



Canadian Ecumenical
Justice Initiatives /
Initiatives œcuméniques
canadiennes pour
la justice

Members

The Anglican Church of Canada
Canadian Catholic Organization for
Development and Peace
Canadian Religious Conference
Christian Reformed Church in
North America (Canada Corporation)
Evangelical Lutheran Church
in Canada
Mennonite Central Committee
Canada
The Presbyterian Church in Canada
The Primate's World Relief and
Development Fund
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)
The United Church of Canada

Membres

Assemblée annuelle canadienne
de la Société religieuse des Amis
Comité Central Mennonite Canada
Conférence religieuse canadienne
Développement et Paix
L'Église anglicane du Canada
Église Évangélique Luthérienne
au Canada
L'Église presbytérienne au Canada
L'Église réformée chrétienne en
Amérique du Nord
(Société canadienne)
L'Église Unie du Canada
Le fonds du Primat pour le secours
et le développement mondial

80 Hayden Street, Suite 400
Toronto Ontario
Canada M4Y 3G2
tel: 416.463.5312
toll-free: 1.877.403.8933
www.kairoscanada.org

February 26, 2025

KAIROS
80 Hayden Street, Suite 400,
Toronto, Ontario
M4Y 3G2

The Honourable Dominic LeBlanc, P.C., M.P.,
Minister of Finance and Intergovernmental Affairs
Ottawa, Canada
K1A 0H3

Dear Minister:

We are writing to you today as Christian churches and religious organizations representing Christians from a wide variety of denominations across Canada. As you know, today, forty percent of the world's population is living in countries that are forced to spend more on repaying debts than on health, education or tackling the climate crisis.

We are deeply troubled by the impact this current debt crisis is having on the lives of the poorest and most vulnerable across the world. In 2000, hundreds of thousands of Canadians signed a petition calling for debt cancellation as part of a "Jubilee Year." In the Christian tradition, a Jubilee Year is a time of mercy and justice, where debts are released. Twenty-five years later, when the need for action is even more urgent, we join Pope Francis along with dozens of other organizations around the world in launching a renewed effort for global debt cancellation and structural reform. We must work together for an economic system that centres justice, Indigenous rights and the protection of the environment for the benefit of all.

We are requesting a meeting with your office to discuss how Canada's Ministers can play a leadership role in championing the issue of debt justice at important multilateral forums, including COP30 in Brazil and the G20 meeting in South Africa. We are especially interested to see Canada make debt justice a key priority on the agenda of the G7 Summit in Kananaskis in June. We look forward to engaging in a constructive dialogue with you and your team.

To demonstrate public support, members of our churches and organizations are currently signing a global petition in churches and communities across Canada. We are calling on political leaders to act with courage and compassion to:

1. Stop the debt crisis now by cancelling and remedying unjust and unsustainable debts, without economic policy conditions;
2. Prevent debt crises from happening again by addressing their root causes by reforming the global financial system to prioritize people and the planet;
3. Establish a permanent, transparent, binding and comprehensive debt framework within the United Nations.

We look forward to your prompt response indicating your availability for a meeting. On behalf of the thousands of Christians in Canada concerned about this issue and many others throughout the world, we appreciate your consideration.



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Sincerely,

Leah Reesor-Keller - Transitional Executive Director
KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives

Genevieve Gallant, Executive Director
Office of Religious Congregations for Integral Ecology

Luke Stocking, Interim Executive Director
Development and Peace - Caritas Canada

Willard Metzger, Executive Director
Citizens for Public Justice

Rev. Susan C. Johnson, National Bishop
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

The Most Rev. Anne Germond, Acting-Primate



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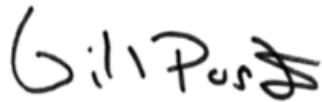
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The Anglican Church of Canada




The Most Rev. Chris Harper, National Indigenous Anglican Archbishop
The Anglican Church of Canada



Will Postma, Executive Director
Alongside Hope (formerly PWRDF)



Alain Ambeault, CSV, Executive Director
Canadian Religious Conference



The Rev. Dr. Japhet Ndhlovu
Executive Minister - Church in Mission Unit
The United Church of Canada L'Église Unie du Canada



Rick Cober Bauman, Executive Director
Mennonite Central Committee Canada

cc.

The Honourable Ahmed Hussen. Minister of International Development



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Jasraj Singh Hallan, Shadow Minister for Finance and Middle Class Prosperity

Don Davies, NDP Critic - Finance; Deputy Critic - International Development

Gabriel Ste-Marie, Bloc Québécois Critic - Finance and Treasury Board

Elizabeth May, Leader, Green Party of Canada

