

Read in January, 2017 Council Meeting

Dear Mayor Schaffer & Councillors,

As a member of the B.C. Coordinating Council of Public Affairs of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints, I would like to take the opportunity to share with you our knowledge of the United Nations Declaration of World Interfaith Harmony Week, which will occur this year from February 1 – February 7. Various Canadian communities and some provinces are standing behind the UN Proclamation and making this week one of recognition as well.

To quote directly from the resolution brought to the world assembly, “[World Interfaith Harmony Week] is the promotion of inter-religious and intercultural dialogue, understanding and cooperation for peace. [It promotes] the elimination of all forms of intolerance and discrimination based on religion or belief, recognizing the imperative need for dialogue among different faiths and religions to enhance mutual understanding, harmony and cooperation among people.

[This Declaration] encourages all States to support, on a voluntary basis, the spread of the message of interfaith harmony and goodwill in the world’s churches, mosques, synagogues, temples and other places of worship during that week, based on love of God and love of one’s neighbour or on love of the good and love of one’s neighbour, each according to their own religious traditions or convictions.”

It is our hope that with your mission to “build a vibrant, healthy and safe community” that the parallel mission of World Interfaith Harmony Week will meet with yours. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,

Dorothy Gurney