

My wife and I send our most heartfelt congratulations to all those who represented New Zealand at the 2024 Olympic Games in Paris.

From the rugby field to the vélodrome, the team ably and successfully demonstrated the grit and spirit of true Olympians – and true Kiwis. It has been enormously impressive to see just how extraordinarily successful your athletes have been in securing New Zealand's highest gold medal count at a single Olympics to date, and I hope that all of New Zealand shared in my joy at witnessing the wonderful sporting culture of this great nation on the world's stage.

Medals aside, I feel very strongly that sporting achievements are measured in many more ways than by positions on leaderboards. To compete at the Olympic Games as one of the world's greatest athletes is a remarkable achievement in itself, and reflects the many years of dedication, determination and discipline required to represent one's country at elite level.

The herculean effort of the entire New Zealand team, both athletes and support staff, has earned the admiration of people from across the world, my own included.

CHARLES R

Her Excellency The Rt. Hon. Dame Cindy Kiro,
Governor-General of New Zealand.