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6 April 2023

A Message to All of Scotland's Faith and Belief Communities

Dear Friends,

As the new First Minister of Scotland, I want to take this early opportunity to send my best wishes to our diverse faith and belief communities who contribute so much to our nation's civic life.

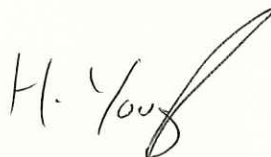
Many of you will soon be gathering with friends and families to celebrate important religious festivals. The recent and upcoming celebrations for Holi, Passover, Easter, Vaisakhi and Eid ul Fitr, demonstrate the wonderful diversity of Scotland's religious landscape. To all of you, I send my very warmest wishes for a peaceful and blessed festive occasion in your respective faith traditions.

I also welcome the recent publication of the new [Faith and Belief Engagement Strategy](#) for Scotland – the first of its kind and one that sets out this government's commitment to strengthening our communication and collaboration with faith and belief communities.

As a person of faith, I know how central and vital a force it is, inspiring every aspect of our individual and collective life and informing our desire to serve the common good. I also believe that interfaith dialogue and collaboration contributes significantly to healing divisions, promoting community cohesion, and harnessing the power of compassion to create a fairer Scotland for everyone.

I look forward to working with all your communities as we continue to build a Scotland that is inclusive for people of all faiths, spiritualities and beliefs.

My Very Best Wishes To You All,



HUMZA YOUSAF