

Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms (**CABF**)
Rushton Lecture Luncheon **Minutes – June 3, 2017**
(Location: Port Williams Church)

Council Members In attendance: John Tonks, John Churchill, Rick Manuel, David Allen, Roger Prentice, and Lee Nicholas-Pattillo plus numerous members of the Association

President John Tonks opened the meeting by thanking Bob Rushton for sharing his gift of music by playing the organ during the morning's devotional. John also thanked everyone for coming.

I - President John Tonks provided brief updates on CABF activity:

1. The **Credentials Committee** continues to work on preparing documentation for the Ordination Process.
2. There was a **joint meeting of CABF and The Gathering in Ottawa in April** of this year. The highlight of that meeting was the agreement to form a committee, made up of members from both CABF and The Gathering. That committee will focus on how we can work together, how we can share documentation and work with each other in the other's province to further the work of CABF. The committee plans to use multi-media to communicate during meetings.
3. John stated that he wanted to be sure that member churches of **CABF** are aware that if they chose to join CABF they can still **remain a member of their local convention**. (No action)
4. **Rev. Roger Prentice** informed the membership that **Rev. Marlene Knowles** has recently been accredited by CABF. . (No action)
5. (a) **Ed Colquhoun**, CABF's Representative to Canadian Council of Churches (CCC), informed the membership that new **President Alyson Barnett-Cowan** sent greetings from CCC.

Ed asked that on behalf of CCC, churches go to the CCC website and sign on to support the **famine in Africa**. Support can be financial assistance, prayers and/or both. (Action: Individuals and/or churches)

(b) Ed asked that anyone interested in **interfaith could join CCC**. (See Ed)
(Action: as individuals see fit)

(c) CCC has recently **won legal challenges about refugees** coming to Canada by crossing the borders by walking through farmlands in Canada. The issue was that refugees entering Canada this way should be returned to the US. CCC fought this issue indicating that Canada takes care of its own refugees. . (No action)

(d) There are **new members on the CCC Council**. (Please see the website - <https://www.councilofchurches.ca>). (No action)

(e) **Next year**, there will be a major CCC **conference organized by Rev. Dr. Scott Kindred-Barnes**. (No action)

II - Memorial Moment: President John Tonks read the names of deceased members and supporters from the pass two year(s). Those recognized were:

Martha Hudson	Fred Hall
Vicki Bargan	Hazel Zwicker
Roland McCormick	Marjorie Fountain
Emerson Thorpe	Evelyn Denton
Robert Corey	William Carey Harvey
Don Meyers	

A minute of silence followed.

III - Lifetime membership award: President John Tonks recognized the great service of **Rev. Dr. Dan Gibson** by **presenting Dan with a certificate** and a letter giving Dan **a lifetime membership** in CABF. Congratulations Dan!

IV – Jeff Hoscik informed the membership of a gathering taking place on Canada Day week-end, in Mahone Bay, supported by the **Lutheran church** (at the second church), recognizing indigenous people. Lutherans from across Atlantic Canada will attend. **Everyone is welcome**. (No action)

V – Rick Manuel outlined the **Strategic Planning Session CABF** plans to participate in, in the fall. Realizing that CABF is 46 years old, we plan to document our vision, mission and other plans for CABF. (Action: Rick will provide the outline he used so we can share it with Burlington Baptist.)

VI - John Churchill worked diligently throughout the discussions attempting to Skype in the team from **Burlington Baptist**, in Ottawa. We were able to use an iPhone connection to hear their presentation on the history of Burlington Baptist. CABF understands and is accepting that Burlington Baptist Church plans on retaining its membership with CBOQ while becoming a member of CABF.

David Allen read the **May 25, 2017**, letter from Burlington Baptist announcing that at the **April 23, 2017 Annual meeting**, Burlington Baptist voted on motions:

- 1. To amend the constitution of Burling Baptist Church, Article 1.3 (By-law No. 1 Burlington Baptist Church Corporation) by adding 'Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms' to the list of organizations with which the church is affiliated.*
- 2. That the Church Board be authorized to sign and submit an application for membership on behalf of Burlington Baptist church to the Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms.'*

Both motions passed unanimously by Burlington Baptist church.

David (Allen) stated that accompanying the letter of May 25, 2017, was a completed '**Application for Church Membership in the Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms'**.

It was **moved by Dave Gibson** that the **Burlington Baptist Church** be accepted as a member of CABF. **Second by Ed Colquhoun**. **Carried** unanimously.

There be no further business, the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted

Lee Nicholas-Pattillo
CABF Secretary