



MEDIA RELEASE

Australasian College of Road Safety

Patron: Her Excellency Ms Quentin Bryce AC

Governor-General of the Commonwealth of Australia

25 July 2013

Road safety experts support call for better roads

Australasia's peak membership association for road safety experts, professionals and members of the public today called for Australia's leaders to take serious note of today's report released by the Australian Automobile Association (AAA) showing the safety of the nation's highways is unacceptable, and targeted investment must be made to save lives.

"The report from AAA shows that an investment of \$4.7bn would save 36,000 lives and serious injuries on our highways over 20 years. " Mr Lauchlan McIntosh, Australasian President of the College, said.

"Without indexing for inflation, this would save the economy an estimated \$28bn over 20 years based on recent government figures that show that the existing level of road trauma is currently costing the economy around \$27bn per year. That's a 6-fold economic return on our investment in safety. "

"Whilst the financial returns to our nation are commendable, the return to our nation in terms of better outcomes for our families and communities is infinite."

"This is simply one of the things that is important in our commitment to increase the wellbeing of all Australians. We are urging all levels of government to support our call for a comprehensive manifesto to reduce road trauma." Mr McIntosh said.

Road trauma is Australia's most serious public health issue which **kills 25 people and seriously injures another 600 every week** across the country, and costs the nation over \$27b each year - more than our defence budget.

ACRS recently released a comprehensive manifesto suggesting the nationwide benefits of a coordinated and cooperative approach to reducing road trauma.

The College urges all federal politicians to raise the profile of road trauma across our nation and internationally, and provide strong leadership and support for this coordinated approach towards road trauma reductions.

The Complete [2013 ACRS Submission to Federal Parliamentarians](#) and the [AusRAP Star Rating Report](#) can be downloaded here.

To find further information about the College please view the ACRS Website at acrs.org.au.

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