

Kia ora koutou

Today, New Zealanders are joining people around the world who are gathering to honour the memory of friends, family and loved ones who died before their time from HIV/AIDS.

We remember a time when widespread discrimination compounded their suffering, and hampered progress in research and treatments.

We acknowledge the organisations that resolutely pushed for change – that continue to represent the interests of people living with HIV/AIDs – and work to educate New Zealanders to be vigilant about safe-sex practices.

We also acknowledge the researchers and health workers whose expertise and support has given people living with HIV/AIDs confidence to look forward to a long and healthy life.

The Rt Hon Dame Cindy Kiro, GNZM, QSO

Governor-General of New Zealand