

## EXECUTIVE COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS MINISTRIES

### MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Malcolm Chun, <i>Chair</i>	Hawaii, VIII, 2009
The Rt. Rev. Michael Smith, <i>Vice-Chair</i>	North Dakota, VI
The Rev. Carol Smith, <i>Secretary</i>	Minnesota, VI, 2009
Ms. Rebecca Clark, <i>Secretary, Resigned 08/07</i>	Olympia, VIII, 2009
The Rev. Ginny Doctor <i>(Interim appointment since 2007)</i>	Alaska, VIII, 2009
Ms. Cornelia Eaton	Navajo land, VIII, 2012
The Rev. Rosella Jim	Navajo land, VIII, 2012
The Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald <i>(Navajo land Assisting Bishop since 2006)</i>	Alaska, VIII
The Rev. Lewis Powell	Rio Grande, VII, 2012
The Rt. Rev. Creighton Robertson	South Dakota, VI
Ms. Linda Sproat	Hawaii, VIII, 2009
Ms. Janine Tinsley-Roe, <i>Staff Consultant</i>	Long Island, II
The Rev. Robert Two Bulls	Minnesota, VI, 2009
Ms. Erma Vizenor	Minnesota, VI, 2012

The Rev. Canon Emily Morales, *Executive Council Liaison (since October 2007)*

The Rev. Miguelina Espinal, *Executive Council Liaison (resigned October 2007)*

### SUMMARY OF WORK

With the passing of GC Resolution 2006-A108, the Episcopal Council of Indigenous Ministries (ECIM) was renamed the Executive Council Committee on Indigenous Ministries (ECCIM) and engaged in strategic planning for the future of Indigenous ministries in the church and set goals for the next triennium. Resolution 2006-D046 reaffirmed the Jamestown Covenant and engagement of The Episcopal Church with Indigenous Peoples and designated the decade of 2007 to 2017 as the Second Decade of Remembrance, Recognition and Reconciliation. Accordingly, the ECCIM and Office of Native Ministries planned and coordinated the New Jamestown Covenant Summit at Williamsburg, Virginia in November 2007. At this Summit, Resolutions calling for support for 11 tribes seeking federal recognition and the preservation of burial sites and other sacred places of Indigenous Peoples were passed.

The Committee continued its leadership role and advising to ensure that Native Americans can become “full and equal partners in the Church’s Mission and Ministry,” so as to be welcomed into congregational life. ECCIM supported leadership training, youth conferences and evangelism programs for future Native American presence and participation. The Committee continued to support Winter Talk, Paths Crossing, Anglican Indigenous Network, Mountains and Deserts and the Indigenous Theological Training Institute (ITTI). As these programs evolve to respond to new realities, ECCIM will continue to advocate and support efforts to enhance Indigenous ministries. For example, the Winter Talk Gathering in 2008 affirmed the reorganization of the Church Center for more effective mission. At the same time it requested the recognition that the priorities of the Evangelism and Congregational Life Center are also the priorities of Indigenous Episcopalians as well as those of the Advocacy Center to which it was assigned. The Committee recognized Frank Oberly as an elder-consultant.

**BUDGET REPORT**

ECCIM will meet approximately six times during the next triennium. This will require \$36,400 for 2010; \$36,400 for 2011; \$15,000 for the Anglican Indigenous Network Consultation in 2010; and \$36,400 for 2012; for a total of \$124,200 for the triennium.

**GOALS AND OBJECTIVES FOR THE 2010–2012 TRIENNIUM**

**Goal 1:** To build a strong, positive, Indigenous voice that reaches everyone in our communities and the larger church.

**Objectives:**

- Develop culturally appropriate training in public speaking and the structure of The Episcopal Church in the United States of America.
- Educate ourselves and our constituents to the issues and concerns of The Episcopal Church.
- Create training programs for young adults/college students to become good communicators of the Gospel.
- Develop skills in internet communication.

**Goal 2:** To develop a plan to increase the budget of ECCIM to enable the committee to accomplish its work through meetings, membership development and building relationships through networks and partnerships.

**Objectives:**

- Increase the budget of ECCIM by 15%.
- Increase the program budget by 20% to improve the advocacy role and program participation.
- Increase budget support to the four aided dioceses (Alaska, Navajoland, North Dakota, South Dakota) by 15%; assistance in meeting social crisis needs.
- Write funding Resolutions for inclusion in the Blue Book Report.

**Goal 3:** Increase lay and ordained Indigenous leadership for more real involvement and participation in the ECUSA.

**Objectives:**

- Develop an Indigenous leadership list for the House of Deputies for possible appointments to the CCABs.
- Implement the draft National Guidelines for Indigenous Ordination.
- Increase the opportunities for laity training and enrichment in culturally based theological education.

**RESOLUTION A146 PROMOTING ANGLICAN PARTNERSHIPS**

- 1 *Resolved*, The House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the Executive Council request the Joint Standing Committee on  
2 Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation increase of \$31,200.00 for the meetings expenses of  
3 the Episcopal Council of Indigenous Ministries Committee’s plenary meetings based upon the projections of the  
4 General Convention Office, and an additional \$15,000 for attending meetings of the Anglican Indigenous  
5 Network and other appropriate meetings and consultations as deemed necessary by ECCIM, in the triennium.

**EXPLANATION**

A budget increase for the Committee is being sought due to the increased costs of travel and other expenses based upon a total of 6 meetings in the triennium x 13 members x \$1,400 per member. This is an increase of \$400 per member. The Committee will provide member support for the 2011 meeting of the Anglican Indigenous Network, a recognized network of the Anglican Consultative Council.

**RESOLUTION A147 CLAIMING OUR IDENTITY & PROMOTING ANGLICAN PARTNERSHIPS**

- 1 *Resolved*, The House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention commend the work of the Anglican  
2 Indigenous Network, a recognized network of the Anglican Consultative Council.

**EXPLANATION**

The Anglican Indigenous Network was founded in 1990, a partnership to strengthen mission and ministry of Indigenous Anglicans of Aotearoa (New Zealand), Hawaii, Canada, United States, and Australia. Each delegation is made up of representatives of elders, youth, clergy, women and theological educators from their respective constituencies. The AIN has been instrumental in advocating for Indigenous rights, leadership development, reclamation of Indigenous women’s traditional roles and empowerment, and in promoting youth leadership development. The report from the *Lambeth Indaba, Capturing Conversations and Reflections from the Lambeth Conference 2008 – Equipping Bishops for mission and Strengthening Anglican Identity* states: “The Indigenous peoples have reminded us that we are not aliens in a wilderness to be conquered, but integral parts of the created order, as are plants and animals, which are to be cherished and nurtured. The AIN could provide good resources for the Communion to develop these ideas more fully.”

**RESOLUTION A148 DOING JUSTICE & ALLEVIATING POVERTY; IDENTITY; GROWING CONGREGATIONS; STRENGTHENING GOVERNANCE AND FOUNDATIONS FOR MISSION; PROMOTING ANGLICAN PARTNERSHIPS**

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee  
2 on Program, Budget & Finance to consider increasing by 15% the base budget support awarded at General  
3 Convention 2006 to each of the four “aided dioceses” (South Dakota, North Dakota, Alaska, Navajoland) for  
4 ministry with Native peoples in the 2010-2012 triennial budget; and be it further  
5  
6 *Resolved*, That the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention request the Joint Standing Committee on Program, Budget & Finance  
7 to consider increasing by 20% the Program Budget of the Office of Native Ministries awarded at General  
8 Convention 2006 in the 2010-2012 triennial budget.

**EXPLANATION**

The Episcopal Church has more than 400 years of commitment to ministry among Native People. Four dioceses (South Dakota, North Dakota, Alaska and Navajoland) are among those that receive base budget support through General Convention for their work with Native Americans. These dioceses are unable to fulfill their ministries due to a lack of internal resources and insufficient funding from The Episcopal Church. Due to the lapse of the Decade of Remembrance, Recognition and Reconciliation funds, an increase is needed for the ministry of the Office of Native Ministries in order to accomplish the mandate of Resolution 2006 D046 that re-committed The Episcopal Church to a Second Decade of Remembrance, Recognition and Reconciliation from 2007-2017.

In real dollars that has been no increase in funding for these dioceses since the reorganization from the old Coalition-14 funding to a line item of The Episcopal Church’s General Convention Budget. Factoring for

inflation and budget readjustments that have occurred between General Conventions, there has been a drop in financial resources of more than 35% since 1990. This has meant choices of having congregational leadership doing more with less or doing away with certain ministries and initiatives. With the present inflationary cycle, even a 15% increase is not likely to make up for added transportation costs in serving these largely rural communities.

**RESOLUTION A149 SUPPORT FOR THE INDIGENOUS THEOLOGICAL TRAINING INSTITUTE (ITTI)**

- 1 *Resolved*, The House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention requests the Joint Standing
- 2 Committee on Program, Budget and Finance to consider a budget allocation of \$175,000 for support of the
- 3 Indigenous Theological Training Institute.

**EXPLANATION**

The Indigenous Theological Training Institute (ITTI), founded in 1994 to improve theological training and leadership development in Native American communities has never received an increase in funding. The ITTI was founded to respond to the great lack of ordained and lay leaders in Native American communities. The ITTI has been successful in assisting dioceses in providing culturally appropriate theological training, but there is still much work to be done. A budget increase would help ITTI provide at least three more regional trainings.

Priorities:

- Doing Justice and Alleviating Poverty
- Claiming our Identity
- Growing Congregations
- Strengthening Governance and Foundations for Mission

**RESOLUTION A150 ENDORSEMENT FOR THE OKLAHOMA CONSULTATION FOR LEADERS IN INDIGENOUS MINISTRY**

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention endorses the collaboration between
- 2 the Executive Council’s Committee on Indigenous Ministries and the Indigenous Theological Institute for 2010
- 3 Oklahoma Consultation for leaders in Indigenous ministry.

**EXPLANATION**

The Indigenous Theological Training Institute, an outgrowth of the former Episcopal Council on Indigenous Ministries, will coordinate a consultation to be held in Oklahoma in 2010. This consultation will provide follow-up to the a previous consultation in February of 2008 at which several bishops and many Indigenous leadership gathered to discuss development of ordained and lay leadership in Indigenous communities within The Episcopal Church of the United States. While the consultation of 2008 was called specifically to gain input on theological education for indigenous communities, several issues arose that are important for continuing the self-determining ministry that ECCIM promotes. ITTI has asked ECCIM to walk with them in this important journey.

**RESOLUTION A151 IN SUPPORT OF ADDITION TO *LESSER FEASTS AND FASTS* OF PAUL CUFFEE AND SAMSON OCCUM**

- 1 *Resolved*, The House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the Executive Council Committee on Indigenous Ministries
- 2 (ECCIM) meeting on August 16, 2008 at Salt Lake City support the addition to *Lesser Feasts and Fasts* of Paul
- 3 Cuffee of the Shinnecock People as “witness to the faith” on March 4, and Samson Occum of the Mohawk
- 4 People as “witness to the faith” on July 14.

**RESOLUTION A152 PRESERVATION OF BURIAL SITES**

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention direct the Executive Council
- 2 Committee on Indigenous Ministries to study and assess the preservation of burial sites and other sacred places of
- 3 Indigenous Peoples in the countries that comprise The Episcopal Church and to report its findings to the
- 4 Executive Council and the 77<sup>th</sup> General Convention.

**EXPLANATION**

The concern that sacred burial sites are being desecrated was raised at the New Jamestown Covenant Summit in November 2007.

**RESOLUTION A153 FEDERAL TRIBAL RECOGNITION**

- 1 *Resolved*, the House of \_\_\_\_\_ concurring, That the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention request The Episcopal Church’s  
2 Office of Government Relations in Washington D.C. and the bishops and Episcopalians of the Dioceses of  
3 Virginia, Southwest Virginia and Southern Virginia to call upon their elected officials in support of the federal  
4 tribal recognition of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Monacan Indian Nation, the Chickahominy Tribe, the  
5 Eastern Chickahominy Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe and the Nansemond Tribe of Virginia; and be it further  
6  
7 *Resolved*, That the 76<sup>th</sup> General Convention request The Episcopal Church’s Office of Government Relations and  
8 the bishops and Episcopalians of the Dioceses of Louisiana, Long Island, Georgia, Atlanta, Hawaii and Fond du  
9 Lac to advocate in their respective spheres of influence for the federal tribal recognition of the United Houma  
10 Nation of Louisiana, the Shinnecock Tribal Nation of New York, the Southeastern Cherokee Council Inc. of  
11 Georgia, the Native Hawaiian Nation and the Brothertown Nation of Wisconsin.

**EXPLANATION**

This Resolution originally came from The New Jamestown Covenant Summit of The Episcopal Church, gathered in Williamsburg, Virginia for the 400<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the encounter of English colonists and Native Americans and to inaugurate a new “Decade of Remembrance, Recognition and Reconciliation.” The Summit consisted of Episcopalians from 28 dioceses and represented 39 tribes.

The Summit heard from the Chief of the Upper Mattaponi Tribe of Virginia, an Episcopal deacon from the Monacan Indian Nation of Virginia, the Principal Chief of the United Houma Nation of Louisiana, and leaders of the Shinnecock Tribal Nation of New York, the Southeastern Cherokee Council Inc. of Georgia, the Native Hawaiian Nation and the Brothertown Nation of Wisconsin about their struggles, desires and stalled attempts to receive federal recognition of tribal status and subsequent opportunities for health benefits, educational opportunities, economic development and equal voice with other tribes in Washington D.C.

We recalled Resolution 1985-B007 of our General Convention which called upon “all agencies of the church to advocate and support the honoring of all Indian treaty rights and the right to internal autonomy and self-determination of Indian Nations and Tribes.”