

THE JUSTICE & PEACE COMMISSION
Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Kingston & Anglican Diocese of Ontario
June 24, 2021 – 2pm
4th Thursday of the month
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/4905877033>

MINUTES

Present: Leigh Smith, Bronek Korczynski, Nadia Gundert, Mary-Jo Mackinnon-Sims, Wayne Varley, Valerie Kelly, Sharon Dunlop, Blaine Barclay, Sophie Kiwala

Prayer: For the Children Who Did Not Return Valerie

Approval of Agenda – consent agenda

Approval of Minutes of May 27, 2021

Moved by Nadia seconded by Leigh that the Minutes be accepted with the correction to include Leigh Smith's name in attendance. Carried

Business Arising from Minutes

- Partnering SVDP Wayne/Blaine
 - Wayne acknowledged Bishop Oulton's positive support of this partnership. Donations will be processed through SVDP. Blaine noted he has yet to meet with the Archbishop to discuss this. Bronek raised the topic with the Parish Council of Our Lady of Lourdes Church of which he is a parishioner. The church has had a special collection on Ash Wednesday (most recently \$7,000) going toward SVDP. Considerable discussion was held on the state of our churches coming out of the pandemic and how this might influence donations. Sophie will contact SVDP to see if a short video might be available to accompany the appeal to local churches. Wayne suggested checking with the Diocesan Foundation to see if this partnership might fall under one of their criterions. Bronek highlighted the "Poverty Challenge" which is now available digitally and may be an educational resource at a later date.
- Adelaide St. Mission report received from Taylor Lynch
 - Valerie noted the report as an excellent local resource for the Kingston community. It was hoped the Commission could receive a final draft when available.
- Anglican newspaper, *Dialogue*, articles - e-mail prior to meeting; the next deadline is July 15th

Other Items for Discussion:

- Land acknowledgment Valerie
 - It was agreed to acknowledge the lands upon which we live and work: Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat; this will be drawn up and incorporated into meetings and correspondence
 - Nadia noted the Archdiocese is developing an acknowledgement which should be available on its website shortly
- Residential Schools Bronek
 - There was considerable discussion on our unfolding history of residential schools in Canada. 751 remains were located in a grave in Cowessess, SK, in the cemetery at Marieval Indian Residential School
 - Wayne spoke to the official Anglican responses over the last 28 years, including the decision by the Diocesan Council to designate 10% of the sale of St. Luke's and Camp Hyanto (currently listed for \$1.2M) to the Anglican Healing Fund. Bishop Oulton continues the Friday Litany of Reconciliation.
 - Leigh reminded the Commission that Bill C-15 [Canada must take all measures necessary to ensure that the laws of Canada are consistent with the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and must prepare and implement an action plan to achieve the objectives of the Declaration]

passed Second Reading of the Senate on June 3, 2021 and was approved on June 7, 2021 by the Standing Committee on Aboriginal Peoples without amendment.

- Sophie spoke to the repatriation funding the federal government has earmarked. This is a topic the Commission may consider advocating on behalf of in the coming months.
- Nadia and Mary-Jo are connecting pastorally with an indigenous youth minister in Belleville tomorrow; Nadia recalled one Indigenous woman's comment, to just "listen" to them
- Sharon shared the Canada Food Guide origins: article [link](#) – experimenting with Indigenous children; and discussed Industrial Day Schools and a class action suit; she recently finished the Doctrine of Discovery series at St. James Anglican Church and recommended it as an educational tool
- Bronek noted that no religious orders were involved in local schools, the closest being Rice Lake (Peterborough); Our Lady of Lourdes church has offered to host an information/educational evening post-pandemic
- Wayne and Valerie discussed the Anglican church and clergy in Tyendinaga; Wayne suggested a follow-up meeting with Bishop Oulton to see how this connection might be developed
- Leigh recounted a time when members of the Faith & Justice Coalition went to Tyendinaga and asked how they could help; they were given specifics. Leigh noted how valuable this was.
- Call for reports including details prior to meetings Valerie
 - The Commission agreed that a call for reports, summarized and made available prior to the monthly meetings would be helpful and allow more discussion time; Valerie will follow up with this
- Islamophobia – London Muslim family & locally All
 - Again, Bronek offered Our Lady of Lourdes church to host an information session on Islam suggesting Mona Rahman of the Islamic Society of Kingston as a potential speaker
 - Mary-Jo suggested Imam Michael Taylor (Regional Chaplain CSC) as well; Sr. Peggy Malcolm will be retiring to her home in the East Coast; she has volunteered in Correctional Services for many years
 - Wayne suggested the Imam at the London Mosque be somehow involved
- Host an event – see above: educational opportunities on the Residential Schools and Islam

Member announcements & brief updates:

- Youth Ministry Nadia
 - With the pandemic, the usual summer programs are not being offered
 - She continues to make pastoral connections
- Religious Education Mary-Jo
 - Attended a catechesis meeting; many people continue to share, one Indigenous woman said, "if you want to do something deal with the water, homelessness, prisons, drugs" that would help
 - Hoping to plan for an in-person farewell for Sr. Peggy in July
- Prison Ministry Sharon
 - In-person visits may gradually resume; inmates have/are receiving second vaccines at Collins Bay
- Diocesan Programs Wayne
 - Bishop Oulton and Wayne met with Imam Michael Taylor re: chaplaincy fund in Jeannie's name, currently at \$5,00. The fund is to support and assist chaplains in prison ministry. Imam Michael will look into how to administer the fund through CSC, making funds available to Kingston chaplains and then broaden out
- PWRDF Sophie
 - Sophie noted in the chat prior to leaving early: the next meeting is planned for July. Fundraising continues to support solar suitcases in Mozambique for the "Light For Every Birth" campaign. She continues to welcome recipes for the cookbook fundraiser. PWRDF has a new campaign for Vaccine Equity.
- St. Mary's Outreach Centre Blaine
 - Blaine noted increasing break & enters and violence between patrons but unsure why

- DOORS Bronek/Nadia
 - Wayne will be signing documents for the refugee process; travel at present is spotty if at all and hopefully improves post-covid
 - Bronek noted St. Paul the Apostle church, which is sponsoring a Syrian family, is still waiting for their arrival, reminding members of the issue around vaccine (before they leave or once they arrive in Canada?) and the quarantine period all posing difficulties slowing the process
- Green Group Valerie/Wayne
 - Electric car presentation that was well attended on Tuesday, June 22 – recording available
 - Speakers Series: during the Season of Creation, begins Sept 2, Thursday evenings, 5 weeks
- Kingston Faith and Justice Coalition Leigh
 - Letter writing to:
 - Bill C-15 - continuing to advocate for Indigenous Rights
 - Bill C-20 – eliminating simple drug possession
 - Bill C-28 – Environmental Protection Act
 - The Provincial Government is revising the Conservation Authority, which will effectively gut it
 - Locally with the City of Kingston with regards to Homelessness
- Development & Peace Bronek
 - Continues as a presence in the archdiocese; currently working out its status

Correspondence:

- Valerie was contacted by a community member wondering if the Commission is going to make any statements in regards to the Residential Schools and/or supporting a request for a papal apology. Valerie has responded.
- Valerie received an email of thanks from the Imam at the Kingston Islamic Centre in response to the letter of support sent on behalf of the Commission following the London Muslim family tragedy
- Valerie offered to write a letter of welcome to Queen’s University’s new Chancellor, Justice Murray Sinclair. Leigh suggested we ask the question, “What can we do?” All were in agreement.

Discussion items for next meeting: anything arising over the summer will be disseminated to members

Adjournment: Valerie moved adjournment at 3:35pm wishing everyone a restful summer. Perhaps the Fall meetings might be in-person!

Next meeting: Sept 23, 2021 – 2pm – 4th Thursday of the month

MISSION STATEMENT: We, the Justice and Peace Commission of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Kingston and the Anglican Diocese of Ontario, united by the Holy Spirit in our common commitment to the social imperatives of the Gospel, promote the understanding and practice of Christian Social Teaching,
as we work and pray for the coming of the Kingdom.