

“Whanau Ora National’s feel good sop to the Maori Party”

Rt. Hon Winston Peters

Leader NZ First

6 April 2010

The Leader of NZ First, The Rt. Hon Winston Peters has described today’s funding announcement of \$134 million to Whanau Ora as National’s feel good sop to the Maori Party.

That is \$34 million each year for four years.

First, reducing the finding to a fraction of the Maori Party demand is John Key’s way of limiting the harm Whanau Ora will do.

Second, hand picking 20 Maori Providers severely limits its coverage.

Third, this experiment merely duplicates existing services and using the word ‘holistic’ doesn’t save it from being a separatist race based delivery.

Fourth, like the Tobacco Tax this is a case of dropping as much bad news before May 20th Budget Day.

Fifth, spending \$20 million over four years researching, evaluating and monitoring the scheme is one more Bureaucratic Sandbox.

There are many Maori Institutions which work well but this will not be one of them.

“Claiming that this represents a major shakeup of Social Welfare is just more nonsense” says Mr Peters.

ENDS