

TE PĀTI MĀORI CONSTITUTION

*Kia rangatira te tū a Te Pāti Māori
hei rōpū whakatinana i ngā rau
wawata o te iwi Māori, o te motu hoki*

Ratified on 4 February 2023

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Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga

He Kupu Whakataki

Te Pāti Māori relentlessly asserts the rights of Māori rest in the bedrock of Te Tiriti O Waitangi.

Te Pāti Māori is for all citizens of Aotearoa New Zealand.

- Its founding was an initiative of Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea, for the benefit of all citizens of this land.
- Its vision is of a nation of cultural diversity and richness where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenuatanga by Māori, te kākano i ruia mai i Rangiātea.
- Its commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation is steadfast.

Ngā Kaupapa o te Pāti Māori

The following kaupapa and tikanga, while not exhaustive, are consistent with the Māori world view.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Manaakitanga

- i. To be recognised by Māori as a political organisation that does manaaki the aspirations of Māori.
- ii. To ensure that relationships between the Pāti and whānau, hapū, iwi, and other Māori organisations are elevating and enhancing.
- iii. To promote a fair and just society, to work for the elimination of poverty and injustice, and to create an environment where the care and welfare of one's neighbour is important.
- iv. To ensure that members agree to work together, treat each other with respect, and act with integrity in their Pāti work.
- v. To involve all peoples in the process of rebuilding our nation based on mutual respect and harmonious relationships.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Rangatiratanga

- i. To recognise and acknowledge the authority of whānau, hapū and iwi in their respective electorates.
- ii. To enhance the relationship between Tino Rangatiratanga and Kāwanatanga as provided for in Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- iii. To promote the retention of separate seats for Māori in the Parliament of New Zealand, and to select suitable persons to represent Te Pāti Māori in Māori constituencies, in agreed General constituencies, and as List Candidates for the Pāti.
- iv. To assert and confirm the role of Māori as tangata whenua.
- v. To promote Māori self-determination through the establishment of a forum to provide a Māori viewpoint and guide and advise the parliamentary team.
- vi. To acknowledge, nurture, support and reflect rangatiratanga within the Pāti and other Māori organisations.
- vii. To ensure that the conduct and activities of the parliamentary team, leaders, and the organisation as a whole are reflective of the attributes of rangatira.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Whanaungatanga

- i. To promote and contribute to the survival of Māori as a people.
- ii. To promote respect for all cultures and ensure all people have an understanding of, and respect for the status of tangata whenua.
- iii. To encourage relationships between whānau, hapū, iwi, other Māori organisations and the Pāti that reflect interdependence.
- iv. To promote whanaungatanga as the model for good collective arrangements between different parties

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Kotahitanga

- i. To consistently work for unity among Māori people.
- ii. To avoid taking decisions and approaches that lead to division and disharmony within the organisation.
- iii. To establish a parliamentary team that can work together and are committed to speaking with a single voice on behalf of Māori.
- iv. To promote harmonious and cooperative relationships amongst all people.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Wairuatanga

- i. To encourage, maintain, and promote spiritual identity and connection with the land.
- ii. To break down secular and non-secular divisions and promote a unified and holistic approach to life.
- iii. To develop within Te Pāti an environment that nourishes and nurtures wairua.
- iv. To promote the importance of oranga wairua for Māori well-being

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Mana Whenua

- i. To ensure that the Pāti is of the Māori people.
- ii. To assist Māori to establish and maintain their connections to their own land.
- iii. To develop arrangements that foster the values of ūkaipō, of importance, belonging, and contribution within the organisation.
- iv. To develop a parliamentary team that will take advice and guidance from Māori in the first instance.
- v. To promote mana whenua as the basis for land management policies.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Kaitiakitanga

- i. To promote the achievement of wellness and well-being for Māori.
- ii. To foster and promote sustainable management and growth of the economy so as to provide a stable and secure environment for future generations.
- iii. To create a clean, safe, and healthy environment by promoting the protection, restoration, and enhancement of mauri within our natural environments.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Whakapapa

- i. To encourage the view that all Māori are related, leading towards co-operation and unity.
- ii. To support endeavours by Māori to establish and maintain our whanau, hapū, and iwi connections and continue our positive contribution to wider society.
- iii. To promote whakapapa as a tool for analysis and synthesis within the research activity of the Pāti.

Te Reo Rangatira

Ki te kore tātou e kōrero Māori, ka ngaro te

reo, Ka ngaro te reo, ka ngaro ngā tikanga.

Ka ngaro ngā tikanga, ka ngaro tātou ki te Ao.

Ko te reo te kaupuri i te Māoritanga.

Tikanga of Te Pāti Māori derived from Te Reo Rangatira

- i. To ensure the revitalisation of te reo Māori.
- ii. To promote wider recognition of te reo Māori as the first and official language of the country.
- iii. To promote the development and growth of te reo Māori both as the indigenous language of this country and also as the appropriate language to carry Māori knowledge and contemporary Māori customs.
- iv. To promote mātauranga Māori pathways that are of benefit to the people and lead to our advancement.
- v. To provide for research and development that leads to the advancement of mātauranga Māori and ensures the survival of the people as Māori.
- vi. To provide opportunities to encourage bi-literacy in our society

Part 2: Rules

1. Name and Registered Office

- 1.1. The name of the Pāti shall be 'Te Pāti Māori' (the Pāti).
- 1.2. The Pāti shall be a political Pāti and shall maintain registration in terms of S.63 of The Electoral Act 1993 and its subsequent amendments.
- 1.3. The registered office of Te Pāti Māori shall be determined by the National Council.

2. Objectives

- 2.1. To honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- 2.2. To acknowledge and fulfil the kaupapa and tikanga set out in this constitution.
- 2.3. To develop and implement the Pāti policy manifesto consistent with the kaupapa.
- 2.4. To maintain registration under the Electoral Act 1993 in the name of the Māori Pāti, whose Constitution shall be this document.

3. Membership

- 3.1. Te Pāti Māori is an all-inclusive and broad-based political movement and accepts membership from any persons of 13 years of age and older who:
 - a. work to support Te Pāti Māori kaupapa and tikanga;
 - b. act within Te Pāti Māori constitution;
 - c. abide by lawful decisions made in accordance with Te Pāti Māori constitution;
 - d. complete the official membership form and pay the appropriate membership fee as fixed by the National Council;
 - e. are not members of a competing political Pāti, or any other group or organisation which the National Council determines is incompatible with membership of the Pāti.
- 3.2. Members aged 13–16 years are non-voting Junior Members. Members 16 years and over are eligible to vote.
- 3.3. The membership is established by the National Council and reviewed on an annual basis.
- 3.4. Membership of the Pāti will be from 1 July to 30 June the following financial year and shall take effect from the date stated on the official Te Pāti Māori receipt. Membership of the Pāti shall be considered confirmed when the registration details and the membership fee have been processed by the National Treasurer.

Electorate Treasurers shall make every effort to process all memberships within a reasonable timeframe.

Financial members shall be entitled to attend and participate in all Māori Pāti activities.

- 3.5. Any person who is a member of Te Pāti Māori on the date at the opening of nominations for the selection of a Parliamentary candidate shall be entitled to participate in decision-making for the local electorate candidate and local list recommendations.
- 3.6. The National Council may cancel any membership that the Council believes does not meet the criteria outlined in clause 3.1. The member shall be advised in writing of the decision. The member may appeal that decision at the next national hui of the Pāti, where the decision shall be final.
- 3.7. A person shall cease to be a member of Te Pāti Māori:
 - a. when their resignation is received by the National Council;
 - b. when they cease to accept or abide by this Constitution;
 - c. when they die;
 - d. when they have not paid their membership fee for a period of more than 6 months beyond the due date for payment of the fee; or
 - e. if and when they join a competing political Pāti.

4. Pāti Structure

- 4.1. The structure of the Pāti shall reflect the aspirations of its membership as expressed through the Pāti's kaupapa (refer to Part 1 of this Constitution).
- 4.2. Branches, electorates and affiliates shall provide the opportunity for members to have input into the direction and growth of the Pāti, including campaign strategies, policies, fundraising, and the selection and election of candidates.
- 4.3. Te Pāti Māori Members of Parliament shall promote the aspirations of its membership.
- 4.4. The National Council shall have representation from each electorate and the Members of Parliament.
- 4.5. The President is responsible for the leadership of the Pāti and shall uphold the Pāti's constitution in the exercise of that leadership.

Electorates¹

- 4.6. An electorate shall be defined by the electorate boundaries as set out in the Electoral Act 1993.
- 4.7. The activities and business of each electorate shall be organised as each electorate decides and shall, at all times, be consistent with the Pāti's kaupapa.

¹ The structures and responsibilities of electorates, branches and affiliates are detailed in Schedule 1 of this constitution

- 4.8. It shall be incumbent on all electorates:
- a. to keep all Members and affiliates informed of all matters;
 - b. to keep the Pāti informed on all electorate matters through the National Council and/or the National Executive in accordance with Schedule 2;
 - c. to manage the selection and election of a candidate to contest each General Election;
 - d. on election, support the Member of Parliament.

Branches¹

- 4.9. In each electorate district there can be one or more branches authorised by the electorate. Each branch must have a minimum membership of ten (10) financial members of the Pāti who shall be responsible for the internal organisation of the branch consistent with the Pāti's kaupapa. In entering into any contract, or otherwise taking any other action, the branches shall not hold themselves out or represent themselves as acting with the authority of the Pāti without appropriate authorisation of the National Council and/or the National Executive.
- 4.10. Any person wishing to set up a new branch must get the electorate's permission. No branch shall be refused establishment without just cause.
- 4.11. Any persons living overseas wishing to establish a branch or an affiliate, must seek the consent to formalise this branch or affiliate from the National Executive.

Affiliates¹

- 4.12. Affiliates – An Affiliate is defined as a roopu or existing organisation such as Marae, sports clubs, kapa haka and/or any roopu that the National Council agree can affiliate. All Affiliates agree to endorse and abide by this Constitution and are bound by Schedule 1.

National Council²

- 4.13. The National Council provides leadership according to the Pāti's kaupapa (refer to Part 1 of this constitution), and deals with the fundamental running of the Pāti.
- 4.14. The National Council is the governing body of the Pāti outside of an Annual General Meeting, and to this effect the National Council shall meet at least every second month.
- 4.15. The National Council must establish an annual national plan and approve an annual budget that enables the national plan to be achieved. The National Council will delegate authority to the National Executive to expend within the approved annual budget in order to carry out the national plan. Appointment of any staff will require the presentation of a business case to the National Council for approval prior to any appointments being made. The process of appointment must be consistent with the kaupapa of the Te Pāti Māori.

² The National Council's structure and responsibilities are detailed in Schedule 2 of this constitution.

National Executive

- 4.16. The management of Te Pāti Māori is determined by the National Council and delegated to the National Executive. The delegated authority shall be determined between the National Council and the National Executive. All decisions of the National Executive must be ratified by the National Council at their next hui.
- 4.17. The National Executive consists of the Pāti's president, the two co-vice presidents (one tāne and one wahine), and the two co-leaders (subject to having Members of Parliament).
- 4.18. Further to 4.14, the National Executive shall be authorised to appoint from time to time, on the recommendation of the President, suitable members of the Pāti to be:
- a. General Manager. The General Manager will have the role of chief administrative officer of the Pāti, on terms and conditions approved by the National Executive, and will be accountable directly to the President for administrative and financial control of the Pāti.
 - b. National Secretary, to record the proceedings of the National Council and the National Executive, and to be responsible to the General Manager for such other administrative duties as the General Manager may prescribe;
 - c. National Treasurer, to be responsible to the General Manager for the maintenance of the financial records of the Pāti to standards required by the Incorporated Societies Act 1908, to establish and maintain such bank accounts as the National Executive may from time to time approve, to receipt and bank all monies paid to the Pāti, to be a co-signatory of cheques or other payment instruments paid from the Pāti's bank accounts together with such other member or members of the Pāti as the National Executive may appoint for co-signing, and to be responsible for the preparation of annual accounts for audit by registered auditors appointed by the National Council.

The General Manager, National Secretary and National Treasurer shall be ex officio members of the National Executive, and without voting rights.

5. Decision-making

- 5.1. All decisions of Te Pāti Māori shall be made by consensus, consistent with the customary practice of whakawhitiwhiti kōrero, and having regard to constitutional and kaupapa obligations of Te Pāti Māori. If the hui cannot reach consensus after full discussion of the issue, then the chairperson of the hui will ask the meeting to accept the view of the majority in the best interests of the Pāti.
- 5.2. Those who do not agree with the majority decision may have their objections included in any minutes recorded for the hui.

6. Annual General Meeting (Hui ā Tau)

- 6.1. The Pāti shall annually hold an Annual General Meeting (AGM), Hui ā Tau. Such hui shall be held no later than six (6) months after the financial year ends at a place and time approved by the National Council and notified to the membership of the Pāti not less than two (2) calendar months prior to the Hui ā Tau being held. The business of this meeting shall be:
- a. receiving National Council, Electorate, and any other reports;
 - b. receiving the audited financial accounts of the Pāti for the previous financial year;
 - c. amending, cancelling or adding any Pāti rule;
 - d. considering and accepting policies prepared by the National Council or an electorate;
 - e. receiving, considering and acting upon any other remits not inconsistent with this constitution from the National Council or an electorate;
 - f. appointing the auditor;
 - g. such other matters necessary for the carrying out of Pāti activities.
- 6.2. The election of the president and co-vice presidents shall occur on a rotational, triennial basis.
- 6.3. All remits must first be passed by the electorate committees, who shall forward them to the National Council at least six (6) weeks before the AGM (Hui ā Tau).
- 6.4. All decisions made at the AGM (Hui ā Tau) will be made consistent with Section 5 of this constitution: Decision-making.
- 6.5. The quorum for the AGM (Hui ā Tau) comprises of the following:
- a. the Pāti President or one of the co-vice presidents;
 - b. one of the co-leaders (subject to having Members of Parliament); and
 - c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

7. Special General Meeting

- 7.1. Special General Meetings can be called by the National Council for:
- d. the election of the Pāti's co-leaders;
 - e. extraordinary matters that require consideration.
- 7.2. The procedures for Special General Meetings are detailed in Schedule 5 of this constitution.

7.3 The election of the Pāti's co-leaders:

Where required, there shall be a Special General Meeting within six (6) weeks of a General Election to select the Pāti's co-leaders. The co-leaders will be selected from the sitting Members of Parliament and one will be tāne and one will be wahine. In the event that the co-leadership criteria cannot be met, the National Council may appoint a co-leader who sits outside of Parliament.

Those selected shall be in office for three years. The leadership may change at any time through:

- a. resignation;
- b. death;
- c. bringing the Pāti into disrepute in accordance with the Resolution of Differences and Disputes clause;
- d. resolution at a Special General Meeting.

7.4 The quorum for the Special General Meeting comprises of the following:

- a. the Pāti President or one of the co-vice presidents;
- b. one of the co-leaders (subject to having Members of Parliament);
- c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

8. Candidate Selection

8.1. Electorates organise their own processes to find their own candidates that meet the criteria set out in Schedule 4.

8.2. The National Executive can select a member to observe the process as an independent facilitator of the Candidate Selection Hui.

8.3. These processes shall be submitted to the National Council or its delegated subcommittee at least six (6) weeks before nominations open and they must be confirmed by that committee at least one (1) calendar month before nominations open.

8.4. Every process must ensure that:

- a. sufficient checks and safeguards are carried out to ensure all prospective candidates fulfil the candidate criteria, and any risks are mitigated;
- b. input that provides a national overview of the prospective candidates, assists the electorate with their decision-making, and provides external points to consider is received from the National Council or its delegated subcommittee;
- c. the process upholds and safeguards the kaupapa of Te Pāti Māori and enables all electorate members to have input into the final decision;
- d. the declaration of any conflicts of interest between a candidate and those within the Pāti ensures that improper influence in the selection process is likewise avoided.

- 8.5. Any disputes will be taken to the National Council.
- 8.6. When the electorate has reached a decision as to who should be the candidate, this person's name shall be submitted forthwith to the National Council.
- 8.7. The Electorate shall provide a written report to National Council on the process confirming or otherwise that the process has met all selection criteria according to the constitution and Kaupapa of Te Pāti Maori.
- 8.8. The National Council shall immediately either confirm the nomination or provide a written explanation as to why the National Council believes the nomination may not be in the best interests of the Pāti and requires further consideration by the Electorate. The National Council shall meet with the electorate and resolve a way forward.

9. Resolution of Differences and Disputes

- 9.1. There shall be three types of disputes:
 - a. Serious Disputes shall be those disputes that deal with:
 - i. misuse of Pāti funds for personal gain;
 - ii. bringing the Pāti into disrepute, by any abuse, slugging, or misuse of any media or verbal statements that can or would be injurious to the general welfare and well-being of the Pāti or its members as a whole.
 - b. Non-serious Disputes shall be those disputes that deal with other matters that do not involve Pāti funds and that can generally be settled at local electorate level by the parties involved.
 - c. Judicial Disputes shall be those disputes dealing with matters such as the candidate selection process.
- 9.2. Disciplinary action may be brought against a member who:
 - a. refuses to comply with this constitution;
 - b. improperly deals with any Pāti funds;
 - c. in any other way willfully brings the Pāti or its members into public disrepute.
- 9.3. All members agree to work together to support the Constitution of the Pāti and act according to the kaupapa at all times (refer to Part 1 of this constitution). Differences that may arise from time to time shall be resolved at the earliest opportunity by those involved.
- 9.4. Differences that cannot be resolved by the individuals involved shall be heard by the relevant Electorate Council.
- 9.5. A serious complaint against a member for any of the above reasons shall first be communicated in writing to the relevant Electorate Council. If it cannot be resolved at this level, it shall be referred to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee of the

- 9.6. National Executive who shall act swiftly and with discretion to seek resolution of the matter and to see that the dispute is resolved on the basis of the kaupapa of the Pāti.
- 9.7. Should the Electorate Council not be able to deal with any dispute then that council shall refer the dispute to the National Executive.
- 9.8. No member shall be permitted to refer a complaint directly to the National Executive unless that complaint is directly against the Electorate Council, in which case the complaint will be directed immediately to the Pāti President.
- 9.9. Should a complaint be directed immediately to the Pāti President then, on receipt of such a complaint, the President shall first of all satisfy him- or herself that the complaint is:
 - a. a legitimate complaint;
 - b. not a serious complaint.
- 9.10. The President may, at his or her discretion, settle the complaint, or he or she may forward the complaint to the National Council for resolution. Such complaints shall not be referred to the Disputes and Disciplinary Committee.
- 9.11. Should an electorate receive a serious complaint it shall immediately attempt to bring the complaint to a resolution. Failing a satisfactory resolution, the Electorate Executive shall forward the complaint to the National President, stating that the matter is of a serious nature and that the Electorate Council requests the intervention of the National Executive.
- 9.12. The Electorate Council, having already tried for resolution and failed, may send the complaint directly to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.
- 9.13. On receipt of the complaint the following steps shall be taken:
 - a. The National President shall immediately notify both the electorates and the parties concerned in the dispute.
 - b. Notification shall be by phone call or by Tracked Post.
 - c. Nothing further will be done until the President has received advice that all parties have received their notification.
 - d. After receiving the information that all parties have been notified, the President shall inform the National Council;
- 9.14. On receipt of a serious complaint, the National Executive shall either send the complaint back to the Electorate Council or send the complaint on to the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.
- 9.15. The Disciplinary and Disputes Committee's structure and responsibilities are outlined in Schedule 3.
- 9.16. Confidential non-disclosure: All members of Te Pāti Māori must undertake not to disclose to any person, or make use of any information, document or material of a personal nature that may embarrass the Pāti or has the potential to bring it into dispute. This includes the media or any other political Pāti.
- 9.17. Protected Disclosures

Any Te Pāti Māori member who wishes to make a protected disclosure should do so as follows:

Te Pāti Māori member or persons should submit the disclosure in writing to either the electorate or the National Council, depending on the seriousness of the disclosure. The disclosure should contain detailed information including the following:

- the nature of the disclosure;
- the name/s of the person/s involved;
- surrounding facts, including details relating to the time and or place of the incident if known or relevant.

10. Remedy

- 10.1. Any member who is found to have been in breach of section 3, 3.1, bullet points a- e, or is found guilty of a serious complaint other than the misuse of Pāti funds for personal gain, shall have their membership revoked under section 3.7.
- 10.2. Any member who is found guilty of misusing Pāti funds shall be immediately expelled from the Pāti.

11. Interpretation and Alteration of Constitution

- 11.1. The Constitution is made up of Part 1: Kaupapa and Tikanga, Part 2: Rules, and Part 3: Schedules. All parts of the constitution are equally binding on the membership.
- 11.2. The Constitution may be amended, added to, or rescinded by resolution of the AGM (Hui ā Tau) of the Pāti or a Special General Meeting convened for such purpose.
- 11.3. The National Council shall give notice to all groups of the proposed alteration/addition or rescission not less than one (1) calendar month prior to the AGM or Special General Meeting of the Pāti at which it is proposed to be moved.
- 11.4. No alteration to the object clauses (section 2), or the dissolution clause (section 12) shall be made without the prior written approval of the Inland Revenue Department.

12. Dissolution Clause

- 12.1. At a duly constituted AGM (Hui ā Tau) or a Special General Meeting, Te Pāti Maori may resolve by majority resolution that the Pāti be dissolved as from the date named in the resolution. The Pāti may also, by such resolution, direct the method of disposing of the assets and property of Te Pāti Māori after its dissolution.
- 12.2. Upon the resolution being confirmed at a subsequent meeting called for the purpose, and held not earlier than one (1) calendar month after the date on which the first resolution was passed, the Pāti shall be dissolved.
- 12.3. A notice of the resolution and its confirmation shall be sent to the Electoral Commission, the Registrar of Incorporated Societies, and the Commissioner of Inland Revenue. The property of Te Pāti Māori shall, upon dissolution, be transferred to such political or other organisations within New Zealand having objectives similar to those of Te Pāti Maori, as the meeting of dissolution shall determine or, in default, as may be determined by the High Court of New Zealand on the application of the National Council.

Part 3: Schedules

Schedule 1: Electorates and Branches

Electorates

1. Each electorate shall determine its own quorum and that for its branches.
2. In keeping all branches informed of all Pāti matters, each electorate shall call an electorate meeting at least quarterly. At such meetings voting and speaking rights shall be restricted to financial members.
3. Each electorate shall hold an annual hui of financial members. The Annual General Meeting will elect officers, deal with any remits sent by branches, and receive the annual report from the chairperson/s and the treasurer/s.
4. Each electorate shall have an Electorate Council that shall be responsible for all Pāti activities in the Electorate.
5. The officers of each electorate (that is the chairpersons, secretaries and treasurers) plus up to three elected members from the full Electorate membership shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the electorate.
6. At each annual hui three National Council members and their substitutes shall be selected as defined in clause 4.4. The Electorate Committee shall determine the criteria required for members to represent the electorate on the National Council.
7. All decisions of the Electorate Council shall be made in accordance with clause 5.1.
8. When hosting a National Council hui, each electorate shall be responsible for the setting up and payment of all accounts for each meeting. Each electorate will ensure that the fees for their elected representatives are paid for by their electorate. It shall be the responsibility of the host electorate to collect fees from attendees other than electorate representatives. Any person failing to pay their just dues may not take an active part in that hui.
9. The selection and election of an electorate candidate shall be done in a manner prescribed by the Electorate Council in accordance with the Candidate Selection policy. It shall also be incumbent upon the electorate to raise the necessary funds for their candidate's election campaign, and it must be carried out in accordance with the Electoral Act, accepting that each candidate may select his or her own campaign managers. It shall be incumbent on these managers to, at all times, work with and for the Electorate Council.

Branches

1. Each branch shall be represented on its Electorate Council by up to three (3) financial members – one tāne, one wahine, one rangatahi. Any changes should immediately be brought to the notice of the Electorate Secretary, accompanied by the branch minutes showing such changes.
2. Each branch shall have an executive comprising Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer and a minimum of seven other members.
3. Each branch shall ensure proper financial systems and controls.
4. Each branch shall record and keep accurate minutes of its branch hui.
5. Branches may be established subject to electorate approval.
6. Every such branch authorized by the Electorate Council shall enrol members into the Pāti.
7. They shall also fundraise and pay all such dues and levies that may from time to time be imposed by the Electorate Council or by the National Council.
8. Each branch shall have a cheque account for which there must be a minimum of two signatures but no two signatures from the same household.
9. Branches must send a copy of their Income over Expenditure plus a copy of the bank statement to the Electorate Council monthly meeting.
10. A probationary period should be set between the existing branch and the new branch.

Affiliates

Affiliates are free to participate with the nearest branch by location.

Affiliates express their support by paying their Affiliate Membership Fee as set from time to time by the National Executive.

Affiliates express their support by registering their Member or Electoral roles, both local and national.

Affiliates acknowledge their support by organising and turning out these members to vote for Te Pāti Māori.

Schedule 2: National Council

1. The National Council comprises the following:
 - a. the Pāti president and two co-vice presidents (one tāne and one wahine);
 - b. two co-leaders (one tāne and one wahine);
 - c. all Members of Parliament;
 - d. up to four council members selected by each electorate (including rangatahi and both wahine and tāne), or their substitute as determined by each electorate.
2. Nominations for president and vice-president are to be lodged with the National Secretary six (6) weeks before an Annual General Meeting and distributed to the electorates at least one (1) calendar month before that AGM. No person shall be eligible for the office of president or vice-president unless he or she has been a member of Te Pāti Māori for at least three years.
3. There shall be a Special General Meeting within six (6) weeks following the General Election to select the Pāti co-leaders, if required. Those selected shall be in office for three years.
4. If there is a vacancy during the three-year term in any of the above offices, then the National Council may appoint a person to hold office for the balance of the term.
5. There is a clear delineation of roles and responsibilities for the president and two co-vice presidents, and these roles and responsibilities will be ratified by the National Council.
6. Each Māori electorate shall be represented on the National Council. Further electorates may, from time to time, be accepted by the National Council. An Electorate Council member can be removed from the National Council by consensus of the Electorate Council.
7. The National Executive shall hear all appeals from any electorate.
8. The National Executive shall ratify or otherwise any decision made by the National Executive since the previous meeting.
9. All National Council policy remits must be ratified by an AGM or a Special General Meeting called for that purpose.

10. All decisions of the National Council shall be made by consensus as a customary practice, having regard to constitutional obligations and the kaupapa of Te Pāti Maori. If the hui cannot reach consensus after full discussion of the issue, then the chairperson will ask the meeting to accept the view of the majority in the best interests of the Pāti.
11. The National Council shall meet every two (2) months, and its meetings shall rotate within the Māori seat electorates.
12. The quorum for the Special General Meeting comprises of the following:
 - a. the Pāti President or one of the co-vice presidents;
 - b. one of the co-leaders (subject to having Members of Parliament);
 - c. the delegated representatives of four of the Māori electorates.

Schedule 3: Disciplinary and Disputes Committee

1. The National Council will select a committee of five members, including the Chair of the committee.
2. The Committee shall be self-determining and to that end shall only take instructions from the whole National Council.
3. The committee shall be selected strictly from Council Members only. No other person shall hold any position within the committee, whether advisory or otherwise.
4. The committee shall take office for a period of three years but may be elected for a further term.
5. Any vacancy that occurs in the committee shall be filled by the National Council.
6. The quorum for any meeting shall be three members including the Chair. Sufficient notice must be given to enable members to attend.
7. The committee shall be chaired by one of the vice-presidents. The other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
8. In the event that a complaint is levelled at the Chair, the other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
9. Only one vice-president shall be permitted to sit on the committee at any time.
10. Any member must declare any conflict of interest. Conflicts of interest are to be declared at the start of any meetings.
11. Should the Chair declare a conflict of interest, the other vice-president will act as stand-in for the Chair.
12. The committee shall be charged to reach a resolution of the complaint and, unless there is some legal impediment, the resolution shall be final and binding.
13. The committee shall act swiftly but without undue haste to reach a resolution.
14. The resolution of the complaint shall be reported to the National Council.
15. On receipt of the resolution the National Council shall endorse the findings of the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee and notify the parties to the dispute of such a resolution.
16. The National Council may change the resolution of the complaint on points of law only.

17. All complainants shall be notified of the outcomes.
18. The committee may, at any time during its hearing, place a total media ban on anything to do with the case being heard. This will apply to all members of the Pāti.
19. Any person breaking the media ban can be charged with “bringing the Pāti into disrepute”.
20. On any matter that is before the committee, no person shall engage legal counsel on behalf of the Pāti without the full agreement of the Disciplinary and Disputes Committee.

Schedule 4: Candidate Selection Guidelines

The purpose of the candidate selection and Pāti list process is to seek representative candidates who are credible, respected and reflective of Te Pāti Māori values. The application of these procedures are guided by the kaupapa of the Māori Pāti, which comprise Part 1 of Te Pāti Māori Constitution and will be applied in a fair, efficient and transparent manner.

The candidate selection and Pāti list process is managed by Te Pāti Māori National Executive (Māori Pāti Constitution; Part Two; Rule 8).

Any person who is a fully paid up member of Te Pāti Māori is eligible to be nominated as a candidate in accordance with the regulations set out in the Electoral Act (Māori Pāti Constitution; Rule 3.5).

The principles guiding the candidate selection process are:

- consistency of process
- transparency of selection
- strategic approach to selection
- fairness, participation, reasonable notice and inclusiveness.

The goal is to ensure that the electorate and list candidates representing Te Pāti Māori:

- Work for the benefit of all citizens of Aotearoa
- Work within the kaupapa of the Māori Pāti
- Have a vision of a nation of cultural diversity and richness, where its unity is underpinned by the expression of tangata whenuatanga by Māori; and
- Acknowledge Te Tiriti o Waitangi as the founding document of this nation.

1. National Council and Electorate Roles

- a) The selection of Māori constituency candidates in each of the seven Māori seats, for general election or by-election can be managed by the National Council in consultation with the electorate chairs and the respective Māori electorate.
- b) The National Council will select a National Executive member to observe the process as an independent facilitator of the Candidate Selection Hui.
- c) The electorate will advertise for expressions of interest to stand as a Māori Pāti candidate and subsequently undertake a nomination process for that electorate.
- d) The electorate will provide names and a list of ideal candidates for the constituency and Pāti list to the National Council.

For the purposes of selecting candidates, the Electorate shall organise with the National Executive representative to have selection hui where the recommended short listed candidates shall be interviewed.

- a) There shall be no more than TWO selection hui where interviews will take place. The hui shall be held within the electorate at places elected and organised by the electorate itself. All financial members of Te Pāti Māori may attend this hui.
- b) The panel shall organise appropriate tikanga and kawa for this meeting.
- c) The process shall include:
 - i. An opportunity for the candidates to present a statement on their suitability to be a candidate as set out in the candidate profile
 - ii. An opportunity for the panel to ask questions
 - iii. An opportunity to the hui to ask questions within a structure facilitated by the chair
 - iv. An opportunity for kaituara of the candidate to make a statement of support
- d) The final deliberation by the Electorate shall take place without the candidate/s.
- e) A report should be provided to the National Executive of the process applied, and decisions made. The National Executive shall communicate the outcome of the deliberations about candidates to the National Council as soon as is practical whether they have a candidate or not.
- f) Where no shortlist has been provided or no candidate has been selected from the electorate, the National Executive shall work with the respective electorate to consider a strategy to confirm a candidate.
- g) It is the responsibility of the National Executive to declare a candidate for confirmation by the National Council.
- h) The National Executive shall set the timetable for selection of all candidates.

2. Duty of Electorate Committees

- a) The National Council requires electorate committees in a non- election year to scout for 'potential' candidates for future candidacy selection with the approval of the National Council.
- b) It is the responsibility of the electorate to eventually compile a short list of candidates who have the necessary skills, attributes, knowledge and experience to make a positive contribution to Te Pāti Māori campaign.
- c) Electorate secretaries shall be responsible for providing clear notice of the nomination criteria and selection process to be followed including the opening and closing dates of the selection of candidates. This must be provided to the National Council and endorsed by them. The notice must be circulated and made available to eligible financial members at least two weeks prior to the nominations opening
- d) All electorate secretaries shall receive all nominations
- e) The electorate shall ensure that all of the documentation requirements are adhered to and then provided to the National Council through the National Secretary

3. Electorates Registering Potential Candidates

- a) Members of Māori Pāti electorates will be invited to register their expression of interest with an electorate committee once 'candidacy' is deemed open by the National Council.
- b) Potential candidates who register with the electorate committee will be sent the 'candidate profile', and a questionnaire to help them carefully consider their nomination for a Māori electorate seat.
- c) All members wishing to stand as candidates in the coming general election must be current members and reside in the electorate or returning home to the electorate.
- d) The candidate must be nominated by at least 10 Te Pāti Māori members who are prepared to act as referees.

4. Nomination Process

- a) Electorate committees shall be responsible for providing clear notice of the nomination criteria and selection process to be followed including the opening and closing dates of the selection of candidates to the National Council. This must be circulated and made available to eligible financial members at least two weeks prior to the nominations opening
- b) All electorate committees shall receive all nominations
- c) There shall be hui of each electorate committee to select a short-list of candidates at which all financial members who live within the boundaries of that electorate, shall be entitled to attend and to participate in the selection of the nomination provided they are members on the date that candidate nominations open.
- d) Only financial members of Te Pāti Māori as at the opening date of nominations can participate in the selection process
- e) In the case of Māori electorate seats, financial members of Māori descent or on the Māori roll who live within the boundaries of that electorate are eligible to participate.
- f) Where the electorate has reached a consensus as to who the nominations shall be, an agreed national process will be followed.
- g) The electorate shall consider those nominations, make a decision on the best candidate. They will provide a recommendation to National Council and National Executive for confirmation.
- h) Where no nominations are provided to the National Council for a Māori seat or general seat, the National Council are authorised to act in the best interests of the Pāti to seek a candidate for that 'electorate'.
- i) One nomination does not mean that that nomination has the candidacy as of right for that electorate. The final decision is for the National Council and the electorate committee.

5. Documentation required for Nomination

All nominations must be accompanied with:

- a) The official nomination form
- b) A declaration for internal Pāti purposes
- c) Resume and personal profile available for circulation
- d) Police Check indicating that the candidate does not have any convictions
- e) Credit check indicating that the candidate is financially solvent
- f) A detailed list of 10 financial members of Te Pāti Māori who have declared their support of the nomination.
- g) Confirmation that the nominee is a financial member of the Māori Pāti

All documentation shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the particular electorate in the first instance.

6. Candidate Profile

Those wishing to be considered as candidates to contest an election should have the following attributes:

- ✓ High profile, renowned for advocacy for Māori e.g, social justice, economic development, Whanau Ora, te reo Māori
- ✓ Established or existing strong public profile / brand recognition
- ✓ Experience in public office e.g, board of trustees, local government
- ✓ Experience in campaigning for a cause
- ✓ Demonstrated commitment to the kaupapa of the Māori Pāti
- ✓ The support of 10 signed-up members

- ✓ Has a strong team of supporters willing to provide emotional and moral support that will also be the candidate's team to support, among other activities, campaigning
 - ✓ Demonstrated team-player
 - ✓ Political nous
 - ✓ Articulate and capable, including public speaking
 - ✓ Strong personality
 - ✓ A paid up financial member of the Māori Pāti
 - ✓ Clean record
 - ✓ Financial viability
 - ✓ Media savvy

7. Candidate Interviews

- a) The electorate shall carry out interviews with candidates to determine their suitability for the role. The candidates will be interviewed to assess their support for the kaupapa of Te Pāti Māori and to examine the candidate's commitment to the Pāti. It is expected that electorate committees should have made checks of a candidate's background and of the referees and provide results to National Executive before interviews progress.
- b) The electorate's decisions shall be determined by consensus. (as described in Section 5.1 of Te Pāti Māori Constitution)
- c) Each electorate will be able to conduct an indicative poll of participants in selection hui. This decision shall be facilitated by an Electorate Chair or another designated representative.
- d) Should this happen, the voting shall be conducted by the electorate secretary or nominated representative
- e) Results of the poll shall be confidential to the electorate until confirmed by National Council and can only be used by them on their request and can only be declared to the panel at the end of their determination of the candidate.

8. Candidates who are Officers of the Pāti

- a) Any member of Te Pāti Māori who holds an elected office in an electorate or is a paid officer in any position, and is approved as a candidate, is automatically suspended from the position, until final selection is approved by the electorate.
- b) The following provision shall be added to his or her nomination paper: "I agree to abstain from taking part as an officer in Te Pāti Māori in my electorate committee for the period from the opening of the nominations until final selection is made".
- c) This rule shall not operate to preclude a candidate for selection, nor preclude he/she from being appointed as a delegate to Te Pāti Māori National Annual Conference, nor from speaking and voting at such conference.

9. Selection of General Seat candidates

- a) The selection criteria for Māori seats shall apply to the selection of the general seat candidates
- b) Individuals, whānau or Māori electorates wishing to stand candidates in the general electorates must formalise their desire to stand in writing to the National Secretary

- c) A National Council sub-committee shall consider nominations for the purposes of this selection, the sub-committee shall consist of:

Consistent Members

- A Member of the office of the President – the National Executive
- Co-Leaders and or one of the Members of Parliament (two members in total), subject to having Members of Parliament
- A National Council nominee. This member shall not be of the same electorate that is selecting a candidate

Electorate representation

- Up to three (3) members of the electorate that is selecting the candidate

10. Sitting members

- a) Sitting Māori Pāti Members of Parliament are required to formally indicate in writing their wish to stand and this must be provided to the electorate committee at their request or before the AGM one year in advance of an election year. Where only one nomination has been made for selection, that nominee must be approved by the National Council Selection Panel (and therefore the National Council), even if the nomination is an existing Member of Parliament.
- b) The National Council Selection Panel may use its discretion to modify the level of scrutiny applied before forming a judgment as to the candidate's continuing suitability. Should it be deemed that a member is unsuitable to continue, this matter shall be referred to the National Council.

11. Candidates for List Seats

- a) All nominations for the Pāti list shall be Pāti members
- b) The National Council Selection Panel will submit its prioritised list to the National Council. The National Council will finalise the list based on the recommendation of the National Council Selection Panel.
- c) All electorates are able to nominate candidates for the list.
- d) All nominations must be submitted to National Council Selection Panel in a timeline that shall be circulated to electorates. The final ordered list shall be considered after the selection of all Māori seat candidates
- e) Each nomination must include the same documentation as is required for the nominations for general seats except that a list of 15 financial members who support a nomination to the list must be provided.

The National Council identifies a set of criteria to be applied in determining priorities including:

- i. skills and expertise;
- ii. gender/age;
- iii. inclusiveness; (i.e. ethnicity, sexuality, religious belief);

- iv. sector networks and credibility;
- v. mana whenua
- vi. All criteria set out for all Māori Pāti candidates

12. Conduct and Confidentiality of Proceedings

- a) The National Council must observe and document a process which safeguards the integrity of the overall selection process
- b) The proceedings of selection shall be confidential to the participants and each nominee is expected to extend manaakitanga towards other people by acting in ways that are mana-enhancing.
- c) Every nominee, or member of the candidate's whanau will declare any conflict of Interest, and must withdraw from any Pāti role that may unduly influence their selection or privilege their position in the Pāti.
- d) Every person participating including every candidate for a Māori seat or general seat shall sign an undertaking to keep the proceedings confidential. The chair of the National Council Selection Panel is authorized to report to the Electorate committees and National Council on how the interview process was conducted.
- e) National Council will ensure strict conflict of interest policies are established and complied with for the candidate selection processes to ensure neither selection processes nor do prospective candidates improperly influence the selection process.

13. Early election candidate selection process

Where an early election is called, and where there is less than three months to polling day the electorate with National Council may decide to use the following process as an alternative to the process set out in the first schedule:

- a) Where an early election is called, all current sitting Members of Parliament will be automatically selected to stand in their electorates for that election.
- b) All other electorate candidate selections shall be completed on a date determined by the National Council
- c) Conditions set out in this schedule shall apply in this circumstance
- d) Where electorates are unable to complete their selection of candidates on the date determined by the National Council shall have the authority to select candidates according to an agreed process.

Schedule 5: Procedures for Special General Meetings

1. A Special General Meeting may be called by the National Council at any time, or at the written request of three electorates, or by written request of at least 200 financial members, and will be held within six (6) weeks of the lodging of the request for a Special General Meeting to the President.
2. The request shall state clearly the purpose of the meeting, in no more than 150 words, and also the desired outcome.
3. On receipt of a request for a Special General Meeting, the President shall call the meeting within one (1) calendar month from the date of receipt.
4. If the meeting is not called within the timeframe, the electorate/s requesting the meeting shall call such a meeting themselves, and any motion passed at such a meeting shall be binding on the Pāti.
5. Failure by the electorates to call the meeting within the timeframe shall render the original request invalid.
6. The Special General Meeting will be a meeting of the National Council and membership at large.
7. Membership status will be checked by a Pāti Official.
8. The costs for the Special General Meeting venue shall be met by the National Council.
9. All arrangements for the Special General Meeting shall be coordinated by the National Secretary.
10. The venue for any such Special General Meeting shall be the sole responsibility of the National Executive.
11. Only matters notified in the agenda for the Special General Meeting shall be considered at the meeting.
12. Special General Meetings shall be open to all current financial members of the Pāti.

