



Working Agenda

Commission on Faith and Witness Meeting

November 17 – 19, 2014
Queen of Apostles Renewal Centre
1617 Blythe Road
Mississauga, ON L5H 2C3
(905) 278 5229

*****Note: All sessions of the Commission on Faith and Witness meeting are open to Assembly participants, unless otherwise specified on the Agenda.*****

Monday, November 17, 2014

Evening Welcome and Working Session (7:00 pm – 8:30 pm)

7:00 pm – 7:30 pm

- Welcome and gathering prayer
- Welcome to the Ontario Association of Catholic Bishops representatives and other guests
- Welcome to new CFW members – Sr. Gill Goulding, C.J. (CCCB), Ms. Huda Kandalaft (Presbyterian Church in Canada), and Fr. Theodore Paraskevopoulos (Greek Orthodox Metropolis of Toronto, Canada)
- Sharing of news / personal updates
- Report on the chairmanship for the Commission on Faith and Witness
- Introduction of the steering committee; chairing duties for this meeting
- Adoption of CFW Minutes from March 2014
- Review of Agenda for this meeting, including CFW interaction with Assembly events
- Selection of CFW reps to Assembly meetings
- Review of CFW budget

7:30 pm – 7:45 pm

- **WPCU Report and Discussion** (Maria Simakova)

7:45 pm – 8:30 pm

- **Religious Pluralism:**
 - Further Responses to Religious Pluralism (TBD)
 - Review of Responses to Religious Pluralism thus far, including the consolidated document, and presentation of common themes (Paul Ladouceur)



- Presentation of common themes and divergences from Responses (Richard Schneider)
- Discussion

Tuesday, November 18

Morning I Working Session (9:00 am – 10:15 am)

9:00 am – 9:30 am

- **Visit from CIRG**
 - progress on CFW's Religious Pluralism discussion / document
 - possible directions for Religious Pluralism discussion / document

9:30 am – 10:15 am

- **Religious Pluralism:**
 - Further Responses to Religious Pluralism (TBD)
 - Further reflection and discussion of work thus far
 - Where do we see convergences?
 - Where do we see work to be done?
 - What would be the particular Canadian contribution to this discussion? What are the current challenges?
 - How does this question address other current work of the CCC?
 - What have we learned about our denominations' current needs?
 - What kind of resource do we see coming? What format do we want for this resource?

Morning II Working Session (10:45 am – 12:00 pm)

10:45 am – 11:15 am

- **Forum on Dialogues**
Present: Norman Lévesque (CCE) and Darren Dahl (PCE) [flight permitting]
 - Report from the Forum Working Group
 - Discussion
 - Decisions:
 - What are the tasks?
 - Who is responsible? By when?

11:30 am – 12:00 pm

- **CFW members join Canadian Churches' Forum on Global Ministries (CCFGM)**
 - Topic: Presentation of proposed CCFGM mandate as a Commission of the CCC and discussion of collaborative initiatives
 - Also present: CJP, BRG, CIRG, CTSA

Afternoon I Working Session (2:00 pm – 3:30 pm)

*****Note: This session is open to members of the Commission on Faith and Witness ONLY**

2:00 pm – 3:00 pm

- **Off the Record**
 - Possible topics:
 - Theology of human rights / civil liberties

Note: No minutes / records will be kept of this session. This is a chance for the Commission members to speak without necessarily presenting the faith-perspective of their denomination.

- CFW rep(s) attends the presentation on Faith and Genetics hosted by BRG

3:00 pm – 3:30 pm

- **All CFW members join the presentation on Faith and Genetics hosted by BRG** (joined by CJP, CIRG, other groups)

Afternoon II Working Session (4:00 pm – 5:30 pm)

4:00 pm – 4:30 pm

- **Salvation Video**
 - Update
 - Discussion

4:30 pm – 5:30 pm

- Collaboration among Canadian Council of Churches, Canadian Centre for Ecumenism, and Prairie Centre for Ecumenism – with Darren Dahl (PCE) and Norman Lévesque (CCE) present
 - News from CCE and PCE about their work
 - Discussion of collaboration among CCE, PCE, and CCC/CFW



THE CANADIAN COUNCIL OF CHURCHES LE CONSEIL CANADIEN DES ÉGLISES

- CFW rep attends CIRG's panel presentation and discussion on Inter-Faith
- CFW rep attends a conversation on Doctrine and Discovery hosted by CEARN (with CJP and HT)

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

*****Note: Today's sessions are open to members of the Commission on Faith and Witness and the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Writing Team ONLY*****

Morning I Working Session (9:00 am – 10:15 am)

9:00 am – 9:30 am

- **Religious Pluralism**
 - Final decisions on Religious Pluralism document
 - What are the tasks?
 - Who is responsible? By when?
- CFW rep attends a presentation hosted by CTSA (Canadian Theological Students Association)

9:30 am – 10:15 am

- **Visit from the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Writing Team**
 - Brief review of WPCU's current place in worldwide and Canadian ecumenical work (Maria)
 - Brief review of GB's recommendation to view WPCU as a "flagship" fundraising / communications event for the CCC (Maria)
 - Reflection on the theological grounding and ecumenical vision for WPCU in Canada, including
 - relationship between the worldwide Week of Prayer and the Week of Prayer in Canada (especially as coordinated by CFW / CCC)
 - collaboration among CCC, CCE and PCE (with special input from Darren and Norman)
 - Would it be a good idea to write a "vision and mission statement" for the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity in Canada (as coordinated by CFW / CCC), elucidating its theological grounding and place in Canadian ecumenism?
 - If yes: How do we go about it? Who will do it? When? What should it include? What would be its purpose?
 - If not: What recommendations do we have?



- Would it be a good idea to develop a “business model” for the Week of Prayer within the work of CFW / CCC (including budget, projected production / distribution expenses and cost recovery, and fundraising)
 - If yes: How do we go about it? Who will do it? When? What should it include?
 - If not: What recommendations do we have?
- **Communications Plan** (Communications Officer, Jesse Hair, present 9:45 - 10:15 am)

Morning II Working Session (10:45 am – 12:00 pm)

- **Looking Ahead to the Next Triennium**
 - CFW membership
 - CFW leadership for this / next Triennium
 - Possible theme for the next Triennium
 - Our work for the next Triennium
- **Planning for Next Meetings**
 - Dates / places
 - Agendas
- **Other Business**