



From: Professor David de Kretser, A.C.,  
Governor of Victoria

Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> February, 2011

His Excellency the Right Honourable  
Sir Anand Satyanand, GNZM, QSO,  
Governor-General of New Zealand,  
Government House,  
Private Bag 39995,  
Wellington Mail Centre,  
LOWER HUTT. N.Z. 5045

Dear Anand,

I am writing on behalf of the people of Victoria, myself and my wife Jan, to express our sorrow to the citizens of Christchurch at this time. The scenes of destruction and death have greatly distressed us all. Given the earthquake that occurred last year and the continuing after shocks, now compounded by this latest catastrophic event, one can only barely comprehend the dismay and depression that those affected must feel.

I have no doubt that I speak for all Australians in saying that we stand ready to offer any assistance to help in the recovery.

Our sympathy is with those who have lost family and friends and we pray for the rescue of those still trapped. To those traumatised by the event, we can only hope that time will help in healing these wounds.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David de Kretser'.