



**MONTHLY MEMO**  
**November 2023**

Welcome to the last *Monthly Memo* for 2023! It's amazing how quickly each year scoots by! Thank you to everyone who joined us for the November 7 Zoom: we had almost two hundred attendees. The Zoom covered some EFCL updates, a conversation between Anne Lane pbvm and Mary-Clare Holland op about their recent visit to the Dicastery in Rome, a report from Linda Ferrington rsc and Brad Hannagan about their recent attendances at the Leadership Conference for Women Religious and the Resource Center for Religious Institutes annual conferences in the United States and some advance date claiming for events EFCL has plans for in 2024. We continue the Zoom events, even though we are able to hold in-person events, because it provides an opportunity for anyone interested in any state of Australia or in New Zealand to catch up with what's going on in Emerging Futures. The date for 2024 is Wednesday November 6. For anyone who missed the Zoom due to Melbourne Cup festivities or work commitments, the recording of the event is up on the EFCL website at <https://www.emergingfuturescollaborative.org.au/videos> - the November 7 Zoom recording is the fifth video down.

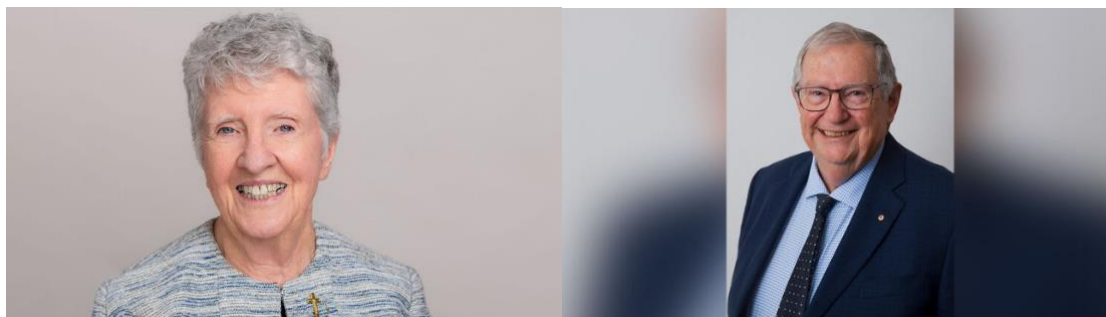
We have been blessed during 2023 to be working with twenty service partner religious institutes, all at different stages of their journey with EFCL. Two religious institutes, Presentation Sisters Tasmania and Missionary Franciscan Sisters Queensland have already transitioned to full service provision and the appointment of a canonical delegate. Three other Presentation congregations are on track to petition Rome for a canonical delegate in 2024. The Discalced Carmelite Sisters at Toronto have successfully applied to Rome for the granting of an appointment of a Sister Administrator from within their own ranks for the next three years.

This year we've seen sharing of staff across religious institute service partners, with Our Lady of Sion Sisters and Sisters of St Joseph of Cluny sharing both a Community Coordinator and a Health and Well-Being Coordinator, while the Missionary Sisters of Service and the Faithful Companions of Jesus Sisters are sharing a Business Manager and a Finance Administration Officer. Such sharing across service partners creates more sustainable roles for staff and much more flexibility in provision of services to congregational members. About to begin in December, the Patrician Brothers and the Columban Fathers in Sydney will be sharing a Health & Well-Being Coordinator - again a flexible arrangement for the members of each group.

While we have maintained staff numbers working directly for EFCL this year, the staff managed by EFCL working in congregations has grown substantially. Six service partners have community coordinators, ten have health and well-being coordinators, six have business managers and three have various support staff. More and more service partners are outsourcing their Safeguarding and Professional Standards to Sheree Limbrick and Simon Davies or other religious institutes.

At our last meeting of EFCL Board for 2023 that will occur on 1 December, we will be farewelling two of the original Board Directors: Clare Nolan rsc and Des Powell AM. Clare and Des began as members of the EFCL Transition Committee in 2020 and then transitioned to the Board when it began in 2021.

Both Clare and Des have been wonderful supporters of EFCL, encouraging and challenging staff and directors to provide excellent service that is mission led, true to our vision, welcoming to all and constantly innovating.



The Board will offer this blessing to Clare and Des:

*We ask Your blessing upon Clare and Des as they are about to embark on a new 'journey'. May You, God of the Universe, be their ever-near companion, spreading the 'road' before them with beauty and adventure. Free that road from harm and evil, and send as their escorts Your holy spirits, Your angelic messengers, who accompanied the holy ones of days past.*

*As they continue their journey of service, may communio, interconnections, and collaboration fill their hearts with wonder and awe as they continue to rejoice in current and emerging relationships.*

Ruth Durick osu and Michael McDonald OAM will be welcomed to their role as directors at the same meeting.

14 November saw the latest in our series of meetings about Canonical Delegates and Consultors. EFCL is working with a group of religious to create a network of those interested in the roles of Canonical Delegate and Consultor, seeking to address and explore all the issues about these roles. The roles are high-level and hands off in the EFCL model, but like all roles, we are discovering particular aspects as the roles are taken up and go live. This was one of the aspects of EFCL work in which the Dicastery staff expressed most interest when Anne Lane pbvm and Mary-Clare Holland op met with them in September.

So as we finish off the year, we thank you for your interest in and support of Emerging Futures. We are encouraged by those who seek to be engaged with us as service partners and as interested parties. We offer some important dates for you to note for 2024:

April 22-23: Two day meeting for interested parties in Melbourne.

May 13-14: Two day meeting for interested parties in Sydney.

September 10: A day with Mary Pellegrino csj from USA in Sydney for all interested parties.

November 6: National Zoom, 11.30am-1.00pm

As the Christmas season approaches, we pray:

Creator God, on this Christmas Day, we come to You with hearts full of hope and gratitude. The birth of Jesus brought joy, love, and peace to the world. On this day we ask that the memory of his birth restore peace throughout the lands.

Brad Hannagan, CEO

Sharon Price rsm, Transition Manager

30 November 2023