

December 10, 2018

The Right Honourable Justin Trudeau
Prime Minister of Canada
80 Wellington Street
Ottawa, ON K1A 0A2

Dear Sir.

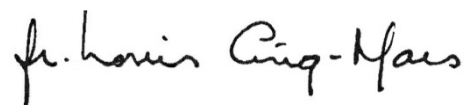
My name is Brother Louis Cinq-Mars. I am the President of the Canadian Religious Conference, a network of 240 leaders of Roman Catholic religious orders representing over 12,000 sisters, brothers and priests in Canada.

On behalf of the CRC, I am writing to express our deep concern for the circumstances faced by Central American and Honduran migrants now at Mexico's northern border. Human rights organizations indicate that they are now living in deplorable conditions. Further, in apparent violation of the Geneva Convention, the United States administration is making it almost impossible for these persons to claim refugee status.

Given the large numbers of women and children and the grave risk they would face should they return to their native countries, we believe it incumbent on the Canadian government to take concrete steps as part of an international effort to assure their safety and well-being.

Canada is a generous and welcoming country. A short time ago, Catholic religious communities from the ten provinces were actively engaged in welcoming and integrating Syrian refugees into Canadian society. If called upon, we believe many faith-based organizations would step forward again to welcome Latin American migrants.

Be assured, Prime Minister of our gratitude for any actions your government will undertake in support of these persons.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Fr. Louis Cinq-Mars". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Brother Louis Cinq-Mars, OFM Cap
President, CRC