

Canadian Mennonite Encyclopedia Meeting

Date - Friday, December 4, 1998

Time - 8:30 a.m. - 3:45 p.m.

Place - Conrad Grebel College

Present: Abe Dueck, Bert Friesen (Chair), David Giesbrecht (Secretary) Ken Reddig, Ted

Regehr, Sam Steiner, Vic Wiebe, Linda Hubert Hecht

Regrets: Alf Redekopp, Richard Thiessen

Minutes of Meeting

1. Call to Order: Meeting called to order @ 9:30. Agenda reviewed.
2. Minutes: Minutes of 1998 meeting accepted as previously distributed.
3. Review of Present Web Site:
 - 3.1 Sam demonstrates features of present site, and notes:
 - ◊ CME is for time being posted on both School Net and UW Net
 - ◊ A more efficient search engine needs to be found
 - 3.2 MHSC Logo:
 - ◊ Committee recommends to Board that current Society logo be re-designed
 - ◊ A separate logo for the encyclopedia may also be desirable
 - 3.3 Comments re present site design features:
 - ◊ First frame would benefit from a graphic or picture
 - ◊ Some color enhancements might attract more younger readers
 - ◊ It is suggested that picture of Jacob Y Shantz be changed for something more contemporary - perhaps a multi-ethnic Mennonite congregation at worship
 - ◊ It will be important to change the "What's New" feature fairly regularly
 - ◊ The left bar index will also link to a general Mennonite studies bibliography (To be submitted by David Giesbrecht)
 - 3.4 There was agreement to change name of encyclopedia to Canadian Mennonite Encyclopedia Online (CMEO)
 - 3.5 The Board will be asked to express appreciation both to Herald Press for allowing generous

access to all volumes of the present ME, as well as to the Institute of Mennonite Studies

3.6 Two Tracks: The Committee agrees to proceed with further data entry on two tracks:

- ◊ Track One: Sam to continue inputting materials from ME (Vol. 5)
- ◊ Track Two: Abe Dueck (convener) with Bert Friesen and Manitoba members agree to meet as sub-committee to establish procedures and guidelines for new entries, beginning with articles on Canadian Mennonite institutions and organizations and current theological/ethical issues.

3.7 Promotions: Publicity for the CMEO is underscored. Several actions to be taken:

- ◊ Sam will supervise completion of the draft encyclopedia brochure that is circulated
- ◊ Sam will work on a press release to coincide with public access to CMEO on the School Net
- ◊ An encyclopedia logo will be considered (Bert to facilitate)
- ◊ Provincial societies will be asked to take responsibilities for:

* sending present congregational content to each church in their province

* following a template questionnaire that Sam will distribute, canvass each local congregation to update present files

4. Financial Statements and Budget for Next Year:

Laureen reviews financial statements.

4.1 It is agreed to recommend to the Board that henceforth both an encyclopedia committee and an archives committee are needed.

4.2 Therefore two budget lines will be requested:

- ◊ \$5000.00 for CMEO
- ◊ \$1000.00 for the Archives Committee

4.3 It is M/S/C that Vic Wiebe is thanked for securing the \$25,000.00 School Net grant for last year.

Vic agrees to enquire about a further grant.

4.4 Sam's good work in coordinating data entry is acknowledged. He is asked to pass along our thanks to Derek Suderman, James Seyler, Judith Friesen Epp and Clifford Snyder.

4.5 The need for additional financial sources is identified. Bert Friesen, Alf Redekop and Richard Thiessen are asked to form a sub-committee to:

- ◊ Define methods for attracting new sponsorships (including the kind of recognition that CMEO

would show)

- <> Compile a list of potential donor organizations and individuals
- <> Explore government grant sources

5. Report to Board: Bert and David will compile details of committee report

6. Next Meeting: At the call of the chair on December 3, 1999 in Winnipeg

7. Adjournment @ 3:35 pm.

