

Special Committee re: Listening, Confession and Associations
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October 4, 2022

To the People of The Presbyterian Church in Canada,

Greetings in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ.

The 2022 General Assembly asked the Special Committee on Petitions 1 and 2, 2021 to continue its work, including continuing to listen to stories of marginalization and racism within the church and to develop a statement of confession to God and to marginalized ethnic groups and individuals within the church.

We have been moved by the stories we heard during our first year of work. We thank those who told us their stories. We are humbled that we would be entrusted with these stories. We have been changed by what we have heard, and we pray that the church, both as an institution and as individuals, will also be changed as we are confronted with the church's actions and attitudes of racism and marginalization. We were asked by a storyteller, "What will be different this time?" We pray that in hearing the stories and confessing both our corporate and our individual sin we will be open to being transformed by the Holy Spirit to be a church where people of every tribe and nation and language will gather together in glorifying Jesus Christ who is Lord of all.

We are aware that there are more stories to be told. We invite people to tell us what they have experienced and what they have witnessed. If you wish to tell your story, or describe what you have witnessed, please contact us by e-mail at special.committee.pcc@gmail.com. Your stories can help us develop a more complete understanding of the impacts of racism and marginalization in the church. Thereby helping to develop a robust confession of the church's wrong, and statement of our desire, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to be changed.

May the grace of Jesus Christ be with you all.

Yours in Christ,

Peter Bush Linda Park

Co-Conveners, Special Committee re: Listening, Confession and Association