



THE CANADIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES LE CONSEIL CANADIEN DES ÉGLISES

Armenian Holy Apostolic Church Canadian Diocese
615 Stuart Avenue
Outremont, QC, H2V 3H2

Monday, June 01, 2015

Dear Colleagues in Christ of the Armenian Apostolic Church Canadian Diocese,

Christ is Risen! He is Risen Indeed!

On behalf of The Canadian Council of Churches, it is my privilege and honour to write to you on this occasion of your Diocesan Assembly Meeting in St. Catherine's, Ontario.

The 25 member denominations of the CCC, representing more than 85% of the Christians in Canada join you in prayer and wish you the very best for the expression of your faith in Christ that will be in your deliberations and decisions.

The Armenian Apostolic Church Canadian Diocese is a vital part of the ecumenical reality of The Canadian Council of Churches, one of 7 Orthodox denominations in the Council, 3 Eastern and 4 Oriental. The CCC is one of the broadest church councils in the world and the active presence of the Armenian Orthodox tradition is very important in that reality adding great weight to our joint witness and work to combat poverty and human trafficking and to speak on behalf of the vulnerable and God's creation.

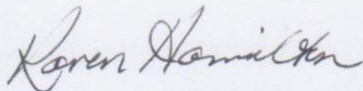
I have had the personal privilege of working for many years with Father Zargarian of Holy Trinity, of speaking at Holy Trinity on such important matters as our human reality as those made in the image of God in this age of science and of meeting and engaging with not only your current Primate but his predecessors. In fact, Father Zargarian was one of the first recipients of the CCC's Eleos Award for Ecumenism and Social Justice and also one of my references for my position as General Secretary.

The faithful witness of the Armenian Orthodox tradition in the CCC and in Canadian ecumenism reminds us all, in its faith of centuries and millennia, of the importance for Christians to preserve and to support one another in Christ and to work in the power of the Spirit for the Kingdom.

The prayers and hearts of the Canadian Church are with you all this weekend because of your Diocesan Assembly Meeting and because of the momentousness of this year of recognition of the martyrs of the Genocide.

The new President of the CCC, The Rev. Canon Dr. Alyson Barnett-Cowan, who was present with you at the service at Metropolitan United just prior to her election, joins me in greeting the Primate and all of you this day!

Yours in Christ,



The Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton
General Secretary
The Canadian Council of Churches