

## **Next Steps in the Strategic Planning Process**

### **Virginia Mennonite Conference**

### **July 2020 through June 2025**

#### **Background:**

Conference Council authorized the formation of a “Strategic Planning Task Force” at its March 15-16, 2019 meeting. The mandate of the task force was as follows:

*The Strategic Planning Task Force’s mandate is to design and implement a strategic planning process with input from all key stakeholders. The strategic planning process will build on VMC’s mission and vision, and develop strategic initiatives for the next three to five years.*

Task force members were James Akerson, Deb Horst, Moriah Hurst, Armando Sanchez, and Clyde Kratz, with David Brubaker serving as consultant to the process. (Pearl Hartman and Aldine Musser served on the task force during the spring sabbaticals of both Deb and Moriah.) Members of the task force met with all eight districts in the conference, as well with partner agency heads and business leaders. After coding the input from the listening sessions, the task force presented five themes to delegates at the Winter Delegate Session on February 1, 2020.

Based on additional feedback from delegates and further discernment, the task force drafted a strategic plan and presented it to Conference Council on May 16. With additional comments from Conference Council, members of the task force revised the document and presented a final draft to Conference Council on June 30, 2020. This is the proposed plan now submitted to participants in the Conference Assembly on July 18.

#### **Future Timeline:**

The proposed strategic plan for the next five years is coming to the delegates on July 18 for your review, with adoption proposed for the Winter Delegate Session in 2021 and implementation to follow. Here is the proposed timeline:

*July 18, 2020:* Delegates asked to “receive” the document and invited to pose questions.

*July 19 to October 31, 2020:* Delegates invited to submit comments and proposed revisions to Conference Council.

*November 1, 2020 to January 31, 2021:* Conference Council reviews comments and makes appropriate revisions.

*February 2021:* Delegates to the Winter Delegate Session asked to adopt the strategic plan.

*March to May 2021:* VMC Staff and District Ministers develop an Action Plan to implement the goals and objectives of the Strategic Plan.

*July 2021 to June 2025:* Strategic Plan implemented according to the timeline in the Action Plan, with annual monitoring and an evaluation at the end of the implementation period.