

Charles Laumatia: Thank you everyone. Fantastic. For those on our left, could we please take our seats, thank you. A warm welcome back to our virtual audience, good to see you online. Fantastic, thank you. Joining us now are the Chief Victims Advisor to government, Dr Kim McGregor, Emma Powell, CE of Te Puna Aonui, and two government ministers who are contributing to the work to implement Te Aorerekura. They are the Honourable Mārama Davidson, Minister for the Prevention of Family and Sexual Violence, and the Honourable Jan Tinetti, Minister for Women, for Child Poverty Reduction and Education.

We encourage you to use Slido, team. So for those of us on the floor and also those online, please use Slido and submit your questions to the ministers via that platform. As we've done in previous sessions, we're going to be displaying some of your questions on screen so that Dr McGregor can direct them to one or both of the ministers for a response. So can we please give a warm welcome to our panel up here, thank you. **[Applause]**

>>Kim McGregor: Kia ora koutou, whānau. I'd like to really mihi to you all for staying today, mihi to all the people in the room, all the people online, victim survivors across the country, in this room, people affected by family violence, sexual violence, interpersonal violence, harm, and I really want to acknowledge our panel here today. We've heard from community deliberately today and now is the time, at the end of the day, for government and agencies, ministers, to talk about the progress that we've made and the way forward, our future.

But I'd like to start by going back to, Maggy Tai Rakena talked about this morning how we had to calculate, about 30 years ago we had to calculate how long we could keep our services open. I remember starting at Auckland Sexual Abuse Help in 1986, we had two weeks' wages in the bank. And what a difference we have today. We have a government and our partners, they're partnering with us, government is joining up, we've asked government to join up forever, finally they are doing it. We have Te Puna Aonui, we have ten agencies working together.

So I'm really -- I know we've got a lot of work to do together in partnership, but I really want us to celebrate where we are right now. This has taken a huge effort from all of you champions, you disruptors, you leaders, you advocates, you have been pushing and pushing for decades. And we are here today and we have a Minister for the Prevention of Family Violence and Sexual Violence for the first time ever, and we have a strategy to eliminate family violence and sexual violence for the first time ever.

So now I would like to hand over to our panel and I'd like to begin by talking about the opportunities that you see from what you've heard today and the opportunities you see right now.

>>Mārama Davidson: Okay, testing, testing, testing, on, yes? Okay, ka pai, I can hear that now.

Wow, what a day. It's been an absolute journey just today since this morning to now. There's been a lot of conversation, not just up here on the stage, but in the room, in the kōrero across the tables, on Slido. And I just want to acknowledge I've been keeping a monitor and I've been keeping a check.

So a couple of things, because I want to go straight to the room and acknowledge and prioritise some of the key kōrero that I've been hearing. One of the first ones is the accountability of agencies to be able to update you, the communities, our experts, our sector, on progress. And I just wanted to rest assure people that certainly today is just one of the many days, but a big opportunity to try and pull as many of us together as possible, but not the only opportunity to engage.

And a big part of the work of the agencies and the officials, the stuff we are actually doing, has been to try and establish different ways of doing things, relationship building, setting up systems to have ongoing engagement with communities. That's a new way of working, we're building that, but just want to rest assure people that at the beginning of the day we mentioned that we would pick up as many of the questions as possible and get them back out to everyone, and that is absolutely the case. Most certainly not committing to being able to answer all of them today.

What we are going to take on board, though, is from last year's annual hui, you, our community partners, were clear that you wanted a -- the prevalence and the priority of community voice in the annual hui. That's what we had tried to do today, but you're also wanting to hear directly from agencies and ministers is what I'm also hearing. So we'll take that on board, but just to also say we're going to have follow-up Q&A opportunities, platforms forum to keep this discussion going. This is not at all the end of the discussion today. It's barely the beginning.

We're barely at the start of Te Aorerekura, which is purposefully a 25-year strategy, a minimum of one, two generations, because we are trying to undo and unstuck the patriarchy of 180 years. And why I wanted to use again that word "patriarchy" that I used this morning, is because I have also seen the valid conversation today, and I want to address it head on, about the holding the space for the fact that yes, there is gendered violence and gendered violence underscores a whole lot of the generational harm that we are seeing.

But that we are also, and I am also holding a space for all people who are harmed by violence. What I am very clear about, is that it is the very nature of patriarchy and power over groups which drives all forms of violence, including violence towards children and men.

It's still the patriarchy, including the discrimination for disabled people. It's still the patriarchy, it's power over.

So we can [**Applause**] and must hold safe space and understand that Te Aorerekura is inclusive. It doesn't diminish all of those valid forms and analysis of violence, because the big thing that we are wanting to fight and end here is the patriarchy of power of some groups over others. And yes, that includes the power over women and yes, it includes the power over any people who are being taken for granted and being taken advantage of.

So I'm not going to hide around that conversation, I'm not going to sidestep around it, I'm going to be really upfront about it. And I'm learning and I want to take continual advice about how we need to be leaders, the way that we use language and people's experience to validate every single survivor's experience, but to also recognise the power drivers that have always been at play, especially since the big original violence of colonisation.

So I'll just put that there strong and clear and make sure that I acknowledge that this is an ongoing conversation and what we are turning to, once we recognise the oppressive driver of having power over, is then what are the services and healing supports and responses and prevention work that we then need. What are the workforces to be able to acknowledge the different impacts that violence has on different people that we need to build in Aotearoa that does free itself of violence.

That's what you've been talking about today. That is the whole point of Te Aorerekura. I picked up so many comments, I've written screeds and screeds of pages of comments. All of what has been said today and since the start of Te Aorerekura and even before that, is directly informing where we go next. It is going to have -- this is not just kōrero, this is going to be put and fed through all the different channels of making decisions, for policy, for investment, for practice, for structures and scaffolding for how we engage, for relationship building, all of it, every single bit of it.

And that's not to say it's going to look perfect real fast, it just is not. But we finally have a commitment, a commitment in Te Aorerekura. It signals the shift, it says it loud and clear what we have to change. You can hold every government to account on this. Every single government, and I hope you do. I hope you make it untenable and unthinkable that there will be any watering down of the commitments that have been made. I hope that every single politician that ever has to step up into any of this work fears watering down any of these commitments.

I hope, and I can already see that this is what you as the sector are already doing. You're making it impossible for us to sidestep this work, and this is what this work deserves,

but most importantly, this is what our mokopuna deserve. So I just want to make it clear, today is not the be all and end all of the mahi, it is part of the ongoing conversation.

I just wanted to also acknowledge, even Te Aorerekura, the book, the action plan and the strategy, they're in a book form, they're also online, yes. I am less concerned about who knows about Te Aorerekura, or the name of it, or what it's about, that's not the purpose of Te Aorerekura. What I want to see build and grow, is that people across our communities are aware that there are commitments that government has made and here's how you can be a part of it, and here's how we can support you in your community and your leadership to end violence together.

I don't care who knows the name or the book itself, but what I want to see is a growing understanding of the commitment of this work, and that government is better placed now than it ever, ever has been to start trying to unravel a whole lot of the dysfunction, a whole lot of the dysfunction that we have seen for far too long. That's what is more important to me than whether there is big awareness about the actual booklet, or the name of the strategy, or that we even have a strategy; but that we are doing the work and that government has made commitments.

So I just wanted to -- those were the sort of quick couple of points that I wanted to make sure I covered here. There are so many things, but those were two of the main points; the inclusive nature of Te Aorerekura, acknowledging the patriarchal damage that has impacted across communities, and that Te Aorerekura is an evolving piece of work.

It is a purpose and a feature of the design of Te Aorerekura that it will raise and highlight gaps. That's not a flaw of Te Aorerekura, that's the design and the purpose of Te Aorerekura. When the community are able to say there's a gap there, there's an invisible group there, there's a gap there, that is exactly what Te Aorerekura is set up to do.

It's written in some words and some shifts right now. That is not all the detail. We have evolving action plans and an ongoing investment plan and collective agreement to what the steps are to actually make these changes. That is where the real nuts and bolts of this work lives, that is where the real weeds are. Te Aorerekura just makes sure we are holding it all at a high level in a place where we are accountable.

So I just wanted to assure people that it was never going to be perfect from the start, but it's bloody jolly well good for us to actually have a chance to actually make a difference, and we will keep perfecting it and evolving it as we work together.

So I'll leave mine there because I want our other panellists to contribute. Kia ora.

[Applause]

>>Kim McGregor: Emma, would you like to add?

>>Emma Powell: I think what I would say is we have a wonderful opportunity. I know that a lot of -- I know a lot of questions today have been around, so how can we demonstrate progress and how can we look towards the future and what are you going to do with everything that you've heard today.

And so there's a really important opportunity here for us to talk about progress, not just in how much did we do, because you can see some of that online, agencies have submitted videos to talk about the things that they're focused on, talk about the things that they've done, but that only means something once it translates and is in the hands of whānau and is making a difference.

And I think that we are working across a couple of different horizons. One is a much longer term horizon, which is about building some fundamental foundations to support where we're going.

The workforce support for not only the capability which we've talked about a lot today, but capacity, not only for individuals and teams but for whole organisations, we've heard today to have the time to put to making the transformations and to making the changes, even within own organisations, including government agencies, is so critical.

So there's these opportunities across longer time horizons as well as trying to make some really important momentum now. And so we have to be able to balance those two things, and every single day that we're thinking about that future, we also have to make sure that the health of the system that we're operating today is effective, and that people are not being harmed further from the supports and services that are out there, particularly from government agencies, and we've heard a bit about that today.

And so for me, I think it's about making sure we are quickly taking these insights and turning them into actions. I have a board meeting next week. You can bet your bottom dollar that the conversation of that meeting will not be about how much did we do last month, it's actually got to be about what are the tensions and the issues that we heard here today and what are we collectively doing about them.

So I'm really hopeful, I've been around this space now for about 12 years, not as long as many of you, but I'm really hopeful that there are changes happening across all of those structures that operate in order to enable the change to happen.

We have this opportunity, we're about to go into creating the next action plan. That might just sound like a bunch of boxes and actions and things, but we have a chance to do this one a bit differently than setting ourselves off with 40 things that we're off to do, feels

like a lot. What are we taking from today to really support that, including also to develop the long-term investment plan. We've never had one of those.

We are now coming together jointly to create annual budgets, but we don't want to get caught into this annual cycle where we're dreaming, we're kind of bringing stuff up year upon year and incrementally making our way there. So this investment plan is going to set some markers about how much, how far, where do we need to do this to really balance out toward greater prevention and early intervention, and healing importantly as well.

So there's some things in motion, but I want to really recognise and acknowledge, there will be people out there right now today who don't know that there's a strategy, don't know what it's about, and aren't feeling any of those changes right now. And we have to -- that's the bit that should be the fire in our bellies as agencies for continuing to really push ourselves.

>>Kim McGregor: You can see that the champions are not just in the NGO world, champions are the ministers, within government officials. I spend a lot of time working in the NGO world and always complaining about government not doing enough and not listening. And in the last seven and a half years as the Chief Victims Advisor I have worked alongside so many champions who are pushing and pushing internally, their heart is with us, is trying to make change, and they give 200%. So I'm just so grateful to everyone is pulling in the same direction at the moment.

There's a question here, there's many questions, there's one big one, is what do you see is the biggest barrier to progress?

>>Jan Tinetti: Kia ora koutou, ngā mihi nui ki a koutou. I've only just arrived in the last hour and already my head is spinning from what I'm hearing, and we had a bit of a hui and a get-together just before coming into the room, and just thank you for the input into today because it is just so important.

The biggest barrier from my perspective, and I'm going to talk from education here, is that first of all I'll talk about the biggest opportunities, we were just talking about that. But the opportunity is that we're not sitting isolated, we're not sitting as isolated as education and what we were doing in the past and working on what we thought was going to make a big difference, we're now working with a whole lot of agencies around where we can be pushing into and where we can be making the difference.

But the biggest barrier is that how do you get all of that great work that is happening out there, because I'll guarantee that a lot of people in this room don't know, and I'll talk about this a bit later, but don't know of everything that's happening within the education

space and what we're doing as a team and all officials, and right from minister right through to teachers on the ground, to ensure that we are changing our practices to make certain that we're making positive change to ensure lifelong changes for the young people that are in front of us every single day.

And I really struggle with the fact that, even though we're working together, we're still really siloed. So it's how do we break down that barrier of the silos to ensure that those changes are as effective as what they can be.

So I do see that as the biggest barrier around the silos still existing, and anyone that knows and has worked, and all of you have, have worked with government departments, know that those silos have been historical. But I can also guarantee to you that watching this work, and I want to commend you Minister on the work that you're doing, your passion about breaking that down and Emma's passion around breaking that down is absolutely right to the fore. And no-one can doubt that, but it's going to take a wee while. And that's the barrier that I feel we face.

>>Mārama Davidson: Can I pick up from there. I know what the -- and it follows exactly on from Minister Tinetti. I think at this point -- so I've seen some of the questions, how are our people working together, Minister Tinetti has just acknowledged yes, we have Te Puna Aonui literally bringing board CEs and agencies together and collectively agreeing to share responsibility for eliminating violence, yes. We have myself who also brings ministers together with our officials to also collectively agree on a shared responsibility for ending violence, yes. I have one-on-ones with the ministers periodically and also individually with CEs and agencies, yes. So that in itself has been a change.

What I also know directly from you, is it's still not filtering down to our whānau on the ground, that our whānau are still having to navigate the spaghetti lines of government. And so that is the hard unstuck bit that I keep going on about.

So yes, that is the biggest barrier for me, is hearing that providers who just want to do the mahi, who don't want to have to operate in tight, confined contracts, who just want to be trusted, that they know what to do and want to be able to give whatever support is needed, and that traditionally our contracts and the way we commission work, that has not been authentic partnership, and so many of you used that today, Imogen, Danielle, so, so many, nearly all of you talked about authentic partnership.

We are starting to see good pockets of it, yes. Not without the pushing of people, of ministers, of officials, of CEs. Not without the -- and regional Public Service Commissioners and our agencies on the ground in communities, who themselves are pulling their hair out and

going oh we just want to be able to help these community providers do their mahi.

So we are starting to see some of that in pockets, it's nowhere near scaled up to the point that our whānau deserve. And I guess in light of everything that we've started some good stuff, it's still not where we want it to be, and on that this is something that many of you will have heard me say. Often I'll get up with -- government is the slowest place to make change, I tell you. So, often that can be a real honest to goodness drag as a politician, to feel like there's -- it feels like, the output it feels like 5,000 hui to one little policy change; that's what it can feel like

You can often think is it worth it? How I've had to come to terms with that myself is, yes, it's worth it because making change over a generation, over the next 25 years, to aim to eliminate violence is far better than letting things continue as they are and facing another 200 years of violence. And that helps me to go to bed and try and get some sleep each night, when I know, yeah, it's not going to happen tomorrow, but at least we are acknowledging and being far more honest than we ever have been, and committing to the actual shifts and all of those shifts, they come back to a devolution of power, mana motuhake and authority, to communities, but not neglecting communities to do this work on their own.

And so I wanted to talk about the barrier in terms of properly affirming the power of communities to do that work. There are some deep, decades old legal liabilities that are really challenging, really challenging, procurement processes that are really challenging, and that seems to be the -- it's like drilling through rock, if I'm quite honest, it's like trying to get a tunnel through and it's like drilling through rock. But honest to goodness, every single day we are trying to change this. And I do acknowledge and appreciate the ongoing community challenge that gives us the mandate to keep pushing. Kia ora.

>>Kim McGregor: Minister Tinetti, there's a question here for you. Would the Ministry of Education consider mandating a healthy relationship syllabus across the entire education sector?

>>Jan Tinetti: Okay, I think to start with I want to start with the early childhood area, because when people talk about the whole of the education sector they often start thinking about schooling, but research shows that this has to start at our early learning as critically important. And the work that we've done over the past two years around trialling social and emotional learning programmes and how that impacts into this area has been critical, and we know that with the programmes that we have trialled and the results that they have shown is that they will make a big difference.

So just recently my colleague, Minister Luxton, announced that we were now putting

those out into 75% of centres, early childhood centres. That's the ENGAGE programme that has been developed based on the Dunedin growing up in New Zealand study. So we're starting to roll that out and we will look at gathering further information in that area. We know that that will make a difference in regulating young people.

Then in the last -- since 2020 we had -- we at that time launched the relationships and sexuality education guidelines, and over the past three years since we released those we've been slowly putting resources out into schools to ensure that they can have those guidelines and make sure that they are implementing those guidelines as best they can be. In fact when I launched some of those resources here in one of the Wellington secondary schools, I got a lot of positive feedback about how amazing those guidelines are.

But I recognise the fact that in the curriculum itself, even though it is mandatory to be teaching this way, that there's a lot of flexibility for schools in what they are teaching. Because the health curriculum is one of the areas that you can go out to, or is the only area that you can go out to your board of trustees out to your community and work out what it is that you're going to teach within that area in the school, and schools do that with their communities.

So in 2024 we are refreshing the curriculum, the health and well-being curriculum. I've already signalled, well and truly signalled that I want to have a nationwide conversation around this. I want to have a conversation about the likes of compulsory consent education. I think we need to have this conversation, I think it is long overdue. And I know it will be a bit contentious, but I think that -- I'm looking forward to it. And the short answer is, yes, we will look at it, but we need to bring the community on board as to why we need to do this.

I keep getting pushed all the time by young people on this one, and I agree with them. And their voice needs to be well and truly as part of, a big part of this conversation as well. They're already telling us, we've already seen the surveys that have been done throughout the country, particularly at girls' schools, but it's not just girls' schools, it's across the board. And they are pushing that this needs to happen. Every time I have a meeting with my advisory group, or with young people, they bring this up as a key area that must be addressed. So that is why I've signalled that next year when we go into that refresh, this will be part of the conversation. **[Applause]**

>>Kim McGregor: I'm going to ask you a question about if you had the magic wand. If you had the magic wand, what were the three things that you would like to prioritise and achieve?

>>Mārama Davidson: We saw -- I should not call it a magic wand, but we saw quick action when we were locked down and when Covid hit us as Aotearoa. And we saw government move

incredibly quickly to lean on community agencies to do the mahi, they realised that the community agencies had the relationships and the networks that central government simply just does not have, and suddenly very quickly we saw high trust, relational, flexible ways of working and funding and resource. For me that would make one of the biggest differences for the mahi and ending violence and affirming the power of community. So that's one thing.

The role -- and I'm here to support Jan Tinetti and to encourage our mandate collectively to give the Minister that ability to be able to push through in the space of education and the opportunity that education offers us in prevention. The opportunity, the intergenerational opportunity that education in the prevention space offers us for me would be one of the next big, massive impacts in terms of our generational attitudes around violence and power over.

And then finally it's workforce. I talked this morning, we last year started rolling out the workforce tools to be able to improve practice for whānau on the ground, and it started with -- it has started with Police and Corrections and the Ministry of Justice. I would love our workforce capacity, our workforce in general, to just overnight be built. That would be -- and we value them, we heard some of that on the panel. We understand the incredible value that a strong, supported workforce has in the role of preventing violence. So those would be three of my top things. Go on Emma.

>>Emma Powell: If I could wave a magic wand I think I'd walk around Wellington and I would ding on each of the agencies and turn them into prevention agencies. So I would turn Ara Poutama into the prevention of going to jail agency, and I would turn MSD into the prevention of being off work agency, and I would orient each of our agencies just a bit so that everything they were doing from the top to the bottom had something to do with preventing the thing that they're there to pick up at the other end. That's what I would do.

I would look at the criteria that currently separates who gets what and who's allowed to do what and what good looks like. I think we're inhibiting innovation every single day by limiting the amount of evidence we need in order to invest, in the order to scale, we are not getting good stuff, enough good stuff happening because we're sort of a bit cautious about what might happen if it doesn't quite work out, and so we need to be able to create different risk tolerances around that.

And then the last thing I would do is that every single one of us here, including my people at Te Puna Aonui, we would stop for a day and we would just rest and restore and build ourselves into slightly better, because it's been a really hell of a last few years for lots of folks, and I think we would just try and build up a bit more resilience and a bit more

restoration and support one another to go again.

>>Jan Tinetti: I think that many of the answers lie within the people in this room and people like you that haven't made it to this room today. And I think that lifting your voices and lifting people to be -- and I don't just mean within government, I mean even media, even people that sit outside of the space, understanding their level of expertise and how the answers that we need in this space are already there, and we just need to value the people who work there and listen and take on board what they are saying to us, and I don't think that that happens enough.

In the education space, for our educators to be able to do the wonderful job in this space, I would love to be able to give them the space to be able to do that to take it all on board. Like I know that our educators are just so busy and so crammed with everything that they do that sometimes they can't see the wood for the trees. And that's no disrespect to them, that is because there are so many priorities. But there don't need to be that number of priorities, we need to be able to give them that space to be able to breathe and to be able to see the importance of this work.

And also I was actually -- funny, just before Emma spoke I was thinking one of the key and critical areas I would like to be able to do is that we often are fighting fires and being reactive all the time. I wish that we could lift our eyes a bit further into that preventative space and be at the top of the cliff rather than at the bottom of the cliff always having to be that reactive self all the time. I want us to get up there and not be down here having to be that one that's always having to react.

>>Kim McGregor: There's a question on here about the Family Court. And I'd like to acknowledge that we don't have all our ministers here today, and ministers would like to be here. And I'm particularly thinking of Minister Allan, Minister of Justice. And I just want to say how impressed I've been when the Minister came in, she demanded, she said "I want a more victim-centric system."

And as I said before, I've been in this role for seven and a half years, produced about 15 reports, and suddenly with a minister pushing from the inside, there are probably about 80 or 90 government officials now that are working on improving the criminal justice system for victim survivors, and that includes the Family Court. So I just wanted to -- that question was there, I just wanted to acknowledge that mahi.

>>Mārama Davidson: Can I jump in on that one as well.

>>Kim McGregor: Absolutely.

>>Mārama Davidson: Just to assure people, the whole area of justice but particularly in the Courts

and Family Courts, is raised to me pretty much every day, definitely every week; so that is an ongoing priority conversation particularly with Minister Allan and myself. And so just to make sure that people know, because I acknowledge in today's hui, my goodness, not all the issues in the work have been covered, not by a long shot, not by a long shot. We all need a five-day hui. So I just want to acknowledge that.

But absolutely, the big moves needed to stop harming people through Family Court processes are right on the radar. And we absolutely -- because I want to hold that space, it's not about saying yeah, yeah, we're doing it, it's actually about saying, affirming that Te Aorerekura is having a purpose in actually even starting the work in a proper way. And Minister Allan, yes, absolutely, has made a genuine difference in actually recognising that that work needs to happen in a proper way.

It's not yet impacting on whānau and people in those court processes, not yet, not fully, but just really want to hold people's hope so that we don't throw it all away and think this whole thing is a most of [50.50 part 3] momowa(?), because things are starting and that we have to keep going with it. It requires patience that you've had to hold for decades, and it requires being hōhā for a bit longer as well that it hasn't been done yet, and I share exactly that same hōhā and frustration. But together, we can try and keep each other's hope alive to keep going.

>>Kim McGregor: I'd like to -- the hui today is all about us learning together, and we heard so much today, I'm sure we achieved our goal that we have all learned together today, there's something each of us has learned. I wondered, our wonderful panel, if you would like to reflect on things you learned today that will help you in your mahi.

>>Mārama Davidson: Okay, I'm getting the stares. I have been here all day and that's fair enough. There's so many things I've learned today. What I thought would be most appropriate is how many groups and communities have been invisibilised for generations, for decades and decades. And rather than going through all of you I acknowledge all the different voices we've heard today, but I will settle, as one of my last words, on the voices of mokopuna that we heard today.

I want to acknowledge Noel and the whakaaro about the use of the word "mokopuna". For me that is appropriate for so many reasons, and if we are going to use these kupu we have to understand the depth of them. And mokopuna for me invokes a responsibility, an intergenerational responsibility. And when Noel was describing the choice, the proactive choice to use mokopuna, I thought about my dad. And one day we were at home in Hokianga and some of the neighbour's kids came running around from next door, they were at our

house as we came home, he was delighted, little pakupaku, three of them, little blonde pākehā, blonde blue-eyed, green-eyed tauiwi, fair-skinned running around in our backyard. My father hops out of the car and he goes "Oh look we've got some mokopuna here."

Now that's his word for anybody's child. Since he's become a grandfather, and his oldest moko is my daughter who is 30, since he's become a grandfather, that's how he refers to our collective children now. That's the word that he thinks is most appropriate. Why? Because we have a collective shared responsibility to keep the wellspring healthy. I love how Noel said that today.

And so when those voices were heard, when we had the beautiful artwork and then their voices, their words, their stories being reflected at us, I had a moment. One of the moments was, do you know to steal yourself in this environment of politics to be a Minister, to be women in politics, and to be a Māori woman in politics, requires a steel and a grit, and that can be quite hardening if we're not careful. Eh, right?

>>Jan Tinetti: Hear hear.

>>Mārama Davidson: It requires us to think that we have to almost not be as human as we actually are. And when I heard those mokopuna and their voices and their stories, my body wanted to be human and I wanted to react humanly, and so I had tears and shivering and emotion and I felt vulnerable. Because we mostly, the expectation is that we are not supposed to show, as women in politics, as a Māori woman in politics, as a leader in politics, we are coerced into thinking that the only way we are going to survive the constant, constant attack is by letting a whole lot of our humanity go.

So being -- having a human response to their challenge to us today is something that I am going to take with me for all of this work for all of my life. Also made me miss my whānau and my tamariki and my little mokopuna as well

But to hear their words, I don't know if I even have the words that will properly justify what I learned. I learned aeons worth of knowledge in those minutes. I learned how scandalous and unacceptable it is that we continue to have harmful practice, and how courageable and determined we have to be to stop that as soon as possible, and how all the bits of our work that we are doing, if they just focus on that and that alone, we know it will impact all of the rest of us groups who have had far too much of having power done over them. So I just really want to mihi to our mokopuna and tamariki.

>>Kim McGregor: We are coming to the end of our panel. So I'd like to offer each of you an opportunity for just a moment of reflection.

>>Mārama Davidson: I feel like I've said mine.

>>Kim McGregor: I'll start with Emma.

>>Emma Powell: I think one of the things that I was reflecting on and something that I've certainly learned today, is that when you are so deep in it, and every day you're grinding away, you're doing what's right in front of you, you're often at the pointy end of the intersection of so many different things that you're trying to juggle and to make happen in this space and in this sector, is that we can really lose sight of the basics.

And what I learned today is that in some spaces we are not doing the basics well enough. We are not educating the public, we are not reminding and speaking into the size and scale of the problem that we've all just absorbed somehow, that that's just the space that we're in. And I think Tā Mark's kōrero with us earlier today really kind of hit that home.

And even to the point of hearing from Antnz about the struggles, the daily challenge that are so invisible that we are not doing the basics well enough. So that's something that I want to take from today, is that we check ourselves, that in our ambition to be bigger and do more and all of that, that we are not leaving behind the core things that need to be just fundamental in everybody's lives to make them safe and well. So that's what I'll be taking away today.

>>Jan Tinetti: I think for me, actually Emma it was something that you said earlier in this panel discussion, and remember I'd only just come in, so I haven't had the benefit of seeing the whole day, and I'm looking forward to getting that rundown from my officials here as well. But you said the guarantee that there'll be people out there who don't know that there is a strategy called Te Aorerekura. And actually I met one of those people not that long ago who is a general manager of a community centre in an area where they do work a lot in this space, and had never heard of this strategy before. And you said that should light the fire in our bellies.

And from my reflection, you just put it into words, it has to light the fire in our bellies, we have to make certain that people are engaging, that people understand and that people are using this to create a better world, otherwise what is the point? So that's what I'm taking away from today.

>>Kim McGregor: Would you like anything? So it just comes to me to thank all of you, thank you for your mahi, thank you for your endless pushing of government, thank you for partnering, working with government, speaking for the voices that are invisible and need to be elevated. We are all working for our tamariki, for our mokopuna, and thank you to all of the leadership here in this room across the country, thank you to everyone who's pulling together, ngā mihi. **[Applause]**. (Waiata Te Hokinga Mai). **[Applause]**