



ELCIC

*In Mission
for Others*

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

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The Honourable Bev Oda,
Minister of International Cooperation

December 8, 2009

e-mail to oda.b@parl.gc.ca

RE: CIDA, KAIROS and Question Period

Dear Minister Oda:

Thank you for noting during question period yesterday that many churches, including the ELCIC, are not only excellent partners with CIDA through KAIROS, but also through individual church agencies.

It is important to remain clear that the ecumenical work done by KAIROS is distinct from the work done by individual development agencies; these efforts complement one another. The KAIROS program particularly focuses on promoting Human Rights. The churches have discerned that working together through KAIROS is the most effective way to do this work. As members of KAIROS, we support our individual agencies and we support the work of KAIROS.

I am asking you to restore KAIROS funding based on KAIROS track record of service, and based on the merits of the current application. The CIDA funded KAIROS program meets the standards of the Better Aid Bill. KAIROS work meets aid effectiveness standards. The churches choose to work together in order to achieve results. This human rights work saves lives.

I encourage you to approve the CIDA application made by KAIROS so that churches and the Canadian government may continue to express Canadian values on a global scale.

Yours in Christ,

The Rev. Susan C. Johnson
National Bishop, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada