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Christmas 2022

Dear members of the St. Andrew's Hall community,

With snow on the ground in Vancouver it really is beginning to look a lot like Christmas. Congratulations on completing your fall term at UBC and associated colleges. It has been such a pleasure having you with us at St. Andrew's Hall. Many of you have already left the residence to spend the holidays with family and friends across Canada and around the world. For those who remain in the residence over the holidays, I trust you will have a restful and meaningful break from your studies while enjoying the beauty of a snow-covered campus.

This Christmas is an unusual one for our family. I am writing this letter to you from the Gold Coast of Australia, where I am spending the holidays visiting my daughter who lives in Brisbane. It is 29 degrees Celsius today and everyone is on the beach enjoying their summer holidays. I even met Santa on the beach the other day. As I adjust to this new experience of a warm Christmas, I cannot help but recall the wonderful gathering in the SAH Centre earlier this month organized by our chaplain Rev. Sumarme Goble. I was so impressed by the variety of gifts and skills shared from within the SAH community as all ages offered their musical talents to fill the Hall with carols of the Christmas season. Christmas is celebrated around the world in so many different ways, and the beautiful diversity of our global community at St. Andrew's Hall bears witness to the many expressions of Christmas joy. What we share in common is the good news that the God who created the world and all that is within in it (including you!) came to be with us in the person of Jesus Christ, whose birth in a humble corner of Bethlehem over two thousand years ago changed the world for good. Wherever you gather this Christmas, and with whomever you spend the holidays, I pray that you have both a restful and richly rewarding holiday where you experience anew the peace, hope, joy and love that Jesus offers the world, and that we celebrate at this special time of year.

I look forward to seeing you back around the Hall in January.

Grace and peace,

The Reverend Dr. Ross A. Lockhart
Dean of St. Andrew's Hall



St. Andrew's Hall, the Presbyterian Church in Canada College at The University of British Columbia, is located on the traditional, ancestral and unceded territory of the Musqueam people.