**Cultural Safety Terms of Reference**

Name of the group: Cultural Safety Committee /Komiti Kawa Whakaruruhau

Title: Terms of Reference

Purpose / role of the group:

* To work towards biculturalism in all aspects of the activities of NZCOM Canterbury West Coast
* To uphold and promote the articles and principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi in NZCOM Canterbury West Coast
* Develop links with Māori community organisations.

Group established: February 2016 by the Committee of NZCOM Canterbury West Coast

Aims:

* Increase cultural awareness of membership
* Facilitate Tiriti o Waitangi workshops annually
* Advocate for Māori representation on all groups that NZCOM has members on
* Where this is not possible, NZCOM representatives keep Māori issues and equity at the forefront of discussions, plans and strategies.
* Support the Māori Midwifery Roopu o Te Wai Pounamu
* Support all Māori members of NZCOM Canterbury West Coast
* Support and enact sections of the regional strategic plan that come under the purposes and aims of this group, particularly objective 8.
* Support members to attend Turanga Kaupapa workshops as available

Membership:

3 to 5 members of NZCOM Canterbury West Coast including at least one office bearer.

Membership is reviewed annually at the AGM. Members can resign and new members are able to join in the interim.

Accountability:

Group reports back to chair and regional meeting at least once per quarter. The group produces an annual report for the AGM. Financial decisions are discussed at the Business Committee meetings.

Review:

Terms of Reference is reviewed annually and reported on in the AGM report

Meeting:

2 monthly or more often ad hoc

Agenda: To be decided by 3 days prior to the meeting.

Minutes: To be taken by one of the members present

Quorum: 3 members

Defininitions:

Biculturalism: We have chosen to adapt Sullivan’s (1993) definition of biculturalism:

Aotearoa/New Zealand is a multi-ethnic Pacific nation founded on the Treaty of Waitangi, a bilateral agreement between *tangata whenua* and the British Crown. Under the Treaty, Māori agreed to British governance, *kawanatanga*, of their country, while retaining *tino rangatiratanga*, sovereignty. Since the signing of the Treaty, its spirit and the terms have been blatantly and consistently ignored by the Pākehā. Over the years as the Pākehā population has grown, Māori have been disenfranchised, their language and culture undermined and their lands taken over. These injustices are now starting to be redressed.

Although a largely British descendent group now make up the majority population, there are many others who have arrived from other parts of the Pacific and the wider world. The power of the British Crown in Aotearoa/New Zealand is now nominal rather than real, so if there is to be a modern partnership, this should be between *tangata whenua* and Pākehā together with all other groups and individuals who have arrived since. The concept of a Māori/Pākehā partnership in a bicultural context should be replaced by a Māori/Tauiwi relationship.

This interpretation of biculturalism acknowledges the rights of *tangata whenua* and also includes all non-Pākehā New Zealanders in this important partnership.