

Premier-designate Wab Kinew 565 1/2 Osborne Street , Winnipeg, R3L 2B3 Wab.Kinew@yourmanitoba.ca

October 4, 2023

Dear Premier-designate Wab Kinew,

On behalf of the members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, and especially the members of our Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod, we extend our congratulations to you and your team on your election as Premier of Manitoba. As the first First Nations leader of a province in Canada this is a wonderful and historic moment in the life of our country.

As you noted in your speech last night, we are facing many challenges as a province such as access to healthcare, ensuring affordability for all people, addressing the climate crisis and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. These are all priority areas for our church and our members. We are willing and committed to work with you and your government in these and other common areas of interest.

In the coming days and weeks ahead as you begin to address and respond to these challenges, you will need to do so with a clear vision and with courage and wisdom. As you said last night, "We can accomplish awesome tasks when we stand together as one people...there is no challenge we cannot meet when we stand together as one Manitoba."

Please know that our church and our members are praying for you and for all the Manitoba Legislative Assembly members. May your service to our province be a blessing to many and may the Creator guide us all as we work together for the future of our province and for the people and families that live here.

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

Rev. Jason Zinko Bishop, Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada