

Index of Franciscans Canada and Thaw!

Franciscans Canada (2000-2006)

In the Spring of 2000, Lyndon Hutchison-Hounsell initiated the *Franciscans Canada* newsletter whose function he explained in the first issue:

Over the past couple of years, as I have been in the formation process for the Third Order, I have noticed that there are few scattered Franciscans in Canada. I was thinking that it would be helpful for us to know a little more about each other; that which nurtures our spirit, our ministries, and our dreams and passions. As I have used the Anglican Franciscans Email List I have also noticed that our numerous American sisters and brothers are often discussing national political issues and action that can be taken. For all these reasons, and with the encouragement of two of our sisters, Muriel Adey and Diana Finch, I thought it would be useful to start this newsletter.

Hutchison-Hounsell envisioned a four-fold focus for the newsletter:

First, "People of Francis!" will list key contact people in Canada....Second, "People with Spirit!" will include particularly inspirational prayers or poems or stories that may help to nurture our spirit. ...Thirdly, "People with Work" would include a short article about the work one of us is doing as ministers of Christ following in the footsteps of Francis and Clare. Finally, "People for Justice" would include a short article and information regarding justice issues here in Canada and how we can act and make a difference in our country and in the world.

His newsletter was only published from 2000-06, but it proved so important to the Canadian tertiaryes of the Province that Harold MacDonald continued it as a monthly **online-only** newsletter, THAW!, from 2006 to 2008.

THAW! (2006-2008)

Harold Macdonald's description of his new journal (June 2006)

The journal is "of" Canadian Anglican Franciscans, not "for" Canadian Anglican Franciscans. "Of" means that your contributions will be welcome. I retain editorial freedom to change (with consultation) or eliminate material sent to me. "Canadian" means that we will seek symbols, metaphors, for the Franciscan life, which come from our experience in this great, northern land. The word "Thaw" is an example. It suggests the physical reality of our Canadian experience. It also suggests the effect of Franciscan life on the soul; or I should say, of the Risen Christ on the Franciscan soul ready and willing to accept Him. "Anglican" means that we will concern ourselves with experience in the Anglican Church of Canada. And "Franciscan" means, well... you know that already. I take Living with the Principles of the Third Order" as a good basis.

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