



## **Anglican Network in Canada – Report on the consultation August 25-26, 2006**

The Anglican Network of Canada met with a number of invited leaders from across the country in Toronto, Ontario on August 25 and 26 to consult on the work and strategic direction of the Network.

The meeting consisted of prayer, worship, bible studies and discussion of the progress made by the Network to date, as well as seeking input on building an ecclesial structure. Given the high possibility that the Anglican Church of Canada may “walk apart” from the global Anglican Communion in 2007, it is critical that such a structure be ready before the end of the General Synod in June. Many participants said they were encouraged by both the gathering and the progress that had been made to date.

It was also an opportunity to discuss the conditions under which the Network would launch an ecclesial structure. Events since our consultation have emphasized the importance of this discussion. In September, the Global South Primates responded to the failure of the General Convention of the Episcopal Church in the USA (TEC, formerly ECUSA) to provide a clear commitment to the Anglican Communion, as called for by the Primates in the Windsor Report. In a Communique following their meeting in Rwanda, these Primates clearly spelled out the consequences and called for a separate ecclesiastical structure in the US for biblically faithful Anglicans wishing to remain full members of the global Anglican Communion. (You can see the full statement from the Global South Primates at [www.globalsouthanglican.org/index.php/comments/kigali\\_communique/](http://www.globalsouthanglican.org/index.php/comments/kigali_communique/).)

Many members of the Network believe that the Anglican Church of Canada is likely to follow the same path as TEC so the need to prepare is evident. We were encouraged by the commitment to our mandate by the participants in the meeting and we valued the input we received.

We also took the opportunity to discuss the reasons that progress may seem slow. The Network has always been committed to following the direction of the Primates and thus, decisions about how to move forward are not always in our hands. In addition, we have a wide diversity of views within our own constituency and so we must take the time to discern the will of God together. Finally, our resources are very limited and we do not have the full-time staff we need to do all the work we should or would like to do. We would very much appreciate your prayers that God will provide the financial resources we need.

At the same time, the Network wants to ensure that the crisis in the Communion does not inhibit ministry and evangelism. We are committed to supporting and encouraging clergy and parishes in ministry across Canada. After the successful Clergy Conference in Sumas, Washington last February, the Executive is now preparing for it's next event - a Clergy Day at Crossroads Centre in Burlington, Ontario on November 9, 2006. There is another Clergy Conference being scheduled in Sumas for early 2007, as well.

We praise God for the biblically faithful witness in our church and hope to encourage one another as we continue in this spiritual battle together. We thank God that we have been considered worthy to suffer for the gospel.

In His Service,  
Cheryl Chang, Executive Director