

KAIROS PALESTINE ISRAEL DELEGATION - DELEGATES BIOS –

1. Rev'd Andreas Thiel



Ordained in 2010, the Rev'd Andreas Thiel currently serves as Rector of St. Matthew's Anglican Church in Windsor, Ontario. St. Matthew's has a history of reaching out to the wider community, and in 2018 Andreas oversaw the creation of an ESL program at St. Matthew's for newcomers to Canada from China. In addition to Parish responsibilities, Rev'd Andreas offers pastoral care in his role as Chaplain to residents and staff at Windsor's Huron Lodge (Long Term Care facility). A past member of the Diocese of Huron Anglican Fellowship of Prayer, Andreas has been a retreat leader and facilitator for post-ordination training. He currently serves on the PWRDF-Huron Committee.

2. Mary Helen Smith



Rev. Helen Smith is a graduate of Knox College, Toronto. She has served congregations in Edmonton and Calgary AB, Chatham and Thornhill ON. She also served for nine years at Evangel Hall, an inner-city mission of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, in downtown Toronto, as Program Director, and as the minister on staff at a downtown agency for people who are homeless in Calgary, Calgary Urban Projects Society. For the Presbyterian Church in Canada, Helen has served on the Justice Ministries Advisory Committee, and the Life and Mission Agency Committee. Ecumenically she has served on the Caribbean and North American Area Council of the World Communion of Reformed Churches and on the Working Group for Affordable Housing, KAIROS, Calgary. Helen and her husband, Bob, retired in June 2016 and moved back to Toronto from Calgary. She enjoys reading, hiking, knitting and baking bread. Bob and Helen have three adult children and one granddaughter.

3. Paul E. Hansen



An ordained Roman Catholic priest of the Redemptorist Congregation, Paul's life-long work in faith that does justice, peace and the integrity of creation spans over 40 years. Paul directs his Order's justice commitment in Canada from Toronto and serves as the Director of the Redemptorist Biblical Justice Consultancy. He is presently a member of the Social Affairs Commission of the Ontario Bishops as well as President of the Canadian Alternative

Investment Foundation (CAIF). Since 1974, Paul has been a Board member of the Churches Taskforce on Corporate Responsibility, Canada Asian Working Group and Inter-church Coalition on Africa. He has travelled extensively and spent time in Latin America, Europe and the Middle East. Paul has served as a past member and Chair of the Board of KAIROS Canada and is a sought-after lecturer, retreat director and speaker primarily in the field of Biblical Justice.

4. Rev. Susan Johnson



The Rev. Susan C. Johnson is the National Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC), a role she has held since 2007. Bishop Johnson is actively engaged on behalf of her church in many justice issues as well as in pursuing ecumenical and interfaith relations. The ELCIC is a partner of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land.

5. Lori Ransom



Lori Ransom was appointed as a Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice Animator, Indigenous Ministries and Justice, United Church of Canada in June 2017. Lori is a member of the Algonquins of Pikwàkanagàn First Nation (near Eganville, Ontario) who has lived off reserve all of her life (Toronto, Ottawa, and Regina). While her post-secondary training in biochemistry and in English may have suggested other career paths, Lori has been pleased to have worked to support Indigenous peoples and communities throughout her career. Lori deepened her knowledge of and passion for

the work of healing and reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples after being appointed as the first Healing and Reconciliation Program Animator for The Presbyterian Church in Canada and later as Senior Advisor, Church and Interfaith Relations, for the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

Having also held a number of leadership positions at the federal government department of Indigenous and Northern Affairs Canada, Lori has developed a breadth of understanding of the issues of importance to Indigenous peoples and the policies which affect Indigenous peoples and communities. Her positions in government encompassed work in the areas of Executive Services and Communications, Parliamentary Relations, Research Claims Funding, Intergovernmental Affairs, Education, and Human Resources. Lori is an ordained Elder of The Presbyterian Church in Canada (PCC) who has served as a Clerk of Session, a representative Elder at presbytery, and a commissioner to the General Assembly. She currently serves on the Trustee Board of the PCC, as an ecumenical member of the Canadian Indigenous Ministries Advisory Committee of the Christian Reformed Church of North America, and on the Aboriginal Education Council of Centennial College, Scarborough. Lori lives in downtown Toronto where she enjoys the city's lively arts scene and from where she likes to travel and explore the world. She aspires to parent a dog.

6. The Rev. Rosalyn Kantlaht'an Elm



The Rev. Rosalyn Kantlaht'an Elm is the first indigenous woman ordained in the Anglican church's Diocese of Huron, which covers most of Southwestern Ontario. From 2015 – 2018 she was curate at the Anglican Cathedral in London, Ontario. In October of 2018 she was appointed as priest for the Parish of the Six Nations, as well as chaplain to Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks (half-time), in addition to being Assistant Chaplain at Renison University College. As of June 1 she became the Diocese of Huron Reconciliation Animator.

Ros is from the Oneida First Nation and has deep roots in both aboriginal and Anglican life. Her mother Olive is a hereditary clan mother, an elected band official and a teacher of the Oneida language and has served on various committees as well as the Synod of the diocese. Elm's late father Leslie was an elected band official and also served as Synod delegate. They are descended from the Elm Williams family that donated land for the Anglican church on the Oneida settlement in the 1800s.

Ros helped facilitate qtopc (queer and trans people of colour) on campus, along with speaking on numerous occasions about indigenous history, theology culture from a Haundensaunee perspective.

7. Lana Robinson



I was born and raised on Vancouver Island; lived in the Peace River region of Northern Alberta, Saskatchewan, Norman Wells in NWT as well as Calgary, Edmonton and Vancouver before returning to Vancouver Island, and the Cowichan Valley around 15 years ago. I raised 2 children, who are now 23 and 30, and I have a 10 year old grandson who lives with his mom in Calgary.

I have founded and run 2 successful businesses; a Fair Trade store in Grande Prairie, as well as a mechanical repair business with my former husband. I returned to school in 2007 and completed an undergraduate degree in Global Studies and psychology; graduating with distinction in 2011. During my 3rd year of University I served as an intern for Friends, both at the UN in Geneva, and with the Quaker International Affairs Program in Ottawa. Currently, I manage a storage Facility in Duncan BC. Beginning in 1996, I served as a regional rep on The board of Ten Days for Global Justice/ KAIROS for 5 years, and now serve as the Clerk of the Canadian Friends Service Committee of the Religious Society of Friends (Quakers). This will be my second 3 year term in this role for Friends.

8. Jennifer Henry



Jennifer Henry currently serves as the Executive Director of KAIROS: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives, a role she took on in 2012. She has worked in ecumenical social justice for over 25 years, beginning in 1993 when she joined the Ecumenical Coalition for Economic Justice (ECEJ) as a popular education coordinator. In 2011, as the Manager for the Dignity and Rights program, Jennifer had the opportunity to attend the Sabeel Conference and to visit with partners in Palestine and Israel.

Raised in Treaty 1 territory in Winnipeg, Jennifer's settler ancestors include those arriving on Turtle Island in the early 1600's. She had the honour of being an ecumenical witness at six of the seven national events of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and served on the Primate's Commission on the Doctrine of Discovery, Reconciliation and Justice from 2013-2019.

Jennifer has a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Manitoba, and a Masters of Social Work and a Masters in Theological Studies from the University of Toronto. With her partner and daughter, she worships at the Church of the Holy Trinity, an Anglican Church in downtown Toronto, under the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant.