



Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

600-177 Lombard Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 0W5, Canada

August 7, 2019

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
pm@pm.gc.ca

re: Urgent need for Climate Justice

Dear Prime Minister:

On behalf of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC), I write to emphasize the urgent need for climate justice and to urge the Government of Canada to demonstrate leadership in addressing this environmental crisis.

There is a critical need to limit global temperature increases to below 1.5° C above preindustrial levels, as outlined in the Paris Agreement (COP 21). The ELCIC joins with The Lutheran World Federation Assembly in affirming the fact that the global ecological crisis, including climate change, is human-induced.

As people of faith, we are called to journey together toward a healthy relationship with the earth. Individuals and communities will need to rely on their spiritual resources to sustain the courage and commitment to address the climate crisis.

A variety of responses are needed by individuals, communities, businesses and governments. International agreements, such as the *Sustainable Development Goals* and the *Paris Agreement* offer valuable guidance for strengthening the global response to the threat of climate change. Governments play a key role in promoting low carbon development, in supporting developing countries dealing with the impacts of climate change, and in funding climate resiliency initiatives for farmers in Canada and around the world.

In July 2019, the ELCIC met in convention. Delegates committed our members to addressing climate justice, reducing carbon footprints, forming healthy relationships with the earth and encouraging each other in careful stewardship of creation.

Delegates also asked me to share these concerns with you. I ask you to recognize the critical need to limit global temperature increases and to urgently act for a sustainable and low carbon future.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Susan C. Johnson", with a small cross symbol to its left.

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

cc: Hon. Andrew Scheer, Leader of the Official Opposition
Hon. Jagmeet Singh, Leader of the NDP
Hon. Elizabeth May, Leader of the Green Party
Yves-François Blanchet, Leader of the Bloc Québécois
Hon. Maxime Bernier, Leader of the People's Party of Canada
National Church Council, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada