



8 May 2019

Mr. Bruce J. Clemenger
President
The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada
130 Albert Street, Suite 1810
Ottawa, ON K1P 5G4

Dear Mr. Clemenger,

Since 2011, The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada and the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops (CCCB) have engaged in a fruitful national bilateral dialogue. Our respective delegates have sought to further mutual understanding between our Christian traditions, working to dispel harmful stereotypes and seeking ways to foster our unity in Jesus Christ.

Further to the CCCB publication “Our Evangelical Neighbours” issued in October 2016, I am pleased to see the release by The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada of a corresponding document entitled “Our Roman Catholic Neighbours”. Both these resources are tangible fruits of our growing commitment to see in one another fellow disciples of Jesus Christ. I recognize that for many Evangelicals this resource could be a significant starting point for greater understanding and deeper appreciation of their Catholic neighbours. The resource represents another step forward on our ecumenical journey, an additional reason to celebrate the things we have in common and to continue in truth and charity to discuss matters where disagreements still persist.

This effort, with the blessing and guidance of the Holy Spirit, coupled with good will and person-to-person conversations, will undoubtedly assist both our communities to fulfill the anointed prayer and earnest desire of our Lord Jesus, “that they may all be one, just as you, Father, are one in me, and I in you, that they also may be one in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me” (John 17:21).

The Catholic Bishops of Canada in turn pray that our heavenly Father will continue to deepen acceptance and trust between Catholics and Evangelical Christians in Canada and so commend into God’s merciful hands this new initiative toward mutual and better understanding.

Your brother in Christ,

+Lionel Gendron, P.S.S.
Bishop of Saint-Jean-Longueuil
President of the Canadian Conference
of Catholic Bishops