

Archbishop Murray Chatlain Archdiocese of Keewatin-Le Pas P. O. Box 270, The Pas, MB R9A 1K4

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Dear people of the Archdiocese of Keewatin-Le Pas,

In the last years we have become painfully aware of abuse that has been done by some priests, Religious Sisters and Lay people. We are trying to learn from the past and so every Diocese has put into place an objective committee and process to deal with allegations of misconduct.

Our Archdiocese has had a protocol for several years and a copy of it is available on our Website. Just go to our website (<u>www.dioceseofkeewatinlepas.ca</u>) and hit Administration, then hit Diocesan Policy.

We know that in the past people were not sure where to bring a concern or sometimes it was not believed or dealt with properly. Many of our people have been deeply wounded when an adult in a position of respect and trust has terribly misused that respect and trust. We continue to try to support and pray for all those who have suffered such abuse.

This Protocol provides an opportunity for people to make a formal allegation of recent misconduct against a priest, Sister, or trained Lay person. It allows an allegation to be objectively and fairly investigated.

If you have a complaint or questions about this Protocol, please contact our office. A member of the Protocol Committee will be in touch with you and will take a formal record of the allegation. The Committee, which is made up of many experienced professionals, will respond to the best of its ability.

Our Catholic Church, like many other Churches and groups, is working to make our Church a safe place for children and the vulnerable. This has been a tremendously painful part of our history, but I really believe that God is trying to use this. I think it is making us have some difficult conversations; to recognize the darkness and sickness that can be part of anyone. I think God is also trying to use it to work at some healing in this area in all our families as well.

Let us keep praying for each other. Yours in Christ,

Archbishop Murray Chatlain Archdiocese of Keewatin-Le Pas