



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLIES

Connecting to Advance God's Kingdom

2019 FCA CANADA ENVISIONING MEETING Executive Airport Plaza Hotel & Conference Centre | Richmond, BC May 7, 2019 | 8:45 AM MINUTES

The Annual Envisioning Meeting commenced at 8:50 AM.

Bryan Swash, acting Chair, greeted the group.

Jim Reimer, host team leader, welcomed the group and thanked everyone for registering. Jim led in prayer.

ENV 19-01 **Declarations and Worship:** Duane Siemens, led the group in declarations and prayer.

ENV 19-02 **Introductions:** Bryan Swash facilitated the introductions of the Elders. He asked each elder to give their name, where they are from, and one word to describe where they are at on their spiritual journey.

James Humphries - Steinbach, MB - JOURNEY

Duane Siemens - Winnipeg, MB - FAMILY

Paul Reich - Red Deer, AB - EQUIP

Beverly Fawcett - Fort McMurray, AB - MOTHER

Glen Forsberg (Fellowship Pastor) - Wetaskiwin, AB - ANTICIPATION

Trevor Hoskins (Vice Chair) - Belleview, ON - STRUCTURE

Gene Enns (Secretary-Treasurer) - Steinbach, MB - EXPECTATION

Glenn Breitreuz (FCA Chairman) - Grande Prairie, AB - TRUTH

Bryan Swash - Toronto, ON

ENV 19-03 **Video on our WHY and WHAT:** The video shown gave a powerful illustration as to the difference between the 'what' and the 'why'. The 'what' is the FCA. The 'why' is the reason we are here. We have to have our hearts in the why or the what will never work.

It is a privilege for the Elders to meet once a month online for 2 hours. Every year the Elders go away on a retreat to hear from the Lord.

ENV 19-04 **The intersection of culture and church: What is the state of the church?**

Glen: The older generation is shocked and surprised. The culture has deteriorated from the time the older generation was young. Because of this, some questions arise: *"How do we navigate the speed boat in these rough waters? How do we relate and communicate with the next generation?"* We do know that we are in a different world. There are some leaders and churches that are buying into the culture that is making them compromise their faith and understanding of scripture. There are other groups of people that are holding the truth but with condemnation and anger. There are others that are looking to the Lord on how we deal with this?

Gene: He feels like there is a cry in our society for a hero, a saviour. We have the answer. Our methods are a few decades too old.

Paul: We are disconnected. Only a 3rd of people that grew up in church are still in church. The book, *The Great Evangelical Recession* states that up to 80% of young

people are leaving the evangelical church. When there is hunger for the word and passion, people go and get trained. When you have 40 biblical schools close in 3 years, that shows that we are in crisis. We need to pass the passion and baton. Our children have not experienced the Holy Spirit like we have.

Glenn: One of the battlefields is "What is truth? When did truth become optional? Even in the very fundamentals of your language, you can not take anything for granted. You have to define what the words mean. Those that have the heart after God will always want to share what Jesus can do. There is always confusion of what the church's role in culture is. The response of the church is confusion. We are not sure what to do with what is in front of us. From the world's perspective we are not even on their radar; we are museum artifacts. From the church's perspective we are still called to reach those people but not sure how.

Bryan: We can come in with compassion to those that are hurting. We need to get back to say what we mean and mean what we say.

James: As he has travelled across Canada he has seen a huge amount of hunger. People are not waiting for us to draw them along, they are ready to run, serve and lay down their lives. He has never seen a hunger for discipleship like this before. Everything is falling apart but when it falls apart, the remnant is standing in front of us to bring us forward.

ENV 19-05

Focusing our Lens on FCA - Sense of Identity: Who is FCA?

Bev: When she first joined it was like a brotherhood of older men. She appreciated it so but because they were family. People always ask what is the FCA? Structurally there has been a lack of structure. There is a family dynamic. We are both ministers and churches. We need to rise up and be that truth. The younger people are looking to us for answers. The word for today: God is pulling us forward. What do we want the FCA to be? We need the work of the Holy Spirit today. We need to teach the younger people what the basics and giftings are.

Duane: Shared when he was in his early 20's, his perceptions were the leaders were more caught up on protecting their ministries than protecting his heart. He came to a point where he pulled back from the FCA because of some disdain in his heart. As we flash forward to today, that word connection is a very powerful word. The 50+ crowd feels like they have so much to say. But we need to turn that around because we need to learn to listen to the cry of the younger generation. Then we can speak the truth and bring freedom.

Glenn: There are elements and layers to that question. When it comes to truth, being consistent with truth. I think we have an issue. If we took all the senior pastors out and just tried to connect our churches, how connected would your church be to the FCA? We say we are the Fellowship of Christian **Assemblies**. We are in a conflict because we function as a Fellowship of Christian **Ministers**. A question to you: If one is the cart and one is a horse: Which is the cart and horse in the FCA? They don't have to be exclusive from one another. If you had to pick a starting place of fixing the Fellowship - we have acknowledged that we are not operating as connected assemblies. How many of you leaders have connected your congregations to the FCA? We are in a massive rebuild. We need godly gifted leaders. We need the participation of people operating in their gifting. It's time to rise up and take what the fathers built and take ownership.

Bryan: One of the missing links in all this, is our heart in this? Ontario has the highest numbers of FCA ministers. There are only about 20 ministries. Most of those ministers are under Lovelace and Brad. We need to rebuild. There is a lot of vision coming after the break.

Glen: God has brought us to this moment. At the beginning it was clear who we were in the FCA. There was a fraction of the number of churches and ministers in the FCA. The FCA has grown and has changed the whole picture. We are here because of growth. And the new growth requires new wine skin.

The group broke for coffee.
The meeting resumed at 11:00 am.

ENV 19-06 **Time for Questions and Input from members:**

Person 1: We can ask the question what is the key to reaching this generation. What we heard this morning was good stuff. People that know God and knowing. We can say a lot of what **we** feel about what should be done. We can get in the way a lot of times. Question directed to Duane: What do you feel God is saying to our church today and what should we do about it?

Duane Siemens: We have all been on a journey. How do we convey this message to another generation? We were born as a son or daughter. You were not born as a pastor. We all know that God has given us gifts and talents. When you came out of your mother, we were a son or daughter. A lot of us do not know what it is to be a son or daughter in the faith. There is a rediscovering of being a son or daughter of God. It's a process for us to walk out. That's part of where the FCA is going.

Person 2 Eric Benner from Fort McMurray: He said he is 37 years and part of the 30% of FCA ministers. He read from Isaiah 43:16-21. Everyone that is young and doesn't know God, it is like in a desert and God is bringing a river. The 20% of young people that are in your church, that is an invaluable resource. They won't seize the mantle until you pass it to them. You can wait until you die to pass it to them or you can give it to them. I know you say you have a lot of conversations about us, but the young people are not in the room with you, is it conversation or gossip? If you want us, you have to start inviting us in.

Person 3 Victor from Fort McMurray: The one thing that we are not seeing is having the rubber meets the road. We talk. The younger people are ready. If the fathers do not allow us to make mistakes in your presence and direct us and show us what to do. If we make those mistakes in your absence, the results could be catastrophic. All the younger people make mistakes in your presence. He started a prayer group that started with 15 people but has grown to now up to 100. His pastors allowed him to make mistakes in their presence and corrected him. If you do not give us opportunity to do, then we will find other means to spend our energy. The young people are there. We do not make room, the table is full. We need to make sure the rubber meets the road so we can move forward.

Person 4 Earl Toews from Manitoba: Here's a challenge to the 20-30%. He appreciates what was said, having the fathers allow the younger people to make mistakes. He had a father that allowed him to do that. But Earl made the decision already. He had made a commitment. Stick it out as the FCA rebuilds. It will hurt but stick with it.

Person 5 Dr. John Lucas from Calgary AB: As he looked over this room, he said he was the longest FCA member. He left another denomination to come to the FCA. He had a hard time joining the FCA in the 1960's because he was not Scandinavian. There is change on the horizon. Do not forget the past bringing in the new order. We can learn from the past. One of the things we missed we use to have the open bible forums. Now we spend all our time talking about politics in our churches. We have a new generation that knows not Joseph and we must be prepared to accept them. And especially people from 3rd world countries.

Person 6: Terry Thiessen from Adult & Teen Challenge in Winnipeg, MB: We have about 10 licensed FCA people in our leadership. In our ministry we have a conflict. There is the old school thinking and then there is a young generation and new thinking. They want to get into the marketplace. They go to major shows in Manitoba and give testimonies. Why do people that are the worst of the worst and give a year of life to us? It has to do with they see the food on the table and want to come and eat. There is a criticism sometimes for going into the marketplace or providing detox centres instead of sending them to a downtown program. They can come and meet Jesus as they detox. Imagine if we could balance things. Real victory comes with the truth. Real victory comes from being baptised in the Holy Spirit. Do we open the altar for the infilling of the Holy Spirit? There was a summit where young and middle age people were being filled with the Holy Spirit. It's not a 1940s concept. It's real and for now. We need to create a culture and create that hunger. Why would the millennials want to follow a generation like ours, that has watered things down? Let us create a buffet of amazing things that God can do for those that are hungry. The boomers are not leaving good examples.

Person 7: Joy Schmidt from Winnipeg, MB: She is coming back to the FCA. She has been searching for years with an anxiety inside her. She has had a feeling of turmoil because she couldn't find an answer to a place where she could fit in. At the PAOC conference the leader said to an audience of about 500 that 70% is addicted to porn. How can you stand in the pulpit with that? She heard pastors say they couldn't stand the church. What do we do? She remembers all day meetings and fasting and prayers. She was afraid to leave because she was afraid that God was going to do something and she didn't want to miss it. Church has come a long way but where do we go to find the move of God? She is hungry for a move of the Spirit of God.

Person 8: Rawlin Falk from Quesnel, BC: He pastors in BC. The reason he wanted to share because years ago in a little independent church in Cranbrook, Brother Lucas came and spoke the Word. Jim & Doreen Reimer have spoken over his life and like a father to him. Years after joining the FCA, he was in a dark place several years ago and Paul Reich prayed over him. Glen Forsberg hugged him and welcomed him in. This assembly, he is here because he needs and loves the FCA. He is here to be a part. They have a 30 year old young man working with him. His church is not an FCA Church but the FCA speaks into them. They are a part because we are family.

Person 9: Tyson Highland (Pastors Peter & Deborah): He believes he can help with some of the questions being asked. Almost 4 years ago he came to Peter & Deborah's church. He came broken and with issues. He came to get a touch from God. He was led to Face Church. He was ministered to with the love of God. Because the minds of this generation are so corrupted and do not know what truth is, you have to target the heart. You have to have your bulls' eye on the heart. There has been a breakdown in the family for decades and has caused a breakdown in our society. Our culture has deteriorated. There has been a disconnect in the family. We have to be willing to be parents in an orphan generation. An issue with the church, there has been a disconnect of it being a family. When you are in organized religion, you feel lorded over by the pastor. We need a sibling connection of true personal love of knowing each other and we need parents. This is the language that he hears from Duane and it resonates with him. You have to be willing to reach out to the most messed up people. There has to be a willingness to be a parent to the most messed up person out there. We need to stop trying to convert other Christians. We need to get out of the "bless-me clubs" and we need to stop trying to Christianize other Christians. Time is the most valuable thing we have. We have to be willing to sow that time with the most messed up persons. Words

have life and sow seed into the spirit man. We need to look into the spirit man and get back to the connection of family. We need that revelation.

Duane Siemens: Let's take a moment and ask the Father who your Tysons are? Those Tysons need the connection of the Father's heart. Duane prayed and asked the Lord to show us who those people are in our life. What are we going to do to connect with the Tysons in the world?

Bryan Swash: This is encouraging and shows we can have a conversation. We can do it in a strengthening way. At the end of it we are encouraged. We are going to shift to sharing the vision.

ENV 19-07 **Sharing the Vision:** The Elders were away in February for the yearly Elders' Retreat. This year we talked about some hard questions and talked about what it would look like if we are rebuilding. Glenn B asked the question, "*Is our heart in this? Are we committed to asking the hard questions so that when the answer comes and we will walk with those answers?*" Those are difficult conversations. We are on a journey of rebuilding. Sometimes it looks scary because we know we have to face things we don't want to talk about. There will be a need to acknowledge mistakes. That's always hard. In all of that we sat down and thought and prayed and it morphed. Paul Reich began to write down everything and what came out at the end (and this is a work in progress) was some vision and objectives to obtain the vision. We are being strengthened by this. Let us go back and look at what was said today. In all of that we came up with a central statement and these 4 subpoints.

ENV 19-08 **Visionary Goal: Empowering Christ Centered Community**

Glen Forsberg: Many of the comments recently about the Holy Spirit, the third person of the Trinity that is often the Holy Spirit has been neglected. The Lord has been tugging at his heart with Acts 8 "Therefore those who were scattered went everywhere preaching the Word". Therefore, men and women went preaching the gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. What enabled them to go out and preach when people were being tormented everywhere? It was what happened in Acts 1 & 2, the outpouring of the Holy Spirit. The empowerment of the Holy Spirit is the single greatest need in our world today. God would have us to be empowered to be able, in the midst of whatever, we can be empowered and be able to still preach the good news - in our lifestyle and how we treat others. There are some negative evil powers that want to disarm us and are trying to lead us to believe that the power of the Holy Spirit is not available to us today. The brotherhood and unity among denominational leaders are amazing right now. We are not going to give up our Fellowship to do that but we are going to give up our isolation to do that. We recognize we are one community. Let us keep being empowered by the Holy Spirit. As a result, nations will see and hear the message we need to preach. They see it in our lifestyle.

Glenn Breitreuz: We were at the Elders' retreat in Banff. Just for clarity, we used to meet in Leduc and we did the research. It was just as cheap to meet in Banff. When the Elders were there in the midst of this conversation, he went to the foyer of the hotel during break and was trying to get his head around everything the Elders were talking about. He went to the desk and met this young blonde lady from Australia. He asked if

she was busy and she said she wasn't very busy. He said he was going to mention two words and wanted to know what those words mean to her. The first word was *church*. She looked at him and said I don't really know. I don't go to church. Glenn asked, "Have you had any experience with church?" She said one time she was in a difficult place and didn't know what to do and found a church. She went in there. "I didn't talk to anyone but spent quite some time there and wanted to stay there." Later on she left. Glen asked, "Do you know what happened to you? You just met God. That thing you felt was the presence of God. He knows you." She had no idea what church was. The second word was *community*. She said, "Oh community is where you are from, where your family is. It's where you belong and you can always come back to." She understood exactly what community was. We can talk about the Church but the world doesn't know the church any more. The world is suspicious of the church. Having said that, they also know what the church represents and they are not sure they want it. The framework is creating Christ Centred Community. The wording is just a different language for what we have already been about. The world doesn't recognize our language. These words mean something different in a new generation. We take the timeless message of the gospel and communicate it to a temporary culture. Every generation takes the non-negotiable gospel and finds ways to get it into the hearts of their generation. For us, language is a big thing. Community is a keyword right now and has many layers to it. We commune with God. We have a family that is part of the community, church that is part of the community and city is part of the community. When we talk about community, we think about relationships and interconnectivity as opposed when we use the word church. Church does not provoke in us all those connection levels.

Trevor Hoskins: He was a part of the Pentecostal Assemblies church. About 13 years ago, we had a shift from that and did a church plant downtown. We understand what it means to be in the hub of our community and finding the challenges to embrace the community. Outside of Sunday, all that we do is community. One of the things we are dealing with is a fundamental issue in general across North America. His hope is that we do not get bogged down with this massive issue. Saying that, there are churches here today that are not irrelevant and have found functional ways to reach out to their community and be that Christ centred community in that midst. The purpose that came out of the time in Banff, is that we want to put a system in place that we can start sharing resources, stories, experience that we can latch on and be encouraged all the more in how to facilitate those things. He thinks everyone in the room would agree with that. But what we would like to talk about in the future is more about how that is going to happen. We can create things and processes we have in place but if we do not buy into it, this is just noise.

Bryan Swash: We are back to the issue of heart, being engaged in this and being in this for a reason beyond getting a license, or credentialed. Trevor is hinting that there are new forums of community. We should not underestimate social media. People have meaningful connections on the internet. We need to recognize that there is a whole new vehicle here and can use it to strengthen our relationships and reach our community.

Trevor Hoskins: We have been able to create a website, but the problem of course is not everyone is using it yet. That isn't negative, people need to get used to it. We use

Zoom where we can meet and connect. These are ways we would like to collaborate online. Tomorrow we will share more on this. There is a social media aspect to our website. We need to tap into these things. No matter where you are located, we can connect on our social media aspect, if we begin to log on and click on someone you do not know and discover what God is doing in their environment. We can share resources and pray together. It's a little bit of a stretch. That is a whole new model we have not yet tapped into.

Bryan Swash: We need to get off Pinterest and get on the new social media website. He didn't know the Elders 2 years ago, but he loves the conversations. We can avail ourselves to this dynamic instead of waiting until next year. He went over the 4 objectives that help us more towards the vision statement of the Christ Centred Community. Each of these excites us but has a bite to it. We have some things to roll out and this is not just talking.

ENV 19-09 **Visionary Objectives:**

1. **Equipping (mentoring) Spiritual Leaders.**

Paul Reich: We all know that Leadership is the key to building the community. We know that where the engine goes, the train goes. The problem sometimes as leaders is we get to the destination and we have not brought the train along and we haven't done our job. He thinks two words define this: Holistic and Multifaceted. When we are equipping (at the college they use a 4H model: Head, Heart, Hand, Heels). We often equip the head. But the issue today, we have to connect the heart to the head. Not just in passion but healing the heart. Every year we get students that are broken. We need to deal with the heart. If leaders are broken, they take that into leadership. The hands are the skills. Leaders need the skills to lead. The feet are for lifestyle. If we are not walking right, our whole ministry can fall. We have to equip holistically and multifaceted. It's not just Bible college. He is sold out of Bible college. There are things that are offered there that you cannot get at church. Bible college is a great venue but there are other ways too. Video base courses, hands on, etc.

Beverly Fawcette: It's easy to talk big and it's hard to act. We talk a lot but aren't doing it. It's hard for pastors. They say, "*Oh I never give our mic up.*" We have to trust God to raise His church. We have a generation underneath us that we are never giving the reins. We should equip the youngsters by allowing them to perform marriages and funerals to get experience when we are there. So that when the older generation is not there, the younger knows what to do. Go and be and do. Take the fear out and ask others to come alongside you. She allows all the pastors in her community to speak. You would be amazed at what comes out of them. We have to equip ourselves by allowing others to do so. Allow God to do things through you. People want to see if our God is real. The world is looking for the church to rise up and be real. Why go to church if there is no power there? The power of Christ in us can deliver and set free. She prays that people sense something different. The broken come. Don't be afraid. We need to equip the younger people to go.

James Humphries: He has been getting lots of calls from pastors on, “How can we get back to the place of servant leaders?” We need to introduce that we have gotten away from servant leaders. We need to help others fulfil what God has called them to do. One of the things when doing servant leaders is finding out God is calling the others to do and help them to fulfill their calling. And you will see fruit.

2. Teaching (upholding, imparting) a Biblical worldview.

Paul Reich: If you look at the conflict today, it centers around worldview. Our young people are being educated in schools that are teaching moral relativism, scientific naturalism and those types of things. The worldview issue is one of the core issues impacting our entire world, which worldview will win? We need to teach a Christ Centred worldview. What is essential and non-essential? What is essential in the FCA? Fellowship and dominations have their essentials. We need to major on the core and central issues and not peripheral issues. There are core and ethical issues. We have to be united around the core. When we are teaching Biblical worldviews and Christ Centred Communities, they have to be built around Orthodoxies and orthopraxy. We are trying to equip some of this on our website. As topics come up in our culture, we need to be equipping the Fellowship with resources on those topics.

3. Cultivating personal and relational well-being.

Duane Siemens: It's really interesting what you hear when you listen, which we are continually trying to do. He hears the Dr. John Lucas' generation crying out that we desperately need the Holy Spirit again. I am hearing the Erics and Tysons saying the exact same thing. We are hungry for the Holy Spirit again. But what we have seen is fragmented hearts and broken-down relationships in the family unit. That common unity as the boomer generation is nonexistent today. The generations today are swimming around in an ocean full of sharks. They are not sure where the boat is. The connecting point to that is the Heart of the Father. That's the central message of the gospel. One of the things we have been praying about is how to practically bring that together. One of the things we are envisioning and want feedback on is to create encounter weekends. That takes core values of the FCA and mingle together. We know not everyone can make it out to conventions. But look at weekends throughout the year where some of us can come to areas near you. We can bring in the power of the Holy Spirit and speak into you and your churches. We can come alongside you. We want to get some greater life coaching and come alongside you to connect, empower and release you. We are losing this generation because they don't know who they are as sons and daughters, nor who the mothers and fathers are. We have to come back to identity. The new website is a powerful networking tool. It is going to be one of the means and ways to do this. We don't have round tables today. We are done with the round tables. We have heard your heart and it's time that we cultivate and focalize together. And that we empower each other in this new season.

Bryan Swash: Wounded people wound others. He is going to bring it to a halt in a second. Bryan loves works of encounter with God. His life was in a ditch upside down and there was a moment. The moments are glorious and awesome. Under the issue of wellness, unless we get to the root of the problem, we are not going to solve it. If we don't understand and deal with what drives the behavior, the behaviors will reappear. We need to have something strategic so that people have skills and understanding how to bring things to the presence of Jesus and experience that He wants to do at a level that is so deep down that we often don't know what to do.

4. Encouraging kingdom partnerships (fellowships) and networking.

Gene Enns: One thing that comes up when we do have round tables is how do we involve other people, those that are not here? That is an ongoing discussion on that. We have realized some of those challenges. Bryan alluded to that with the sponsoring ministers in Ontario. How do we look at the relationships that do exist, the networking that exists? There are 3 levels that's involved: 1. Endorsed ministers 2. Regions 3. And the whole of FCA. Then there's planning a convention. The work involved and the complications that can form. The Elders have talked about forming a convention planning committee? Where it's not all dumped on the local churches. The conventions have been really good but a committee would help relieve some of the repeat ongoing things. The Elders are not the convention planning committee.

How do we network together? Online resources have been mentioned and it's a matter of getting on board collectively. Another thing is as a fellowship, most of us are pastoral type of roles. There are times where missionaries fall through the cracks in a variety of ways. There's room for improvement here to form a Missions Committee. Not for the sake of control of corporate missions but to effectively help, encourage, and network kingdom partnerships in the mission field. We are looking at forming a missions committee.

One more thing. Kingdom Partnerships, he firmly believes we do a good job of raising the pastors and teachers. But what about the apostles, prophets, and evangelists? How do we network those that are called to that role with others in that role? Are we raising up the 5 fold ministries in our churches? It's not one over the other, it's all collectively together. How do we network together to raise up the 5-fold ministry for the purpose of equipping the saints for the work of the ministry?

Glenn Breitzkreuz led us in prayer for lunch.

Meeting dismissed at 12:30 pm for lunch.

Meeting resumed from lunch at 1:40 pm.

Bryan Swash: We are going to be authentic to our conversation which is after the Elders shared their heart, we invite conversation from you. Not in round tables but opportunities to share on the floor.

Another video, "Stop it" was shown while people came back from lunch.

Bryan Swash: If you listen to that (video), it's really profound. The video shows, my problem is okay but your problem is the problem. Trying to offer simple solutions to complex issues. From all the good humor, we have some complex issues. We have a

great sense of a collaborative effort from being together and wanting some of the same things. We have mutual respect for each other. Now we need to do a deep dive. We talked about the outline of the vision. We want to get feedback from each of you over the next 30 minutes and hear what needs to be modified.

ENV 19-10 **Time for Input from members:**

Person 1: Matt Sampson from Father's House: Who have we identified and what is the timeline? He nominated his pastor Greg Fraser to help in this. He said Pastor Greg does this very well and raises young leaders all the time. Who has the FCA identified and what is the timeline?

Bryan Swash: He said Glenn B. would say, "Where's the mirror?" Those that raise the issues are the people for the job because this is a collaborative thing. As for the timeline, we don't have a lot of time to waste. We are intentional at getting the tires on the ground.

Trevor Hoskins: Tomorrow we will talk about how the online cooperative effort of resources can be a powerful impact for us as a Fellowship. There are so many doors in that world for sharing resources that will go beyond information on our fellowship and procedures. Live one-on-one contacts and share resources.

Duane Siemens: There are going to be some elders that work with Glen Forsberg, our fellowship pastor, in connection to our regional coordinators to get a better feel of who is out there in those regions. What is needed in Alberta may be different than what is needed in Ontario. This is something that is moving as we speak.

Bryan Swash: What's in the room? Who is here? We need to get an inventory on what's in the room.

Person 2: Wilson Kadavil from Edmonton: I really like what we are hearing here but the thing I want to see is it in practice. Every year we come and I would like to see what is happening. I would love to have the Bible school come to our church. We talk lots but nothing is happening. Get this kind of thing moving so that we can feel like we have a connection together.

Glenn B: A lot of us have felt that, "enough talk, please– can we actually do something!" For that to go forward in a meaningful way, we need to bridge the gap of annual conventions where we come together in a corporate setting. We have to trust. Trust includes giving authority to act on our behalf. We need to be willing to trust others in a whole area of FCA without being in control of it. There are so many areas of the FCA. We are not specialists in every area. Our future lies in trusting others to help with building, equipping, and releasing leaders. His question for you today, where is your heart, where are you willing to invest extra time in?

Person 3: Robin Richardson from Cornerstone Christian Fellowship in Victoria: He believes in the power of personal testimony. He has put together an hour seminar on how

to give effective testimony. He feels that he is a personal testimony trainer. He would be willing to share with the FCA.

Trevor Hoskins: I hear these little pockets, the inspiration to this online forum. Yes, he would love to have it online. Trevor wanted to give Regional Coordinators honor. The work that they are beginning to do is showing fruit. We are becoming more and more intentional. The online forum gives more resources to regions. Church planting information can be shared within regions. It's amazing what can be done to help export things to other people.

Person 4: Dr. John W. Lucas: There was only 1 church that had vital funding to plant churches. They have done it for over 20 years. Dr. Paul Vallee has done it. Let's hear from him.

Person 5: Dr. Paul Vallee: All we are trying to do as a church family is looking for primary leaders to send them out. We may have found some that we are going to help.

Person 6: Peter from Face to Face in Abbotsford: He loves this because it reminds him of the church in Antioch. Picture these people in a city with many nationalities coming in and out, but this church from Antioch thrived, because of community. They put all their resources together. There was no need. No unemployment. No one went hungry. It was like it was self-sufficient but they depended on God for everything. They were a community. We need to look at this as a community. It's not just putting a tool and telling them to go build. There was a process. Giving them a tool and teaching them what to do. It's like someone says, "You never call me." The relationship and community works both ways. If you want to see the rubber hit the road - you must do it. Whatever resources you have, use it. Reach out to one another. That's the community. It's not about someone living beside you. In Antioch, they divided up their resources. If we don't have community with God, we can't have community with others. This empowers us to go to the next step and go where no man has gone before.

Person 7: Sedrick Brown: In regard to what Glenn says: We can sit here and talk about issues, but we need people to put their money where their mouth is. Sedrick was encouraged by Sister Bev. He was so encouraged because of where her heart is. When he connects with regional coordinators, he is seeing a change. What we need is to find ways to connect with each other. Networking is so important. He came to Canada in 2008. He started a business and knew no one. He got hooked up with a group that helped him. There are different trades in the group. Why can't the church help identify who specializes in an area and use them. Sedrick is willing to go to other churches and teach networking. Who else has a trade they want to offer?

Beverly Fawcett: When we come here, we can come up and say we are going to do all the work. But what makes a team is that we do it together. We are all on our own journey. You yourself can bring the ideas of what you can do and we can put you to work. But also, when we had a fire, she asked the city, "What can we do for you?" They said they have never been asked before. A team comes and meets with their church. They said what will you do? The girl in the office felt the presence of God. She told their church, you can do whatever you want. We have to move. God told Moses, move forward. Don't stay

here. Stop crying out, move forward. Let us know what you have available to give to the FCA. When you are willing to help in whatever way, God can open the door for you to do so much more.

Glen Forsberg: What we are talking about is networking spiritual resources between one another. He wonders how many coordinators have experienced the blessing of connecting one person that had a need and another person that had the answer. You come to convention soul hunting. You have a need and you come and find someone to help fill the need. We can all do that together. The regional gatherings are kind of like mini conventions where networking can happen for those that cannot make convention.

Person 8: Matt Sampson from Father's House: He just wanted to encourage the board. The encouragement of the action items that you have. In Alberta, Pastor Glen and others, put together a conference for youth and young adult leaders to get together. From that, him and Eric have connected. There is a connection being built because of this. The board is doing it. He wanted to encourage that there is fruit and it's happening.

Bryan Swash: Time to transition away from this. This has been very positive. We want to build a culture that has trust. This is a really good environment. This sense of collaboration is because the Spirit is with us. Bryan shared that Ontario has two churches that each have over 40 ministers each. One pastor has over 40 ministers that they are responsible for. What we are saying is we recognize a unique problem in a region (there could be other unique problems in other regions) and are trying to address them. In order to address them, it's going to require a stretch factor. What is the stretch factor? Trust. New forms. Revisiting structure. Looking at the handbook and say, "it's great on paper - but is it being carried out?" It's interesting. Wherever you met Jesus, that is where it is for you. If you met Jesus at camp, you are all about camp. That is all great for your experience but there might be another approach. Have you ever considered that your perspective might not be the only one possible? So the man that sits in front of Jesus, cannot get in the water, but he only sees one way to get healed. Have we ever considered our perspective might not be the only one possible? Gene and Glenn are going to walk us into some of these.

ENV 19-11 **Recognition of Elder Emeritus:**

Glenn B.: Before we launch into the administrative part, we have some elder emeritus in the group and please stand – Paul Vallee, John Lucas, Roger Armbruster, Jim Reimer.

ENV 19-12 **Business Items outlined in Delegate Packages:** We will refer to the delegate packages. How many read the 40 pages of considerations? One of the elements we need to go through. As a group we need to consider the funding issues. One of things we can do is have charitable status in Canada so that we can receive gifts and tax receipt for those things. This took us down a road to look at some structure things and some of the inconsistencies that we have inherited to this day. Over the years the handbook has been edited from new leadership, different ideas and leadership structures. What has evolved and the handbook has been the catch all from all those styles. There is confusion, overlap, and inconsistency in the current handbook. We want to embark on clarifying and simplifying who we are in the FCA. One of those things is separate the bylaws and constitution of the FCA from the handbook. The bylaws and constitution are the

government side. The handbook to be a help and a resource to the FCA. We have a lot of them to present. One of the things that will happen at the Business meeting tomorrow is that we will vote on Gene Enns as an Elder.

Gene Enns: A quick note of inspiration, in Acts it says in several places that many people had joined the church. Acts chapter 6 there is a situation of food distribution with Greek and Jewish widows. The people come to the Apostles to resolve the issue. The Apostles said to find some spirit filled men to look after it, as they should not be looking after it. They found some men and the Apostles commissioned them. If you keep reading, it says the word spread and many came to the Lord. When things are administered well that's meant to facilitate the expansion of God's Kingdom. That is what we are doing today. Some things are meant to streamline and make things easier.

(for the following Business items, please refer to the "Special Business 2019" Document)

ENV 19-13 **Business Item a. Statement of Common Beliefs Alignment:** Gene read over Business Item a from the delegate's package. These changes are to align with the FCA USA. They are not major changes.

There was a consensus, by a show of hands, that the members had read over and are good with what is proposed on Business item a. A majority of hands were raised.

ENV 19-14 **Welcome FCA USA present:** Glenn Breitreuz welcomed John Sprecher from the FCA USA for joining us.

ENV 19-15 **Business Item b. Parachurches Permitted to Endorse** This business item was left for later.

ENV 19-16 **Business Item c. Amendments to the Articles of the Corporation:** When you register as a corporation you fill out Articles of Corporations. The FCA is under the Not for Profit Act. Several years ago the Act changed and we had to refile. This is what establishes us a legal entity. We just need to update this. The primary purpose is to obtain charitable status.

1. Proposed Amendment #1: Minimum and maximum number of directors (Article 5, Bylaw Part II. C. 1., Bylaw Part II. A.) Gene highlighted that the minimum of directors is 3 and max 8.. As a registered charity you need a minimum of 3. To align our article with what we have been doing we need to change the by-laws to match our articles. "Recording secretary": This person is present to take the minutes of a meeting. There is no authority to this role. We are looking to remove that position as a member of the board.

General consensus: We will take the recommendation and move this forward to the business meeting

2. Proposed Amendment #2: Statement of the purpose of the corporation (Article 6) Our current purpose does not set us up well for charitable status. The proposed resolution. Gene read over the Proposed Amendment #2. This encapsulates everything we are about. He noted that this does not mean the FCA corporation will be doing all these things listed. But if we want to partner with someone, to give money to someone like missions,

this has to be in our articles. All the money used by FCA has to be used for the purposes that are listed.

The majority approved to bring forward to the Proposed Amendment #2 to the Annual Business Meeting.

3. Proposed Amendment #3: The classes, or regional or other groups, of members that the corporation is authorized to establish (Article 8) The purpose of this amendment is to align with what we are already doing.

Proposed Resolution Option A (If parachurch organizations are granted two votes):

The corporation is authorized to establish the following classes of members:

1. Class A: Ministers. Class A members shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend all meetings of the members of the Corporation and each Class A member shall have one (1) vote at each such meeting, except for meetings at which only members of another class are entitled to vote separately as a class.

2. Class B: Churches. Class B members shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend all meetings of the members of the Corporation and each Class B member shall have two (2) votes at each such meeting, except for meetings at which only members of another class are entitled to vote separately as a class.

3. Class C: Parachurch Organizations. Class C members shall be entitled to receive notice of and to attend all meetings of the members of the Corporation and each Class C member shall have two (2) votes at each such meeting, except for meetings at which only members of another class are entitled to vote separately as a class.

It was established that members agree to the need for three member classes.

The consensus by members is to bring Option A of the Proposed Amendment #3 to the ABM..

4. Proposed Amendment #4: Statement regarding the distribution of property remaining on liquidation (Article 9) Gene went over #4. This addresses if the FCA ceased to operate, where the assets would go.

The consensus by majority was to move this to the ABM.

5. Proposed Amendment #5: Six Additional Provisions (Article 10, Bylaw Part VII) Gene went over the six additional provisions. The FCA wants to add these additional six provisions and the motivation is to align our articles with what we already do and set us up for charitable status.

Proposed Provisions 1 and 2 are recommended by CRA for organizations seeking registered charity status. Basically it says #1. Individuals are not making money from FCA; and #2 Directors do not get paid for being on the board and doing director duties.

Majority of members, by a show of hands, were in favour to bring #1 & #2 forward.

Proposed Provision 3 aligns our articles with what we already do. Where more than a simple majority is required for bylaw changes, a provision for this needs to be in the articles. Related to Provision 3 is a slight adjustment to what number is used to determine whether a motion passes (e.g. two-thirds). Our bylaw amending process currently refers to "...an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the members at a meeting duly called..." This means abstentions (including blank ballots) hold the same power as a negative vote. Both the Act and Robert's Rules of Order by default use the number of votes cast as the point of reference, not the number of members present. In order to align ourselves with this, an amendment is required.

Majority of members, by a show of hands, were in favour to bring #3 forward.

Proposed Provision 4 allows the Board to *temporarily* appoint an additional director (not an Elder, and not a vacancy) between annual meetings. That is what happened in 2017 (due to health issues of Brad Montsion) with the appointment of a new Treasurer (Gene Enns). The wording is taken directly from the Act. It means that, using the 2017 example, since there were four directors voted in at that year's meeting, between that annual meeting and the 2018 annual meeting, the board could appoint one more director (no more than 1/3 of 4), which was the Treasurer, who then was to be affirmed by the membership at the 2018 annual meeting.

Majority of members, by a show of hands, were in favour to bring #4 forward.

Proposed Provision 5 also seeks to align our articles with what we already do. Up to now, all decisions at business meetings have been voted on by all members present in one vote. However, with the clarification of voting classes, with the recognition that the Act provides for separate votes for different classes in a few cases, and in order to maintain a spirit of unity, this provision removes some of those separate votes and allows the FCA membership as a whole to add, remove, or reclassify classes of members rather than requiring separate class votes on such proposals. There are other votes allowed to separate member classes that can't be removed, but this at least helps maintain the group nature of the Fellowship in most votes.

Majority of members, by a show of hands, were in favour to bring #5 forward.

Proposed Provision 6 allows us to have our annual business meeting at the International Conventions in the United States. The Act requires these meetings to be in Canada unless otherwise specified in the articles (section 159). Since we will be joining the FCA US brethren for international conventions every few years, our annual meetings will be held in the US. The Americans must do the same thing when we share the international conference in Canada. Therefore, to align ourselves with the Act and to enable us to legally continue to carry on our business meetings, we need to include this provision in our articles.

The question came up about including it so that meetings could be held in other places/countries outside of the USA. Gene said he will look into this. This is needed now

since we plan to hold the 2020 Annual Business Meeting at the FCA International Convention in San Diego.

Majority of members, by a show of hands, were in favour to bring #6 forward.

ENV 19-17 **Business Item d. Updating the Handbook (to separate Constitution & Bylaws from Policies & Procedures)** The Board has been looking at our present Handbook and bylaws and is proposing that we make some adjustments that would help to set us up for moving forward. The Handbook, although legally not our bylaws (except for the bylaw section at the end), has in some ways come to function much like bylaws do rather than as a procedural guide. In this process, the bylaws themselves have not been updated to stay current in terms of legislation and the needs of the Fellowship.

This would entrust the Elders to make changes and post online for approval by members.

Majority of members were in favour of bringing Business item d. forward to ABM.

ENV 19-18 **Business Item b. Para-Churches Permitted to Endorse:** One issue is the dwindling number of endorsing churches in the FCA. There are several churches that have 40+ endorsed ministers under them. The responsibility of an endorsing church is to be in a relationship and know how those they endorse are doing. The problem is how these churches can have a meaningful relationship with 40+ ministers. A lot of ministers are joining but not having their churches join. The churches are not engaged. Then they cannot endorse as well. This is a fundamental issue. Coming to the table is allowing para-churches to endorse. Some para-churches, like Project Lambs have ministers they are in a relationship with but they cannot endorse them so they have to find another FCA endorsing church. If these para-churches are functioning in most ways the same as churches, maybe we should look at allowing them to endorse.

Clarification: This is not endorsing churches/ministries in other countries. This is endorsing Ministers. A concern would that we have 500 ministers endorsed in Nigeria and how does this sway our votes?

Paul Vallee: He doesn't think he is prepared to vote on this tomorrow. I think we need to do more work on it. A lot of time we make discussions based on problems and try to fix them. But if we are not careful and think about the theology behind them. In the short term we fix it but create a bigger problem down the road. A big problem is the people that are committed to the FCA are coming to convention, but there are people that have not been to convention in 5, 12 years. They are still registered. We are lowering the standard to accommodate more ministers. We need to raise the standard and be involved in fellowship. We have a low fee structure and low accountability. He would like to step back and look at it more. This is far more significant than today. He is willing to sit down with people and look at the theological implications.

Rick Kirschner from MGA: Looking at the Equipping (mentoring) Spiritual Leaders. He agrees with Paul. What type of mentorship is happening when you have 40+ ministers under you? How do you mentor them?

Glenn B.: He just came from the USA convention. They have the option of an endorsing

church or allow 2 ministers that can endorse a minister. It's more of a mentor model. We could look at that model biblically. This idea of para-churches taking the pressure off - we can 1. vote it in; 2. table it and take time to study it; or, 3. vote it down. This is to get us on the same page with a recognition of what are some of the challenges organizational and structurally that we are facing today in the FCA and how do we solve it. We need to solve how we network together so that our connections are in the spirit of Christianity. True partnership and fellowship together. Everything about us is relational but we have a system that nurtures a lack of accountability.

Steve Paulson from Adult & Teen Challenge: He got licensed in 1995. He joined for the fellowship and spiritual covering .He sees and mentors young men and leaders all day. The standards of the FCA are loose and we could and should do better. With accountability comes credibility. He would like to see some accountability for some people that have come to the FCA and haven't seen them in years. We can do better and we should do better.

Glenn B.: You can feel where the motion comes from. The Elders don't recommend this motion go forward to the business meeting but wanted the members to join the conversation about it and help solve it in other ways

Majority of members were in favour of not proceeding with this motion and tabling *Business item b. Para-Churches Permitted to Endorse*, in order to study it and look at the options to solve the endorsing issue.

Glenn Breitzkreuz closed in prayer.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:43 pm.

Minutes submitted by Autumn Sellen, Recording Secretary.