

7 COMMITMENTS

Moving forward, the EFC is committed to working in collaboration with the Working Group to prompt conversation and action among its affiliates in relation to the following:

1

Recommitment to the **RECONCILIATION PROCLAMATION** by

- a. Circulating the Proclamation to key leaders in EFC circles
- b. Re-introducing (or in many cases, introducing for the first time) the Proclamation to the EFC affiliates
- c. Instituting an annual remembering ceremony and training (as to what it means) among EFC leadership and constituency representatives
- d. Building awareness around Indigenous and colonial history (cf. TRC Calls to Action, #59)
- e. Initiate an awareness campaign/educational effort to share the good news of this Proclamation with constituencies. Reconnect with key partners and crafters of the Proclamation to pray and discern next steps

2

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action #49, repudiation of the **DOCTRINE OF DISCOVERY** and other legal fictions that claim jurisdiction over Indigenous lands and peoples

- Review existing resources developed by church bodies and/or create a short study resource for EFC affiliates to articulate its significance and implications for engagement.

3

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action #48, the adoption of the **UNITED NATIONS DECLARATION ON THE RIGHTS OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLES (UNDRIP)** and its meaning and implications for evangelical church communities.

4

An **UNSETTLING OF EVANGELICAL THEOLOGY** resulting in evangelical thought and practice in Canada that

- a. renounces white supremacy
- b. renounces concepts used to justify European sovereignty over Indigenous lands and peoples
- c. proclaims that justice in human relationships is integral to God's plan for restoration and affirms God's preferential option for the poor and oppressed
- d. repudiates the idea of being neutral on issues of Indigenous justice, but commits to the struggle of being with those who are oppressed and fighting non-violently against the idols of our day as we pursue collective peace
- e. proclaims that Jesus is found amongst the most vulnerable and persecuted

5

LEARNING FROM PARTNER ECUMENICAL BODIES that are leading the way in Indigenous justice, such as KAIROS, supporting their advocacy efforts as appropriate.

6

Develop **A THEOLOGY OF STEWARDSHIP OF LAND AND CREATION** and how that impacts our relationships to lands and waters and how we might **STAND WITH THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITIES** that protect them.

7

Establish a **REVIEW AND ACCOUNTABILITY** mechanism to measure and evaluate progress on the action items listed above. This will include sharing our commitment with the National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation (Winnipeg, MB), and submitting annual updates.

Signed, the members of the EFC Indigenous–Settler Relations Working Group: Adrian Jacobs, Sandy–Saulteaux Spiritual Centre · Aileen Van Ginkel, The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada · Alison Lefebvre, Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada · Jobb Arnold, Canadian Mennonite University · Jodi Spargur, Canadian Baptists of Western Canada · Joel Gordon, The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada · Julia Beazley, The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada · Mike Hogeterp, Christian Reformed Church in North America · Shari Russell, The Salvation Army of Canada and Bermuda · Steve Heinrichs, Mennonite Church Canada
With Bruce Clemenger, President, The Evangelical Fellowship of Canada