



New Beginnings

The Journey

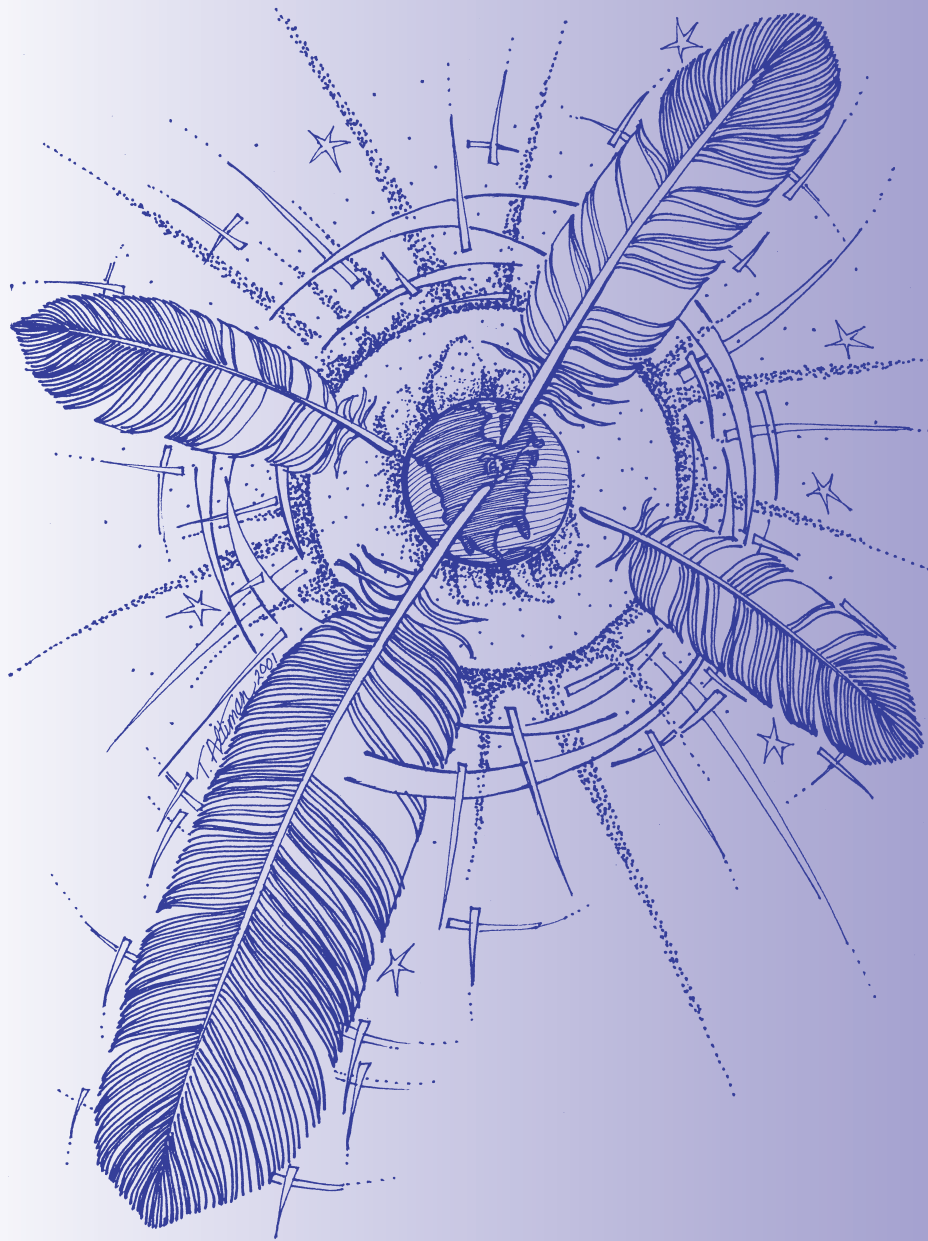
Continues (III)

Spring 2005

Responses to the
establishment
of a Settlement Fund

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

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ILLUSTRATIONS COURTESY OF TERESA ALTIMAN

The Settlement Fund: one event at a time

IT IS THE SORT of thing any good family does. In times of trouble, each member of the family is there for the others. Each pitches in, each does his or her part.

It hasn't always been easy for the Anglican Church of Canada. For a while, it looked like the church might be financially crippled forever.

The cause was very real and deeply traumatic. Native children had been abused while attending schools which churches helped the government to run. Churches and the federal government were named in many huge lawsuits.

When the Anglican Church of Canada signed an agreement in 2003 with the federal Government and committed itself to paying \$25 million to a Residential School Settlement Fund, just about everyone was ready to help. Reaching this agreement was a long, tough process, but the signing meant that the church could survive.

Then in a marathon round of meetings, each of the church's 30 dioceses ratified the agreement and accepted its own financial burden, committing itself to paying a fair share of the \$25 million over the next five years.

And then the General Synod and all the dioceses got to work.

Dioceses began raising money the way churches have always done it best: one event at a time. They held bake sales and fashion shows and walkathons and concerts. They put special envelopes in pews. They asked for long-term gifts from those who could afford to make them. They circulated information so everyone could understand the situation and the purpose. They sold property. They put on spaghetti dinners. They sold meat pies and flowers, pot holders and mittens.

Some dioceses thought they would take full advantage of the five years which the agreement provided to raise the money. Others decided to be done with it as quickly as possible. In the diocese of Edmonton, for example, the full amount was raised by Easter. Its reserve funds supplied \$350,000 (out of a \$500,000 gift). In addition, the bishop asked for gifts of \$1,000. She suggested this might come from one

outright contribution – with, for example, 10 people from one parish each paying \$100 – or more collectively, with each parish contributing \$1,000. Sure enough, donations poured in from individual members (lay and clergy), from parishes, and from diocesan and parish groups such as Anglican Church Women.

By the end of 2004, five other dioceses — Quebec, Moosonee, Athabasca, Calgary, and Yukon had also managed to meet their full commitment. Many others were well on their way.

No one believed that the journey begun with the signing of the Residential Schools Agreement and the creation of the Settlement Fund would be easy. And it hasn't been. Today still, the journey continues. The struggle goes on. It will end one day, but not until every last penny is in the Settlement Fund.

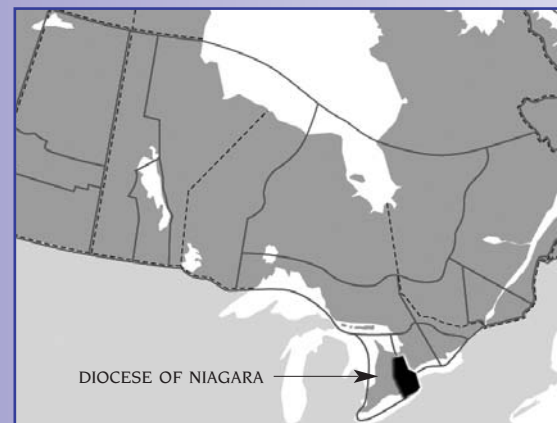
This publication is the third in a series that tells the story of that journey. Other booklets have provided a national run-down on how dioceses are doing in meeting their commitment. This one focuses on three dioceses: Niagara, Rupert's Land, and New Westminster. The hard work, spirit and enthusiasm which these three dioceses have shown on this journey is replicated time and again in other parts of the country.

The family is hard at work. Niagara, Rupert's Land and New Westminster are a window right into the soul of the Anglican family.



A journey of three

How Niagara, Rupert's Land and New Westminster are getting the job done



NIAGARA: *Much more than money*

When the Diocese of Niagara commits to something, it doesn't do it by half measures. It jumps right in with both feet.

From the start, Bishop Ralph Spence was adamant about "broadening the focus" beyond fundraising for the Residential School Settlement Fund. He wanted his diocese to do much more – to educate and to build relationships between aboriginal and non-aboriginal peoples.

His enthusiasm began to bear fruit right away. In the Spring of 2003, workshops all over the diocese educated people about residential schools and Niagara's commitment to the Settlement Fund.

Later that year, in the fall, the diocese got together with the Hamilton Regional Indian Centre for a family day of activities at Camp Canterbury Hills. These included dance, making medicine bags, playing games, sharing a dinner of native foods, and interacting with a group of youth from the Centre.

The next year, the diocese linked up with Kanata Village (a re-creation of an Iroquoian Village). Participants heard aboriginal stories, passed around artifacts, learned about aboriginal dance, sampled traditional food, and toured the village. They also played double-ball and lacrosse.

According to Christyn Perkons, a youth ministry program consultant with the diocese, this year's plans include an overnight immersion program at Kanata village – including a night in the longhouse, aboriginal teachings, games, crafts and native food for 50 adults and children.

In addition to all this, several parishes throughout the diocese have invited aboriginal resource people to host local educational events.

Bishop Spence asked each parish to consider a “stretch gift” (its fair share plus 10 per cent) for the Settlement Fund. At least two congregations, Christ Church, Port Maitland, and St. John's, South Cayuga, paid their entire five-year obligation and were “stretching” to reach 10 per cent more. This second goal would bring their contribution to a total of \$27,463.

In February 2005, St. Simon's in Oakville held a concert with the group “Sidebar.” Regan Clark, Pamela Maloney, Diana Coen, Bill McKinlay, Gary MacKay and Sue Thurston entertained with jazz, gospel and adult contemporary music. Tickets were \$15 each; there was an intermission with a cash bar (beer, wine and munchies). The event attracted many people and raised close to \$2,000 for the Settlement Fund.

Niagara's Stewardship and Financial Development Director, the Rev. David M. Ponting, says that his office sends parishes a statement each year reminding them of where they stand in reaching their commitment to the Settlement Fund.

It seems they remember well.



RUPERT'S LAND: *Responding in love ... and creativity*

The people of the Diocese of Rupert's Land have been creative, enthusiastic, generous, innovative and inspiring in their approach to Residential Schools.

They have a campaign called *Responding in Love*, and it has two goals: to raise \$450,000 to meet the diocesan commitment to the Settlement Fund and another \$250,000 to boost awareness and provide opportunities for healing and reconciliation.

Recently the parishes of St. Thomas, Weston and St. Barnabas jointly sponsored *A Showcase of Aboriginal Song and Dance*.

The Parish of St. Chad, Winnipeg, presented a *Word and Song Coffee House*, held at the local IMAX Theatre.

And in April, 2005, Rupert's Land Bishop Donald Phillips opened an evening at the IMAX with an Anglican Video production that tells the dramatic story of Gladys Cook, a distinguished and honored Canadian Anglican and residential school survivor.

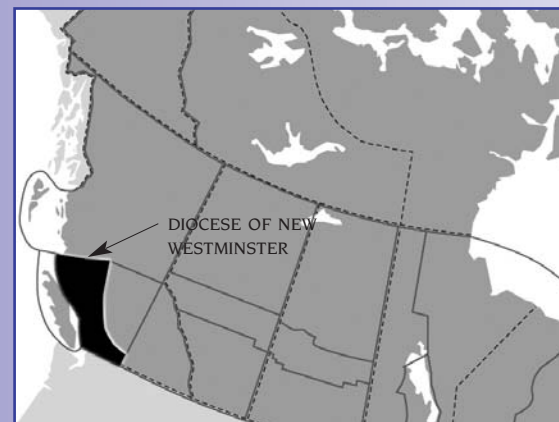
The parish of St. Stephen's hosted a Gospel Jamboree. Parishioners have also provided diocesan group tours of the national traveling residential schools exhibit called *Where are the Children?*

St. Mary's, Charleswood, created and designed a large "traveling" wall hanging titled *The Sharing Mosaic*. It displays "handwritten messages and prayers to our aboriginal brothers and sisters from parishioners throughout the diocese," says Diane Skalenda, Coordinator of Parish and Diocesan Support.

If all that isn't enough, three projects have been funded by the diocesan healing and reconciliation fund: The Peguis Anglican Churches Sharing Circles; Urban Aboriginal Agriculture: Seeds for the Future; and Lay Training for Pastoral Visitors.

Each month, parishioners read a campaign update in the diocesan paper. Members of the campaign committee hold presentations at Sunday services and at vestry meetings.

And on June 21, the campaign takes on special importance as the diocese celebrates National Aboriginal Day.



NEW WESTMINSTER: *Making us proud*

The Diocese of New Westminster also has a name for the Settlement Fund project. It's called *Honouring Our Commitment* and is expected to span three years.

The project had a healthy start. In the first year, it received \$505,000 (31.5%) of the total commitment. Some parishes (like St. Mary's, Kerrisdale and St. Faith's, Vancouver) almost reached their goal during that very first initiative.

Honouring Our Commitment is led by two lay people from St. Catherine's, North Vancouver — Linda Robertson and Gordon Lee, a husband-and-wife team. Their approach is to travel to parishes to tell the story of residential schools.

"My theme these days," says Linda, "is that working on this campaign makes me proud to be an Anglican."

Sherry Small, a Nisga'a, and Coordinator for First Nations Ministry, has given many talks in New Westminster parishes about residential schools — about their impact and how they hurt so many children. Jerry Adams, a former warden at St. James, Vancouver, and also Nisga'a, speaks to parishes, too. Jerry did not go to a residential school himself, but he remembers watching his older brothers and sisters leave. Even today it is a wrenching memory.

Like Bishop Spence in Niagara, New Westminster's Bishop Michael Ingham is another leader who was immediately enthusiastic about the project and determined to get it off the ground quickly and effectively. According to Neale Adams, Communications Officer for the diocese, Bishop Ingham has worked tirelessly to educate parishioners about the necessity of the campaign.

The bishop hasn't pulled any punches about it, either.

He told his clergy: "If we go into this campaign and do not keep before us the faces of the people who were hurt, if we embark on this project with a sense of reluctant obligation to raise dollars to settle something we don't want to own, if we see this as a purely financial matter that is unwanted and distasteful and not our problem anyway – then we will have turned aside from God."

Several New Westminster congregations have exceeded the bishop's hopes and expectations.

At St. John the Divine in Burnaby, the goal was \$15,000. But members of the congregation pledged a minimum of \$32,000. By the end of 2004 the parish had raised \$13,022.

At St. John, Port Moody, the goal was \$13,000, but pledges have topped that at about \$18,000. By the end of last year, parishioners had added \$7,289 to the fund.

St. John's, Squamish, met its yearly goal of \$5,000. St. Faith's, Vancouver, with a target of \$17,500, actually pledged at least \$24,000. By the end of 2004, the parish had sent in \$14,505.

Epiphany Church, Surrey, had a goal of \$12,600, pledged at least \$21,000, and sent \$7,269 by the end of the year.

One of the smallest churches in the diocese, St. Mary South Hill, Vancouver, promised \$11,872 or more, even though it was only asked to raise \$10,500. It managed to send in \$3,737 by December, 2004.

A new corporation

When the Anglican church and the Canadian government signed an agreement stating, among other things, that the church would pay \$25 million to a Settlement Fund, it was only the beginning of the journey.

The agreement also stipulated that a corporation would be established by the church. The Anglican Church of Canada Resolution Corp. would accept donations from General Synod. It would also pay plaintiffs whose claims of physical or sexual abuse while attending residential schools were validated by trial, pre-trial settlement, or alternative dispute resolution (ADR).

The corporation is not a charity and cannot issue charitable receipts. People wishing to donate to the Settlement Fund can do so through their parishes or dioceses, or directly to General Synod.

Healing and restoration

Money is important, but it isn't everything. The money must go hand-in-hand with healing. The church understood the critical need for healing long before it reached an agreement with the federal government. In 1992, it established a special Aboriginal Healing Fund.

Through this healing fund, the church has made grants to indigenous community organizations. It has helped develop healing and educational events for people who were wounded and traumatized at residential schools.

Following the agreement with the government, the church established another fund, called the Restoration Fund. It was set up to help offset some of the enormous costs of litigation borne by dioceses and General Synod.

The Restoration Fund, however, channels about 30 per cent of the donations it receives right into the healing fund.

Make it happen!

How to raise money for the Settlement Fund

First, have fun. Creative ventures are a wonderful way to bring people together and strengthen a congregation's sense of family.

Remember: everything helps. Every fundraising event, every contribution adds to the total and moves the Settlement Fund further and further ahead.

Talk to the teens in your parish. Then talk to the children. Sit down with each group at one of their events and ask if they will help you. Tell them what you're trying to do. Ask them to throw out ideas, no matter how silly or unrealistic they might seem at first. Write down their ideas – ideally on a large piece of paper or on a chalkboard so they can see them. Know before you start that you will have a plan by the end of your chat, and that the plan will be inspired by what the kids suggest. Try to recruit people from the group to do simple tasks for the new project. Choose a realistic time frame. And then make it happen!

If you are fortunate enough to have Aboriginal members in your parish, or if there is an Aboriginal community nearby, ask them for ideas. Try to turn a fundraising event into a cultural adventure where everyone learns and celebrates. Let others inspire you. Turn inspiration into ideas, ideas into events.

Hold a contest to design a special logo for your parish Settlement Fund project. Let everyone enter, especially the children. Ask them to create the design with markers on plain paper and decide on a size – perhaps no larger than 5 x 7. When you have chosen the most exciting logo, scan it and use it on pew envelopes and bulletin covers. Have a party to launch the new design and to honour the winning designer. Hint: Get Sunday School teachers and youth group leaders involved.

Keep it simple. Events don't have to be elaborate. In fact, the simpler it is, the more fun it can be. Hold a "bring-your-own" picnic, give it a

silly name, decorate the picnic area with balloons, and pass around a picnic basket for donations. Let everyone know that donations of quarters, loonies and toonies are just fine.

If your parish can afford it, invite someone from a Council of the North diocese to be a key speaker at a workshop on Residential Schools – to study the schools' impact and the need for healing. This takes a fair bit of organization and planning. If you have people in your parish who are good at that, ask them to take it on.

Speak to the elders of your community. Ask what they can do. If they are able to allocate funds — for example, charitable gift annuities — to the Settlement Fund, encourage this. The Office of Financial Development of General Synod will be glad to arrange a consultation. (1-888-439-GIFT); jrobertson@national.anglican.ca.

Hold an Amateur Night, complete with a simple but home-cooked meal (stew, perhaps?). Invite all parishioners to join in with anything they want – a poem, a song, a dance, a skit, a musical instrument, a story. Make sure that people of all ages are involved. Decide on a way to raise funds during the event. Perhaps the audience could put money into a pot to express the level of their enjoyment for each act. The "talent" that brings in the most money could be deemed the winner. The prize could be something of some value, donated by a parishioner.

Take a look at other dioceses. This booklet focuses on Niagara, Rupert's Land and New Westminster. They have come up with innovative and lively projects. They won't mind if you copy their ideas.

After all, it's all in the family.

The Anglican Church of Canada Resolution Corp. Settlement Fund

Figures as of March 15, 2005



PROVINCE/Diocese	Paid 2003	Paid 2004	Paid 2005	Proposed Gift	Balance Outstanding
CANADA					
Fredericton	\$ 254,000	\$ 290,500	\$43,500	\$ 762,000	\$ 174,000
Montreal	125,000	100,000	-	500,000	275,000
Eastern Nfld & Lab	120,000	120,000	30,000	600,000	330,000
Central Nfld	69,000	69,000	17,250	345,000	189,750
Western Nfld	69,000	69,000	17,250	345,000	189,750
Nova Scotia	240,000	240,000	60,000	1,200,000	660,000
Quebec	135,000	-	-	135,000	-
ONTARIO					
Algoma	145,000	145,000	36,250	725,000	398,750
Huron	420,000	420,000	105,000	2,100,000	1,155,000
Moosonee	150,000	-	-	150,000	-
Niagara	377,000	377,000	94,250	1,885,000	1,036,750
Ontario	220,000	220,000	55,000	1,100,000	605,000
Ottawa	320,000	320,000	80,000	1,600,000	880,000
Toronto	1,008,000	1,008,000	3,625	5,040,000	3,020,375
RUPERT'S LAND					
The Arctic	93,329	93,329	23,332	466,643	256,654
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	80,000	20,000	400,000	220,000
Rupert's Land	94,000	94,000	23,500	470,000	258,500
Saskatchewan	45,000	45,000	11,250	225,000	123,750
Saskatoon	60,000	60,000	30,000	300,000	150,000
BRITISH COLUMBIA & YUKON					
British Columbia	200,680	200,680	50,170	1,003,399	551,869
Caledonia	30,000	30,000	7,500	150,000	82,500
Cariboo	10,000	-	-	10,000	-
Kootenay	54,960	54,960	13,740	274,800	151,140
New Westminster	320,000	320,000	80,000	1,600,000	880,000
Yukon	76,224	-	-	76,224	-
	5,716,192	4,381,468	801,617	22,726,518	11,827,240
BANK INTEREST	92,352	139,953	28,756		
DONATIONS					
GEN SYNOD	4,815	1,748			
M.S.C.C.	3,000				
GENERAL SYNOD	2,997,000			3,000,000	
TOTAL	\$ 8,813,360	4,523,169	801,617	25,716,518	11,827,240

Total payments to claimants to March 15, 2005 \$4,960,187



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