



The Catholic
Archdiocese
of **Edmonton**

**Office of
Ecumenical and
Interreligious Relations**

**ANNUAL
REPORT**

2014 - 15

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Background

Since the conclusion of the Second Vatican Council, the Archdiocese of Edmonton has maintained, in some form or other, an ecumenical and interreligious ministry.

Throughout the 1970's, an “**ecumenical commission**” of priests, religious and lay people offered workshops in parishes to introduce the ecumenical vision of the Council into the life of the Archdiocese. Those “early years” generated a great deal of ecumenical excitement and fervour:

There were week-long sessions, many weekends, many one-day sessions, as well as evenings and ecumenical retreats all dedicated to study and dialogue. Facilitators, with doctorates in ecumenism and theology, came from various parts of Canada and the United States. The Roman Catholic Archdiocese with the Anglican and Lutheran dioceses, as well as the United Church Presbytery gave a face to dialogue in Edmonton and area. The archdiocese has a history of dialogue with these three denominations.

(Sr. Rosaleen Zdunich, “Letter to the Editor,” *Western Catholic Reporter*, April 30, 2012)

In 1980, **Sr. Rosaleen Zdunich** became a volunteer member of the Archdiocese’s Commission for Ecumenism and by 1983 she had been named the Chair by Archbishop MacNeil. One of her many early endeavors in this role included coordinating a 1986 interfaith prayer service/dialogue at an Edmonton synagogue. Sister Rosaleen also served as a member of the team that planned Edmonton’s first ecumenical prayer service to mark the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, an event that has flourished and grown every year since. She also initiated through Newman Theological College the first Summer Ecumenical Institute, a project that continued in Edmonton for some years before being taken over by the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism in Saskatoon. Through institutions like the Edmonton & District Council of Churches, the Archdiocese maintained a very active and vibrant ecumenical ministry throughout the 1980’s.

Sr. Rosaleen went on to serve as the first coordinator of the newly-founded (1995) Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action. She was succeeded in the ecumenical ministry of the Archdiocese by **Ms. Cathy Harvey** and a part-time office assistant, two Catholic lay woman hired part-time by the Archdiocesan Ecumenical Commission in the mid-1990’s. Ms. Harvey was given a mandate to continue and broaden the ecumenical portfolio. An excellent events coordinator, she oversaw Catholic participation in several large interchurch events and activities held in Edmonton, including the Jubilee 2000 Christian festival and an international conference of the Association of Interchurch Families in 2001. The Archdiocesan Ecumenical Commission continued to meet monthly during this time under the chairmanship of various people – lay, religious and ordained.

In 2002, **Julien Hammond** was hired by Archbishop Collins to be the full-time “Ecumenical Officer” of the Archdiocese. He continued to work with the part-time ecumenical office assistant. For the first time, the Archdiocesan Ecumenical Commission had not been involved in

the hiring process for the coordinator/director's position and the responsibility of chairing the Commission was turned over to the Ecumenical Officer. The Commission continued to meet monthly during this time as Julien became involved representing the Archdiocese on boards and committees of many well-established ecumenical and interfaith structures at work in the Edmonton area: the Edmonton & District Council of Churches, the Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action, the Phoenix Multi-faith Society for Harmony, Faith in Action, and several others. At the same time, as one formally trained in ecumenical and interfaith ministry, Julien was also called upon to serve the Catholic community (parishes, schools, prisons, hospitals, social services) as an advisor and teacher on ecumenical and interfaith matters. He led workshops, retreats, and courses on ecumenical and interreligious themes, and encouraged visits and other occasions for fellowship between Christians and people of other faith traditions. Much of this work and these associations continue to the present.

In 2004, as part of a larger re-structuring process in the Archdiocese, the office assistant position was discontinued and the Ecumenical Commission was disbanded and replaced by an "Ecumenical Office." The Office continued to be staffed on a quarter-time basis by Julien Hammond, who was now at the same time named as Director of Pastoral Services for the Archdiocese. The addition of supervisory and administrative duties effectively restricted the type and scope of initiatives that could be undertaken in the name of ecumenical and interreligious relations in the Archdiocese.

In 2008, in the midst of a further re-structuring led by Archbishop Smith, Julien Hammond was re-assigned as Director of Evangelization & Catechesis, all the while maintaining the quarter-time ecumenical/interfaith portfolio. In this new capacity, Julien continued to emphasize teaching and formation as the key functions of the ecumenical/interreligious office.

In 2013, Archbishop Smith initiated an operational review of all the ministries serving out of the pastoral and administrative offices of the Archdiocese. As a result of this review, a new pastoral plan for ecumenical and interreligious relations was drawn up, and Julien Hammond was reappointed in January 2014 as full-time "Ecumenical Officer."

Mission Statement:

The Office of Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations exists to promote unity and reconciliation between Catholics and members of other Churches and ecclesial communities within the Archdiocese; it also fosters relations of respect and understanding between Christians and members of other faith communities present in the Archdiocese. The Office provides support and training for activities related to ecumenical and interreligious prayer, education, dialogue and various social action initiatives.

Coordinator's Report - Julien Hammond



2014-2015 was a year of continued growth and development in the E&I Office of the Archdiocese. Week by week, month by month, we made significant progress on the pastoral plan approved for the office in January 2014. I am pleased to report that we were able to complete many of the goals that we set out for the year; others were advanced and will carry over in the year ahead. **I would like to thank Archbishop Smith, my supervisor Teresa, my assistant Natalie, and my many colleagues in the Department of Parish and Pastoral Services and throughout the Archdiocese for their moral and prayer support.** Without their assistance and advice at times, I certainly would not have been as effective in advancing the mission of the office this past year.

Much of what I have to report is contained in the pages that follow. I hope you will take time to peruse this report to see everything that we accomplished together in the last year in the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ. I am proud of all that we were able to accomplish and I recognize in all of it the working of the Holy Spirit. I hope that you will agree with this assessment.

Some highlights of the year for me include:

- **Establishing two new Advisory Committees to guide the Office of E&I.** In the summer of 2014, Archbishop Smith approved the names of fourteen people (seven each) to serve on the new Ecumenical and Interreligious Advisory Committees. These people were drawn from a cross-section of the Archdiocese, priests, religious and laity, with special experiences or competencies in the areas of E&I ministries. The committees each met twice over the course of the year and will continue to do so in the years ahead. The initial input of the committees has resulted in clearer direction for the office and some new ideas to implement down the road. **Thank you to all the new members of these Advisory Committees for giving so generously of their time and expertise to assist the development of a robust E&I ministry within the Archdiocese.**

- **Celebrating the 50th Anniversary of the Second Vatican Council’s Decree on Ecumenism (*Unitatis Redintegratio*).**

The Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops produced two beautiful print resources and an ecumenical liturgy to mark the 50th anniversary of UR throughout the country. Copies of all these materials were shared with every parish, school and institution in the Archdiocese, using our weekly diocesan news e-bulletin, *Quid Novum*. Additionally, on November 9, 2014, I was fortunate to attend the national celebration of the 50th Anniversary of UR, organized by the Anglican-Roman Catholic Dialogue Commission of Canada and held at St. James Anglican Cathedral in Toronto. This event featured an ecumenical liturgy presided by our former archbishop, Thomas Cardinal Collins, and the Anglican Archbishop of Toronto, as well as presentations from prominent Canadian ecumenical theologians, Michael Attridge, Alan Hayes and Harry McSorley. The event received significant coverage in religious newspapers across the country and was [recorded for broadcast](#) by Salt & Light Television. **What a privilege it was to be there and to mark this important anniversary in this way!**



- **Organizing and collaborating on Peace Events.** 2014-2015 was a year marked by



significant violence in the world. Tragically, many violent acts were often perpetrated against religious populations and often too they were allegedly carried out in the name of religious identity. In Edmonton, several events and activities were held to protest such acts of so-called religious violence and/or to express solidarity with victims. On August 20, 2014, I joined the Canadian Council of Muslim Women at one such a protest that took place on the steps of the Alberta Legislature. A week later, Archbishop Smith presided over a special Mass of solidarity with members of the Lebanese (Maronite) and Syrian communities. Later in the year, we exchanged letters with local representatives of the Egyptian (Coptic) and Ethiopian Orthodox communities, both of which had been attacked directly by religious radicals. Likewise, we wrote letters to local Jewish, Sikh and Muslim communities, all of which had experienced vandalism within our city. In December, the Phoenix Multi-Faith Society for Harmony organized a tri-faiths event entitled, “Voices of Peace from Abraham’s Children” at Edmonton City Hall. On April 30, 2015, Fr. Adam Lech joined leaders from many different Edmonton faith

communities at an [interfaith prayer vigil for peace](#) on the steps of Edmonton City Hall. **We can all be proud of the leadership shown by our Archdiocese and by our many partners in the faith communities of Edmonton to address faith-based violence in our communities and to pray for the victims of such violence both at home and around the world.**



- **Developing Muslim-Christian Relations.** 2014-2015 was an extraordinary year for the development of Muslim-Christian relations in Edmonton, and the Archdiocese was proud to be involved in many activities with Muslims (described on pages 20-21 below). This is demanding work that requires both an ecumenical and interreligious approach. The sheer number of events taking place in our local communities and the breadth of involvement from churches and mosques of every variety within our local setting, shows the importance that people are placing upon this specific interreligious relationship, and our common desire for harmony and peace between the adherents of the world’s two largest religions. **I celebrate that the Archdiocese is a leader and collaborator in many projects involving Christians and Muslims.**

- **“Dialogue & Diversity” Conference in Saskatoon.**



ST. THOMAS MORE COLLEGE
UNIVERSITY OF SASKATCHEWAN

In February 2015, I was invited along with an Anglican colleague from Edmonton, to present an academic paper at a conference on “Dialogue and Diversity” organized by St. Thomas More College in Saskatoon, SK. The subject of my paper was “Receiving Spiritual Gifts” and it explored the spiritual fruits found in the four agreed statements produced by the international dialogue commission between the Roman Catholic Church and the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) – a commission of which I am now a member. While the experience of preparing the paper was difficult for me and delivering the paper itself was quite nerve-wracking, nevertheless I learned a great deal about the commission’s work and I believe that my presentation on the RC-Disciples dialogue brought something unique to the conference. **Thank you to St. Thomas More College (and the Prairie Centre for Ecumenism) for the invitation and opportunity to be a presenter at this conference.**

- **Canadian Council of Churches – 2015 Ecumenical Justice Tour.** On April 14, 2015, I



accompanied Dr. Bob McKeon, Social Justice Coordinator for the Archdiocese, to an event at Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples and organized under the auspices of the Canadian Council of Churches (CCC) and Citizens for Public Justice (CPJ). Three executives from the CCC – Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton, Rev. Dr. Willard Meztger and Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson – were in Edmonton as part of a cross-Canada tour to share

information about poverty in Canada and climate justice, to listen to local reflections on engagement and advocacy, and to prepare a *Church Leaders' Pastoral Statement* on these themes expected to be released later in 2015. The Edmonton event drew dozens of experts, local politicians, and church members passionate about public justice issues. I found this experience to be both invigorating and enlightening, especially to see the scope of involvement on these issues in our local community. **Full reporting on the whole Ecumenical Justice Tour (including the Edmonton visit) can be found at the [CPJ website](#).**

- **Study Tour to Turkey.** Also in April 2015, I travelled to Turkey along with six other ecumenical colleagues to participate in a study tour organized by the Intercultural Dialogue Institute (IDI) of Edmonton. **(A report of this activity can be found at the website of [IDI-Edmonton](#).)**

What a rich experience of encounter, dialogue and learning! The tour began in Istanbul and took us to various centres of spiritual importance to Christians and Muslims alike: Iznik (Nicaea), Izmir (Smyrna), Bursa, Ephesus, Cappadocia and Konya. In addition to cultural and religious heritage sites, we visited a Turkish newspaper outlet, a television station, a pottery factory, a weaving centre, a writers' centre and the campus of Mevlana University. We met with a political analyst, members of a lawyers' guild,



community leaders, and we had dinner with Turkish families in their homes. A personal highlight for me was the opportunity to visit the Ecumenical Patriarchate in Istanbul and to deliver to the Patriarch (through his assistant) a number of greetings, messages and gifts collected from the ecumenical leadership of Edmonton. [His Holiness, Patriarch Bartholomew I, reciprocated with a beautiful letter of thanks sent to Archbishop Smith's office in May 2015.] The whole experience left me with a profound appreciation for the roots of our Christian faith and a deep love for the Turkish people and their rich culture.

I am so grateful to have had the opportunity, the time and resources to be able to undertake this experience. **Thank you to Mr. Ibrahim Cin, Executive Director of IDI-Edmonton, to the Board of Directors of the Institute, and the many sponsors and benefactors both within Canada and in Turkey who organized this tour and made it possible for us to participate. It was truly a life-shaping experience for me.**

- **Mass with Edmonton's Armenian Orthodox community.** On May 10, 2015, and



following the lead of Pope Francis in this regard, Archbishop Smith presided over a Mass at St. Joseph's Basilica commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. Also in attendance that day were His Grace, Bishop Abgar Havakimian, Canadian Primate of the Armenian Holy Apostolic Church, and several members of St. Narek's Armenian Apostolic Parish (Edmonton). To my knowledge and experience, this was the first meeting of the two bishops and their respective communities here in Edmonton. A reception was held following the Mass, and Bishop Havakimian

expressed his profound gratitude for the hospitality according to him and his people on the part of Archbishop Smith. It was a beautiful meeting marked by prayer, fellowship and genuine warmth. **A wonderful beginning to a new ecumenical relationship.**

Aside from these many events and activities, perhaps the most satisfying aspect of the past year has been the witness of people from all over the Archdiocese coming together to serve Christ through ecumenical and interreligious ministries. I am grateful to be able to be a part of it all, even if only in a supporting role.

The commitment and hard work of many volunteers in parishes, in Catholic schools and institutions, and on boards and committees in the wider community makes this possible. **Thank you to our pastors and many lay leaders who support the work of the office with their prayers and tangible supports in various ways. Words cannot convey how grateful I am to serve a community of such ecumenical openness and collaborative spirit.**

I give thanks for the year past and pray to the Lord for guidance and strength for the year ahead.

With gratitude for the support of many prayers, in Christ,
Julien

PROGRAM AREA REPORTS

A. Ecumenical and Interreligious Formation

One of the key purposes of the E&I Office of the Archdiocese is to provide resourcing and support for ecumenical and interreligious formation both within the Archdiocese and with partners in the community. Such formation occurs in a variety of settings and through various means:

➤ **Presentations/Publications from the Coordinator:**

- June 2014: **Book Review** “Interreligious Reading after Vatican II: Scriptural Reasoning, Comparative Theology and Receptive Ecumenism.” *Touchstone* 48:2 (June 2014): pp. 66-68.
- August 28, 2014: **Video Essay** “The Problem of Suffering,” recorded for Salt & Light TV; part of an evangelization project of the national Anglican-Roman Catholic dialogue group.
- October 23, 2014: **Presentation** “Ecumenism and Interfaith Ministry in Canada.” Enculturation of Priests Program (St. Joseph’s Seminary, Edmonton)
- October 27, 2014: **Presentation** “Introduction to Ecumenism.” Introduction to Theology course (Newman Theological College, Edmonton)
- November 3, 2014: **Presentation** “Introduction to Interfaith Relations.” Introduction to Theology course (Newman Theological College, Edmonton)
- November 3, 2014: **Presentation** “Developing an Ecumenical Spirituality.” Lay Formation Program (Newman Theological College, Edmonton)
- November 17, 2014: **Presentation** “Pastoral Implications of Ecumenical Ministry/Preparing the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2015.” Lay Formation Program (Newman Theological College, Edmonton)
- November 25, 2014: **Panelist** “Living as Neighbours in the Global Community of Edmonton.” 1st Annual Interfaith Gathering organized by the Intercultural Dialogue Institute-Edmonton (Matrix Hotel, Edmonton).
- December 2, 2014: **Newsletter** “Update from the Office of Ecumenical & Interreligious Relations.” *Quid Novum*, p. 4
http://www.caedm.ca/Portals/0/documents/archdiocesan_offices/quid_novum/2014/2014-12-02_Bulletin.pdf
- December 15, 2014: **Media Report** “Catholics, Muslims strive for Neighbourliness,” article in the *Western Catholic Reporter*, p. 7; (Reprinted in *Prairie Messenger*, Vol. 92: No. 26 (December 17, 2014), p. 4:
<http://www.wcr.ab.ca/ThisWeek/Stories/tabid/61/entryid/6211/Default.aspx>
- January 14, 2015: **Emcee** for EDCC’s 2015 Week of Prayer for Christian Unity display launch (Edmonton City Hall)
- January 19, 2015: **Presentation** “Introduction to Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations” CSA 571 EXCEL Program (Newman Theological College, Edmonton)

- February 28, 2015: **Presentation** “Receiving Spiritual Gifts: Mining the International Dialogue between the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and the Roman Catholic Church.” Dialogue and Diversity Conference (St. Thomas More College, Saskatoon, SK)
- March 4, 2015: **Presentation** “Introduction to Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations” Western Conference of Catholic Religious Educators – WCCRE (Star of the North Retreat Centre, St. Albert)
- March 7, 2015: **Presentation** “Introduction to Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations” CAEDM Diaconal Formation Program (Providence Renewal Centre, Edmonton)
- April 15, 2015: **Meeting** with Catholic Archdiocese of Edmonton Religious Education Coordinators – CAEREC (Archdiocesan Offices)
- April 16, 2015: **Presentation** “Introduction to Ecumenical and Interreligious Relations” CAEDM Parish Volunteer Coordinators (Newman Theological College, Edmonton)
- April 21, 2015: **Presentation** “Christianity in the Middle East” Adult Learning Group (St. Thomas More Catholic Church, Edmonton)
- July 5, 2015: **Panelist** “Fasting in the Christian Tradition” at Tri-Faiths Ramadan Iftar inner organized by IDI-Edmonton (Eastwood School, Edmonton)

➤ **Collaboration/promotion of events and speakers with ecumenically/interreligiously minded organizations in the community:**

- **Chester Ronning Centre for the Study of Religion and Public Life (U of A)**
 - September 18, 2014: “Jesus and Muhammad: A Sufi Perspective” Lecture by Bilal Kuspinar, PhD (Director of the International Rumi Centre)
 - October 17, 2014: David Goa. “*Instrumentum Laboris*: Catholics Rethink the Family” (Ronning House, Camrose)
 - October 29, 2014: Rev. John Chryssavgis. “In the Heart of the Desert: The Spirituality of the Desert Fathers and Mothers” (St. George’s Greek Orthodox Church, Edmonton)
 - November 7, 2014: Dr. Mohammad Ali Shomali. “Muslim-Christian Conversation: More Important Now Than Ever” (Ronning House, Camrose)
 - November 10, 2014: Iain Benson. “Religious Freedom and the Reach of the State” (Ronning House, Camrose)
 - February 2-3, 2015: Dr. Mustafa Acar. “Islam/ophobia: Facing Islam in the 21st Century” (The King’s University/U of A, Edmonton)
 - July 31, 2015: David Goa. “A Conversation on the Papal Encyclical on Climate Change” (Ronning House, Camrose)



➤ **Ecumenical Mission of Strathcona County:**

- October 5-8, 2014: Rev. Tom Ryan, CSP and Canon William Derby. “Gospel Call” Celebrating the 25th Anniversary of the annual Ecumenical Mission of Strathcona County (Held in various parishes throughout Strathcona County.)



➤ **Edmonton & District Council of Churches – presentations from:**

- September 24, 2014: Rev. Harry Currie (Family Dynamics and Ministry in the Church)
- November 19, 2014: Tony Shelala (Who are the Maronites?)
- November 19, 2014: Ingrid Hajen, Florence Henderson and Nancy Heward (The Voice of the Martyrs-Canada)
- January 21, 2015: Bishop Jane Alexander (The Mayor’s Taskforce on Eliminating Poverty)
- March 17, 2015: Rev. Christina Bellsmith (Edmonton Prayer Breakfast)
- May 19, 2015: Revs. David Fekete and Rob Hankinson (Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education & Action)



➤ **Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education & Action:**

- *Interfaith Explorations* series of visits to various houses of worship
 - October 1, 2014: Edmonton Baha’i Centre
 - December 3, 2014: Garneau United Church
 - February 4, 2015: Knox-Metropolitan United Church
 - April 1, 2015: Edmonton Eckankar Centre
- *Celebrating Our Faiths* series of faith displays at Edmonton City Hall
 - September 17, 2014: Celebrating the Jewish High Holy Days
 - October 8, 2014: Celebrating Islam and Science
 - December 6, 2014: Celebrating Eckankar, Religion of Light and Sound of God
 - January 14, 2015: Celebrating the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity
 - February 3, 2015: Celebrating World Interfaith Harmony Week
 - March 5, 2015: Celebrating Naw Ruz, the Persian New Year
 - April 1, 2015: Celebrating Vaisakhi in the Sikh Tradition
- *Lunch & Learn* series of presentations on faith topics
 - July 14, 2014: Rev. Bruce Miller “Historical Jesus & the Buddha”
 - August 11, 2014: Rabbi David Kunin “Japanese Festivals”
 - October 6, 2014: Sister Marcy Clare Stack “Welcome Home Project”
 - December 8, 2014: Donna Kampen Entz “30 Years in Burkina Faso”



- January 12, 2015: Paula Kirman “Friends of Church Street”
 - March 9, 2015: Bishop David Motiuk “The Situation in Ukraine”
 - April 20, 2015: Martha Urquhart “Education is Not a Crime”
 - May 11, 2015: Earl Choldin “What is Good Multicultural Education?”
 - June 8, 2015: Cecily Mills “Observing the Election in El Salvador”
- *Book Launch: Beyond the Golden Rule: A Jewish Perspective on Dialogue and Diversity* by Rabbi David A. Kunin
- *Building Bridges Interfaith Concert*: February 8, 2015 (Royal Alberta Museum, Edmonton)
- **Intercultural Dialogue Institute (IDI)-Edmonton:**
 - October 23, 2014: “Love is a Verb.” Film Screening with lecture by Loye Ashton, Chair of Religious Studies, Tougaloo College, Mississippi (Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton)
- **John Humphrey Centre for Peace and Human Rights:**
 - September 2014: JHC Peacebuilders program invited to St. Joseph’s Basilica for a tour and to learn about the Catholic Church. (St. Joseph’s Basilica, Edmonton)
- **Mahatma Gandhi Canadian Foundation for World Peace:**
 - October 2, 2014: “The history and work of the Edmonton Coalition of Arab and Jewish Women.” Presentation by Netta Phillet and Karen Hamdon. (Fantasyland Hotel, West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton)
 - January 30, 2015: “Remembering Gandhi and Revisiting His Principles of Nonviolence.” Panel Discussion with Hon. Doug Roche O.C., Dr. Reva Joshee, Dr. Bruce Miller and Dr. Janice Huber (U of A, Edmonton)
- **OM Ministries Canada:**
 - July 19, 2015: Short-term missionaries with OM Canada invited to St. Joseph’s Basilica for a tour and to learn about the Catholic Church. (St. Joseph’s Basilica, Edmonton)
- **University of Alberta – Interfaith Chaplaincy**
 - November 4, 2014: “Muslims and Christians in Conversation: Practicing Our Faiths on a University Campus. Could we do more together?” A discussion with Fr. Damian MacPherson, SA (St. Joseph’s College)



- January 29, 2015: “When the topic is Radicalization” An Interfaith and Interdisciplinary Panel Discussion (St. Joseph’s College)

➤ **World Vision Canada:**

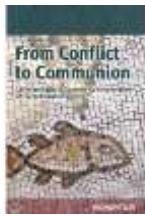
- April 9, 2015: John Fuder. “Heart & Soul of the City: Neighbourhood Mapping.” 2015 Church Leaders Forum (Edmonton)



➤ **Other ecumenical & interreligious formation items to note:**

- The Office conducted a review of ecumenical and interreligious formation activities at the Spring 2015 meeting of the Advisory Committees.
- The Office is preparing a resource and workshops for Parish Ecumenical/Interreligious Reps (PEIRs) to be launched in 2016.
- The Office purchased and/or made available the following resources for the formational benefit of its Advisory Committee members:

Ecumenical:



- ***From Conflict to Communion: Lutheran-Catholic Common Commemoration of the Reformation in 2017.*** A publication of the Lutheran World Federation and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity (2013).



- ***A Handbook of Spiritual Ecumenism*** (New York: New City Press, 2007).

Interreligious:



- ***The Christian Responsibility to Muslims: Four Lectures*** by David J. Goa. A Publication of the Chester Ronning Centre for the Study of Religion and Public Life (2014).



- ***Our Stories of Abrahamic Interfaith Harmony and Cooperation.*** A publication of the Phoenix Multi-faith Society for Harmony (2007).

B. Ecumenical and Interreligious Dialogues

➤ **Edmonton Anglican – Roman Catholic (EARC)**

The Office maintained active contact with members of the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton. A 10-member dialogue group (5 RC, 5 Anglican) met twice in the year to consider local happenings and ways that our two dioceses might collaborate on projects:

- **In October 2014, our dialogue group considered the theme of the recently concluded and highly publicized Extraordinary Synod on the Family namely, “The Pastoral Challenges of the Family in the Context of Evangelization.”** We looked at the questions asked in the preparatory questionnaire for the Synod and considered them from the particular vantage point of our local churches. It is clear that family life ministries are complicated in both of our communities and between our communities. We wondered if the Synod had sufficiently probed the full range of topics relating to family ministry, e.g. the importance of the domestic church and the need for more effective teaching about it, and the need for more effective communication of modern theology of the body. We also affirmed the crucial witness and importance of long-married couples within our communities, especially if these involved partners from Anglican and Catholic backgrounds. At the conclusion of our meeting we participated in one of the noon-hour sessions of the 25th annual Strathcona County Ecumenical Mission, led this year (as in their first year) by the Catholic and Anglican duo of Rev. Tom Ryan, CSP and Canon William Derby.
- **At our Spring meeting in May 2015, our group viewed together a YouTube video entitled, “[The Miracle of Unity has Already Begun.](#)”** This video, produced by the Chemin Neuf Community of France, presents five good news stories concerning ecumenical dialogue which is taking place more and more between Christians of different denominations throughout the world. Of particular interest to us were two vignettes that touched upon the growing relationship between Anglicans and Catholics: an intervention between Pope Francis and an assembly of Pentecostal pastors facilitated by the late Episcopalian bishop +Tony Palmer; and an invitation for the Chemin Neuf Community to serve as spiritual directors to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Lambeth Palace community. It is very encouraging to see Anglican-Catholic relations continuing to develop worldwide, even as in Canada. At the end of our meeting, we continued drafting a document that we hope to develop into a “covenant” agreement between our two dioceses.



- One other item to note: on January 21, 2015, Julien received a visit to the office of the National Ecumenical Officer of the Anglican Church of Canada, **The Venerable Archdeacon Bruce Myers.**

➤ **Edmonton Mennonite – Roman Catholic (EMRC)**

The Office maintained active contact with local members of Mennonite and Mennonite Brethren churches. A 12-member dialogue group (6 RC, 6 Mennonites) met bimonthly to consider local happenings and ways that our two churches might collaborate on projects.

- Three “M” topics dominated our programming this year: the Middle East (especially the plight of Christians in the Middle East), Martyrdom (especially how martyrdom is taught and valued; how it shapes Catholic and Mennonite identities), Music (an examination of the content of influential hymns from our two traditions). As part of our exploration on the first topic, we toured together and met with a representative from of [Our Lady of Good Help Maronite Catholic parish](#) in Edmonton. **Special thanks to Msgr. Joseph Salame and Mr. Tony Shelala for their warm hospitality in receiving our dialogue group.**

- On February 4, 2015, we held our 4th annual public session at [Assumption Catholic Church](#), sharing with a larger gathering of Catholics and Mennonites our previous year’s study on the theme of “Compassion.” This was a time of accountability to our respective communities and also an opportunity to invite new participants to the dialogue group. **Thank you to Rev. Mitchell Fidyka and the parish staff at Assumption parish for their warm hospitality in receiving this Mennonite-Catholic event.**

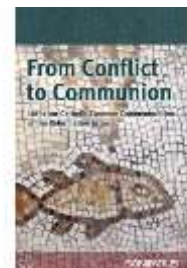


- The year concluded with an informal BBQ held at Newman Theological College.

➤ **Edmonton Lutheran Church Canada – Roman Catholic (ELCCRC)**

The Office maintained active contact with local members of the Lutheran Church-Canada. A 8-member dialogue group (4 RC, 4 LCC) met twice in the year to consider local happenings and ways that our two churches might collaborate on projects:

- On October 7, 2014, the dialogue group met at Concordia University to begin a study of [From Conflict to Communion](#) – a document published by the Lutheran World Federation and the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity to encourage Catholics and Lutherans to commemorate the 500th anniversary of the Reformation together in 2017. Rev. Lorne Manweiler (LCC) led us through a discussion of the first chapter: “Commemorating the Reformation in an Ecumenical and Global Age.”



- A second meeting was held on March 17, 2015, this time at Newman Theological College. Dr. Indre Cuplinskis (RC) led the group through a study of the second chapter of *From Conflict to Communion*, entitled “New Perspectives on Martin Luther and the Reformation.” Additionally the group considered the sixth chapter which outlines “Five Ecumenical Imperatives” to guide Lutherans and Catholics as they think of ways to commemorate the Reformation anniversary together. **Dialogue members were asked to begin to think of activities that our two churches might undertake together to mark the anniversary of 2017. (N.B. It is necessary to bear in mind the commemorative, and not necessarily the celebratory, dimension of this event.)**

➤ **Orthodox – Catholic Relations**

The Office maintained active contact with members of various local Orthodox churches:

- Following the horrific beheadings committed earlier this year by ISIS extremists against members of the **Coptic Orthodox** and **Ethiopian Orthodox** churches, letters of condolence and solidarity were sent from Archbishop Smith to the pastors of both of these communities resident in Edmonton. We received beautiful letters back from each church, thanking the Archbishop for his pastoral solicitude and prayers, and hoping for/pledging increased collaboration with the Catholic Church locally and worldwide. As so often happens in God's way, the tragedy of the circumstances, led to a most wonderful ecumenical openness.
- As noted above, Archbishop Smith invited Bishop Abgar Havakimian, the Primate of the **Armenian Holy Apostolic Church in Canada**, to gather with his Edmonton flock at a special



Mass commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Armenian Genocide. The Mass took place on Sunday, May 10, 2015 and it marked the first meeting between our Archdiocese and the local Armenian community. A reception was held following the Mass, and Bishop Havakimian expressed his profound gratitude

for the hospitality according to him and his people on the part of Archbishop Smith. It was a beautiful meeting marked by prayer, fellowship and genuine warmth.

➤ Reformation 500

A meeting took place on May 21, 2015 at The King's University to consider further how the local Christian community might mark the 500th anniversary of the Reformation. This was the third such meeting called by Dr. Melanie Humphreys, President of King's. It is clear that the Reformation anniversary means different things to different people, individually and collectively. It is equally clear, however, that all of our church communities have been deeply influenced by the Reformation and the legacy of the 16th century reforms upon the whole Christian family. **We are thankful to Dr. Humphreys and the community of The King's University College, for inviting the Archdiocese to be part of a wider Christian reflection on this all-important anniversary in Christian history.**

➤ Catholic-Jewish Relations

The Office maintained active contact with members of various local Jewish communities:

- September 17, 2014: Julien attended the launch of the Edmonton Jewish Community's "**Celebrating Our Faiths**" display at Edmonton City Hall. This event was held to celebrate the beginning of the High Holy Days in the Jewish Tradition.
- A formal letter was prepared and sent from Archbishop Smith's office to Edmonton rabbis (on the occasion of **Rosh Hashanah**)
- November 27, 2014: Julien met with **Rabbi Kliel Rose**, rabbi of Beth Shalom Synagogue (Conservative Judaism), to consider many topics of mutual interest to our two communities.



- December 3, 2014: Julien met with **Rabbi Shimon Moch**, rabbi of Temple Beth Ora (Reformed Judaism), to consider many topics of mutual interest to our two communities.
- December 7, 2014: Phoenix Multi-faith Society for Harmony organized an Abrahamic Tri-Faiths Celebration to mark the festivals of Eid, Hanukah and Christmas at Edmonton City Hall. The title of this year's event was "**Voices of Peace from Abraham's Children.**" Click [here](#) to read an article about the event in the *Western Catholic Reporter*.
- March 28, 2015: Julien attended the **Triple Simcha (Blessings) Celebration** at Temple Beth Ora. The event marked the 36th anniversary of the congregation, the first visit to Edmonton of Union of Reformed Judaism President, Rabbi Rick Jacobs, and the conclusion of renovations at the synagogue.
- April 16, 2015: Julien attended the annual **Yom Ha-Shoah Commemoration** at the Holocaust Memorial on the grounds of the Alberta Legislature.

➤ Catholic-Muslim Relations

The Office maintained active contact with members of various local Muslim communities:

- August 20, 2014: Peace Vigil for the Middle East, sponsored by the Canadian Council of Muslim Women (Alberta Legislature, Edmonton)

- On September 13, 2014, some 200 Christians and Muslims gathered at the Edmonton Islamic Academy to engage in a day of meeting and learning about one another's faiths. The theme for the day was "**Religious Identity in a Secular Society**" and it featured participants from Sunni, Shiite, Roman Catholic and Mennonite traditions. The Presidents of both the Edmonton & District Council of Churches and the Edmonton Council of Muslim Communities brought greetings to the event. A Muslim-Christian website was launched, entitled [A Common Word- Alberta](#) and Julien was privileged to serve as its first webmaster. The event received coverage in both faith based and secular [media reports](#).



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Special thanks to Rev. Stefano Penna, Ms. Angela Veters and Mr. Valéry Bazira who represented the Archdiocese as presenters at this event.

- Following upon the success of the September Christian-Muslim dialogue event, a committee of mixed Christians and Muslims undertook to plan another event for Fall 2015. Seven meetings of this planning committee were held between October 2014 and August 2015, including one meetings held at [St. Charles Catholic Church](#). **Thank you for St. Charles for opening their doors for this meeting to take place and for accepting to serve as the host site for the October 2015 event!**
- October 23, 2014: "**Love is a Verb.**" Film screening event organized by the Intercultural Dialogue Institute-Edmonton, with lecture by **Dr. Loye Ashton**, Chair of Religious Studies, Tougaloo College, Mississippi (Art Gallery of Alberta, Edmonton).





- On November 4, 2014, **Fr. Damian MacPherson, SA**, Ecumenical Officer of the Archdiocese of Toronto and member of the National Muslim-Christian Liaison Committee, was invited to the Archdiocese to speak about Muslim-Christian relations in Canada. He spoke at two events: the Archdiocesan priests' mid-term assembly and at public event held at St. Joseph's College. **Thank you to Rev. Martin Carroll and Rev. Scott Sharman (Anglican) for their assistance in coordinating these two events.**

- November 25, 2014: Julien participated on a panel with **Imam Ryan Carter** at a dialogue event entitled "**Living as Neighbours in the Global Community of Edmonton.**" This event took place at the Matrix Hotel in Edmonton and was billed as the 1st Annual Interfaith Gathering hosted by the Intercultural Dialogue Institute-Edmonton. Click [here](#) to read an article about this event in the *Western Catholic Reporter*.
- December 7, 2014: Phoenix Multi-faith Society for Harmony organized an **Abrahamic Tri-Faiths Celebration** to mark the festivals of Eid, Hanukah and Christmas at Edmonton City Hall. The title of this year's event was "Voices of Peace from Abraham's Children." Click [here](#) to read an article about the event in the *Western Catholic Reporter*.

- January 17, 2015: Julien attended an event and lecture to commemorate the Prophet Muhammed's life (**Milad-un-Nabi**). This event took place at the Royal Alberta Museum and featured **Dr. Karima Bennoune** (University of California-Davis School of Law). The event was sponsored by the Edmonton Council of Muslim Communities and the Aga Khan Foundation of Edmonton.



- From April 22-May 4, 2015, Julien travelled to Turkey along with six other ecumenical colleagues to participate in a study tour organized by the Intercultural Dialogue Institute (IDI) of Edmonton. **A report of this activity can be found at the website of [IDI-Edmonton](#).**
- June 2015: A formal letter (accompanied by the official message from the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue) was prepared and sent to the Edmonton Council of Muslim Communities (on the occasion of **Eid al-Fitr**)



- July 5, 2015: Julien appeared on a panel at a tri-faiths **Ramadan Iftar Dinner** together with Rabbanit Batya Friedman (Beth Israel Synagogue and Ms. Jawdah Jorf (Edmonton Islamic Academy). This event was organized by IDI-Edmonton and took place at Eastwood School in Edmonton.

➤ Dialogue with Eastern Religions (Hinduism, Buddhism, Sikhism, etc.)

Several events/activities took place that brought the Archdiocese into contact with members of Eastern Religions, namely:



○ October 2, 2014: Annual **Mahatma Gandhi garlanding ceremony**. Julien offered a Christian prayer on this occasion (Edmonton Public Library).

○ October 2, 2014: 26th Annual Banquet of the **Mahatma Gandhi Canadian Foundation for World Peace**. The banquet featured a presentation on “The history and work of the Edmonton Coalition of Arab and Jewish Women.” Presentation by Netta Phillet and Karen Hamdon (Fantasyland Hotel, West Edmonton Mall, Edmonton).

○ October 29, 2014: **Edmonton Faith Leaders’ Dinner**, featuring honoured guest Mayor Don Iveson, hosted by the Edmonton Committee for a Parliament of the World’s Religions (Garneau United Church, Edmonton).

○ Formal letters (accompanied by official messages from the Pontifical Council for Interreligious Dialogue) were prepared and sent from Archbishop Smith’s office to the Hindu Society of Alberta (on the occasion of **Diwali**), Sikh Communities in Edmonton (on the feast of **Guru Nanak Jayanti**), the Jain Society of Alberta (on the occasion of **Mahavir Jayanti**), and various Buddhist associations (on the occasion of **Vesakh**).

○ March 19, 2015: **International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** (Edmonton City Hall)

○ April 5, 2015: Celebration of **Mahavira Jayanti** with Edmonton’s Jain community (Hindu Society Temple, Edmonton)



○ April 10, 2015: Julien attended a **book launch** of Shashi Kalia’s “Sari in the Snow” (Strathcona Seniors’ Centre, Edmonton)

➤ Regional, National and International Dialogues

The Coordinator represents the Archdiocese in dialogue meetings at home and abroad:

- **Western Diocesan and Eparchial Coordinators of Ecumenism (WDECE):**
 - November 6-8, 2014: Annual Meeting of the WDECE hosted this year by the Diocese of Calgary; Theme: “Evangelical-Catholic Relations”; featuring James

Enns (Professor of History, Prairie Bible Institute) and Don Miller (Director of Canadian Ministries, Canadian Bible Society)

- **Anglican-Roman Catholic – National Dialogue Commission** (by appointment of the CCCB):
 - November 8-10, 2014 (Queen of Apostles Centre, Mississauga, ON)
 - May 28-30, 2015 (St. Paul University, Ottawa, ON)

- **Roman Catholic-Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) – International Dialogue Commission** (by appointment of the Pontifical Council for Promoting Christian Unity):
 - June 19-24, 2015 (Bethany, West Virginia)

C. Spiritual Ecumenism and Interreligious Relations

➤ **Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2015**



The preparatory materials for this year's Week of Prayer for Christian Unity brought attention to the reality of Christianity in Brazil. Invited by an ecumenical writing team from that country, Christians worldwide were invited to reflect on Jesus' words to the Samaritan woman, "Give me to drink" (John 4.7).

The Office was involved in **five activities** related to the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2015:

- Each year, in association with the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity, the Edmonton & District Council of Churches is invited to mount a three-week display at Edmonton City Hall as part of the **"Celebrating Our Faiths"** series of displays co-sponsored by the City of Edmonton and the Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action.

Typically the display calls attention to the biblical theme that animates the Week of Prayer, and highlights some of the ecumenical work that is being done locally in support of that theme.

Julien worked with Rev. Geri Redekop of Braemar Baptist Church to prepare the display and organize a launch event held at Edmonton City Hall on January 14, 2015. Thank you to Revs. Antonio Brum Hofmeister (Our Lady of Fatima), Marc Cramer (Good Shepherd), Tom Talentino (Marian Centre) the City of Edmonton and the Edmonton Interfaith Centre for Education and Action, each for their contribution to the display launch event.



- On January 18, 2015, Bishop Greg Bittman joined leaders and pastors from several Christian churches in the Edmonton area at an **ecumenical prayer service** held Braemar Baptist Church (7407 98 Ave NW, Edmonton) to open the Week of Prayer.

The service featured Brazilian hymns and preaching from a Baptist minister from Brazil. The service was followed by a time of fellowship in the parish hall, around a beautiful table of Brazilian delicacies and sweets.

A collection was taken at the service with all of the funds going to support the designated recipient for this year's No Room in the Inn project.

A news story about the EDCC service appeared in the [Western Catholic Reporter](#).

- January 19, 2015: Julien was invited to present an “Introduction to Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations” to the **EXCEL program** at Newman Theological College. The EXCEL program is part of the Catholic School Administration program at the College, and is sponsored by the Evergreen, Elk Island and St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic School Districts.
- January 19, 2015: Julien attended an **ecumenical prayer service** at Newman Theological College to mark the WPCU 2015. The service was organized by the Lay Formation Students of the College and highlighted the Christian diversity of the student population.
- January 19, 2015: Julien attended an **ecumenical prayer service** at St. Joseph’s Seminary to mark the WPCU 2015. The service was organized by the Ad Gentes Committee of the Seminary and highlighted the connection between church unity and mission.



➤ **Outdoor Way of the Cross**

The annual **Good Friday Outdoor Way of the Cross** is an ecumenical prayer event commemorating the suffering and death of Jesus. It is a time to notice how the gospel values of Jesus are important to individual and social life today.

The theme for this year’s event was “Justice and Reconciliation,” based on 2 Cor. 5.18: “All this is from God, who reconciled us through Christ, and has given us the ministry of reconciliation”



Participants joined in a 6-station way of the cross pausing to reflect on social injustices occurring in the Edmonton area especially toward impoverished people and vulnerable populations.

Several hundred people participated in the event, and there was excellent print and television media coverage of the event including from the Edmonton Journal, Edmonton Sun, Global Edmonton and the [Western Catholic Reporter](#).

➤ Taizé Prayer Events

Once a month members of several churches participate in a **Taizé-style ecumenical prayer ministry** that takes place in the churches around the Bonnie Doon neighbourhood of Edmonton. Different churches in the area take turns hosting a prayer evening, while a group of musicians leads the local congregation and friends from the



neighbourhood in the meditative style of prayer practiced by the monastic community of Taizé, France. Typically between 30 and 60 people participate in these prayer evenings. The Archdiocese covers a licensing fee for printing copyrighted materials associated with this ministry.

The participating churches in 2014-2015 were: Assumption Catholic, Holyrood Mennonite, First Church of God, Hope Lutheran, and St. Luke's Anglican. The group also led Taizé-style prayer evenings this year with the L'Arche community of

Edmonton, prayer around the cross on Good Friday evening at the Providence Renewal Centre, and a celebration to mark the 100th anniversary of Brother Roger Schutz, the founder of the Taizé community.

In June 2014, leaders from several churches in the Edmonton area met to discuss the possibility of organizing an ecumenical pilgrimage for young adults to Taizé in the near future. Plans are to continue these meetings in the year ahead.

The Archdiocese thanks all of the Taizé music ministry leaders and the participating churches for their hospitality in encouraging this ecumenical ministry in Edmonton.

➤ Edmonton and Area Ministerial Association (EAMA)

The Edmonton and Area Ministerial Association (formerly called the Edmonton Evangelical Ministerial Association) hosts a **monthly pastors' prayer** meeting at the Marketplace Chapel in the West Edmonton Mall. Julien attended 5 of these meetings over the course of the year.



➤ Edmonton Ecumenical Peace Network (EEPN)



The Edmonton Ecumenical Peace Network organizes an annual candlelight **Prayer Walk for Peace** through downtown Edmonton held during the evening on Remembrance Day. It follows an interdenominational prayer service usually held at McDougall United Church.

Julien was appointed in June 2015 to replace Dr. Bob McKeon as archdiocesan representative to the network.

➤ Ecumenical Mission of Strathcona County



Every year the mainline churches of Strathcona County organize an **ecumenical mission** that features preaching from one of the participating churches. The mission takes place over a four-day period and events take place in the morning, at mid-day and in the evening.

This year, October 5-8, 2014, the mission celebrated its 25th Anniversary. To mark this occasion, the organizers invited back Rev. Tom Ryan, CSP and Canon William Derby, the original preachers of the mission. The duo preached on the general theme of “Gospel Call,” inviting the Christian community of Strathcona County to re-energize and re-envision how they might use the mission as a means of evangelization.

Julien attended the noon-hour session (along with members of the local Anglican-Catholic dialogue group) and the closing worship (along with Archbishop Smith) on Wednesday, October 8, 2014.

➤ World Day of Prayer

The Archdiocese promotes the annual **World Day of Prayer** organized and prepared by the Women’s Inter-Church Council of Canada (WICC).



The preparatory materials for this year’s World Day of Prayer service brought attention to the reality of Christianity in **The Bahamas**. Invited by an ecumenical writing team from that country, Christians worldwide were invited to reflect on Jesus’ words to his Disciples, “Do you know what I have done to you?” (John 13.1-17).

Many services are held around the Archdiocese, often with the leadership or participation of members of the Catholic Women’s’ League. This year Julien attended three such services held at:

- Robertson-Wesley United Church (Edmonton)
- Santa Maria Goretti Catholic Church (Edmonton)
- Our Lady of Loretto Chapel (Namaso-CFB Edmonton)



➤ Other Occasions for Spiritual Ecumenism

- August 27, 2014: Mass for Peace in the Middle East (St. Joseph’s Basilica)
- September 24, 2015: Funeral of ELCIC pastor, Rev. Cliff Guebert (Hosanna Lutheran Church, Edmonton)

- October 2, 2014: Garlanding ceremony on Mahatma Gandhi Day (Edmonton Public Library)
- October 31, 2014: Funeral of Br. Donatus Vervoort, NDL (St. Albert Parish, St. Albert)
- November 3, 2014: St. Stephen's College 90th Convocation (Convocation Hall, U of A)
- November 15, 2014: Consecration of Rev. Faith Nostbakken to diaconal ministry in the ELCIC (Glory Lutheran Church, Sherwood Park)
- January 14, 2015: On Eagles' Wings – Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon (Holy Spirit Lutheran Church, Edmonton)
- February 8, 2015: "Building Bridges" Annual Interfaith Concert (Royal Alberta Museum, Edmonton)
- April 15, 2015: Annual Edmonton Prayer Breakfast (Shaw Conference Centre, Edmonton)
- April 16, 2015: Yom Ha-Shoah annual commemoration (Grounds of the Alberta Legislature)
- May 10, 2015: Mass with Edmonton's Armenian community (St. Joseph's Basilica)
- May 14, 2015: Pastors' Appreciation Breakfast hosted by Shine-FM (King's University College, Edmonton)
- June 28, 2015: Ordinations in the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton: Revs. Scott Sharman and John Gee (All Saints' Cathedral, Edmonton)
- June 30, 2015: Julien led morning devotions for a board meeting of On Eagles' Wings ministry (via conference call)

D. Common Witness and Discipleship

There are literally dozens of ecumenical/interreligious common witness projects occurring in the Archdiocese, so many that it is impossible to name them all. The following are examples of projects formally endorsed and/or supported through the Office:

➤ **Covenant Health – Diversity and Inclusion Committee**

Julien represents the Archdiocese to this committee: quarterly meetings.

➤ **Capital Region Interfaith Housing Initiative**

The Archdiocese is one of 22 signatories to the Capital Region Interfaith Housing Initiative, which animates faith-based activities aimed at tackling the problems of homelessness and affordable housing in the Edmonton area. Julien was appointed in June 2015 to replace Dr. Bob McKeon on the Steering Committee of this initiative.

➤ **No Room in the Inn Collection**

The Archdiocese participates in an annual ecumenical collection to assist an affordable housing project in the Edmonton area. Parishes are invited to contribute all or a portion of their Christmas Eve offering toward this collection, called No Room in the Inn. The 2014 collection went to support the Canadian Mental Health Association's Citrus Court building for hard to house persons with mental disorders. Julien was appointed in June 2015 to replace Dr. Bob McKeon as archdiocesan representative to this committee.

➤ **Habitat for Humanity – Interfaith Housing Build**

On March 26, 2015, Julien attended the launch event for Habitat for Humanity's 4th annual interfaith housing build. The event took place at the Neufeld Landing build site in South Edmonton. It was the beginning of the new season of the Habitat Interfaith Works 2015. Some 375 volunteers from 15 faith communities participated in this year's interfaith build. Participants were involved as lunch providers, prayer leaders, volunteers in the build site or re-store, as well as supports with advertising and logistics.



➤ **Other Common Witness Initiatives**

- September 26, 2014: Julien attended the “True Awards” ceremony, hosted by the Lieutenant Governor’s Circle of Mental Health and Addiction (Government House, Edmonton)
- October 30, 2014: Julien attended the annual Kevin Carr Christian Leadership Award luncheon, sponsored by Newman Theological College (Santa Maria Goretti Hall, Edmonton)
- December 19, 2014: Julien participated in the annual carolling and gift-giving day, sponsored by the ecumenical chaplaincy of the Edmonton Remand Centre
- March 4, 2015: Julien attended a public event entitled “**Religious Liberty under Threat,**” organized by the Minister of State for Multiculturalism, Hon. Tim Uppal, MP. Panel discussion featured Mr. Peter Bhatti (International Christian Voice) and Minister Uppal (Millwoods Pentecostal Assembly, Edmonton)
- March 19, 2015: Julien attended the annual commemoration of **International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination** (Edmonton City Hall)
- April 14, 2015: Julien accompanied Dr. Bob McKeon to a session of the **2015 Ecumenical Justice Tour**, organized under the auspices of the Canadian Council of Churches (CCC) and Citizens for Public Justice (CPJ); (Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples, Edmonton)

E. Other Meetings:

➤ Ecumenical and Interreligious Associates

- August 14, 2014: Colleague – Anglican Diocese of Edmonton
- August 21, 2014: Dialogue Coordinator – Anglican Diocese of Edmonton
- August 22, 2014: Editor – Worship magazine
- August 28, 2014: Associate Pastor – Calvary Community Church, Edmonton
- September 2, 2014: Dialogue Coordinator – Mennonite Brethren Church
- September 3, 2014: Marketing Coordinator – Renewed Spirit Centre
- September 3, 2014: Refugee Sponsorship Coordinator – Catholic Social Services
- September 17, 2014: Colleague – Spirit West United Church, Edmonton
- September 25, 2014: Student – Newman Theological College
- October 11, 2014: Colleague – Anglican Diocese of Edmonton
- October 23, 2014: Chaplain – U of A Hospital
- October 27, 2014: Coordinator – CAEDM Marriage Prep
- November 21, 2014: Religious Sister
- November 27, 2014: Rabbi, Beth Shalom Synagogue
- December 2, 2014: Coordinator, CAEDM Social Justice Office
- December 3, 2014: Rabbi, Beth Ora Temple
- December 10, 2014: Pastor – Our Lady of Fatima Catholic Church, Edmonton
- December 15, 2014: Dialogue Coordinator – Anglican Diocese of Edmonton
- December 18, 2014: Associate Pastor – Calvary Community Church, Edmonton
- December 22, 2014: Coordinator, CAEDM Catechesis Office
- January 22, 2015: Department Head – CAEDM Parish & Pastoral Services
- February 3, 2015: Editor – Worship magazine
- February 3, 2015: Executive Director, IDI Edmonton
- February 6, 2015: Coordinator, CAEDM Catechesis Office
- February 13, 2015: Dialogue Coordinator – Anglican Diocese of Edmonton
- February 18, 2015: Executive Director, IDI Edmonton
- February 19, 2015: Pastor – St. Boniface Catholic Church, Edmonton)
- March 9, 2015: Department Head – CAEDM Parish & Pastoral Services
- March 12, 2015: Conference Call: Roman Catholic/United Church national dialogue – Catholic caucus meeting (CCCB)
- March 13, 2015: Professor – Newman Theological College
- March 14, 2015: Editor – Worship magazine
- March 16, 2015: Archbishop Smith
- April 6, 2015: Executive Director, IDI Edmonton
- April 8, 2015: Pastor – Rio Terrace Moravian Church, Edmonton
- April 10, 2015: Dialogue Coordinator – Anglican Diocese of Edmonton
- June 3, 2015: Colleague – Spirit West United Church, Edmonton
- June 12, 2015: Executive Director, IDI Edmonton
- June 16, 2015: Executive Director, IDI Edmonton
- June 17, 2015: Professor – King’s University College, Edmonton
- June 17, 2015: Pastor, C3E Edmonton Church
- June 25, 2015: National Minister – Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) and Ecumenical Officer – Calgary Diocese
- June 30, 2015: Colleague – Trinity United Church, Edmonton

- July 3, 2015: Pastor – St. Boniface Catholic Church, Edmonton
- July 9, 2015: Religious Sister
- July 30, 2015: National Church Ambassador, World Vision Canada
- July 30, 2015: Hospital Chaplain – Multifaith Chaplaincy of Ontario

➤ **Pastoral & Parish Services (PPS) – Department Meetings**

- Bi-monthly meetings (18 total over the year)

➤ **Miscellany**

- October 9, 2014: Participated in webpage training session with Asia Webhi.
- January-April 2015: Taught CHRTC 250 – The Theological Formation of a Catholic Teacher (St. Joseph’s College, Edmonton)
- March 22, 2015: Led Sunday dismissal with RCIA candidates at St. Charles Catholic Church (Edmonton)
- April 1, 2015: Attended general staff retreat with Fr. Robert Mitchell, OFM (Providence Renewal Centre)
- April 9, 2015: Met with the Archdiocesan Committee for the Year of Consecrated Life
- May-June 2015: Taught CHRTC 250 – The Theological Formation of a Catholic Teacher (St. Joseph’s College, Edmonton)