



THE PROVINCIAL ELDERS' CONFERENCE

(EXECUTIVE BOARD)

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THE MORAVIAN CHURCH • Northern Province

November 16, 2019

Dear Church – brothers and sisters in Christ,

Grace, mercy, and peace to you all in the name of Jesus Christ, our Chief Elder. We, the elected leaders of the Provincial Elders' Conference and all three District Executive Boards, met to review the results of the Identity, Purpose, and Organization Survey and develop plans to follow through on the feedback you provided us. In the midst of our time together, we prayed for you and our congregations, and sought the leading of God's Holy Spirit for our next steps as congregations, districts, and province. We reaffirmed our Mission Statement: *The Moravian Church Northern Province exists to equip people and congregations to be agents of God's transforming love in the world.* This means that everything we do must help you do ministry more joyfully and more effectively.

1. Thank you for attending the IPO presentations this summer and fall in your congregational regions and for responding to the Survey Monkey. An outstanding 77 of 85 congregations filled out the survey! Here is the link to the actual survey results:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-8PXBCFM27/>
2. Based on your feedback, we identified four main areas of focus:
 - a. Communication – you all wanted more communication about every facet of ministry, from money to congregational resources. This letter is the first step; we count on those who receive this letter to share it broadly in your congregation – through bulletin inserts, your local Facebook page, email lists to members, etc. We acknowledge that communication goes both ways. As we share more with you, we count on you to tell us how things are going in your congregation.
 - b. Lay Leadership Development – we are committed to equipping you to offer the gifts God has given you in a variety of ways and areas of ministry, whether it helps you become a better Sunday School teacher or equips you to provide lay pastoral leadership at your local congregation.
 - c. Congregational Care – we recognize that there are ministry challenges in every area of our province – no matter where you are located. We affirm that are one church expressed in many contexts and geographical areas. We are developing ideas and identifying existing resources to equip you to be agents of God's transforming love in the world.
 - d. Nurture a culture of experimentation and possibility – we believe that God is at work in all our congregations and that the exciting ministries that are happening in one place might inspire another congregation to try something similar. We encourage you to share stories of your neighborhood-blessing ministries.
3. This gathering took place as part of our ongoing effort to be faithful to the directive of the 2018 Provincial Synod resolution. This information will help us deliberate on how we will live fully into

our Identity, Purpose, and Organization. Look for more information and recommendations that will be available to you as you prepare for 2020 District Synods.

We close with a hymn that has become our prayer:

*O Breath of Life, coming sweeping through us, revive your church with life and power.
 O Breath of Life, come, cleanse, renew us, and fit your church to meet this hour.
 O Breath of Love, come, breathe within us, renewing thought and will and heart.
 Come, love of Christ, afresh to win us; revive your church in ev'ry part. (MBW, p. 47)*

With hopeful anticipation,

Members of the Canadian (BECD), Eastern (EDEB), and Western (WDEB) District Boards and
 The Provincial Elders' Conference (PEC)

A collection of handwritten signatures in various colors (black, blue, purple) arranged in several rows. The signatures are for Jackie Pasquinelli, Judy Anderson, Jane R. Gehler, Jason Andersen, Nancy Chandler, Donna Gordon, Bruce D. Shoger, Megan Smock, Betsy Miller, Valerie Wagner, Matt Gillard, Bruce J. Nelson, Blondel Jones-Grant, Linda L. Rapp, Darrell Johnson, S. Greg Weir, Michael Johnson, David Bennett, James Lavoy, Ralph Wanamaker, Susan M. Dreydoppel, Lauren Grady, Mike Koenig, Cindy Fahney, and Tammy Lavoy.

Jackie Pasquinelli	EDEB	Betsy Miller	PEC	David Bennett	EDEB
Judy Anderson	WDEB	Valerie Wagner	PEC	James Lavoy	BECD
Jane R. Gehler	WDEB	Matt Gillard	BECD	Ralph Wanamaker	PEC
Jason Andersen	WDEB	Bruce J. Nelson	WDEB	Susan M. Dreydoppel	PEC
Nancy Chandler	WDEB	Blondel Jones-Grant	EDEB	Lauren Grady	EDEB
Donna Gordon	BECD	Linda L. Rapp	EDEB	Mike Koenig	EDEB
Bruce D. Shoger	PEC	Darrell Johnson	EDEB	Cindy Fahney	WDEB
Megan Smock	WDEB	S. Greg Weir	BECD	Tammy Lavoy	EDEB
		Michael Johnson	EDEB		