Realising Māori potential

National recognises the significant gains to be made for New Zealand when Māori do better.

Under National, Māori are doing better in schools and becoming more skilled. Māori businesses are increasingly influential and internationally connected and they are an important part of New Zealand’s story and economic success.

Te Reo Māori and Māori culture are significant assets that promote the unique identity and place of Māori in New Zealand and our presence in the global community.

We are working with Māori to address social challenges and making significant progress on Treaty settlements. National’s relationship with the Māori Party and the Iwi Chairs Forum is pragmatic and has enabled us to resolve longstanding issues and make real progress.

We are building a more tolerant and prosperous country by working together.

“The Māori economy is a core part of our economic success and the way we are seen by the world.”

- Prime Minister and National Leader Bill English

Policy highlights

• Refreshed the Crown–Māori Economic Growth Partnership, with a focus on Māori economic development

• Implemented youth employment initiatives like Pathways to Life to help young Māori into jobs

• Investing in helping more of our young people not in employment, education or training into long-term jobs

• Our regional growth plans include a focus on growing Māori businesses

• Increased funding for Māori arts and culture from $1.2m to $1.9m

• The Māori economy is growing, from $9b in 1991 to $42b in 2013

• Supported Māori land reform to promote jobs and growth

• Supported legislation which transferred guardianship of Te Reo Māori to Iwi

• Over 50,000 more Māori in work since 2012

• 17.6 per cent increase in Māori 18 year olds attaining NCEA level 2, in the last five years and the number of Māori completing a bachelors degree has increased by 64 per cent
What we will do next...

- Ensure Te Ture Whenua legislation is enacted in 2018.
- Continue at pace to complete all remaining historic Treaty settlements by 2020
- Improve Māori education achievement and transition to work including, ensuring young Māori have the skills to contribute to a highly-skilled and productive workforce
- Increase Māori and Pasifika Trades Training delivery to 5,000 learners by 2019 and focus intensive support on Māori youth who are not in employment, education or training
- Develop Social Investment tools to support iwi and the Government to make better, informed investment decisions and change lives
- Support sustained increases in median income for Māori, contributing to higher standards of living for whānau

Don’t put it all at risk

The opposition would...

- Fail to reform Te Ture Whenua Māori Act, stunting regional economic and social development
- Fail to complete Treaty settlements. Only 16 deeds of settlement were signed under the last Labour government, compared to our 58
- Fail to understand that iwi are increasingly future focussed and aspirational. Labour think they know what Māori want better than Māori do

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