Tihei Mauri Ora!

Take the people with you

Ina te mahi, he rangatira

See how he does – a leader indeed!

In te ao Māori, one way in which a leader is usually identified is by his/her work in improving, and protecting the interests and welfare of their people. Sir Graham Latimer tells the story about when he went to seek counsel from a respected Koroua not long after being made Chairman of the New Zealand Māori Council.

This old fella asked me what I was worrying about and I said “well what do I do?” He answered by saying “Well it’s like this, if you don’t lead you will be led, and now that you have set out to lead the people make sure that when you arrive at your destination you have still got the people with you, otherwise you have wasted their time and you have wasted your own time”.

It’s not just about getting to where you want to go that counts, but how you do it. Every relationship you have as a leader of people is an important one. People are going to hold you in high regard as a leader if you can manage to work with all sides in any situation and still come out ahead. Believe in yourself and success will surely come your way, not only for you but for those who are loyal and have confidence in you, and willingly follow your lead toward that common goal. Kia pai tó wiki!

A Monday Motivational email by MANU AO Academy – A National Inter-University Māori Academy for Academic and Professional Advancement.

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