

Rt Hon Jacinda Ardern

Minister for Arts, Culture and Heritage

**AIDE MEMOIRE: NATIONAL EREBUS MEMORIAL DESIGN
ANNOUNCEMENT – 3:00pm, 5 APRIL 2019**

Date:	3 April 2019	Priority:	High
Security classification:	In Confidence	Reference:	AM2018/183
Contact	Brodie Stubbs, Manager Memorials and Taonga, Mbl. 9 (2) (a)		

Purpose

- 1 You have agreed to announce the design for the National Erebus Memorial at the site for the memorial, Dove Myer Robinson Park, Parnell, Auckland, accompanied by the Mayor of Auckland. This is a media stand-up and photo opportunity supported by a media release.

Design

- 2 After consultation with Mayor Goff you approved the memorial design *Te Paerangi Ataata – Sky Song* submitted by Wellington firm Studio Pacific Architecture. Illustrations of the design are attached as Appendix 1 and large panels of the design will be displayed at the site for the announcement.

Event on Friday 5 April

- 3 At the event on Friday you will announce the design of the memorial. The event is being held at the site of the memorial in Dove Myer Robinson Park (see map attached as Appendix 2).
- 4 The event will unfold as follows:
 - 2:45pm guests in place
 - 2:55pm Mayor Goff arrives
 - 3:00pm arrival of the Prime Minister to car park indicated on attached map. Met by Mayor Goff and Brodie Stubbs (MCH) and escorted to site of the announcement.
 - Meet guests (see below)
 - Speech by Prime Minister
 - Response by Mayor Goff
 - Questions and answers from media.

- 5 Ngāti Whātua Orākei representatives may recite a karakia either to open or to close. It was not possible to have certainty of this at time of writing but we will communicate this to you ahead of the event.

Speech and Q&As

- 6 The draft of a short speech to announce the design is attached as Appendix 3. Q&As are attached as Appendix 4.

Attendees

- 7 In addition to any media present, the following have been invited to attend:
- Mayor Goff
 - Pippa Coom and Shale Chambers, Waitematā Local Board
 - Kathryn Carter and Dan Moloney, family participants on the design selection panel
 - Rev Richard Waugh, chair of the Erebus National Memorial advocacy group
 - 9 (2) (a) all from Ngāti Whātua Orākei
 - Evzen Novak and Nick Barratt-Boyes, Studio Pacific Architecture

Media Release

- 8 The draft media release is attached as Appendix 5. This will be distributed at the time of the announcement.

9(2)(a)

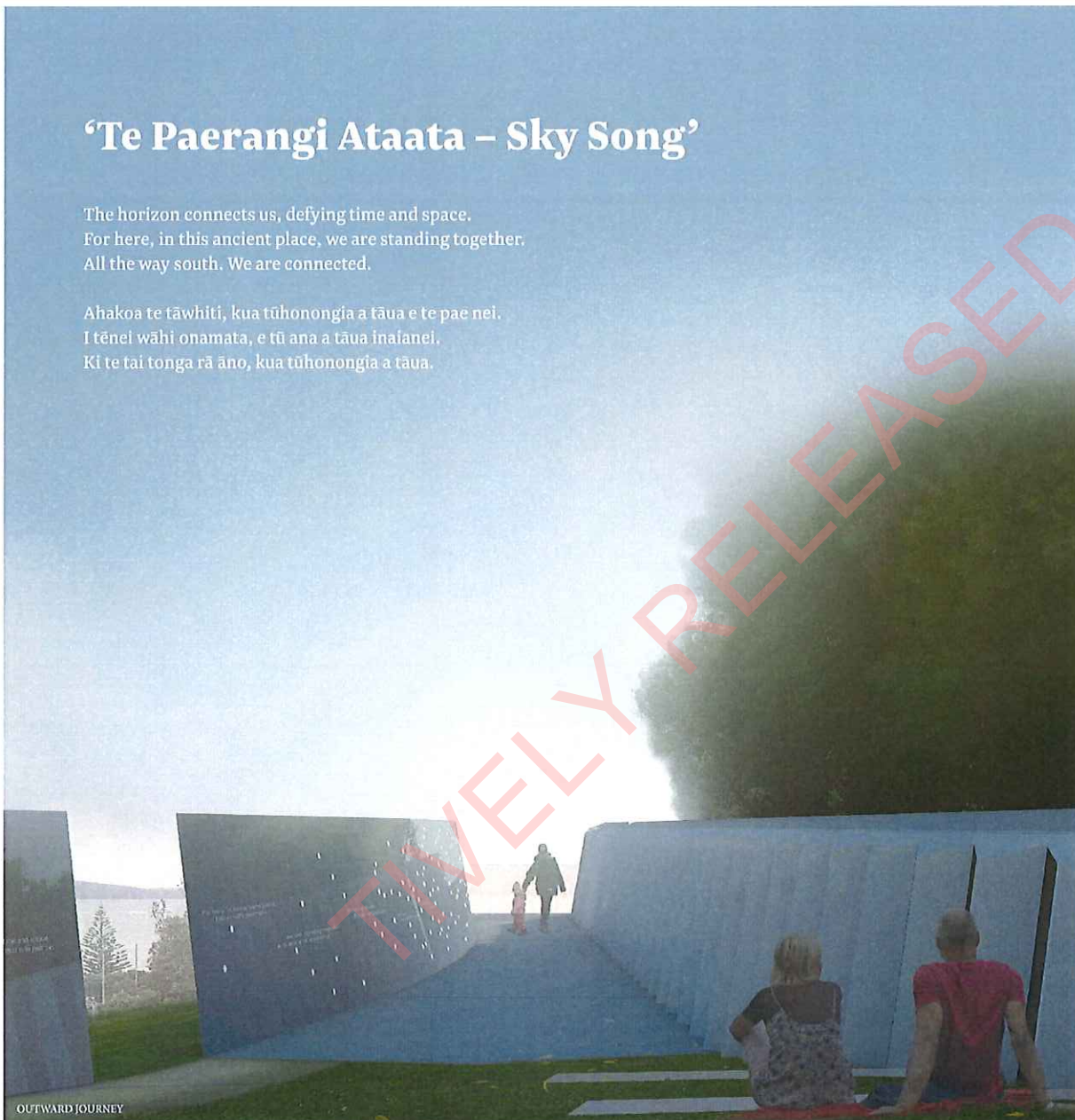
Brodie Stubbs
Manager Memorials and Taonga

Appendix 1: Memorial Design Illustrations

‘Te Paerangi Ataata – Sky Song’

The horizon connects us, defying time and space.
For here, in this ancient place, we are standing together.
All the way south. We are connected.

Ahakoā te tāwhiti, kua tūhonongia a tāua e te pae nei.
I tēnei wāhi onamata, e tū ana a tāua inaianei.
Ki te tai tonga rā āno, kua tūhonongia a tāua.



Design Vision

Touching lightly on the sacred clearing above Tauraru Judge's Bay and reflecting it's setting through it's mirror-like finish 'Te Puerangi Ataata; Sky Song' projects boldly outward to the horizon and connects us to a different time and place through the concept of the shared sky.

We look to the sky, and that sky is connected to the sky over Antarctica. Night and day. The families waited and looked out to the sky, the lost departed into the sky and their adventure was in the sky.

Our concept revolves around the experience of the visitor as they approach and venture along the walkway to the horizon, and as the story of what happened on that tragic day unfolds.

The Design Brief called for the "memorial to express the sense of adventure, exploration and enjoyment that the passengers on the flight would have felt, and evoke the beauty and grandeur of Antarctica". The Key Outcomes states "that the design is to be a bold and visionary experience".

This is the Sky Song experience:

As you approach through the trees towards the clearing, the curving Snowdrift Wall invites you in to participate. It draws you gently inward, and onto the walkway toward the horizon, evoking the sense of adventure and granting you a glimpse of the excitement and exhilaration they must have all felt and enjoyed.

Along the way, a song, 'Te Puerangi Ataata', is inscribed in the curving form, and myriads of snowflakes cut out of the stainless steel wall create delicate snowdrift patterns. Each snowflake represents a life lost and is unique to the individual.

Your gaze is lifted up to the sky as you pass between two walls; the Ice Wall and Snowdrift Wall together echo the cold and majestic light and forms of Antarctica.

You reach the apex where all is sky and light, and you send the words you carry in your heart out across the ocean to the horizon to the sky, and the place where they were taken.

A whakatauki is inscribed on the glass balustrade;

Seek out the distant horizons and pull them closer. Hold steadfast to the ones you have already attained.

Ko te pae tawhiti whata kia tata, ko te pae tata whakamaua kia tina

Alongside you on the end of the Ice Wall is the Erebus Narrative, as well as the acknowledgment of Operation Overdue. As you pause at the apex to reflect on the tragedy, you can hear a faint audible sound which, if you press your ear against the last panel on the Ice Wall, is the ancient murmurings and sounds of Antarctica, anchoring the Ice Wall to that other, remote, and wondrous place.

After this moment of reflection you turn, and start the inward journey back along the commemorative Ice Wall, to the land, back towards the giant pohutukawa tree beyond. The names of all those who were lost are now revealed standing tall before you. You trace their names in the steel.

The movement out to the horizon, openness and the sky represents the journey and adventurous spirit of the crew and passengers towards the unknown and the future. A celebration of life.

The movement back to the land represents the memory of those who lost their lives in the tragic event and were taken too soon.

Hence future and past. Adventure and tragedy.

'Te Puerangi Ataata; Sky Song' is deliberately set away from the existing perimeter trees, and provides large areas of grass around and adjacent to the Memorial. This allows both for quiet enjoyment of the tranquility of the setting, and as space to host large numbers of people for special events relating to the Memorial.



Mock-up of snowflake gift taonga



Appendix 2: Map of memorial site and arrival point



Appendix 3: Draft Speech

9(2)(f)iv

TIVELY RELEASED

Appendix 4: National Erebus Memorial General Q&As

As at April 2019 (release of final design)

Release of final design

Why did you choose this design over the other five designs?

We had some really strong designs with the six finalists that were selected.

This design was recommended by the Design Selection Panel. All design teams responded well to the brief, this one provides for a really engaging experience for visitors. It expresses the sense of adventure and excitement the passengers would have experienced and the beauty of Antarctica, and evokes the emptiness left behind by those who lost their lives.

What was the favourite design of the families?

Different family members had different favourites, but there was a lot of support for this design. It was really important to have the views of the family members represented by Kathryn and Dan on the Design Panel, alongside the experts.

How much is this particular design going to cost? Was this the cheapest option?

Designers had to meet the parameters of the design brief. \$3 million has been budgeted to create the Memorial.

What if the design budget goes over?

The designers have to meet the budget parameters within the design brief.

Have you given any thought to a Memorial for the 50 people that died in the mosque attacks?

Of course, we will be thinking about how we commemorate the terrorist attacks, and we we'll make any announcement at an appropriate time. Today is about the National Erebus Memorial.

What are the next steps for the Memorial?

Now the design has been announced, more work will be done on the details of the design. This includes things like getting resource consent and other planning to inform the construction.

How long will it take to be constructed? What are the timeframes?

Construction will start later in the year. The Memorial will be finished in May 2020.

Who were the other design teams?

- Mitchell Stout Dodd Architects
- Te Ropu with SGA Ltd, Scott Design, Xanthe White Design & David Trubridge
- RTA Studio
- Sheppard & Rout Architects
- Boffa Miskell

About the Memorial

Why are you creating the Memorial?

The Government wants to acknowledge the grief of families. And it wants to formally recognise the importance of the event. A national memorial that recognises the victims of the Erebus accident and provides a place where all victims' names are listed will help achieve this.

We need to acknowledge Erebus as a national loss, on behalf of all New Zealanders.

Why was Auckland chosen as the location for the memorial?

Auckland has always been considered a natural location for the Memorial – this aligns with feedback we have received from many family members of the Erebus victims and acknowledges the departure location of Flight TE901. Accordingly, the Government has worked constructively with local government and community groups to select an appropriate site

It is fantastic that the Waitemata Local Board has supported the use of the site.

How are those involved in the recovery operation of Erebus victims involved in this project?

The Ministry for Culture and Heritage is in direct contact with members of the Ice Phase recovery team from Operation Overdue and has consulted them about the National Erebus Memorial. The Memorial will be an important place to also acknowledge those involved in the recovery operation.

The 40th anniversary is 2019. Why are you waiting until 2020 to finalise the Memorial?

We really want to get this memorial right, and to have a good level of involvement from families, interested groups as well as the New Zealand public. The design selection and construction processes will take some time. I understand the delay has disappointed some people, but the Government is committed to running a good process and to have the Memorial ready in 2020.

Planning is underway to mark the 40th anniversary of the Erebus accident.

Will Air New Zealand be involved in the creation of the Erebus memorial?

Air New Zealand has been supportive of the establishment of the Memorial. However, they will not be directly involved in the design or construction process.

How much is this going to cost?

\$3 million has been budgeted to create the Memorial.

How does that relate to what was spent with other memorials?

In terms of comparison to other memorials and the effect on the nation, the amount is right.

Issues

Who is holding Air New Zealand to account?

Air New Zealand has been held to account through the legal system. The cause of the accident, as presented in the Royal Commission of Enquiry's report, is uncontested.

But didn't the Court of Appeal and the Privy Council find against Justice Mahon?

They found that Justice Mahon's findings of conspiracy and deception by Air New Zealand were unsupported and contrary to the principles of natural justice. Justice Mahon's findings as to the cause of the accident were unchallenged.

Do you think the Courts should have agreed that there was conspiracy and deception by Air New Zealand, as Justice Mahon said there was?

It is not appropriate for me to comment on that.

Will the Government have another Erebus inquiry?

There are no plans to have another inquiry. There is already clarity as to the cause of the crash. At the moment we are focused on delivering the Memorial. The Memorial will honour the lives of the passengers and the crew that were lost. I hope that it will bring the families some closure and comfort.

How can a memorial possibly recognise the death of family members, can't the Ministry do more?

The National Erebus Memorial is a national symbol to recognise the lives lost in this tragic accident. This cannot erase the pain, but I do hope it will ease it, and provide a place and symbol for the families and all New Zealanders to reflect about the lasting effect of this event.

What about the memory of the pilots?

The National Erebus Memorial will definitely recognise the pilots and all other crew members who lost their lives in the accident.

TIVELY RELEASED

Appendix 5: Draft Media Release

5 April 2019

Final publicly available - refer link:
www.beehive.govt.nz/release/national-erebus-memorial-design-selected

TIVELY RELEASED

Out of scope of the request

TIVELY RELEASED