

History

Ko te puawaitanga o nga moemoea, me whakamahi.

Dreams become reality, when we take action.

TE PUEA HERANGI CBE
FIRST PATRONESS

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Te Ropu Wahine Maori Toko i te Ora (Maori Women's Welfare League), arose out of a desire on the part of Maori women throughout New Zealand for an organisation that would essentially be theirs – a potent force which could play an integral part in facilitating positive outcomes for Maori people through enabling and empowering Maori women and whanau.

In **September 1951**, some 90 women delegates, representing the founding branches of what is now known as the Maori Women's Welfare League, assembled at Wellington's Ngati Poneke Hall at the Inaugural Conference. A constitution was formally adopted and Princess Te Puea Herangi accepted an invitation to become patroness of the newly constituted League. Whina (later Dame Whina), Cooper was elected President of the League. A new executive took up office.



1951