

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
THE EXECUTIVE OF THE BAY OF QUINTE CONFERENCE

MINUTES

November 29, 2014

The Executive of the Bay of Quinte Conference of The United Church of Canada met on Saturday, November 29, at 10:00 a.m. The President, Bill Sheaves, called the meeting to order at 10:10 a.m. A quorum was present.

1. ATTENDANCE AND REGRETS

Present:

Dave Charles (Chair, Four Rivers Presbytery)
Larry Doyle (Chair, Lifelong Faith Formation)
Phil Hobbs (Chair, Nominations)
Richard Hollingsworth (Chair, Partnering in Mission)
Sheryl McLeod (Upper Valley Representative)
John Miller (Chair, Kawartha Highlands Presbytery)
Maxine Reid (President-Designate)
Bill Sheaves (President)
Bill Smith (Executive Secretary)
Nancy Sutherland (President, United Church Women)
Norma Thompson (Lay Representative to General Council Executive)
Natasha Walton (Youth Representative)
Lloyd Williams (Hills and Shores Presbytery and Finance Representative)
Jean Wilson (Chair, MPE)
John Young (Clergy Representative to General Council Executive)
(15)

Recording Secretary:

Lynda Price
(1)

Staff:

David Timpson (Conference Minister – Personnel)
(1)

Guest:

Elaine Kellogg (Dancing the Circle of Right Relations Representative)
(1)

Regrets:

Michelle Brotherton (Past President)

Donna Bignall (Chair, Lakeridge Presbytery)
Kristiane Black (Chair, Hills and Shores Presbytery)
Chris Ingersoll (Chair, Four Winds Presbytery)
Don Willmer (Acting Chair, Finance)
(5)

2. WELCOME AND CONSTITUTION OF MEETING

President Bill Sheaves welcomed everyone to the meeting. He then constituted the meeting with the following words: "In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, I call this meeting of the Bay of Quinte Conference Executive to order for all business to be brought before it."

3. WORSHIP

Executive Secretary, Bill Smith, offered a prayer to begin the meeting.

4. AGENDA AND CONSENT DOCKET

(A copy of the Agenda is attached to these minutes as Appendix A.)

MOTION Sheryl McLeod/Lloyd Williams

2014-11-29-3-1

"That the Consent Docket, as circulated, be approved. --- CARRIED

(The Consent Docket is attached to these minutes as Appendix B.)

5. DISCUSSION OF THE HANDBOOK "DECLARING/CHANGING MINISTRY POSITIONS"

David Timpson led the Court through an explanation and discussion of this document. He noted that MPE and Settlement Committee had already had an opportunity to read and discuss the document and some changes, as suggested by them, have been made.

During the discussion, David was asked to produce a chart listing the responsibilities of the Pastoral Charge Supervisor and the Presbytery Accompanier and he agreed to do this.

Some questions and issues were: (responses in italics)

- How does this affect the UCC Handbook? (*When doing a pilot project, you do not have to follow The Manual or UCC Handbooks*)
- How often will the training of Presbytery Accompaniers take place? (*This will be done on an ongoing basis and as needed – probably once a month*)
- How long will the proposed process take? (*This depends on the pastoral change. Some will be better prepared than others.*)
- Why do this? (*David referred to his handout "Emerging Outcomes", which is attached to these minutes as Appendix C. He also noted that BC, Hamilton and Toronto Conferences have been using this for some time now. The models being used differ somewhat across the country.*)

- How does this fit with the Comprehensive Review? *(At this time, we don't know. A report on the Comprehensive Review recommendations will be issued the week of March 13, 2015.)*
- General agreement that people would like to see the disciplinary role of presbyteries transferred to the conference. *(Discipline is not part of this document.)*
- Four Winds Presbytery has indicated it does not wish to participate in this pilot project. *(Conference would like to see consistency across the conference.)*
- Concern about the changing role of the Settlement Committee and giving responsibility for approval of calls to it. *(This piece is in flux at the moment. Approval may come through both Presbytery and Settlement.)*
- How will this work if one presbytery does not want to participate? *(We can tell a presbytery they must participate.)*

MOTION Phil Hobbs/Maxine Reid 2014-11-29-3-2
"That Bay of Quinte Conference participate in the pilot project that is before us today."

Richard Hollingsworth offered the following "friendly amendment":

AMENDMENT TO MOTION 2014-11-29-3-2
Add "with the exception that final approval rests with the presbytery."

The President ruled this amendment out of order.

Further discussion and additional questions ensued:

- How does this affect appointments? *(It is likely that appointments will remain with the presbyteries.)*

As there was only one representative from Four Winds Presbytery present, the following motion was made:

MOTION Bill Smith/John Young 2014-11-29-3-3
"That Lynda Price be named a corresponding member for this meeting." – **CARRIED**

Lynda then reported on the reasons why Four Winds Presbytery does not wish to participate in this pilot project.

The matter of whether or not this issue should go to the floor of Conference Annual Meeting was discussed.

The mover and seconder of Motion 2014-11-29-3-2 withdrew their motion.

MOTION Richard Hollingsworth/Larry Doyle 2014-11-29-3-4
"That Bay of Quinte Conference Executive approve this proposal for all presbyteries that wish to participate, with a report on it to be presented at CAM 2015 and CAM 2016 and a final decision on its use be made at CAM 2017." -- **CARRIED**

At this point, David Timpson withdrew from the meeting. Bill Sheaves thanked him for his presentation and participation in the discussion.

(A copy of the Handbook: Declaring/Changing Ministry Positions is attached to these minutes as Appendix D.)

MOTION **Bill Smith/Natasha Walton** **2014-11-29-3-5**
"That an amendment be made to the agenda to move the Lifelong Faith Formation report to before lunch."
– **CARRIED**

6. LIFELONG FAITH FORMATION REPORT

Larry Doyle referred to the written report. There was nothing further to add to this. The three committees operating under this umbrella have had a slow Fall but work is continuing.

(A copy of the Lifelong Faith Formation Report is attached to these minutes as Appendix E.)

7. REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Bill Smith referred to his written report highlighting the following:

- The move has taken place and the library is up and running
- The Frankford property is still for sale but the offers received to date have not been good. One new offer is being negotiated.
- Clarification of the process for electing commissioners to General Council, especially the issue of alternates. We have committed to having 40% of our delegates be new commissioners and our current number is 22%. We also committed to at least three youth and we currently have two. Ballot D will be used to help balance these numbers. Concern was expressed that most people do not know those running for commissioner and vote for familiar names. Ways to address this were discussed, including posting bios of those running either at CAM or in Volume 1 if they are available in time.
- It appears likely Bay of Quinte will host the 2018 General Council. Discussions are underway with Durham College, UOIT and Queen's University re specific location, although Queen's is expensive.
- Bill has been meeting with church extensions councils and this work continues. By-laws will need to be changed. One suggestion is that the three church extension councils in the conference be brought together to provide better use of the funds they are holding. The funds from the former Kingston Presbytery will have to be divided between Four Winds and Four Rivers Presbyteries.
- Negotiations are still underway re the location of CAM 2015. Some issues have arisen and are in the process of being resolved. There has been a suggestion that the Sunday part of the meeting be held in Bridge St. U.C. rather than Wellington. The CAM Planning Committee meets next week.

MOTION **Maxine Reid/Richard Hollingsworth** **2014-11-29-3-6**
"That the Executive Secretary issue an invitation to Dan Benson to be the General Council representative to CAM 2015." – **CARRIED**

(A copy of the Executive Secretary's Report is attached to these minutes as Appendix F.)

“That the report of the Executive Secretary, including the correspondence log and the sale of property motions, be adopted. – **CARRIED**

10. LUNCH

The meeting recessed for lunch at 12:25 p.m. Richard Hollingsworth offered grace. We were called to reconvene at 1:00 p.m.

Elaine Kellogg joined the meeting after the lunch break.

MOTION **Richard Hollingsworth/Phil Hobbs** **2014-11-29-3-11**
“That Elaine Kellogg be named a corresponding member for this meeting.” – **CARRIED**

11. DANCING THE CIRCLE OF RIGHT RELATIONS

Bill Sheaves welcomed Elaine Kellogg to the meeting. She reported on an issue of importance to the committee.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission will issue its final report in Ottawa the same weekend as CAM. The issue of residential schools abuse has been an important part of the work of the Dancing the Circle group and they would like to have representation in Ottawa that weekend to honour the work of the T&RC. There is the possibility that some of CAM 2015 will take place at Bridge St. U.C. and Elaine suggested that a symbolic walk to the church, which would include representatives of other denominations and faiths being invited, take place on the Sunday. As plans for CAM are still unfolding, this matter will be referred to the CAM Planning Committee for consideration.

MOTION **Richard Hollingsworth/Phil Hobbs** **2014-11-29-3-12**
“That the Executive request that the CAM Planning Committee give serious consideration to a symbolic walk as part of the CAM Sunday session to honour the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.”
-- **CARRIED**

Elaine was asked to consult with our local First nations communities re this. Curve Lake representatives are part of their committee and Elaine committed to speaking with the Tyendenaga Mohawks as well.

Elaine also reported that Toronto Conference is planning a youth event around the T&RC work and there is a possibility that our youth may be invited to participate.

MOTION **Richard Hollingsworth/Maxine Reid** **2014-11-29-3-13**
“That in consultation with the Dancing the Circle of Right Relations Committee, the Executive send two people (one from the DCRR Committee and one from First Nations) to the Sunday event in Ottawa to represent Bay of Quinte Conference, the funds for this to come from the Partnering in Mission Budget.” –
CARRIED

12. UPDATE ON CAM

Bill Smith reported that CAM Planning Committee will meet this week to work out some details, after which time, a contract for the event will be signed. If we move to Bridge St. on Sunday, we would use their a/v equipment. The Metropolitan United Church Silver Band will be at Bridge St. that weekend and we would invite them to participate in the Celebration of Ministry service. The possibility of a mass choir is also being explored. We would also rent space across the road from the church to provide adequate parking.

13. PROPOSAL FROM UCW

Nancy Sutherland read a preamble to the proposal for General Council 42, outlining the work and contributions of the UCW to the wider church.

MOTION Phil Hobbs/Norma Thompson 2014-11-29-3-14
"That we transmit the proposal from the UCW to General Council."

After discussion, this motion was withdrawn.

MOTION Phil Hobbs/Norma Thompson 2014-11-29-3-15
"That we endorse and commend the proposal from the UCW to CAM 2015 for approval." – **CARRIED**

A copy of Nancy Sutherland's preamble is attached to these minutes as Appendix H. The proposal can be found in the agenda for this meeting.)

14. REPORTS

(a) **President's Report** – Bill Sheaves referred to his written report. There was nothing further to add. (A copy of the President's report is attached to these minutes as Appendix I.)

(b) **Nominations Committee** - Phil Hobbs reported that this committee is working on a number of things:

- Asking all committees for terms of reference which will be reviewed
- Asking for position descriptions for chairs and secretaries of all committees
- Determining how long each person has served on a committee
- Bringing our nominations process into line with the national one

MOTION Phil Hobbs/Maxine Reid 2014-11-29-3-16
"That the Conference Executive extend the term of Bonnie Davidson as Chair of Settlement Committee, for an additional year in order to allow for the completion of the re-organization of Settlement Committee." – **CARRIED**

MOTION Phil Hobbs/Sheryl McLeod 2014-11-29-3-17
"That the Conference Executive appoint the Rev. Shelley Roberts as the Clergy Representative from Bay of Quinte Conference to the Board of Five Oaks Retreat Center." – **CARRIED**

It was agreed that because this appointment is being made mid-year, she would serve for the remainder of the Conference year 2014-15 and for the Conference years 2015-16 and 2016-17, with the possibility of an extension for two additional years, one year at a time.

(A copy of the Nominations Report is attached to these minutes as Appendix J.)

(c) **MPE** – Jean Wilson reported.

MOTION **Jean Wilson/Maxine Reid** **2014-11-29-3-18**

“That participants in the Candidacy Pathway Pilot Process will not be sent for Vocational Assessments until proof of membership in The United Church of Canada within Bay of Quinte Conference has been provided.
-- **CARRIED**

MOTION **Jean Wilson/John Miller** **2014-11-29-3-19**

“That Bay of Quinte Conference Executive approve “Process and Criteria for Granting of Sacramental privileges” as a resource for use during the Candidacy Pathways Pilot process.” – **CARRIED**

MOTION **Jean Wilson/Lloyd Williams** **2014-11-29-3-20**

“That Bay of Quinte Conference Executive concur with the recommendation of the Interim Ministry Committee that the Rev. Kathi Zwicker no longer be accredited as an Interim Minister.” -- **CARRIED**

MOTION **Jean Wilson/Sheryl Mcleod** **2014-11-29-3-21**

“That Bay of Quinte Conference Executive approve the request for retirement of Janet Petrie, effective June 30, 2015.” – **CARRIED**

MOTION **Jean Wilson/Nancy Sutherland** **2014-11-29-3-22**

“That Bay of Quinte Conference Executive approve the request for retirement of Audrey Whitney, effective June 30, 2014.” – **CARRIED**

MOTION **Jean Wilson/Lloyd Williams** **2014-11-29-3-23**

“That Bay of Quinte Conference Executive approve the request for retirement of Brad Ford, effective January 1, 2015.” – **CARRIED**

MOTION **John Miller/Lloyd Williams** **2014-11-29-3-24**

“That Bay of Quinte Conference Executive approve the request for retirement of Jean Wilson, effective January 1, 2015” – **CARRIED with one abstention (Jean Wilson)**

MOTION **Jean Wilson/Maxine Reid** **2014-11-29-3-25**

“That Bay of Quinte Conference Executive approve the request for retirement of Joan E. Haycock, effective October 1, 2014.” – **CARRIED**

MOTION **Jean Wilson/John Young** **2014-11-29-3-26**

“That, on the recommendation of the Conference Assessment Board, Michael Putnam, Intern Supply, be granted a license to perform marriages and a license to administer the sacraments for the duration of his appointment to the Selby-Empey Hill Pastoral Charge.” – **CARRIED**

MOTION **Jean Wilson/Lloyd Williams** **2014-11-29-3-27**

MOTION **Lloyd Williams/Dave Charles** **2014-11-29-3-32**

“That the cost to a Presbytery of a Section J8 or J9 review be reimbursed by the Conference out of the Presbytery Support Fund, at the rate of 75% of appropriate expenses in excess of \$3,000. and after review of those expenses by the Conference Executive Secretary.” – **CARRIED**

MOTION **Lloyd Williams/John Young** **2014-11-29-3-33**

“That the annual audit of the financial statements of the Conference be done by way of a “review engagement” rather than by a full “audit” as understood by the accounting profession.” -- **CARRIED**

(A copy of the Financial Statements is attached to these minutes as Appendix P and a copy of the Mission Support Grant Requests for 2015 is attached to these minutes as Appendix Q.)

- (f) **Representatives to General Council Executive** – John Young reported that the Executive had met with the Comprehensive Review Task Group and received 7 or 8 recommendations that will come out the week of March 13, 2015. The UCC website will provide a summary of these. He noted that any change would require a remit.

MOTION **Phil Hobs/Jean Wilson** **2014-11-29-3-34**

“That the Executive Secretary be directed to write to the chairs of the presbyteries asking them to set aside time on their late-March or early April meeting to deal with the Comprehensive Review and to have a representative of the Proposals and Remits Committee present. This may be a duly-called or exceptional meeting.” – **CARRIED**

A brief discussion of the new compensation package took place. It was noted that ministers presently serving in remote areas will automatically be bumped up to the next level.

(A copy of the report of the Representatives to General Council Executive is attached to these minutes as Appendix R.)

- (g) **Youth** – Natalie Walton reminded us that we only have two youth going to General Council and the Conference had committed to three. The third person will appear on Ballot D. She also noted that the Fall Retreat for youth was very successful.

- (h) **United Church Women** – There was nothing further to report. (A copy of the UCW Report is attached to these minutes as Appendix S.)

15. PRESBYTERY REPORTS

- (a) **Four Rivers** – Dave Charles reported that they are looking at developing policies. He asked if it would be possible to have the Conference policies posted on the website.

(A Copy of the Four Rivers Presbytery report is attached to these minutes as Appendix T.)

- (b) **Four Winds** - (A copy of the Four Winds Presbytery Report is attached to these minutes as Appendix U.)

- (c) **Kente** - No report is available

- (d) **Hills and Shores** – Lloyd Williams reported that the presbytery is walking with a number of congregations through a visioning process.

- Bill apologized for the problems with microphones today and assured the Executive that it would be better at our next meeting.
- Reminder of the Open House and Covenanting Service here tomorrow: Open House at 2:00 p.m. and Covenanting with St. Matthew's at 3:00 p.m.

20. THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Bill Sheaves read "Look to Your Elders" from the book *Meditations for Men by Men*.

21. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on February 26, 2015 at the Conference Office. Jean Wilson and Norma Thompson offered their regrets for this meeting.

22. ADJOURNMENT

Bill Sheaves thanked everyone for their attendance and participation. The meeting adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Bill Sheaves, President

Bill Smith, Executive Secretary

