

ENGAGEMENT WITH IWI AND HAPŪ

Rua Gold (or the “Company”) takes a proactive stance on issues affecting iwi and hapū and is committed to active engagement with Māori in respect of their cultural, environmental, economic and other interests under this policy. We monitor and evaluate the Company’s engagement in accordance with our processes and procedures.

Rua Gold conducts all of its business in New Zealand with regard to the principles of the Treaty of Waitangi (Te Tiriti o Waitangi) (“the Treaty”). We consider that open, transparent, genuine, timely, good-faith and ongoing communication with affected iwi and hapū through relevant iwi authorities is integral to the success of our business. We will carry out a variety of exploration operations on various sites, and we establish and implement heritage considerations and protocols, as required. In these instances, Rua Gold adheres to all relevant regulatory requirements, and communicates these requirements to all employees and contractors.

Although Rua Gold understands that the Crown minerals regulator, New Zealand Petroleum & Minerals, has its own iwi and hapū consultation guidelines/requirements, we incorporate the following considerations into all areas of our business to effectively manage our engagement with affected iwi and hapū. Rua Gold acknowledges the Treaty, and provisions relating to iwi and hapū consultation under the Crown Minerals Act 1991, Māori Land Act 1993, Ngāi Tahu Claims Settlements Act 1998 and any other relevant Treaty settlement legislation, Conservation Act 1987, and other applicable legislation. We seek to maintain a good working relationship with the relevant iwi and hapū groups in the areas of Rua Gold’s activities.

Accordingly, Rua Gold observes the following principles:

- Adherence to the requirements of the aforementioned legislation, and good industry practice when it comes to dealings/engagement with iwi and hapū.
- Recognition that Māori objects and places of significance are an important part of living culture.
- Recognition and acknowledgement of Māori cultural, environmental, economic and other interests in the land in which Rua Gold operates.
- Creation of working and training opportunities for Māori people within Rua Gold’s business activities.
- In implementing these principles, Rua Gold and its staff will comply with the following policy guidelines:

- Wherever possible, we will carry out Māori heritage surveys with the assistance of tangata whenua.
- Rua Gold will seek to minimize the impact of its activities on areas of significance.
- All staff will undertake cultural awareness training.
- Staff who detect objects that may be of Māori significance during the course of their work are required to report these findings to the Resident/Project Manager. Rua Gold staff and contractors will ensure strict adherence to the Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga Archaeological Discovery Protocol.
- Heritage New Zealand Pouhere Taonga will be consulted prior to any earthworks activities occurring, on whether there are known archeological sites.
- Staff/contractors will not enter cordoned-off sites of Māori significance.
- Rua Gold promotes equal opportunity employment at all of its sites, and in doing so;
 - promotes a workplace that is free of discrimination;
 - treats all employees fairly and with respect; and
 - encourages and facilitates employment opportunities for Māori people.
- Establish and maintain effective, positive and respectful communication and engagement with members of local communities.
- Ensure that local residents are properly engaged with regarding any development proposed by the Company that may have a social, cultural, economic or historical impact on their community and/or livelihoods.
- Aim to maximize the economic development of local communities through the employment of local residents, and support of local businesses. In addition to the increased custom at local businesses and suppliers, there will also be both local and Māori employment opportunities.
- Aim to introduce or contribute toward financial support for education, training and employment programs for local residents including the provision of scholarships, mentoring arrangements and workshops.
- Ensure that Rua Gold's activities are conducted in a manner that is sensitive to local

peoples' rights and interests and, in particular, that Rua Gold is familiar with, and acknowledges local archeology and heritage issues.

- Conduct all activities with respect for the environment.
- Ensure that its activities are conducted in compliance with local, and central government-administered legislation and regulation
- Ensure that where appropriate its activities take into account tikanga Māori and mātauranga Māori
- Ensure that all employees and contractors are aware of the Company's and their obligations with respect to registered heritage sites or areas of otherwise known cultural or traditional significance located within the Company's area of operations.

It is the aim of Rua Gold that any future mining operations will be undertaken to a standard that produces no, or at most minimal, adverse short-term effects and after mining to leave no less than a positive contribution to the environment and the Reefton community.

Kind Regards,



Mr. Simon Henderson
COO
RUAGOLD