



DIOCESE OF HAMILTON

February 14, 2022

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

After significant work at both the national and local levels, I am pleased to provide an update on the participation of the Diocese of Hamilton in the national **Indigenous Reconciliation Fund**.

In late January 2022, the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) announced the establishment of the [Indigenous Reconciliation Fund](#), a charity whose mandate is to receive, manage, and disperse \$30 million in collective contributions promised by Canada's Catholic dioceses.

The Diocese of Hamilton, as an enthusiastic supporter of this initiative, will commit \$4 million to the fund over the next 5 years. While our Indigenous partners in this program will be determined in the weeks ahead, the funds will be allocated to programs that work toward accomplishing *Call to Action #61* of [Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission](#): healing and reconciliation projects; culture and language revitalization projects; education and relationship-building projects; and dialogues for Indigenous spiritual leaders and youth.

Of these funds, \$2.1 million will be allocated through partnerships within the Diocese of Hamilton, while \$1.9 million will support initiatives in other dioceses/communities of need across the country. The Diocese is committed to fulfilling its \$4 million commitment. Parishioners across the diocese will be invited to support this initiative through various means in the coming years.

While the Diocese of Hamilton ran no residential schools, we take seriously our part in supporting the CCCB effort to promote healing and reconciliation with our Indigenous sisters and brothers. With Jesus Christ as our model, the Church stands with those who suffer, those who mourn, and those who hunger for righteousness. May God, the Creator of all, bless this initiative and the journey toward healing and reconciliation.

St. Kateri Tekakwitha, Pray for Us!

Sincerely in Christ and Mary Immaculate,

+ Douglas Crosby, OMI
(Most Rev.) Douglas Crosby, OMI
Bishop of Hamilton

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