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November 12, 2017

Her Excellency the Right Honourable Julie Payette, C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., C.Q., C.D.
Governor General of Canada
Rideau Hall
1 Sussex Drive
Ottawa Ontario K1A 0A1

Excellency:

On behalf of the Canadian Interfaith Conversation, we would like to extend our congratulations on your recent appointment to the office of Governor General. We wish you well in your important task of upholding the honour of the Crown: exercising your constitutional duties, being the commander-in-chief, representing Canada, encouraging excellence and bringing Canadians together.

The Canadian Interfaith Conversation gathers representatives of 41 faith communities and faith-based organizations who believe that people of faith can contribute positively to the benefit of all people in Canadian society. As our *Charter Vision* indicates, we want to promote harmony and religious insight among religions and religious communities in Canada, and in so doing we are also working collaboratively with those who profess adherence to no particular faith.

Your recent remarks at the Canadian Science Policy Convention have been brought to our attention. We would therefore like to extend an invitation for you to meet with leaders of faith communities in Canada - including respected scientists - who profess a variety of religious beliefs, many of whom are also strong advocates for climate justice (see, for example, the article on our website, *Interfaith Climate Statement Ready for Signatures*).

We hope that this invitation will contribute to bringing Canadians together and promote harmony and insight on the important issues of our day.

Sincerely,

Zul Kassamali, Co-chair
Canadian Interfaith Conversation

Aileen van Ginkel, Co-chair
Canadian Interfaith Conversation

cc: The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau, Prime Minister of Canada

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