



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

CANADIAN REPORTING SYSTEM FOR SEXUAL ABUSE OR COVER-UP BY A CATHOLIC BISHOP

May 6, 2021 – The Bishops of Canada launched a national, bilingual service for reporting situations of sexual abuse either committed or covered-up by a Bishop. This service furthers the Bishops' commitment to responsibility, accountability and transparency in matters of clergy sexual abuse and their commitment to facilitate healing and justice for victims-survivors.

The Catholic Bishops of Canada condemn the sin and crime of sexual abuse in the strongest possible terms. No one should ever have to endure the pain, humiliation, and long-term suffering it causes, nor should anyone have to doubt that serious consequences await a perpetrator of sexual abuse or cover-up. With this reporting system, the Bishops make themselves accountable to live with integrity and to address reports of sexual abuse according to Church and civil law.

The Canadian Reporting System for Sexual Abuse or Cover-up by a Catholic Bishop is a direct response to Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter entitled [*Vos estis lux mundi*](#) (*You are the light of the world*) which outlines the procedures to be followed in the universal Church when allegations are made against a Bishop.

ClearView Strategic Partners was engaged by the Bishops of Canada to develop the reporting system according to the instructions and procedures outlined in [*Vos estis lux mundi*](#). ClearView's technology benefits anyone wanting to make such a report by providing them with a secure and confidential platform, allowing them to remain anonymous if they so choose, and ensuring all communications are documented and preserved.

Individuals can access the reporting system online (BishopReportingSystem.ca) or via a toll-free number (1-866-892-3737) 24 hours a day.

Communication Update issued by the Roman Catholic Diocese of Peterborough
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