

February 2, 2017

Response to the Quebec Murders...

The Interfaith Committee of the Eganville/Killaloe/Combemere areas of Renfrew County are shocked and saddened by the murder of innocent lives at le Centre Culturel Islamique de Quebec on January 29th, and we extend our sympathy and prayers to all who are affected by this tragedy. Such Islamophobic, anti-immigrant, right-wing extremism has no place in civilized society.

*Our aim is to create loving communities through education and awareness, and through learning to celebrate and accept our differences and similarities. In doing so we hope to support the vulnerable in our communities, young and old.*

By learning and celebrating together we help to prevent hate related incidents. People of all beliefs must be prepared to stand together, to respect one another's differences, and to speak out in favour of the common values that unite us. We recognize that we are all children of our loving Creator and that we share this earth, our common home.

We encourage our communities to celebrate their diversity and strive to achieve a greater understanding of our cultural and religious differences. Together we become a part of the solution in creating a more just, peaceful, and harmonious society for all.

Our Creator calls us to be merciful, and loving, and to make peace in all our relationships. These are the values that make us true friends with our brothers and sisters in all communities.

Our thoughts and prayers continue to go out to all those who may be fearful of what the future may hold, to our Muslim friends, and to those who mourn.

The Interfaith Committee of the Eganville/Killaloe/Combermere area