

*Minutes of the PMEJC conference call, June 2, 2009*

Participants: John Brewin, Colleen Sym, Rob Marsh, Sue Winn, Jesse Dymond, Jonathan Schmidt, Peter Fenty, Bill Mous, Richard LeSueur, Andrea Mann, Jill Cruse, Paul Gehrs, Clementina Thomas, Claudia Alvarez, Lydia Laku, Maylanne Maybee, Henriette Thompson (notes)

Henriette welcomed all to the meeting; members checked in from West to East. Peter read Acts 2: 1-11 and invited us to reflect on the story of Pentecost.

**Working Group reports:**

*Oversight Working Group* (Sue Winn): Key areas of discussion: Liaising with staff re. budget planning process; review of PMEJC mandate. What do staff members need (from us) to follow through on General Synod resolutions? What does further program integration of ACC and ELCIC look like?

Yes, the spring 2010 meeting is on (Feb 11 – 14, 2010). Recommendations for next triennium to be discussed at our fall meeting; recommendations go to CoGS, then to the Handbook Committee.

*Global Relations Working Group* (Andrea Mann): January meetings: made a proposal to Oversight WG re. a thematic proposal of “partnerships” for fall meeting. Awaiting OWG response.

Writing a brief on moratoria on blessing of same sex unions; text has been written; currently gathering input, then to Director of Partnerships, Primate, Committee for further input.

Challenge for GR Working Group: to use WG model to effectively strengthen GR work. No clear directive for radical program change. Members are very busy. They are currently working on developing Terms of Reference for their work.

*Ecojustice Working Group* (Paul Gehrs): Initiatives: Greening Anglican Spaces (recently awarded \$15,000 from the Anglican Foundation). International connections through Anglican Environmental Network; also links with ELCIC. Conference call on housing and homelessness – working together to keep this issue at the forefront. Indigenous justice and resource extraction are also important issues. Read a statement from Moose Factory. Poverty justice camp: 2009 in Halifax; 2010 in Niagara.

Staff reviewed GS resolutions and have documented progress made. PMEJC will need to propose 2010 resolutions – “how” and “what” with fewer resources...? Also mining and resource extraction and impact on communities – link with Moosonee and the Philippines.

KAIROS tar sands delegation: article from the National Post (pejorative and negative); CBC web site report (favourable but reader responses negative). KAIROS trip report is currently in draft form.

*Mission Education and Personnel Working Group* (Bill Mous): Resource production: Vision 2019 mission study; call for prayer re. Zimbabwe and resource; Walking through Lent; Praying with our Partners.

Working on some gray policy areas: Partnership visit grant application from Huron College for a visit to Capetown. Developing guidelines for continuing education for clergy pilot project (on draft 2). Partnering in MTS development program with Wycliffe College and in connection with Theological Students International Internship Program.

*Communications Working Group* (Jill Cruse): Terms of Reference for WG soon to be posted to password protected web page; also Terms of Reference for Mission Education and Personnel WG. Three priority areas for this triennium – 1. “telling the story” of PMEJ to Anglicans via promotional DVD (working with Anglican Video re. specifications); 2. development of a template for presentations to parishes, dioceses or diocesan committees; new PMEJ Power Point presentation – Andrea used and has suggestions for revision; 3. discussion of media strategy for dioceses, committee members.

*Vision, Theology and Worship Working Group* (Jonathan Schmidt): Challenges: meetings (we best work face-to-face; teleconference not ideal; email works reasonably well); notes duplication of work between and among Working Groups.

Have developed a theme for partnerships and proposed three sessions for the fall meeting – 1. theological reflections on themes of partnership (with potential speakers); 2. conversation within PMEJ on areas of interest in the work of PMEJC (resource extraction, trafficking, etc.); 3. Discern what action(s) God may be calling us (PMEJC, ACC) to – influence public policy? Other?

### **Budget planning process**

Henriette provided an overview of the program priorities and 2010 budget planning process already begun by Partnerships staff. We are working with a scenario of a 15% cut to Partnerships budget in 2010. By September, we will have a draft to present to PMEJC.

John Brewin: how can PMEJC members be advocates for programs in budget cutting process? What would that role look like – discuss in the fall? Suspicious of percentage cutbacks that can result in an artificial message of fairness.

### **Fall meeting planning**

- Theme, focus: consensus to focus on the theme of “partnerships”

- Vision, Theology and Worship WG proposes three 1.5 hour sessions – on theological and biblical reflection on partnership (session 1); on partnership as a lens through which to work on specific PMEJ issues, including resource extraction and Indigenous justice (session 2); what is God calling us to do with what we've heard and learned? (session 3)
- Proposal to hold the three sessions in the first half of the agenda.
- We heard email comments from Florence and Caroline re. Indigenous justice and resource extraction issues and activities.
- Andrea: second focus area -- theological education. Powerful lens re. partnerships and a powerful lens. Keep the breadth of our work as wide as possible.
- For information: diocesan PWRDF dinner and speaker (Cheryl Curtis, PWRDF Executive Director) on Saturday night, October 3, at St. Mary's Kerrisdale. Peter: we could send a message of partnership and friendship to the PWRDF participants at the dinner. We need to know of the Bishop's schedule that weekend. **Action:** Andrea to follow up tomorrow with Eileen Nurse re. +Michael's availability. Once we are able to confirm +Michael's time, we can invite ELCIC BC Synod Bishop Gerhard Preibisch to join the meeting.
- Sunday morning visits with parishes: visibility and building relationships are very important. We need to balance workload and parish visits.
- Local partners: we brainstormed a list of local partners we would like to consider inviting to our meeting, eg., local theological students (two at VST, several through TSIIP) or recent Volunteers in Mission to present to PMEJC; John Steele (WCC rep); local ELCIC partners; Ellen Clark King (Inter Anglican Women's Network). For further consideration and discussion.
- **Action:** Staff will draft and propose a fall meeting agenda in June/July for review and feedback by co-chairs.

### Getting ready for General Synod 2010

- The theme for GS 2010 is: *Feeling the Winds of God, Charting a New Course*. Richard suggests Vision, Theology and Worship WG work with General Synod Liturgy/Worship Committee.  
**Action:** Sue to speak with Peter Wall about the GS worship planning process and with Barbara Burrows about giving place and profile to PMEJ and report back to PMEJC.
- PMEJC has opportunity to invite a global partner to General Synod. Noted that PMEJC pays for overseas partner. Also noted Eileen Scully's suggestion of selecting the Church of Ireland as a partner. We discussed criteria for selecting a partner aligned with PMEJC focus on mission and ecojustice and agreed to take the following actions:  
**Action:** Henriette to contact Ellie Johnson for past process and protocols. Staff have responsibility for identifying overseas partner.

- Refer further comments on PMEJC mandate to Jill and for further discussion at fall meeting.
- Sue presented her proposal to visit Iola in Inukjuak in late June. Staff will provide further input and decision.
- Process of preparing resolutions for General Synod – PWRDF does not have members on GS therefore Maylanne and Beth Baskin have called for a joint Partnerships and PWRDF meeting to develop resolutions in June. These will also be reviewed at our fall meeting.
- Spring meeting location – Toronto. **Action:** Lydia to prepare report on PMEJC Toronto meeting costs by June 5 for staff and PMEJC chairs to assess level of costs relative to holding the meeting in New Brunswick.

### **Proposal to visit Inukjuak**

Since the beginning of the triennium, the members of PMEJC have considered how to respond to an invitation from Iola Metuq to visit his community, Inukjuak. In view of the time left in the triennium and the prohibitive cost of meeting in Inukjuak as a committee, Sue Winn has put forward a proposal to visit Inukjuak the end of June.

The objectives of her visit are:

- to show support for Iola's ministry from the PMEJ committee
- to learn more about the community's program for youth who are using drugs (Iola is doing a lot of speaking and teaching in schools and churches)
- to take many photos and to prepare a slide show for our Vancouver meeting, with Iola providing the commentary
- to learn about the huge cultural divide between our churches in the cities, and the landscape and ministry in the Arctic

A decision, subsequent to this meeting, was to approve the visit proposal.

Meeting adjourned.