



Office of Hon Steven Joyce

Minister of Transport
Minister for Communications
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John Baldwin
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Dear John

Thank you for the invitation to join the ride of commemoration for Frank van Kampen. I am sorry I am unable to join you, but would appreciate the following message being read on my behalf.

"To everyone taking part in today's memorial ride, may I first offer my condolences to those of you who knew Frank van Kampen.

Frank's death was an avoidable tragedy, which I know will make his passing even more difficult. Like other deaths that occur on our roads, the impact goes far beyond those directly involved – their families, friends, colleagues, the emergency service, and the wider community are all affected.

Last year 365 people lost their lives on our roads, including 10 cyclists. This is too many.

Road safety is a top priority for the government. Over the past few months we have been seeking the views of New Zealanders in regards to the best mix of interventions to improve road safety.

Early in the New Year we will release Safer Journeys, a road safety strategy for the next 10 years. It will set a vision for improving all the parts of the road system that impact on safety - the road, the vehicle, travel speed and the road user.

Issues around drink driving, particularly recidivism, and cycling will be addressed in the strategy.

We will be implementing a number of initiatives that research and evidence tells us are the best mix of actions to achieve the results we want.

It is fitting that this memorial ride started from Kapanui School where Frank was a teacher. The next generation of road users - drivers and cyclists - will benefit from the actions we take to improve road safety.

I wish you well for your memorial ride, and once again my sincere condolences to Frank's family and friends."

Yours sincerely



Steven Joyce
Minister of Transport