"This is sure to rise in another ten years which will lessen the minority.

"But more importantly, the numbers of Pakeha people are declining.

"We have to look at sharing the resources of the country."

In his evidence to the Tribunal, Whairiri Ngata, journalist and broadcaster, said that Broadcasting authorities in New Zealand should be required to reflect community and maori interests as outlined by statute.

"The Broadcasting act is both implicit and explicit in its outline of a broadcaster's responsibility.

"I have always been aware of the dual and triple responsibilities which a Maori and bilingual Maori broad caster has, to the public at large.

"In respect of programmes for Maori and about Maori, the statutory authorities have been gravely remiss, and present broadcasting or telecasts do not give a true picture or reflection of the ethnic make-up of this country and the contribution made by Maori people to a fuller and richer cultural existence.

"I support the ABS application because it would utilise an already existing informal communication system among Maori people.

"This could be utilised for commentary on current issues."

Čletus Maanu Paul from Mana Maori Media, went right out of his way to discomfort the Tribunal with his evidence.

His introductory waiata was appropriately, "Move over, move over, and make room for me."

He explained the mauri of the Maori to the Tribunal.

He explained the iwi, hapu and whanau, and told the Tribunal that their lack of understanding anything Maori was a difficulty facing them with their decision.

And in language they could understand, he said that the "monocultural nature of television is repugnant to the Maori.

"Mauri is essential for maori television."

And he said that the present maori programming is alien to the mauri of the Maori.

"Pakehas have no history of mauri, the closest they can get to it is soul.

"Only the Maori can do it," he said referring to programming maori content.

He said that mauri is not a transferable entity.

"It's not for me as a Maori to teach you. You can't change it so it fits your way of thinking.

"It can't be packaged and cartoned – designed to belong to the hi-tech world."



The impressive lineup of maoridom that spoke for ABS.