

## **NZ PRODUCTIVITY COMMISSION - IMMIGRATION SETTINGS ...**

### **SUBMISSION FROM WARWICK ALEXANDER ON THE *Preliminary findings and recommendations***

**1. General comment on the failure of the Commission to under the specific direction in the Terms of Reference dated 12 April 2021 to follow the clear directive to “ In undertaking this inquiry the Commission should endeavour to select modes of consultation and publication formats that will support a wide range of New Zealanders to share their perspectives” . The briefing paper goes on to include a wide range of channels and organisations included Maori, Pacific communities, migrant and ethnic communities, trade unions and business AND THE GENERAL PUBLIC.**

**The Commission at the very least has failed to adequately inform the general public!**

**2. It is extraordinary that the Commission failed to seek any legal advice from other than from “Whaiua Legal” a solicitor practice that appears set up to address issues from a Maori perspective. Somewhat like asking the fox to guard the hen house.**

**3. There is little doubt that “controlled and targeted” immigration can and does make a contribution to New Zealanders’ overall prosperity.**

**4. However, as the Commission rightly observers this has come as a undue burden on our housing and infrastructure especially in our larger cities.**

*A future immigration policy that takes the focus away from especially Auckland and perhaps other large cities should be encouraged including businesses ( why for example “Fonterra” needs its Head Office in Auckland is baffling).*

*In addition the Covid 19 current immigration status has given the Government an opportunity to pause wholesale immigration to allow for a “catch up” period for infrastructure.*

*The Commission's recommendations should reflex this aspect.*

**5. The Commission’s findings that many New Zealand born citizens choose to leave mainly to settle in Australia is really a blight of this Nation.**

*The Commission would be wise to further develop this aspect in its final report .*

**6. The Commission’s findings places undue comment and recommendations in respect to the Treaty. It would seem the NZ Productivity Commission has been high jacked by radicals with the undemocratic agenda of He Puapua to the fore. To suggest that the 1840 Treaty was “first immigration policy document” is just a nonsense. This document was and is evidence of the vast number of Maori Chiefs signing away their allegiance to the Sovereignty of the British Empire.**

The more recent “ partnership” concept remains in dispute. The Waitangi Tribunal rulings have no binding legal status on the Crown.

( Please be assured I respect the Maori heritage and culture but have a view that we are better together as one people ( a view taken by the very much respected and admired Dame Whina Cooper ) rather than the current trend which seeks to divide us by allowing an minority to have control.

*It is clear the approach or recommendations taken by the Commission is not supported.*

7. To suggest that new Immigrants’ learn te reo is again a bridge too far and should not be supported. As we know so many struggle with English especially those elderly family members who are able to later follow?

*There is no place in Immigration policy for decisions about residence or permanent residence to be influenced by recognition efforts to learn te reo.*

8. The Commission’s suggestion of “ *Limiting rights to return for permanent residents who leave*” could be counter productive and is not supported.

In conclusion while the preliminary report has some merit overall my overall ranking is barely a pass mark and it is clear that the NZ Productivity Commission has somewhat lost its way in many aspects in the findings and recommendations.

Also as raised early the Commission's communication efforts to date are considered woeful which brings into question just how many submissions will be filed by the general public as against interest groups etc?



Warwick M Alexander

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