

Tihei Mauri Ora!

It's never about one person

Ehara taku toa i te toa takitahi, engari he toa takitini

A warrior never stands alone, but stands with many



Professor Mason Durie began the year with a double celebration, a knighthood in the New Year Honours and his 45th wedding anniversary. The Massey University academic was named a Knight Companion of the New Zealand Order of Merit for his services to Māori health, and in particular, public health services. Sir Mason described the knighthood as an honour for his family, especially his wife Arohia. ***"These things are never about one person"***. "It is also recognition of all those people who have helped make a difference, many of whom are no longer with us".

Many people climb the ladder of success only to keep others from straddling similar heights. For Mason, his reason for climbing has never been to keep others down, but to pull them up. Elevating others and recognising their contributions is a gift to ourselves as well as to those we acknowledge. To value others' efforts is more than regarding them as important. To value is to appreciate the finer qualities and to invest time, energy, effort, and sacrifice in its maintenance. We all need to get to the point where we selflessly give others the respect they deserve, and the trust they have earned. It's only when we do so that we achieve the results we are seeking – and more. *Kia pai tō wiki!*



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