

## **ANNOUNCEMENT FROM KAIROS' BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

### **ON THE RETIREMENT OF EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR MARY CORKERY**

The Board of Directors of KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives wishes to express its sincere thanks and appreciation to Executive Director Mary Corkery who will be retiring effective January 31, 2012.

The Board deeply appreciates the leadership, commitment and service that Mary has brought to KAIROS. Under her leadership, KAIROS has formed an identity, focused its mission, and renewed itself to be an ongoing witness for justice.

When she was hired in September 2003, KAIROS itself had only been in existence for two years. KAIROS unites eleven churches and religious organizations in faithful action for ecological justice and human rights. It was formed in 2001 as a coming together of justice initiatives previously carried out through several ecumenical coalitions.

In giving notice to the Board, Ms. Corkery noted that she has come to a season in her life when she wants to open up time and space for new and ongoing interests. Her love for KAIROS and her commitment to justice remain strong.

Ms. Corkery has had a long career in social justice. She has been executive director of KAIROS for the past eight years. Prior to this, Mary was English Sector Education Director at Development and Peace for nine years. In the field of international development, Mary has also worked with CUSO in Sabah, East Malaysia, as well as OXFAM Canada and The Jesuit Centre for Social Faith and Justice. Mary has a Masters Degree in Adult Education and Counselling. She has worked as staff and on boards of organizations responding to poverty as well as local and national women's issues; this work focused on advocacy as well as education and training.

Preparations to hire a new executive director, who will be hired by the KAIROS Board, have begun. The board is assessing current leadership needs and revising the job description, prior to beginning the formal application process. The Board invites ongoing prayers, work and commitment as it continues with KAIROS' mission and engages this leadership transition.