



## Office of Hon Steven Joyce

Minister of Transport  
Minister for Communications  
and Information Technology  
Minister for Tertiary Education

Associate Minister of Finance  
Associate Minister for Infrastructure

5 December 2011

David Kriel  
Chair  
BOP and Waikato Sections  
Chartered Institute of Logistics and Transport in NZ Inc  
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Dear David

Thank you for the invitation to attend the launch of the Bay of Plenty Freight Logistics Strategy on Tuesday 6 December 2011. While I regret that I am unable to attend, please find below a message of best wishes which can be read out at the launch, if you wish:

*Good afternoon everyone and please accept my apologies for not being able to join you at this event.*

*I wish to congratulate all those who played a part in developing the Bay of Plenty Freight Logistics Strategy and I commend the way all the different players in the freight and logistics industry have been involved. Creating an efficient supply chain is all about working together.*

*As a region you have many advantages to start with, including a strong local economy that contributes five percent to New Zealand's national GDP and one of our largest and most productive export ports – Tauranga.*

*The strategy being launched today will add to those strengths. A high performing freight transport and logistics network which connects the region, meets future demand, and uses the supply chain collaboratively and more efficiently, will boost the local economy.*

*The Bay is now leading the way in integrated logistics planning, with the recent opening of the Road Transport, Warehousing and Logistics Training Centre at Bay of Plenty Polytechnic, the only centre of its kind in New Zealand. Developments such as these are much needed because the amount of freight moved around the country is expected to double over the next thirty years.*

*Well-targeted investment in infrastructure, including logistics, helps lift productivity, and over time it will mean better wages and higher living standards for local people.*

*The government is investing in road and rail network upgrades to deliver strong efficiency gains and job growth for both commercial and private transport users.*

*We are forecast to be putting more than twelve billion dollars over the next ten years in the state highway network and our turnaround plan for KiwiRail to upgrade the network is worth 4.6 billion dollars over ten years.*

*Our focus on Roads of National Significance, including the Tauranga Eastern Link, reflects the fact that the roading network is responsible for moving 70 percent of freight by tonne kilometres within New Zealand.*

*Initiatives such as the strategy being launched today, and the wider government action to improve our roading and rail networks, will contribute to building a brighter future for New Zealand.*

*Congratulations once again and best wishes for the successful implementation of the strategy.*

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Joyce', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Steven Joyce  
Minister of Transport