

**18 September 2018**

# Media Release

## Waterfront memorial marks Auckland's founding

**September 18 is the anniversary of the founding of Auckland in 1840. To help mark this important day, Ports of Auckland and Ngāti Whātua Ōrākei built Te Toka o Apihai Te Kawau.**

While we all celebrate Auckland's anniversary Day in January (when the weather is better), not many people know that Auckland (Tāmaki Makaurau) was actually founded on 18 September 1840.

After signing the Treaty of Waitangi, Ngāti Whātua, under Chief Apihai Te Kawau, made land available for British settlement on the Waitematā. On 18 September 1840 Crown representatives came to Auckland and a founding ceremony was held.

Te Toka o Apihai Te Kawau is located at the foot of what once was a bluff called Rerenga Ora Iti (Britomart Point), near where the British representatives reportedly came ashore.

Te Toka o Apihai Te Kawau is a place where all people can come and learn the history of Auckland-Tāmaki Makaurau on the edge of the Waitematā Harbour.

The memorial was unveiled earlier this year and [video of that ceremony can be found here](#).

### **ENDS**

#### NOTES:

Ports of Auckland Ltd is the port for New Zealand's largest city. We have been playing a vital role in the Auckland economy for 178 years, delivering things Aucklanders and New Zealanders need and enjoy. The port is part of the special character of Auckland.

We are an efficient customer focussed port, which is why we were voted best seaport in Oceania by our customers in 2016, 2017 and 2018.

We are New Zealand's hub port for car and container imports, handling 297,000 cars and light commercial vehicles and 952,000 TEU (1 TEU = 1 twenty-foot container) in the 2016/17 financial year.

We are New Zealand's main cruise hub. The port handles around 100 cruise ships annually and each ship visit is worth approximately \$1.5m to the local economy.

Ports of Auckland is 100%-owned by Auckland Council and serves Auckland's growth through the efficient delivery of freight and by delivering a good return to our owner. In the 2016/17 financial year our \$51.3 million dividend to the city was worth the equivalent of 4.1% of the average Auckland residential rates bill.

For further information contact:

#### **Matt Ball**

Head of Communications

P: +649 348 5262

M: +6421 495 645

E: [ballm@poal.co.nz](mailto:ballm@poal.co.nz)