



Mandate of IPA:

Addressing the root causes of poverty by confronting personal and corporate greed which Explore ways of “widening the tent” (Is. 54:2) to further the IPA mission and identify specific exploit Earth, her peoples and the whole community of life, committing ourselves to elements of our goals which would be enhanced/progressed by strategic partnerships with people/groups with similar values.

Conference of Presentation Sisters

The JPIC Committee did not have a May meeting but the Executive of the group met in Dubuque, Iowa with the Presentation Justice Contacts from across North America. This was a facilitated meeting where the women studied the IPA mandate and discussed how they might best bring it alive in our two countries. Elena Hoye, Justice Networker and Elsa Muttathu, our NGO Representative at the UN were part of the discussions. Lilly John, pbvm who was at the UN for the past few months working with Elsa and presenting on the plight of rural women in India joined them and enriched their sharing. On the last day of their gathering the Justice Contacts met with the Congregational Leadership Teams to share the fruits of their time together and to make recommendations. It was decided that they would meet annually, preferably in conjunction with some educational conference, and that their respective congregations would cover this cost.

Events and Actions of our JPIC committee:

Habitat for Humanity

On Saturday, June 21st, Angela, Clo and Emma took food to the workers at the *Habitat for Humanity* project as part of their regular participation in the meetings on “Faith and Housing”.

Newsletter

The JPIC Newsletter is composed and sent bi-monthly to all Sisters and Associates, JPIC representatives of the North American Conference and to Elsa Muttathu, NGO Representative at the UN and Elena Hoye, IPA Justice Networker.

Articles of Interest

2.1.3.Canadian mining doing serious environmental harm in Latin America.

The growing role of Canadian mining companies across Latin America has been put under the spotlight at the Inter-American Commission on Human Rights (IACHR) in Washington, DC, following the presentation of a revealing report. Mining operations by Canadian firms across nine Latin American countries are causing “serious environmental impacts” by destroying glaciers, contaminating water and rivers, and cutting down forest, according to the report, as well as forcibly displacing people, dividing and impoverishing communities, making false promises about economic benefits, endangering people’s health, and fraudulently acquiring property. Some who protest such projects have been killed or seriously wounded, it states, and others persecuted, threatened or accused of being terrorists. (UISG Newsbrief, June 2014)



2.1.2.Global warming in West Antarctica has reached a point of no return. Scientists have now collected enough observations to conclude that the retreat of ice in the Amundsen sea sector of West Antarctica is unstoppable and with major consequences. It will mean that sea levels will rise one meter worldwide. What’s more, its disappearance will likely trigger the collapse of the rest of the West Antarctic ice sheet, which comes with a sea level rise of between three and five meters. Such an event will displace millions of people worldwide. Read Eric Rignot’s article in the Observer, May 17, 2014 at <http://www.theguardian.com/commentisfree/2014/may/17/climate-change-antarctica-glaciers-melting-global-warming-nasa>. (UISG Newsbrief, June 2014)

Not-So-Good News

Pipeline approval flies in the face of democracy and global warming

There was little doubt the federal government would [approve the Enbridge Northern Gateway pipeline project](#), regardless of public opposition or evidence presented against it. The prime minister indicated he wanted the pipeline built before the Joint Review Panel hearings even began. [Ad campaigns](#), [opponents demonized as foreign-funded radicals](#), gutted environmental laws and [new pipeline and tanker regulations](#) designed in part to mollify the B.C. government made the federal position even more clear.

In 2007, [our prime minister called climate change](#) "perhaps the greatest threat to the future of humanity." [Now he says](#), "No matter what they say, no country is going to take actions that are going to deliberately destroy jobs and growth in their country." Yet, many actions our industries and governments are taking will hurt the ability to create jobs and keep the economy prosperous. Clean energy and educated citizens are healthier investments than an increasingly risky fossil fuel industry -- and we can't hope for abundant jobs and a thriving economy on a planet suffering the ever-worsening consequences of global warming.

Canada was once seen as a country where respect for each other and our land, air, water and biodiversity were valued. Now, some government leaders and their industry and media supporters threaten those who dare question the mad scramble for short-sighted, short-term profits at the expense of the environment, our health and the world's climate systems, and label us "radicals".

If it's radical to insist on maintaining and strengthening values that have long defined us as a nation, then we'll wear the label proudly. [We are radically Canadian!](#) That means building on the progress we've made over the years to create a society based on compassion, equity and respect for the people and places we know and love.



Photo: [Matthew](#) via Flickr

Good News

Stride to Stem the Tide Walkathon

We raised \$2535 to help African Grandmothers who have lost their children to HIV/AIDS and are raising their grandchildren with little or no support. This is an effort in partnership with the *Terre Neuve Grannies*, an affiliate of the Stephen Lewis Foundation, who welcome "grandmothers" as well as "grandmothers" to their ranks! After the walk there was a most interesting talk by Ida, a lady from Zambia, who works with the Stephen Lewis Foundation. She spoke of the ways that Sub-Saharan Africans have learned to help each other to support the work of the Foundation. One example was of a group from her village who organized themselves to carry water on a regular basis to the home of a blind grandmother who was raising her grandchildren.

We are most grateful to the Sisters, Associates, Staff and Friends who were our sponsors.

Concluding Challenges/Actions:

Seek some way to partner with a cause related to our IPA issues of women and children, indigenous people, sustainable development and human rights. (As you did in sponsoring the walk . . . as you did in signing petitions circulated by the JPIC Committee. . . .)
(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. Follow one of these quick links to a related website!

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

