



18 March 2016

Cliff Osborne
President
Bay of Plenty MS Society Inc.
PO Box 15309
Tauranga

Dear Cliff

RE: NEW ZEALAND MULTIPLE SCLEROSIS RESEARCH TRUST UPDATE

With four months having passed since the official launch of the New Zealand Multiple Sclerosis Research Trust (“NZMSRT”), I would like to update you and your members on some of the excellent progress we have been making to date.

As you will be aware, the NZMSRT was established with an initial donation of \$600,000 made from Multiple Sclerosis New Zealand (MS NZ) together with \$300,000 from the Auckland Multiple Sclerosis Trust. Since then, we have received a further \$154,000 from MS NZ which was part of a bequest made specifically for MS Research. The combined proceeds of these amounts together with further donations since the launch of the NZMSRT has taken the total of our funds to over \$1,100,000. So we have made an excellent start to reaching our target of raising \$5,000,000 within five years of officially launching.

The Trustees of the NZMSRT are currently developing the basis for annual grant applications and a policy on how income from these funds will be allocated for MS Research in New Zealand to benefit all people with MS. We are making key connections globally with the objective of ensuring that international research is also being disseminated more widely in New Zealand. You can find further up to date information including links and the ability to receive regular updates to some of the latest research on our website www.msresearch.nz.

Recently we were approached by an anonymous generous benefactor who has indicated that they will donate \$23,000 to the NZMSRT subject to us finding matching donations of at least this amount by 30 June 2016. We have readily accepted the challenge! In light of this, we would like to invite your organisation and its members to help us meet the challenge as it is a means of donations effectively being doubled when we reach the \$23,000 target.

We understand that each organisation has an active fundraising programme, however we are mindful that there are many donors who may have a preference for donating to research activities and this is a good opportunity for them to participate. No amount is too small and all donations will be gratefully received. For individual donors, amounts over \$5.00 will receive a receipt for tax purposes.

To make a donation please either:

- Pay direct to our BNZ bank account number: 02-0214-0186752-000 and email your name and details for your receipt to us at info@msresearch.co.nz, or
- Donate via our givealittle page at www.givealittle.co.nz/org/nzmsrt, or
- Send to:
The Treasurer
NZMSRT
Po Box 84-015
Westgate
Auckland

We are grateful for all the effort that goes into the work in the regions for MS and we look forward to your support of the NZMSRT. Please could you kindly make this offer known to all your members.

If you require any further information, please do not hesitate to contact one of the NZMSRT Trustees directly.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Tim Preston', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Tim Preston
Chairman, NZMSRT