Tihei Mauri Ora!

Accept responsibility

E taru ana i tāku
It will be done; it’s my garden

The Ministry of Health’s former Chief Advisor (Māori Health) Dr Tony Ruakere of Te Atiawa is one of our most experienced and skilled medical practitioners; extensively involved in Māori health development and with a life-time of community service behind him. Dr Ruakere humbly walks in the footsteps of his kaumatua, yet looks to youth for the future, using Māori role models to inspire another generation to even greater heights. The people, he says, have to accept the responsibility of moving forward by doing it themselves. Being passive won’t work. The fire needs to burn deep in us all.

True leaders take responsibility for their actions, and there’s no limit to the good you can do. But, many of us don’t take care of ourselves where success is concerned. Altogether too often, we leave that responsibility to other people. It’s high time we took responsibility for our own success. We can do it. It may take a little bit of education, or a bit of practice, but sooner or later, we’ll get there. It doesn’t matter who you are, or where you’ve come from. What matters is where you’re going. Kia pai tō wiki!

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