



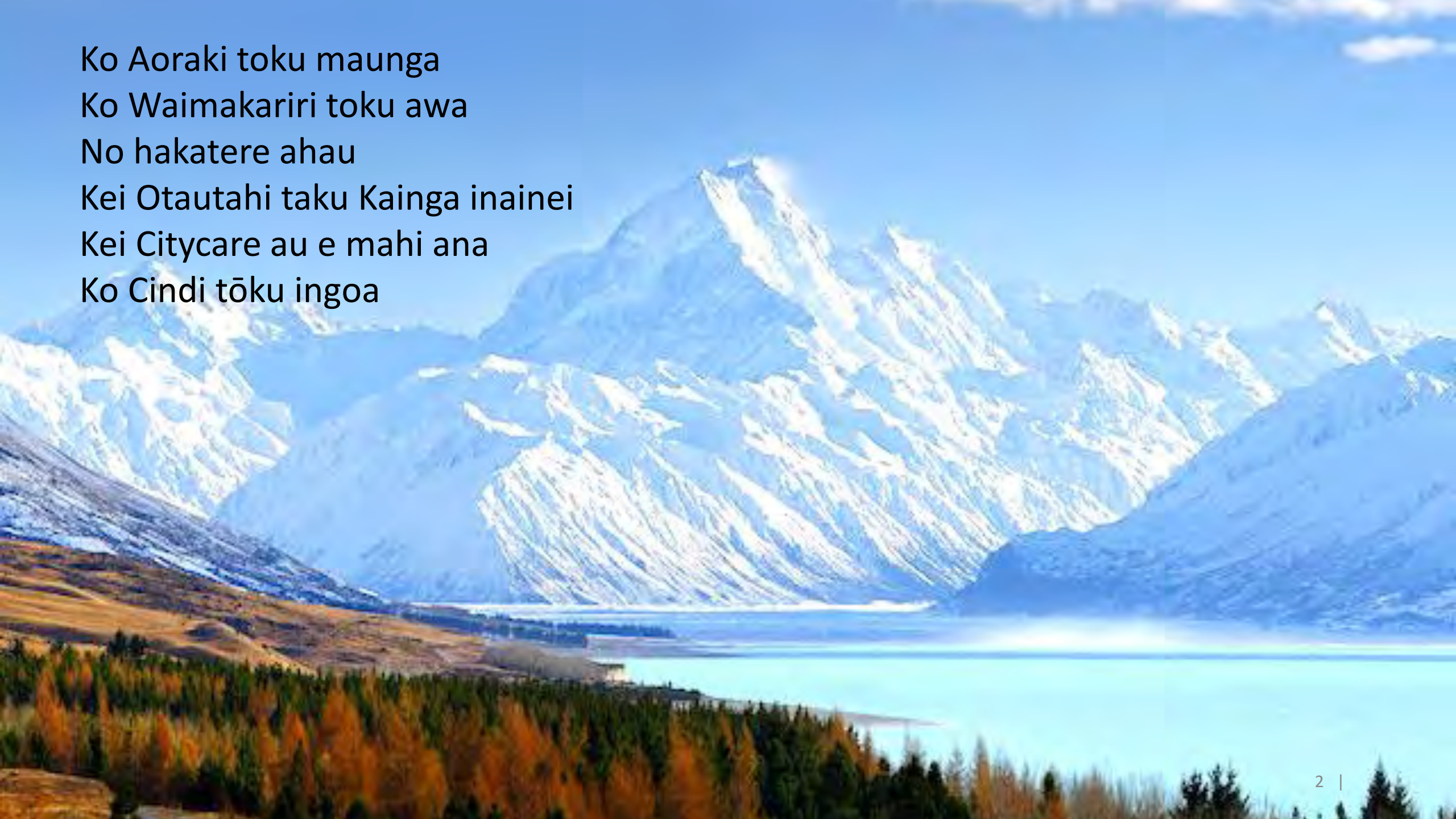
# Cindi Crooks

**Cemetery Response to the  
Christchurch Terrorist Attack**

**March 2019**



Ko Aoraki toku maunga  
Ko Waimakariri toku awa  
No hakatere ahau  
Kei Otautahi taku Kainga inainei  
Kei Citycare au e mahi ana  
Ko Cindi tōku ingoa



Hutia te rito o te harakeke,  
kei hea rā te kōmako e kō?



Kī mai ki ahau, he aha te mea nui o te Ao?

Māku e kī atu, he tangata, he tangata, he tangata.






# Memorial Park Cemetery


Christchurch  
City Council







- Contractor not Council
- 1500+ employees across New Zealand
- 3 Sectors:
  - Citycare Civil 
  - Citycare Water 
  - Citycare Property 
- Our vision – Better People. Better Places. Better Communities.
- Our values – We Discover. We Deliver. We Care.



# My role at Citycare and at the Cemetery

# Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2019

# The Unknowns

- How many victims?
- Timelines for burials?
- Number of graves?
- Which cemetery?
- How many cemeteries?

## Site hierarchy

The Head Sexton was in charge of the cemetery and the burials

*“If the Muslim Community wanted it then we were to make it happen!”*

Grieving families – priority number 1



# The walk around and decision making...

- Existing Muslim area?
- Mass or individual graves?
- Concrete beams?
- Security
- Toilet facilities
- Access to water
  
- And yet there's more...

# Security





# Fencing





# The Site





# The Site





(choc chip Biscuits, banana cake, +  
cheese scones +  
Butter)

Dear Sextons,  
& Cemeteries

Team;

I'm not going to name you  
all! All Support Staff & hands on deck.

I know you are busy as I was 48 hours  
before. Know we are thinking  
& Supporting our friends. I keep  
promising more Baking - Now is  
the time. With love from Michelle @  
Rhinds.



# The Site





# The Muslim Community





Police





# Police





# Digging the graves





# Muslim Boards





# Muslim Boards





It takes two and a half hours to dig a Muslim grave which would be around 4 graves per 10 hour day, equating to 12 days to dig 48 graves.

**We did it in a day and a half!**



# Digging the graves





# Digging the graves





# Digging the graves





Digging the graves





# Digging the graves





# The Grave layout





## MASTER COPY - RURU ROAD

[illegible][illegible][illegible]

<b>Grave #</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>98</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>101</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>103</b>	<b>104</b>	<b>105</b>	<b>106</b>
<b>Name</b>										

<b>Grave #</b>	<b>87</b>	<b>88</b>	<b>89</b>	<b>90</b>	<b>91</b>	<b>92</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>96</b>
<b>Name</b>										







# The Burials





# Friday 15<sup>th</sup> – Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

15<sup>th</sup> Terrorist attack in Christchurch

16<sup>th</sup> 12 graves dug

Perimeter fence erected

17<sup>th</sup> 36 graves dug

24 hr security engaged

18<sup>th</sup> Power to site organised

Command centre set up

Police presence on site commenced

19<sup>th</sup> Marquee erected

Crowd fencing delivered

**20<sup>th</sup> 6 burials**

**21<sup>st</sup> 9 burials**

**22<sup>nd</sup> 27 burials**



# The Burials





# The Media





# Who was involved?

- 155 people – Citycare, Council and Contractors
- 16 Armed police – 2 shifts
- 100+ volunteers from the Muslim Community















