



# SYNOD OF ALBERTA AND THE TERRITORIES

Incorporated as Alberta Synod

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***Spirit -Led  
Leadership***

***Hope-Filled  
Discipleship***

***Innovative  
Tradition***

***Collaborative  
Partnerships***

May 7, 2020

Dear Friends:

***The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.***

Bishops and treasurers of the ELCIC's synods and national church have written to The Hon. Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Families, Children, and Social Development, to encourage action by the Canadian government to sustain the charitable sector during the COVID-19 pandemic.

I am attaching copies of the ELCIC letter and Canadian Council of Christian Charities (CCCC) letter for your information, as well as a template for correspondence to your Member of Parliament.

Specifically, the letter endorses the CCCC proposal to sustain the charitable sector during the COVID-19 pandemic, as submitted to the government on April 21, 2020. The CCCC has written to The Hon. Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development with a funding proposal, "to sustain and strengthen the charitable sector during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, when demand for services is very high, but significant decreases in donations due to income insecurity threatens to destabilize charities."

I invite you to consider sharing copies of these letters with your Member of Parliament (MP), and to share these letters with your congregation asking them to consider contacting their MP. If you have an existing relationship with your local MP, you might also choose to make a phone call raising these concerns. Contact information for your MP can be found here:  
<https://www.ourcommons.ca/Members/en/search>.

If you have questions about this matter, please contact me or our Synod Treasurer, Paul Ellison ([Paul@ellisonpc.ca](mailto:Paul@ellisonpc.ca)).

As bishops and treasurers of the ELCIC's synods and national church, we are deeply aware of the efforts you, your congregation and your faith community are making to care for the people you serve in your neighbourhood. We express our gratitude and offer our prayers for these expressions of ministry.

***"The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit" (Romans 15:13).***

In Christ Jesus – Shalom,

*+ Bishop Larry Kochendorfer*

The Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer, Bishop  
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