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The Directorate
CARRS-Q
GPO Box 2434,
Brisbane Qld 4001

Dear _____

I am writing to you from the Centre for Accident Research and Road Safety – Queensland (CARRS-Q). I would like to thank you for agreeing for us to contact you about being a member of our major research program – The Queensland Independent Survey Panel in Road Safety (**InSPIRS**) and to tell you more about the Centre.

CARRS-Q does research on key road safety issues such as making young drivers safer, reducing drink driving, understanding country crashes and motorcycle safety. I am enclosing a copy of our 10 year booklet to give you a clearer idea of what we do and who we are. We would be very pleased if you were able to visit our website <http://www.carrsq.qut.edu.au/>. We have set up a new special area about InSPIRS and you might be interested to look at it as well.

In order to make sure that all Queenslanders can have a say and make a contribution to improving our road safety we need people like you and other members of your household who come from all around Queensland to take part in our research. If you agree to be a member of the Panel, you would represent other Queenslanders like you. What it involves is that we would contact you from time to time and invite you to give us your views and ideas on an important and relevant issue. This could be by completing surveys (online and in the mail) or by interviews (on the phone or in person). You may be invited to have a turn on the Centre’s driving simulator.

You wouldn’t be asked to take part in every study. For example, sometimes the key issues may involve particular groups of people like young people or motorcyclists or the older driver. Many of the studies will involve reimbursement of some kind for your time and effort in taking part. At this stage we expect that each member of the panel would be approached to take part in research no more than 3 times a year. Taking part is totally voluntary and you don’t have to agree to every research study you are approached for.

If you decide to be a member of the Panel, your confidentiality and the anonymity of your survey and interview responses, will be absolutely guaranteed. In the top left-hand corner of this letter we have given your household a unique identification number. We will use this number to make sure that all of

your information, including your name and address is stored securely and completely separately from any of the survey and interview replies and comments that you give. Your personal information will be kept in a secure, password protected file and not available to anyone except the small project team. Only aggregate data (all participants grouped together) will ever be published or released.

We would be delighted if you and members of your household, aged 16 years or older would agree to belong to this 5000+ representative sample of Queenslanders. If you would like to join **InSPiRS**, please fill out the information on the pages enclosed about yourself and each member of your household (aged 16 years and older). For help filling it out go to the website <http://www.carrsq.qut.edu.au/inspurs>. Also, could you and every member of the household who would like to take part put their year of birth and signature on the final page and then return all the enclosed pages (except this letter) back to us in the reply paid envelope provided.

We all know that the Queensland road toll is unacceptably high and the Centre is funded by QUT and your third party insurance to do research that will reduce the numbers killed and injured on our roads. We are asking for your help by joining us in achieving this important goal.

Thank you so much for your time. If you have any queries or would like more detail please phone Andrea McCrindle (ph: 3138 4873) or Angela Nielson (ph: 3138 4570) or email: inspurs@qut.edu.au, they will be more than happy to help.

Sincere Regards

Professor Barry Watson
CARRS-Q Directorate

