

**MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA
JOINT COUNCIL MEETING
January 26-27, 2019 – Saskatoon
Meeting Minutes**

Joint Council Present: Calvin Quan (Moderator), Geraldine Balzer (Assistant Moderator), Allan Hiebert (Secretary/Treasurer), Terry Stefaniuk (Moderator MCSK), Andrea De Avila (MCM), Brenda Tiessen-Wiens (Moderator MCA), Margaret Kruger-Harder (MCA), Arli Klassen (Moderator, MCEC), Betty Loewen (MCBC), Lee Dyck (Moderator MCBC), Henry Funk (MCSK)

Staff Present: Henry Paetkau (Interim EM), Tim Wiebe Neufeld (MCA), Ryan Siemens (MCSK), Ken Warkentin (MCM), David Martin (MCEC), Garry Janzen (MCBC)

Regrets: Gerald Gerbrandt (Moderator MCM), Alicia Good (MCEC)

1) **Welcome:** Calvin called the meeting to order at 8:30 am

2) **Opening:** Betty Loewen provided an opening focusing on the beatitudes challenging the notion that these words of Jesus are merely “cause and effect”.

3) **MC Canada Covenant:** The covenant was reviewed, and all present joined in the Litany for MC Canada Joint Council.

4) **Agenda and Minutes**

- a) The agenda was approved as circulated, with the following additions/changes: Arli Klassen identified a conflict of interest with reference to MWC. She will remove herself for that portion of the agenda. Tim Wiebe Neufeld identified a conflict of interest with CM
- b) The minutes of the Oct 20-12 Joint Council meeting were reviewed. Glen Guyton name was misspelled in the minutes. Glen is the EM of MC USA

CONSENSUS: The minutes of the October 20-21, 2018 Joint Council meeting were approved as amended.

- c) The minutes of the Oct 29 Joint Council Zoom meeting were reviewed.

CONSENSUS: The minutes of the October 29, 2018 Joint Council zoom meeting were approved as circulated.

- d) The minutes of the Nov-15-21 e-mail vote were reviewed

CONSENSUS: The minutes of the Nov 15-21, 2018 Joint Council e-mail vote were approved as circulated.

5) **Moderator report:** Calvin presented his report (pages 20-21 of JC docket).

- a) We will look for Moderators to provide updates on financial expectations

- b) Calvin expressed appreciations for Henry for his leadership in this interim period
- c) Doug Klassen (incoming EM) will join us at the Mission Consultation and JC Meetings in Calgary in March/April

6) **Executive Minister report:** Henry presented his report (pages 22-26 of JC docket)

- a) Executive Director report:
 - i) Henry reflected that he was more than a third of the way through his term as interim EM. He discussed his observations about how MC Canada was functioning.
 - ii) Pastoral leadership continues to be part of the ESG agenda and we are working on a strategy for nationwide leadership development.
 - iii) Sean East has been seconded by MCEC to MC Canada and MCM to work with staff on financial issues and processes. He will lead accounting function for MC Canada, including during the audit process.
 - iv) Computer technology needs to be upgraded and will be part of the future budgets
 - v) The EM is very integrated with many partnerships with external organizations. This may not be sustainable in the long run and may need to be shared by other staff and/or volunteers
 - vi) Merna Miller Dyck will be on the search committee for a new president for AMBS
- b) International Witness report (Jason Martin, pages 27-34 of JC docket):
 - i) The report was reviewed.
- c) Indigenous-Settler Relations (Steve Heinrichs, pages 35-39 of JC docket):
 - i) Funding cuts in partner ministries affects Steve's work.
 - ii) The lack of a Witness Council (as existed in the old structure) has created some significant issues for the MC Canada staff with added responsibility for the EM and ultimately the JC. It now becomes the responsibility of JC to speak more directly into the ministry of MC Canada staff and offer counsel when and where appropriate. This will be done through the EM
- d) Common Word (Arlyn Friesen Epp, pages 40-41 of JC docket):
 - i) The report was reviewed.
- e) Discussion followed on the questions: How is the future ministry of MC Canada staff being directed in the new structure? Is this something that JC needs to direct or attend to?
- f) Appreciation for the work that Henry is doing expressed on behalf of ESG

7) **Finance Update:**

- a) Dec 2018 YTD Financial Results (circulated a few days prior to the meeting) were reviewed.
- b) Regional Church 2018 Financial Results review
 - i) Each of the RC Moderators discussed their financial results (to date) for calendar 2018, and anticipated MC Canada contributions for the FYE 2020 budget.
 - ii) How the RC contributions were determined was discussed.
 - (1) ESG is working at establishing similar financial reporting for all RC and MC Canada so we can compare numbers more accurately
 - (2) All revenue and expenses need to be understood in the same way for meaningful financial reporting can take place. Need to move to common definitions of terms.
 - (3) Attending to the financial health of each other is part of our covenant

Morning Break 10:15 am

- c) MC Canada 2019 (FYE 2020) budget outlook
 - i) With the information from RC the MC Canada FYE 2020 budget is being developed
 - ii) Restricted funds are being considered for their best use according to their policies and internal/external restrictions
- d) The Financial Recommendations Report prepared by Sean East was reviewed (pp 48-51 of JC Docket)
 - i) The work of Sean East was appreciated
 - ii) The software transition from Great Plains to Adagio will happen in early February
 - iii) New report generation system will need to be implemented with the change in software.
 - iv) The decision to abandon Razor's Edge has been made on recommendation of Sean East and FPAC
 - v) These recommendations are operational therefore don't need JC approval, but Henry would appreciate comments and questions. FPAC has reviewed the recommendations.
 - vi) There are many Financial Policies (approved by the old General Board) that need to be updated. Recommendations on these will come to JC for approval.

ACTION: Sean East will lead in the develop of updated financial policies, with input/approval from FPAC.

- e) Potential transfers from internally restricted funds (pages 52-54 of JC docket)
 - i) Some of these fund accounts are endowments and cannot be touched (except for interest earned)
 - ii) Internally restricted funds need JC approval for use in ongoing budgets
 - (1) The large number of restricted and reserved funds have been identified.
 - (2) General hope that these funds will be used in active ministry and programs. Caution that we don't treat this as a windfall and create programs that are not sustainable in the long run.
 - (3) Current signing authorities are okay with the changes recommended below.
 - (4) Concern about miscommunications in transferring funds between current and interest-bearing accounts may lead to cash flow issues. We should create an internal process to oversee the transfer of funds from one account to another to insure proper cash flow.
 - (5) We will continue to require two signatures for writing cheques

Consensus: That GL account 0-0000-3726 Resource Creation (current balance \$4,000) should be closed and the balance transferred to the GL Account 0-0000-2500 Formation Bequest so that its value earns interest and increases the annual 10% bequest draw to support the MC Canada operating budget.

Consensus: That GL accounts 0-0000-3600 Witness Startup (current balance \$18,815.61), 0-0000-3602 Missional Resources (current balance \$3,878.47), 0-0000-3606 International

Ministries (current balance \$220,000), 0-0000-3611 Witness Medical (current balance \$15,370.64), and 0-0000-3612 Asia Worker Housing (current balance \$65,924.67) be combined into one new internally restricted fund named Discretionary Witness Support Fund or similar, and that a clear policy be developed outlining the acceptable uses of this new fund and how requests to access it are processed. This new fund could have a sufficiently broad policy scope to cover all the specific uses of the existing funds while clearing up access to them for Witness opportunities that are outside the mandate of the MC Canada operating budget.

Consensus: That internal transfers between accounts of MC Canada only require one signature from the designated signing authorities.

Consensus: The Signing authority for Mennonite Church Canada are Calvin Quan, Allan Hiebert, Henry Paetkau, Laura Zacharias, and Sean East.

- f) Financial Principles and Reports Group – update
 - i) ESG approves of the Financial Reports/Protocols that have been developed to date
 - ii) Further development of similarity in reporting in RC and MC Canada is the next step

8) Joint Council Membership:

- a) Volunteer / Staff covenant (page 55 of JC docket).
 - i) Board Manual outlines policies mentioned in our Volunteer/Staff covenant
 - ii) Noted that Board members should be members in good standing in a Mennonite Church Canada congregation
 - iii) The Volunteer/Staff Covenant Document was signed by all JC members
- b) Declaration of not being ineligible individual (page 56 of JC docket).
 - i) Is this for volunteers only or also staff? Both volunteer board member and senior staff need to sign.
 - ii) The Declaration document was completed and signed by all JC members present
- c) Proposal on police check
 - i) There are regional differences nationwide in the process and function of Police checks
 - ii) No further action was decided at this time.

ACTION: Calvin and Henry will follow up with signing of these documents for JC members not currently at the meeting (Gerald G, and Alicia)

Break for Lunch 12:15 pm

9) Process for developing a communications strategy

- a) Review communications survey results (pages 57-97 of JC docket):

- i) Henry P reminded JC of the process of assessing our communication needs and where we are at in our strategy
- ii) Primary data gathering tool was a communication survey conducted in fall. There was a strong response to the survey, recognizing that the respondents represent a distinct portion of the church (those who are engaged enough to respond). It may be obvious but those who have left the fellowship of MC will not respond to the survey.
- iii) Community was identified as the most important aspect that draw/keeps people as members of MC congregations. Working Together is another important aspect of what draws the church together. People are looking for that which pulls us together in MC Canada and how do we communicate that message and “what we are doing” and “who we are”.
- iv) What are the additional or alternative delivery methods of our communication needs?
- v) Questions/comments
 - (1) Global church and International Witness are frequently conflated inappropriately
 - (2) A clearly articulated purpose of MC Canada is still unclear, particularly in the minds of people for whom MC Canada has ceased to exist.
 - (3) In some questions the graphs are not that helpful particularly when people wrote their own answers. Some questions are too broad to be helpful. Some of the generalizations are too broad to be helpful. These results are descriptive rather than prescriptive
- b) Work is ongoing on the branding and identity statements for MC Canada and RC
- c) Website development
 - i) Barefoot proposes that the congregation be seen as the base of our digital platform and the RC and Nationwide web presence supplement this
 - ii) ESG is asking for JC approval to explore this more and to supply funding for this pursuit.
 - iii) ESG is asked to bring a more detailed proposal to the April meeting for final approval bringing on board all the Regional churches
 - iv) What are questions that JC would like to have answered?
 - (1) What are the use cases for the website?
 - (2) What are the priorities for website?
 - v) The RC governing bodies also needs to support this proposal
 - vi) More information for the plan including current web costs and what people are getting for these fees
 - vii) JC asks for more information including a time line for responses
 - viii) ESG expresses frustration at the pace of web site development for a Nationwide presence
 - ix) A prototype of a web design would be helpful (by April would be beneficial)
 - (1) Moving forward we need – types of information each RC would like to have included, support from the RC councils, input from communicators group, development of the use cases and requirements for the website(s) with support from a professional (barefoot)

CONSENSUS: that funds up to \$25,000 be allocated to the development for a proposal for a digital communication platform and that the funds be drawn from the internally restricted New Projects fund.

- d) Canadian Mennonite – covenant renewal (pages 98-100 of JC docket).
- i) JC discussed the renewal of the Canadian Mennonite Every Home Plan (EHP). A covenant between MC Canada and CM has been renewed on an annual basis since 2016, albeit the actual document has not been formally signed annually.

ACTION/REQUEST FROM JC: If the future MC Canada communications strategy includes a relationship with the CM, the new relationship needs to address the disparate subscription rates currently in existence across the RCs.

CONSENSUS: that the Canadian Mennonite covenant and Every-Home-Plan commitment be extended for the 2019 calendar year.

- e) Identity Statement (page 101 of JC docket)
- i) The identity statement from the docket was discussed.

ACTION: It was noted that our communications should include that, in addition to MC Canada International Witness activities, we have other global activity through our global Anabaptist partnerships. This will be passed on as counsel to the communicators.

10) Communications Proposal

- a) Guidelines on making public statements, civil disobedience, use of social media (pages 102-103 of JC docket).
- i) Arli introduced the policy proposal on how MC Canada speaks publicly on behalf of the nationwide body, in particular in relation to issues regarding civil disobedience.
- ii) Discussion followed:
- (1) Postings by MC Canada staff or volunteers on social media should also not be made in a way that identifies it as MC Canada.
- (2) Conversation ensued as to what extent personal social media comments by an employee or volunteer reflect on the employer/organization. To what extent can senior staff ever speak in a way that does not reflect on the organization?

CONSENSUS: that the Guidelines presented in the docket by revised to read: "MC Canada's name, logos, and masthead are not to be used when expressing personal opinions on any platform."

- (3) Regarding the section: "On Organizational Acts of Conscientious Civil Disobedience"

- (a) Conversation ensued about the merits of Option 1 versus option 2 both presented in the docket.

CONSENSUS: that we adopt Option 1 as presented in the proposal.

11) Youth Update

- 237 a) Kirsten Hamm Epp provided an update on planning for a youth event being offered by MCM and
238 MC Sask entitled *Shake: Rattled by the Radical* being hosted in Saskatchewan at Camp Shekinah
239 at the end of July. Youth from across Canada are being invited to attend the event.
240 b) Henry reported that ESG has agreed to support this event with a \$5,000 grant from a
241 accumulated reserve fund from prior youth assemblies.
242

243 **12) Witness Support Teams**

- 244 a) Fundraising Strategy for Witness Projects (page 104 of JC docket)
245 i) Henry introduced a clarification regarding how Witness funding will be messaged in a way
246 that acknowledges the need for MC Canada as a whole to raise 100% funding for Witness
247 projects, including funding from both relational funding raised by Witness Support Teams
248 and the availability of core funding.
249 ii) Direction affirmed by Joint Council.
250

251 **13) Delegate / Inspirational Gathering**

- 252 a) Henry updated on planning for the 2019 Delegate Gathering.
253 b) One of the agenda items is election of officers to Joint Council. Clarification is required by the
254 Gift Discernment Committee, which will consist of one rep from each RC.
255 c) The schedule is now available online on the MC Canada Website.
256 d) Activities for children and youth will also be a part of the programming.

257 **Supper Break 5:30 pm**

258 **14) Menno Media MOU**

- 259 a) Henry updated JC on the MennoMedia MOU.
260 b) Henry suggested names for consideration as the MC Canada rep to the MennoMedia board and
261 will follow up as recommended by JC.
262

263 **15) Palestine-Israel Report**

- 264 a) JC reviewed the Palestine-Israel report by Byron Rempel Burkholder.
265

266 **16) AMBS Presidential Search**

- 267 a) Calvin updated JC and invited input regarding qualities sought in a new AMBS president.
268

269 **17) Mission Consultation**

- 270 a) Ryan updated JC on logistics and agenda for the Mission Consultation in Calgary March 29 – 31,
271 2019.
272 b) The focus of the Mission Consultation will be to review how we understand mission in our Post-
273 Christendom context and look at how we can unite behind a common vision for mission and
274 collaborative engagement.
275

276 **18) Lee Dyck closed the evening** with a reflection.

277

278 **19) MC Sask church engagement**

279

280 **20) Adjournment 9:00 pm**

281 **Break for Night**

282 **Sunday, January 27, 8:30 am**

283 21) **Opening:** Geraldine Balzer opened the meeting with a worship based on Epiphany and the coming of

284 light into the world.

285

286 22) **MC Sask church engagement debrief**

287 a) Reflection on the small turn-out. Some disappointment, but also an expression of trust in MC

288 Sask and what they are doing in ministry.

289 b) Music was much appreciated.

290

291 **23) Mennonite World Conference**

292 a) Arli K recused herself for this conversation due to a potential conflict of interest.

293 b) MWC Fair Share covenant (pages 105-112 of JC docket).

294 i) Henry outlined key points from the document, including relationship and MWC's Fair Share

295 formula.

296 (1) Canada is in the second highest tier of countries.

297 (2) Canada's share includes contributions from agencies and individuals as well as MC

298 Canada.

299 (3) Canada's share would be \$117,760. Share value is calculated in US dollars.

300 (a) This includes contributions from Canadian agencies, congregations, and individuals.

301 (b) MC Canada would not be expected to make up a shortfall. Its support and

302 encouragement for contributions would be appreciated.

303 (4) FYE 2019 MC Canada had budgeted \$35,000 for MWC. MWC reports having received

304 \$28,500 thus far.

305 **ACTION: Henry will follow up on determining what we have paid so far.**

306 (5) ESG has discussed positively the role MWC might play in our MC Canada's structure

307 when it comes to International Witness and how it might help determine Witness

308 priorities. Given this role, it has discussed whether it would be appropriate to increase

309 our direct financial support to help build its capacity to serve in this role.

310 **ACTION: This may be an item for further conversation in the future.**

311 c) Recommendation on Renewal:

312 **CONSENSUS: Joint Council approves renewing our covenant with MWC.**

CONSENSUS: Joint Council approves budgeting \$35,000 for direct contribution to MWC for the upcoming year.

d) MWC 2021, Youth Delegate Nomination (pages 113-114 of JC docket)

i) MC Canada is invited to send 1 rep. Each of the 5 MWC partners in Canada are invited to send reps.

(1) We would only be entitled to one delegate, but we could send more to the Summit.

(2) An application process could be developed.

(3) An extensive role description would be helpful in ensuring delegate would have a good sense of what was involved. Noted that the invitation document from MWC gives a good amount of information.

(a) Ongoing networking would be a role to potentially encourage.

(b) Surveys of young adults prior to attending and reporting back after are two mechanisms to consider.

(4) Discussed each Region sending a Youth, from which a delegate could be identified.

(a) This would allow for team building, resulting in less sense of isolation for a delegate.

ii) Various considerations for delegate selection were discussed. Having a second language would assist in connecting across cultures and feeling less isolated. Coaching may be important to ensure the delegate understands nuances such as:

(1) how to present themselves well as Canadians in a global context

(2) how to engage well in difficult theological/ethical conversations

(3) how to engage across cultural boundaries well

ACTION: Andrea and Geraldine will work on an application process for determining our delegate. We will consider this process at our next Joint Council.

24) MCCN—Mennonite Creation Care Network

a) Henry outlined the current status and role of the MCCN

i) Discussion: Joanne Moyer is the current MC Canada rep. Previously MCCN related through Formation Council. There are 4 reps MCCN identifies from MC USA membership

ii) Agencies such as Merry Lea and Everence are active in the US. There may be a place to encourage agency involvement in Canada (eg. Through CMU).

iii) At some point there may be a place to consider Regional engagement with the network.

CONSENSUS: Joint Council affirms the ongoing relationship with the MCCN.

CONSENSUS: Joint Council approves the identification of a second rep from MC Canada. Suggested names may be sent to Henry for consideration.

CONSENSUS: Joint Council approves up to \$1000 support towards travel to annual meeting.

ACTION: The relationship of this partner organization needs further refinement in terms of reporting, etc. It is noted that further refinement is something to consider for a variety of our partnerships.

349 **25) Regional Church Reporting**

- 350 a) MCBC – Lee Dyck. Lee reported priority themes include Anabaptist identity, Missional
351 Community, and Building connections. She also outlined agenda for their AGM. Some
352 workshops planned that focus on mental health, addictions, etc. Some ongoing discontent with
353 a few churches. An invitation has come from MCC BC about a partnership with Indigenous
354 relations. A proposal will be coming to MC BC delegates on cooperatively hiring someone with
355 this focus. Pastor transitions taking place. Lee has agreed to stay on for another year (or so) as
356 moderator. Some positive signs of bridges being built in relationships between churches,
357 individuals. Budget in good shape. Garry involved in conversations about strengthening
358 Mennonite presence in Powell River.
- 359 b) MCA – Brenda Tiessen-Wiens. Brenda outlined visioning process with Betty Pries. November had
360 a great weekend event, and are now in a Season of Prayer. Our Annual Delegate Sessions will
361 carry strong emphasis on next step of the visioning. Several pastor transitions taking place.
362 Budget is looking good on the income side, but the expense side is a concern. Some challenge in
363 working this through.
- 364 c) MCSK – Terry Stefaniuk. Terry shared about the continuing follow-up to their visioning process.
365 He also referenced several events, including a potluck, Shake, etc. The council is eagerly
366 engaged in developing policies and by-laws, which will be presented at their ADS. Governance
367 related to their camps is on the table for the future, as well as an examination of their financial
368 accounting. Budget was \$24,000 in the black. Optimism for the future.
- 369 d) MCM – Gerald Gerbrandt's written report was supplemented by comments from Ken
370 Warkentin. Ken reported on their exploration of the concept of the congregation being the
371 foundational unit of the church. They have shifted their fall delegate gathering to an equipping
372 day. They had Betty Pries present about missional context, and there is interest in further
373 follow-up/next steps. Some exploration of their relationship with their camps in terms of
374 governance. There are also some questions/opportunities being explored based on a decline of
375 campers from MCM churches and increasing percentage of non-church campers. Some
376 congregations have chosen to merge, which is an interesting development. Ken identified that
377 this can be a 7-10 year process. Budget contains some questions, but leadership is optimistic.
- 378 e) MCEC – Arli Klassen. MCEC is looking to welcome 2 congregations as full members. Five
379 congregations continue to make indications that they might leave, but have not taken concrete
380 steps. MCEC asks for conversation/discernment before a congregation would end its
381 membership. 1 relationship with an emerging church is ending, and there are challenges with
382 how to end that relationship well. Events with Marie Fortune for denominational leaders and
383 with congregational leaders/laity went well. Need for updating of by-laws that mainly reflect
384 realities that have changed over time. There is some anxiety over that process, and concerns
385 being expressed. They are looking at how to process that well.
- 386 f) The plans of Regional Executive Ministers visiting each other's assemblies were outlined. Garry
387 is planning to visit MC Sask, Ryan will visit MCM, David will visit MC BC, Ken will visit MCA and
388 Tim will attend MCEC.

389 **26) Next Meeting Dates**

- 391 a) Joint Council Meetings (pages 123-125 of JC Docket). Calvin outlined some of the considerations
392 going into the planning of Joint Council meetings and larger gatherings. More meetings are
393 planned for Winnipeg as a more affordable option.
- 394 i) Meetings are proposed for all day (8:30 start) June 27 in advance of the delegate sessions,
395 and a debrief July 1 until 3 pm.
- 396 ii) Joint Council would be encouraged to attend the Leadership day on June 28.
- 397 **CONSENSUS: Joint council approves dates for meetings around the 2019 Gathering as presented. Costs**
398 **for Joint Council members for travel and full attendance for Gathering events will be covered through**
399 **the MC Canada budget.**
- 400 b) Other meeting dates:
- 401 i) Concern of May meetings being same dates as Mother's Day. Proposed timing is for
402 ensuring financial reports are concluded prior to this meeting.
- 403 ii) Concern raised about how logistics were handled at CMU the past meeting. Important to
404 ensure food arrangements, meeting rooms, and movement is handled is important.
- 405 iii) October 2019 dates conflict with AMBS board meeting dates.
- 406 **CONSENSUS: Joint Council approves JC meeting dates as presented up to (and including) the January**
407 **2020 meeting.**
- 408 **ACTION: Joint Council will revisit the schedule proceeding from there at our April meeting. Henry will**
409 **explore options and considerations in proposing future dates.**
- 410 c) Larger gatherings: One concept discussed in the past was to alternate a Study Conference with
411 larger Gatherings associated with larger delegate sessions. Current consideration is to host the
412 following dates. ESG has recommended 2021 not have a major gathering in order to avoid
413 conflict of dates and focus with MWC in Indonesia.
- 414 i) 2020 Study Conference
- 415 ii) 2021 Delegate Gathering
- 416 d) Conversation about merits of planning a gathering every year, alternating a study conference
417 with an inspirational/delegate gathering.
- 418 i) Will congregations and/or regions wish to spend the time and resources needed to get
419 together every year?
- 420 ii) Events every year mean significant planning each year.
- 421 iii) Would there be options for focusing study conferences on regional representation? Some
422 questions of how topics would emerge and how congregations can engage in this.
- 423 e) ESG has recommended 2021 not have a major gathering in order to avoid conflict of dates and
424 focus with MWC in Indonesia. There would also be merit in avoiding conflict with regular dates
425 for MC USA assembly.
- 426 i) Options include having July 2020 include a delegate assembly then skipping 2021, hosting a
427 delegate gathering only in 2021, or delay the delegate gathering to 2022. Considerations

- 428 include bylaws that indicate when meetings are to take place and implications for the terms
429 of elected officers.
- 430 ii) A study conference could take place at an 18 month point (fall 2020), with the next event a
431 delegate gathering after 18 months (2022)
- 432 iii) Some caution of not having anything major between July 2019 and July 2022 because of the
433 3 year gap in opportunity for people to participate in a larger gathering.
- 434 iv) Affirmed that current MWC plans are for the next gathering to be in 2027.
- 435 (1) Noted that 2025 is 500th anniversary of Anabaptist church. Events are planned in
436 Europe.
- 437 (2) Rotating events taking place in different regions over the next 10 years focusing on 500
438 years of Anabaptism. These are 1 day events, focusing on regional participation.
- 439 Canada's event will be March 21, 2020 in BC.

440 **CONSENSUS: Calvin and Geraldine will develop a proposal for moving the 2021 delegate gathering to**
441 **2022 for consideration at the regional meetings, including when elections for the executive positions**
442 **will be held. If feedback is positive this would be ratified at our April Joint Council and proposed to the**
443 **delegates at the Assembly in 2019.**

444 **ACTION: Calvin and Geraldine will also explore options to host some form of gathering (eg. Study**
445 **Conferences) during 2020. Options include a Study Conference in conjunction with the MWC gathering**
446 **in March 2020 in BC, or a fall event in Ontario. Conrad Grebel College could be approached about**
447 **assisting in planning such an event.**

448 **27) Closing** – Ken Warkentin led a devotional focusing on the biblical concept of life and death as related
449 to covenant with God and faith community.

450 a) Appreciation was expressed for the hosting of these meetings by MC Sask.

451 **Lunch 12:35 am**

452 **28) In Camera**

453

454 **29) Adjournment at 2:00 pm**

455 **Recording Secretaries:** Tim Wiebe Neufeld, Ken Warkentin, David Martin