# Video transcript - Closing remarks: Hon Andrew Little - Health Workforce NZ Dialogue

Kia tatou katoa.

Can I just say just a huge thing to all of you for being here? But actually pretty much sticking out the day.

I know one or two people have escaped because they told me that they're very important engagement in Auckland this evening.

Apparently they wanted to get therefore and that's probably in the Forefront of most of our minds at the moment.

But I do want to acknowledge each and everyone of your spoken to very many of you during the course of the day.

And as I always do when I talk to those in the sector even still acquiring new insights new information new knowledge.

So I've got a list of things to follow up and yearly part of next week.

I want to protect acknowledge.

The chiefs of the the three organizations that set sort of at the peak of our health system.

So Dr. Di Safarti actor acting director general of the Ministry of Health Margie Apa who couldn't be here, but those from Te Whatu Ora Health New Zealand Dr.

Peter Watson and others have been here and Riana manual and others from Te Aka Whai Ora Māori health authority have been here as well.

And I also acknowledge my parliamentarycolic Dr. Liz Craig who was here.

I should say that one of the conditions of using this space.

Is that every MP has to be invited and every EMP was invited to this event I accepted and And started Dr. Craig, so I know Liz who I meet with pretty much every week is a great source of insightner information to me, especially about things in southern Health.

Well isn't invercargill anyway, so I get some good information about that and other folks from Southern Health has spoken to me today too about some of the the challenge the challenges that they see as disofit.

He said that this issue about Workforce is front and center and has to be front and center as we think about what the whole of our future health services look like As I said in a video recently, there is no such thing as a Health Service without a health Workforce.

The health services are the health Workforce.

And with the challenges that we have at the moment and challenges that we have to rise to to make our health services today safe and effective and serving the needs of our people.

So too, we have to make sure that the future health services that we want to operating and Aotearoa New Zealand.

Are the health services fully staffed and the staff fully supported and well-lead that meets the needs of this country our place well into the future as I look around and as I spoke to to many of you even we've disagreed on points.

I am left kind of over one positively overwhelmed just by the quality of leadership that sits in this room.

As I said in my opening remarks that this can't be kind of just we have this dialogue and that's it will all Shuffle off and I'll look at the Post-it notes and all the rest of it.

This has to lead to an Institutional change about the way we capture.

The insights and the wisdom of the front line of our health workforces.

And those who advocate for the professions and the various disciplines in it and advocate for the workforce.

And so we have to make sure that what we do from today translates into ongoing set a changes were then the structures that we've got so that that voices there and and I'm confident that there will be plenty who will keep me on us at least and undertaking to ensure that that happens.

So again, I come away just incredibly assured and reassured to the extent that I needed it that we carry.

The solutions that we need for here for Aotearoa New Zealand in this room.

So thank you for giving up your Saturday.

And I said the weather's kind of started turning fine now.

so thank you for giving up a Saturday of your valuable time many of you traveling some distance to get here to be part of this this essential dialogue as I say this cannot be an event on its own and it may well be That an event like this we have to repeat at some point.

I did say to Lisa mcphail who's been incredible coordinator and organizing our organizer of today's event.

Maybe we'll just do it all again tomorrow because it's been so good, but we might not I'm not promising that but if there is an appetite to do so then I have found this incredibly invaluable.

And as I say as I've got around it's like the number of times some people have said to me and particularly after kind of the best part of three years of meeting by Zoom.

People say, oh, yeah, you know, we just haven't had the opportunity to meet so many of our peers and our colleagues and the system in the way that we have today and if effort is valuable to do so, then looks then look let's look for opportunities to repeat this sort of event again at some point in the future, but on that note again, I thank you.

I thank you for what you do every day.

I thank you for what you will continue to do after you leave from here safe travels for those of you who are traveling back home.

I hope I will see many of you as I continue on my journey over the next few months as I support.

Margie Apa and Riana Manuel and disafety as they do their work and reshaping the structures and the organizations in our system to make it better serve the needs of our people but most importantly to support the critical people who are the front line of our health Workforce who keep New Zealand as well in safe every day Nō reira, tēnā koutou.