



## CANADIAN INDIGENOUS MINISTRY COMMITTEE

**T**hank you for your support to the Canadian Justice Ministries. This past year, the Canadian Indigenous Ministry Committee has had some exciting progress including hiring a senior staff member, Adrian Jacobs (November 2022), enhancements to the Hearts Exchange program, the Canadian National Gathering, and building relationship with the other two Canadian Justice ministries.

The Canadian Indigenous Ministry Committee has been established since 1972. We have 3 Indigenous friendship centres (Edmonton, Regina, and Winnipeg). Please consider supporting the centres financially and prayerfully. We are excited that for the first time, there is a full-time staff member to lead Indigenous Ministry of the CRCNA. Adrian Jacobs leads with passion and shares from his ministry experiences and wisdom from Christian Indigenous teachings.

## HEARTS E<sup>CHANGED</sup>

We would like to celebrate the great amount of participation in the Hearts Exchange program. There has been over 400 participants in the Hearts Exchange program! "Hearts Exchanged program is a learning and action journey designed to equip Reformed Christians to engage with Indigenous people as neighbours and fellow image bearers." (CRCNA Website). We have witnessed Indigenous participants be set free of bondage through apologies from CRC members as well as experience the grace of Jesus Christ, permitting Indigenous CRC members to claim their identity to be Indigenous and Christian without fear.

- Sign up for the Hearts Exchange program on the CRCNA website. <https://www.crcna.org/hearts-exchanged>
- Pastors: there is a special online group being facilitated by Adrian Jacobs.

## CANADIAN NATIONAL GATHERING

In May, 2023, guests, including CRC members of every Classis across Canada, gathered in Algonquin College in Ottawa, Ontario, with purpose “to strategically celebrate, discern, and envision bold next steps for the CRC in Canada locally, regionally, and nationally.” (CRCNA website).

Indigenous-led worship, speakers, and break-out sessions further inspired the church at large. We were encouraged to build God’s Kingdom through the exchange of hearts with Indigenous and non-Indigenous Christians. Healing can happen.



## TRI-COMMITTEE GATHERING IN PARIS ONT.

August 27-30, 2023, the three Canadian justice ministry committees met in purposes to build relationship with the three committees and clarifying effective communication with COD, Board, and ministry office. We also met to invigorate justice efforts, plans, and commitments.

On behalf of CIMC, I, Monika Couperus de Castillo, look forward to working with Classis Huron to build relationship, be a resource for you to learn more about Indigenous ministry, and hold mutual accountability to this important ministry in our region. If you know of others that would like to join our committee, feel free to send a letter of inquiry or recommendation to CIMC Chair: [marwolters@outlook.com](mailto:marwolters@outlook.com).