

**TE REO
TUAKAHI**

**Reo-lutionising our mainstream
Education System**

Some facts....

- 92%+ of Māori tamariki attend our mainstream schools
- In Tāmaki Makaurau alone 69% of Māori students leave school with little or no te reo *(Statistics NZ, 2012)*
- Only 23% of Māori can speak fluently. The rest are somewhere else on the continuum – which is from speaking nothing to very little or at best: basic conversational Māori

Some predictions....

- If we are serious about te revitalisation we can not rely totally on the total immersion approach
- We can not rely totally on whānau, hapū and iwi approach
- The reality is though that te reo revitalisation programmes are **urgently needed**
- All the above have merit in their own right but we need a critical mass learning te reo

(Te Reo Mauriora, Review of The Māori Language Strategy, Te PaePae Motuhake 2011)

What is Te Reo Tuatahi?

- Mainstream approach to the revitalisation of te reo
- We go into the schools where those 92%+ tamariki are – captive audience!
- It is an inclusive programme – every child in the school in learning te reo
- We are in 23 schools on the North Shore, delivering our kaupapa to 7000 tamariki of which 1000 would identify as Māori

How it works....

- Based on the Mandarin language strategy which uses **language assistants in the classrooms** - – consistent, effective strategy
- Works in a **cluster group of schools**
- Each child gets **30 minutes of te reo per week**
- **Teacher stays in the classroom** to monitor and manage children
- Teacher gets **up skilled**
- **Builds capacity** for the school

Kaiāwhina Reo

- There are competent and fluent speakers in every community
- The focus is on the correct pronunciation of Māori words – correct vowel sounds
- Basic instructional Māori (Kohanga Reo level)
- Lessons are sourced and put together from MoE on-line resource plus combination of other resources
- Workshops run during holidays to provide training and upskilling for kaiāwhina reo

Boards and Schools.....

- Most schools have struggled to deliver good quality Māori programmes in their school
- Schools have to find the money out of their operational funding to fund Te Reo Tuatahi
- We provide PD for school staff and Board members to explain our programme
- We provide te reo classes for lead teacher Māori from our schools
- Long term strategy for Te Reo Tuatahi

Kahikitia: Accelerating Success

2012 - 2017

- Policy statements inconsistent with what is happening on the ground (in our experience)
- P26 –
All Māori students have access to high quality Māori language in education
- P27 –
Māori language in education is critical for the Crown to meet its Treaty obligations to strengthen and protect the Māori language

Questions for the Ministry of Education

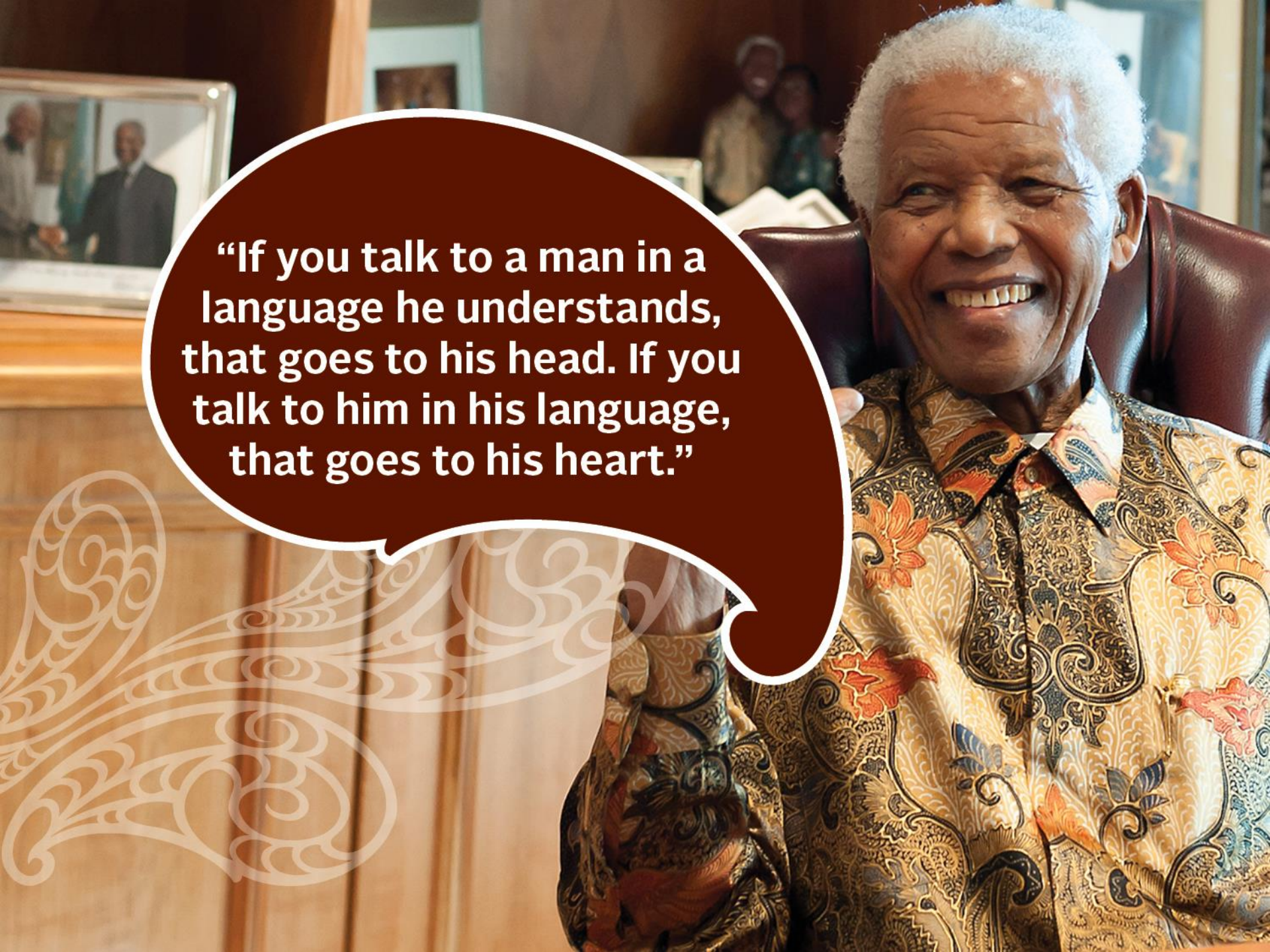
- Operational Grant – Māori not tagged. Only Kiwi Sport and ICT – why is that?
- Our schools have been sitting on Level 1 for close to 10 years – why is that?
- For the most part Māori is being regurgitated and dumbed down in our education system – why is this allowed continue?
- MoE investment – Charter schools, IES funding and 10m in Asian language promotion over next 5 years

Proposed New Māori Language Strategy

- No mainstream approach in this strategy
- The fact that 92% of our Māori tamariki are in mainstream schools is being completely overlooked
- New Minister of Māori Development, Te Ururoa Flavell has announced that he will be reviewing the strategy – a good sign

Moving forward...the opportunities and challenges

- Teachers College – Level 2 & 3
- Night classes – creating a demand for whanau who want to support their tamariki
- Consultation with iwi – not always that easy!
- Kaiawhina Reo not paid during the holidays – a real vulnerability for our programme
- Managing 23 schools is a full time job – and we have another 12 wanting to join in 2015

A photograph of Nelson Mandela, an elderly man with white hair, smiling warmly. He is wearing a traditional Indonesian batik shirt with a complex floral and geometric pattern in gold, orange, and blue. He is seated in a dark red leather chair. In the background, there is a wooden wall with a framed picture of two men in suits. A large, dark brown speech bubble with a white outline is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing a quote. The bottom left corner features a decorative white scrollwork pattern.

“If you talk to a man in a language he understands, that goes to his head. If you talk to him in his language, that goes to his heart.”

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