



February 8, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters:

As you are aware, the past year has been particularly meaningful, marked by the visit of a delegation of Indigenous Peoples to Pope Francis in Rome and then the Holy Father's own Apostolic Visit to Canada. We have focused much on healing and reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples.

Building on these efforts, Canada's Catholic Bishops have affirmed as a group their commitment through a series of Pastoral Letters, which have been shared with our local Indigenous partners. These Distinct Letters have been prepared for the First Nations, Métis and Inuit Peoples of Canada and are now available on our Diocesan website.

My brother Bishops and I have also prepared a Pastoral Letter to the People of God in Canada, and I am now sending copies to each of our parishes to make it easy for you to access. It is also available on our diocesan website.

Please take some time to read the attached Pastoral Letter. May it continue to encourage all of us on paths to renewed relationships and reconciliation. I am grateful for the many strong and healthy relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Peoples here on the ground in our Diocese and a long history of friendship – even if that friendship has at times been marred by sin.

Jesus promises: "Blessed are the peacemakers for they will be called children of God." (Mt 5:9) May we seek the grace and beatitude of the peacemaker and strive to live as brothers and sisters.

Sincerely Yours in Christ,

*+ Stephen A. Hero*

✠ Most Rev. Stephen A. Hero  
Bishop of Prince Albert