

Tihei Mauri Ora!

Standing Tall

Ko tā te rino i wawāhi ai, mā te rino anō hei honohono,
Ko tā te kakaka i haehae ai, mā te kakaka anō hei tuitui

*What the Pākehā sought to disrupt, the Pākehā will seek to restore,
What the Māori has lost, the Māori will strive to regain*



Last month's 7th Annual Waitangi Rua Rautau Lecture at Waiwhetu marae, Lower Hutt, featured Te Atiawa leader, Dr Kara Puketapu. An innovative Secretary of Māori Affairs, Kara has been described as “the man within Government who drove the change in policy that led to the establishment of Kōhanga Reo”. He is also credited with the establishment of the highly successful Tū Tangata programme, which was the basis of his lecture entitled ‘Standing Tall in 2040’. He said, “Let us be ambitious and work hard”. “Whānau New Zealanders, with the blood of many races, they will **stand tall and proud** knowing their whānau culture provides a contribution to their citizenship responsibilities”.

Kara's exemplary leadership is all about standing tall, and to be brave and proud of yourself in the knowledge that you have done your best. It's true what the old quote says: “if we don't stand for something, we'll fall for anything”. How do we stand tall and generate a positive belief in ourselves? By doing positive things, and thinking positive. It inspires confidence in our abilities. We ban negative thoughts and feelings from our lives. We work hard every hour of every day to build a strong foundation under our beliefs, through training, up-skilling and personal growth.

Kia pai tō wiki!



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