



*Mandate of IPA:*

*As Presentation People impelled by the radical gospel of Jesus and on fire with the spirit of Nano, we consciously choose to be drawn more deeply into the mystery of God, the mystery of Oneness and the reality of people and Earth made poor.*

The cosmos dreams in me while I wait in stillness, ready to lean a little further into the heart of the Holy. I, a little blip of life, a wisp of unassuming love, a quickly passing breeze, come once more into Lent. No need to sign me with the black bleeding ash of palms, fried and baked. I know my humus place. This Lent I will sail on the graced wings of desire, yearning to go deeper to the place where I am one in the One. Oh, may I go there soon, in the same breath that takes me to the stars when the cosmos dreams in me.

Lent 2001 by JOYCE

RUPP

**Events and Actions of our JPIC committee:**

Clo chaired the meeting. Prayer, led by Lois was based on Reflection three - *Personal and Systemic Transformation* – from the CCTJ Booklet *Toward a Sustainable Community of Life* - which all Associate and Community groups are using. We reflected on ideas and words from Reflection 3 that resonated with each of us – impelling – consciously – mystery – personal – systemic – and the scripturally evocative ‘seamless garment’ of God’s creation from Pope Francis’ encyclical *Laudato Si’*.

**PRESENTATION JUSTICE NETWORK HANDBOOK**

**CCT-J Booklet (Draft)** : We – along with all Union Justice Contacts - were asked by Sr. Maureen O’Connell of the Congregational Coordinating Team for Justice to assess the booklet: ‘PRESENTATION JUSTICE NETWORK: A HANDBOOK. It was agreed that this is a truly timely and well organized handbook. It outlines the history of IPA, the idea that we need a ‘two feet approach’ personal and systemic - advocacy and prophetic. The 17 SDG’s are brought forward to our consciousness again, and our place in the complex organization of the UN as an NGO is clearly enunciated. All agreed that this booklet is important and timely for all Presentations – Sisters, Associates, old and new. Emma has been invited by Maureen to be on the committee which oversees the final draft.

IPA NEWS

• **Commission for Social Development**

The fifty-fifth session of the Commission for Social Development took place at the United Nations Headquarters in New York from 1 to 10 February 2017. The priority theme enunciated for the 2017-2018 review and policy cycle is “**Strategies for eradicating poverty to achieve sustainable development for all**”. IPA’s statement to the Commission included seven recommendations regarding the human rights of migrants, including the need to: ratify the international agreements to enhance migrants’ rights, eliminate forced labour, comply with fair recruitment practices, educate workers on their rights, and monitor employers and recruiters.

• **Commission on the Status of Women**

The CSW is the principal global intergovernmental body exclusively dedicated to the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of women. IPA, along with other religious orders, submitted a statement that pointed out that there remain outdated laws and practices, with restrictive social, business, financial, economic, and cultural norms, that hinder women’s full realization of economic empowerment. Nine recommendations were made including the providing of lifelong education of women for business, the establishing of alternate systems of education empowering women to move out of poverty, the enforcing of policies to ensure that women and girls get quality education preparing them for a contemporary work force, the changing of the narrative on gender stereotypes, the protection of migrants in host countries, the creation of sustainable jobs with health and child care benefits, and the ensuring of equal pay for equal work.

• **Some Initiatives on the part of Canadian NGO’s:**

We touched briefly on some Canadian NGO efforts in the areas of mining, right to clean water, clean energy, and First Nations. We particularly noted the work done by the *Council of Canadians* chaired by Maude Barlow. Founded in 1985, the Council advocates for clean water, fair trade, green energy, public health care, and a vibrant democracy. We praised David Suzuki’s growing ‘*Blue Dot*’ movement - people calling upon their local communities to pass municipal declarations respecting people’s right to live in a healthy environment. We discussed KAIROS’ ‘wish list’ and noted that last year, two of these were realized: the Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and a national rising price on carbon that integrates with provincial carbon pricing mechanisms.



- **SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs)**

If you google *Transforming Our World: Canadian Perspectives on the Sustainable Development Goals*, you will find Canada's promise to the Paris Agreement. While the document itself is a little unwieldy there are some lovely reflections by different people in easily understandable language and format.

**Other News and Views**



Measuring Sustainable Development - status update on the global indicators for the Sustainable Development Goals. [Read More](#)

Also: [Information](#) on the SDGs.

Today, the Council of Canadians mailed every Member of Parliament a copy of our hard-hitting report [A Prescription for Better Medicine: Why Canadians need a national pharmacare program](#). Included with the report is a questionnaire aimed at getting a better understanding of MP's positions on pharmacare and what their party is doing to help make a universal national drug program a reality in Canada. The report shows how we could save \$11 billion or more in drug costs annually with pharmacare and at the same time make people healthier by ensuring they have the medications they need.

[Read more](#) about the campaign for pharmacare.



Just a few months ago, I stood in front of a packed room of volunteers and supporters who were ready and eager to get to work on the next phase of the Blue Dot movement: achieving a federal environmental bill of rights.

That passion and enthusiasm for environmental rights is helping us kick off an exciting year.

We can't think of a better 150th birthday present for Canada!

[I wanted to take this opportunity to give you a sneak preview of our plans for 2017, and to introduce you to the team that will be carrying this out.](#)

[Making federal environmental rights a reality](#)

When we launched the Blue Dot Tour in 2014, we never dreamed this movement would receive such widespread support. More than 105,000 people, 25,000 volunteers and 146 communities have signed on to the Blue Dot movement. ["What do you get the country that has it all for its 150th birthday? A bill of rights that will ensure protection of its natural assets for generations to come is a great start," said David Suzuki \(Canadian Geographic and The Walrus special issue\).](#) This year we will continue to build momentum — online and in key ridings across the country — with the goal of having a federal environmental bill of rights introduced by the end of 2017.

**LEARN ABOUT THE PLAN ›**

**REMINDER:**

- [IPA Website](#)
- [Conference Website](#)
- [Society Website](#)
- [Union Website](#)

Press Ctrl and Click together on your keyboard to follow any of the above links and open each website.