

The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Native Ministries' Healing and Reconciliation Fund

FUND DESCRIPTION

Background

The 132nd General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada (The PCC), 2006, approved a series of recommendations which constitute a plan for Healing and Reconciliation between The PCC and the First Nation, Inuit and Metis peoples of Canada. The plan is called *Walking Together*. *Walking Together* derives from the commitment made in The PCC's Confession of 1994 which promised God that we would seek opportunities to walk with Aboriginal people to find healing and wholeness together as God's people.

The *Walking Together* report identifies a number of kinds of activities that will contribute to building better understanding and a new relationship, including:

1. Engaging in conversations with Aboriginal peoples about their lives, their traditions, and their spirituality
2. Exploring issues of concern to Aboriginal people in Canada today; and,
3. Developing activities and experiences for bringing together Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people, including initiatives for youth

The 134th General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada (The PCC), 2008, transferred \$400,000 into the *Walking Together* program. These funds are specifically "earmarked for Canadian Presbyterian established mission agencies' proposals for healing and reconciliation." These established mission agencies are those represented on the National Native Ministries Committee (NNMC) of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. In this document they will be referred to as NNMC members.

Criteria for Funding

In keeping with the kinds of Healing and Reconciliation activities envisioned for the *Walking Together* initiative, Native Ministries Healing and Reconciliation funding may be used for any of the following three purposes:

- a. **Healing projects:** that support the healing journeys of residential school survivors, and/or residential schools survivors' children and subsequent

generations who need healing as a result of negative effects of the residential school system on their families

- b. **Educational projects:** that help members of The Presbyterian Church in Canada deepen their knowledge and understanding about First Nation, Metis and Inuit peoples in Canada, including their history, culture, spirituality, and current issues and concerns
- c. **Reconciliation projects:** that support the development of new, or deepening of existing, relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal people, which specifically include members of The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Conditions of Funding

The Native Ministries Healing and Reconciliation Fund is \$400,000. It should be noted that no provision has been made to add moneys to this Fund in future years.

Projects requiring funding for up to 3 years are eligible for consideration. However, release of funds in each year of the project, beyond the first year, is contingent on the timely submission of satisfactory narrative and budget reports on each year of the project.

Similarly, to be eligible for funding consideration, any ministry applying to this Fund must have submitted satisfactory narrative and budget reports for any projects previously funded by the Healing and Reconciliation program of Justice Ministries.

In the first two years of this Fund's existence, the maximum total amount of funding available to any one NNMC member will be \$50,000. This \$50,000 limit includes projects which may be proposed to run over a 3-year period.

As of the third year of the Fund's existence, if moneys remain to be allocated, there will be no cap on the funding available to any one NNMC member. At the end of the first two years of the Fund's existence, approval-in-principle may be granted to projects within the \$50,000 amount available to each NNMC member, on the discretion of the Healing and Reconciliation Advisory Committee, where project development is sufficiently advanced to warrant holding funds for a brief period of time into the third year of the Fund's existence, within that \$50,000 ceiling available to any one NNMC member.

Funding Priorities

In the event of oversubscription to the Fund, priority may be given to:

Healing projects that support the healing of residential school survivors from PCC-run residential schools and their families; and,

Reconciliation projects that provide for the development of longer term relationships between Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal peoples, which must include members of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Process to Apply for Funding

An Aboriginal Healing and Reconciliation Project Application form is available from the Healing and Reconciliation Animator, or at <http://www.presbyterian.ca/ministry/justice/healing>.

Project proposals may be sent to the Healing and Reconciliation Animator by e-mail to lransom@presbyterian.ca, or by postal mail.

Applications for funding will be accepted on a quarterly basis, beginning April 30, 2009.

Project Approval Process

The Healing and Reconciliation Animator will conduct an initial review of project proposals, and seek additional information from applicants if necessary.

The Healing and Reconciliation Animator will present a summary of all project requests to the Healing and Reconciliation Advisory Committee which will make the final decisions on funding.

Applicants will be notified of funding decisions no later than 6 weeks following the project submission deadline.

Prepared by Justice Ministries
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