

It's about democracy

Three of Northland's four councils are proposing to introduce Maori-only wards (or constituencies): The Northland Regional Council (NRC), the Whangarei District Council (WDC), and the Kaipara District Council (KDC). These councils made that decision without consulting the community at large and in fact the NRC and WDC have voted against doing so*.

Unbelievably, after a petition was launched to require councils to hold a binding referendum the Northland Regional Council wrote to the Minister of Local Government requesting "a moratorium or the like on the ability to demand a poll". **

For councillors to actively obstruct their constituents from exercising a legal democratic right is an outrage.

Councillors should work for all of their community, all age groups, all cultures, no matter what their backgrounds. Everyone's right to have a say should be respected. There's a word for it: Democracy.

Please sign the PETITIONS being organised by DEMOCRACY NORTHLAND so you can have your say.

Petition forms can be downloaded at democracynorthland.co.nz or Facebook @democracynorthland.

