



Metiria Turei
Green Party Co leader



Green
Green Party of Aotearoa New Zealand

To: Everyone attending the International AIDs Candlelight memorial

This memorial provides every year a special opportunity to pause, reflect, and remember those we have lost to HIV/AIDS. The Green Party joins with you all in this community act of collective remembrance.

The last few years have unfortunately seen a rise in people being diagnosed with HIV/AIDS. We still desperately need health promotion work happening to ensure that people know of the risks faced.

We must remain vigilant to HIV/AIDS, in the hope that people do not have to continue suffering unnecessarily.

As treatments improve and people's quality of life continue to improve, let us not forget the many talented and beautiful people we have lost too soon to this pandemic. I wish to acknowledge all of those that have stood by their friends on often painful journeys. It can be a long and lonely path.

In Aotearoa many people living with HIV/AIDS have been gay or bisexual men, who have faced the double jeopardy of prejudice associated with their illness and sexual orientation. The Green Party is proud to have always taken a strong stand against such prejudice, and to have played a role in making things better. We will be continuing this needed work. We remain committed to working towards a world without prejudice, and seeing that people get the medical and social support that HIV/AIDS sufferers need.

In loving memory of those taken too soon,

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