During her forty year reign as the sixth and longest serving Māori monarch, Te Arikinui Dame Te Atairangikaahu of Tainui, exemplified the kingitanga’s resilience and place in New Zealand society. Hers was a caring and benevolent nature, and she moved easily among people at all levels, while her wisdom, astute thinking and clear vision established her as an unparalleled unifying force for Māori. One of her legacies was urging her people to constantly “pursue quality and excellence in everything you do”.

We never will achieve success when we refuse to take responsibility for the quality of the things we say and do - our success in life is too tightly bound to whatever that may be. Sometimes we go through life where "good enough" is all that's expected. Get into the habit of requiring excellence from yourself - first. Don’t settle for less. Ask yourself ‘Is this the right way to do this? Is this the best way to do that?’ Then, make a habit of giving quality service to others, and in so doing you will find excellence in your life in whatever you undertake. Kia ōrākau!