

Companion Diocese Report: Spring 2017

The Companion Relationship between ourselves and the Diocese of Montreal continues to be a source of spiritual companionship and mutual support as we journey together in friendship and joy!

As preparations for Assembly 2017 progress, I am delighted at the enthusiasm shown throughout our Territory at the good news that the Bishop of the Diocese of Montreal, The Right Reverend Mary Irwin-Gibson, will be one of our special guests at this event. Bishop Mary has had a long friendship with our own Bishop Barbara, but many of us, (myself included) have not had the privilege of meeting her until this event. We look forward to showing her and our other visitors from the Diocese of Montreal who will also be with us at Assembly (our beloved friends in Christ Sue and Eric Winn) our finest hospitality. I have heard that Bishop Mary is a very inspiring speaker, and I know that I speak for all of us when I say that we are eager to meet her and learn from her.

A further development is the change of the Chair of the Montreal Companion Relationship Committee. Beth Reed, who is a lay person working in Administration at the Montreal Diocesan Theological college, has undertaken this position. She and The Reverend Len Fraser have been in dialogue recently regarding the possibility of youth from Montreal coming out to visit our Territory at some point in the future, and spending time at Barkerville and St. John's – Quesnel. In the past, visits from the Montreal Youth Ambassadors have been an absolute delight, as we have shared the landscape, culture, and history of our Territory with them, as well as practical experiences in ministry such as learning carpentry skills while building a handicap access ramp at the parish hall in Shulus. If this hoped-for visit takes flight, we will look forward to embracing the Montreal youth and sharing new experiences with them, including a chance for them to learn about the Cariboo Gold Rush, which had a major role in the shaping of the history of our province.

The Rev. Dr. Neil Mancor, Rector of St. George's in Ste. Anne-de-Bellevue, often comes to Kamloops in the summer months to visit family, and it is hoped that he may bless us with his presence, and possibly preach, this August.

Respectfully submitted,

The Rev Isabel C. Healy-Morrow,
Committee Chair