

## **BMC Truth And Reconciliation Working Group**

Approved by Church Council, October, 2021

### **Rationale**

Many people at BMC are interested in contributing to the process of Truth and Reconciliation in our nation with Indigenous Peoples. We know that this means continuing to learn about and from Indigenous People in our midst, and taking actions that contribute to healing and reconciliation. It is not always clear, however, what learnings and actions might be most appropriate at this time. A Truth and Reconciliation Working Group can help individuals at BMC, various committees at our church, and our congregation as a whole, to take the next steps in the process of truth and reconciliation with our Indigenous neighbours.

### **Purposes**

A BMC Truth and Reconciliation Working Group will support individuals at Breslau Mennonite Church, church committees, and our congregation as a whole:

- to accept, where appropriate, responsibility for being part of a process that worked towards cultural genocide of Indigenous people in Canada;
- to continue learning about and from Indigenous people in our midst;
- to engage in concrete actions that will promote healing and reconciliation with Indigenous people in our community and our country.

### **Parameters**

The BMC Truth and Reconciliation Working Group is authorized by Church Council, with the following parameters:

- This group will be formed for a three year period, with responsibility to report, like other committees, to Church Council, as needed, and to the congregation at annual meetings.
- This group is formed to advise, challenge and support individuals, groups and the whole congregation, but is not authorized to speak or make decisions on behalf of the church.
- This group is encouraged to collaborate with each committee at BMC, as appropriate, to bring issues around Truth and Reconciliation into our everyday work and life as a congregation.
- Anyone in the congregation is welcome to become a part of the Truth and Reconciliation Working Group.