



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 4, 2009

A NEW NAME!
Introducing **PATH** Ministry Training

*After nearly four decades of equipping over 1,100 missionaries serving from Alaska to Mexico, the Ministry Development Program (MDP) has changed it's name to **PATH** Ministry Training.*

Carstairs, AB, (**PATH** Ministry Training) -- In a recent meeting of the MDP Governance Council, the consensus decision was made to embrace "**PATH** Ministry Training" as the new identity of a cross-cultural ministry training program first launched in 1971.

PATH is an acronym for **P**reparing **A**ll-Nations for **T**ranscultural **H**orizons. The term *transcultural* represents an expansion of focus from the traditional cross-cultural grid to offering training on any side of cultural boundaries. **PATH** Council member Bob Iron comments, "We have strong reason to believe the future of this training program is like a shining horizon. This is reflected in our new logo."

PATH Ministry Training, which will likely become known by it's first name, has three distinctives; teaming, leadership, and intercultural skills. When these three dimensions are fully present in a ministry, says **PATH** Director John Cosby, we have true incarnational ministry. The **PATH** leadership has adopted the motto "equipping for effective incarnational ministry."

In addition to the name change, **PATH** leadership has vision to design ministry training beyond the eight-week program historically held each spring. **PATH** training is mobile and has the capacity to tailor-design training programs for churches, denominations, para-church agencies, colleges, as well as mission agencies.

The **PATH** Governance Council is distinctive in that it is multi-gender, multi-cultural, multi-generational, and has a combined total of two hundred sixty-five years of ministry experience. The Council, which meets online nearly weekly, is comprised of the following eleven members (all are MDP alumni):

- Bill Farmer in Waxhaw, North Carolina, serving with Serving In Mission (SIM).
- Bob Iron in Cole Bay, Saskatchewan, serving with Northern Canada Evangelical Mission (NCEM).
- Clyde Cowan in Abbotsford, British Columbia, serving with North America Indigenous Ministries (NAIM).
- Dan Woodard in Carstairs, Alberta, serving with InterAct Ministries and as **PATH** Administrator.
- Dave Sonifrank in Red Lake, Ontario, serving with Living Hope Native Ministries.
- Doug Nelson in Crestline, California, serving with United Indian Mission International (UIM).
- John Cosby in Greeley, Colorado, serving with Worldview Resource Group (WRG) and as **PATH** Director.
- Mandy Giesbrecht in Kinistin, Saskatchewan, serving with NCEM.
- Mike Matthews in Spokane, Washington, serving with WRG.
- Sandy Langendoen in Weldon, Saskatchewan, serving with NCEM.
- Warren Cheek in Greeley, Colorado, serving with UIM International.

PATH's 2010 eight-week program will be held April 24 through June 19 at the Minahik Wasau Center in Timber Bay, Saskatchewan. A total of 57 three-hour workshops will be offered at an average cost of \$45 per workshop. Several of these workshops such as *Poverty Worldview* and *De-Institutionalizing Your Ministry*, will be offered for the first time. Anyone wishing more information may contact either the US office or Canadian office.

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For more information about this topic or to schedule an interview with John Cosby or Dan Woodard, their contact information is listed here.

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