

Global Relations Working Group Meetings: January 22 & 27, 2009

Participants: John Brewin, Jesse Dymond, Peter Fenty, Rob Marsh, David Torraville

Regrets: Florence Ayban

Staff: Andrea Mann, Claudia Alvarez

Agenda.

1. Business Arising from November 4th 2008 meeting:
 - a. Respond to Lambeth Commentary (Peter): Commentary response task group wrote its report and submitted to COGS November 2008. Concluding paragraph on interest for further information and discussion. ACTION: Peter will forward the document to the rest of the GRWG members so questions can be raised.
ACTION: Rob Marsh, PMEJC COGS member, will report on how response paper was received in November;
 - b. Anglican Consultative Council 2009 (Andrea): Anglican Church of Canada's representatives will be welcome as full participants at the Anglican Consultative Council meeting in Jamaica, May 2009. Canadian representatives are: Bishop Sue Moxley, Bishop Elect Stephen Andrews, and Mrs. Suzanne Lawson. Presumed The Episcopal Church will also participate fully.
ACTION: John will confirm TEC participation.
 - c. Lambeth Moratoria: (Group) There is confusion in the Communion about the moratoria. Primate Fred has stated the Anglican Church of Canada will honour the moratoria until 2010, recognizing some bishops will take other steps with great sensitivity, faithful to what dioceses are asking of them. Noted that elsewhere in the Communion the moratorium on jurisdiction interventions is openly disregarded. Reminded that "moratoria" terminology is an *interpretation* of what bishops' Lambeth indaba groups expressed, which was a great desire to hold the Communion together in words and action.
ACTION: Andrea will write a brief note summarizing the Anglican Church of Canada's position, for use with partners and others who ask. To be endorsed by WG, PMEJC and Primate before use.
2. Documents Review: Global Relations Historical and Context (November 11 2008) and Terms of Reference
 - a. Global Relations Historical and Context: Helpful document in summarizing historical and current context for discussion about future Global Relations program.
 - i. Questions arising: **What does the current context mean for future relationships with historical global church partners? What are the signs of the times saying about future possibilities and priorities of the Global Relations program, particularly**

the future of grants and financial support to partners? How can partners read and interpret these signs with us? What is the role of this working group in bringing these questions before PMEJC, enabling conversation at PMEJC and with partners, to plan for 2012 and beyond ahead of the financial curve, creatively, proactively toward a program meeting the needs of the Church within the resource available? How can we better tell Canadian Anglicans about our global partnerships program, our partners and our work together? How can we get Canadian Anglicans personally interested, connected to this work and witness with partners around the world?

ii. Influential factors to consider in addressing these and other questions:

1. Expressions of strong commitment to being-in-relationship by almost all leaders of Anglican Provinces globally,
2. Legacy of friendship, understanding and mutual respect between Anglican Church of Canada, other Anglican Provinces and other partners, after many years of being and working together in worship, education and solidarity for justice,
3. Anticipated deficit budget until 2012 when no deficit will be permitted, suggesting the continuing the erosion of financial resources for existing program priorities eg. annual grants to church partners for mission and church growth, scholarships for theological education,
4. Commitment to stronger visible expression of ACC and ELCIC Covenant in all General Synod programs,
5. Commitment to stronger witness for justice for indigenous peoples in Canada;
6. Intention to fully integrate the Ecojustice and Partners in Mission programs before 2010,
7. Vision 2019: Strategic Planning Process for the Church's General Synod work.
8. Crucial, critical importance of showing people how this work is their work with others; our work with God.

iii. Discussion: GRWG could take a lead in developing a process for posing these questions to PMEJC towards developing a Global Relations program for the Anglican Church of Canada in this century.

ACTION: Andrea and Claudia will check with Henriette on proposed WG role in the abovementioned discussion, and ask about suggestions of Oversight Group re: alternate ways of PMEJC meeting before September meeting, and in particular, the possibility of regional meetings.

ACTION: WG members and staff begin thinking about process option with PMEJC and partners, and substantive future Global Relations program proposals for discussion.

- b. Terms of Reference Document: ACTION: Andrea will post a draft ToR document on Google Docs for group editing.
3. Working Group Workplan 2009: Discussion postponed until GR staff 2009 workplans are completed
4. Global Relations 2009 Budget: Used as a background document in discussion on 'signs of the times' and future of Global Relations program. Staff noted the practice of informing partners early in the fiscal year of annual grants and other funding, via a written letter. Staff also refer partners to other funding sources when GR funds are insufficient for partners' emerging and continuing mission priorities.

Each meeting adjourned after 1 hour.

Draft Minutes: 27 January 2009