To whom it may concern:

I am writing to support the proposed introduction of a part-day public holiday on Christmas Eve beginning at 6pm.

I believe that this will benefit our community by allowing people to:

- Participate in religious services on Christmas Eve,
- Take part in family activities, especially for cultures that celebrate on Christmas Eve,
- Travel long distances for family events on Christmas Day.

Having seen the pressure young people are under to be present for family events and the need to work, and not to knock back work when it is offered I would advocate for them to be able to travel earlier in the day and not after work late on Christmas eve with the added risk on the roads due to volume, and tiredness.

Many of the biggest challenges facing our community stem from a lack of time for family and community. Money is always given precedence over this family and community time. We would be pleased to see this reversed in this situation.

Sincerely,

Rev Brian Hoole

Uniting Church in Australia