

MINISTRY IN MOTION Conference

October 23 – 25, 2011

Report to Halton Presbyters by John Fargey on behalf of Ministry in Motion

The conference was a success. Halton Presbytery Executive is well informed and acknowledgements have been sent to Hamilton Conference and to the national office for financial support received. However, Presbyters generally have been overlooked to some extent. This note is an effort to correct that and to summarize the big picture to all.

In his 2009 consultant's report to Presbytery on Communications Policy and Strategies, Andy McCormick observed "there are a significant percentage of ministry personnel within Halton Presbytery that do not feel welcome or valued for a variety of reasons...". Taking the comments seriously; the Regeneration Task Force took two steps, 1) organized cluster groups of ministry personnel where each would meet periodically to share experiences, joys and concerns and to 'cheer for one another' and 2) arranged for a conference focused on the order of ministry to be held at Wellington Square..

Planning the conference took time and effort by a group that included members of our RTF plus order of ministry individuals from nearby Presbyteries including Ryk Brown, Paul James and Robin Wilkie. The theme chosen for the conference was "Equipping Ministry Personnel Towards Courageous and Visionary Practices". Conference keynote speakers and workshop leaders were carefully chosen with the theme in mind. During the registration period Marian Ferguson played an important role and closer to the event staff and lay people at Wellington Square contributed a huge amount of time and talent.

The conference attracted 128 order of ministry from Newfoundland to Manitoba and points in between. There were 29 attendees from Halton. Feedback from those providing evaluations indicate the conference was a significant success. The comments provided ideas for improvement and clues for content of another conference. In that respect plans for one next year November 4th to November 6th are now in the planning stage.

We would like to say thank you to Halton Presbytery for the generous grant of \$5000 to Ministry in Motion from the Mission Fund. That grant made a huge difference in our ability to engage significant speakers and resource people.

Ministry in Motion Organizing Committee