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May, 2018

Dear friends of the Canadian Friends of the École Biblique:

It has been a busy year for the Board of the CFEB.

New CFEB Executive:

At our fall Board meeting, Eileen Schuller stepped down as President, replaced by Michael W. Higgins, who has been a member of the CFEB board since 2001.

Michael has served as President and Vice-Chancellor of St Jerome's University in Waterloo, Ontario (1999-2006) and then of St Thomas University in Fredericton, NB (2006-2009). In 2010, he moved to Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Connecticut, where he held the positions of Vice President for Mission and Catholic Identity and Professor of Religious Studies and, most recently, as Distinguished Professor Catholic Thought. The author/editor of over a twenty books, Michael has been a regular contributor to the CBC, *Commonweal*, *The Tablet* and *The Globe and Mail*.

Dona Harvey continues to service as Vice President and Edward Jackman as Secretary-Treasurer. We wish to express our deep appreciation to Eileen Schuller for her dedication, inspiration, leadership and impressive scholarship during the eight years she served as President. Thank you, Eileen!

Celebrating the 70th anniversary of the discovery of the Dead Sea Scrolls:

The CFEB sponsored an event on November 15, 2017 entitled "The École Biblique and the Dead Sea Scrolls: 70 Years Later." The event was held at the Toronto School of Theology, with nearly 50 scholars, students and friends attending.

Eileen Schuller spoke about the role of several scholars from the École Biblique in the archaeological discoveries and the scholarly work on the Scrolls. Board member Jean Duhaime spoke on his experience of graduate studies at the École, including work on the Scrolls. Jean later returned to the École to teach in the late 1980s and in 2001-2002. Father Olivier-Thomas Venard, Deputy Director of the École Biblique and Executive Director of the Research Program *The Bible in its Traditions*, spoke about the work of the École today and what is planned for the future. These talks will be posted soon on our website; see <https://www.cfebweb.ca> (English) and <https://www.acebweb.ca> (French).

École initiatives in communication:

On April 1 2018, the École Biblique launched a weekly newsletter, #PRIXM, about *The Bible in its Traditions* project. Each Sunday this newsletter features expert exegesis on a biblical passage, as well as commentary on its use and influence on art and culture. Sign up at the link <https://prixm.org/en/>.

News from Jerusalem: *Nouvelles de Jérusalem* is now in a new bilingual, full-colour format, published twice a year. We are enclosing the Fall, 2017 and Easter, 2018, issues with this mailing.

CFEB Scholarship winners for 2018-2019:

R. Gillian Glass is currently registered as a doctoral student in the Department of Classical, Near Eastern and Religious Studies at the University of British Columbia. Her previous studies at the Master's level include work at Université Laval and Université de Strasbourg. Gillian proposes to spend the winter semester at the École where her studies will contribute to the writing of her doctoral dissertation, "From Jewish Proselyte to Christian Convert: Sex, Gender, and Religion in Greek Joseph and Aseneth."

Emily Laflèche is a doctoral student in the Department of Classics and Religious Studies at the University of Ottawa. Previously, she completed the MA in Religious Studies at the University of Toronto. Emily plans to spend four weeks doing research at the École in the summer of 2018. Her studies will contribute to the writing of her doctoral dissertation on marriage, sexuality, and celibacy in the second-century CE, viewed especially through the lens of the gnostic "Gospel of Philip."

Lynn Mills is a doctoral student in Theology at Trinity College, Dublin. She previously earned an MA through Vancouver School of Theology. Lynn plans to spend four weeks at the École this summer, working on research to contribute to her doctoral thesis on the origins of baptism, especially in light of the collocation of water and spirit imagery in the Dead Sea Scrolls.

To contribute to CFEB:

Funds donated to the CFEB help support our scholarship program and provide funds for the Ecole library and IT upgrades. Our website, <https://www.cfebweb.ca> (in English) and <https://www.acebweb.ca> (in French) offers you a way that you can donate to the Canadian Friends online. **Our website has a direct link with CanadaHelps**, a non-profit organization that assists a broad range of charities across Canada to make it easy for donors to give to them via the web.

Simply click on the CanadaHelps link on the Home Page. You can also click on the heading 'To Make a Donation' on the Home page to get directly to the Donations page of our website, and then go directly to CanadaHelps online. Of course, if you prefer, you may send us a cheque by mail. Please see the enclosed donation form.

With appreciation and best wishes,

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