

Tē toki tangatanga i te rā

Vicki Rangitautehanga Murray

vicrangi@hotmail.com

Ae marika, me whakarangatira tātou i ngā rangahau i puta mai e ngā tauira katoa o te kura matatini o Otago. He aha ai? Kia kīkī ngā kete mātauranga o ngāi tātou i ngā kaupapa katoa e whakapā ana i a tātou te iwi Māori i tēnei ao hurihuri. Tū atu i te rangahau, me ata wānanga i aua kaupapa rā, kia māori ai te mahi nei, hei oranga anō hoki mo tātou. Mai tēnei mahi, kia kore ai tēra mātauranga e noho mokemoke ana i ngā pukapuka, i roto i ngā whare pukapuka o ngā whare wānanga, a, i ngā kura matatini rānei. Ka noho piri ana te mahi rangahau me te kaitiakitanga o roto o te whakaaro Māori. Nei rā ētahi o ngā kaupapa kei mua o te iwi o Ngāti Awa i tēnei wā; hei whakawhitinga whakaaro mā tātou i te huihuinga nei. Ko tē toki tangatanga i te rā he momo tauira ki ta mātou mahi hei kaitaiki o ngā taonga a o tātou tipuna. He taonga te wai te kaupapa kōrero o te hui nei. He nui ngā wahanga o tēnei mahi i mua i a tātou. He mahi nui, he mahi uaua engari ka mahi ka mahi, kia ora, ka ora tātou. Let us be the adze whose bindings will not be loosened by the sun or softened by the rain. Let our voices as guardians of our ancestral treasures resonate through the halls of our learning institutes, our communities and beyond. Through the sharing of our scholarly research let us make a difference in protecting our culture and environment for the generations to come. Tīhei mauri ora.