Annual General Meeting

Pursuant to BY-LAW NO.1 of MANITOBA MULTIFAITH COUNCIL, Inc. (2011), notice is given for its Annual General Meeting to take place on

Tuesday, May 14, 2019       6:30 pm
St. Mark's Lutheran Church    600 Cambridge St (at Corydon)    Winnipeg, MB

To receive the reports of the President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Committees of MMC, and Auditor(s); to appoint auditors; to elect the Board of Directors; and to consider and transact any other MMC business.

Annual Report   2018-19

2019 MFC cover artist: Bert Monterona: ‘Language of Peace’
STATEMENT OF PURPOSE
To operate exclusively as a charitable organization for the purpose of promoting interfaith and multifaith dialogue and understanding, and to educate the public about world religions and to promote collaboration amongst people of faith in order to foster the well-being of the community as a whole.

MMC Articles of Incorporation, 2011

MISSION
The Manitoba Multifaith Council exists to promote multifaith dialogue and understanding, while collaborating to serve the community as a whole.

VISION
People of diverse faiths working together to build a just and caring society.

Adopted by MMC Board of Directors, 2017

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TERRITORY
With this Annual Report, Manitoba Multifaith Council acknowledges that we gather on Treaty One Land, in the traditional territory of the Anishinaabeg, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Métis Nation. We acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.

May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with its peoples.

please note new mailing address:

MANITOBA MULTIFAITH COUNCIL
PO Box 69017 RPO Tuxedo Park WINNIPEG MB R3P 2G9
ANNUAL REPORT 2018-2019

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To access on-line MEMBERSHIP FORM
https://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin?v=0
0oW1M4w2Wb2Jlp2l1p2G4G05G1
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From the President

Dear friends,

As I look ahead to what will be my final year as President of MMC, I am particularly proud and appreciative of all we have accomplished in the last year. We live in troubled times. Hate directed at minorities and immigrants is surging and resurging in many countries around the globe. Places of worship, which should be a refuge of peace—have become killing grounds. The ideology of white supremacy has become a pandemic, threatening the progress over many decades to foster inclusion and understanding.

Our work is more important than ever. Enriched and informed by the diversity of our faiths, we are able to work together to drive home the importance of our mission—“to promote dialogue and understanding, while collaborating to serve the community as a whole; and our vision”—“of people of diverse faiths working together to build a just and caring society.”

This year, MMC held several important events on our own and with partners. The autumn began with a Meditation for Peace at the Saint-Boniface Cathedral, hosted by the Archdiocese. Representatives of ten different faiths presented prayers for peace and took part in a moving water ceremony. Several minutes of meditation were accompanied by the beautiful sounds of a gong.

In November, the Spiritual Health committee presented a workshop which explored the accompaniment of compassionate spiritual health care to suffering. In January, we gathered at Government House to celebrate Michel Aziza’s well-deserved Award for the Advancement of Interreligious Understanding. Her Honour, Janice Filmon, the Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba presented to award to Michel in recognition of his outstanding work with Operation Ezra, a project which has united faith groups and congregations as well as local businesses in an effort to rescue and resettle Yazidi refugees.

Our annual Multifaith Leadership Breakfast featured Kevin Chief, representing the Business Council of Manitoba who delivered an inspiring speech which illustrated that indeed, anything is possible.

In early April, MMC partnered with the Winnipeg Police Service to present, “A Path to Safety.” The community event, chaired by Ray Harris and Christine Baronins, looked at how community members, faith groups, and the Winnipeg Police Service can work together to improve public safety and community well-being for all.

Spring events include the May 14th event from our Justice and Corrections committee featuring Harry Nigh, examining practical ways we can open doors to ex-prisoners. On June 12th, MMC will partner with CASC and ISSA to look at Spiritual Care and Muslim traditions.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all the Board members, committee chairs and committee members for their tremendous efforts, their kindness and collegiality.

Respectfully submitted,

Belle Jarniewski
MMC President
Minutes of 2018 Annual General Meeting

Approximately 25 people, representing the diversity of faith groups and affiliate partners engaged by Manitoba Multifaith Council (MMC), were in attendance for the 2018 AGM. An Annual Report had been prepared and was given to those in attendance. As with previous years, works of art produced by inmates was mounted so that they could be appreciated by those attending the AGM. These works of art were sponsored by the Anglican Diocese of Rupert’s Land, and in cooperation with MMC’s Justice and Corrections Committee and Provincial Chaplain, Bernie Mullins.

Secretary Ray Harris began the meeting by welcoming those in attendance, and expressed thanks to St Mark’s Lutheran Church for the use of their facilities for this AGM. He also acknowledged that this AGM was taking place during Ramadan, so refreshments would be held off until the meeting was completed. The Secretary expressed the conviction that an AGM was an exercise in accountability, and also provided an opportunity to put the whole picture of the past year together for MMC.

As the meeting commenced, Christine Baronins was invited to express an acknowledgment of the event being held on Treaty One Land. She then prayed from her Mormon faith tradition.

1. To approve Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting

Secretary Ray Harris drew attention to the Minutes from the 2017 AGM, found on pages 3-7, noting that there was no outstanding business from the same.

**MOTION #2018 – 01**

It was moved by Mohinder Dhillon, and seconded by Ron Long, that the Minutes of the 2017 Annual General Meeting, as printed on Error! Reference source not found.Error! Reference source not found. pages 3-7, be approved.

CARRIED

2. To receive Reports of the President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Standing Committees of MMC (Community Relations, Education, Justice & Corrections, Spiritual Health) and Auditor(s)

Secretary Ray Harris suggested that all reports be given before questions or responses offered, in order to respond to the whole picture and not simply the parts.
2.1. President’s Report

Completing her second year as President, Belle Jarniewski drew attention to the creation this past year of a new mission statement, “to promote dialogue and understanding, while collaborating to serve the community as a whole,” and a vision “of people of diverse faiths working together to build a just and caring society.” The standing committee reports give expression to these new statements.

The President expressed the conviction that MMC has been a voice speaking against racism and hate crimes, both locally and further afield. While appreciating the response of the federal government to injustices in the past, like the rejection of Jewish refugees on board the St. Louis, in 1939, there are wider expressions of injustice that need our response. MMC must continue to speak to these wider issues.

In the absence of Dr. James Christie, Chair of the Community Relations Committee, the President reported on the Lieutenant Governor’s Award for the Advancement of Interreligious Understanding. The Award this year was given to Manju Lodha and Ray Dirks, who collaborated on an art project with students to promote understanding of the different faiths that make of this Province. The project was called, “In the Spirit of Humanity. And the Award was presented to them by the Lt. Gov. Janice Filmon at a ceremony held at Government House on January 10. This Award began through the work of Dr Christie along with an informal citizens group, but is now based in MMC as its institutional home.

This past year’s Multifaith Leadership Breakfast took place on February 27, as a companion event to the United Nations Day to mark Interreligious Harmony Week. The guest speaker this year was Mohammad Rezai, Vice-Principal of Grant Park High School. And the topic of his presentation was, “Strangers No More: Refugees, Schools, and a Future for All.” Grant Park has played a prominent role in welcoming refugee students, among them those Yazidi students who have been sponsored by Operation Ezra and MMC. Mr. Rezai is himself a refugee, having come to Canada from Iran at the age of twenty. His emphasis was that schools must make themselves ready for refugee children, rather than the children ensuring that they are ready for the schools. The event was attended by 125 people, and held at the University of Winnipeg.

An ongoing task of this past year has been MMC’s involvement with Operation Ezra, and its support of sponsoring and settling Yazidi refugee families. Since the beginning of this partnership, Operation Ezra has brought 55 Yazidi refugees to Winnipeg, as well as assisting government sponsored refugees in Winnipeg. Several members of MMC’s board also serve on the steering committee of Operation Ezra.

As President Jarniewski concluded she expressed appreciation to the executive, board and committee members of MMC for their encouragement and support during the past year, which also had its personal demands.
2.2. **Education Committee Report**

Ruth Ashrafi presented the Education Report in her capacity as Chair of the Committee. In so doing she acknowledged the way the past year has served to help her become aware of MMC’s goals. This Committee has also welcomed Shelagh Marchenski and Tony Tavares as members.

In September 2017 Ruth presented a series of lectures on “The New Testament from a Jewish Perspective.” These lectures were held in the Roman Catholic parish, Mary Mother of the Church, in Fort Garry. They sought to model how academic learning can promote interfaith learning, such as proposed by *Nostra Aetate*. The lectures were well received, and hope to serve as a launch for a similar series in the fall of 2018.

A second event mounted by this Committee was an art project for children from different religious backgrounds. Manju Lodha brought together children from Hindu, Jani, Muslim, Christian and Jewish backgrounds to express the concept of Interfaith Harmony through art. Ray Dirks offered the use of the Mennonite Heritage Centre Gallery for this purpose.

The Education Committee is also explore how the MMC and its members can be of more assistance to teachers on World Religions in Manitoba schools. It is hoped that the MMC network can be a resource for Tony Tavares as he develops a course for high school students. An initial venture in February took teachers to a synagogue and a presentation on Judaism.

Ruth expressed her conviction that MMC presents an opportunity to overcome any “silo” effect that separates peoples in the province. And looks forward to the Education Committee’s efforts in bringing people together. The Committee welcomes new members, Maury Donan and Karla Berbrayer.

2.3. **Justice and Corrections Committee**

In her capacity as representative of this Committee on the board, Julie Collings presented the Justice and Corrections Committee Report.

She noted that author Ann Mahon attended a Committee meeting to talk about her book, *Stories of Hope, Resilience and Life after Gangs*. Copies of the book were generously given to members of the Committee. And one of the stories was used in a networking event in the weeks that followed.
In February of 2018, the Justice and Corrections Committee initiated a networking event for faith communities seeking to support released prisoners. This event, held at Saint Kitera Tekakwitha Parish. This event was so successful that a subsequent was held on May 15 at Harrow United Church. Again the turnout was most encouraging, and concrete proposals were put forward to respond to this need.

The Justice and Corrections Committee collaborated with the Anglican Diocese of Rupert’s Land to sponsor an art contest for youth and adult prisoners in the provincial system. There were 42 submissions this year, and the judge was Chris Reid, and artist from Brandon. Prizes have been given to three artists whose work was judged best, and Paul Peters Derry created certificates of appreciation for all artists who participated. A certificate of thanks was also created for the Anglican Diocese. The works of art, depicting the Indigenous theme, “Emerging Spirit,” is being shown in different locations.

Julie recognized the various individuals who have served on this Committee, and the faith communities they represent. She also spoke to the need for this Committee to bring on new members, especially individuals from faiths other than Christian. This is important as MMC seeks to represent its work before the provincial government.

2.4. Spiritual Health Committee

In his capacity as Chair of the Spiritual Health Committee, Ron Long reported on its work during the past year.

In the fall of 2017 this Committee mounted an all-day workshop at St Mark’s Lutheran Church, “Dementia: We All Have a Reason to Care.” Some 90 people attended from different faith traditions, including those from rural parts of the province. A presentation of dementia by Norma Kirby was followed by table conversations, and by a panel of individuals from different faith traditions who spoke to the way dementia is viewed by that tradition.

On October 5, 2017, selected member of the board and the Spiritual Health Committee met with Judith Burch, Provincial Spiritual Health Care Coordinator and Adel Compton, Spiritual Care Coordinator for the WRHA. Judith reported on the continuing implementation of the Spiritual Healthcare Strategy, including resources that have been developed. Adel noted the resistance in health care to the role of spiritual health care, such as the absence of a spiritual care practitioner within the MAIT team. This discussion also drew attention to positions that were being merged or left vacant. Adel was present at the AGM and drew attention to a definition of "spiritual care" that should be helpful in working with the government. She will forward this resource to the board for distribution. It was also noted that Adel retired from her position at the end of March 2018.
As a result of concerns expressed in this meeting, a letter was sent by Ron to the Hon. Kelvin Goertzen, Minister of Health, requesting a meeting. As of the AGM a response has not been received, despite a follow up letter.

There has been a transition in Committee membership this past year with new members coming on the Committee. The Committee also wants to thank Glen Horst and Cornel Rempel as they bring their valued contributions on the Committee to a close.

Time was then provided for responses from those in attendance to the various reports.

**MOTION #2018 – 02**

It was moved by Ron Long, and seconded by Diane Dwarka, that the 2017-18 reports, as printed on Error! Reference source not found. pages -22, be received for information.

CARRIED

3. To receive Financial Statement(s) and Appoint Auditor(s) for 2017-18

Treasurer Paul Peters Derry, just returned from his sojourn in Ireland, and having successfully run the 10k Bon Secours Hospital Great Limerick Marathon, drew attention to his financial report and statements for 2017-18 and 2016-17.

He noted that MMC has continued in a strong financial position. While there will be some adjustments downward, the 2018 Multifaith Calendars have proved to be well received, including a good order in the school system. While attention needs to be given to the finances being audited, the financial report with its membership list continues to be a sign of encouragement.

**MOTION #2018 – 03.1**

It was moved by Paul Peters Derry, and seconded by Payam Towfigh, that the Financial Statement for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2018, as printed on Error! Reference source not found. pages 8-14., be received for information.

CARRIED

**MOTION #2018 – 03.2**

It was moved by Paul Peters Derry, and seconded by Robert Polz, that the Board of Directors be tasked with engaging an auditor to conduct the review of our 2017-18 Financial Statement.

CARRIED
4. To elect the Board of Directors for 2018-19

Secretary Ray Harris reviewed the proposed Board of Directors, noted on page 42. He acknowledged those who will continue their service on the board, and also welcomed the following who have agreed to join the board: Ruth Ashrafi, Christine Baronins, Greg Barrett, Stan Fontaine and Jessie Pannu.

He also acknowledged, with thanks, those who were bringing their service on the board to a conclusion.

The Secretary also welcomed Payam Towfigh to the position of Vice-President. And while the Chair of the Justice and Corrections Committee continued to be vacant, he acknowledged the continuing contribution of Kathleen Mico as interim Chair of this Committee.

**MOTION #2018–04**

There being no further nominations, it was moved by Christine Baronins, and seconded by Ruth Ashrafi, that the Nominations Report, as it appears on page 42 of the printed Annual Report, be accepted as our Board of Directors and Officers for 2018-19.

CARRIED

5. To consider and transact any other MMC business

Before bringing the AGM to a conclusion, President Jarniewski invited Past President Mohinder Dhillon to join her. She then presented him with a Certificate of Appreciation for his valued service on MMC’s Board of Directors. In her remarks President Belle noted not only his contribution to the board but Mohinder’s representation of the Sikh community with the city and province.

A similar certificate has been prepared for Harold King, recognizing his decades-long involvement as a member of our Board: “Harold’s contributions to multifaith education, awareness, advocacy and dialogue are but one of the many trail-blazing accomplishments by individuals operating in partnership with the Conference [of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario of The United Church of Canada].” Since Harold could not be in attendance. Secretary Ray Harris agreed to take the certificate to him in person.

As a final expression of thanks, Christine Baronins presented a bouquet of flowers to President Belle with the board’s congratulations on successfully completing her Master’s Thesis, “Sparks of Light: Survivor Narratives Reflected through the Lens of Irving Greenberg’s Theology.” The board has appreciated her commitment to its
work while engaging in this demanding personal task.

**MOTION #2018 – 05**

*There being no further business, the 2018 Annual General Meeting of Manitoba Multifaith Council, Inc., adjourned by consensus at 8:30 pm.*

Refreshments were then served.

Ray Harris, Secretary

Belle Jarniewski, President
Financial Statements

Last week, the world mourned the passing of one of our contemporary “saints,” Jean Vanier, philosopher and scholar, humanitarian and champion of the marginalized. Last week as part of the OCG – Open Conversation Groups that I offer each week on the mental health units at Victoria General Hospital, I suggested that rather than a “discussion topic” we spend some time reflecting on Jean Vanier’s life and legacy. Part of how we did that was reading and reflecting on the “10 Rules for Life to Become More Human,” written by Vanier on his 90th birthday, a few months ago. Vanier’s rules #6 and 7, respectively, are “Ask people ‘What is your story?’” and “Be aware of your own story.”

As we review financial statements for the past fiscal year, those are likewise good rules for Manitoba Multifaith Council to follow. What is the story that has been told via these figures? What are the stories these amounts have endeavoured to tell? What are the stories that these amounts have enabled us to hear, perhaps not as clearly as we might want to be hearing, but better than we would otherwise have taken the time to listen? Those are the broader questions I hope we can ask ourselves as we review the year now past and contemplate where and how we might venture in the months to come. The numbers reflect the breadth, depth and variety of our involvements. While the sales of Multifaith Calendars seem to have stalled somewhat, we are nevertheless continuing with some key corporate purchasers, with Winnipeg School Division consistently, for the last 4 years, more than 200 calendars. And we were able, with calendars left unsold, to distribute calendars to a world religions high school class in The Pas, and “with our compliments” at the ChristianWeek Symposium held a couple of weeks ago at Canadian Mennonite University where registrants considered the past, present and future of faith-based media in Canada.

In February, we held our 6th Annual Multifaith Leadership Breakfast, and with this year’s guest speaker, Kevin Chief, it was the third such gathering where we engaged questions of cross-cultural awareness and understanding with Winnipeg’s indigenous community. In other words, half of these occasions have been venues for living out the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. A new venue for our MLB – Booth University College – brought possibilities for new community partnerships.

Part of this year’s story has involved changes to how we operate as a Council and Board, some of which came as a result of my work-move from Fred Douglas Lodge to Victoria General Hospital. Part of the story also involves recognition of our need for more changes, such as updating our website presence. And it has involved, as always, the privilege of working with such a diverse and talented group of individuals and associations that make up what we call Manitoba Multifaith Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Peters Derry
MMC Treasurer
## MMC Financial Report / April 1, 2018 - March 31, 2019

Paul Peters Derry, Treasurer

### BANK BALANCES, 01-Apr-18

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### ACTUAL BALANCE OF FUNDS, 01-Apr-18

$15,221.37

### INCOME

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| TOTAL INCOME                                   | 2,654.24 |

**A + B** 2,654.24

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www.manitobamultifaithcouncil.ca    www.facebook.com/manitobamultifaithcouncil    Page 10
### EXPENSES

| Board of Directors and Council | Postage, photocopying, supplies | GST paid | AGM Expenses | Hall rental | Photocopying, distribution of Annual Report | GST | Honoree Certificates, Presentations to Panelists | GST | Incorporation costs | Membership in Partner Organizations | North American Interfaith Network | Participation in Multifaith Conferences/Events | ELCIC Banquet | RC Archdiocese of St Boniface Peace Days | Winnipeg Free Press Faith Page - donation from faith comm member | Winnipeg Free Press Faith Page | RPO Box Rental | GST | MFC presented as honoraria, etc. | ConstantContact | Website development, communication and maintenance | GST | less: amount transferred to INCOME for MFC presented as honoraria, etc. | INCOME | Community Relations Committee | Multifaith Leadership Breakfast - February 2019 | Ticket sales - Eventbrite | (2,313.02) | Ticket sales - payment by cheque/cash | (270.00) | ticket sales outstanding deposits | (2,583.02) | Honorary for Speaker | (500.00) | Additional presentation to BUC | (150.00) | Catering charges | GST | 705.56 | 92.66 | 738.22 | Education Committee | 0 | Justice and Corrections Committee | Corrections Networking Event (May 2018) | Registrations paid via Eventbrite | (475.00) | Registrations paid via cheque | (175.00) | (650.00) | Catering costs, miscellaneous supplies | 609.47 | GST | 4.71 | 614.18 | Spiritual Health Committee | Fall2016 WORKSHOP | Registration fees | (1,185.00) | Honoraria paid to workshop leaders | (400.00) | (785.00) | TOTAL EXPENSES FOR EXECUTIVE, COUNCIL & COMMITTEES | D + E + F + G + H + I | INCOME - EXPENSES | B + J | STARTING BALANCE + INCOME - EXPENSES | A + K | BANK BALANCES, 31-Mar-19 | BUSINESS ALL-IN-ONE account | 8,352.76 | PLAN 24 account - 501 | 2,286.09 | 10,638.85 | CCCU SHARE CAPITAL account | 5.00 | CCCU SURPLUS SHARES account | 32.28 | TERM DEPOSIT account | 5,657.98 | 5,695.26 | PAY-PAL account | 10.11 | 16,344.22 | Less: Cheques issued but not cashed | #470 | 208.95 | #469 | 150.00 | #471 | 250.00 | ACTUAL BALANCE OF FUNDS, 31-Mar-19 | 15,735.27 | www.manitobamultifaithcouncil.ca | www.facebook.com/manitobamultifaithcouncil | Page 11
MANITOBA MULTIFAITH COUNCIL

“To operate exclusively as a charitable organization for the purpose of promoting interfaith and multifaith dialogue and understanding, to educate the public about world religions and to promote collaboration amongst people of faith in order to foster the well-being of the community as a whole.”

Individual Members

Faith Community Members

Associate Partner Members

BOARD OF DIRECTORS and OFFICERS
Elected at the Annual General Meeting

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
President, Vice-President, Past President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer and Membership Secretary

NOMINATING COMMITTEE
Past-President shall serve as Chair of Nominations Committee, and invite other Board/MMC members to share in this task

STANDING COMMITTEES
MMC Board may establish committees, and delegate some/all of its powers, except those which may not be delegated

Community Relations

Education

Justice and Corrections

Spiritual Health
Community Relations Committee

“A Path to Safety”
April 2, 2019

During the past year conversations began between the Winnipeg Police Board and MMC. The first step in these conversations took place when the WPB contacted MMC’s board for feedback on its strategic plan, “A Culture of Safety for All.” Following this initial meeting it was suggested by MMC that we might be able to help mount an event in order to bring wider feedback to the WPB. The result was an evening called “A Path to Safety” held at The Church of Jesus Christ Latter-day Saints, on April 2nd.

Representatives of MMC’s board met with Shauna Curtin of the WPB over a period of time to design the event and provide resources. Over 100 people gathered at the Church and seated themselves at round tables. After a welcome by Christine Baronins and Ray Harris, and an opening Baha’i prayer by Payam Towfigh, Councillor Kevin Klein—Chair of the WPB—introduced Chief Danny Smyth. The police chief then outlined the makeup of the police force in Winnipeg, drawing attention to the diversity of its personnel and the significance of its task. Following his presentation, two individuals spoke briefly, but powerfully, regarding their experiences of safety in the city. Leah Clifton spoke about her experiences of living on the city’s streets to show the dangers she faced. Belle Jarniewski drew attention to the anti-Semitic threats she has faced as a Jew in Winnipeg, and beyond herself to others in the Jewish community.

These initial presentations set the stage for prepared questions that had been left on each table. Time was given for participants to respond to the questions and leave feedback on the topic of the evening. This feedback will be processed by the Winnipeg Police Board for consideration of its strategic plan. And the feedback will be made available to MMC’s board so that faith communities can continue to consider their role in helping to create “A Path to Safety” in the city. Important bridges have been constructed between MMC and the Winnipeg Police Board, and it is hoped that this relationship will continue to bear fruit in the days ahead.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine Baronins
Ray Harris
Education Committee

This year was an important year for the Education Committee. The fall of 2018 saw the start of a Jewish-Catholic Dialogue group. The group met three times, in October, November, and December, and it will resume in May and June. There are twenty members, ten Christians and ten Jews, and the group receives logistical support from the Archdiocese of St Boniface. Each evening opens with a presentation by one of the members, followed by group discussions about two or three questions related to the topic.

At present, the group is open to Jews and Catholics only and only on invitation. Due to its success, the Education Committee is looking how this dialogue group can be expanded in the coming year.

In January, the Education Committee did its successful art project with children. Several students of Gray Academy of Jewish Education made a visualization of interfaith harmony. The drawings have been displayed on the MMC website. The Committee plans to do this activity again this year.

The Committee is currently planning three evenings on lesser known religions and denominations: Baha’i, the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints, and Sikhism. These evenings will contain both an informative component as well as an opportunity to hear individual members relate about their role of their religion in their lives.

In the coming year, the Education Committee looks forward to promoting interfaith learning and mutual understanding.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth Ashrafi
Chair, MMC Education Committee

Committee Members:
Ruth Ashrafi, Karla Berbrayer, Manju Lodha
Shelagh Marchenski, Mary Omar, Maury Donen,
Polly Pachu, Tony Tavares
Justice and Corrections Committee

By way of our report, we offer the following Interview with Julie Collings, published as part of Rupert's Land News, the news magazine of the Anglican Diocese of Rupert’s Land (October 2018). This interview received one of four awards presented to RLN at the 2019 Canadian Church Press Awards.

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Collings

Committee Members:
Brian Bobolo, Oscar Boloko, Julie Collings, Ellen Cook, Wayne Johnson, Harold King, Ken Kuhn, Margot Lavoie, Bernie Mullins, Kathleen Mico, Gail Schellenberg and Rhonda Gorham
Julie Collings is a retired priest who has served for many years as a volunteer in both the Remand Centre and the Women's Correction Centre. She currently sits on the Manitoba Multifaith Council’s Justice and Corrections Committee as the representative for the diocese. I had the chance to ask her a few questions about her experiences in the correctional system. – Kyla Neufeld

What work do you do with the Manitoba Multifaith Council’s Justice and Corrections Committee?

I was appointed following the death of my first husband, Bishop Tom Collings, who worked diligently in this area and on this committee.

At present, the committee's main project is enabling congregations to include and support people as they try to reintegrate into society. Support and inclusion is so important so that a new and healthier circle of contacts is made. The committee has organized information and networking meetings, drawing together interested congregations with “helping” agencies.

The committee’s plan includes working with a provincial government corrections initiative: the Responsible Reintegration Program. I know that St. Matthew's and St. Aidan’s parishes have so far sent people to the networking sessions. Others may be interested.

What work did you do as a volunteer at the Remand Centre and at the Women's Correction Centre?

As a volunteer at the Remand Centre, and later at the Women’s Correctional Centre at Headingley, I worked with other Anglican women to run what were loosely called “Bible studies” for women. We ran two circles, back-to-back, twice a month, in which a gospel passage was a way to share about lives and struggles. Occasionally, I have also been asked to see a person individually for spiritual care.
How do inmates interact/react to you as a spiritual care provider?
I have found many people I met “inside” to be amazingly honest and open. I have always come away moved by their courage.

How many inmates have past traumas or abuse? How do trauma and abuse affect women in prison?
It is my own observation (so not based on anything but my conversations!) that almost all people who are incarcerated have suffered trauma. And most women “inside” have suffered physical and sexual abuse. For many women, there seems to be a common pattern of reaction to these traumatic experiences by a cycle of addiction, prostitution, more abuse, and the loss of children into care. The tragedies are overwhelming.

How are mental health and Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder (FASD) issues handled in prison?

Are inmates getting the care they need?
The needs are so great. How could they be well met? Sometime accused people are put into the few spots in special courts: mental health courts and addictions courts. This is helpful because the whole process then is based on the person’s underlying problems. But the spaces for such referrals are very limited. There are also special units (at least in the women’s prison) for those who have diagnosable mental health problems. However, even for those diagnosed people, there is often a delay – for security reasons – in medications getting to them when they are first imprisoned.

The youth justice system has been good about trying to get adolescents diagnosed where there is a suspicion of FASD. There seems to be less awareness of it in the adult system. And yet, because of my own family experience, I have to say I think it common there too. Sometimes the structured life of being imprisoned is comfortable – in the sense that it is predictable – for people who live with FASD. But the stigma and general punitive atmosphere are destructive. Remember, these are already people who do not think well of themselves.
So overall, no, needs are not met, in spite of some good intentions.

How does race play into who gets sentenced and who does not?
The disproportionate number of Indigenous people who spend time in prison is both shocking and well known. Our whole culture, not just sentencing, is what I would hold responsible: racial profiling; unequal legal representation; poverty; unequal opportunity; broken promises; a whole terrible history of ours. I noticed recently that more new Canadians are beginning to show up in prison. Many of them have also known trauma and abuse before, as well as being targets now of racism as described above.

How do inmates interact with one another?
I noticed many of the women were supportive of one another. Women who came to circle often prayed for each other and sometimes for us and even for the guards. I believe it is a harder for the men – who have to be tougher in order to survive the experience – but I have also witnessed men reaching out to try to support one another.

You’ve done some work with Greg Dunwoody [one of the chaplains at Headingly Correctional Centre] facilitating Enneagram workshops. What kind of response have you had from inmates?
I have to say the response has been enthusiastic each time. The Enneagram seems a good instrument for learning and reflecting on who one is, including what one’s own typical response under stress is... and what alternatives might be possible. It is always good when another takes an interest in who we are as unique human beings, God’s own children, in fact. And these are men who have frequently not had this experience previously. The men work really hard in the week and there are always some for whom there seems to be some real insight gained. The week usually also stimulates people to see out
more individual counselling from the chaplain.

Who else have you worked with at the Remand Centre and at the Women’s Correctional Centre?

Several strong and competent Anglican women have volunteered beside me at those institutions: Ann Hanwood, Ellen Cook, and Mary Lysecki came to the Remand Centre. Ellen brought a cultural and language piece, which was itself healing, as well as her strong faith. Ellen, Kay Stewart, and Barbara Haddow were with me at the Women’s Prison. In fact, Barbara still volunteers there and at Stony Mountain. I can’t say enough good things about all these women and the respect they have for others.

But Anglicans are everywhere! There are Anglicans who are prisoners and who are their families (of which I have been one). There are Anglicans who are correctional staff, support program staff, and chaplains and volunteers. When we speak of prisoners or our Justice System, we are not speaking of those who are “other” than ourselves. We are concerned with brothers and sisters.

Is the Church doing enough to support inmates and ex-convicts?

Because the need is so important and so great, I want to say, no! However, the reality is that many of our parishes are small, aging groups. I myself am now elderly and can do less. So instead of saying that emphatic “no, we must do more,” I want to suggest that people who feel they could do something, or that their parish could provide some level of support, should get in touch with me via the diocese for information about the committee’s work (at least I can provide an idea of another contact), or contact Open Circle (which links individuals with prisoners for visits) or COSA (Circles of Support and Accountability who work with released offenders more at risk to re-offend). Look up Initiatives for Just Communities on the internet for information on those programs. There is also the John Howard Society and Elizabeth Fry Society, who can use volunteers.

Any closing remarks?

While the Anglican Church In Rupert’s Land does not have resources to totally change society and solve all needs of those who have come into conflict with the law, we do still have the ability to make a difference in the lives of individuals and to use our democratic options to increase the emphasis on healing and reconciliation. And as we attempt this, we should remember that we will be the ones to grow and that we may even encounter the Divine, who said, “I was in prison and you visited me.”

Julie Colling is a retired priest who has served in the Diocese of Keewatin, Ch’Appelle, and Rupert’s Land. In addition to the volunteer work she has done in corrections, Julie sits on the Advisory Group for Touchstone, an agency that works with young adults who live with FASD, and is an “Accompanier” for the L’Arche Community here in Winnipeg.
Spiritual Health Committee

On Nov. 14, 2018 the Spiritual Health Committee (SHC) planned a workshop on the theme of “Exploring Compassion, Accompanying Suffering” in Selkirk. There were around 40 registrants from various health care professions from rural Manitoba as well as from Winnipeg. Dawn MacDonald facilitated the morning session and Robert Maytwayashing did the afternoon session by looking at compassion and suffering through the indigenous lens. Marion Magnusson, spiritual health coordinator for IERHA served as moderator. Feedback from various participants expressed an appreciation for the morning presentation and more focus on providing spiritual care to indigenous people that are confined to our public health care institutions. In addition, the SHC is planning another workshop on the theme of Trauma Care on Nov. 14 using resources from Klinic. This workshop will provide a 3-hour session in the morning which is limited to 25 registrants and then in the afternoon will do another 3-hour session that again will be limited to 25 registrants. The workshop will be hosted at St. Mark’s Lutheran Church. The suggested cost is around 25.00 and there will be a poster distributed early in fall with further details on the workshop.

On June 21, 2018, there was a subcommittee of MMC that met with Judith Burch where the primary agenda was an update on the provincial strategic health care plan, lack of spiritual care emergency concerns at Grace Hospital for off duty coverage and communication with Shared Health regarding integration of spiritual care into the health care system. In January the SHC sent a letter to the Ministry of Health, Seniors and Active Living, Cameron Friesen and Shared Health Services (Ian Shaw and Brock Wright) regarding the deletion of the spiritual care position at Cancer Care Mb. We received a response from the office of Minister Cameron Friesen that the letter is being reviewed and a response is forthcoming.

We also received word in January that the position of Judith Burch Provincial Coordinator of Spiritual Health was deleted. She was assigned to the Department of Services that connects with organizations, programs and service areas in health. Judith reported that as planning progresses the Department of Services will report when the work is formally transitions to a different branch or to Shared Health. The SHC is planning to put together a job description regarding the position of Provincial Coordinator for Spiritual Health that would articulate the importance of such a position in order to integrate spiritual health care into the various health regions of Manitoba and submit it to the Ministry of Health, Seniors and Active Living as well as Shared Health.

Julie Turenne-Maynard reported on her conversations with Ian Shaw and Minister C. Friesen regarding the integration of spiritual health into the health care system. She emailed them copies of the recommendations that were proposed in the Provincial SH Strategic
Report and the report submitted for spiritual care to Ministry of Health, Seniors and Active Living by Manitoba’s Spiritual Health Care Partners that demonstrate the importance of SH in the healthcare system and provides evidence of the positive impact SH has on patients and persons at the end of life and through various crises. Ian Shaw from Shared Health responded: “I reviewed the information you provided. I also had some discussion with individuals familiar with the file and issues. I have also taken steps to confirm where we have aligned SH within the overall health transformation. SH remains as functional responsibility of each Service Delivery Org in the target blue print. I would urge your members to continue to build on the relationships and connections you have with all regional health authorities, Cancer Care Mb., and now Shared Health. I can assure you that SH needs of Manitobans continue to be on the radar screen and there is a commitment to engaging with stakeholders as the transformation unfolds.” Julie responded to Ian: “We haven’t heard anything about the recommendations and next steps we proposed in the SH Strategy Report last spring, nor the setup of a new SH Leadership Committee, or vacant positions in facilities. I hope you can assist me in how this can be moved forward. IHCAM and MMC would be pleased to be involved in this process.”

Peter Dyck reported that Kathleen Rempel Boschman has been appointed half time as the interim Spiritual Care Coordinator for the WRHA. Peter continues to be MMC’s rep on the SH Advisory Committee for the WRHA. Peter’s report is that the committee has not been very active in the past year.

This year St. Boniface Hospital was the only CPE training center. They offered two extended CPE programs. Paul Peters Derry who was recently certified as a CPE Teaching Supervisor has plans to offer both extended (part-time) and intensive (full-time) CPE program at Victoria General Hospital.

In summary, I have appreciated the support of the following members of the MMC Spiritual Health Committee Members: Julie Turenne-Maynard, Peter Dyck, Lynn Granke, Mabel Horton, Cheryl Hirsch Katz, Teresa Campbell, and Stephan Bilinsky.

Respectfully submitted,

Ron Long
Chair, MMC Spiritual Health Committee
Canadian Association for Spiritual Care (CASC), Manitoba Region

CASC/ACSS is a national multi-faith organization, committed to the professional education, certification and support of people involved in spiritual care, psycho-spiritual therapy, education and research. We provide educational programs for interested persons who are preparing to become professional providers of spiritual care and psycho-spiritual therapy in a variety of institutional and community settings such as health care, corrections, education and private practice. CASC/ACSS is concerned with a holistic approach to health, well-being, and personal development with a special focus on spiritual and religious care.

CASC-MB offered two educational events in the past year. Both events were open to members if the general public, and attendance was encouraged by our membership. In April of 2018, we sponsored, and encouraged our membership to attend a conference put on by CHAM entitled Compassionate Presence: Caring for the Spirit, with Dr. Puchalski and Dr. Shane Sinclair. In October 2018, we invited Rabbi Justin Jaron Lewis and Jane Enkin to lead our retreat entitled Mystical Judaism. It was an interactive event where we were introduced to themes of Jewish Spirituality from the Kabbalah and Hasidism traditions. Both educational events were well attended by our membership.

We offered two concurrent extended units of Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) which is the fundamental clinical learning piece of preparation for the work of Spiritual Care. Chenene Layne took leadership in this area at St. Boniface Hospital again this year, and we are pleased to have 11 newly-trained spiritual care providers in the city! For the 2019-20 year, we are thrilled to be offering CPE programs at Victoria Hospital, to be led by Paul Peters Derry!

As well as education, our Code of Ethics is an intrinsic part of our association. It gives expression to the basic values and standards of the profession; guides decision-making and professional behavior; provides a mechanism for professional accountability; and informs the public as to what they should expect from Spiritual Care Providers.

CASC MB is continuing to work toward the formation of a professional college along with eight other associations with similar interests. This past year saw tangible progress as delegates worked at answering the ten questions contained in the government’s application for regulation of Health
Care professions. CASC Manitoba has been a strong participant in these discussions from the onset.

In light of recent tragic events aimed at people of different faith traditions, we are especially grateful for the work and support of Manitoba Multifaith Council.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Crabtree  
Chair of the Regional Executive Board, Manitoba Region  
www.spiritualcare.ca

Interfaith Health Care Association of Manitoba (IHCAM)

The Interfaith Healthcare Association of Manitoba (IHCAM) is pleased to submit its annual report for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

Spiritual Care

This past year has brought on new challenges for IHCAM as an association who is advocating for spiritual health care in Manitoba’s health and human service organizations. It began with the disbanding of the Provincial Spiritual Health Advisory Committee effective April 1, 2018 when the committee’s 5-year strategic plan came to an end, followed by no discussions from MHSAL or Shared Health regarding the recommendations that were proposed in the Committee’s final report. To date no concrete steps have been taken to address this issue, nor create a new leadership advisory committee on spiritual care. As Executive director of IHCAM, I will continue to advocate on behalf of my members and other organizations who recognize the importance of spiritual care in the health system.

IHCAM continues to be a member of the MMC's Spiritual Health Committee.

IHCAM, MMC and CASC have all been concerned about some Spiritual Care positions that were not renewed or left vacant for much of the year in some of Manitoba’s Acute Care facilities. Our association sent a few letters to the Minister of Health and Shared Health, as well as the region, regarding our concerns about vacant spiritual health care positions. While IHCAM did receive acknowledgement of its letters and had the opportunity to speak to Minister Friesen about the latter.

IHCAM is however pleased to experience a positive working relationship with the Health Transformation Team in the development of a new Service Purchase Agreement for its members. There is a strong desire from
government to support the private health corporations by incorporating some guiding principles related to ensuring the faith, distinctive cultural and/or linguistic mandates and imbed them in the new service purchase agreement, which in turn, will allow private health corporations to promote and respect their mission, vision and values. The development of the new SPA is still in progress and we hope that the first phase of it will be completed before June 30th, 2019.

**Communication**

**Value of independently governed faith-based healthcare**: One of IHCAM’s priorities in 2018 was to work in partnership with the Catholic Health Corporation of Manitoba to undertake an initiative that aims to demonstrate the value of private not-for-profit faith-based organizations in our society. We began by hiring a communications consultant, Magnifico Communications, and two researchers to accumulate qualitative and quantitative data for this initiative. One-on-one interviews with 30 organizations, 8 focus groups encompassing over 120 people, and an NRG Research poll of 537 Manitobans were undertaken over a six-month period. The data was collated and presented to both boards of directors in late April. We are now proceeding to the next phase of the project which will encompass establishing an advisory council and implementing the first phase of the communication strategy.

**IHCAM Website**: Some time was taken during the summer of 2018 to populate the members section of the IHCAM website with numerous resources. IHCAM intends to continually improve the content of the website despite its limited human resources.

**Formation**

Although a decision was made by the IHCAM to discontinue offering the CPE Program, we have a continued commitment to help our members as well as the community to provide formation and education opportunities. This past year, IHCAM was involved in the planning and coordination of the following sessions:

**October 15 & 25, 2018**: The Kairos Blanket Exercise is one of the didactics for the CPE program. We have teamed up with the SBH to conduct these workshops. One is being held in the morning, and the other in the afternoon to accommodate more people. The cost is a $10 to register, and there is a maximum of 30 participants allowed per session.

**November 14th, 2018**: MMC Spiritual Health Committee organized a full-day workshop in Selkirk on Exploring Compassion - Accompanying Suffering. Close to 50 participants from rural MB and Winnipeg took part in this formation session.

**February 6th or 7th 2019**: A half-day workshop on Reflections on Suffering, followed by a half-day public lecture on the Butterfly Model of Care in Canada and a full-day workshop on the Butterfly Model for health and human service organization staff.
Upcoming opportunities

**May 21 & 22, 2019:** Caring for the Human Spirit Conference via webcast from the Misericordia Health Centre.

**October 30 & 31, 2019:** In partnership with CHAM & the Compassion Project, we are bringing in Frank Ostaseski (*The Five Invitations* book) who will conduct an evening public lecture followed by a full day. The focus of this lecture will be on Lessons to the living from the dying and the full-day retreat will be on Wise Relationship in Accompanying the Dying. Frank Ostaseski is an international expert on accompanying those who are dying.

For more information on both formation opportunities, please visit [www.ihcam.ca](http://www.ihcam.ca)

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Turenne-Maynard
Executive Director
[www.ihcam.ca](http://www.ihcam.ca)

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**Manitoba Justice, Community Safety Division**

The Community Safety Division of Manitoba Justice ensures that inmates in custody have safe and appropriate opportunities to practice their faith. Chaplains offer counsel, meet with those who are isolated and cry for hope and lead group activities such as worship, and study sessions. While each person may hope for many things, spiritual hope, especially for those who are in custody, helps the incarcerated reclaim their dignity and discover the inner strength required to navigate the journey to a better place that is beyond the criminal justice system.

Over the past year, Divisional chaplaincy has worked with the Manitoba Multifaith Justice Committee to better understand how faith communities can be supportive of inmates returning to the community. A strategic goal is to strengthen the capacity to connect correctional centres with faith communities open to supporting inmates upon their return to the community. This is an exciting and important opportunity that comes at a time when faith communities seem to recognize the importance of receiving those who have been in custody. Another important initiative is the Chaplaincy Art Contest which continues this year under the sponsorship of the Salvation Army Corrections and Justice Service. The Justice Committee participates in the Chaplaincy Advisory Committee that regularly meets.
Over the past year there have been some transitions within chaplaincy. The Brandon Correctional Centre said goodbye to Rev Rick Wittmeier who retired last July. Rev Steve Wilson returned to parish ministry from the Dauphin Correctional Centre and in May 2019, Chaplain Greg Dunwoody will retire after nearly two decades of service at the Headingley Correctional Centre. A special thanks to Greg for his contributions to chaplaincy over the years. At this time vacancies for these positions are outstanding. Lastly, a dear friend of chaplaincy and long-time Advisory Board member Rev Harold King died last January. Harold made many important contributions over the years and his wise counsel will be missed.

Many thanks to the Manitoba Multifaith Council for their continued support, care and love for the ministry to the incarcerated.

Respectfully submitted,

Bernie Mullins
Coordinator of Chaplains

Spiritual Health Services, Winnipeg Regional Health Authority (WRHA)

Initial Goal

The WRHA Spiritual Health Services position was filled as an Interim position on Nov. 5, 2018. The first task of the Regional Director was to assist in the consolidation process. I am grateful that no Spiritual Health positions were deleted through this process. The goal was to equitably distribute existing resources, based on an objective model. This was accomplished through the collaborative work of a team of Allied Health Regional Directors. It was a difficult process, as the end result was that some sites lost full-time equivalents while other sites gained. All sites are now staffed to roughly 76% of their benchmark, based on acuity. Given the availability of resources, we now have an objective target to work towards in order to achieve quality spiritual and religious care for the patients, families, staff and volunteers in our health care system.

Setting Priorities

Following a review of the WRHA's top 8 strategic priorities, it was determined that SHS could contribute significantly to two priorities over the next 12-18 months: implementation of the Calls to Action of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and Quality and Safety.
• **Calls to Action**

Of the Calls to Action related to health, number 22 is the one that invites a closer collaboration between Indigenous Health and Spiritual Health Services. “We call upon those who can effect change within the Canadian health-care system to recognize the value of Aboriginal healing practices and use them in the treatment of Aboriginal patients in collaboration with Aboriginal healers and Elders where requested by Aboriginal patients.”

Sharing Circles have been established throughout the Region for all Spiritual Health Practitioners to more fully understand the role of Indigenous Health staff and the services offered, be that ceremonies, sacred teachings, spiritual guidance etc. This collaboration will result in an improved screening and referral process to Indigenous Health thus ensuring that the spiritual and cultural needs of Indigenous, Metis and Inuit patients and their families are met.

In addition, I am sitting on the Regional TRC Calls to Action Implementation Committee.

• **Quality and Safety**

The provincial Core Competencies document is an excellent document which outlines the required competencies for Spiritual Health Practitioners to work safely and effectively in the workplace. Currently, the preparation of SHPs varies; I have been offering opportunities to improve competencies in the following areas: MAID conversations, Mental Health and Addictions, Mindfulness, Cultural Competence and Safety training. The Regional job descriptions which are based on the Core Competencies have not yet been implemented. With this implementation, new hires will enter the field with the necessary competencies to care for the complex needs of patients, families, staff and volunteers in our health care system.

IHCAM is once again offering practitioners’ free admission to the Caring for the Human Spirit Conference® via webcast at the Misericordia Health Centre on May 21st and 22nd. This is an excellent resource for practitioners as it is the premier international forum for addressing cutting-edge topics which will enhance spiritual care providers skills and enable them to provide optimal care for those in need.

The upcoming CSAC educational day, Spiritual Care and Muslim Traditions on June 12th, will enhance
practitioners’ ability to deliver culturally and religiously safe care to members of the Muslim Community.

In collaboration with these organizations and others, I am committed to enhancing quality and safety in our profession.

I continue to develop the University of Manitoba, MHIKNET (MB Health Information and Knowledge Network) Spiritual Health Care toolkit which is a valuable resource of articles, books, websites, videos and links to training opportunities. Please visit: [http://mhiknet.lib.umanitoba.ca/toolkit](http://mhiknet.lib.umanitoba.ca/toolkit)

**Hopes and Aspirations**

There are many opportunities that exist for Spiritual Health. I have received calls from the MAID team, the Manitoba Adolescent Treatment Centre and the Transitional Care units at River Ridge, requesting the services of Spiritual Health. As mentioned, we are operating at 76% of the benchmark required to deliver safe and effective Spiritual Health Services.

In early January, the Provincial Spiritual Health Care Coordinator’s position was deleted. This position developed policies, documents and resources which allowed the Regional Director to develop initiatives that were research based. These initiatives advanced the strategic plan of promotion, education, integration and access to quality spiritual and religious care in the Region.

Healing Our HealthCare system is a significant undertaking in our province. I remain hopeful that the value of Spiritual Health services, both in terms of its ability to lend courage, resilience, hope and emotional/spiritual healing to individuals, as well as the organizational benefits of reduction to services required when people and communities find emotional and spiritual healing and wholeness, will be recognized and funded as needed throughout the process of Transformation and into the future. Healing and hope are needed throughout our province as well as our Region, hence the need for a provincial lens for Spiritual Health Services.

I appreciate the work of Manitoba’s partners in Spiritual Health to reach the aforementioned priorities and goals: IHCAM, CHAM, CASC, Manitoba Multifaith Council, Palliative Manitoba, and others. I value the dedication, hard work and vision of my colleagues on the Spiritual Health Services Clinical Practice Committee chaired by Chenene Layne, Educator at St. Boniface Hospital, as well as the Spiritual Health Services Advisory Committee chaired by Lori Lamont, VP and COO of Nursing and Allied Health, WRHA.

Respectfully submitted,

*Kathleen Rempel Boschman*
Interim Regional Director, Spiritual Health Services
Nominations Report

The following people have agreed to stand for nomination on the **BOARD OF DIRECTORS**:

**Elected at the 2019 AGM for the 2019-21 term:**

- HARRIS, Ray
- LONG, Ron
- PANNU, Jessie
- PETERS DERRY, Paul
- PUNJANI, Rafiq
- TOWFIGH, Payam

**Having been elected/re-elected at the 2018 AGM, continuing their 2018-20 term:**

- ASHRAFI, Ruth
- BARONINS, Christine
- BARRETT, Greg
- DWARKA, Diane
- FONTAINE, Stan
- JARNIEWSKI, Belle
- NASO, Nafiya
- POLZ, Robert

**Board Members not standing for re-election, or not continuing for their 2018-20 term**

- CHRISTIE, James

The following people have agreed to fulfill the following positions as **BOARD OFFICERS**:

**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

- **President:** Belle Jarniewski
- **Vice-President:** Payam Towfigh
- **Secretary:** Ray Harris
- **Treasurer and Membership Secretary:** Paul Peters Derry

**STANDING COMMITTEE CHAIRS**

- **Health:** Ron Long
- **Justice and Corrections:** vacant
- **Education:** Ruth Ashrafi
- **Community Relations:** Christine Baronins
Membership Report

Engagement with faith groups and affiliate partners throughout Manitoba, including:

- Anglican Diocese of Rupert’s Land*
- Bhai Kahan Sing Nabha Foundation*
- Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, Manitoba & NW Ontario Synod*
- First Church of Christ, Scientist
- First Unitarian Universalist Church of Winnipeg*
- Manitoba Buddhist Association*
- Manitoba Islamic Association
- Mennonite Brethren Church of Manitoba
- Mennonite Church Manitoba
- Roman Catholic Archdiocese of St. Boniface*
- Roman Catholic Archdiocese of Winnipeg*
- Salvation Army Divisional Headquarters*
- Congregation Shaarey Zedek*
- Sikh Society of Manitoba
- Spiritual Assembly of the Baha’is of Winnipeg*
- United Church of Canada: Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario (to December 31, 2018) / Prairie to Pine Regional Council (as of January 1, 2019) *
- Vedanta Society of Winnipeg
- Winnipeg Manitoba Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints*
- Catholic Healthcare Association of Manitoba (CHAM) /Interfaith Healthcare Association of Manitoba (ICHAM)*
- Canadian Association for Spiritual Care (CASC), Manitoba Region
- Canadian Interfaith Conversation (CIC)
- Jewish Child and Family Service (JCFS)*
- Manitoba Health, Healthy Living and Seniors (MHHLS) – Mental Health and Addictions Branch
- Manitoba Justice – Community Safety Division
- North American Interfaith Network (NAIN)
- Pembina Valley Multifaith Council (PVMC)
- Salvation Army Ethics Centre
- Winnipeg Foundation

*Membership dues paid as of May 1, 2019

As part of our evolution as a not-for-profit incorporation (2011) registered charity (2012), Manitoba Multifaith Council (MMC), through its Board of Directors, has started a new initiative of inviting individuals to affirm/renew their membership on an annual basis, with an announcement made via a ConstantContact emailing, and per the individual membership form found on page 30. To date, more than 50 individuals have affirmed or renewed their membership in MMC.
INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP

It's time to affirm and/or renew your individual membership in Manitoba Multifaith Council, Inc.

Since Manitoba Multifaith Council's registration as a non-profit incorporation with the Companies Office of the Province of Manitoba (2011), and receiving Registered Charity status with Canada Revenue Agency (2012), MMC continues to grow and evolve. Part of our evolution is a new initiative of the MMC Board of Directors for individuals to affirm their membership on an annual basis, and for these affirmations to coincide with our fiscal year, April 1, 2019 - March 31, 2020. This initiative will facilitate contact with the panorama of individuals from many different faith traditions, associations and affiliations across our province.

It likewise gives individual members opportunity to confirm their attachment to MMC's Statement of Purpose, Mission and Vision, and ensures that as many individuals as possible will have a voice - and a vote - at our Annual General Meeting.

STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

To operate exclusively as a charitable organization for the purpose of promoting interfaith and multifaith dialogue and understanding, and to educate the public about world religions and to promote collaboration amongst people of faith in order to foster the well-being of the community as a whole.

MISSION

The Manitoba Multifaith Council exists to promote multifaith dialogue and understanding, while collaborating to serve the community as a whole.

VISION

People of diverse faiths working together to build a just and caring society.

YES, I concur with the PURPOSE, MISSION AND VISION of MANITOBA MULTIFAITH COUNCIL (MMC), and wish to AFFIRM/RENEW my INDIVIDUAL MEMBERSHIP in MMC.

NAME (please print) ________________________________ SIGNATURE ________________________________

EMAIL ________________________________

HOW TO SUBMIT THIS FORM

MANITOBA MULTIFAITH COUNCIL
PO Box 69017 RPO Tuxedo Park WINNIPEG MB R3P 2G9
info@manitobamultifaithcouncil.ca

CLICK HERE TO ACCESS ON-LINE MEMBERSHIP FORM
or visit our website or Facebook page: www.manitobamultifaithcouncil.ca
www.facebook.com/manitobamultifaithcouncil

Manitoba Multifaith Council (MMC) is committed to protecting the privacy, confidentiality, accuracy, and security of personal information that is collected, used, retained, and disclosed in compliance with applicable federal and provincial privacy legislation. This includes, but is not limited to, the federal Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act (PIPEDA) (2000, c. e). For more detailed information, please refer to the following: http://laws.justice.gc.ca/en/P-6.6/index.html.
I first encountered the force of nature and of divine that was Harold James King in the early months of 2003. I had moved to Winnipeg from southern Ontario to accept a call to Churchill Park United Church in October 2002, and found myself experiencing more than a few “growing pains.” Meeting with then-Conference Personnel Minister (CPM) Linda Murray, Harold’s was one of the names Linda suggested that I touch base with, as a way of talking through some of what I was experiencing. Little did I know that it would the beginning of a friendship, a collegiality, a deep and abiding, and yet not uncritical, respect for one another that continues to shape who I am and how I function, as a spiritual care practitioner, Certified Supervisor-Educator (Candidate) … I still have one “final interview to go before I can delete the qualifier “Candidate” from my designation, and I pray, that Harold, in his new-found place of influence, walking now those corridors of power and accountability, will work his HJK-magic one more time!), as one ordained to the Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care, and last but not least, engaged in the most marvellous and multifaceted adventure of multifaith dialogue and education.

Harold and I met for coffee at the Holiday Inn West on Portage Ave. I experienced Harold as gracious yet enigmatic, cautious yet compassionate, prophetic yet “cagey” … Harold’s name was one of several that CPM Linda Murray had suggested, another of the names was that of Harold’s long-time colleague Dick Dearing. I also had occasion to have coffee with Dick Dearing; I don’t recall whether it was before or after I met with Harold. Kind of like the saying, which came first, the “chicken” or the “egg” … what I do recall is how both Harold and Dick gave precisely the same advice, as both, individually, suggested that I sit down with the other, as Harold suggested that Dick, and Dick suggested that Harold, were precisely the person I should be engaging for vocational counsel and direction. Prophetic and “cagey” … indeed!

My next engagements with Harold came as I made the move into healthcare chaplaincy, in 2006-07, and became involved with what was then known as Manitoba Interfaith Council, since reconstituted as Manitoba Multifaith Council. It’s with the latter that I really got to know and work alongside Harold, but it was with the former – my move into healthcare chaplaincy – first at St Boniface Hospital, then Fred Douglas Society, where I was Coordinator Spiritual Care from 2007-18, and since July of last year, Clinical Service Lead with Spiritual Health Services at Victoria General Hospital, that perhaps I feel a strongest connection with Harold.

Like many of my spiritual care practitioner colleagues, we owe a huge debt of gratitude and appreciation to the trail-blazing path emboldened by Harold King. As a long-standing Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) supervisor (of both students and supervisors), professor in Pastoral Theology, Director and Coordinator of Professional Training at the Interfaith Pastoral Institute, and Dean, Faculty of Theology at The University of Winnipeg … it’s not much of an exaggeration to say that we would not have the jobs that we have, nor would our professional discipline have the level of integration and acceptance as part of the multidisciplinary allied healthcare team that it does, were it not for Harold. I recall a colleague sharing with me, a year or so ago, that they were making a point of sitting down with Harold to tell Harold how much they appreciated his prophetic force and witness and unmistakable impact on their professional life: wanting to say that in person to Harold before he died. That being done, and that being said, it is likewise important to have it “recorded in the Minutes” now that Harold has died.

Having transitioned into healthcare chaplaincy, and moving into the role of Coordinator Spiritual Care at Fred Douglas Society, collection of seniors residences, including Fred Douglas Lodge, located at 1275 Burrows Ave, it took some “doing” and “lobbying” to persuade Winnipeg Presbytery of The United Church of Canada that I could be serving in that particular ministry – working as a chaplain in a United Church-owned and -
IN MEMORIAM: THE REV. DR. HAROLD JAMES KING

operated personal care home. I’d started at Fred Douglas Lodge in October 2007, but it was not until March 2012 that I could convince Winnipeg Presbytery that it was “good, fit and right” so to covenant me into that ministry. (Long-suffering patience with church bureaucracies and structures is not a quality I share with Harold!) I invited Harold to participate in that celebration, presenting a symbol for the multifaith aspect of the work to which we’re called and commissioned.

As I worked on writing down these remarks, an Epiphany of sorts came to me as I recognized why I felt it was important to involve Harold. Not just because of his standing within the Presbytery, and not just because of our work together as part of the by-then-reimagined Manitoba Multifaith Council … but because of what some parts of the Christian family describe as “apostolic succession.” The hands laid on this person belong to so-and-so for whom hands were laid on by so-and-so for whom hands were laid on … you get the picture... all the way back to “You are Peter, and on this rock, I will build my Church.” (Matt 16:18) Basically, all the way back to Jesus. In other words, “To infinity and beyond...”

It’s one of the bones of contention between reformed “communions” such as The United Church of Canada and episcopal or bishop-led “communions” such as The Anglican Church of Canada, Roman or Ukrainian Catholic Churches. Without digressing too far along the path of an intense theological and ecclesiastic discourse, let me be so brash and bold, not to mention “Protestant,” to suggest that my invitation to Harold back to participate in my Covenanting Service at Fred Douglas Lodge begs to differ with the assessment that we do not believe in, or practice, apostolic succession within the United Church. We do. And it is made known and made real in and through the call to ministry, and life, work and witness of individuals such as Harold James King.

Last year marked the conclusion of Harold’s decades-long involvement as a member of the Manitoba Interfaith/Multifaith Council Boards. “For everything there is a season…” (Eccl 3: 1ff) and Harold regretfully recognized that the time had come for him to step aside. Even as we had affirmed and recognized Harold before, it was good for us to do it again. Accordingly, I prepared a Certificate of Appreciation read at our MMC Annual General Meeting.

Harold could not be physically present with us that particular evening, May 17th, but I know he joined us in spirit, and my MMC board colleague, Salvation Army Major (Retired) Raymond J. Harris later visited Harold and presented him with the certificate:

Harold’s contributions to multifaith education, awareness, advocacy and dialogue are but one of the many trail-blazing accomplishments by individuals operating in partnership with the Conference [of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario of The United Church of Canada]. The final verse of the hymn, “From the Slave Pens of the Delta” offers a fitting tribute to Harold’s legacy and a prophetic challenge to MMC and the Conference:

In the maelstrom of the nations, in the journey into space,
   in the clash of generations, in the hungering for grace,
   in our agony and glory, we are called to newer ways
   by the God of our tomorrows who is God of earth’s todays.

Indeed, as I wrote on that Certificate, and likewise concluded MMC’s final Annual Report to the Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario, the God of our tomorrows and earth’s todays continues to call us forward.

Harold: we will miss you, and I will miss you. You lived, worked, breathed and bequeathed to us a prophetic witness, an ease and smirk-filled sense of humour in the classroom and in the correctional facility, at the
hospital bedside and along corridors of academia as well as hallways of “Caesar Augustus” politics and power, part of a generation of giants, the likes of which will not be seen again.

We are gratefully appreciative beyond words. Although, as you would most certainly be among the first to note, I’ve herewith given it a pretty good try.

For the life and love and prophetic witness of Harold James King, and in life, in death and in life beyond death, we are not alone: Thanks be to God.

Paul Peters Derry, D.Min.
Clinical Service Lead, Spiritual Health Services
Certified Supervisor-Educator (Candidate), Canadian Association for Spiritual Care (CASC)
Treasurer, Manitoba Multifaith Council (MMC)

VICTORIA GENERAL HOSPITAL
2340 Pembina Hwy  Winnipeg MB  R3T 2E8
office  204.477.3216  |  pager  204.931.4062  |  fax  204.269.5425
ppetersderry@vgh.mb.ca  |  ppderry@gmail.com
Motions for Consideration – 2019 AGM

1. To approve Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting.

MOTION #2019 – 01
It was moved by ________________, and seconded by ________________, that the Minutes of the 2018 Annual General Meeting, as printed on pages 2 - 8, be approved [with additions, corrections or edits].

2. To receive Reports of the President, Recording Secretary, Treasurer, Standing Committees of MMC (Community Relations, Education, Justice & Corrections, Spiritual Health) and Auditor(s).

MOTION #2019 – 02
It was moved by ________________, and seconded by ________________, that the 2018-19 Reports, as found on pages 12-27 and 30 be received for information.

3. To receive Financial Statement(s) and Appoint Auditor(s) for 2018-19.

MOTION #2019 – 03.1
It was moved by ________________, and seconded by ________________, that the Financial Statement for the Fiscal Year ending March 31, 2019, as found on pages 9 - 11, be received for information.

MOTION #2019 – 03.2
It was moved by ________________, and seconded by ________________, that the Board of Directors be tasked with engaging an auditor to conduct the review of our 2018-19 Financial Statement.

4. To elect the Board of Directors for 2019-20.

MOTION #2019 – 04
There being no further nominations, it was moved by ______, and seconded by _______, that the Nominations Report, as it appears on page 28 of the printed Annual Report, be accepted as our Board of Directors and Officers for 2019-20.

5. To consider and transact any other MMC business

MOTION #2019 – ____
There being no further business, the 2019 Annual General Meeting of Manitoba Multifaith Council, Inc. (2011), adjourned on a motion of ________, at ________ pm.