

Aotearoa is not for sale Hikoi 2012

Questions and Answers:

What is this Hikoi about?

This Hikoi is to demonstrate public opposition to privatization and the continued selling of our countries natural resources, land and public services to private investors.

Who is leading the Hikoi?

This Hikoi is a non-political event providing an opportunity for all people across all sectors to oppose privatization. Therefore it is not being organized or led by any particular political party or group. The "Frontline" of the Hikoi will be led by Kaumatua (Elders) and mokopuna (grandchildren). As the hikoi move across the country it will be led by the local iwi and community members of the territory we will be passing through.

Who is welcome to participate?

This event is open to all concerned people, we urge participants to bring their friends whanau, groups, and organisations

Why now?

The government is currently attempting to push through a number of laws that will further undermine the economic sovereignty of our country. In addition large blocks of land are being made available for purchase by foreign companies and individuals.

At the same time there is currently an aggressive oil drilling and mining tendering process that is opening up large areas of both the marine environment and on land including private Maori land and reserve lands. The Government is trying to push these matters through parliament while engaging in whirlwind "consultation" processes that we don't believe they have any integrity. Now is the time to put pressure on the government to abandon the privatization agenda.

Isn't the government claiming that they have a political mandate from the people to proceed with privatization?

Opinion polls taken prior to last year's election reported that 80% of New Zealanders were opposed to asset sales. It is also reported that over 75% of eligible voters did not cast a vote at the last election. The mandate that the government is relying on represents a small minority of its actual citizens

Will this campaign succeed?

It will if enough people support it. When the government announced that it was going to mine conservation land 50,000 people marched in Auckland and forced the government to abandon the policy.

The FSSB Hikoi failed to change the governments mind why will this one?

The government of 2004 and successive governments and their agents have played upon the fears of the non Maori population by suggesting that Maori people are seeking "advantages" "rights" and "privileges" that will disadvantage the rights of the general population. By playing the race card they created enough political will amongst the population to deny Maori the opportunity for Maori claims to the FSSB to be heard in court.

However the issue of privatization transcends the question of race and culture, all citizens of this country stand to lose from privatization and this provides an opportunity to stand together and defeat this policy.

Is the Hikoi going to arrive in Wellington only to disband and go home again?

Upon arrival in Wellington there will be a one-week series of events, activities and demonstrations that will take place in and around Wellington. Accommodation will be provided for those from out of town.

Where will the Hikoi members stay while on the road?

Marae and other community facilities will be made available for those traveling as part of the Hikoi and preference will be given to elders and children although we urge parents to be responsible about the participation of young children.

What is the alternative?

The alternative is to establish controls on the power of government that limit their ability to make up the rules or policies as they go along. To establish a vision for our society that is determined by the citizens and not the politicians and then have this vision imbedded constitutionally as the highest form of law and therefore ensure that these rights, freedoms and responsibilities cannot be tinkered with at the whim of politicians, political parties or their agents.

Are there any rules?

Yes most certainly! No alcohol or drugs, no violence, no sexual harassment, no racism, abide by the instructions of the local leaders and road marshals Learn and abide by the rules of the Marae where you will be staying (if in doubt ask a local)

There will compulsory singing, laughing and whanaungatanga (fellowship)

What will I need to bring?

Bring two friends to provide support while you are on the road, be prepared to take reasonable measures to be self reliant so bring a small tent, blanket or sleeping bag, water bottle, good walking shoes, warm clothing and a rain proof jacket, placard and signs, flags noise makers etc. Take responsibility for any special diet needs you may have.

Do I have to come all the way?

No, Participate in your local area as the Hikoi travels through your town, you may be able to support the event in your region. Come to Wellington for the last part of the Hikoi if you are unable to participate in the whole event. THIS WILL BE THE MAJOR ASPECT OF THE HIKOI!

How can I support this event?

Tell as many people about it as possible (Face book, Twitter, Talkback radio, word of mouth) get a little group together to help organize awareness, distribute posters in your area, donate any spare produce to the local Marae where the Hikoi will be staying in your area. Contact you local organisor and offer assistance.

Where can I get more information?

Go to: <http://www.facebook.com/events/170682386382094/>

Email: rangiwhero@gmail.com