



*This is the third issue of the Whangarei Hospital Redevelopment Newsletter. This issue contains information about the selection of Mainzeal Property and Construction Ltd as the main construction contractor for the building of the new mental health inpatient unit.*

## Whangarei Hospital Stage 1 - Redevelopment excavation work commences

Once the detailed design for the new mental health inpatient unit was approved by the Board, it was time to go to tender for the main construction contractor.

Selection of the main contractor was by way of a two stage procurement process. The first stage involved the receipt of expressions of interest. Of the eleven respondents received, five were short-listed. The five short-listed parties submitted a tender for the construction works and each tender was evaluated.

Mainzeal Property and Construction Limited have been awarded the tender to build the new mental health inpatient unit at Whangarei Hospital.



Mainzeal are now on-site and work has commenced with drainage, earthworks and piling under way.

The landscape is changing daily!

Local sub-contractors engaged:

- Plumbing GC Richards with DL Good
- Drainage Transfield
- Piling GHK Piling
- Electrical McKay Electrical
- Mechanical Airzone
- Structural Steel Culham Engineering
- Bulk Earthworks Robinson Asphalt
- Blockwork Stonecraft

**25 November 2009**



**14 July 2010**



**28 September 2010**



**19 October 2010**





## Traffic Update

Following the recent change of direction of one way traffic on the hospital campus, the project team have been pleased with the response by the public and staff including working with construction trucks exiting the site.

And acknowledge the extra time it now takes staff to exit via the Hospital Road intersection to Maunu Road. An updated map for directing patients to, is available on the redevelopment website: <http://redevelopment.northlanddhb.org.nz/>

## Blessing of Site & Turning the Sod

On Friday, 24 September, ancient rituals were held to bless the whenua and to Whakatokia riwai - to lift tapu. The haunting sounds of the putatara (conch shell trumpet), purerehua, pahu and koauau greeted guests as they were lead to the sacred site where Te Parawhau Chiefs were once selected and named.

Northland DHB's kaumatua Te Ihi Tito remembered Ponaharaheke, the Chief of the Pa Pukauakua and acknowledged how the new unit will benefit mental health patients and the staff who will care for them. Traditionally, the men would have tiled the land in preparation for the women and young men to plant crops for the health and wellbeing of the tribe.

“At the Whakatokia ceremony, Maori riwai were planted at the breaking of dawn. If the ground is fertile and healthy, the riwai will flourish. This will be seen as a spiritual blessing indicating the ground is healthy for the spiritual birthing and construction of the new mental health inpatient unit,” he said.

“The pre dawn blessing was a culturally significant event and it was great to do this with the Mainzeal team as we believe the event would help them better understand the site's cultural importance,” said Northland DHB director of strategic projects, Brett Halvorson.

A turning the sod ceremony, also known as groundbreaking, is a traditional ceremony that celebrates the first day of construction, was held later in the day. Member of Parliament and Minister of Housing and Minister of Fisheries & Aquaculture, Hon Phil Heatley, joined Agnes Daniels, a staff member, in 'turning the sod'. Agnes is the Northland DHB manager of Te Roopu Kimiora, which provides child and adolescent mental health services.

Northland DHB kaumatua Te Ihi Tito and Rev Heather Haack lead the site blessings which provides spiritual safety for the builders and the project throughout the construction.



Whakatokia Riwai, left to right: Northland DHB's kaumatua Te Ihi Tito, Kaumatua Paddy Tito (obscured) and Kaumatua Pari Walker



Turning of Sod ceremony, left to right: Brett Halvorson (NDHB director of strategic projects), Kim Tito (NDHB service development & funding and Maori health general manager), Agnes Daniels (NDHB manager of Te Roopu Kimiora), Hon Phil Heatley (Minister of Housing and Minister of Fisheries and Aquaculture) and Tony Norman (NDHB chair).