Barry & Jennifer Pendergast submit these accounts, statements & records in the belief they are accurate. They are open to an independent investigation of whether their own actions may have contributed to the outcomes.

Witness statements are available from eight people including two doctors and two counsellors and more are expected. They confirm that Barry & Jennifer Pendergast were emotionally and psychologically traumatized by First Alliance Church Leadership by their forced expulsion from the Marriage Matters Ministry May 27th 2016 and earlier events. From May 27 to the current Melodie Bissell CEO of Plan to Protect and Pat Nixon as Barry & Jennifer's witness and spiritual advisor have witnessed the attempts by the leaders, some who are Grip Birkman certified to bury these witness statements, meeting & email records and the Pendergasts & Pat Nixon's repeated and respectful requests for an independent examination of the facts, Pastor Brent Trask in his email of 21 April 2017 also notes concedes there are many deficiencies in how First Alliance is run. Only now will they be reviewed. He also notes that his staff member Tim Beadle has been fully informed of the events during then past 11 months yet Pastor Beadle did not do anything too help a reasonable and God honouring solution. Equally the distress to the Pendergasts increased enormously because of delay after delay .

Serious allegations of this type must be investigate immediately and without any bias by Godly and experienced Christians.

We think the witness statements are critical to our complaint yet were dismissed and suppressed by church staff, the District Superintendent, Pastor Tim Beadle and more importantly Elder Arbitrator Dr Brent Kinnie and Chairman of the Elders Dave Orr

Witness statement from Melodie Bissell, CEO Plan to Protect
jspeer.com/barrypendergast/witness_plantoprotect.pdf

Witness Statement from Leo Dimnik, Foothill Alliance japer.com/barrypendergast/witness_Leo_Dimnik.pdf

Witness Statement from Tom Loszchuk jspeer.com/barrypendergast.
Witness_TOM_L_.pdf

Barry's doctor Dr Schoeman and Jennifer's Dr Mercer are willing to confirm they have been consulted since late May 2016 specifically on the impact of the expulsion May 27and the severe impact on their patients health and arranged counselling to help them overcome the emotional & psychological trauma experience at the hands of Alliance leadership

Barry & Jennifer Pendergast Testimony sent to the Chairman of the Elders Dave Orr
22 November 2016

On 22 November 2016 Barry & Jennifer Pendergast wrote to Dave Orr Chairman of the Elders seeking the wisdom and prayers from the Elder Board at First Alliance Church in how to proceed with a matter of deep concern. It concerns the creation of a safe atmosphere in which to talk about difficult issues of conflict and allegations of leadership abuse: how to develop a biblical process for investigating, applying necessary correction and resolution in a Christ like manner. How to have ongoing processes that ensures all leadership is properly monitored and carried out with the very highest standards of love, trust, honesty, transparency and above all God honouring.

Its appropriate to mention and commend the work that Plan To Protect started early in 2016 to focus on the difficult and challenging topic of spiritual abuse by authoritative and abusive church leaders. Of substantive importance is the spiritual, emotional and psychological harm that can be done to the victims. Barry & Jennifer Pendergast will say that the level of grief they have experienced is equivalent to losing a loved one. In this case also losing the ability to serve joyfully and in a ministry they are sure God gifted them for. Plan To Protect gave Barry and Jennifer a strong sense somebody of Christian faith and experience understood their plight.

Slides from Plan to Protect's Spiritual Abuse webinar presentation. See example #4
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/plan_to_protect.pdf

In bringing these matters out for honest and transparent discussion Barry & Jennifer Pendergast sincerely prayed they could collectively and sincerely work together with the FAC Leadership to resolve this particular issue to full restoration but more importantly develop healthy Christ centred leadership, team principles and procedures to avoid similar occurrences in the future. In that process Barry & Jennifer Pendergast are open to correction if they have erred in any way. However they believe they have a right to challenge the decision to expel them from the Marriage Matters ministry in 27 May 2016.

Its significant that on 9 September 2016 Barry & Jennifer Pendergast emailed Pastor Les Bon-Bernard with a message that included this passage:

"that would allow us to safely share our testimony alleging spiritual abuse, misuse of important scriptural principles and the bearing of false witness against us in the Marriage Matters Ministry at First Alliance Church in Calgary. These matters happened between the Fall of 2014 and May 27th 2016"

Full email
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/request_independant_arbitrator_sept9.pdf

Very serious allegations but ones Barry & Jennifer Pendergast and their independent advisors and councillors believe are valid and require early unbiased and independent investigation and intervention by unbiased and wise Christians. What happened from early June was a series of excuses to delay an investigation and allowing Barry &

Jennifer to share their testimony. Causing a great deal of increased emotional, psychological hurt and much anxiety.

It was one of many communications between Barry & Jennifer Pendergast, Pastor Les Bon-Bernard, Pastor James Paton, Pastor Tim Beadle and Barry & Jennifer's independent witness and advisor Pat Nixon. It followed instances where Barry & Jennifer were taken out of service in January 2015 based on unfounded suspicions, deliberately isolated from ministry activities during 2015/16 and eventually expelled from the Marriage Matters Ministry on May 26th 2016 without evidence being presented of any wrong doing. Although Pastor Bon-Bernard would later claim on 7 July 2016 he knew of no conflicts between the Pendergasts and Ron Buschman this is hard to believe that he was not consulted before such extreme action was taken knowing the physical, psychological and spiritual hurt and harm it would cause Barry & Jennifer within and outside the walls of FAC.

Barry & Jennifer continue to wait for a response that reflects their concerns are being heard and dealt with in an honest, transparent and timely manner with all bias removed. Despite promises made by Pastor Tim Beadle in early June 2016 Barry & Jennifer feel the grief they experienced has been unnecessarily prolonged by the lack of a well conceived approach for dealing with serious conflicts and abusive leadership in direct conflict with the stated core FAC leadership principles :

The foundation for effective ministry is given in I Peter 5:5-14. This text outlines four responsibilities
for ministry staff:
a. Ministry...Shepherd those under your care. Your relationship and commitment to people is your primary responsibility
b. Management...Serve as an overseer. Your strategy for leading in your key result areas should reflect you having the oversight and management of your ministry areas.
c. Modelling...Be an example to those under your care and your credibility. Model a commitment to the vision, values and mission of FAC. Support the church as a participating member.
d. Motive...Not greedy or from compulsion, eager to serve with the right attitudes and the right reasons.

See full job description
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/Family_Life_Pastor.pdf
At no material time between November 2013 to the current day did the Pendergasts believe or experience that Pastor Bon-Bernard fulfilled any of the requirements.

In the emails exchanged Pastor Les Bon-Bernar suggested to Barry & Jennifer:

"My understanding is that your desire to have Pat Nixon involved in the process was to provide you with support and also to help ensure that an honest and transparent process takes place. This

you with support and also to help ensure that an honest and transparent process takes place. This was confirmed when we discussed Pat's role at our last meeting. With this in mind we do not feel it is necessary to involve a third party/mediator."

An immediate response from Pat Nixon noted "I was asked by Barry and Jennifer to support them as they address the issues they have raised with you and Ron. Not a surprise to me as it is common for laypeople to feel intimidated by church leadership in the process of dealing with a serious conflict such as this .
In your email you suggested it was my responsibility to ensure an honest and transparent process takes place. Surely the conflict resolution process at First Alliance must have that inherently built into every stage of the methods used. Not everyone facing a conflict will have the opportunity for a witness to be present to assist them yet they should still be treated fairly and with respect in a fully transparent and Godly manner. "

See full exchange :
http://jspeer.com/barrypendergast/Pat_Nixon_Les_Bon-Bernard_emailsOct30.pdf

Why would an investigation of this seriousness be prolonged for more than eleven months unless the hope was it would eventually be forgotten or could be swept under the carpet? Why did the Pastor in charge, Pastor Bon-Bernard not take immediate action to fully investigate after the issues raised at the meeting held at the Area District office July 7th 2016?

Clearly Barry & Jennifer shared how they had been traumatized by the experience yet Pastor Bon-Bernard was dismissive. Much later in November 2016 he would claim he had no access to the emails and notes because of confidentiality insisted by Barry & Jennifer - a completely unfounded claim.

How did this go so badly wrong when initially in November 2013 Barry & Jennifer Pendergast felt there was a huge opportunity to change the way FAC impacted families within and outside the walls in the community? To bring the love of Christ to all in a strong team environment. Be part of a disciple process in concert with other FAC ministries. Hold intergenerational events that would raise the profile of healthy families within and outside the church walls. Work cooperatively with all churches - act as a beacon of hope in very difficult economic times. Why would Barry & Jennifer be excluded from this ministry when they have shown a willing and cooperative spirit and capable skills in other parts of FAC and had over eighteen years in marital ministry experience?

BACKGROUND

For a number of years Barry & Jennifer Pendergast have been Calgary Regional Coaches with Relationship Central Canada, part of the world wide Alpha Ministry. They have demonstrated a deep passion for the ministry and worked cooperatively with many others over the 18 years. Running Marriage, Marriage Preparation, Parenting Courses, provided training and facilitated FOCCUS (Facilitating Open Couple Communication Study) inventories. Also have taken part in many Alberta & Canada wide initiatives and conferences on marriage & family matters.

In November 2013 through a contact with National Director of Relationship Central (Alpha Marriage & Family) Elaine Young, Barry& Jennifer Pendergast, as local Calgary coaches were asked to help in an emergency situation where the facilitator for a First Alliance Marriage Preparation Course had withdrawn at the last minute. Barry & Jennifer quickly and enthusiastically agreed to run the course and did three more in quick succession including one in their home. It was a wonderful experience working with Jamie Unruh the Marriage Ministry assistant and running additional FOCCUS inventories with most of the couples.

During this period the Barry & Jennifer started discussions with Ron Buschman, the newly appointed Team Leader for the FAC Marriage Matters Ministry and agreed to run a Marriage Course in the fall of 2014. During these early discussions Barry & Jennifer emphasized the need for building good communications, proper procedures/ evaluations, ongoing training, reaching outside the walls and regular team building meetings. In any ministry these factors are critical but especially so in ministry involving marriage & family matters. Good communication is key! Barry & Jennifer also had a special concern for couples outside the church who had chosen to live together rather than choose marriage. They could never find any interest at FAC to take deliberate action to engage this large segment of the community who needs Christ's love to be shown in tangible and gracious ways.

However over the two and a half years Barry & Jennifer would find their passion for working in marriage and family matters seriously drained by the conditions experienced under Pastor Bob-Bernard and Ron Buschman's leadership. It would lead them to have a total lack of trust in how leadership positions and the power they have could wield could be so be wrongly applied. So against the declared Christ like values of a servant leader approach declared in so many leadership appointment contracts in place at FAC

www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/Family_Life_Pastor.pdf

Barry & Jennifer could not see any evidence these principles of servant leadership were modelled, followed or monitored and regular feedback invited to ensure these critical values were being maintained.

It can be of little value to the Kingdom if a style of leadership is at cross purposes to these core values. For instance where leaders adopt an authoritative style of

leadership that suppresses the natural talents. passions and gifts, suppresses critical and divergent thinking then there is a need to explore why this happening and implement corrective measures to restore faith.

When a team is set up it needs a clear vision that is continually monitored and could be likened to any form of successful teams - as in a successful sports team or an orchestra. Clear communication, using the individual's gifts , passions, and watching out for prideful leaders unwilling to share the ministry , and making unethical secretive decisions. A Christian leader must be able to answer, even invite tough questions and be accountable without displaying anger, counter attacking or blaming others when things go off course. Even more important in a Christian setting is the need for discipleship and evangelism to be a key component of all activities including marriage ministry.

Most will agree on the topic of sexual abuse and how to deal with it but spiritual abuse thats a whole bag of trouble best swept and well hidden under the carpet! Not unlike the intergenerational abuse that can happen in families if caring intervention is not available.

Plan To Protect, a organization that works cooperatively with the Alliance Church nationally came out early this year with a webinar on the topic of Spiritual Abuse by church leaders. Not a happy topic for any Christian to accept that it occurs. They covered - How do you recognize it. How do you train up leaders to coach others to speak against this type of behaviour? Develop policies that establish parameters for what is acceptable and unacceptable behaviour. Otherwise, leaders may continue to harass and discriminate others based on their own individual perspective.

Barry & Jennifer asked the Elder Board of First Alliance and representatives of the Alliance Area office to meet with them to start a discussion on this difficult topic after what they have been going through in trying to contribute to a ministry they have a demonstrated passion and gifting for.

For 2-1/2 years Barry & Jennifer were forced to participate in a team that has failed to meet the most basic requirements of the standard First Alliance model with no apparent pastoral involvement or oversight. Pastor Les Bon-Bernard was the pastor in charge. Even so in the period November 2013 when they started running their first marriage preparation course to July 2016 Barry & Jennifer had only spent a very rushed 9 minutes at a meeting with Pastor Bon-Bernard. The meeting took place at Barry & Jennifer's request and took 6 weeks to arrange. No other form of verbal, email, or text was every communicated by the pastor in charge. With Ron Buschman acting as the Marriage Team Leader under Pastor Bon-Bernard's authority but failing to enact any of the principles shown in the FAC Staff Covenant. Barry & Jennifer were never certain why this style of leadership was used. Was it due to lack familiarity with leading a team in a church environment, insecurity, uncomfortable with passionate team members, lack of monitoring or a lack of mentoring? Nevertheless Barry & Jennifer continue to be

passionately intent in trying to bring about a God honouring process at FAC that will discontinue the spiritual abuse that has taken place in the past.

SPECIFIC CONCERNS:

In the period November 2013 to November 2015 the Pastor in charge of the Marriage Matters ministry, Pastor Les Bon-Bernard has no contact, sent no emails, had no conversations with team members and certainly not to the Pendergasts. Never a "hows it going question." This was completely against the job description.

1. In early 2015 Barry & Jennifer were taken out of leading a planned Marriage Course and another couple appointed less than 48 hours before the start without notice or discussion because the leader had unfounded, unsubstantiated and unstated suspicions about the deep concerns they had expressed about confidentiality issues concerning couples. A mentoring couple actually shared confidential information with the Pendergasts because of their frustration the couples would not listen to their advice.
The Pendergast's desire was to take careful action to implement well understood policies on confidentiality. The leader's approach was deny their evidence and use the power of his position to force them into submission. It was a traumatic experience that would affect how they raised or did not raise issues of concern in the future. It caused a level of uncomfortable divisiveness between the Pendergasts and the other couple. Troubling emails that passed between Barry & Jennifer & Ron Buschman:
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/email_composite.pdf

If Ron Bouschman was so concerned he should not have used emails to escalate the problems. See FAC Policy Doc.

Of special importance is the very aggressive email sent late on the 27 January 2015 where without notice, without discussion had gone ahead and removed the Pendergasts because he was fearful they would disrupt the Marriage Course starting on the 29th January 2015.

Notes of the meeting where Ron Buschman aggressively confirmed his decision and ignored Barry & Jennifer's concerns of a lack of a policy on confidentiality. He also turned down their appeal.
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/January28_2015_meeting_Ron.pdf
He said he had not got permission from the Pastor in charge - Les Bon-Bernard. Buschman also said there was no appeal to his decision.

At a meeting March 8th 2017 Ron Bouschman claims he took the Pendergasts out of ministry because he was frightened they would cause an upset and argue with their co-facilitating couple, Brent and Rhea Davie in front or course attendees on the 29 January 2015. He had no basis in fact to believe that. Again he acted out of suspicion, did not use a Matthew 18:15 as a basis and totally ignored FAC policy on this.

Later in the year Barry & Jennifer experienced another case where confidential information was openly shared with them but they felt uncomfortable, even fearful to raise more concerns. Subsequently to the Barry & Jennifer's knowledge there was no team discussion or a policy implemented and shared on confidentiality. In fact at a meeting held on 8 March 2017 Ron Buschman agreed he had not developed a written policy on confidentiality and assumed it was implied. Also claimed said there was nothing wrong in a mentoring couple sharing confidential information with the Pendergasts because they has so many years of mentoring experience.

2. FAC Staff Covenant has strict guidelines for running a ministry and team building methods. Ron Buschman acting under Pastor Bon-Bernard's authority did none of these. He failed to organize regular team meetings or arrange on-line discussion techniques with a result that communication was poor or non-existent. No agendas, no minutes taken or shared with members who could not attend. Use of on-line media was rarely used. Only one team meeting was held on the 19th January 2015 at which Ron & Teresa's vision was given. It was not shared before hand nor were comments invited. Not the best way to build a strong vision. At no time did Pastor Bon-Bernard get involved, attend a team meeting or team discussion that Barry & Jennifer attended .

Ron & Teresa's vision evolved without any known team input:
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/Marriage_Matters_vision_Jan18.pdf

3. Team members were forced to accept decisions they were either uncomfortable with or had not undergone the safeguards of rigorous discussion needed with all team members. The kind of meal served at he Marriage & Marriage Preparation Courses is critical for its success. Ron Buschman claimed in an email on 15 December 2014 he was unable to get Harvest Ministries to supply suitable food and needed find alternatives. There is no evidence he investigated this thoroughly and would become angered when Barry insisted a proper menus be used. In any case financial and budget issues were never discussed. Surely fiscal issues should be part of a team's responsibility?
email : www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/harvest_ministry.pdf

At no time was it evident that the Pastor in charge, Pastor Bon-Bernard was involved at a team level not had any input on policy, nor verified that the FAC Staff Covenant was being followed.

4. An important decision to move the Pre-Married inventory process from FOCCUS to Prepare and Enrich was made without any discussion. A critical part of the inventory training process was omitted because of admitted difficulties between the Buschmans when thy had taken the inventory earlier. Only Ron Boschman would see all the team couples confidential details. There are continued concerns on how this documents are stored at FAC. When mentoring is finished all documentation should destroyed. Pastor

Bon-Bernard would claim at a meeting in July 2016 that the Pendergasts were opposed to changing from FOCCUS to Prepare and Enrich. Absolutely untrue, They had in fact endorsed it in a email to Ron Buschman, The Pendergast simply wanted it to be introduced and used properly with correct training and supervision.

Although Barry & Jennifer had extensive experience with over 20 FOCCUS inventories and took Prepare and Enrich training and are registered facilitators yet they were never involved in mentoring any couples at First Alliance after December 2014
www.jspeer.com/barrypednergast/Your_Prepare_Enrich_Relationship_Survey_Results.pdf

Equally Barry & Jennifer saw no evidence of ongoing training in any part of the Marriage Matters Ministry.

5. The leader seemed set on doing everything possible to sabotage the ongoing value of a Alpha Marriage Course even though the first 2 sessions were well received and had huge opportunity to be used as evangelism tool beyond the church walls. A number of times the leader went behind the Barry & Jennifer's backs. In one instance he held discussions and organized a Marriage & Marriage Preparation Course training event in cooperation with Foothills Alliance but failed to inform the team members for input or support. Barry & Jennifer would only hear well after because of their long relationship with Brad & Elise Boshman at Foothills Alliance, fellow Relationship Central coaches. Making decisions without full communication was confusing and unfortunately typical.
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/Brad_MC_Training.pdf.

Certainly the event was of little benefit to FAC and no couples attended from there and thus the pool of capable facilitators was not increased. Assumed Pastor Bon-Benard was aware of this situation

A further marriage Course was planned for the Spring of 2015 and Barry & Jennifer offered to help but heard no more.
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/ron_new_leaders_23feb.pdf

6. Similarly other events and decisions would happen without team knowledge. A series of Marriage Matters bible studies were held but ministry questions were discouraged. At one the question of a regular newsletter was discussed but implementation was refused because of a lack of resources even though team members offered to help. It puzzled Barry & Jennifer because the Marriage Matters assistant Anne Freeman produces an excellent news letter for the Seniors Ministry.

Ron Buschman would have individual discussions with members of the team, arrange events but the results were never shared with the rest of the team causing communication confusion. At a meeting on 8 March 2017 he confirmed that was this style of leadership quite contrary to FAC policy and general understanding of how a servant leader performs his duties. He argued he was a volunteer and could only spend

so much time on the ministry affairs. He failed to delegate and certainly did not use the gifts and experience that the Pendergasts brought to the team.

A further Marriage Course was apparently planned for the Fall of 2015 but Barry & Jennifer or the team heard nothing.
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/marriage_course_fall15.pdf

7. During the period from November 2013 and November 2015 Barry & Jennifer would have no communication with the Pastor in charge - Pastor Bon-Bernard. Never a "how are things going"? Never a query why a third Marriage Course was not going ahead. Barry & Jennifer did make a request to meet him in October 2015 and waited almost 6 weeks to discuss an issue with him and Ron Buschman. The meeting lasted less than nine minutes because Pastor Bon_Bernard had another meeting to rush to. Barry & Jennifer felt the behaviour of Pastor Bon-Benard and Ron Buschman was very dismissive. At a meeting on 30 August 2016 Pastor Bon-Bernard would claim Ron Bushman was the Pastor in charge of the Marriage Matters Ministry when asked what was the basis of the appointment? Was the job description as previously posted? www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/Family_Life_Pastor.pdf

At the same meeting Pastor Bon-Bernard dismissed the Spiritual Abuse policy document by Plan to Protect since FAC no longer use their abuse protection system. Basically FAC now had little in the way of abuse protection except for sexual abuse of children. There simply is no process. Barry & Jennifer do have thoughts about how to solve this.

8. Sometime during 2015 Barry & Jennifer believe Ron Buschman took steps without full team discussion to organize a core group within the team with whom he would make all future decisions. No news or information was subsequently received by Barry & Jennifer. It would lead to broken relationships and divisiveness. Was Pastor Bon-Bernard aware of this?

9. On the 29 January 2016 Barry & Jennifer met with Pastor James Paton and laid out their difficulties and asked for help to get them back involved in the Marriage Matters Ministry. A key point of this was how to build a team with strong foundations to allow it to grow in the future to serve both the church and outside in the community for those with or without faith. Barry & Jennifer found Pastor Paton sympathetic and compassionate and he promised to follow through. Just give him 4 to 5 weeks to look into matters. However it is assumed he shared the key points of the Barry & Jennifer's concerns with Pastor Les Bon-Bernard. Pastor Paton did note that Ron Buschman was very busy with his work duties which might account for the difficulties they had encountered.

The Pendergasts did follow up with Pastor Paton verbally and finally in writing. They got no response. Instead they had an email from Pastor Les Bon-Bernard later in March 2016 to contact Ron Bushman. Vacations on both sides delayed this and frankly Barry & Jennifer felt the meeting with Pastor Paton had been a complete waste of time.

10. On 24 May 2016 Barry & Jennifer received an urgent request from Ron Buschman:

“ Hello Barry & Jennifer,
Would there be a time during the next 5 days when we could meet? At that time, I would welcome the opportunity to address concerns you may have with me personally, and possibly the marriage ministry at FAC.

Blessings,
Ron Buschman “

Quite why the 5 day urgency is unknown however they felt the invitation was deceptive in that its purpose on 27 May was to expel Barry & Jennifer from the Marriage Matters Team based on a misuse of scripture and no evidence or witnesses to support the wrongdoing claimed. Barry & Jennifer’s notes on that meeting:
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/Ron&Teresa_27May16.pdf

How Pastors Paton and Bon-Bernard and the other Marriage Matters team members were informed or participated in the decision is unknown.

The Buschmans on the 8 March 2017 at a meeting with The Pendergasts, FAC Arbitrator Dr Brent Kinnie and Dave Orr Chairman of the Elders would deny this happened, Rather they suggested the Pendergasts asked to retire from the ministry and they were thankful for their service, The Buschmans denied any wrongdoing. Nor the phone call Ron made to Elaine Young, National Director of Alpha Marriage & Family in relay May 2016 confirming Ron intention to remove the Pendergasts because of undefined conflict with him and team members. Elaine confirmed to Barry Pendergast on 6 July what Ron had said. A recording of Barry & Elaine’s conversation is available and was heard by Elder Arbitrator Dr Brent KInnie and Dave Orr in Aril 2017.

11. A last and bewildering email was received from Ron Buschman on 1 June 2016. Seemed having everything under his ‘control’ was critical to his role as leader. Seemed positive confirmation of the injurious action he had taken to Barry & Jennifer and totally at odds with what a servant leader centred on Christ should be.
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/ron_control_june1_2016.pdf

12. Ron Buschman’s phone call to Elaine Young was a deliberate act to hurt and harm their reputation with the International Ministry Barry & Jennifer had joyfully to served for more than 18 years.
Notes from phone conversation (a recording exists):
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/elaine_young_call.pdf

13. Soon after Ron Buschman gave a video lesson on forgiveness & love. It seemed totally at odds with Barry & Jennifer’s experience with him. Only weeks before he had betrayed them to Elaine Young & harmed their reputation about three weeks before the meeting on 27 May. Why? What on earth were the motives?

From Luke 7 “To you who are ready for the truth, I say this: Love your enemies. Let them bring out the best in you, not the worst. When someone gives you a hard time, respond with the energies of prayer for that person.

Ron’s Video lesson: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tLFZVUMHzXE

Subsequent to the expelling Barry & Jennifer were left in deep shock and looked to mature Christian friends for prayer, help and advice. One led the them to ask Plan to Protect for advice. At their request details of their experiences were shared:
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/An_Urgent_Plea_For_Help.pdf

Plan to Protect quickly enrolled Barry & Jennifer in a webinar on Spiritual Abuse and advised them to seek a wise independent Christian advisor and witness to any future meetings. Pat Nixon kindly agreed to be their spiritual advisor and witness at any or all meetings and to vet all correspondence.

Plan to Protect put Barry & Jennifer in contact with Pastor Tim Beadle at the Area Alliance office in Calgary and they met shortly afterwards in early June. They found Pastor Beadle compassionate and seemed to quickly grasp the key issues and concerns. Tim suggested the marriage ministry leader was in over his head” Tim in an email the following day he affirmed the Pendergast pain of being expelled from the marriage ministry.

Tim suggested he would like to arrange a meeting with a representative from First Allliance. Barry & Jennifer said their preference was with Pastor Ray Matheson because they felt a great deal of trust with him.

This was turned down and after some exchange of emails Tim Beadle assured Barry & Jennifer Pastor Bon-Bernard would like to meet and assured us his heart was to find a good outcome and had a system for dealing with issues of this kind. Barry & Jennifer also expressed they felt Pastor Bon-Bernard was in a conflict of interest being the Buschman’s supervisor. They would also see no evidence of this in the coming months. Just 6 months of heartless delays until Pastor Bon-Bernard would concede the conflict of interest.
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/Coach_Connection1.pdf

A first meeting was held at the area CMA office on 7 July 2016 Pastor Bon-Bernard claimed he knew of no conflict between the Marriage Matters Team Leader and the Pendergasts. That he did not believe there was any spiritual or other abuse involved. That left Barry & Jennifer uncomfortable on the issue of trust. How could they have been expelled without discussions between Pastor Bon-Bernard and Ron Buschman? Also the discussions between Pastor Paton and Barry & Jennifer should have raised a red flag.

A later meeting left both Barry & Jennifer and their advisor Pat Nixon uncomfortable with the direction Pastor Bon-Benard was leading the process and subsequently sent an email requesting for an independent arbitration.
www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/Pat_Nixon_response_Les_Oct30.pdf

This was an approach supported by Plan to Protect, Pat Nixon and independent councillors. Pastor Les Bon-Bernard would eventually concede he was in a conflict of interest 6 painful months after the Pendergasts first made their allegations. However evidence suggests he continued to control the path that Elder Dr Brent Kinnie followed to protect the leaders.

Barry & Jennifer together with Pat Nixon pray this time of challenge will not go wasted. As in all things God only has the best intentions for us all.

Advice was sought from the Chairman of the elders 22 November 2016 and Pastor Bon_Bernard relinquished 'control' of the file to Elder Dr Brent Kinnie. At a meeting held 12 December 2016 with Brent, Pat and Les, Barry & Jennifer felt their perception of past issues & meetings was being unfairly challenged and subsequently emailed Dr Brent Kinnie to raise their concerns that had arisen. They and their advisor felt that Elder Arbitrator Dr Kinnie merely followed procedures to protect Pastor Les Bon-Bernards's interests. www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/Brent_Kinnie_13Decmber16.pdf

Dr. Kinnie promised that he would try to have these matters resolved by the end of January 2017. As of 7th January this did not happen. Pat Nixon and Pendergast confirmed to Dr Brent Kinnie their availability but looks like Pastor Bob-Bernard & Ron Buschman were playing for time again.

Exchanges took place between Pat Nixon and Elder Brent Kinnie over the next meeting.
http://jspeer.com/barrypendergast/exchange_Pat_Nixon&Brent_K.pdf

The Pendergast write their concerns 11 February 2016 and have had no response:
http://jspeer.com/barrypendergast/to_Brent_K_11Feb_2017.pdf

Sadly our first request to meet with Ray had been accepted we might have had hope too: http://calgaryherald.com/news/local-news/rev-ray-matheson-pastor-first-alliance-church

Communications with Pastor Tim Beadle at the area office and ourselves over our and Pat Nixon desire to meet with Pastor Ray and the eventual turning down.

http://www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/TimB_Keeping_Connected_june17_2016.pdf
http://jspeer.com/barrypendergast/Tim_Keeping_Connected_june20_2016.pdf
http://www.jspeer.com/barrypendergast/Tim_Coach_Connection2.pdf

As of the 15th February 2017 Barry & Jennifer now convinced First Alliance Church does not have any process for conflict resolution in place, a proper and unbiased

investigatory process. Much later in 2017 the Chairman of the Elders Dave Orr would admit there was no process in place fro conflict resolution. More recently Pastor Brent Trask, the District Superintendent would confirm the same. Interesting that Dr Kinnie and Barry Pendergast would know of their own professional bodies process for complaint investigations and decisions making. Emphasizes the need for an approach outlined by Plan to Protect in early 2016. Unbiased investigation and arbitration.

Attached the email exchange between Elder Dr. Brent Kinnie and Pat Nixon 27 January 2016: http://jspeer.com/barrypendergast/exchange_email_Pat&Brent27Jan16.pdf

Pat Nixon expressed concern about how there seems to be a biased approach in favour of allowing Pastor Les Bon_Bernard to continue to control the outcomes. That unease would be further heightened at a meeting on 25th February between Pat, Dave Orr (Chairman of the Elders), Elder Brent Kinnie (mediating Elder) Barry & Jennifer by what appeared to be Pastor Bon Bernard's continued lobbying " If I have done anything wrong I'd like to know" to Dr Brent Kinnie to stay involved and not allow the actions of Ron & Teresa Buschman to be properly examined in private.

Was the understanding by the Pendergasts as they left that the next meeting would be attended by Dave Orr, Brent Kinnie, the Buschmans and Barry & Jennifer. Neither Les or Pat would attend. Pat and the Pendergasts' requested a separate meeting would involve Les alone to deal with his responsibilities and actions.

Further unease was felt when Elder Dave Orr admitted he did not receive the Pendergasts' Testimony sent 22 November 2016 and was handed a paper copy by Elder arbitrator Dr Brent Kinnie .

Unknown when this transfer occurred and whether the evidence links were included. Dave Orr admitted the FAC process for facilitating issues of this kind was inadequate. Dave Orr said he was involved in Dr Kinnie's appointment as arbitrator yet e chronology of events questions that.

Also why did Elder Dave Orr not react accordingly to Barry's verbal request 29th November " We should meet soon and chat" if he knew of the circumstances of the Pendergast's distress?

The initial news that Elder Dr. Brent Kinnie had been appointed came from Pastor Les November 30th. 2016/ Who else took part in that decision? Pastor James & Tim Beadle were included as recipients but no one else. It appears it might have been idone without Elder Dave Orr's or other elders knowledge: http://jspeer.com/barrypendergast/les&brent_kinnie_30nov.pdf.

Another Elder- Carlos Ang did promise in an email 12 Jan 2017 he would contact Barry once he had heard from Dave Orr. No further email or phone call was received from Carlos.

This confirmation email was sent to Elder Arbitrator Dr Brent Kinnie and Elder Dave Orr on the 25th Feb : jspeer.com/barrypendergast/This_Morning_Path_Forward.pdf

Since it was not clear they understood the term Spiritual Abuse they were also sent copies of the Plan to Protect's webinar on the topic:www.plantoprotect.com/two-webinars,

This was received from Brent Sunday 26 Feb 2017 in the morning:
jspeer.com/barrypendergast/meeting_buschmans.pdf

Its clear that Elder Arbitrator Dr Brent Kinnie refused to accept any other evidence other than what is supplied by Pastor Bon-Bernard and the Buschmans. Dr Kinnie also did not accept the evidence that Ron Buschman showed serious intent of his disgraceful actions by calling Elaine Young, National Director of Alpha Family & Marriage in early May 2016. Even when Dr. Kinnie was confronted with a recording of that call he refused to accept it as evidence. Continued refusal to believe the Pendergasts and their advisers evidence caused considerably extra emotional and psychological harm. It felt like a conspiracy to protect the sinful actions of First Alliance leaders

Again the Pendergasts version of events is supported by Pat Nixon, Melodie Bissell of Plan to Protect witnesses and their personal doctors:

Specific witness statements:
Witness statement from Melodie Bissell, CEO Plan to Protect
jspeer.com/barrypendergast/witness_plantoprotect.pdf
Witness Statement from Leo Dimnik, Foothill Alliance japer.com/barrypendergast/
witness_Leo_Dimnik.pdf
Witness Statement from Tom Loszchuk jspeer.com/barrypendergast.
Witness_TOM_L_.pdf
Barry's doctor Dr Schoeman and Jennifer's are willing to confirm they have been consulted since late May 2016 specifically on the impact of the expulsion May 27and the severe impact on their patients health and arranged counselling to help them overcome the emotional & psychological trauma experience at the hands of Alliance leadership

On February 25th 2017 Pat Nixon, the Pendergasts, Elder Arbitrator Dr Brent Kinnie and Dave Orr met for an informal breakfast and chat about the format for the upcoming first meeting with the Buschmans. Dave Orr would again confirm FAC lacked a proper process for conflict resolution of serious issues.

March 8 2017 Meeting notes between Elder Arbitrator Brent Kinnie & Dave Orr Chairman of the Elders and Ron & Teresa Buschman, Marriage Team Leaders

Conclusive evidence Buschmans abused us January 21 to 29th 2015, and lied about have a confidentiality process in part and much more. One moment the Pendergast were a threat the next they were the best thing since sliced bread!

Conclusive evidence the Buschmans lied about May 27th 2016 meeting. They claimed it was a love-in! They claimed the Pendergasts requested to retire from the ministry! The Buschmans claimed they were about to honour the Pendergasts at a Couples Cafe evening 10 June 2016 but stopped that when they heard about the allegations. Quite how they heard ahead of the 10 June 2016 initial meeting between the Pendergasts and Pastor Tim Beadle suggests confidential information was improperly passed to them by FAC leaders. Many witness statements will tell otherwise. Did Les Bon_Bernard coach the Buschmans over 10 months to lie to protect his own lack of leadership supervision? When and how did he first become aware of the Buschman's defence?

March8 2017 Meeting notes
jspeer.com/barrypendergast/8march2017_meeting.pdf

April 4 2017 Meeting
Pat Nixon, the Pendergasts, Elder Arbitrator Dr Brent Kinnie and Chairman of the Elders met at the Pendergast's home to review the 8 March 2017 meeting with the Buschmans. Dr Kinnie said he felt he did not know who to believe despite overwhelming evidence to the contrary. He felt it was just a case of misunderstanding and miscommunication. He and Dave Orr made no mention of the issues raised by Pastor Brent Trask on a refusal by the Pendergasts to accept Ron Buschmans apology. They Pendergasts would have in case objected because the Buschmans had lied about what transpired 27 May 2016. Dr Kinnie said he had verified with Elaine Young the May 2016 conversation but he claimed she could not remember anything about a call at that time. Then Dr Kinnie and Dave Orr were asked if they would like to hear a recording of Barry and Elaine's conversation. They agreed but still did not find definitive proof of Ron Buschmans intentions to hurt the Pendergast. The meeting abruptly ended and nothing further was heard from either Elder Arbitrator Dr Brent Kinney or Chairman of the Elders Dave Orr