

DIAKONIA, UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
2007 NATIONAL GATHERING
Star of the North Retreat Centre in St. Albert, Alberta
April 24 - 27, 2007

Present

Ann Naylor, Anne Duncan, Anne Laird, Annette Hoare, Audrey Mitchell, Barbara Lieurance, Barb Myers, Beatrix Schirner, Beth Kerr, Betty Marlin, Bill Doyle, Bruce Jackson, Carolyn Nicholson, Carolynne Bouey Shank, Caryn Douglas, Cathie Clement, Cheryl Kirk, Christina Paradela, Christine Dudley, Cindy Gossling, Daphne Rogers, David Hewitt, Debbie Brill, Debbie Stockdale, Deborah Deavu, Deborah LaForet, Deborah Vitt, Denise Davis-Taylor, Dorothy Naylor, Elaine Kellogg, Elizabeth McAdam, Eric Tusz-King, Heather Robbins, Heather Sandilands, Irene Rainey, Jan Richardson, Jen Dresser, Joan Tuchlinsky, Jo-Ann Wilson-Symonds, Juanita McKinnon-Smith, Jung-Hee Park, Karen Triomphe, Kathy Douglas, Kathy Platt, Kathy Toivanen, Kay Dean, Laura Hunter, Leanne Benoit, Leila Currie, Linda Clark, Linda Ervin, Lori Crocker, Louise Williams, Lynda Gow, Nan Corrigan, Margaret Collard, Mary Anne MacFarlane, Nancy Corrigan, Nancy Wetselaar, Pamela Milton, Patricia McColl, Paula Ashby, Roz Vincent-Haven, Russell Mitchell-Walker, Ruth Cairns, Sally Meyer, Sharilynn Upsdell, Sharon McRann, Sherri McConnell, Tammy Allan, Ted Dodd, Terrie Chedore, Tracy Fairfield, Yoon Ok Shin, Yvonne Naismith

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BUSINESS 1 – Tuesday afternoon

Opening Procedures

Lori Crocker of the Coordinating Cluster reviewed the Consensus model as outlined in the minutes of the 2005 gathering. There was agreement that we would use this model.

Agenda check.

The business agenda was distributed. Two additions were given:

- Wed at 11:15, part of our work will be to choose and appoint the next rep to DOTAC. (As in policy approved at the 2005 meeting, this appointment will take effect in 2009, but the person will participate for the next two years with the current representative, Linda Ervin.) A job description is included in the packet.
- A sign-up sheet was posted in the room. People were invited to list issues for break-out groups for Wednesday evening at 8:00 pm.

The agenda was adopted as presented.

2005 Minutes

It was announced that we will return to the Minutes of the last gathering after folk have had a chance to read them.

Business Arising

An Accountability report prepared by the Coordinating Cluster was distributed. Nancy Corrigan reviewed work that was done by the Cluster in response to the actions of the 2005 meeting.

Folk were invited to ask about what was done with other issues coming from the 2005 meeting. Cheryl Kirk mentioned that at DUCC 2005 the “single rite of entry” was identified as an issue for this meeting but it is not on the agenda. In response, this issue was listed as a break-out group.

Laura Hunter suggested that there be a dialogue about this issue, using dialogue circles. It was suggested that we look at the other items and then determine if we have time for this. All agreed.

The Coordinating Cluster has created a diagram of the current organizational model. It can be found on the DUCC website.

Reports

1. DOTAC Report

Linda Ervin, our representative to DOTAC, provided a printed report and spoke to it. Currently Linda is chairperson of DOTAC. Karen Triomphe of the diaconal association of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, and member of the DOTCAC Executive, brought greetings from DOTAC. Linda referred to an upcoming meeting of DOVE (Diakonia Overcoming Violence Education) this summer. Bruce Jackson will be attending this event. Sharilyn Upsdell and Russell Mitchell-Walker attended the DOTAC event last summer in Trinidad. World Diakonia meets every four years and the next gathering is in Atlanta Georgia in 2010.

2. Accountability Report from the Education Cluster

This cluster was to review the two booklets that were presented at the 2003 gathering. They concluded that the booklets are not helpful to this educational task and that they be discontinued.

Then, in their work, they asked what was needed. The decision was to concentrate on downloadable material that can be easily updated. Nancy Wetselaar reported on a video produced in Chignecto Presbytery by Annette Hoare and Sue King-Darby and saw possibilities for the task of this cluster. Attendees at this gathering were invited to tell their story (3 minutes), answering the following questions: How long have you been in diaconal ministry? What is your current work? How is this diaconal ministry? Time was allocated for those who chose to participate in this project.

Caryn Douglas spoke about the importance of the national church taking ownership of this responsibility.

The London group has been working on a revision of the pamphlet on diaconal ministry. Jung Hee Park shared the struggle the group had with the predominance of the use of servant imagery in the current one; she presented a paper critiquing the biblical story of Jesus washing the feet of the disciples. The group was invited to share other images, symbols, and biblical connections for diaconal ministry.

The group was then invited to talk in small groups about:

- The direction that the Cluster is taking
- What response do you have to the paper given by Jung Hee?

Feedback from the Groups

Small groups were invited to share the notes from their discussion on a wall chart.

(Announcement

Lori Crocker asked people who were at General Council to gather together after the social time tonight to begin to work on a report which will be presented to the group.)

BUSINESS 2 – Wednesday Morning

DUCC Statement of Belief

After an initial time of introduction and sharing the history of the Statement in the whole group, we worked through a process in small groups. There was a brief time of reporting. (See follow-up under the report of Break-out Group 6, page 13.)

Reports

1. Coordinating Cluster Report

Kay Dean spoke to the report for the Coordinating Cluster, which had been distributed.

Comments from the group:

- Regarding Emmanuel College's request for a testamur for diaconal ministry. Caryn Douglas reported that until some other issues have been dealt with, this will not be addressed.
- Betty Marlin reported that MEPS has a draft policy for presbytery-recognized ministries that could be helpful for us.

Finances

Kay reminded people that she is receiving membership dues.

The Financial Report for the last two years and the 2007-2009 budget were distributed and introduced.

Budget questions:

- How many members are there in DUCC? (Last year: 66. Year before: 126)
- How can we encourage the payment of memberships?
- Will MEPS continue to support DIACONAL NEWS? (Yes)

There was consensus on the budget for 2007-2009, as presented

2. General Council Report What it was like to be there as diaconal ministers?

Those present at the gathering who had been at General Council offered their reflections:

Lori Crocker, Roz Vincent-Haven, Tracy Fairfield, Heather Robbins, Christina Paradela.

(Many other diaconal ministers were delegates to GC) Themes in the reflections

included the following:

- Several expressed frustration around the Learning Outcomes proposal, something that is so familiar to students at CCS. There was no decision at GC; it was sent back for more work.
- One delegate – a student under 30 – felt her commission was dealing with social justice issues and had a good experience.
- There was good dialogue and it was seen as a time when awareness of diaconal ministry could be strengthened.
- One person felt that on the whole, there was an absence of a diaconal presence.
- One person was left with the impression that there is much before the church right now that needs diaconal presence, leadership and style.

- Concern was expressed about the need for the diaconal community to strategize ahead of GC.

Comments afterwards:

There was a request that this last item should be on the agenda for the Coordinating Cluster: How to support diaconal ministers in strategizing ahead of time for GC.

Kay Dean has a list of issues that came out of GC

Caryn reported that Learning Outcomes proposal was referred to the Executive and a task group has been formed – people who are already on the executive or a standing committee. Caryn wrote to recommend that a task group be made up in a different way and put her name forward. This will be a breakout group tonight.

3. DOTAC Conference Report: “What does the Lord require of us?”

Russell Walker and Sharilynn Upsdell were our delegates to DOTAC last summer. They gave a powerpoint presentation which showed highlights of the event and photos of the presenters. They offered a summary of the major presentations.

There were 101 present at the event from Jamaica, Dominican Republic, Brazil, Canada, US, Trinidad, Barbados

BUSINESS 3 – Wednesday afternoon

DOTAC Rep elections

David Hewitt introduced the process for electing our next DOTAC rep.

Reports

1. GC Liaison Cluster Report

Ann Naylor reported on behalf of this cluster. Other members are: Nan Corrigan, Betty Marlin, Kathy Platt, Marg Scott.

Ann referred to the written report that had been distributed, and invited questions. Hearing none, Ann proceeded to talk about point #4 of the report, mentioning their shift into taking on a role of nominating folks for General Council committees. There is a sense that this cluster needs some restructuring to cover the nominating function:

Proposals:

(a) That the nominating function be strengthened, including representation from each Conference.

There was a question around the current nominating process that is used in the wider church. The comment was made that given the way the church values this process, it is important that we find ways to work within it. There was a question around how the group has been meeting – the response was: primarily by conference call.

The cluster also identified that they wish to also find ways to support DUCC folks who are in these positions.

CONSENSUS reached.

(a) That other key initiatives with General Council (e.g. MEPS) be considered on a case-by-case basis by task groups being appointed either by these gatherings or by the Coordinating Committee

CONSENSUS reached.

(Announcement re Break-out Groups

David Hewitt proceeded to talk about the breakout groups for this evening, indicating who has been assigned to each group.)

2. June 2006 Meeting with MEPS Permanent Committee

Lori Crocker introduced the meeting that she, Kellie McCoomb and Betty Marlin had with MEPS last June.

Issues Arising from the Meeting:

1. MEPS does not do advocacy – quoting directly from their letter.
2. MEPS does not respond to “special interest groups.”
3. MEPS responds only to various groups affected by the policies they prepare for the GCE.
4. MEPS has no awareness of diaconal resources.
5. MEPS responds only to GCE concerns, as they come up through congregations, presbyteries, conferences.
6. We must apply annual for budget items related to DOTAC and DIAKONIA fees, and Diaconal News.
7. There is presently a redesign team setup to review the present GC structure.
8. We are in danger of losing our relationship with the GC.

There was a question about the history of the relationship between the church and diaconal ministry, and whether or not there was a covenant between the two bodies at some point.

A discussion ensued about the difference between DUCC and diaconal ministers. Was the committee thinking they were meeting with DUCC, an association, or with diaconal ministers? Others pointed out that in essence we do have a special interest. There was much passionate discussion about this issue.

Work we need to do:

1. That we ask DUCC Coordinating Cluster to:
 - a) write to the Redesign team with our concerns
 - b) develop a strategy concerning budget issues related to MEPS, including yearly applications where necessary.

CONSENSUS

2. That we determine policies here and now and strategize how we get those policies through presbyteries and conferences.
3. Do we, and how do we, do advocacy and education for diaconal ministry for the national church?
4. How can we help MEPS respond to diaconal ministry concerns when they have no representatives there who know what the concerns are?
5. What kind of structure does DUCC need now?
6. Who are the other marginal groups and how do we connect with them?

We were directed to go into small groups from this morning, with the 7th group working on point #2.

Reports will be taken from the groups on Thursday night.

3. Education Cluster

Are we in agreement with the direction that this group is going in terms of educating about diaconal ministry? CONSENSUS.

Kathy provided some history to the booklets; the booklets were created by CDM and presented to the 2003 national gathering. Kathy indicated the decision made by DUCC 2003 not to use them due to concerns about content. There was again agreement that they not be used. The recommendation is that other than for archival purposes, we destroy the remaining supply. This raised an issue around diaconal archives. Kay Dean indicated that she is in possession of all the DUCC history in binders, etc. There was concern that this needs to be added as a business item.

There was also concern expressed around access to information for inquirers and students. It was pointed out that there is a link on the UCC website to the DUCC website.

Theological Reflection

Russell Mitchell-Walker then introduced our guest from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, Karen Triomphe, to offer theological reflection.

BUSINESS 4 – Wednesday evening

Breakout groups

See Minutes for Thursday evening for topics and reports.

Theological reflection

BUSINESS 5 – Thursday morning

Report-back from groups dealing with issues related to MEPS

Group 1—That we ask DUCC Coordinating Cluster to write to the Redesign team with our concerns:

- We felt it necessary to remind the church that we are part of the UCC and in the Basis of Union
- To write down our history about formation of diaconal ministry
- Point out what has been lost with the changes (CDM; advocacy), also as it relates to a broken covenant;
- Lack of access to national church with concerns
- Positive contributions we have and why it is important that our voice be there
- That this letter be copied to the Moderator and General Secretary

Groups 2 & 7—That we determine policies here and now and strategize how to get these policies through presbyteries and conference

- That the committees named by the nominating liaison cluster shall have at least one diaconal minister as a member of the committee.
- Proposals be made to GC that would define clearly the committees that shall have diaconal representation
- DUCC draft a proposal and send it out to us
- That we claim our authority and call the church to account to live out the covenant/promises that were made, i.e. that MEPS would carry on with the covenant relationship that existed
- Suggestion that we meet with the Moderator and the General Council Secretary to identify concerns and seek guidance as to where best to address our concerns - perhaps it is not MEPS
- Get access to the work that MEPS is doing through diaconal folk who are working on E&S Committees, pastoral oversight, pastoral relations, etc.

Group 3—Do we, and how do we, do advocacy and education for diaconal ministry for the national church?

- Increase visibility in all areas of the church, eg. Discernment committees
- Strategize to be subversive and outrageous, i.e. Amazing Grace movie (end of slavery in Britain, about person who worked towards it)
- Annual interview form refers to Internships so it is not applicable to diaconal ministry students (action has been taken on this already)
- Get more coverage in Observer, i.e. report about this meeting
- Need to be persistent and ask for changes in all things, i.e. FFE forms, etc.
- Invite high profile people to our meeting such as the moderator or Nora Sanders
- Use and compare our leadership model to the experts the church brings in from the empire outside world.

Group 4—How can we help MEPS respond to diaconal ministry concerns when there is no staff person on MEPS who is related to diaconal ministry?

- That the Coordinating cluster write the GCE through the General Secretary with a preamble about DUCC being composed of mostly diaconal ministers to clarify how GC hears the voice of diaconal ministry

- To extend an invitation to GC to enter into dialogue with DUCC – an organization that offers a possibility for diaconal ministers to have a collective voice about what the relationship of DUCC and the UCC might be
- That DUCC encourage each regional group at their gatherings to invite GC and Conference staff people within their region to the gathering to learn the strengths of diaconal ministry.
- Making a suggestion that there be a mandatory training session for all staff of GC
- Annual meeting of CPM, suggest we get a presence at their meeting

Group 5—What structure do we need now?

- Do we need to create an order for ourselves that carries automatic participation; you are a member of DUCC automatically with fees coming off payroll. We may then be able to legitimize our being able to speak for all diaconal ministers
- Within the church there are many empires and when we start defining our empires by the fact that you have to do this, we are being co-opted.
- Suggestion that newly commissioned, or people interested in DM, have their membership paid for as a gift, suggestion as a gift by conferences, etc.

Group 6—Who are the other marginalized groups and how do we connect with them?

- LPM
- Affirm United (even though they are not part of the Basis of Union)
- Also discussion about maybe a question could be posed to the Judicial Committee about the broken covenant
- Ethnic Ministries
- Wonderment about contacting some of these folks when they don't have an organized 'group'
- Wonderment about staff associates
- David pointed out that it appears MEPS is treating all ministry personnel as a homogenous group – and we are not, so that needs to be addressed
- Issue around the GC document regarding Emergency procedures: “If your minister is incapacitated, you could consult with the diaconal minister”
- How do we respond to documentation that refers to diaconal ministers as less than ordained ministers. Don't just shake it off; contact the writers and ask for it to be corrected.

How do we handle all this work?

Suggestion made that each of these areas of work be sorted out and interested individuals together be given the opportunity to pick up one of the pieces

Suggested process: the pieces we take on be e-mailed to all of us through the communications cluster for feedback.

We need to do some big picture stuff and write out the pieces that make up the picture.

Banquet

After the banquet, while still at tables, Linda Ervin spoke about the importance of the connection with World Diakonia. Louise Williams, president, shared a powerpoint presentation of that organization, including many of the DIAKAID projects.

BUSINESS 6 - Thursday evening

We began this business session remembering to be tender with ourselves and each other, and remembering to be faithful to who we are.

Eric Tusz-King summarized the business to be cared for.

Reports

1. DOTAC Representative

From the Coordinating Group: Recommendation that DOTAC representation be chosen by secret ballot which will be counted overnight.

One nomination was received: Sharilynn Upsdell

There were no other nominations. Sharilynn was elected by acclamation. Sharilynn spoke of having a “heart to be connecting to people of the world”.

2. Barb Elliott Trust Fund

The report was received. Russell Mitchell Walker encouraged us to spread the word of its availability. Kay encouraged giving to the fund. The Coordinating Group will re-appoint as needed.

Betty asked about promotion of the Fund. Russell responded: in the newsletter and by email.

Christine and Russell were thanked for the work they do on our behalf.

3. Kaufman Report

Moved by Lori Crocker and seconded by Nan Corrigan that the following people be reaffirmed as the members of the Administrative Committee for the Kaufman Renewal and Emergency Fund:

Susan Browning

Elaine Graham

Judith Astley

Lynda Appleby

Consensus: Agreed

Review of actions to be taken by Coordinating Cluster

Eric offered a review of actions to be taken from this morning’s business (regarding issues coming from the MEPS discussion)

Consensus was given for the general direction of this work, with the following additions/considerations:

Discussion regarding #5 – (See page 8) What structure do we need now? “To explore how DUCC can speak for/represent all diaconal ministers, our desire to strengthen DUCC, how we “order ourselves” as diaconal ministers. Consideration of whether and how lay folk who participate in diaconal ministry would find a home in DUCC.

Consideration of making DUCC membership a “gift” at commissioning. Consideration of the implications of making every diaconal minister a member of DUCC.

Discussion regarding #6 – (See page 8) “Connecting with other marginalized groups for working together to gain access to the UCC structure.” The “list” was edited to be LPM, Staff Associates, Chaplains, Overseas Personnel, Outreach Ministers and Congregational Accountable staff.

Consensus was given for the above direction.

Reports from the Break-out Groups:

1. Affirming Ministries:

Report:

We must begin this work: Reasons: Public statement. Own intentionality. More than only a GLBT issue.

Must also consider implications with our ecumenical sisters and brothers.

Need to include this in the Statement of Faith.

Will have financial implication (\$100 per year).

Recommendations:

Form a task group to begin this work - including contacting Affirm Ministries (Brian Mitchell Walker) and report to the next DUCC gathering.

Agreed. Discussion regarding ‘regional’ or ‘national’ task group.

2. Single Rite of Entry

Report:

Need copies of the history (numerous documents) and information from other denominations who have moved to One Rite and what were the results.

If we want to make recommendations to General Council in 2009, we will need to meet next year.

We need to be looking at all the possible ways we might “order ourselves” and what the implications would be for preparation and education.

Proposal 1 The theme for the next gathering of Diakonia.

Discussion as to what “Single Rite of Entry” means.

Having this for a theme for DUCC would need to be broader, including:

What is God calling us to, and to be?

Who are we?

How are we ordered?

What is our relationship with the denomination?

This would include bringing forward those who have researched both our history and that of other denominations who have made this move. Consensus

Proposal 2. Meet in one year (2008).

No agreement

3. Learning Outcomes

Caryn reported that there had been a good discussion and she will take the information to General Council Executive.

4. Presbytery-Recognized Ministries

Joan Tuchlinsky reported on this work.

Betty Marlin has worked with an ordained minister to have his ministry recognized by his Presbytery. The Presbytery will be recognizing him, and the covenanting is being planned.

Joan and Eric have been requesting information from their Presbyteries, Conferences and General Council. Joan is hopeful.

There is a need to educate Presbyteries about what Presbytery Recognized Ministries means – likely Conference too.

Debbie Stockdale will ask if there are students interested in being involved.

Settlement into Presbytery Recognized Ministries will also be dealt with in this work.

Issues needing to be talked about and feedback given are: Compensation package and institution covenant (not person covenant).

Proposal:

That a working group be formed to look at issues and concerns around Presbytery-Recognized Ministries and that they stay connected with DUCC regarding feedback and input.

Consensus: Agreed.

Leanne Benoit, Elizabeth McAdam, Betty Marlin, Joan and Eric will form this working group. They will look to add others.

Louise offered a theological reflection.

“The diaconate exists so the whole church can be more diaconal.” What’s behind this is for the Whole People of God to be about the work we know is needed. We are about equipping the whole people of God for the work of diakonia. “Wear your pin” and remind the church about the work we share together. Together we do what we cannot do alone.”

BUSINESS 7 - Friday morning

More Reports from the Break-out Groups

5. Ecological Impact of Our Gatherings: Kathy Douglas reporting

What are we doing well?

What, wherever we go, can we hold up that “they” do well.

Awareness wherever we are – of where goods come from and implications of our gathering.

Should we be flying?

Could we meet without being physically together?

Ways that might happen . . . meeting every 4 years? Perhaps some common pieces at the same time when regional groups meet together.

Building community as we travel more slowly (train, bus)

“Group price” for train, bus

Acknowledge the cost to the environment

Proposal:

A task group that would look at the ecological impact of our gatherings and our work.

Not a regional-based task force, but a virtual one, across the country.

Consensus: Agreed

Those wishing to participate in this task group are to speak to Kathy Tovenin, Bruce Jackson, Laura Hunter, Jen Dresser, Barbara Lieurance, Heather Robbins, Deb Laforet, Kathy Douglas.

6. Statement of Belief Tedd Dodd: reporting.

(a) *Proposal:* To revise the Statement of Belief.

Consensus: Agreed.

(b) *Proposal:* That a task force of 3 or 4 people be mandated to do this work using the feedback from our work here, that it be face-to-face, regionally based. Consultation to the wider group, with request for feedback, a second draft to next gathering of DUCC. Job sort to set that up.

Consensus: Agreed

© *Proposal:* Since the statement is for interpretive purposes for the larger church (National, JNAC, congregations . . .) therefore these things would be important: poetic flow and cadence, non-jargon, not dense, clear, perhaps on postcard size.

Consensus: Agreed

7. G.C. Proposals Process: Lori Crocker reporting.

Some suggestions (not proposals)

Awareness of need to send proposals through the system.

Be aware of other proposals coming.

Make use of the communications already in place with DUCC Communication Cluster.

Be personally aware of and speak to, issues of diaconal ministry wherever they come up.

Communicate well with ourselves and keep it on our agenda. Get out the story of our need to be in communication with our National Church. Keep up-to-date with the national website.

Encourage communication and consultation.

Specific proposals? If need of a specific proposal comes up, assign a regional task group, as needed.

Idea of picture and article in Observer affirmed.

Next National Gathering of DUCC

Following the two-year model, the next gathering will be in the same year as the 25th Anniversary of DUCC. The founding meeting and the meeting at which we celebrated our 10th anniversary were held at Five Oaks. The Suzuki-Lewis model was suggested as a way to offset flying (with each flight they take, money is donated for tree planting). Offers were made by the regional clusters and proposals were presented to the group. It was noted that Winnipeg hosting would mean less flying than Ontario. The Suzuki-Lewis model was suggested as a way to offset the effects of flying (after each flight they take, money is donated for tree planting). From this discussion, the following proposals came forward:

(a) Proposal: That the next national gathering be hosted by Hamilton-Toronto and London.

Consensus: Agreed

(b) Proposal: That the gathering be held in April 2009, in consultation with the Jessie Salteaux Centre and the Francis Sandy Centre.

Consensus: Agreed

(c) Proposal: That Saskatchewan be responsible for Planning

Consensus: Agreed

(d) Proposal: That Theme and Worship be coordinated by Alberta NW and/or Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario. These two groups will discuss this and report back.

Consensus: Agreed

DUCC Organization for 2007-2009

Coordinating function

The Maritime group has agreed to continue this function for the next two years.

Applause.

Communications Cluster

MNWO have agreed to continue 2 more years (and that's it).

Appreciation extended.

Reports

1. Communications Cluster Report Deb Vitt reporting

The web site will have an icon for sending personal information changes for the data base. Bookmarks were received, and the request to go online to fill out our personal profiles as well as to regularly keep up-to-date.

Proposal:

1 That all minutes of the Coordinating Committee, Cluster and Working Groups would be public, recognizing that there may be occasions when in-camera minutes might be needed, which would be exempt.

- 2 That the minutes would be posted on the website.
3. That the Communications Cluster be responsible for circulating the minutes through the network and ensuring that they are on the website.

Proposal withdrawn.

This group will do more work on this consideration and bring the work back to DUCC. Agreed. Those with concerns are invited to communicate with this cluster.

For those without access to the internet, print copies of the DUCC Minutes will be sent out as requested.

There was a suggestion that internet minutes be password-accessible only.

2. Report: Centre for Christian Studies

Caryn Douglas reporting

Report and material from CCS distributed.

Companions of the Centre: invitation given to reception for Sylvia Hamilton and Gwyn Griffith - 2007 Companions of the Centre.

Leadership 08 Module information shared and participation encouraged. (Now to be offered in two parts to make it accessible for more people.) A reminder of the inclusivity of this program (not only diaconal, not only UCC).

Business concluded

Lori announced that the Coordinating Cluster would be doing a job and welcomes suggestions/communication.

(Recorders for the Business sessions were Patricia McColl, Linda Clark, Dorothy Naylor)

Appendices (other reports posted earlier on ducc.ca and attached to the official minutes)

1. Diakonia of the Americas and the Caribbean (DOTAC) report
2. DUCC Coordinating Committee report
3. Hamilton Conference regional report
4. Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario regional report
5. Barb Elliot Trust Fund for Innovative Ministries report
6. DUCC Communications Cluster report
7. Francis Sandy Theological Centre report
8. General Council Liason Cluster report