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Dear Friends and Colleagues:

Bishops and treasurers of the ELCIC's synods and national church have written to The Hon. Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Families, Children, and Social Development, to encourage action by the Canadian government to sustain the charitable sector during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are attaching copies of the ELCIC letter and Canadian Council of Christian Charities (CCCC) letter for your consideration.

Specifically, the letter endorses the CCCC proposal to sustain the charitable sector during the COVID-19 pandemic, as submitted to the government on April 21, 2020. The CCCC has written to the Hon. Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development with a funding proposal, "to sustain and strengthen the charitable sector during the COVID-19 pandemic crisis, when demand for services is very high, but significant decreases in donations due to income insecurity threatens to destabilize charities."

We invite you to consider sending your own letter and sharing copies of these letters with your Member of Parliament (MP). A sample letter has been included with this mailing for your use. You can find email contact information for your MP at the following link.
<https://www.ourcommons.ca/en/contact-us> If you have an existing relationship with your local MP, you might also choose to make a phone call raising these concerns.

If you have questions about this matter, please contact Bishop Michael Pryse (mpryse@elcic.ca) or Eastern Synod Treasurer Mr. Keith Myra (kmyra@elcic.ca).

As bishops and treasurers of the ELCIC's synods and national church, we are deeply aware of the efforts you, your congregation and your faith community are making to care for the people you serve in your neighbourhood. We express our gratitude and offer our prayers for these expressions of ministry.

Yours in Christ,

Bishop Michael Pryse