

A TIME FOR INSPIRED LEADERSHIP AND ACTION

Welcome to the G8/G20 Interfaith MDG Events 2010-2011 Resource Kit. This kit is meant to help you host an interfaith event within your community and include members from multiple faiths, as well as your federal Member of Parliament as your guests.

As sisters and brothers of world religions we can address global poverty, care for our earth and invest in peace together. These tenets are the same principles found in all faiths, and are also reflected in the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The 6th Annual InterFaith Religious Leaders' Summit was held at the University of Winnipeg just prior to the 2010 G8/G20 Summit. Faith leaders from around the world gathered to finalize the statement "A Time for Inspired Leadership and Action" and to present it to the political leaders. The statement reminds us of the shared values of all faiths and reinforces the fact that addressing global poverty, caring for our earth and investing in peace will inevitably help us meet the MDGs.

As global brothers and sisters living on this earth, we strive to educate and inform each other, especially our elected officials, of the MDGs and our important commitment to them. Five years remain for us to be able to meet the goals.

You will find the interfaith statement from the Winnipeg Conference in this Resource Kit. Use it as you gather in mosques, churches, synagogues, temples, congregations and communities to raise your voices to your Member of Parliament. Let them know that the depth of your faith tradition calls for justice and peace for all peoples and creation itself. Gather in any way that facilitates relationship and the expression of concern and thus enhances the three foci of the 2010 Interfaith Leadership Summit Statement, which stem from the MDGs.

This Resource Kit has been written in the Canadian context, but we hope that it will be widely used and adapted, for the sake of the world and the world's people. Please feel free to make it your own.

Thank you for your leadership and action!

The Rev. Dr. Karen Hamilton
Chair, The 2010 Interfaith Partnership