

Anglican Indigenous Network (AIN): Report to ACC17

E te Atua to matou Kai-hanga,
ka tiaho te maramatanga me te ora, i au kupu korero,
ka timata au mahi, ka mau ki te tika me te aroha;
Meatia kia u tonu ki a matou,
tou aroha i roto i a matou korero,
kia kiia ai o matou whakaaro, a matou mahi katoa,
e tou Wairua Tapu.
Amine.

God our Creator,
When you speak there is light and life,
When you act there is justice and love;
Grant that your love may be present in our conversations,
So that what we say and what we do,
May be filled with your Holy Spirit.
Amen.

We greet the members of the Anglican Consultative Council, and thank you for the opportunity to submit this report from The Anglican Indigenous Network (AIN).

Response received from ACC Standing Committee, via Jack Palmer White

The AIN received a response to our 2018 AIN Report from Jack Palmer-White, the Anglican Communion Permanent Representative to the United Nations, and AIN point of contact for the ACC.

The response to our AIN Report from the 2018 meeting of the Standing Committee of the Anglican Consultative Council was disappointing, but was not surprising. The AIN understands that there are issues and difficulties related to providing the AIN with a more effective voice. However, there also needs to be an understanding of our issues and difficulties within each of our provinces, as well as within the Anglican Communion world-wide. We need to be able to speak cross-culturally in ways that are good for us, and for the whole Anglican Communion.

We therefore invite the Anglican Consultative Council Standing Committee into conversation with us on how we move forward together.

Supporting our Indigenous brothers and sisters internationally

A significant part of the work that happens within the AIN is to support and to stand by our Indigenous brothers and sisters across the AIN membership. This stand is important in showing each of the provinces within the Anglican Communion that the Indigenous voice within the Anglican Church is united and strong.

The representative members within the AIN have faced significant challenges within each of their provinces to be heard by their provincial church. Indigenous voices within the worldwide Anglican Church have had to be bold and courageous in their efforts to be heard. In 1991, the Anglican observer to the United Nations, the Rt. Rev. Sir Paul Reeves, convened a meeting of indigenous Anglicans to take the first step toward forming a network of indigenous Anglicans.

However, to this day, the Indigenous voice within the Anglican Communion worldwide has been largely absent, and in some provinces, silenced.

Some upcoming AIN events in the provinces and internationally

- February 23, 2019, in Honolulu - Funeral for the Rev Canon Dr Malcolm Chun from Hawaii. Bishop Mark will be attending the funeral and is the preacher at the service [along with Aunty (Dr) Rose Elu & Bishop Te Kitohi Pikaahu from the AIN, as well as local AIN representatives from Hawaii]. Canon Malcolm Chun was a significant influence in the work of the AIN.
- March 20-26, 2019 - Presiding Bishop visit to Hawaii. Hawaiian AIN representatives will be present, along with AIN representative for the Episcopal Church of USA, Rev Dr Bradley Hauff, Episcopal Church Indigenous Missioner.
- April 2019, a new Tikanga Maori Bishop will be elected in the Amorangi/Diocese of Te Hui Amorangi ki te Upoko o te Ika, New Zealand.
- July 2019, Canadian General Synod – Bishop Mark McDonald informs the AIN members that an important motion is being put forward at the Synod that will give Indigenous peoples across Canada the ability to make structural changes, and to set their own constitution. Bishop Te Kitohi Pikaahu (AIN Chair) will attend this meeting in support of Bishop Mark and the Indigenous peoples of Canada.
- September 12th to 15th, 2019, Te Runanganui (Maori General Synod) hosted by Te Pihopatanga o Te Tai Tokerau in the Bay of Islands, Aotearoa/New Zealand.
- September 2019 - the 2019 AIN conference will be held in Honolulu, Hawaii. Representatives will be paying for their own travel & accommodation to attend.

Some provincial report highlights from AIN representatives

Aotearoa/ New Zealand:

- Bishop Te Kitohi Pikaahu as Chair of the AIN has attended a variety of AIN gatherings internationally, offering support and showing solidarity to our AIN membership.
- May 2018 - General Synod Te Hinoti Whanui held in New Plymouth, NZ.
- 12-14 October 2018 - Pihopatanga Social Justice Conference (Tikanga Maori) hosted by Rangatahi (youth) from Te Hui Amorangi ki te Upoko o te Ika.
- April 2019, a new Tikanga Maori Bishop will be elected in the Amorangi/Diocese of Te Hui Amorangi ki te Upoko o te Ika, New Zealand.

Canada:

- Successful in funding two suicide prevention workers, with two young adults hired in June of 2018. They complement 2 part-time youth outreach ministers, hired the previous year. Both are funded by the General Synod Budget.
- The Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples has been able to meet twice per year due to a budget increase. The Council is instrumental in providing guidance and wisdom for our journey to self-determination and also recommending action for justice-making.
- The Ninth Sacred Circle, “Making and Strengthening Disciples: Reborn by Water and Spirit,” was held in Prince George, British Columbia in August of 2018. This triennial event gathers Indigenous Anglicans from across Canada to network, learn, and deliberate the path to self-determination. The document, “An Indigenous Spiritual Movement, becoming what God intends us to be,” was presented.
- Sacred Circle also met in Focus Groups to discuss issues that impact our communities: Suicide, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls, The Marriage Canon (same sex marriage), Substance Abuse, Governance for self – determination, Climate Change and Resource Extraction. Several resolutions coming from these deliberations will be presented to the General Synod in 2019. The most significant resolution will be amendments to Canon 22 that will give more authority to Sacred Circle and the Anglican Council of Indigenous people. Over 170 people attended including a number of partners; ecumenical, international (Hawaii, United States, and Aotearoa/New Zealand) and non-Indigenous Anglican bishops.
- The Indigenous House of Bishops Leadership Circle, a working group to plan for action, has met several times. They appointed a Focus Group that has set forth the plan and is working on documents for incorporation as a non-profit charity and a Constitution and By-Laws.

- We are also looking at developing our own canons for ordination, that takes into account the unique cultures and characteristics of our Indigenous communities.
- We continue to provide training for our communities. Bishop Mark teaches with Ray Aldred, the Director of the Indigenous Studies Program of Vancouver School of Theology, in the "Teaching House that Moves." Also, we offer Indigenous Catechist Training, Indigenous Healthy Pathways and People of Vision. All are geared to equip our people for leadership in the Church.
- For 2019, our young adults are proposing a gathering of young people to learn, share and vision ways to restore the spirituality of young Indigenous people.
- On March 8, 2019, the premiere screening of "The Doctrine of Discovery, Stolen Lands, Strong Hearts," will be held in Toronto. This monumental documentary took over three years to produce, and will have a huge impact on the Anglican Church of Canada. It is a hard, challenging video but necessary if we are ever going to be reconciled. A study guide will be available on the Anglican Church website. The documentary was produced by 'Anglican Video' in collaboration with the Primate's Commission on the Doctrine of Discovery, Reconciliation and Justice, & the Office of the National Indigenous Anglican Bishop.

Hawaii:

- 4 Native Hawaiian representatives attended the AIN conference in Toronto in 2017. Funding was a major issue in being able to attend, with one scholarship provided from the Office of the National Indigenous Anglican Bishop of Canada.
- February 23, 2019, in Honolulu - Funeral for Rev Canon Malcolm Chun.
- March 20-26, 2019 - Presiding Bishop visit to Hawaii. Hawaiian AIN representatives will be present, along with AIN representative for the Episcopal Church of USA, Rev Dr Bradley Hauff, Episcopal Church Indigenous Missioner.

Australia:

- 2 Aboriginal & Torres Strait representatives attended the AIN conference in Toronto in 2017. The cost of this trip used up 10% of the total budget allocated by the Anglican Church in Australia for Aboriginal/Torres Strait Ministry.
- February 23, 2019, in Honolulu - Aunty (Dr) Rose Elu attends funeral for Rev Canon Malcolm Chun from Hawaii.

USA Episcopal Church:

- April 2018 - accompanied the Presiding Bishop and Bishop Hunn to Navajoland, where we met with Bishop Bailey and the local clergy and people.
- April 2018 - attended United Nations Permanent Forum on Indigenous Issues in New York, along with the Reverend Bessie Titus, the Venerable Paul Sneve, Caressa James, and Ronald Braman.
- July 2018 - There was a good representation of Episcopal Indigenous clergy and lay leaders at our General Convention. Two GC resolutions will impact Indigenous Ministries significantly as we move forward:
 - D010, "Create Position of Indigenous Theological Education Coordinator," and currently in the search process for the Education Coordinator, which takes the place of the Bishops' Native Collaborative.
 - D011, "Doctrine of Discovery Training," will involve teams of Indigenous people meeting with Episcopalians in the process for ordination throughout our denomination, to teach them about the Doctrine of Discovery, the church's role in it, the devastating impact it has had on the Indigenous people of the world, and what the church's response to it needs to be.
- August 2018 - attended the Anglican Council on Indigenous Peoples Conference in Prince George, British Columbia, along with numerous Indigenous church leaders from Canada and around the world.

- September 2018 - attended and gave a presentation on the Indigenous view of Creation at the Episcopal Asiamerica Consultation in Honolulu, Hawaii.
- November 2018 - met via Zoom teleconference with the four principal bishops; Bishop Bailey of Navajoland, Bishop Lattime of Alaska, Bishop Tarrant of South Dakota, and Bishop Mike Smith of North Dakota. We discussed the Sustainability Grant for the coming triennium, and looking at how best to assist the funding of the Indigenous Theological Education Coordinator office.
- January 2019 - Winter Talk Conference was held in Seattle.
- February 2019 - participated with the other Ethnic Missioners (Latino/Hispanic, Asiamerica, and Black) at the Seminarians of Color Conference in Florida, which brings together persons of color in seminary for a time of mutual support, networking, and learning.

The AIN would like to reiterate its call made in the communiqué to the Anglican Consultative Council in 2017, and in its 2018 report to the ACC Standing Committee, to take the following actions:

1. We call upon the Provinces of the Anglican Communion to adopt and implement in the life of the Communion, the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.
2. We call upon the Anglican Communion to support and resource efforts toward self-determination and self-sustainability of AIN members.
3. We request financial support from the Anglican Communion Office in order to advance the causes of AIN, including the work of reconciliation with and within the Anglican Communion.
4. We call upon the Provinces of the Anglican Communion to support adequate care and training for indigenous clergy and laity dealing with compassion fatigue and the effects of vicarious trauma.
5. We request that the Provinces of the Anglican Communion provide a report on indigenous ministries within their province.
6. We call upon the Anglican Consultative Council to identify an observer to visit Torres Strait, witness the effects of climate change, and report to the Standing Committee of the ACC.
7. We request AIN representation on the Anglican Consultative Council.
8. We invite the Primate of our Indigenous Provinces to meet with the AIN and join with us on our ongoing journey of reconciliation and faith within the Anglican Communion.

We conclude our report by inviting the Anglican Consultative Council Standing Committee into conversation with us on how we move forward together.

We must be the incarnation of the Compassionate Christ in the world. We must, as our Baptismal Covenant says, “strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being.”

Kia tau te rangimarie o te Atua ki a koutou.
May the peace of God be with you all.

Signatories for the AIN Steering group:

The Rt. Rev. Te Kitohi Pikaahu (New Zealand), Chair of the AIN.
 Dr. Rose Elu (Torres Strait/Australia).
 The Rev. Daryl McCullough (Australia/Torres Strait).
 The Rev. Dr. Bradley Hauff (USA).
 Ms. P. Kalani Holokai (Hawai'i).
 Mr Edward Bruce Hanohano (Hawai'i).
 The Rev. Canon Virginia Doctor (Canada).
 The Rt. Rev. Mark MacDonald (Canada).
 Mr Charles Hemana (New Zealand).
 The Rev. Dr. Paul Reynolds (New Zealand).

Please don't hesitate to contact the Chair of the AIN if you need any further clarification or comment:
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