



Birkenhead Heritage Society's museum reopens: a February afternoon at Farrington House

The former family home of the Farrington family, gifted to the Birkenhead society by Ann Farrington and shifted to its present site on Mahara Ave, has had a welcome make-over. Now newly painted, it looked splendid in the summer sun during the society's opening event on 13 February this year.

With welcome funding support from the Kaipatiki Local Board and Auckland Council, it was still something of a challenge last year with the pandemic affecting the work schedules considerably. The results though, along with new audio-visual display equipment inside to enhance the experience of learning about the area's history, plus a rearrangement of the static display shelves, are impressive.

The Society have one item they would like to see go to a good home — a Gestetner machine (right). If anyone would like to take it away for their collection, please let Marcia Roberts (President) know.



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