

Aotearoa NZ 1994

From February 28 through March 6, 1994 AIN met at St. John's Theological College , Auckland , the home of Te Pihopatanga's Te Rau Kahikatea and at St. Faith Parish in Rotorua. At this gathering an indigenous delegation of Aboriginal Anglicans from Australia was added to the Network which helped to make it the largest gathering (43) of delegates and observers: Aotearoa 19, Australia 5, Canada 5, Hawai'i 8, Continental US 6.

After hearing comprehensive reports on the plight of Maori in their home land and in the Anglican Province of New Zealand, and in response to hearing of the same plight by other delegations, and after hearing reports on the development of indigenous training programs developed by the Commission On Native Hawaiian Ministry (CONHM) and by the Episcopal Council On Indian Ministry (ECIM), there was a shift in the AIN's goals from formulating a sense of identity to building a viable interacting network. This was evident in the ideas from participants which were readily adopted: a proposal to increase membership in AIN by considering the inclusion of Latin Americans; the offer of scholarships and lectureships for other AIN constituencies at Te Rau Kahikatea; the production of a directory of human resources for their exchange within AIN; the production of a newsletter and video to interpret and promote AIN; the coordination of internal communications to keep constituencies linked; and a proposal to place women's concerns on the agenda of each meeting.

Following an agreement on these steps toward a solid network, there was a discussion on the effect of rotating delegates on preserving continuity from one meeting to the next. As a result it was agreed that it is the responsibility of each constituency to update new delegates on the current status of AIN so that unnecessary backtracking can be avoided. Because of the loss of Bishop Reeves as convener, it was decided that the constituency responsible for the next meeting would act as coordinator for AIN until that meeting is held. The American Indian delegation offered to host the next meeting of AIN in September 1995 somewhere in the continental US.