

## What is Te Wiki o te Reo Māori ?

### A language revives

Every year since 1975 New Zealand has marked Māori Language Week. This is a time for all New Zealanders to celebrate *te reo Māori* (the Māori language) and to use more Māori phrases in everyday life.

In 2020 Māori Language Week runs from 14-20 September, the theme is

**'Kia Kaha Te Reo Māori' - 'Let's make the Māori language strong'.**

Te reo Māori is undergoing a resurgence and more people speak the language. There are Māori-language schools, Māori radio stations and a Māori television channel. There was a time when some people objected to hearing Māori greetings such as 'Kia ora'. The campaign to revive the language has been a long one.

Māori became an official language of New Zealand in 1987.

Te Taura Whiri i te Reo Māori – The Māori Language Commission was established in the same year to promote *te reo*. Along with the Human Rights Commission and Te Puni Kōkiri, it plays a key role in the annual Māori Language Week.



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