

Одбор за Очување
Слободних Српских Цркава



Committee for Safeguarding
the Free Serbian Churches

June 7, 2010

New letter

Dear Brothers & Sisters

At our last meeting in April 10 2010, the committee was asked to send out monthly new letter advising of development to date.

Attached to this letter you will find the resolution from our April 10, 2010 assembly.

As has been shared at the meeting, the Bishops have decided not to engage in discussions to find a resolution of our concerns. They are trying to portray that this is a concern that Cleveland has. They are doing this to say that it is only one Church that is raising the concern. The facts however speak for themselves and clearly the concern is wider spread than publicly acknowledged by the Bishops.

Assembly in Niagara Falls is clear proof that there are additional churches that have shared concerns.

The committee was given the clear mandate to seek a resolution to the constitution, and was provided the authority to take legal action to that effect. As was discussed in Niagara Falls, the committee has sought out a legal firm and has met with them. Unfortunately, the specific detail of that meeting must remain "Attorney Client Privileged". The committee specifically has a committee member who is a lawyer and also another one as solicitor to the committee. They in cooperation with the committee chair are having the critical discussion on the strategy to be utilized with the law firm consulted. Keeping the details confidential is critical to our success in a legal action to secure the necessary changes to the constitution. Once an action has been taken, then we can share it with you, but not before.

The committee was asked to secure the breakdown of legal cost for proceeding. We have discussed this with the law firm; however, the law firm was not able to provide us with this type of a breakdown, as there are too many unknowns. Foremost, it is not known how the Bishop(s) might react to any legal action. For example, in Canada, a lawsuit launched against the one of the Churches that had the support of two Bishops (Bishop Longin & Bishop Giorgije), has not been successful.

The lawyers however are confident and we have concluded that we need to proceed in accordance with their advice. The law firm has been instructed that we will proceed in accordance with the agreement we reached with them.

The clear message is that we are seeking resolution to the constitution; we are not seeking another "Separation".

As well at the last meeting, all churches were requested to commit funds to the committee for legal expenses. For those churches that have not confirmed their commitment, they are **urged to do so as quickly as possible** by communicating with the Chairperson of the Committee, Petar Svilar either by

phone 440-376-1094, or by e-mail at petarsvilar@yahoo.com. Your Church's support will be critical to the success of our efforts.

Preparation for our September meeting in Chicago needs to be commenced in the next few months. To that end, we need to determine the size of the meeting room that needs to be secured for that meeting. As well, due to the Passport requirements for entry in to the United States, our non-US delegates and observers need to secure passports (if they do not already have one).

Churches are asked to supply the following information by JULY 15, 2010 to the committee. A simple e-mail to committee@oossc.com will do. Please provide responses to the following:

- Church name & City
- Will your church be attending? – yes or no
If no – please provide reason, and letter that provides clear indication of your support and concerns that your church has.
- How many delegates will be coming? *(Max 3, which should include President if possible)*
- How many observers plan to attend?
- Will your delegates and observers be attending Devine Liturgy on Sunday in Gracanica?
- Contact information of the Church president: Name, Address (home), e-mail address and phone number.
- An option for Saturday night is to organize a joint dinner for all *(music is an option)*.
Are you in agreement?
If yes how many would be attending dinner?
(All proceeds from the event would go to the legal fund.)
- How many hotel rooms will be needed?
Friday night
Saturday Night

As has been discussed, for the Devine Liturgy, delegates and guests are reminded that this is a holy service. The utmost respect needs to be provided. The committee does not want, nor is supporting any actions other than the attendance of Devine Liturgy. If anyone in attendance has problems with this request, they are urged not to attend Devine Liturgy.

Please sign up and continue to follow the latest news and development on our website <http://oossc.com/>

We can also be reached by e-mail at committee@oossc.com

Yours truly

Petar Svilar
Chair of the Committee