



## President's Report on CRIC Activities 2012-2013

CRIC's monthly meetings have been held on a regular basis from 3:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m., on the third Sunday in a month in a variety of our Faith Groups' venues.

We all expressed the desire to maintain two hours as the duration of our meetings. Because of the importance of "*I and my Faith*", we agreed to spend an hour on it. Each representative in turn, made a presentation for two minutes. Comments, questions and clarifications soon followed after the talks. This has contributed in a special way to mutual understanding and appreciation.

### Activities

#### 1. Annual Spring cleaning

As every year, we gather in May at Ken Steele Park for the City Spring Cleaning. This activity was followed by sharing snacks and drinks by all participants. Each faith group representative was introduced and shared their respective thoughts on the importance of caring for the environment, from the perspective of their faith. It was a shared moment that allowed a better knowledge and appreciation of each other's faiths. The event was a great success. A very special thanks to Lloyd Spencer for organizing such a well-attended and joyous event. Our goal is always trying to get more Faith Communities involved and more people to participate.

#### 2. Joy of Faith Concert

This year, because of logistical and scheduling problems, the Joy of Faith was postponed until early next year.

#### 3. Interfaith Prayer Service

This Interfaith Prayer Service took place on Sunday, October 20th at First Unitarian on Cleary Avenue. It was a great success with very encouraging feedback. Theme was prayer for the earth and care for the environment. The event was opened by First Nations Singer and Drummer, Barbara Hill, who skilfully set the tone for the event. Each faith group member rose to pray and/or share a few words on the environment. This year we had a single choir (First Unitarian) which did an excellent job with a multi-faith repertoire. The Mayor of Ottawa was invited but was in China. There was a good mix of enthusiastic participants.

The reception afterwards was organized by First Unitarian and was excellent. A very vocal call for more events like this was happily noted. Thanks to the Committee – Frances, Heather, Lillian and Jacques – for organizing this event. The Committee met shortly afterward to debrief and make suggestions for next year.

#### 4. General Remarks

I want to thank everyone for their support for CRIC and its objectives and encourage you all to move bravely forward in responding to challenges that increasingly confront all religions around the world. On behalf of the members of the Board, I thank you for having given us the opportunity to serve you.

– Michael McIntyre