

# MĀORI LANGUAGE MOMENT





### An open letter to all New Zealanders



The world changed again for us last week as Auckland and the rest of Aotearoa went back into lockdown.

Early this year we began redesigning Māori Language Week so that this year, whether we are in lockdown or not: we can come together to celebrate te reo Māori.

As we navigate these tough times together we want to bring New Zealanders together in a moment of unity.

Honouring the past, keeping ourselves safe in the present and preparing for our future together.

There are many things that defines New Zealanders and connects us to our home: and te reo Māori is one of them

Thanks to the determination of some incredible people, the revitalisation of te reo is a movement that continues to this day. From marches calling for it to be made an official language, a petition arguing for it to be taught in schools, to a Waitangi Tribunal claim. Children can now attend kōhanga and schools where te reo is the language of instruction. Whare Wananga, iwi radio and Māori Television are growing adult speakers of te reo. Normalising our language comes in many shapes and forms from hearing it on the radio, reading it in our newspapers and even just saying, "Kia ora" when we answer the phone. Last year a Colmar Brunton poll we commissioned told us that 8 in 10 of us see te reo as part of our national identity.

Te reo Māori is the language of New Zealand.

But it still needs New Zealanders to keep it safe.

That's why we are focused on growing 1 million speakers by 2040 and we want to start in 2020: even if just for a moment.



### He reta noa ki ngā tāngata katoa o Aotearoa



I hurihia tō tātou ao i tērā wiki i te rāhuitanga anō o Tāmakimakaurau, tae atu rā ki Aotearoa whānui tonu.

I te tīmatanga o tēnei tau i te whakatika mātou ki te whakahou i Te Wiki o te Reo Māori ahakoa te noho rāhui, te noho wātea rānei: me whakakotahi tātou, ngā tāngata o Aotearoa, ki te whakanui i te reo Māori.

I a tātou e whakamātautauria ana e ngā taumahatanga o te wā, e whai ana mātou ki te whakapiri i ngā tāngata o Aotearoa kia kotahi ai tātou mō tētahi wā.

Kia whakamihia a neherā, kia haumaru ai tātou i tēnei wā, hei whakatikatika hoki i tō tātou anga whakamua haere ake nei.

He nui ngā āhuatanga e kīia ai tātou he uri Aotearoa tātou, ā, e tūhonohono ana i a tātou ki tō tātou kāinga: nā, ko te reo Māori tētahi o aua āhuatanga.

Nā te pūkeke o te hunga aumangea, e kawea tonutia ana te kaupapa whakarauora i te reo i tēnei rā. Ko ngā rangatū ērā i te tohe kia whakamanahia hei reo ōkawa, ko te petihana i te whakahau kia whakaakona ki ngā kura, tae atu ki te kereeme ki te Taraipiunara o Waitangi. E āhei ana ngā tamariki ki te haere ki ngā kōhanga reo me ngā kura, ko te reo Māori te reo whakaako. Kei te whakarea ngā Whare Wānanga, ngā reo irirangi ā-iwi, me Whakaata Māori i ngā kaikōrero pakeke o te reo. He nui ngā āhua o te tangatawhenuatanga o tō tātou reo, e rangona ana i te reo irirangi, e pānuitia ana i te niupepa, e kī noa ana, "Kia ora" hei whakautu waea. Nō tērā tau i puta te whakatau a te rangahau a Kōmā Paratene i tonoa e mātou, ko te 8 o te 10 o tātou e hiahia ana kia kitea te reo hei tohu i tō tātou tuakiritanga ā-motu.

Ko te reo Māori te reo o Aotearoa.

Engari mā ngā uri o Aotearoa tonu e tiaki.

Koinei te take e arotahi ana mātou kia tipu te tokomaha o ngā kaikōrero i te reo Māori ki te 1 miriona i te taenga ki te tau 2040, ā, e hiahia ana mātou ki te tīmata i te tau 2020: ahakoa mō te wā poto noa iho.

### **Frequently Asked Questions**

# When is Māori Language Week and what's happening?

The week is on from the **14 – 20 September 2020** and schools are being invited to celebrate the event virtually as the Māori Language Commission will not be hosting large gatherings this year.

### What is the Māori Language Moment | Te Wā Tuku Reo Māori?

We are inviting all schools to join us in a nationwide virtual Māori Language Moment at 12pm on Monday 14 September 2020: remembering the moment in 1972 when the Māori Language Petition was presented to parliament calling for te reo to be taught in our schools. Our aim is to get 1 million people taking part in the Māori Language Moment, a nod to our audacious 2040 goal of 1 million speakers of te reo. Sign up at: tuku.reomaori.co.nz

### How do we join the Māori Language Moment | Te Wā Tuku Reo Māori?

Sign up at: tuku.reomaori.co.nz

- We need your kura or school to sign up so we can count every student towards our goal of 1 million people taking part in our Māori Language Moment | Te Wā Tuku Reo Māori.
- Share what you're doing with your local community and with us so others can learn from your example

#### What can we do? How long is it for?

What you do is up to you: some schools will be singing a te reo Māori song and sharing it live to FB. Others are holding a virtual learning lesson and beginning with a waiata. Get some ideas from tuku-reomaori.co.nz

#### What is the hashtag this year?

#ReoMāori

#### What resources are there?

Our new website will provide support all the time not just during Māori Language Week. We are replacing the existing Māori Language Week website with **reomaori.co.nz** a te reo Māori hub available all year long: not just during Māori Language Week.

We have a limited supply of hoodies and other goodies: tune in to our Facebook and Insta pages for competition details.

#### What is Mahuru Māori and can we join it?

Since 2017 the Mahuru Māori campaign has challenged New Zealanders to speak only te reo Māori throughout the month of September or Mahuru. You can register at mahurumaori.com. Mahuru Māori is an initiative conceived and run by Te Wānanga o Aotearoa. The aim is by 2020 to have 12,000 registered with Mahuru Māori.

# Visit the website to download resources www.reomaori.co.nz/rauemi







#### How do we know what's going on?

2020 will see hundreds of events hosted online and on land taking place across the country. reomaori.co.nz will feature a **comprehensive events calendar** where you can find events near you or upload your own events.

### Why aren't there any language parades this year?

While the threat of COVID-19 remains, we have suspended large public gatherings for the time being. Some communities have indicated they may hold their own, however the commission will not be hosting any ourselves.

### Where can I get resources for Māori Language Week?

Go to reomaori.co.nz

# What are some ideas for organisations to celebrate Māori Language Week?

Go to **tuku.reomaori.co.nz** and **reomaori.co.nz** for more ideas

#### Why do we have Māori Language Week?

Te reo Māori remains endangered. The Māori Language Commission was created to revitalise te reo Māori and plays a lead role in the Māori Language Strategy or the Maihi Karauna.

Contact us if you have any questions:



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