



New Beginnings

*The Journey
Continues (II)*

Fall 2004

Diocesan responses
to the establishment
of a Settlement Fund

A PUBLICATION OF THE GENERAL SYNOD
OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

September, 2004

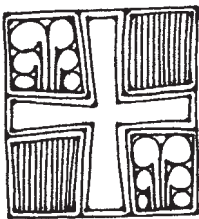
The Agreement in Brief / The Settlement Fund

On March 11, 2003, the Anglican Church of Canada signed an agreement with the federal government that effectively ended its involvement in what had been financially crippling court cases over the church's role in running native residential schools. The agreement called for the establishment of a Settlement Fund that would compensate people who could prove claims that they had suffered physical or sexual abuse while attending the schools. The church – General Synod and each of the 30 dioceses – committed itself to paying \$25 million into the fund over a period of five years (2008.) This, under the agreement, was to be the limit of the church's financial commitment in providing compensation. If claims eventually exceeded this amount, they would be paid by the federal government.

The agreement was not the end of the story, but marked a significant turning point for the church. Before the agreement, General Synod was on the brink of financial ruin. Afterwards, it was assured of survival. In a subsequent marathon round of meetings, each of the church's 30 dioceses ratified the agreement and accepted the financial commitment it described. These commitments were based on a proportion of the regular diocesan annual contribution to General Synod.

A lot has happened since then — and a lot remains to be done. Raising the money required under the agreement has proven to be a significant challenge for dioceses. Many have used innovative and creative ways to meet that commitment.

This publication is an update on some of the things that have happened since March 11, 2003, a date – it bears repeating – that marked a turning point rather than an end. It is a successor publication to a similar brochure published a year ago.



"With the support of our dioceses and our members across Canada, we can return to or primary occupation and vocation, serving God and God's world in ministries of hope, of healing and reconciliation and of compassion."

Archbishop Michael Peers

The Anglican Church of Canada Resolution Corporation

The Anglican Church of Canada Resolution Corp. was created early in 2003 to meet the requirements of the Settlement Agreement. The agreement required that a corporation be established to accept donations from General Synod, the dioceses and individuals, and to pay plaintiffs whose claims had been validated by trial, pre-trial settlement, or alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

The Anglican Church of Canada Resolution Corp. is not a charity, and cannot issue charitable receipts. Individuals wishing to donate to the Settlement Fund can do so through their parish, diocese or directly to General Synod.

As of late August, 2004, the corporation has received \$ 11,926,520. It has paid out \$3,383,312.25 in settlements to 122 plaintiffs, all of whom had their claims validated by pre-trial settlement.

Restoration Fund

In 2003 Archbishop Michael Peers, then Primate, established a special Restoration Fund. Under the fund's terms of reference, 30 per cent of gifts are allocated to the Aboriginal Healing Fund, a church fund that supports counseling projects in aboriginal communities. The Healing Fund was established in 1992 and through it, the Anglican Church has made grants to indigenous community organizations, assisting them in developing healing and educational events for former students and community members dealing with the legacy of residential schools.

The balance of gifts to the Restoration Fund will be made available for the restoration of funds for mission and ministry. This involves visionary and creative proposals to replace funds used by dioceses and General Synod in residential schools litigation.

The Episcopal Church of the United States (ECUSA) has recently sent the Canadian church a \$250,000 US (\$329,000) gift in "a show of support." This wonderful gift will be shared according to the terms of the Restoration Fund, thereby partially offsetting legal expenses incurred by the 11 dioceses and General Synod and providing additional support for the Healing Fund.

Indian Residential Schools Resolution Canada

On June 7, 2001 the Prime Minister of Canada announced the creation of the Office of Indian Residential Schools Resolution of Canada. This office supports the Cabinet minister in his/her role as lead minister focusing federal efforts to resolve claims associated with the legacy of the residential school system. Since its creation, the office has centralized and focused federal efforts and coordinated negotiations between the Government of Canada and major church organizations concerning these claims.

The office also has the responsibility of examining how to resolve claims in or outside the court system and of implementing the government's wider objectives of healing and reconciliation with residential schools survivors and their communities. It has become the federal department dedicated to strengthening partnerships within government and with Aboriginal people, religious denominations, and other citizens to address and resolve issues. One of the key goals of the office is to move cases away from the courts into other methods of dispute resolution that are faster and less painful for the individuals involved.

As of last month, more than 12,400 individuals have filed residential school claims against the Government of Canada. Seventy per cent of claimants also name a church institution in addition to the Government. More than 1,250 settlements have been reached with former students. This includes 183 settlements reached in alternative dispute resolution projects. The Crown has spent approximately \$71 million on settlements to date. There have been 19 judgments, involving 29 claimants. It is estimated there are 90,600 people alive today who attended residential schools.

The federal minister responsible for the Office of Indian Residential Schools Resolution of Canada is The Hon. Anne McLellan, Deputy Prime Minister.

In 2003 The Hon. Ted Hughes was selected as the Chief Adjudicator for the Alternative Dispute Resolution process. As such, he is responsible for scheduling ADR cases and managing the workload and for supervising a roster of 32 full-time independent adjudicators.

There have been four hearings involving the Anglican Church of Canada, with three representatives attending ADR hearings this past summer, providing support to the claimants and offering pastoral assistance when appropriate. Settlements are pending.



How General Synod, the dioceses and individuals are responding

General Synod's share of payments to the Settlement Fund is \$3 million. To date \$2,997,000 has been contributed. Bank interest since March 2003 has totaled \$167,632.40. Individuals have contributed \$5,220.16 directly through General Synod. The total amount of proposed gifts is \$25,726,518, of which \$22,726,518 has been pledged by all of the dioceses of the church over five years.

Six dioceses – Quebec, Moosonee, Athabasca, Calgary, Edmonton, and Yukon – have paid off their full commitment, drawing upon diocesan reserves and other resources. The former Diocese of Cariboo – now called the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior – has contributed \$10,000. All other dioceses also contributed generously to the fund in 2003 and 2004 and are well on the way to reaching their pledged share for this year.

Dioceses are meeting their commitment through various means including drawing on reserves, selling assets, seeking gifts from diocesan groups such as Anglican Church Women, reducing diocesan expenses, and most often, inviting individual Anglicans to contribute directly through their parishes.

For example –



The Diocese of **NOVA SCOTIA AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND** has launched a five-year fundraising campaign, *The Leap for Faith*, to meet its \$1.2 million commitment and to provide funds for leadership development, clergy wellness, congregational development and stewardship education, technical

support and communications, youth ministry, and additional funding for the Growth for Ministry Endowment.



In the Diocese of **MONTREAL** quarterly payments are coming from diocesan reserves. At the same time Anglicans are being encouraged to make voluntary contributions to replace these reserves. A campaign is underway, using bulletin inserts on five consecutive Sundays followed by a personal letter from the former bishop. Individual diocesan committee members have personally pledged contributions to show their own commitment and leadership.



The Diocese of **ONTARIO** has provided individual Anglicans special offering envelopes and circulated bulletin covers and background information booklets provided by General Synod Communications. Parishes have been asked to agree to fair share goals and to invite their members to contribute generously. Last November Bishop Caleb Lawrence of Moosonee led a diocesan workshop on the residential schools issue. A commemoration of National Aboriginal Day was held early this summer in Tyendinaga. As well, parishes are having special events raising awareness and offering a means of contributing to the Settlement Fund. The first two payments were made available from the sale of St. Mark's Church and rectory in Deseronto, so that parishes would have time to begin collecting their suggested amounts. The parishes of Rideau and Bath & Amherst Island paid their 2003 allotment from savings and then did fundraising to replace those funds. Merrickville and Kitley parishes distributed film canisters to collect loonies. St. John's, Kingston, raised its share by selling cheese and having a silent auction. St. Mary, Napanee, solicited parishioners for donations and had a golf tournament. Trinity Church, Brockville, held a concert with harpist Charlene Wallace, as well as a spaghetti supper.



OTTAWA has designated Nov. 21 as its second Settlement and Reconciliation Sunday. A Residential Schools Settlement Commission has been established to coordinate educational efforts to keep the fund "on people's radar screen" in order to raise \$320,000 annually over five years. The diocese has prepared a resource package for each parish, including bulletin covers, background information, liturgical aids, book marks, and

suggestions for parish fundraising. On-going reports on the work of the commission appear in each edition of the diocesan newspaper, *Crosstalk*. There is also material on the diocesan web site with information and updates. An educational video is being released this autumn, with the assistance of Anglican Video, featuring Bishop Caleb Lawrence, Archdeacon Larry Beardy, commission member Canon Roger Steinke, and diocesan Bishop Peter Coffin. This will be available for general circulation in the diocese and beyond to provide people with information about this complex issue.



The Diocese of **NIAGARA** has divided its financial responsibility among parishes, asking each to covenant with the bishop for its fair share. In fact, the diocese has asked each parish to consider a stretch gift of its fair share plus 10 per cent. Special offering envelopes are being made available to parishes, and a financial statement has been sent to each parish showing where it is relative to its goals.



In the Diocese of **HURON** parishes are also asked to contribute on a fair-share basis, using creative fundraising strategies. One parish is sponsoring a “toonie program”, raising an average of \$40 per family for the Settlement Fund. Another has included its fair share as an integral part of the annual operating budget, and has encouraged parishioners to ensure that the budget goals are met as a clear example of visionary, generous stewardship for the work of God.



In **TORONTO** the former Archbishop established The Archbishop’s Challenge, asking all individual Anglicans, parishes and church organizations in the diocese to send him at least \$100 each year to go to the Settlement Fund. Parish groups have raised money in all sorts of creative ways, ranging from pancake suppers, lunches, the sale of meat pies, flower arrangements and ceramics, and donations from committees or study groups. To date \$1,512,000 has been raised by individuals and groups in the diocese.



The Diocese of **RUPERT’S LAND** has initiated a campaign to raise awareness and funding for the Settlement Fund. The *Responding in Love* campaign, launched at the Agape Feast held at the Aboriginal Centre of Winnipeg

last March, is making significant progress. Parishes are using a variety of creative events to heighten awareness of the campaign. For example, St. Martin-in-the-Fields held an event on the history of residential schools and is planning to present the powerful and moving Blanket Ceremony in the near future. St. Thomas, Morden, is engaged in a reading exercise to further understanding of Aboriginal people and issues.



In **EDMONTON** \$475,000 out of a proposed gift of \$500,000 was met through an undesignated reserve fund. This was followed by an appeal from the bishop for those who wished to support the fund to make a \$1,000 contribution. This could be managed by an outright gift, by 10 individuals each giving \$100, or parishes collectively contributing \$1,000. Contributions have come from individuals, lay and clergy, parishes, and diocesan and parish Anglican Church Women. Edmonton has paid its full target.



The Diocese of **NEW WESTMINSTER** is conducting a capital campaign — *Honoring our Commitment* — to generate its \$1.6 million commitment to the Settlement Fund. To date over \$560,000 has been received and pledges have been made for a total of \$1.6M. The diocese hopes that the capital campaign will raise significantly more than the minimum required so that additional money can be directed to General Synod's – and the diocese's – First Nations programs for healing, reconciliation and restorative justice.



In the Diocese of **BRITISH COLUMBIA**, the Settlement Fund is supported by a fair share assessment formula. Parishes are encouraged to develop and share their fundraising or heightened stewardship activities. A monthly stewardship newsletter is published, providing lists of activities, prayers, themes, bulletin inserts, parish newsletter articles, children and youth events for one Sunday a month. Several parishioners have purchased a charitable gift annuity to assist.

Throughout the country, Anglican dioceses have responded generously, imaginatively and creatively. There is a momentum. Five years is a long time. It is important that the momentum be maintained.

Suggestions for your parish and diocese

A review of what dioceses and parishes across the country are doing may encourage creative approaches to providing support for the Settlement Fund over the next five years.

Here are some practical suggestions:

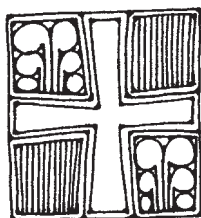
At the diocesan level –

- Establish a diocesan task force or commission to give leadership to this urgent and compelling obligation and responsibility.
- Plan ahead – you may have looked after your first year's commitments, but how are you going to meet your responsibilities in the remaining years?
- Are there assets or reserves you could contribute, with a view of replacing them through a capital campaign, special appeal, or individual contributions from parishioners through their own churches?
- Consider a capital campaign to support diocesan and parish ministries and programs – including the Settlement Fund.
- Provide special diocesan offering envelopes for the Settlement Fund, along with pew bulletin covers, inserts, and other educational materials.
- Plan to commemorate National Aboriginal Day using some of the resources found in the *A New Agape* binder.
- Make the study of *A New Agape* a priority for every parish. (<http://generalsynod.anglican.ca/ministries/committees/acip/agape.html>)
- Encourage deaneries, parish clusters, and diocesan groups to hold educational events to help people understand background aboriginal issues, the church's involvement in residential schools, and opportunities for reconciliation and healing
- Encourage creative opportunities for special gifts to the Settlement Fund – for example, charitable gift annuities (which provide an immediate gift and at the same time a relatively high annual yield for donors for their lifetime – chiefly seniors — often tax free), and gifts of securities, with accompanying excellent tax benefits.
- Include articles on the Settlement Fund and related matters in your diocesan newspaper and on your website

At the parish level –

- Review diocesan suggestions (above) and see how they might be adapted for parish.
- Appoint a Settlement Fund parish coordinator to lead parish-based educational activities and fundraising events.
- Plan a series of educational events in your parish, including special Sundays devoted to aboriginal issues, healing and reconciliation, restorative justice, and Canadian culture...using *A New Agape*, homilies, hymns/song, prayers, creative bulletin covers and inserts, guest speakers and/or participants from neighboring reserves or from urban First Nations groups.
- Consider having a special parish-based campaign to support the Settlement Fund as well as outreach ministries and program or other parish projects
- Invite a speaker from a Council of the North diocese which has a significant aboriginal population – plan a conference, workshop, informal visit with lunch, special service and other preaching/speaking opportunities.
- Plan an ecumenical study event in your community.
- Encourage planned giving opportunities in your parish, inviting donors to consider the Settlement Fund as they consider a charitable gift annuity or gift of listed securities.
- Encourage parishioners to consider leaving a bequest to your parish, designating it for the replacement or enhancement of parish reserves or endowment funds.

Report on the progress of the Settlement Fund in your parish and diocese, keep the subject on the front burner, and express your appreciation for gifts offered.



"It's about healing, it's about justice, and its about reconciliation, about the way things which we speak of in our literature, about the very things we as Christians say we're committed to."

Bishop Fred Hiltz, Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

Conclusion

A five-year financial commitment is a serious, and for some dioceses, an onerous commitment. It is a significant journey, which requires skill, imagination and creativity. By the end of August 2004, Anglicans were proving up to the challenge. The Journey Continues.

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This publication is also available on the Web, at www.anglican.ca



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September 2004

The Anglican Church of Canada Resolution Corp. Settlement Fund

Figures as of July 31, 2004

PROVINCE/Diocese	Paid 2003	Paid 2004	Proposed Gift	Balance Outstanding
CANADA				
Fredericton	\$ 254,000	\$ 247,500	\$ 762,000	\$ 260,500
Montreal	125,000	50,000	500,000	325,000
Eastern Nfld & Lab	120,000	90,000	600,000	390,000
Central Nfld	69,000	51,750	345,000	224,250
Western Nfld	69,000	51,750	345,000	224,250
Nova Scotia	240,000	180,000	1,200,000	780,000
Quebec	135,000		135,000	
ONTARIO				
Algoma	145,000	108,750	725,000	471,250
Huron	420,000	315,000	2,100,000	1,365,000
Moosonee	150,000		150,000	
Niagara	377,000	282,750	1,885,000	1,225,250
Ontario	220,000	165,000	1,100,000	715,000
Ottawa	320,000	240,000	1,600,000	1,040,000
Toronto	1,008,000	504,000	5,040,000	3,528,000
RUPERT'S LAND				
The Arctic	93,329	69,996	466,643	303,318
Athabasca	125,000		125,000	
Brandon	100,000		253,452	153,452
Calgary	200,000		200,000	
Edmonton	475,000	25,000	500,000	
Keewatin	100,000		185,000	85,000
Ou'Appelle	80,000	60,000	400,000	260,000
Rupert's Land	94,000	70,500	470,000	305,500
Saskatchewan	45,000	33,750	225,000	146,250
Saskatoon	60,000	45,000	300,000	195,000
BRITISH COLUMBIA & YUKON				
British Columbia	200,680	150,510	1,003,399	652,209
Caledonia	30,000	15,000	150,000	105,000
Cariboo	10,000			
Kootenay	54,960	41,220	274,800	178,620
New Westminster	320,000	240,000	1,600,000	1,040,000
Yukon	76,224		76,224	
	5,716,192	3,037,476	22,726,518	13,972,849
BANK INTEREST	92,352	75,280		
DONATIONS GEN SYNOD	4,815	405		
M.S.C.C.	3,000			
GENERAL SYNOD	2,997,000		3,000,000	
TOTAL	\$ 8,813,360	3,113,161	25,716,518	13,972,849
Payments to July 31/04		\$3,375,812		