

2 July 2024

s9(2)(a)

Tālofa lava s9(2)(a)

RESPONSE TO AN OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST (REF: DOIA072-2023/24)

On 1 June 2024, you contacted the Ministry for Pacific Peoples (the Ministry) requesting under the Official Information Act 1982 (OIA), information relating to Pacific Language Weeks in 2024. I have outlined your specific requests and my responses to each below.

I would like to request under the Official Information Act:

- 1. a copy of any internal communication from the CE that pertain to celebrations of Pacific language weeks in 2024.*

The Ministry has identified six documents within scope of your request. Appended to this letter are copies of the correspondence (refer **Appendix 1**).

- 2. the appropriation MPP has set aside for its own internal celebration of Pacific language weeks in 2024.*

The Ministry did not set an appropriation specifically for the internal celebration of Pacific language weeks in 2024. Therefore, I am refusing this information under section 18(e) of the OIA as the information requested does not exist.

However, Ministry staff voluntarily organise internal celebrations for each Pacific Language week where all staff can participate in interactive activities to learn and celebrate Pacific language, culture and traditions.

In line with standard OIA practice, the Ministry proactively publishes some of its responses to OIA requests. As such, this letter may be published on the Ministry for Pacific Peoples' website. Your personal details will be removed, and the Ministry will not publish any information that would identify you or your organisation.

Should you wish to discuss this response with us, please feel free to contact the Ministry at: oiia_requests@mpp.govt.nz.

If you are dissatisfied with this response, you have the right, under section 28(3) of the OIA, to seek an investigation and review by the Ombudsman. Information about how to make a complaint is available at www.ombudsman.parliament.nz or freephone 0800 802 602.

Ia manuia

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ali Ajmal', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ali Ajmal
**Deputy Secretary,
Office of the Secretary**

From: [Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone](#)
To: [All Staff](#)
Subject: Secretary's Weekly Update - 8 March 2024
Date: Friday, 8 March 2024 4:02:47 pm
Attachments: [image010.png](#)
[image011.png](#)



Secretary's update

Noa 'ia 'e māuri gagaj 'atakoa,

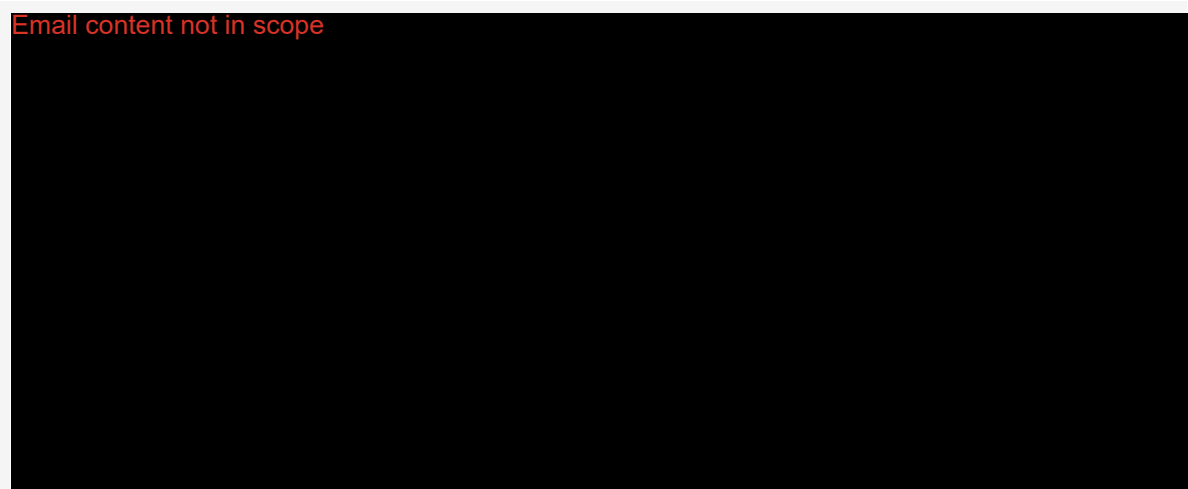
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Our Minister will also be announcing the highly anticipated dates of the 2024 Pacific Language Week Series. Once the dates are announced, I encourage you to promote the series with your stakeholders, community and family. Information about the dates will be published on our website and social media channels from Saturday.

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Email content not in scope



Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone

Secretary for Pacific Peoples, Chief Executive, Ministry for Pacific Peoples

Te Tumu Whakarae, Te Manatū mō ngā Iwi o Te Moana-nui-ā-Kiwa

From: Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone <Gerardine.Clifford-Lidstone@mpp.govt.nz>

Sent: Thursday, March 28, 2024 4:45 PM

To: All Staff <Ministry@mpp.govt.nz>

Subject: Secretary's weekly update

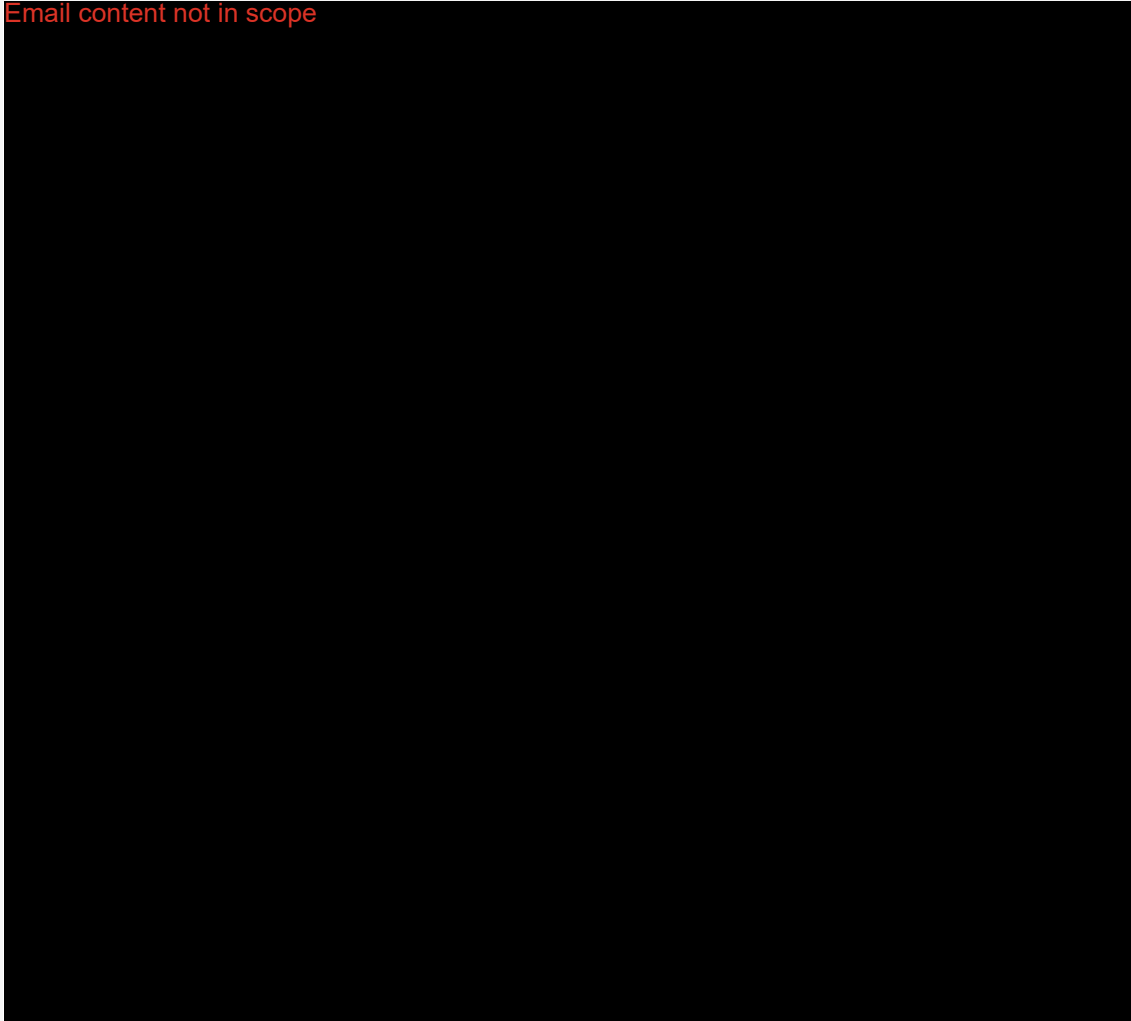


Secretary's update

Ma'lo ni and Manuia te eheta

(warm greetings and happy Easter - Gagana Tokelau),

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Pacific Language Week Series e-signature

It's great to see many of you using our new e-signature, promoting our Pacific Language Week Series. The colourful banner is a tool for promoting the series and celebrating our diverse Pacific languages. I encourage everyone to apply it to their outgoing e-mails. You can [download it here from VakaPuna](#).



Wishing you all a relaxing and safe Easter break.

Fakafetai,

Gerardine

Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone

Secretary for Pacific Peoples, Chief Executive, Ministry for Pacific Peoples

Te Tumu Whakarae, Te Manatū mō ngā Iwi o Te Moana-nui-ā-Kiwa



From: [Paige Aiolupotea Aiono](#)
To: [Paige Aiolupotea Aiono](#)
Subject: FW: Secretary's Weekly Update - 3 May 2024
Date: Tuesday, 25 June 2024 10:21:16 am
Attachments: [image001.png](#)
[image002.png](#)

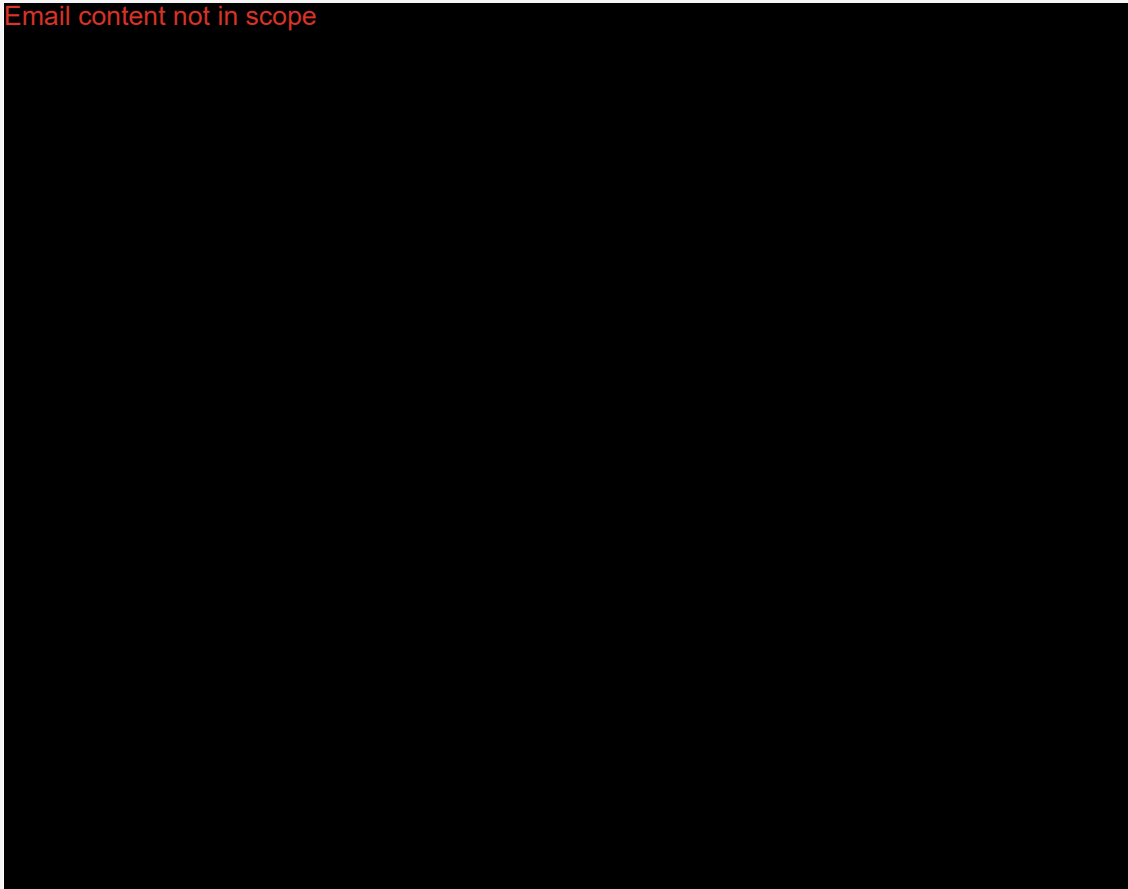
From: Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone <Gerardine.Clifford-Lidstone@mpp.govt.nz>
Sent: Friday, May 3, 2024 4:22 PM
To: All Staff <Ministry@mpp.govt.nz>
Subject: Secretary's Weekly Update - 3 May 2024



Secretary's update

Kia oraāna,

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Rotuman Language Week 2024 Launching Next Week

Our Pacific Language Week Series launches next week with Rotuman Language Week taking place from 12 -18 May 2024. Fajäkse'ea to our Language Leads for their dedication, engaging with community groups after hours via Zoom to plan for a successful 2024 series.

The Rotuman Language Week theme this year is 'Vetākia 'os Fäega ma Ag fak hanua - *Sustaining our Language and Culture*,' which reflects the broader focus on sustainability.

To help promote Rotuman Language Week, please copy-paste the below e-signature into your outgoing mail with stakeholders. Outstanding design and photography by our Creative Design Lead, Jacinta Mauga!



[Keep an eye on our website](#) for additional resources like social media graphics and posters, which will be available next week.

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Wishing everyone a restful weekend.

Meitaki ma'ata,

Gerardine

Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone

Secretary for Pacific Peoples, Chief Executive, Ministry for Pacific Peoples

Te Tumu Whakarae, Te Manatū mō ngā Iwi o Te Moana-nui-ā-Kiwa



From: Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone <Gerardine.Clifford-Lidstone@mpp.govt.nz>
Sent: Monday, May 13, 2024 8:31 AM
To: All Staff <Ministry@mpp.govt.nz>
Subject: Secretary's Weekly Update - 10 May 2024



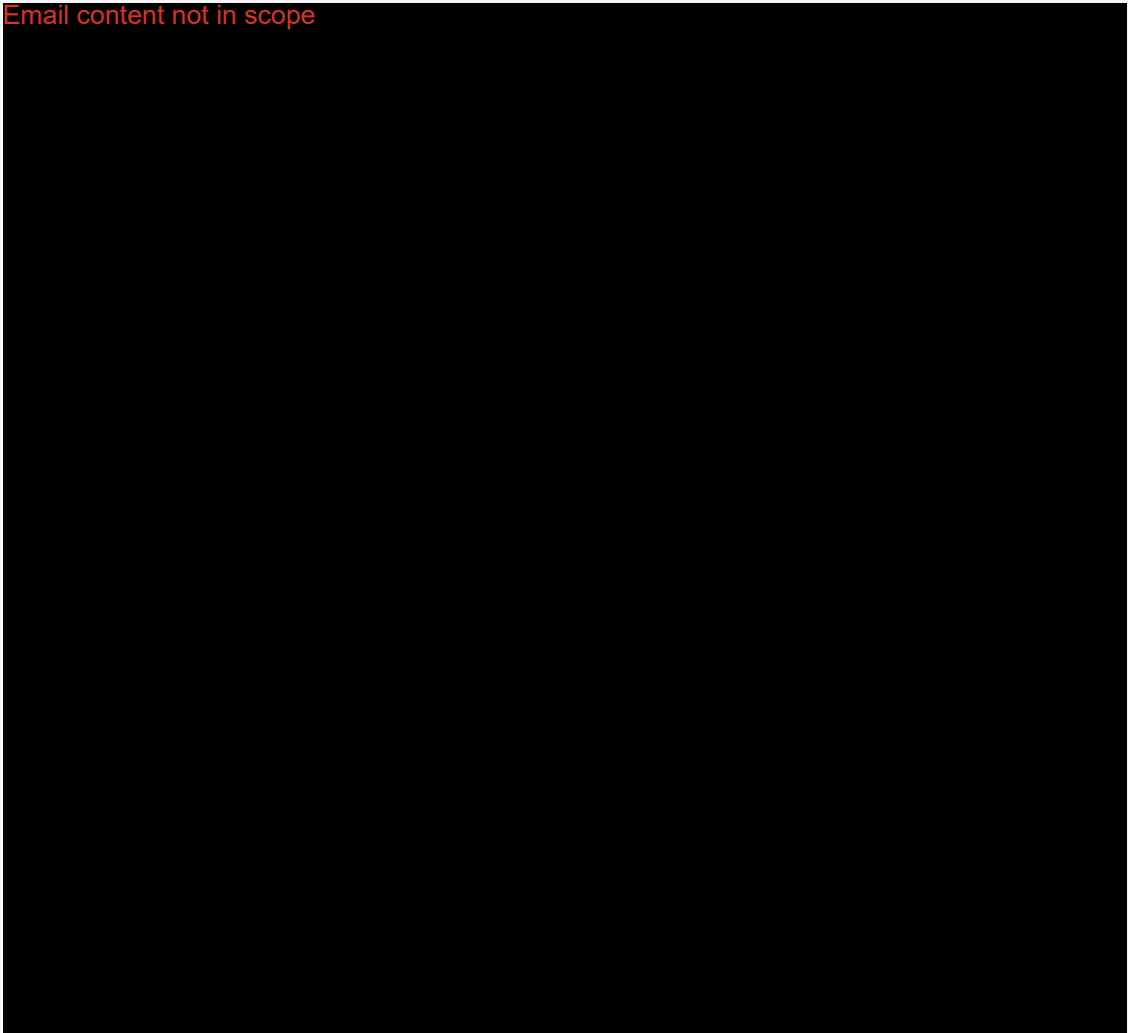
Secretary's update

Noa'ia 'e māuri gagaj 'atakoa

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Rotuman Language Week Celebrations

As Rotuman Language Week launched yesterday, I encourage everyone to visit our [Rotuma Language Week website](#), which now contains new resources and a calendar of events happening across the country. The resources include email signatures, posters, social media content, language cards, and audio clips.

Please share this information with your stakeholders and take this wonderful opportunity to participate in and celebrate our rich cultural heritage.



Rotuma Language Week social media tile

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Faiāksea,
Gerardine

Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone

Secretary for Pacific Peoples, Chief Executive, Ministry for Pacific Peoples
Te Tumu Whakarae, Te Manatū mō ngā Iwi ō Te Moana-nui-ā-Kiwa



From: Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone <Gerardine.Clifford-Lidstone@mpp.govt.nz>

Sent: Friday, May 24, 2024 4:03 PM

To: All Staff <Ministry@mpp.govt.nz>

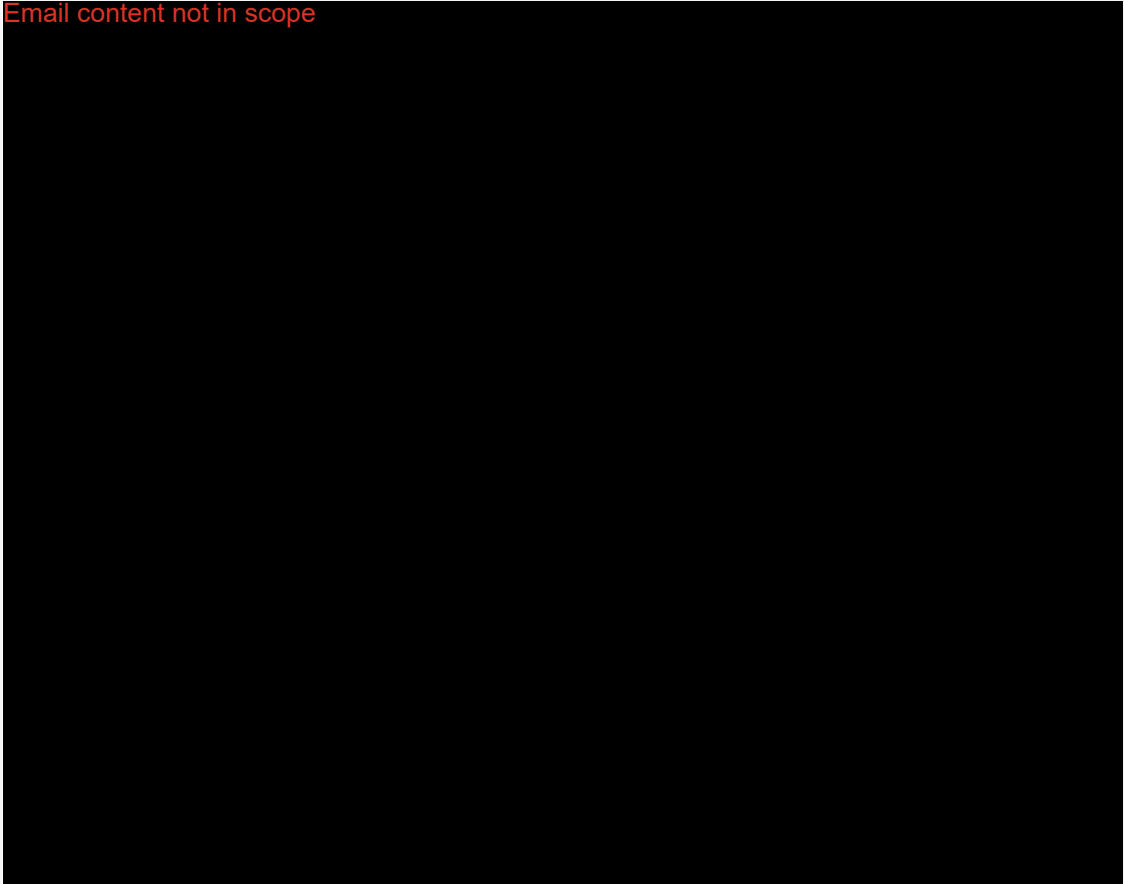
Subject: Secretary's Weekly Update - 24 May 2024



Secretary's update

Tālofa lava,

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Samoa language week

Our third most spoken language in New Zealand takes centre stage with Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa – Samoa Language

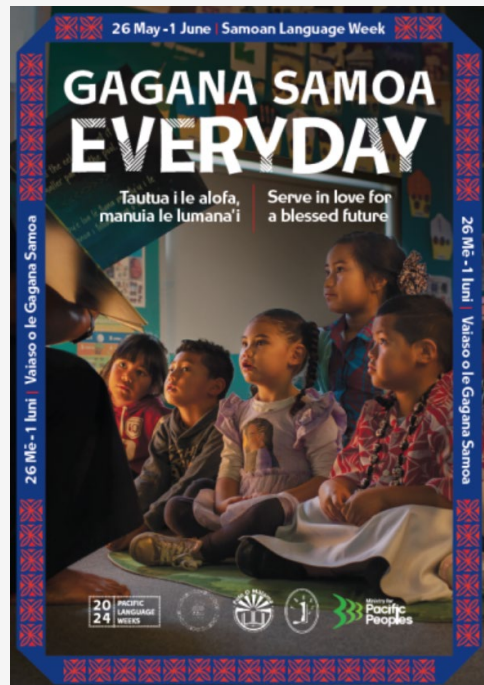
Week kicking off this Sunday.

This year, the community have chosen the theme, Tautua i le alofa, manuia le lumana'i – Serve in love for a blessed future. This theme acknowledges the maintenance of language is achieved with consistent service – particularly through the values of alofa (love), fa'aaloalo (respect) and vā fealoa'i (respectful relationships).

Ia manuia le fa'amanatuina o le Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa – wishing our Samoan communities all the best for the week ahead.

Visit the [MPP website](#) for resources and events, including a poster which reflects the important role that children and young people can play in revitalising Pacific language, while the [Gagana Samoa i Aotearoa Facebook page](#) will share content throughout the week.

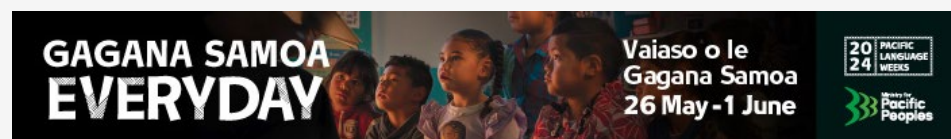
Special thanks to Jacinta Mauga for her photography work for the poster, and Dr Salainaolua Wilson-Uili her work with the community. It's wonderful seeing the children feature front and centre.



Have a great weekend, Tōfā.

Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone

Secretary for Pacific Peoples, Chief Executive, Ministry for Pacific Peoples
Te Tumu Whakarae, Te Manatū mō ngā Iwi o Te Moana-nui-ā-Kiwa



From: Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone <Gerardine.Clifford-Lidstone@mpp.govt.nz>

Sent: Friday, June 7, 2024 4:26 PM

To: All Staff <Ministry@mpp.govt.nz>

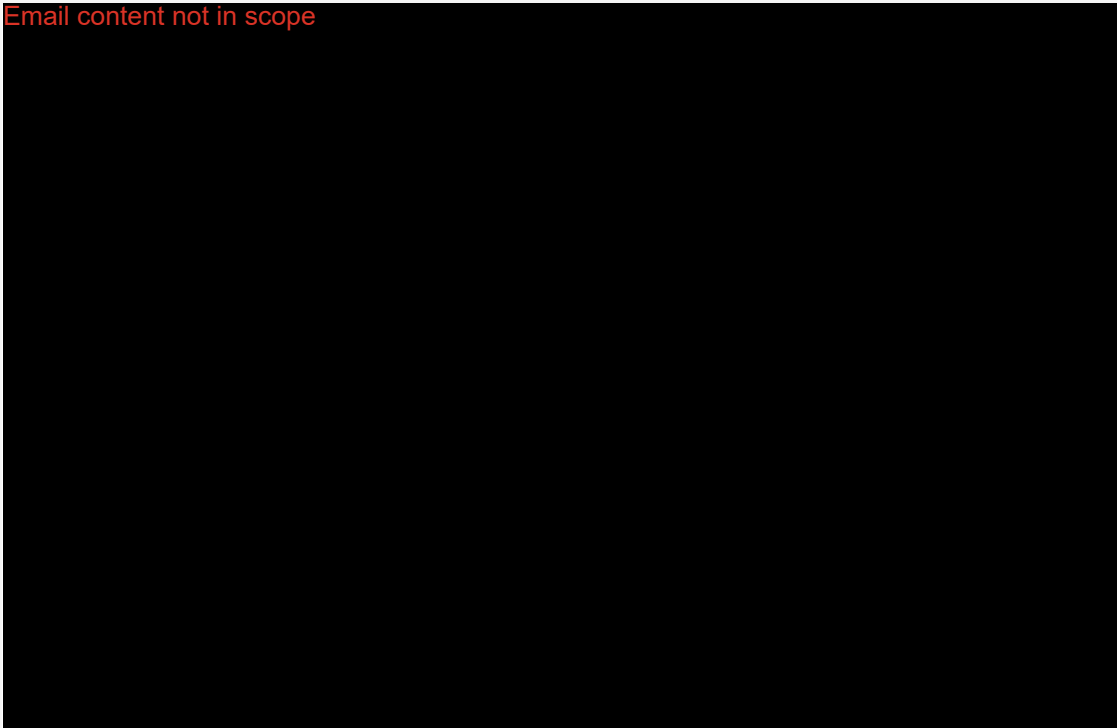
Subject: Secretary's weekly update - 7 June 2024



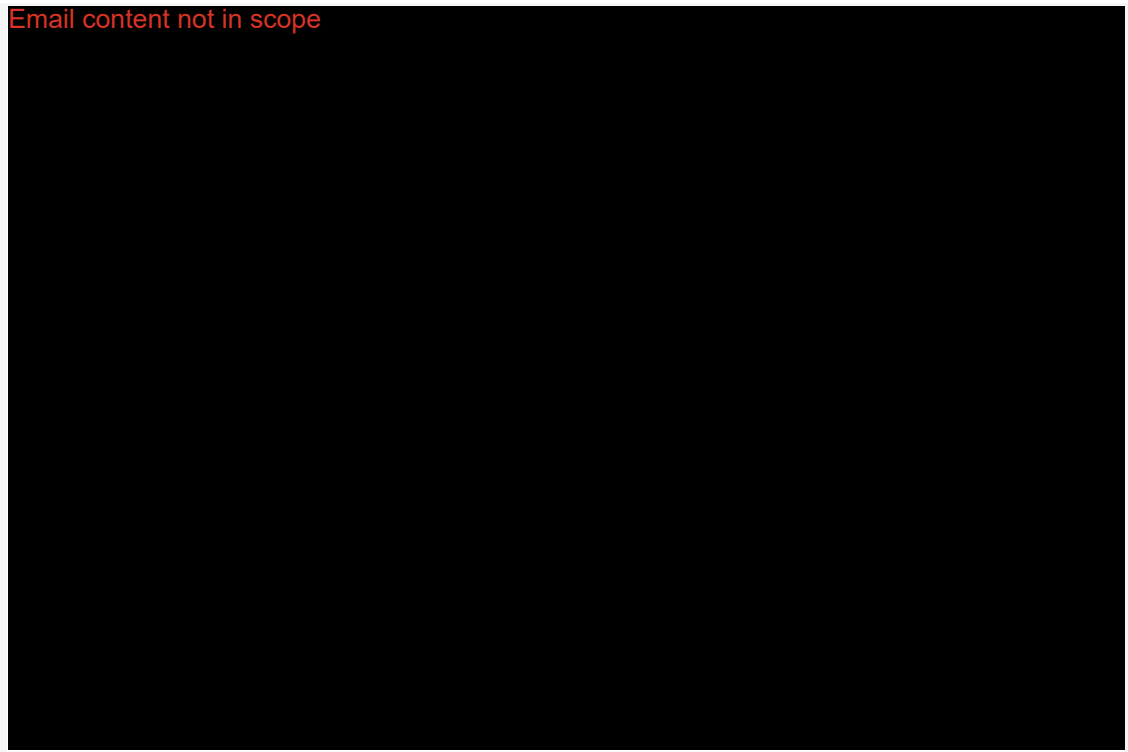
Secretary's update

Tālofa lava,

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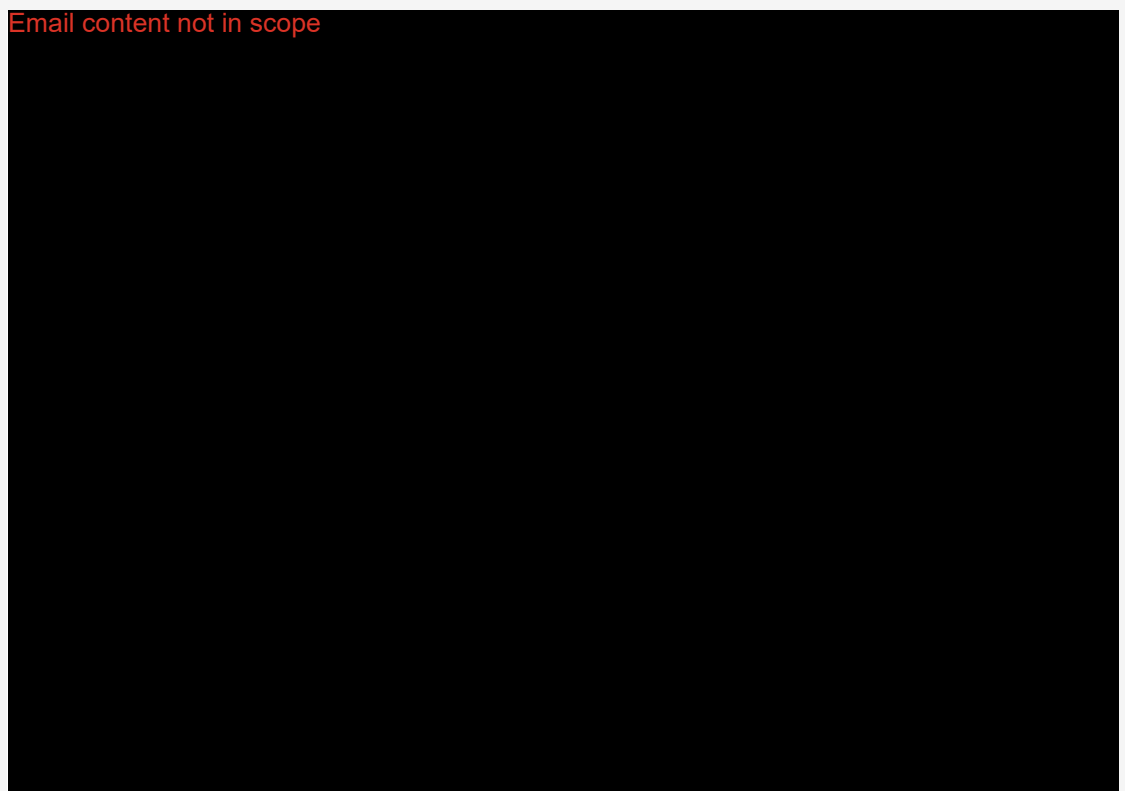


Closing Vaiaso o le Gagana Samoa

There were several events across the country and a big thank you to all of those staff who represented the Ministry. I was able to attend the Sauniga Lotu with the Mafutaga Faifeau I Ueligitone in the heart of Cannons Creek on Friday night. Thank you to Fa'alogu who was on hand to support. I arrived to find they were expecting me to speak, and I quickly had to pray to God to turn me into Dr Salainaolua (with her language ability), unfortunately, my prayer wasn't granted. But I survived and Fa'alogu and I weren't chased out of the hall. Then on Saturday Sachi and I attended a celebration hosted by His Excellency Afamasaga Toleafoa and Mrs Phillipa Toleafoa to celebrate the 62nd independence anniversary of Samoa. It was a really enjoyable event and it was good to see all the Heads of Mission from various countries come to support Samoa Independence.

Fa'afetai tele lava to all our staff that supported Samoan Language Week activities both here and in the community.

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Stay well and enjoy your weekend.

Manuia le faaiuga o le vaiaso

Gerardine Clifford-Lidstone

Secretary for Pacific Peoples, Chief Executive, Ministry for Pacific Peoples

Te Tumu Whakarae, Te Manatū mō ngā Iwi o Te Moana-nui-ā-Kiwa