



PRINCIPLES OF TE TIRITI O WAITANGI SUBMISSIONS PARTIES:

EVENT GUIDE FOR ORGANISERS

THE STRATEGY:

KILL THE BILL

Get as many select committee submissions as possible against the Bill. This will prove that the public are in opposition and ensure there is no wiggle room for Christopher Luxon go back on his word, and pass it beyond the second reading.

CONSCIENTISE

Support people to make submissions that are meaningful and unique – a process where they begin to articulate why Te Tiriti is important to them – learning and becoming empowered in these ideas in the process.

BUILD POWER

Get **as many local events happening as possible where people make submissions.** This covers the above two steps, and also helps us to strengthen our community infrastructure against attacks on Te Tiriti o Waitangi and toward action in the future to take us closer to Te Tiriti justice. When we get together and act, we get stronger.

Nau mai, haere mai!

Welcome to this event guide – we're stoked you're here.

The Treaty Principles Bill is part of a suite of attacks from the Coalition Government that aims to undermine and disempower Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

One way we defeat this Bill is through the select committee process: by creating a wave of submissions to show the mass support for an Aotearoa where Te Tiriti is honoured.

This guide takes you through how to run an event at your home, club, or establishment to support people to make submissions and share their commitment to Te Tiriti o Waitangi and opposition to the Treaty Principles Bill with others. **The power of these events is in the act of coming together, the sharing of ideas, and the common empowerment through collective action.** It is one important step you, your crew or organisation can take to make an impact on the outcome of this process. Winning depends on people taking collective action so...

KARAWHIUA!

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HOW TO USE THIS PACK

The purpose of this pack is to equip you, the event organiser/your crew to run a successful submissions event, whether it's a party, a workshop, or a few friends over for a kai.

Feel free to pick and choose the parts of this pack that will be useful. You should run your event in whatever way makes sense for you and your community. As long as you're getting the **three key actions** (page 2) done, any format is a good format! (NOTE: If the length of this pack is intimidating, head to the quick event plan on page 3 and ignore the rest.)

If you want to go a bit deeper, go to the detailed event plan and make a runsheet from there. We have activities on page 23 you can use or remix to suit the vibe you're going for. There are heaps of ways to do it; you could run an event with a projector/TV/laptop and show the videos [we have linked here](#), print off resources from this pack for people to read along to, or you can hold something more chill - just invite some people over, use the online tool and then have a discussion/kai/dance/whatever will get your people in the door!

KEY ACTIONS

Plan your event in whatever way suits you and your attendees, just make sure it includes these three actions:

1

Write a submission

using the tool at
togetherfortetiriti.nz



2

Make the submission

on the Parliamentary website
bit.ly/treatyprinciplesbill



3

Take the submission to the people! By filming or writing the best bits and sharing online



EVENT PLAN: QUICK

Keen to run an event and not keen to go through this whole booklet? Understandable! Life is intense and who has time for a 25 page manual? Here's a quick plan with links which will get you and your crew to where you need to go. Steps **3, 4 and 5 are the must do's**; everything else is optional.

1. Watch the [explainer video](#).

2. Read through the [Primer](#) on the bill/ watch [the primer video](#).

3. Each person make a submission using the tool.

4. Send it off on the [Parliamentary website](#).

5. Take it to the people – everyone films their clip or writes their post and posts up on social media, tagging @ActionStationNZ.

6. Take a group photo and send through to info@actionstation.org.nz.

EVENT PLAN: DETAILED

The aim is to hold an event which will get as many people in your community doing submissions as possible. You should run the event in whatever way feels comfortable. **Here is a suggested event runsheet** to make your own (there are also activity ideas on [page 23](#) you can dot in):

1. **Welcome + whakawhanaungatanga** (if people don't know each other): do a round of who people are and why they decided to come down.

2. **Go through basic info on the Bill.** You can start with [the video explainer](#) with ActionStation's director, Kassie. From there read from the background info section of this pack, including [this primer](#) from Carwyn Jones ([video version here](#)). If you want a longer watch, you could check out the recording of [our webinar on how to talk about the Bill](#).

3. **Go through info on the submission making process.**

You can read from any of the content included, and/or show the video about how to make a submission.

3. **Write and send submissions.** Everyone gets their laptops/phones out (or pens and paper if going old school) and writes their submission following the steps on [page 16](#). Your role is to make sure people are on track and feeling confident, and help those who need assistance navigating the tech.

4. **Filming submissions.** Once everyone has finished making their submissions, it's time for people to film their videos – people can pair up for this or go in small groups. (If a very small group, you could do it all together, one person at a time.)

5. **Post up.** Everyone uploads their videos or written posts to their own social media pages (and to your org's page) tagging @ActionStationNZ so we can keep track of how many we get.

6. **Take a group photo** and post up or send through to us on socials or email!

LET PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT YOUR EVENT!

If it's open to the public, or suitable to be publicised, add your event to our Together for Te Tiriti **Events Hub** so that people in your community can find out about it and register to attend. Click [host your own event](#) and submit the form with your event details, then you'll get an email to confirm when it's up on the calendar.

HOW DID WE GET HERE?

In 1840, the British Crown and the hapū of this country (represented by the 500 rangatira) debated and signed Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Te Tiriti enabled lawless newcomers the opportunity to have their own government here and outlined the foundations of a peaceful and mutually beneficial relationship. It is unthinkable that hapū would have handed over their entire world to their new guests, but they did provide a pathway for them to also belong here in Aotearoa.

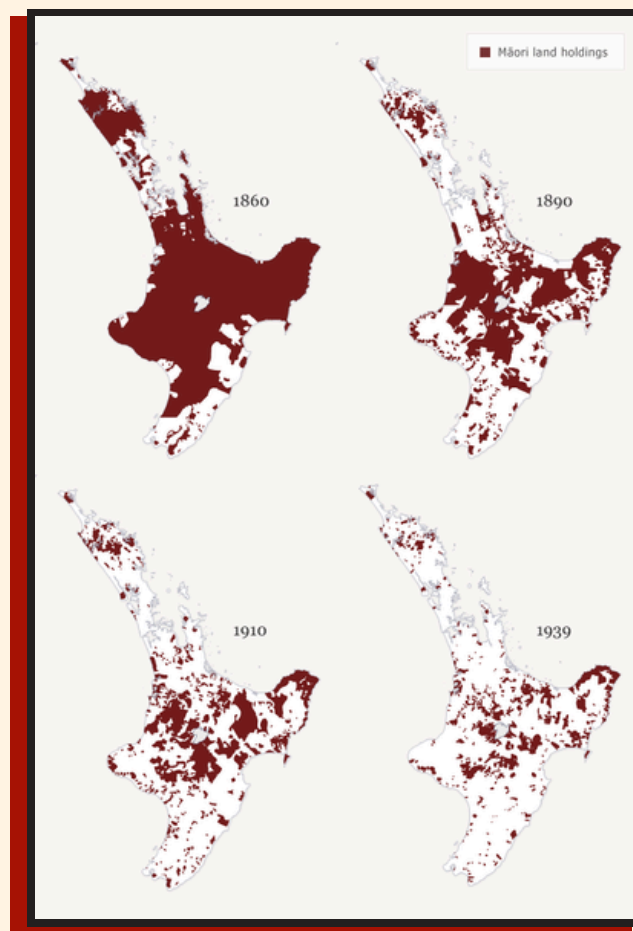
We know that Te Tiriti o Waitangi was breached countless times in the years following its signing. The new guests went too far in making this place look like their old home by setting up their own systems and decimating the ones that were already in place such as kawa and tikanga (laws, values and protocols).

This led to land being stolen and coerced out of hapū ownership, language being suppressed, children removed and displaced (especially into abusive state care), sacred places being desecrated, and whānau having to assimilate into a world that didn't accept their values, laws or ways of life. As a result, Māori are overrepresented in all the negative statistics that you can imagine, including dying seven years earlier than non-Māori. [1].

This is not a reflection of Māori as a people, but of the systems that were not built to respect or protect us and our unique cultural experience.

Over the decades, there has been a tremendous effort by Māori and non-Māori alike to rebalance the scales so that our relationships are restored and our systems better reflect the intention of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. As a result, laws have progressed and fairer arrangements in our decision making have moved forward (such as Māori Ward seats on Councils). While there is still a long way to go, most of us feel proud about the progress we have made so far.

With this context in mind, let's return to the Treaty Principles Bill.



WHY IS THE TREATY PRINCIPLES BILL DANGEROUS?

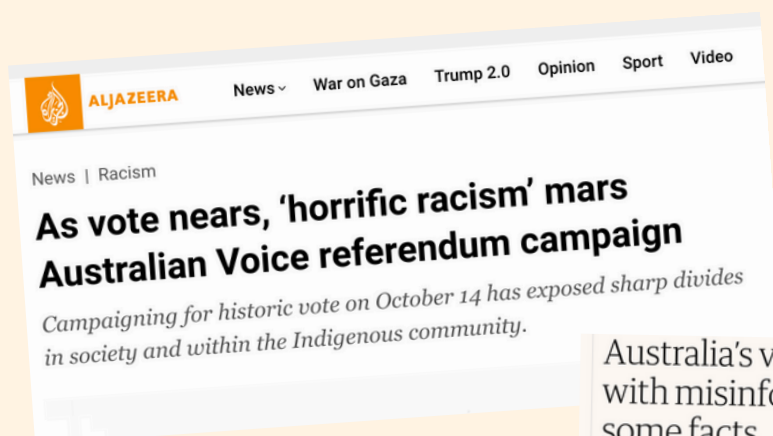
IF IT'S PASSED INTO LAW:

- Many of our laws will be impacted in that they will have current treaty obligations replaced with principles that do not reflect Te Tiriti o Waitangi.
- It would massively disempower Te Tiriti o Waitangi within our legal system and make it harder for future governments to respect treaty obligations and commitments.

EVEN IF IT ISN'T PASSED INTO LAW:

- Even if it doesn't pass, the bill is dangerous because it lays the terrain upon which the far right can campaign against Te Tiriti o Waitangi and against Māori in general. David Seymour fought to have a six month select committee process for this reason - think back to how fast select committee processes were for other massive changes this year in comparison: Māori Wards, MACA, 7AA etc. **We've already seen how Seymour uses interviews as an opportunity to dog whistle to anti-Māori sentiments.**

- This campaigning could be extremely damaging. The far right in Aotearoa are well connected to global lobby groups that spend millions campaigning on austerity, privatisation and environmental degradation. **When indigenous people have rights, it creates a roadblock for corporations and governments to act in their own interests.** ACT wants to get rid of that roadblock.
- A good example of this is the 'No' campaign in Australia's Voice to Parliament referendum. The campaign itself laid the terrain for misinformation, fear-mongering, racist dog-whistling and confusion. Before the referendum campaign, two thirds of people were in favour of First Nations people in Australia having a voice in Parliament. After the campaign - 60% of people voted no. We believe that Seymour, Don Brash and others are preparing for a similar sway in public opinion through campaigning off the back of this bill.



Australia's voice debate is being flooded with misinformation and lies. Here are some facts

Lorena Allam



THE THREE D'S (of this dodgy bill)

[Primer on the Bill here](#)

IT'S DIVISIVE

The true intention of this Bill is to remove the ability for Māori to act as a sovereign people now, and into the future. The proposed principles remove the words 'tino rangatiratanga' which was the heart of Te Tiriti o Waitangi – the full, collective authority for Māori to determine our own lives according to our laws and ways of being. While there is a nod towards Te Tiriti and the settlement process at the time of signing – this is a deliberate attempt to freeze the Te Tiriti relationship and, crucially, will prevent Māori authority from growing into the future.

The Bill is divisive because it will make it almost impossible to legally do what was guaranteed in Te Tiriti o Waitangi. While the original document of Te Tiriti itself is not being changed, the Treaty Principles decide how Te Tiriti is enacted in law. **It will effectively kill the relationship between the NZ Government and Māori**, and end the distinct (legal) status of Māori as the indigenous people of this country. [1].

If the Government is not legally bound to respect Te Tiriti, it clears the path for privatisation, profit-driven policies and the destruction of Papatūānuku.

IT'S DISHONOURABLE

Treaties are agreements between different sovereign groups. They are significant and sacred – especially when they have travelled so far (as this one did – during a time before cars, might we add). It was thoughtfully signed by over 500 leaders and a representative of another entire country. In our case, Te Tiriti is a key part of our constitutional arrangement – the deep foundation that our laws, government and society rests upon. The expectation is that **if the terms of a treaty are to change**, it is discussed in a respectful way and decided between those original groups or partners – and even more so when it is about something this important.

Yet the Coalition Government has deliberately excluded their treaty partners from the process of the Treaty Principles Bill. They have excluded Māori from any consultation, breached Te Tiriti o Waitangi on many counts, accepted a distortion of the original Te Tiriti text, rejected evidence, ignored the advice of their own officials and failed to meet their own standards of what makes quality legislation. [2]

So it's not just the Bill itself that is a problem, but the way it was brought to the table.

IT'S A DISTRACTION

Our country (and the world) is grappling with complex challenges from sky rocketing corporate profits resulting in a cost of living crisis, a growing chasm between the rich and poor, the speed of new technology, and the devastating effects of human induced climate change. We need to be working together to meet the big challenges we are facing.

But right now, the Coalition Government is allowing this bad faith Bill to suck up all the energy in the room.

Both National and NZ First have said they will oppose the Bill at second reading, but it has already caused untold damage and wasted government resources. No one wants to be wasting energy on bad legislation.

The fact we are having this conversation right now, is a result of poor leadership that chose maintaining power over doing the right thing. We need leadership that understands that Te Tiriti o Waitangi is an essential part of our democracy and refuses to let harmful policies divide us for political gain. And we need leaders who guide us into an uncertain future, ready to solve the right problems, not make new ones.

LINKS TO MORE INFO ON [PAGE 22](#)

THE SELECT COMMITTEE PROCESS

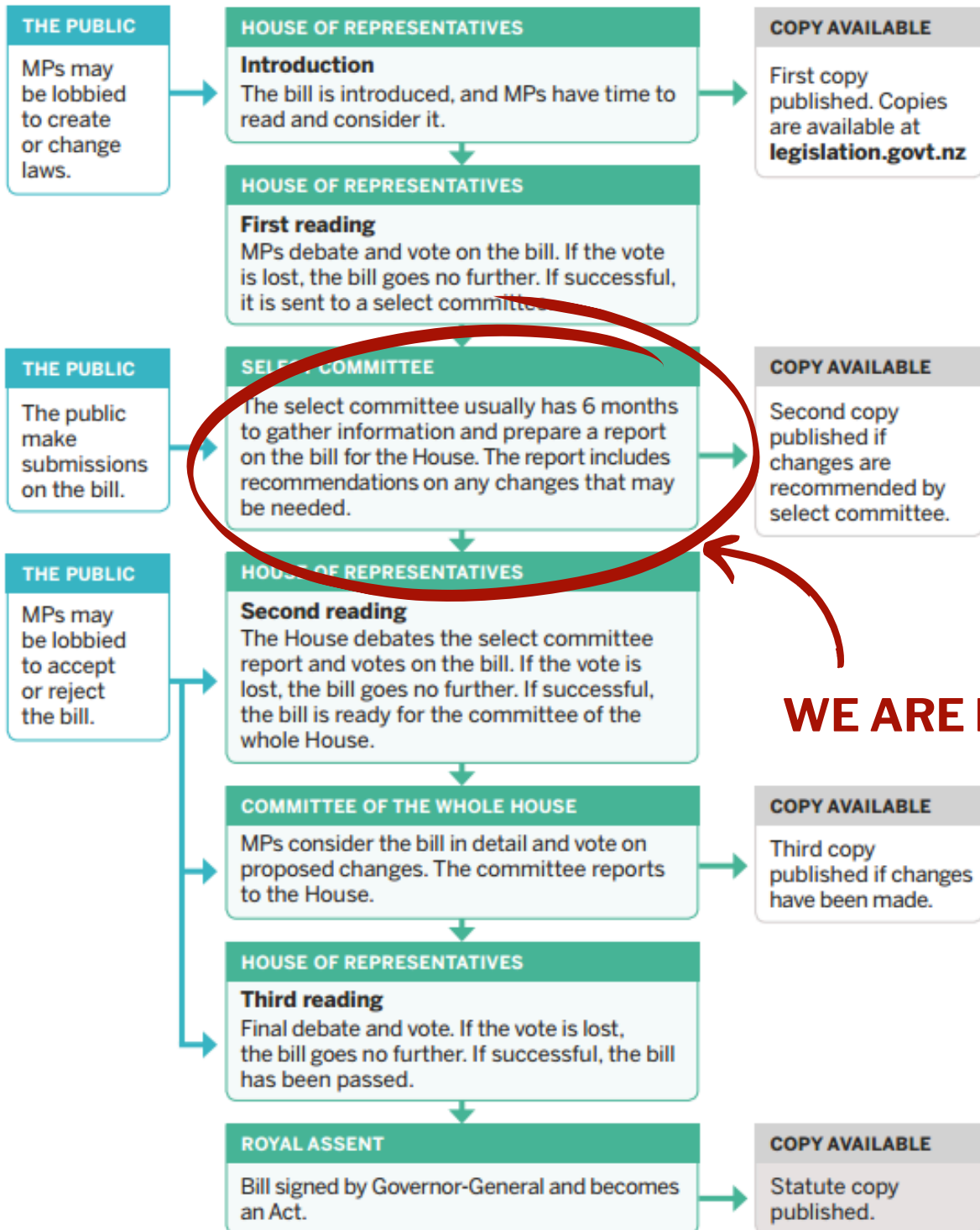
The select committee process is when a group of politicians representing the different parties in Parliament consider whether or not to progress a bill into becoming law. The committee is made up of the same proportions as the numbers in Parliament – this means that the governing parties have a majority. This is why you might see a law passed through select committee even if there is overwhelming opposition (for example Section 7AA or Te Aka Whai Ora), or, rushing through the process rather than giving time for proper consultation (five days in the case of Māori wards). For the Principles of the Treaty of Waitangi Bill, we have been told that the National Party will not support it past second reading.

However – Christopher Luxon has shown that his party are willing to outwardly attack and in some cases breach Te Tiriti when they see it as politically advantageous. We also know that the far right is mobilising and intending to get tens of thousands of submissions in support of this bill. If they were to get huge numbers uncontested, it would give the National Party a strong argument for progressing the Bill and taking it to referendum.

This is why we need **a wave of submissions** to wipe this bill out and sink all attempts at a referendum. Record numbers of subs will make it as difficult as possible for National to justify supporting the Bill, while also adding to our public narrative that the people are united for Te Tiriti – despite what David Seymour and others are trying to portray.

How a bill becomes law

For further information:
www.parliament.nz or
parlinfo@parliament.govt.nz



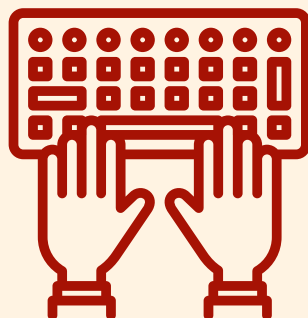
WE ARE HERE

WRITE A SUBMISSION

We have developed a tool to support people to create unique, meaningful submissions. **We know that copy/pasted submissions don't do the trick anymore.** The tool helps get people over their 'writer's block' by offering prompts for how they can build their own submission.

It also has some really key tips as to what the committee will and won't accept- this is crucial. **We don't want to come up short because submissions were rejected.** Once people have completed this step, the submission document is downloaded to their desktop or phone as a PDF.

The main thing to remember is that making submissions isn't magic - it's simply people giving their reckons. **Everyone's ideas are enough** - they are important and should be heard.



MAKE THE SUBMISSION

The next step is to head over to the Parliamentary website and **upload the submission directly**. Only submissions made this way, or posted in, will be formally accepted in the select committee process. We have steps on the following page that show how to do this.

VIDEO: HOW TO MAKE A SUBMISSION ON THE PARLIAMENTARY WEBSITE (2MINS)



STEP 1:

Select whether you are submitting as an individual or on behalf of an organisation, and select whether or not you would like to make an oral submission.

I am ready to make my submission



STEP 2:

We are encouraging everyone to select yes to making an oral submission (but it's not compulsory!) as it gives an added layer of seriousness to our wave of submissions. If you are selected to make an oral submission and want support, we are here to help you prepare!

If you navigate away from this page before you have made your submission, any information that has been entered on the form will be lost.

* Required fields

Are you submitting?*

As an individual ✓

On behalf of an organisation

Do you wish to make an oral submission to the committee?*

Making an oral submission means presenting your views to committee members. For more information about appearing before a committee, please read our submission help pages. Links to the help pages are available in this page's introduction section.

Yes ✓

No

next



STEP 3:

Fill out your personal details.

* Required fields

Contact person

Title	First name *	Last name *
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Email address *

Primary phone number *	Other phone number
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Postal address

Postcode	Region * Please Select a Region
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Is there anything about your submission or making an oral submission that committee members or staff should know? *

Is there anything about your submission or your circumstances that would assist committee staff in processing your request to make an oral submission? If there is, click 'yes' and provide details.

You can select yes here if you have any accessibility requirements; if not, select no.

STEP 4:

Click 'choose a file to upload' and then find your file in your downloads. It will be named 'Your Name - TPB Submission'.

Your submission

For more information about completing an online submission, please read our submission help pages. Links to the help pages are available on the "Your Details Tab" page introduction section.

Have your say and influence the laws passed by Parliament. Upload your submission or make a submission using the form below. You can also upload supporting material using the Upload A Submission functions.



IMPORTANT NOTE:

Any personal information (including contact details) that you include in the text or other content of your online submission and/or in uploaded files will be published to the Parliament website (and available to public search engines) as part of your submission. Your submission will be published under your name. All contact details entered on the previous page will not be published.

Upload a submission

Please note: File types accepted are .PDF, .DOC, .DOCX, .TXT The maximum number of files uploaded per submission is 20. The maximum size for individual files is 20 MB, and the total combined file size is 30 MB.

 Choose a file to upload

Tick any files you want to remove and click "Remove selected file".

TAKE IT TO THE PEOPLE

Now's the fun bit. People have their whakaaro (ideas) down, it's gone to the Beehive - **now it's time to take it to the people.** We are encouraging people to film a short video (it can be 10 seconds or 2 minutes! Whatever works!) or write a post giving some of the key points from their submission. Upload to your own social media platform and tag us in: @ActionStationNZ.

This is a really important part of moving the message through our communities. When we do this, we normalise support for Te Tiriti and this gives others confidence and helps them overcome fear or misinformation that they are vulnerable to. We are moving the message between one another and that builds lasting power.



EVENT RESOURCES

EVENTS HUB

[Events Hub](#) | [Add Your Event](#)

EVENT POSTER

Either print and fill out or use the Canva link to directly edit – or make your own!

[PDF Download](#) | [Canva Link](#)

INFO LINKS

[VIDEO: Submissions Event Explainer](#) –
ActionStation, 5mins 45secs

[READ: Primer on the Bill](#) – Carwyn Jones

[VIDEO: Primer on the Bill](#) – Carwyn Jones,
8mins

[VIDEO: How to Have a Conversation
About the Bill](#) – ActionStation, 1hr

ACTIVITY IDEAS

Here are some ideas to riff off if you want to facilitate activities for your event. Feel free to adapt or come up with your own. **One thing to be mindful of is** how you will facilitate difficult conversations. This is particularly serious if you have tangata whenua and tangata tiriti sharing space. It is a good idea to consider what conversations you want to start, depending on who you have in the room, with consideration for the fact that some tangata tiriti may articulate ideas about colonisation in a way that reproduces harm.

HOW DID WE GET HERE? PAGE 6

In pairs, take 5 minutes to talk about why you think we're here. Prompt questions could include:

1. What was the relationship between Māori and non-Māori at the time that Te Tiriti was signed?
2. How do we connect to this land, and how is that different for everyone?
3. What do we know about how Te Tiriti exists within the context of the law?

You can choose to feed back to the group or take notes for future discussions/thinking.

3 D'S

PAGE 10

In groups of 3-4, write down the letter D at the top of a page.

List all the words starting with the letter D that could describe this Bill.

Bonus: The team with the most words listed gets a prize!

WRITING WARM UP

PAGE 16

To help formulate your submission, try giving each person 5 minutes to write, uninterrupted, about why this bill is important to them. Your pen can't come off the paper/your fingers must keep typing - even if you don't have anything to say, write/type words like "Tiriti" over and over until you start you formulate ideas.

There's no right or wrong answer, it's just a writing exercise to help you break through the mind block. No one has to read or share them, it's just prep!

Key contacts

If you are after support that is non-urgent for your event, get in touch by either booking a call or emailing below:



Book a 30 minute video call now!



Or email **info@actionstation.org.nz** and we will get back to you in 1-3 days.

Socials

Share any event content with us on the below platforms, and please tag us @ActionStationNZ in your reels, group photos, and any subs videos or event content! This helps us collate and share the size of this action, which will in turn encourage others to take part.



@ActionStationNZ



@ActionStationNZ



Together for Te Tiriti Facebook Group

