

Is *Body, Mind and Soul* an official report of The Presbyterian Church in Canada?

Body, Mind and Soul is meant to promote biblical study, theological reflection and honest conversation on the subject of human sexuality and sexual orientation and is not a denominational report. In order to have a constructive conversation about human sexuality, inclusion or exclusion, biblical values, or what it means to be a Presbyterian Christian in Canada today we must have solid information and tools for reflection. *Body, Mind and Soul* is not an exhaustive resource, nor could it be. The study guide is not designed to state a position on the issues, nor is it supposed to support one particular position or another. One of the goals of the study guide is to attempt to outline, with integrity, various and even opposite perspectives on a complex and emotionally charged subject. Drawing attention to different ways of interpreting the scripture and understanding our theology is not intended to contribute to our polarization on this topic, but rather to bring us into deeper conversation with each other.

This study guide is not a response to the current overtures, but it is hoped that the conversations that it fosters may help prepare the church as a whole to discuss knowledgably any responses that will be brought forward. The study guide draws on the resources that are available both within our church and also outside of it, as already recommended by the Committee on Church Doctrine and the Justice Ministries (Life and Mission Agency). The material in the guide builds upon previous reports to the General Assembly by the Committee on Church Doctrine and the Special Committee on Sexual Orientation (1994, 2000, 2003), as well as the study guides that have been produced for the church on this subject before.