

ECOJUSTICE UPDATE – PARTNERS IN MISSION AND ECOJUSTICE COMMITTEE
October 2009 to February 2010

Below are highlights of the work of the Ecojustice Desk since the PMEJ Committee in October 2009.

Housing and Poverty Reduction

- Citizens for Public Justice – signed onto Dignity for All campaign (October)
- November 22 – National Housing and Homelessness Day – actions in cities across Canada to advocate for Bill C-304.
- Coverage on Anglican action against homelessness by Anglican web and The Journal.

Community Justice Camp

- Planning for immersion groups, Community Justice Camp, Niagara
- Registration information sent out with February Info! Bishops asked to promote Camp in their dioceses.

Anti Racism

- Anti-Racism Working Group meeting with Jayne Oasin (The Episcopal Church), with Canadian Ecumenical Anti-Racism Network.
- Work plan drafted for the 2010-2013 triennium
- Anti-Racism training for the clergy of Rupert's Land
- Consulted about ecumenical collaboration on anti-racism with Peter Noteboom, Commissioner for Justice and Peace, Canadian Council of Churches

Truth and Reconciliation

- November 19-21 – “Equipping Ambassadors” – first ecumenical conference (for Ontario and Quebec) on churches, Aboriginal communities, and Truth and Reconciliation Canada
- Meeting with Truth and Reconciliation Canada Executive Director and Commissioners (December)
- Decision to postpone next “Equipping Ambassadors” event until after first TRC national event (June 15-19, 2010 in Winnipeg)

Climate Change

- Greening Anglican Spaces project proceeds slowly – on line tools completed, promoted in February Info!
- Diocesan bishops requested to name Environmental Teams. About 6-8 responses out of 30 dioceses
- Meeting with delegation from Just Earth, seeking strong action by Primate, House of Bishops, and General Synod on Climate Change
- Plans in place for a Summit on Climate Change as a Moral Issue, April 14-18, 2010.

Working with partners

- Meeting in November with Evans Rubera re Canadian mining practices in Tanzania
- Kairos – public action begins to reverse CIDA funding cut (first week in December)
- Commission on Justice and Peace-Canadian Council of Churches and Project Ploughshares – call on Government of Canada to mount a new peace mission in Afghanistan that supports reconciliation and urges diplomatic efforts to end the war. Anglican Church of Canada stands behind this position as member church of Canadian Council of Churches.

Events at Church House

- Planning for General Synod begins in November with PWRDF, but subsequent meetings are postponed 3 times due to intervening circumstances.
- Church House – staff cuts announced in December, affecting the house across the board: Partnerships, Anglican Appeal (Philanthropy), Faith/Worship/Ministry, Financial Management/Development, Communications/Information Resources.
- News of General Secretary's accident over Christmas, followed in January by sudden death of Geoff Jackson, seven positions cut in PWRDF, resignation of Executive Director of PWRDF.