

The Right Honourable Stephen Harper  
Prime Minister of Canada  
Ottawa, ON

January 21, 2010

Dear Prime Minister Harper:

This open letter comes to you with greetings from KAIROS and its member churches and church-related organizations. As a new year unfolds, we send blessings to you in your critical leadership responsibilities as Prime Minister.

KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives is a joint venture of eleven Canadian churches and organizations that is dedicated to promoting democratic human development and ecological sustainability. KAIROS itself is part of our response to God's call to love and promote justice for, and with, people living in poverty.

KAIROS and its predecessor ecumenical coalitions have worked in partnership with CIDA for over three decades. KAIROS' projects recently co-funded with CIDA include the following: African women were trained in local democratic participation in decisions about water for their communities; churches in Latin America produced resources for communities to help them address poverty; African churches promoted local support to peace negotiations in Sudan and the Great Lakes region of Africa.

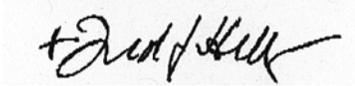
KAIROS' founding member churches and organizations request a meeting with you to seek clarification about why KAIROS was recently refused CIDA funding. Given very different reasons given by two senior ministers of your government, we seek to resolve this situation.

Our hope in meeting with you, Prime Minister, would be to chart a positive way forward in the relationship between the government, KAIROS, and its member churches and organizations.

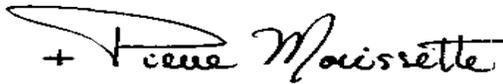
We ask that you set aside some time to meet with us so that the government can gain a deeper understanding of KAIROS' work and the effectiveness of this work in protecting lives and supporting development.

Please be assured of the continued prayers of our churches for you, Prime Minister, and for Members of Parliament, as you address the many issues facing Canada and the world in these challenging times.

Respectfully,



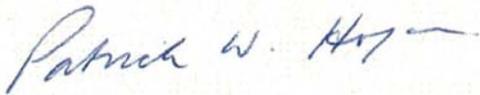
The Most Reverend Fred Hiltz  
Archbishop and Primate  
The Anglican Church of Canada  
President, The Primate's World Relief and Development Fund



† Most Reverend Pierre Morissette  
Bishop of Saint-Jérôme  
President, Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops



Yvon Pomerleau, OP  
President, Canadian Religious Conference



Patrick Hogan  
President, National Council  
Canadian Catholic Organization for Development and Peace



Reverend Bruce Adema  
Director, Canadian Ministries  
Christian Reformed Church in North America



Bishop Susan Johnson  
National Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada



Donald Peters  
Executive Director  
Mennonite Central Committee Canada



Reverend Harvey Self  
Moderator of the 135<sup>th</sup> General Assembly  
The Presbyterian Church in Canada



Anne Mitchell  
Clerk, Canadian Yearly Meeting  
Religious Society of Friends (Quakers)



Mardi Tindal  
Moderator  
United Church of Canada