

Tihei Mauri Ora!

Complacency

Mauri mahi, mauri ora; mauri noho, mauri mate.

Hard work begets prosperity (security); idleness begets poverty (insecurity)



In the aftermath of last week's Māori Language Week, Māori Language Commission Chairman, Erima Henare, stated categorically that the language is still in a perilous state. Out of a population of 565,000 Māori, there are only 18,000 fluent speakers. It's a very sobering statistic indeed. He says, "***complacency is our biggest enemy*** in language revitalization". It is also the greatest obstacle to

those promoting Māori development in other areas.

Far too many times we become smug, and satisfied with our situation and in so doing, become complacent and settle for the mediocre. Our lives remain unexamined, unchallenged, and unfulfilled. We choose the easy way. Our limits remain un-stretched. We choose to be less than we are capable of, only because we never try to become better. We choose a lesser life, because either we never want to better our best, or we are afraid we cannot achieve great results. It's easy to be complacent - to choose the lesser life, to settle for mediocre results, to never push ourselves, and to never challenge our beliefs and thinking. You can do better. Of course you will, if you choose to work hard at it. Kia pai tó wiki!



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