

FILL's Theology and Research Working Group has adopted the following as its mandate and purpose:

- 1) The celebration of the diverse voices of the church as communities willing and able to be part of the conversation, with the recognition that each of us speak from different ethnocultural vantage points.
- 2) To acknowledge that each of us comes to the table with our own unique experiences and diverse theological traditions. To that end, our purpose is to wrestle with and interrogate the available language and to develop/create new language to speak about intercultural exchanges.
- 3) Of particular importance is the need to reflect on what we mean by the notion of interculturality.
- 4) As part of our objective, we are committed to challenging the separation between theory and practice as a false dualism, and to reclaim the lived-experiences of people on the ground as sources of theological material.
- 5) The challenging of this false dualism, which is expressed in many other ways, will mean to also challenge Western Eurocentric and Euro-Canadian-centred forms of knowledge and doing church which discount other forms of learning, along with other forms of knowledge, of doing theology, and other forms living life.
- 6) Conversely, this interrogation will hopefully lead us to the celebration and valuing of Indigenous cultural traditions and knowledges, as well as the celebration and valuing of the many other ethnocultural and epistemological traditions that call Canada home.