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To: Those who received a mission support grant in 2009
Those who have requested an application for 2010

Application forms for Mission Support Grants (MSG) are now available and included in this mailing for you. Note that the **deadline date** for applications is **Friday, September 4, 2009**. Details for submission of that application are on page one of the application form. **We encourage the use of e-mail to speed up the process. Download the appropriate form from the Hamilton Conference website.** (see details below)

For any applicants who received funding in 2009 and are applying in 2010, it is important that you include information identifying how you have addressed the specific requests that were identified in the letter you received last December.

Hamilton Conference has been allocated \$378,000 for 2010. Salaries for Ministry Personnel will increase by 2.3% over 2009, and travel allowance will be 41 cents per kilometer, pending General Council sub-executive approval June 22, 2009. If necessary, any changes will be forwarded to you.

Please read carefully the enclosed material. MSG3 outlines the Policies and Procedures for 2010. Application form MSG5 (for pastoral charges) or MSG7 (for outreach ministries) has been enclosed. Be sure to include all the information requested.

The Hamilton Conference funding process is guided by the four priorities of Hamilton Conference:

1. Healthy Congregations and Presbyteries;
2. Effective Leadership;
3. Faithful Public Witness;
4. Strengthening Partnerships.

Hamilton Conference Mission Support Grants offer funding for both existing mission and ministry and new initiatives and new directions in ministry, within the categories outlined in the Policies and Procedures document, MSG3.

Although we have sent you a package, we are encouraging the use of e-mail applications. Please go to our website (www.hamconf.org) to download the appropriate form (MSG5 or MSG7) and submit the form and all necessary documentation to elegrand@hamconf.org. DO NOT DOWNLOAD THE FORMS FROM THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA WEBSITE – WE WILL ONLY ACCEPT THOSE APPLICATIONS ON OUR HAMILTON CONFERENCE FORM.

Each applicant is required to meet with their Presbytery Mission Strategy and Support representatives. You will be contacted by that Presbytery Mission Strategy and Support committee representative, informing you of the date and place of the meeting and the expectations of the meeting.

The Hamilton Conference Mission Strategy and Support Committee meets in November to allocate the funds. You will be notified of the results of these decisions no later than December 1, 2009.

Your particular mission and ministry is so much more than can be described and we recognize the need for funding is always greater than we can sometimes offer. Thank you for the variety of ways each of you enrich the communities in which you serve.