

# CND

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*We live our mission in recognition  
of our interdependence with the entire universe...  
to deepen our awareness of this interconnectedness ...*



and to **collaborate** in safeguarding and in **entering** into communion with all God's creation, and in **challenging** us to participate fully in **shaping** our planetary future

... We desire to live closer to the reality of the impoverished, the excluded and the oppressed. In solidarity with them, we commit ourselves to protect our planet and participate actively in the transformation of the unjust structures ...

*(Constitution and Rules 2013, #28, #32)*

## GREENING THE CND MOTHER HOUSE

These additions to our Constitutions mark an evolutionary shift in interpreting our mission in response to the most urgent crisis of our times. Climate Change. The human family is being called to grow up into our true identity as a species. The species that can and must consciously think and act in new ways to insure the survival and sustainability of the earth our mother. Today we know that we are not only the gardeners of this creation but part of the garden itself.

The Mother House holds a special place in the heart of all CND's, and of all those touched by the life of Marguerite Bourgeoys. None more so than the people of Montreal, Quebec. Imagine the Mother House building itself expressing, reminding, and holding us all to our common vocation to Earth our Mother. This is the inspiration, and motivation for the project to Green the Mother House ! A project which emerged from and ignited the hopes and passion of the CND Justice Coordinator and Consultative committee members, as they reflected upon the minutes from the Annual Justice Network meeting of August 14, 2014. After consultation with General Leadership Team the project was given the Green Light. The project is under the direction of the CND Justice Coordinator, Mr. Apraham Niziblian.

### THE GREENING IS ALREADY UNDERWAY

The Congregation is already taking actions to make the Mother House building more sustainable at all levels: respecting the wellbeing of those who live and work at the Mother House: conserving and replenishing the environment, natural and financial resources of the mother house; and insuring that these changes will benefit the well-being of the citizens and city of Montreal. A steering committee for the project is in place which includes representatives from every constituency of the mother house. Consultations with City Officials, the environmental community and Academia are ongoing.

Our partner in this project, Equiterre is a highly respected international organization involved in environmentally sustainable living. Equiterre is part of a coalition that has built a sustainable building in Montreal, which provides education and consultation in building design.

We hope you are as excited about this project as we are.

*Stacy Hanrahan, cnd*

**The CND Justice Network will host an event to present the Project on the evening of August 18 and morning of August 19, 2015 at the Mother House. Invitations will be sent to various constituencies of the public and of course to our own CND's and associates.**

**If you are interested in participating please send your name and contact information to Apraham Niziblian, CND Justice Coordinator**

## GREENING THE CND MOTHER HOUSE

### Apraham 's corner

In August of last year, just before Bineta Bah, the coordinator of the SJN went on maternity leave, I attended my first meeting of the Social Justice Network. As I listened to each one share her experience and analysis of what was happening in her region, I was amazed at the depth and breadth of the education and commitment of the Congregation of Notre Dame. My first exposure to the life and mission of the CND was a pivotal one for me and I was hooked.

I also became aware of the growing shift in CND consciousness that was taking hold – the same shift in human consciousness. The suffering Earth that affects those of you missioned in Central America, Cameroon and Japan, whose very country moved, was palpable. The voices of the sisters and associates of Honduras, Guatemala, El Salvador and Cameroon were and are key to the social justice process.

At that same August meeting, Sister Gilberte Bussierre, released from captivity two months before, implored the group to give young people hope.

That is why we are doing what we are doing. The cry of the Earth and those made poor is and will be felt primarily by those the next generation.

How we live the present moment will determine if the next generation has a future”

*(Thich Nhat Hanh, Buddhist monk)*

This is why, as an international community, you are presently participating in an educational process

in preparation for coming to a CND communal stance on the Earth.

The many CND ministries, to women who bear the heavier load, to refugees, spiritual guidance, teaching in schools and other forms of education, chaplaincy, health care, leadership, work with youth, and the many other forms of liberating education are all being affected by the plight of our Mother Earth.

And that is why I continue to be very excited by the Motherhouse project – a dream – a reimagining our life as a community - the creation of a green Motherhouse. The CND Motherhouse is reaching out to Mother Earth – attending to Mother Earth. As I mentioned in the January SJN bulletin the fruit of our labour will be shared with the members of the Social Justice Network on August 18th during a conference- style event preceding the 3-day meeting beginning August 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2015.

Laure Waridel, an eco-sociologist, and co-founder of Equiterre, the organization with which we are working on the Mother House project will be the keynote speaker. The process continues!

**PLEASE JOIN US ON AUGUST 18 2015 at the CND Mother House as we share our year long reflection and ideas on how to green the Mother House.**

**For more information, or for those wishing to attend, please RSVP with [aniziblian@cnd-m.org](mailto:aniziblian@cnd-m.org)**

**See you in Montreal on August 18 at 4:30 pm**

## GREENING THE CND MOTHER HOUSE

### Vatican, UN Team Up On Climate Change In Lead Up To Pope's Encyclical

- \* Pope writes keenly awaited encyclical on the environment
- \* U.N. leader and pope discuss effects of climate change
- \* Skeptics say view one-side, deny climate change man-made (Adds final statement, warning Paris summit could be last chance).

VATICAN CITY, April 28 (Reuters) - The Vatican and the United Nations teamed up to warn the world of the effects of climate change on Tuesday, coming down firmly against skeptics who deny human activities help change global weather patterns.

U.N. Secretary General Ban Ki-Moon discussed climate change with the pope before opening a one-day conference of scientists and religious leaders called «The Moral Dimensions of Climate Change and Sustainable Development.»

The pope, who is due to make a major address on sustainable development at the United Nations in September, has said he believes man is primarily responsible for climate change and is writing an encyclical on the environment.

Ban, opening the conference of some 60 scientists, religious leaders and diplomats hosted by the Pontifical Academy of Sciences, urged industrialized countries to invest in clean energy and reduce their carbon footprints.

«Mitigating climate change and adapting to its effects are necessary to eradicate extreme poverty, reduce inequality and secure equitable, sustainable economic development,» he said.

The gathering's final joint declaration said «Human-induced climate change is a scientific reality, and its decisive mitigation is a moral and religious imperative for humanity.»

The Paris summit on climate change in December «may be the last effective opportunity to negotiate arrangements that keep human-induced warming below 2 degrees C,» adding that the «current trajectory may well reach a devastating 4degrees C or higher,» it said.

Ban said he and the pope discussed Francis' keenly awaited encyclical, which will be addressed to all of the world's 1.2 billion Roman Catholics and which the pope has said he hopes will influence the Paris conference.

«It (the encyclical) will convey to the world that protecting our environment is an urgent moral imperative and a sacred duty for all people of faith and people of conscience,» Ban said.

Jeffrey Sachs, Colombia University professor and director of the U.N. Sustainable Solutions Network, told reporters companies that invest in fossil fuels stand to lose money.

«Everybody needs to understand that policies are going to change to make it unprofitable if you wreck the planet,» he said. «Those companies that continue exploring and developing fossil fuel resources for which there is no safe use are going to pay a very heavy cost for that»

The Heartland Institute, a Chicago think tank that says climate change is not human-induced, sent a delegation to Rome to contest the premise of the conference.

Heartland member Christopher Monckton of Britain, told reporters that the pope «should listen to both sides of the scientific argument ... not only people of one, narrow, poisonous political and scientific viewpoint.»

(Reporting by Philip Pulella; Editing by Tom Heneghan/Hugh Lawson)

