Quakers The Religious Society of Friends - Te Hāhi Tūhauwiri Aotearoa/New Zealand

25 March 2019

The Prime Minister Parliament Buildings Wellington

Dear Jacinda Ardern

The Religious Society of Friends (Quakers) Te Hāhi Tūhauwiri shares the sadness of all New Zealanders at the appalling tragic attack in Christchurch that resulted in the death and injury of so many of our Muslim community.

We are committed to working towards a more loving and less violent society and are therefore writing to congratulate you and the coalition Government for acting promptly to improve New Zealand's laws and practice around gun ownership. By restricting the availability of the tools of mass murder, this country will take an important step towards becoming a more peaceful society.

Quakers have a long-held belief that all forms of violence are spiritually and morally wrong and we see moves to tighten the gun laws - banning the most dangerous weapons and making it clear that ownership is a privilege with responsibilities - as steps in the right direction.

We intend to make a submission to whatever inquiry is established but wished to place on record immediately, our appreciation of the initial quick action taken by the Government.

Yours in Peace and Friendship

Lesley Young

Lesley Young Yearly Meeting Clerk

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