

Summer greetings to each one of you, our dear Becoming Neighbours friends!!



(Ministry of the Arts La Grange Park)

Dipping into delirious delight yet deep down knowing that vigilance matched with diligence and discipline must mark our days ahead as we enter into Step 3 of Ontario's economic Reopening Plan. Media continues to present heart wrenching stories of suffering and pain caused by the heatwaves and devastating forest fires in British Columbia and by tornados being experienced even in our neighbouring city of Barrie, ON. Moreover, we have all been SHOCKED AWAKE in listening and listening again to the pain of our Indigenous sisters and brothers, to these cries of our planet groaning in pain and to the lives of refugees whose futures are held in abeyance after fleeing poverty, violence and ecological devastation. COVID-19 has put a spotlight on the injustices and inequities in our world and has connected us more profoundly to the pierced heart of humanity with myths about ourselves, our church and our country Canada being shattered.

In the midst of all of this, our staff are intentionally striving to proactively explore new ways of connecting with folks connected with Becoming Neighbours. What is also incredibly overwhelming are also the moments in which so many newcomers are initiating reconnections with us to ensure that we are doing okay. Together, we are uncovering a new way of being community, one marked by mutual love, solidarity and hope, one moving *"toward an ever wider we"* (107<sup>th</sup> World Day of Migrants and Refugees).

Please see attached this edition of the Fridge Notes for Companions.

This coming week on July 22, we will celebrate the Feast of Mary Magdalene, apostle to apostles. This is a celebration of ALL women who quietly go about "causing good trouble" without much fanfare, joining with others, to imagine and create an alternative world rooted in Gospel values of prayer, presence and solidarity. Today, we stand on the shoulders of such giants. In this Fridge Notes we give thanks to God for the life and ministry of two such women: MARY WILLIAM VERHOEVEN, CPS and ANNE O'BRIEN, GSIC.

Life will never be the same, nor should it be! In this spirit we urge all of us to:

*"Ring the bells that can still ring, forget your perfect offering.  
There is a crack in everything, that's how the light gets in."* (Anthem, Leonard Cohen)

  
Atunnan Aiyadurai

  
Lois Anne Bordowitz, FCJ

  
Peter McKenna, SCJ