

Tihei Mauri Ora!

Power

Ko te pipi te tuatahi, ko te kaunuku te tuarua

A small wedge is used first, followed by a larger one

(The process by which a small group gains strength and grows to the point at which it can challenge the previously dominant force)



Prominent Te Rarawa leader Whina Cooper, the first president of the Māori Womens Welfare League, who as an 80 year old led the famous land march from Te Hapua to Parliament in 1975 to protest ongoing loss of Māori land. When she was awarded Dame Commander of the Order of the British Empire in 1980, she stated: “They didn't

understand that I'd have more power when I'd been invested, more power to fight for them and for all the Māori people against the government”.

The quest for power begins with gaining power over ourselves. From Dame Whina's leadership of the land march we learn that we gain power by concentrating all our efforts on a particular goal; having faith in ourselves to achieve that goal; and finally, refusing to give up. Just as Whina determined her course before setting off from Te Hapua, and then made corrections along the way to Wellington. Each of us has the ability to set and then chart our own course, and reach our destination in time. There may be hiccups along the way, but when we're in control, we can choose to steer around them. We all have the power to plan our lives, including you too! Kia pai tō wiki!



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Rāhina, 11 o Paenga-whāwhā 2011