



Mandate of IPA: Addressing the root causes of poverty by confronting personal and corporate greed which exploit Earth, her peoples and the whole community of life, committing ourselves to:

- 1) Intentionally name and claim the work of Presentation people wherever they minister as essentially the mission of IPA.*

Prayerful Reflection:

At January's JPIC Committee meeting our prayer was led by Lois Greene, from Michael Morwood's poem *Healing* in the video **Painting with the Stars**. The group also spent time with the first module of this program as their educational component. Over the next six months they will continue to explore the communion of science and faith and the evolution of their own spirituality.

Events and Actions of our JPIC committee:

Conference of Presentation Sisters Conference Calls

Every few months the Justice Contacts of North America meet by conference call. This month we meet on the 22nd and in preparation for the call Virginia Wilkinson (New Windsor) our current chairperson developed a questionnaire to all the Justice Contacts to evaluate what we do and how we communicate with one another. The committee discussed the questions and the answers to be given by our group.

Faith Perspectives on Housing - Several Sisters from both the Leadership Team and the JPIC Committee have attended meetings on housing with a view to encouraging better housing opportunities for persons on a low-income.

Several of the NL delegates to the 2013 CHRA Congress in Ottawa got together to debrief the event and one issue that became a major focus for discussion was engagement of faith communities in housing issues. There have been two meetings, modeled on a venture in Toronto, which gathered a faith-based group in the city with the NL Home Builders Association, Canadian Housing & Renewal Association and City of St. John's Affordable Housing. Further meetings will be held organized by Scott Morton-Ninomiya and Bruce Pearce.

Articles of Interest

Fracking contamination more common than US states report, says new review

In at least four energy boom states, AP found hundreds of complaints about well-water contamination from oil or gas drilling

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/jan/06/drilling-pollution-complaints-state-report-s-pennsylvania>

In at least four states that have nurtured the nation's energy boom, hundreds of complaints have been made about well-water contamination from oil or gas drilling, and pollution was confirmed in a number of them, according to a review that casts doubt on industry suggestions that such problems rarely happen.

Wind power was Spain's top source of electricity in 2013

Surge in wind power and hydropower drives emissions down by more than 23%, reports BusinessGreen

<http://www.theguardian.com/environment/2014/jan/06/wind-power-spain-electricity-2013>

Global alliance for Rights of Nature

Read more at: <http://ncronline.org/node/68461>



Course in Sustainable Development

The Earth Institute of Columbia University and Jeffrey Sachs are offering a free course on **sustainable development**. This looks like a wonderful opportunity. An introductory video and course outline can be found here <https://www.coursera.org/course/susdev>

Not-So-Good News

There is an increase in *Human Trafficking* world-wide. We need to be aware of what is happening around us which is so dangerous to human beings being moved from one country to another often illegally and always under false pretenses of available work which will help families living in desperate situations in two/third world countries.

Good News

The United Nations through the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) has supported the development of specific laws on the rights of indigenous peoples, which clarified the content of the principle of free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples in the Republic of Congo and Indonesia. It has also produced training modules and provided technical assistance and expert advice to ensure that national regulations' initiatives comply with existing international standards on free, prior and informed consent in countries such as Bolivia, Mexico, Peru and Ecuador. OHCHR has worked closely with the indigenous experts and United Nations agencies involved in the UN Indigenous Peoples' Partnership (UNIPP) to ensure that all UNIPP country programmes are not merely about indigenous peoples, but also designed and implemented in true partnership.

Ms. Navi Pillay, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, August 2013. Foreword to the Manual for National Human Rights Institutions.

Up-Coming Events

- 1) **The Social Justice Co-op NL Presents: "Social Justice: What does it mean to YOU?"**

An 'Open Space' free public forum!

When: Saturday, Feb. 1, 2014, 12:00 - 5:00 pm

Where: Canon Wood Hall, St. Thomas' Anglican Church (Corner of Military Rd. and King's Bridge Rd.)

This is an opportunity for all members of the Social Justice Co-op, and of the Social Justice community at large, to learn from each other, to share knowledge and skills, and to give voice to the issues that concern you the most!

- 2) **Workshop on Human Trafficking**

There will be a workshop held at the Capital Hotel sometime in April on *Human Trafficking*. Sister Emma sits on the organizing committee which is a multi-disciplinary group. The keynote speaker for this conference is Joyce Smith, MP from Manitoba who has wide experience and is working with a national group to change laws which further re-victimize trafficked persons who are fearful of any law officers as often they are illegal immigrants and have no passports or other necessary documentation.

Concluding Challenges/Actions:

Look at your ministry and intentionally name and claim it as a work of Presentation people worldwide and as essential to the mission of IPA. (IPA commitment 2012)

Read at least one of the articles listed above, or another on a Justice Issue, which you have found, and share with another person.

