Wednesday, 13 October 2021

Kia ora Kate,

Re: 'Super Saturday' - National Vaccination Day of Action on October 16

I first want to thank you for all Business North Harbour has done to support our local businesses throughout the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am sure you are aware how important vaccination is to the next phase of our response.

New Zealand is in a crucial phase of the COVID-19 vaccination rollout, as we look to encourage the last 20% of the eligible population to make the choice to get vaccinated.

Over the coming weeks, we're asking communities to rise to this challenge and help support as many people to make that choice. We're building to a big, nationwide day of action on Saturday 16 October – Super Saturday. On this day, vaccination centres across the country will be open, and there will be significant capacity for people to turn up, and get their first or second dose.

I know many of our local businesses are keen to pitch in. Between now and next Saturday, it would be great if you could to use your position of leadership to reach out and encourage our business community to get involved.

There are a range of ways business leaders and employers can help, including allowing people to have time off work to get vaccinated, sharing key information, and pointing staff to nearby vaccination centres. Businesses can offer incentives to the unvaccinated to get them in the door. This might include a free coffee, or a discounted product or service.

I have enclosed a business toolkit, which provides information and ways our businesses can support New Zealand's vaccination campaign.

If there is anything I or my team can do to assist you, please let me know.

I really hope that you can assist with this drive for vaccinations. There are few more important tasks.

Nāku, nā

Vanushi Walters MP for Upper Harbour