

ing. The ministers and the leading elders and the chiefs and the counselors and the people are beginning to see eye-to-eye with each other, not like it was 50 years ago. Everybody has the knowledge of how it's written in Scripture."

MacDougall and Edith Memnook of Goodfish Lake, Alta., were installed as leading elders for a two-year term. Rev. Johnston Garrioch and Lorna McNaughton were honored as retiring elders.

Under a large canopy across the field from the school, about 25 youth elders learned about Native issues from tradition and spirituality to land claims and human rights. They talked about their dreams and their potential as human beings. They shared stories of their families and their culture, and embraced their unique gifts as children of God.

The youth elders listened to North American Indian music and discussed striking a balance in physical, emotional, spiritual and mental health. They toured some local sites, including a residential school, the Prairie Christian Training Centre, a sweat-lodge and an alcohol and drug reha-

bilitation centre.

Last summer's events at Kanesatake and Kahnawake, Que., were on the minds of many of the delegates, said Fred Deer of Kahnawake. "Everybody has come up and talked to me about it, and I feel very good about how they feel about it," he said.

Deer felt strong support from the grand council meeting which he could take home to the people on his reserve. "A sense of community and a sense of unity among Native peoples in a spiritual manner goes a long, long way in a healing process."

Peace and a vision for the future were mentioned repeatedly in worship, song and dialogue. The grand council approved a request from a Morley, Alta., group to ask The United Church of Canada to return the local church property to the Stoney Indian Band.

History was made as the ANCC approved its first ordination. Evelyne Broadfoot will be ordained Aug. 4 at her home community of Norway House, Man. She will be settled in Saskatchewan; Grafton Antone, ordained in London Conference, will be settled in Ontario. The council

honored Rev. Angus Harper of Red Sucker Lake, Man., and Rev. Vernon Grieves of Oxford House, Man., for their work with the ANCC. Rev. David Petrie of Regina was honored for his work in helping develop Plains Presbytery and the Dr. Jessie Saulteaux Centre.

The councils on healing and sharing (equivalent to other Conferences' Divisions of World Outreach, Finance and Mission) asked the grand council to call on the government to hold a public inquiry into abuses in residential schools and provide funding for the healing process "which includes counselling and therapy in Indian communities." The councils want mainline churches to take a leadership role, to document stories and provide financial or human resources for communities or hurting victims.

The two councils want ANCC to declare 1992 as the year for indigenous people and reflect on what happened when Columbus discovered America. They also hope to encourage the 1992 General Council to focus on this issue.

Deana Driver