27th February 2015

To Whom it may Concern,

Re: 2015 World Interfaith Harmony Week Prize

This letter is a reference for Reverend Helen Summers, Founder and Director of The Interfaith Centre of Melbourne. Helen Summers was ordained as an Interfaith Minister in New York in 1997, the first Australian Interfaith Minister. While Helen Summers’ own religion tradition is Anglican, she is knowledgeable and respectful of the world’s religious and spiritual traditions.

Helen Summers founded The Interfaith Centre of Melbourne in 2000. She has closely worked with the Islamic Council of Victoria over the past fourteen years in artistic and cultural programs to bring about more understanding and respect for the Islamic religion and the Muslim community living in the State of Victoria.

The Interfaith Centre of Melbourne organizes a Luncheon each year during the World Interfaith Harmony Week and invites religious, spiritual and community leaders together to share our concerns, to hear speakers from diverse traditions and to meet people of diverse faiths. This socializing aspect is most important, especially this year with growing Islamophobia and anti-semitism dividing our community. Over one hundred leaders attended the Luncheon this year.

The Islamic Council of Victoria sponsored the catering of the event, shared with other

religious organizations. The work of Helen Summers and the members of The Interfaith Centre of Melbourne has been voluntary for fourteen years - their work is unpaid.

I commend The Interfaith Centre of Melbourne for the 2015 World Interfaith Harmony Week Prize.

Yours Sincerely,