



The Hon Graham Annesley MP

Minister for Sport and Recreation

MEDIA RELEASE

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SPORTS MINISTER CONGRATULATES EVANS ON TOUR WIN

Sport and Recreation Minister, Graham Annesley, has paid tribute to Australian cyclist Cadel Evans on his inspiring victory in the 2011 Tour de France.

Mr Annesley said the 34-year-old's victory is one of Australia's finest sporting moments.

"Cadel Evan's gutsy performance in becoming the first Australian to win the Tour de France has captured the imagination of all Australians," Mr Annesley said.

"He is a champion of one of the most competitive and gruelling sporting contests in the world.

"I'm delighted an athlete of such determination, commitment and impeccable sportsmanship will be a role model for aspiring cyclists and athletes across the country for generations to come," Mr Annesley added.

Born in the Northern Territory, Cadel Evans once called NSW home. As a budding cyclist he spent his early childhood at Upper Corindi, north of Coffs Harbour on the NSW North Coast, and also lived in the New England city of Armidale before relocating to Victoria.

Mr Annesley said, "I believe his decisive victory in this year's Tour will provide a significant boost to competitive and recreational cycling here in NSW.

"The NSW Government is committed to this great sport and fostering new talent worthy of challenging cycling leaders on the world stage.

"And we've had great success with our cycling program at the NSW Institute of Sport.

"Over the past four years it's produced six world champions winning multiple world titles including Kaarle McCulloch, Ashlee Ankudinoff, Jackson Law, Alex Carver, Megan Dunn and Luke Davison.

"I congratulate Cadel Evans on this superb sporting feat and look forward to seeing him attempt to defend his title next year," Mr Annesley concluded.