

Canadian Catalytic Conversation #2
Saturday, January 29, 2022 - via Zoom
Agenda

1:00 – 4:00 pm – Atlantic ST
12 noon – 3:00 pm – Eastern ST
11:00 am – 2:00 pm – Central ST
10:00 am – 1:00 pm – Mountain ST
9:00 am – 12 noon – Pacific ST

Chair: Richard Bodini
Vice-Chair: Erick Schuringa
Clerks: Paul Verhoef and Wendy de Jong

PURPOSE:

- to hear the concerns around binationality/SALT Report/structure
- to seek understanding about SALT and how it's implementation may affect Canadian Contextual ministry,
- to discern together around this issue of mutual concern what pathways forward may be best for Canadian Contextual ministry

OPENING (15 minutes)

Overview of the purpose of this gathering and clarification of roles
Roll Call and introduction to non-delegate speaking guests
Prayer for guidance

CELEBRATION (15 minutes)

Expression of Gratitude for Canadian Ministries Director Darren Roorda's leadership from 2014 - 2021

SALT Discussion – PART 1 (1 hour)
Evaluating SALT – hearing concerns and responses

1. Hearing the concerns from stakeholders
 - a) Canada Corps Concerns
 - b) CRCNA Canadian Staff Concerns
 - c) Concerns already expressed by CRCNA members in Canada
 - d) Concerns from the Floor
2. Hearing some responses to those concerns

BREAK (15 minutes)

SALT Discussion – Part 2 (1 1/4 hour)
Exploring alternative pathways

Discerning pathways forward for Canadian contextualized ministry:

- a) Making SALT work for Canadian Ministries using JMAs
- b) Ask for General Secretary and Chief Administrative Officer positions to be Interim positions (like Executive Director-Canada); use 2 years to reimagine structure with more stakeholder input
- c) Revert to Original Plan of COD with an ED-USA and an ED-Canada and an Ecclesiastical Officer
- d) Have CRC-USA and CRC-Canada shift to a strong Ecclesiastical Fellowship model

- e) Alternative partnership models such as those within the RCA
- f) Others that arise spontaneously from the discussions in Part 1

Format:

1. *The basis of each option is presented in 2-3 minutes*
2. *Delegates go into breakout rooms of 6-8 persons. Each breakout group is asked to discuss one of the above proposals for 10 minutes.*
3. *After regrouping a reporter from each group shares pros and cons of the option they discussed.*
4. *A show of hands or vote is taken to determine which 1 or 2 of these rises to the top*
5. *A full group discussion follows of those one or two options*

Next Steps (20 minutes)

- 1) Any suggested communication from this gathering?
- 2) Invitation for collaboration around Classical Communications and Overtures

Closing Prayer (10 minutes)

Definitions:

SALT – Structure and Leadership Taskforce (plan for bi-national ministry, leadership and structure adopted by the COD in May 2021, awaiting full Synodical endorsement in June 2022)

JMA's – Joint Ministry Agreements (legal documents approved by Canadian and US staff for each CRCNA ministry area that set out the purposes, goals, activities and outcomes, and provide details of the budget, staffing and the contributions of each party to the joint ministry. JMAs are prescribed by the Canada Revenue Agency for all registered charities working through an intermediary (partner).

COD – Council of Delegates (of which Canada Corp forms the Canadian part. The delegates of the US churches are referred to as Michigan Corp)

ED-USA & ED-Canada – Executive Director USA and Executive Director Canada

RCA – Reformed Church of America