

15 February 2018

Dear Administrative Church Leaders and Governing Board members :

Thank you again for the encouraging responses we received regarding nominations and appointments to the bodies of the Council in the upcoming 2018-21 triennium.

You will remember that last year the Governing Board established in the Council a new Reference Group (Terms of Reference attached) for Intercultural Leadership and Learning to carry on the work and legacy of the Canadian Churches Forum for Global Ministry (CCFGM). You may be pleased to know that the integration of the CCFGM into the Council is now complete.

As we prepare for the 2018-21 triennium, we are organizing a broad and intensive in-person and web-based consultation to discern the current ecumenical need, the opportunities for engagement, and the connection to your intercultural life and ministry. We want the Forum for Intercultural Leadership and Learning (FILL), together with the Canadian Ecumenical Anti-Racism Network (CEARN), to make sound strategic and program decisions that are guided and informed by the current needs and priorities of all the members of the Council, not only those who have participated in the past.

FILL is an ecumenical partnership through which Canadian churches work toward intercultural leadership development and ministry learning in Canada and globally. Through this work, Canadian churches engage in innovative education and programming; come together for reflection on contemporary issues; participate in dialogue about honouring diversity and God's unequivocal welcome; and networking and support for intercultural ministry.

The mandate of CEARN is to accompany churches and church organizations in Canada who are working toward racial justice, racial reconciliation, and peace, to transform themselves and their communities.

May we ask you to identify two to six people from across Canada who can participate in an in-person and web-based consultation process for FILL and CEARN together in April 2018?

An in-person consultation is scheduled for April 12 in the Toronto area. For those who are not able to attend that day and to connect with your ministry leaders from across Canada, we will also host several web-based consultations that month.

Ideally the people you identify can represent ministries at a national level or are active in intercultural leadership and learning at a more local level.

These invitations will be for the one-day event or web-based consultation only and are separate from the triennium nomination and appointment process. If you have already appointed representatives to FILL or CEARN they will also be invited to this consultation.

As you identify participants, please think creatively about how intercultural ministry or racial justice might shape the many areas of your ministry and work.

Please see the enclosed documents or visit www.interculturalleadership.ca/consult for more information and registration. Participants are asked to register by no later than Friday, March 23 using the enclosed registration form. Feel free to contact me at noteboom@councilofchurches.ca or Rev. Jonathan Schmidt; Associate Secretary, Intercultural Leadership; Justice and Peace at schmidt@councilofchurches.ca for more details.

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard our hearts and minds,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Peter Noteboom". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Peter Noteboom
Acting General Secretary