

Taonga works

These conversations were an opportunity for participants to discuss the section in Part 8 of the Issues Paper: 'Copyright and the Wai 262 Inquiry'.

Notes recorded by workshop groups

Theme/sub-topic	Comments recorded
Next steps/what's happening	> Inclusion in copyright review: advancing Wai 262 higher priority than copyright
	> Taonga works are copyright and vice versa. Seeing how these things work together and separately in order to determine how to engage. Exploratory.
	> Shoehorning Taonga into ill-fitting pre-existing systems is problematic.
	> [this review] Could be a world leading opportunity to create a result for Taonga.
	> TPK to develop [a strategy]
	> Copyright is an awkward mechanism for a culture so holistic
	> Museums are making collections available under specific conditions
	> Process: how to consult:
	> Where are the experts?
	> Depth and capacity of understanding about intellectual property – does this compromise the efficacy of these consultations?
	› Copyright conversations much easier to have for Pākehā
	> Don't force Māori into an ill-fitting and irrelevant framework
	> Government must back this. Will government be too frightened?
	> Huge opportunity to create something transformational
	> Other legislation has tried to include, but minimally and ineffectively
	> Heartening to contemplate a truly bi-cultural and bi-partisan approach that is not beholden to an electoral cycle. Palpable shift.
	> Appropriation, commercialisation, egregious use
	> Offensive vs derogatory use
	> How does this sit in legislation in the context of free-speech and censorship?
	> Shift in public consciousness to protect and defend against appropriation

Theme/sub-topic	Comments recorded
	> Is the Crown observing its obligations under the Treaty?
	> Could a clause be included in the Copyright Act that would mean that the courts were bound to consider the Treaty in copyright disputes?
	> A challenge is that there is so much property and taonga already available:
	> How to allow access or regulate use of things already being used?
	> Retroactive protection
	> Registry for Taonga Works? How would this operate?
	> A decision-making body as part of the new regime?
	> Where would the funding come from to cover the costs of the new system's infrastructure?
	> Long time since the release of the Waitangi Tribunal recommendations report
	> Offensive use vs freedom of expressions
	> Education as a response to derogatory treatment of Taonga Works; internationally: use of diplomatic sources to respond to derogatory treatment – we need a NZ system to refer to in order to facilitate international protection.
	> Māori are in minority in the democratic process. Māori's resources are limited when it comes to ensuring Taonga Works protection
	> People often don't realise they infringe.
Engagement	> Initial hui at the end of March:
	> How do you want to engage?
	> Leave the Berne Convention and re-write the legal framework
	> Imagine the liberation
	> What is the inherent hierarchy of the legislation?
	> Do we look to the UN Convention?
	> How to engage?
	> Talk to Māori
	> Ask Māori who to talk to
	> Don't ignore the Tribunal's report – it embodies 20 years of thought and insight
	> Talk to people/organisations who already hold taonga
	> Be alert to the potential of expanding into other territories
	> Where do the politics of these conversations lie?

Theme/sub-topic	Comments recorded
Definition	> Distinction between Taonga and Taonga-derived works (is this an apt term?)
	> What constitutes Māori works? What is Taonga?
	> Tradition vs contemporary
	> What are the underlying principles?
	> Can something be elevated to the status of Taonga over time?
	> Accrual of experience and meaning:
	> Taonga are living
	> Treaty is a two-way thing: works which are not Māori which may still be taonga
	> Taonga-derived works, eg Air NZ's use of Koru
	> Conflict vs freedom of speech
	> How taonga-derived works are used
	> Making taonga works public – offence
	> Who created the work – taonga work of taonga-derived work?
	> Reflects the whole creative cycle.
Alternatives / other	> Mechanisms exist: licensing that benefits a central body in the AU environment
mechanisms	> There are some international examples/regimes that protect indigenous knowledge.