



CANADIAN COUNCIL of CHRISTIAN CHARITIES
ADVANCING MINISTRY TOGETHER

75  THE CANADIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES
LE CONSEIL CANADIEN DES ÉGLISES
1944-2019


EFC
The Evangelical
Fellowship of Canada

March 24, 2020

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, P.C., M.P.
Prime Minister of Canada
Langevin Block
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A2

RE: Gratitude for including Registered Charities in recent COVID-19-related announcements

Dear Prime Minister,

We are writing to thank you for the support offered to registered charities through the recent announcements related to the COVID-19 crisis.

As numerous studies have shown, Canada's places of worship provide significant measurable benefits not only to their adherents, but more importantly to all members of their local communities. A Canadian study to be published this year shows that these benefits are about 12 times the total amount of tax concessions provided through personal income tax reductions on donations, GST rebates, and foregone municipal property tax. Places of worship make these contributions while depending almost entirely on donations from individual Canadians.

As Canadians face job losses or reduced work hours, these donations are likely to fall. The funding initiatives you have announced will, therefore, be most helpful as they enable places of worship to continue serving Canadians through this time of high demand.

Thank you.

Yours Sincerely,

Rev. Dr. John Pellowe
CEO
Canadian Council of Christian Charities

Pastor Peter Noteboom
General Secretary
The Canadian Council of Churches

Bruce Clemenger
President
The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada

cc: Hon. Andrew Scheer, MP, Leader of the Opposition

Mr. Jagmeet Singh, MP
Mr. Yves-François Blanchet, MP
Hon. Bill Morneau, PC, MP, Minister of Finance
Hon. Jean-Yves Duclos, PC, MP, President of the Treasury Board
Hon. Mona Fortier, PC, MP, Associate Minister of Finance
Mr. Sean Fraser, MP, Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Finance

The Canadian Council of Christian Charities (CCCC) is the largest association of Christian charities in Canada, with a direct membership of 3,450 charities, churches, and denominations. CCCC is an evangelical ministry that advances the cause of Christ by supporting Christian churches and charities with spiritual and practical guidance so they can more readily share the love and message of our Lord Jesus Christ.

The Canadian Council of Churches (CCC) is a broad and inclusive ecumenical body, now representing 26-member churches including Anglican; Eastern and Roman Catholic; Evangelical; Free Church; Eastern and Oriental Orthodox; and Historic Protestant traditions. Together these member churches comprise 85% of the Christians in Canada. The Canadian Council of Churches was founded in 1944.

The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada (EFC) is the national association of evangelical Christians in Canada. EFC affiliates include 45 denominations representing over 7000 congregations, as well as approximately 600 other ministries, post-secondary educational institutions, and independent congregations. The EFC was founded in 1964 and exists to unite Evangelicals to bless Canada in the name of Jesus.