***Climate Justice 2015 Program One-Pager
Climate Justice Working Group, Commission on Justice and Peace***

***November 2014***

***Prepared by Peter Noteboom***

**Introduction**For the 2012-15 CJP Program Plan, Climate Justice is the #1 priority for the Commission. In Jan 2014 the Program Plan was updated to reflect work completed and proposals for 2014 and 2015. This brief one-pager summarizes what is proposed for the 2015 program. At this CJP meeting, we will want to confirm the direction of this 2015 program.

*Framing Principles for Witness and Action on Climate Justice, Energy and the Economy in Dec-Jan-Feb*In response to a request from the Commission at an earlier meeting, these principles have been developed by the Climate Justice Working Group to respond to what seemed to be a gap in the public discourse about climate change and its relationship to energy policies and the environment. The idea is that if we can identify principles that help us think through and respond to decisions and developments as they arise, this could be a helpful complement to internal educational work or future statements that focus on Canada’s international profile. This work is intended primarily to strengthen the discussion as these issues are played out in Canada rather than internationally. We have tentatively decided to proceed with a process leading to consensus on these principles, while at the same time engaging in further dialogue among churches and inviting a theological review of them at this meeting.

*Statement/Letter in February-March-April*The CJP has been in correspondence with the Minister of the Environment in 2012 and 2013. Since then the Government of Canada’s performance remains under scrutiny, churches have taken action to address climate change in their own organization, and in the lead-up to further conversations on the topic in 2015 it may be timely to draft another letter to the minister, or perhaps a pastoral statement for Earth Day 2015. What kind of statement might be most useful at this time? How will it further develop the ecumenical interfaith evangelical dialogue that was begun in 2011?

*Forum Event in April in Ottawa*

Joy Kennedy has drafted a concept note for a *Religious Leaders’ Arctic Summit on Climate Change*. At various venues Joy has garnered substantial support for the proposal. Peter Noteboom will meet with Hendrik Grape of the Church of Sweden in December. With the Arctic Council meeting in Iqaluit April 24-25 2015, Earth Day scheduled for April 22, and Easter on April 5 and 12, the most likely dates would be April 16-18 or April 23-25 in Ottawa. Shall we proceed?

*Delegation to the UN 21st Conference of the Parties on Climate Change 2015 – Paris in Nov-Dec*Similar to Durban in 2011, this is an important moment to be present at the international negotiations for a binding international agreement. Can we ensure solid church leader representation and participation at the Conference? Who will we recruit to represent Canadian churches?

*Other Possibilities to Keep in Mind*It may be possible to link Climate and Poverty issues as the #1 and #2 priorities of the CJP through a church leaders’ tour or some other series of programmed events to engage faith communities in 2015 together with other CJP partners.

The Governing Board meets again in Ottawa May 13-15 2015, and a new Triennium will begin, also for the CJP.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission releases their report with a series of activities May 30 – June 2 in Ottawa.

*CJP Members who have participated in Climate Justice Working Group meetings*

Keith Helmuth, Kathy Vandergrift, Joe Gunn, Joy Kennedy, Patrick Fletcher, Peter Noteboom. KAIROS and Faith and the Common Good have participated as guests.