



The Rt Hon The Lord Provost of Glasgow
Councillor Eva Bolander

Glasgow, 13 February 2018

EB/GW

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I write in support of the World Interfaith Harmony Week programme which is an excellent example of interfaith friendship-building. I was fortunate to attend one of the events during the week, a community meal, provided by Glasgow's Sikh community at the Glasgow Gurdwara. The Sikh community made me, a first time visitor to the temple, most welcome.

Events such as these are so important as a base for bridging the gap between people of faith as well as those of no faith. I made some great personal contacts at the event and can thoroughly recommend the efforts made by the organisers of the World Interfaith Harmony Week programme to bring people together.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Eva Bolander'.

Councillor Eva Bolander
Lord Provost of Glasgow

Councillor Jennifer Layden
Scottish National Party
CALTON – WARD 9
City Convener for Equalities and Human Rights



Phone 0141 287 3948
E-mail jennifer.layden@glasgow.gov.uk

Our Ref: #90356496

6 March 2018

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN

I attended Interfaith Glasgow's WIHW event on the 13th February 2018 exploring interfaith cooperation, which brought together volunteers of different faiths who work together to help refugees through Interfaith Glasgow's 'Weekend Club' initiative.

The impact of interfaith events to support refugee integration should not be underestimated. Coming to another country and culture can be challenging in terms of language, culture and navigating bureaucratic systems. Coming together through faith provides an anchor of normality for people. Interfaith events for refugees provides a forum for deeper understanding of issues faced and highlights the commonalities across religions. It is the focus on the individual and caring for that person that I found most powerful. Interfaith Glasgow is leading the way with its work and in Glasgow that is vitally important, as Glasgow is home to asylum seekers and refugees.

I would be delighted to see Interfaith Glasgow recognised for their hard work.

Yours faithfully

Councillor Jennifer Layden
City Convener for Equalities and Human Rights

Surgeries: -

Bridgeton Library
2-16 Orr Street
6.00pm
1st Thursday of Month

Parkhead Library
64 Tollcross Road
10.00am
2nd Friday of Month

There will be no surgeries during school or public holidays.
If you are not able to attend a surgery please contact my office.

Glasgow-Supporting the Gaelic language Glaschu - a' toirt taic do'n Ghàidhlig

Glasgow-UNESCO City of Music

Glasgow City Council is an equal opportunities employer

Glasgow City Council
City Chambers
George Square
Glasgow G2 1DU
Phone 0141 287 2000



Sisters of Notre Dame

8 Woodlands Drive

Glasgow G4 9EH

20th February 2018

To Whom It May Concern

I attended Interfaith Glasgow's World Interfaith Harmony Week event exploring scriptural motivations for interfaith dialogue from Christian, Muslim, and Jewish perspectives and was very impressed by the thought that had gone into the preparation of the event and the depth of the dialogue that took place.

I have been to many dialogues in my time but this one reached a level of honesty and engagement that is not always possible during interfaith events. The participants were so at home with one another that they were able to ask honest questions which dispelled some misunderstandings. For example someone wanted to clarify for themselves that the Good Samaritan was a story – with a meaning – but not an account of an historical event; someone felt free to ask how a Christian could respond to the Jewish scripture that stated God is one which led to an in depth discussion not only about our understanding of God but about our responses of commitment and devotion to the reality of God in our lives. For me this was an example of harmony, of union of mind and soul based on our common belief in God.

I have been involved in interfaith encounter for many years at local, national and international level and I am impressed by the work of Interfaith Glasgow. This scriptural reasoning experience along with the two other events in Interfaith Glasgow's World Interfaith Harmony Week programme (which explored other crucial aspects of interfaith harmony), was an excellent contribution to the promotion of interfaith harmony and an example of good practice from which many could learn and which will benefit not only our nation but promote peace in our world.

Yours faithfully

Sister Isabel Smyth SND OBE

Founding Director of Interfaith Scotland
Scottish Catholic Bishops' Secretary for Interreligious Dialogue
Vice Chair of Advisory Board for the United Kingdom's Council of Christians and Jews



University
of Glasgow

7th March 2018

To Whom it May Concern.

I am delighted to offer my warmest endorsement for the work of Interfaith Glasgow, and in particular their event marking World Interfaith Harmony Week 2018.

I have attended a number of their events in the past few years, and in particular I should mention their Scriptural Reasoning meeting on Monday 5TH February entitled "Why Should Jews, Christians and Muslims Engage in Interfaith Dialogue." Not only were there excellent speakers from all three faiths, but there was a genuinely creative and positive discussions from a an audience from all three faith traditions and the extreme importance of such collegial meetings should not be underestimated.

I am delighted that Scriptural Reasoning is been given such serious space in Glasgow. I first met it while teaching in Beijing, China, and I am well aware of its importance in interfaith dialogue throughout the world.

The Revd Canon Professor David Jasper BD PhD DD DrTeol FRSA FRSE.

David Jasper, MA MA PhD DD DD TeolDr (h.c.) FRSA, FRSE
Professor of Literature and Theology

Department of Theology & Religious Studies
University of Glasgow, 4 The Square, Glasgow G12 8QQ, Scotland, UK
Tel: +44 (0)141 330 4405 Fax: +44 (0)141 330 4943
Email: d.jasper@arts.gla.ac.uk