

A Brief Outline Towards a Strategy for Our Work Ahead: A Plan for Ministry

In the teaching of elders, God is making a new people.

In the Gospel of Jesus, God is making a new people.

In the hope of New Life, God is making a new people.

In the Life, Death, and Resurrection, God is making a new people.

The Four Critical Areas of Ministry as We Look Towards our Next Sacred Circle: Becoming a Prophetic Pastoral Presence (see below for definition*) in our Communities

I. **The Development and Formation of Disciples** – *For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them (Matthew 18:20); The LORD your God in the midst of you is mighty (Zephaniah 3:17).*

A. Practice Gospel Based Discipleship

1. Spread the practice of at least two or three gathered with the Gospel in the centre in more and more communities, wherever Indigenous People are found. These will provide a prophetic pastoral presence in their communities.
2. Out of Gospel Based Discipleship we look to God to raise up leaders for our growing communities.
 - a) Support leadership circles of at least two or three meeting to engage the Gospel together in all communities that have churches and wherever people request our help in establishing spiritual communities.
 - b) In these circles, ordained ministers, elders, lay readers, and others will be identified, will provide mutual support and accountability, and will provide Prophetic Pastoral Care to the broader community.

B. Work with existing resources and institutions to provide leadership and training that will support God's work among us and through us.

1. Foster communication, mutual work, and community between our various training programmes and institutions,
2. Communicate the Statement on Self-Determination, this outline, and other materials of importance (e.g., the Covenant).
3. In our representation in other areas of Church leadership and partnership, communicate our statements, Covenant, and goals.

- C. *Work to make the Gospel living and real in Indigenous life*
 - 1. Respect the elders and traditional teachings and practice as part of the model of a Gospel based ministry and life-style.
 - 2. Respect and cooperate with all parts of our communities in promoting a healthy and vibrant Indigenous life.
- II. **Governance and Pastoral Leadership of the Emerging Indigenous Churches** - *I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep...I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak (Ezekiel 34:15-16).*
- A. *The work of the Focus Group continues to inform ACIP, the NIAB, and the Leadership Circle.*
 - B. *Preparation and planning of a Constitutional Gathering to prepare work for the Next Sacred Circle.*
 - C. *Through ACIP, the Office of the NIAB, the Focus Group, and the Leadership Circle Identify a group or body to develop the final form of "Becoming What God Intends Us to Be" and further development of this outline.*
 - D. *Establish goals and norms for Indigenous Ministry across the Land.*
 - 1. De-colonize the structures that our ministries are modeled on, dealing with that pastoral ministry is structured in the colonial church.
 - 2. Establish Gospel Based Discipleship as a foundational element of how ministry is structured.
 - 3. Do not allow non-stipendiary ministers to suffer on their own without stipend and support.
- III. **Living in the Faithful Abundance of God: Stewardship and Resources** – *Put me to the test, says the Lord of hosts; see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing (Malachi 3:10).*
- A. *The Jubilee Commission will do its work on the issue of a just proportion of the wealth of the Church for a Prophetic Pastoral Presence across the Land.*
 - B. *Engage and empower the generosity and stewardship of our communities.*
 - C. *Partner with the Anglican Church of Canada in providing resources for ministry.*

- D. *Identify, through ACIP, the Office of the NIAB, the Focus Group, and the Leadership Circle a group to develop a strategy to for sustainable and repeatable ways to support our various ministries. This strategy should be compatible and reference the rest of this outline.*
- E. *Continue to work to provide urgent support for our already developed ministries (e.g., ISSM, Northern Manitoba, and Northern Saskatchewan).*

IV. **The Encouragement and Support of an Emerging Youth Movement among the People of the Land** – *I will pour out my spirit on all flesh; your sons and daughters shall prophesy (Joel 2:28).*

- A. *Support the development of Gospel Based Discipleship among our youth.*
- B. *Work with ACIP, the Office of the NIAB, the Focus Group, and the Leadership Circle to establish a group, led by youth, to*
 - 1. Develop a strategy for the support of an emerging youth movement.
 - 2. Provide on-going oversight and support of the work of the church among and with youth.

*Prophetic Pastoral Care is holistic pastoral care, with a view towards being brought to wholeness and healing in Indigenous community, freedom, and joy. It is contrasted with Colonial Pastoral Care that was designed to incorporate individuals into the colonial way of life and thinking.

