

# WHAT'S WRONG WITH THE PLEDGE?

*Lots of things, but here's our top ten points. There may be good intentions, but:*

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## 1. It doesn't address our cultural safety as Māori

There is no acknowledgement that our Unitec Rūnanga is now defunct, since five of the six members have now resigned, and we are still without Māori leadership at the executive level.

## 2. It doesn't address institutional racism

There is no acknowledgement that what has occurred, in both the appointment of the single CEO and restructure of the ELT, is a product of institutional racism and therefore will fail to address the impact on Māori staff and students

## 3. It doesn't address mana ōrite

It is not enough to "explore a co-leadership model". In fact, they have signalled they will continue with the appointment of the proposed 'Te Tumu' position in a flawed ELT structure - kore taringa!

## 4. It ignores Te Tiriti o Waitangi, the original promise (that hasn't been fulfilled for 181 years btw)

As per Minister Hipkins' Letter of Expectation, we too expect Te Pūkenga to not just commit to partnership, but **actualise** Te Tiriti - at the governance and management level.

## 5. It attempts to replace Te Tiriti of Waitangi obligations

Te Noho Kotahitanga is mentioned, but no reference to Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

## 6. It has no legal authority

A pledge is a promise, it's not part of legislation.  
Therefore like 'Hobson's Pledge', it can easily be broken.

## 7. It does not impact policy or resourcing

This pledge has no teeth, and has limited benefit to Māori. The independent reviews for the "purpose of learning" is inappropriate, we are not guinea pigs.

## 8. Who is the pledge for?

That's a good question. Te Rōpū Mataara and Māori students have had no input, and have never agreed to it.

## 9. Tikanga Maori is dismissed

There is no tikanga in this document, and neither has been in previous processes.

## 10. Kei runga te kōrero, kei raro te rahurahu!

Kia kaha tonu tātou!

- Nā Te Rōpū Mataara