

27th February, 2013

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

The Interfaith Centre of Melbourne, founded in 2000, is a highly respected organization in the Australian interfaith context which has shown great and creative leadership since its foundation. As an interfaith non-profit organization, it is led by Reverend Helen Summers who graduated from The New Seminary in New York in 1997 and was ordained an Interfaith Minister in the Cathedral of St. John the Divine, New York, on November 16th, 1997 as the first Australian interfaith minister. She is renowned and widely respected for being informed, knowledgeable and very appreciative of the diverse religions and spiritual traditions whilst remaining committed to her own Anglican Christian tradition.

The mission of the Interfaith Centre of Melbourne is to promote understanding and mutual respect among the world's religious and spiritual communities living here in the State of Victoria in Australia, and to build bridges of dialogue and friendship between communities, the region and the world, thus fostering peaceful co-existence.

She played a key role in the organization of the Parliament of the World's Religions (PWR) held in Melbourne in December 2009, attended by 6,500 participants. She was a board member of PWR and Chair of the Arts and Culture Committee which was responsible for the Sacred Music Concert, five art exhibitions and over 120 performances during the week-long Parliament. She has won the admiration of all for herself and her organization with her strongly felt commitment to the interfaith movement. And she has played a significant role in creating a harmonious Australian society in terms of its multicultural and multifaith population.

Yours Sincerely,

Desmond P. Cahill

Desmond P. Cahill (Prof.),

Chair, Religions for Peace Australia