

**Mennonite Church Saskatchewan
2018 Annual Delegate Sessions
March 9 & 10, 2018**

Held at Zion Mennonite Church, Swift Current, SK
Hosted by Zion Mennonite Church & Emmaus Mennonite Church

Theme: God is Doing a New Thing

**Friday, March 9
Gathering & Singing**

Business Sessions Open

1. Welcome by hosts: Zion Mennonite & Emmaus Mennonite
 - Lois Bukar (Pastor, Zion Mennonite) and Marvin Wiens (Chair, Emmaus Mennonite) both gave messages of welcome
2. Official Opening of Business Sessions
 - by Ken Warkentin, Moderator
3. Introduction of Parliamentarians and Resolutions Committee
 - Peter Peters – Parliamentarian
 - Jacquelyn Janzen, Bruce Jantzen, Geraldine Balzer – Resolutions Committee
4. Adoption of Minutes and Agenda (minutes page 52, agenda – updated agenda handed out in packets)
2018-0309-01 MOTION to accept the minutes of the 2017 Annual Delegate Sessions. Myrna Wiebe/Dave Feick. **Carried.**
2018-0309-02 MOTION to accept the updated agenda. Berny Wiens/Otto Driedger. **Carried.**
5. Moderator Report (page 9 in report book) – Ken Warkentin
6. Report of Actions & Decisions by MC Sask Council (page 6 in report book)
2018-0309-03 MOTION to adopt the actions and decisions by the MC Sask Council in 2016-2017. Verna Olfert/George Epp. **Carried.**
7. Presentation of Resolutions & Bylaw Change
 - Shekinah would like to request a Bylaw amendment regarding our board members, to allow non-MC Sask members who are supporters of Shekinah to be on the board.
Current Camp Board Bylaws:
 - (2) The board of the Shekinah Retreat Centre shall consist of nine members elected at a delegate session.
 - (3) The board of Camp Elim shall consist of five to eight people including:
 - (a) three members elected at a delegate session; and
 - (b) two to five persons appointed by the board of which at least 50 percent shall

be from member congregations that participate in the camp.
(4) (Youth Farm's is the same as Elim's)

Recommended Amendment:

(2) The board of Shekinah Retreat Centre shall consist of six to nine people including:

- (a) four members elected at a delegate session; and
- (b) two to five persons appointed by the board of which at least 50 percent shall be from MC Sask member congregations.

8. Reports from Regional & National Ministers

- Kirsten Hamm-Epp, Area Church Minister, Youth Programming, and Admin. (page 14)
 - Along with her report as written, Kirsten shared that beginning in October, she was invited to be part of new group Faith Leaders Council on U of S campus – leaders of different faith groups represented on campus, working toward student wellness on campus
 - Kirsten recognized Katie Wiebe for taking over the SMYO while she was at Shekinah. Ada Krahn, SMYO co-chair, presented Katie with flowers in recognition and thanks.
- Katie Wiebe (interim SMYO) (page 15)
 - Katie appreciated the opportunity to step in and help out
- Ryan Siemens, Executive Minister (page 10)
 - Ryan began by thanking all of us for giving him the opportunity to serve in this way
 - He has visited with 19 congregations and many councils over the past year
 - Deep gratitude to Marianne & Gord Siemens, Kirsten Hamm-Epp & Sandra Siemens for all of the work involved with the move to the MCC building in summer; Being at MCC building feels like moving home – space is warm and inviting, the community in the building is wonderful
 - Many transitions throughout the year:
 1. Ben Pauls finished his position at Zoar Mennonite, Waldheim at end of December
 2. Andrea Enns Gooding installed & licensed Zoar Mennonite, Waldheim
 3. Lois Siemens finished her position at Superb Mennonite at end of December; began at Bethany Manor as Spiritual Care Coordinator March 1
 4. Ed Olfert installed at Grace Mennonite, Prince Albert
 5. Ric Driediger installed at Zoar Mennonite, Langham
 6. Terri Lynn Friesen, Pastor of Faith & Community at Osler Mennonite
 7. Zach Dueck, Associate Pastor at Mount Royal Mennonite, and also is Director at Camp Elim
 8. Pauline Steinman began a 1 year term at Eigenheim Mennonite in summer 2017
 9. Lois Bukar, Zion Mennonite – her ordination will be on Sunday, March 11
 - For Our Information: in MC Sask 20 pastors are male, 14 are female; 11 are under the age of 40

- Willard Metzger, Executive Director MC Canada (page 41)
 - Willard introduced the other MC Canada staff who are with us: Steve Heinrichs (Director, Indigenous-Settler Relations), Arlyn Friesen Epp (Director, Common Word), Jason Martin (Director, International Witness)
 - It is a year of transition: the staffing component at MC Canada is significantly smaller. Please continue to remember them as they and as those who no longer work at MC Canada work through the transition
 - The hope is that regional churches will find their own enthusiasm and priorities – which does seem to be happening
- Kirsten announced that Shekinah has hired their new Co-Executive Directors: Ron & Sue Schellenberg

2018-0309-04 MOTION to accept the above reports as given. Armin Krahn/Gord Peters.
Carried.

9. Announcements

Workshop 1: Walking the Path – Library
Camping Ministries – Room 103
Restorative Justice Ministries – Room 104
MC Sask Council – Sanctuary

Coffee Break

Workshop 2: Indigenous-Settler Relations – Sanctuary
Pastoral Leadership Commission – Library
Congregational Partnerships – Room 103
Mennonite Partners in China – Room 104

Business Session

10. Report from Nominating Committee (updated sheet included in packet - pink sheet)
- Christy Krahn & Leona Ewert reported
 - Executive members are 2 year terms, other terms are 3 years
 - Still some vacancies on Shekinah board – if the bylaws are changed, the spots will likely be filled quickly

11. First Call for Nominations

- None at this time

12. Bylaw Change

- revisited the bylaw amendment

2018-0309-05 MOTION to amend Shekinah’s Camp Board Bylaws as recommended. Renata Klassen/Gord Siemens. **Carried.**

13. Presentation of Financial Report and Proposed Budget (page 12 plus updated information on blue sheet in packet)

- Gord Peters presented

- Final audited statement came approximately 1 week before the ADS – it is a tight timeline for the auditors to get information to us in time for these sessions
- Cannot budget for income received when people bequeath funds, thus the proposed budget income is less than last year's actual income

14. Announcements

Supper

Welcome to Evening Sessions

Introductions of Guests

Ken Hawkey, AMBS	Ginny Hostetler, Canadian Mennonite
Terry Schellenberg, CMU	Dori Zerbe Cornelsen, CMU
Arlyn Friesen-Epp, CommonWord	Zach Dueck, Camp Elim
Tim Wiebe-Neufeld, MC Alberta	Steve Heinrichs, MC Canada
Jason Martin, MC Canada	Willard Metzger, MC Canada
Mark Wurtz, Youth Farm Bible Camp	Eileen Klassen Hamm, MCC Saskatchewan
Karl Martens, RJC	David Martin, Menn Church Eastern Canada
Richard Janzen & Vocal Ensemble, RJC	Heather Driedger, Parkland Restorative Justice
Kirsten Hamm-Epp, Shekinah/MC Sask	Ron & Sue Schellenberg, Shekinah
Betty Pries, Credence & Company	

- Tim Wiebe Neufeld, Executive Minister of MC Alberta and David Martin, Executive Minister of MC Eastern Canada joined us to share who they are. Ryan Siemens will be travelling back to the MC Alberta and MCEC annual meetings to share MC Saskatchewan with them

- MC Alberta – 12 congregations, encompassing 5 different languages
- MCEC – a larger amount of congregations, ranging from a dozen congregations under 25 years old to 16 congregations that are over 200 years old; worship happens in approx. 14 different languages
- The new structure of MC Canada has given the different area churches a chance to talk with each other more than they have in the past – excited about that partnership, a sense of being together,

Worship & Memorial

Saturday, March 10

Coffee & Refreshments

Gathering & Singing

Ray Friesen (co-pastor at Emmaus) welcomed us
 An offering was taken for MC Saskatchewan
 Psalm 23 – Lord I believe in you. You are the One.

Worship: Refresh, Refocus, Renew

We were joined by an octet from RJC.

Psalm 23 – Lord I believe in you. You are the One.

Betty Pries – spoke about the Refresh, Refocus, Renew process, what has happened so far, and where we might go

- “The place God calls you to is the place where your deep gladness and the world’s deep hunger meet” – Frederick Buechner
- People are looking for meaning, purpose and belonging
- After meeting with MC Sask, what came out is that we are more about community, relationships, and belonging than about structure. We want to follow Jesus’ command to love each other and our neighbours.
- The outcomes: (and the themes for the next 3 years for MC Saskatchewan)
 - Deepening our walk with Christ
 - Deepening our walk with each other
 - Deepening our walk with our neighbours
- Broke out into congregational groups to look at what we can do (from the lists on page 23 of report book)

Coffee Break

Business Session

15. Second Call for Nominations

- None at this time

16. Update from our Schools

- RJC – Tammy Forrester & Karl Martens
 - Thank you for ongoing support of RJC and our young people’s education
 - Tammy drew people’s attention to the handout in the packet, which speaks to the IMAGINE, THRIVE, EXPLORE & BELONG programs as well as a desire to improve and update the school and dorms
 - RJC has an emphasis on service, as seen through the ALSO program (Alternative Service and Learning Opportunities)
 - Dorm life is essential
 - A chance to be involved; and once they are they thrive
 - Looking at doing some alumni events throughout summer
- CMU – Terry Schellenberg
 - CMU in midst of big transition to being a prairie regional school
 - Thankful for MC Canada’s commitment to the CMU and to the prairie churches
 - Committed to maintain a vibrant partnership with churches
 - Currently 45 Saskatchewan students
 - 3 challenges:
 - Committed to teach and to form – in connecting teaching and formation CMU has opportunity but also challenge. Have been asked to look into offering an M Div program
 - Increasingly diverse – and therefore are being enriched and stretched. Being both MC and MB, but many other denominations as well.
 - Committed to reconciliation – on an intentional journey to walk through the complexities of the TRC and recent situations.

- Thank you for entrusting CMU to its mission
- AMBS – Ken Hawkley
 - Serves the church as a learning community
 - Owned by MC Canada and MC USA
 - In addition to graduate degree and cert programs, also offer lifelong learning (short courses, pastoral workshops, etc)
 - Have launched an online portal so people can study from home – anywhere in the world
 - An Anabaptist vision – inspired by Jesus’ call to follow him – Rooted in the Word, Growing in Christ
 - Almost 2600 alumni serving in over 40 countries – in many capacities, not only pastors of churches
 - Seek to create a safe environment where all are welcome in their journey
 - Acknowledge reality of conflict and live in hope of Shalom

17. Horse Riding Arena Proposal – Youth Farm Bible Camp

- See sheet in packet
- YFBC brought proposal to council in fall, also had meetings with the Youth Farm Complex board. There is strong support from both areas.
- Hope to build this summer
- Mortgage to build will be less than the cost they currently ensueing to rent current space

2018-0309-06 MOTION to approve the building of a riding arena for the YFBC Horse Program Greg Redekopp/Bruce Jantzen. **Carried.**

18. Youth Farm Complex Board update – Armin Krahn (page 28 in report book)

- Funding for medical in SK has been difficult to increase
- In the nursing home, 67 beds – at that stage need very heavy care. Workload has increased while funding has not
- Building a personal care home – have \$1.4 million committed; Sunrise Place. Will include building a chapel between current nursing home and the Sunrise Place.

19. Listening and Discernment Committee Report – Gary Peters, Josh Wallace (page 18)

- were appointed as result of ADS in 2015
- 9-10 people served on the committee
- members from all across SK and congregations with varying convictions regarding same sex gender marriage
- work began with listening to each other on the committee before they were able to listen with the rest of MC Sask
- many were feeling unheard – brought workshop on learning to listen to 2016 ADS
- brought a 2nd workshop to approx. ¼ of congregations
- work coming to an end – got the ball rolling and are now passing it back to MC Sask and congregations (see recommendations on p 18 of report book)

20. MCC Sask Update – Eileen Klassen Hamm

- Bridging Borders – 6 episodes – to increase awareness and understanding of private sponsorship, will air on CityTV Mondays at 10pm, will also be online
- 2 day facilitating workshop on the KAIROS blanket exercise – have many people who are now trained as facilitators

21. Shekinah Update – Ron & Sue Schellenberg

- Relationships and community will be at the core
- Have seen the effects of the camp and the amazing staff and the effect they can have on young people
- Shekinah is one of the few opportunities for young people to unplug from the technology and business of life to be able to be quiet and in the stillness hear God
- Ron & Sue are interested in coming out to churches to speak, to connect

22. Announcements

Lunch

Workshop 3 Walking the Path – Library
 Camping Ministries – Room 103
 Restorative Justice Ministries – Sanctuary
 MC Sask Council – Room 104

Coffee Break

Workshop 4 Indigenous-Settler Relations – Sanctuary
 Pastoral Leadership Commission – Library
 Congregational Partnerships – Room 103
 Mennonite Partners in China – Room 104

Business Session

23. Third Call for Nominations

2018-0309-07 MOTION that nominations cease. Leona Ewert/Gord Siemens. **Carried.**

24. Nominations Report & Elections (if required)

As there were no further nominations, no elections were needed.

The new Commission and Committee members are:

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| ○ Moderator | Terry Stefaniuk 2020 |
| ○ Deputy Moderator | Sharon Schultz (completing term 2019) |
| ○ Council Member | Julia Epp (completing term 2019) |
| ○ Council Member | Rod Suderman 2020 |
| ○ Pastoral Leadership Commission | Curtis Wiens 2021 |
| ○ Shekinah Retreat Centre Board | Mike Neufeld, 2021 |
| ○ Shekinah Retreat Centre Board | Audrey Kampen 2021 |
| ○ Shekinah Retreat Centre Board | Matt Wiens 2020 |

25. Financial Report: Discussion & Approval

2018-0309-08 MOTION to accept statements as presented. Gord Peters/Berny Wiens. **Carried.**

26. Discussion & Approval of Budget for 2018

2018-0309-09 MOTION to approve budget as presented. Gord Peters/George Epp. **Carried.**

27. Appointment of Auditors

- Gord has done some research into a few accounting firms who will work with MC Sask as well as the camps

2018-0309-10 MOTION to appoint Mackenzie and Company as Auditors for a one-year appointment. Gord Peters/Armin Krahn. **Carried.**

28. Resolutions (if required)

- None

29. Closing of Business Session

- Thanks was given to the volunteers and hosts for this weekend – to Zion Mennonite Church and Emmaus Mennonite Church for their hospitality
- Marianne Siemens was thanked for all of her work in organizing the weekend
- Thanks given to Tim Wiebe-Neufeld and David Martin for coming and sharing about MC Alberta and MCEC
- Thanks were extended to Ken Warkentin for his commitment to MC Saskatchewan over the past 3 years.
- Sharon Shultz declared the business session closed.

30. Commissioning & Communion

- Ryan Siemens and Kirsten Hamm-Epp led us in a commissioning service, and in communion.

Statistics from the 2018 ADS Weekend:

Churches Represented	26 out of 28
Delegates	74
Youth Delegates	2
Guests	24
Non Delegates	19
Volunteers	14
Total Registered	138

Respectfully submitted by Myrna Wiebe, MC Sask Council Secretary