

# *Tihei Mauri Ora!*

## *Ambition*

**He rei ngā niho, he paraoa ngā kauae**

*To have a whale's tooth, you must have also a whale's jaw  
(meaning ; one must have the right qualifications for great enterprises)*



It is a myth, according to Ngāti Porou's runanga chair, Dr Apirana Mahuika, that ambition was not a common attribute. Leadership roles were not always pre-ordained nor non-competitive. He says that ambition was certainly a variable in the politics of leadership. Ambition is a quality valued in many of our Māori leaders; and, those who have it often inspire others with their sheer drive, confidence and energy.

***Steer clear of people who try to belittle your ambitions. Small-minded people do that, but a great leader makes you feel that you, too, can become great.***

What is wrong with aiming to be great? Maybe it's that desire to make the world a better place for us and our posterity to live in. Our improvement doesn't need to be extraordinary though. It can be just a step up, a little bit at a time, and yet we should strive to end each day a little bit better than we were the day before. It's in us to become better each day and make our lives a healthier, sweeter experience. Kia pai tō wiki!



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