



Indigenous Law Speaker Series 2016

Māori Law Review in conjunction with Te Hinaatore presents...

“Te Awa Tupua: Exploring the legal status of the Whanganui River 2016”

Mark Hickford and Gerrard Albert

**Wednesday, 5 October 2016, 5.30pm. Lecture Theatre Three,
Faculty of Law, Victoria University of Wellington.**

Under the Whanganui River settlement signed in 2014, Te Awa Tupua will be recognised in legislation as an indivisible and living whole comprising the Whanganui River from the mountains to the sea, incorporating its tributaries and all its physical and metaphysical elements. Te Awa Tupua will also be recognised as a legal person. Reflecting the view of the River as a living and integrated whole, Te Awa Tupua will have its own legal personality with all the corresponding rights, duties and liabilities of a legal person. In this seminar, Mark Hickford and Gerrard Albert will discuss significant legal and tikanga dimensions of this settlement.

Mark Hickford is Pro Vice-Chancellor and Dean of Law at Victoria University of Wellington. Mark has held a range of senior management and leadership roles in the public and private sectors, including being in the Prime Minister’s Policy Advisory Group in the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet since 2010 (based in the Executive Wing of Parliament Buildings. Prior to that, he spent eight years as a Crown Counsel at the Crown Law Office, specialising in public law, the Treaty of Waitangi, Crown-Māori relations and natural resources law. He has been a senior consultant on part-time secondment to the Law Commission from the Crown Law Office (during which time he worked on the privacy law reform project and assisted the Legislation Design Committee) and was Chief Legal Advisor at the Ministry of Primary Industries on secondment from the Department of the Prime Minister and Cabinet from August 2013 until April 2014.

Gerrard Albert is the Chair of Ngā Tāngata Tiaki o Whanganui, the post-settlement governance body for Whanganui Iwi for the purpose of the Whanganui River Settlement. He had a lead role in the Treaty settlement negotiations with the Crown in relation to the Wai 167 Whanganui River Claim, which culminated in the signing of Ruruku Whakatupua, the Whanganui River Deed of Settlement. In addition, he has more than 20 years working experience on environmental and resource management issues relating to Whanganui Iwi and the Whanganui River. Gerrard's first point of reference in all things is the Whanganui River and he has an intimate understanding of the tikanga and kawa of Whanganui Iwi relating to the River. It is those tikanga and kawa which form the foundation for the Te Awa Tupua arrangements in the River Settlement.

RSVP (acceptances) to indiana.shewen@maorilawreview.co.nz