



April 24, 2020

To the Maritimes Diaconal Community,

The recent multiple murders in Nova Scotia are an unspeakable tragedy. All of us are reeling from the sorrow of this senseless mass shooting, but we know that our DUCC colleagues in the Maritimes are particularly affected by this terrible event.

We extend our thoughts to you with compassion and care.

We are praying for you and the families and friends of the many victims of this violence.

Hopes have been decimated.

Dreams broken.

And hearts broken.

We offer our longing for peace and strength in this time of grief and loss.

As most of us are honouring social isolation and hoping to flatten the curve,

and many are on the front lines or facing economic hardship,

and all of us were living with the challenging reality of a pandemic,

this sad, sad news from Sunday reaches us at a time when our emotions are stretched.

We send our love and friendship from the whole DUCC national community (DIAKONIA of the United Church of Canada) and from the ecumenical and international diaconal communities of DOTAC (DIAKONIA of the Americas and the Caribbean).

Blessings,

Vicki McPhee, Chair, DUCC Coordinating Committee

Ted Dodd, President of DOTAC