



MINUTES OF KAMLOOPS-OKANAGAN PRESBYTERY

OF BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE
The United Church of Canada

February 17-19, 2012

WINFIELD UNITED CHURCH
LAKE COUNTRY, BRITISH COLUMBIA

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 17, 2012

PRESENT:

Ministry Personnel / Recognized Designated Lay Ministers / Designated Lay Ministers: (25) Wayne Atkinson, Juanita Austin, LeAnn Blackert, Graham Brownmiller, John Burton, Bari Castle, Bruce Chalmers, Richard Chung, Bruce Comrie, Sheila Dunbar, George Feenstra, Steve Hershey, Ken Jones, Nick Judson, David Martyn, Karen Medland, Teri Meyer, Rick Potter, Carolyn Ronald, Jeff Seaton, Sandra Stickney, Laura Turnbull, Sharilynn Upsdell, Lily Watson; **RDLM** (4) Kelly Grittner, Jim Hannah, Carol Shatford; **DLM** (1) Cheryl Perry; **Students:** (1) Alice Watson

Lay Delegates: (38) Cathie Baskett, Barbara Blysak, Rosalie Bohn, Phyllis Campbell, Maxine Coffey, Luise Denter, Mary Fields, Ian Fraser, Norma Fraser, Leona Harrison, Irene Hart, Sharon Hartwick, Nan Hendrie, Kathy Johnson, Marion Kozier, Linda Langevin, Megan Loyer, Rollanda Mailloux, Clara Maltby, David Matthew, Ian McLean, Althea Naundorf, Kenneth Perritt, Jeannine Perritt, Barbara Pettie, Bill Pullan, Eleanor Reid, Edith Rice, Reta Robertson, Abigail Rutley, Martha Scales, Marlene Smaill, Leslie Stirling, Doreen Stuebing, Cliff Turner, Judy Valks, Michele Walker, Peggy Whitley

Members at Large: (7) Martha Ashbaugh, Bob Blakely, Louise Burton, Lee Fraser, Marion Hollingshead, Janet McDonald, Don Seaton

Youth Council: (8) voting: Emily Burke, Allison Dunne, Nina Maricle, Zoe McNair, Aidan Rice, Maia Walker; non-voting: Christine Angle, Riley Keigan

Youth Minister: (1) Joanne Koster

BC Conference Staff: (1) Ivy Thomas

Camping Ministries Representatives: (1) Phyllis Shkrabiuk

Registrar: (1) Bob Hendrie

Past Moderator: (1) Marion Best

Retired Order of Ministry: (6) Heather Burton, Gloria Christian, Harvie Barker, Lorraine Powell, Dawne Taylor, Ruth Wright

Guests: (6) Jack Best, Beth Campbell, Hugh Chown, Pat Chown, Dee Hershey, Victor Ince

REGRETS:

Marie Allen, Elaine Diggle, Sue Sullivan

PRE-PRESBYTERY

WORKSHOP:

BOUNDARIES

Although not officially a part of the Presbytery meeting, Graham Brownmiller, in his role as a member of the BC Conference Sexual Abuse Prevention and Response Policy Committee, led the court through the General Council mandated workshop on Boundaries. He was joined by Martha Ashbaugh, one of the consultants to the Policy, who walked through the policy with the court. It was noted that there will be a consultants training sometime in the future; if there are people who would like the training, please contact Graham Brownmiller. There will be another boundaries workshop training in this Presbytery shortly.

DINNER

Volunteers from Winfield United Church served the gathered crowd supper.

GATHERING IN MUSIC	We sang a number of musical selections to bring our voices together.
GREETINGS & INTRODUCTIONS	Karen Medland, Chair, welcomed folks to Presbytery and expressed thanks to Winfield United Church for the already offered hospitality. On behalf of Wood Lake Pastoral Charge, Marilyn Pullan, Chair of the Council, welcomed us to this space. The Mayor of Lake Country, James Baker, also offered a welcome and greeting. Karen asked that new members to Presbytery be identified and welcomed.
AUTHORITY & CALL TO ORDER	Pursuant to the authority of the 2011 Fall Meeting of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery (KOP), the 2012 Spring meeting was Called to Order at Winfield United Church, Lake Country, BC and was declared open to conduct the business properly before it, Chair Karen Medland presiding. A quorum was present.
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING	MS (G. Brownmiller / L. Fraser) that the minutes of the October 21-23, 2011 meeting of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery be adopted as circulated. Carried
CORRESPONDING PRIVILEGES	MS (N. Hendrie / L. Turnbull) that Corresponding Privileges be granted to visitors and guests to this meeting of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery. Carried
GIFTS & CALLINGS	Reta Robertson introduced the Gifts & Callings Working Unit; she announced vacancies which exist, and asked for people to discern where they might feel called to offer themselves in the work of the Presbytery. Peggy Whitley and Sandy Stickney were also introduced and folks were encouraged to speak with Reta, Peggy or Sandy if they required more information about any of the Working Units.
INTRODUCTION	Karen Medland offered an overview of the work of this weekend. It is going to be a weekend of integration of what Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery has been doing over the past few years. Karen outlined the Circle Process that we were introduced to at the Spring 2011 Meeting, and offered a reminder of how this other format of governance can work for this Presbytery. She asked that circles reflect on the question “What would your best friend say your leadership gifts are, if they were asked?”
WORSHIP	The Youth Council offered our closing worship, based on a time of silence and centering; the scripture used was 2 Kings 2.1-17.

SATURDAY FEBRUARY 18, 2012

GATHERING, WORSHIP, CALL TO ORDER & ANNOUNCEMENTS	We gathered in song and were led in worship reminding us that “worship and work must be one.” Chair, Karen Medland, called us back to order and invited announcements.
CONTEXT	Ian Fraser led the court in some education regarding the structure of The United Church of Canada, remits and BC Conference’s process for elections of commissioners to General Council this coming August in 2012.
CIRCLES	The Presbytery engaged the question of Remit #6A: Declaration of Church Doctrine (re: the 1940s Statement of Faith) in our circles. Harvest from the circle conversations is found in Appendix I of these minutes.
WELLNESS BREAK	
CIRCLES	Conversation regarding Remit #6A continued in circles. Karen Medland asked us to use this question to consider our work: “What would make it important, or not important, to include this item in the doctrine section of <i>The Manual</i> of The United Church of Canada?”
APPRECIATION	Karen Medland read a letter from Nora Saunders and Mardi Tindal offering thanks for the work of Heather Burton as a representative to the General Council Executive over the past number of years. The Court showed our appreciation to Heather.

ADMISSIONS & RE-ADMISSIONS Having received the names of those seeking Admission / Re-Admission to the Order of Ministry in the United Church of Canada, there is a requirement of ***The Manual (031(w))*** that the names are read at the Presbytery meeting and recorded in the Minutes:

Admissions

<u>Name</u>	<u>Denomination</u>	<u>Rec. Conference</u>
Brown, Richard (Ryk) Alan	Presbyterian Church in Canada	Hamilton
du Charme, Douglas Edward	Presbyterian Church in Canada	Toronto
Meier, George Karl	United Church of Christ	British Columbia
Richardson, Kurt Anders	Baptist Convention of Ont. & Que.	Hamilton

Re-Admissions

<u>Name</u>	<u>Recommending Presbytery</u>
McLeod, Douglas Napier	South West, Toronto Conference
Olson, Jay	Victoria, British Columbia

LUNCH & BREAK Lunch was served to the gathered masses by the volunteers at Winfield United Church. We were called back to the work of Presbytery by singing together.

REPORTS

Spiritual Care Network – Juanita Austin and Carol Shatford shared information about the Spiritual Care Network in Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery: the upcoming post-Easter clergy retreat, cluster clergy groups and other information from their group.

Naramata Centre – Janet McDonald offered some information with the Presbytery about the work, mission and changes of Naramata Centre.

Oasis United Church – Peggy Whitley informed the court that Oasis United Church is working towards a 5-year plan that will be presented to the Presbytery at some point in the near future.

General Council Commissioners – There are five (5) lay nominees, who will be voted on later on in the day.

BC Conference General Meeting – Graham Brownmiller shared some information with the court about the General Meeting of BC Conference May 31-June 3, 2012 at the War Memorial Gym, UBC. The theme is *Tides of Change: a wind from God swept over the face of the waters*, with theme speaker Alanna Mitchell.

EXECUTIVE REPORT Karen Medland, Chair, spoke about the work of the Executive of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery. She shared information about the work with Penticton United Church and Oasis United Church and the appointment of a task group consisting of one member from each congregation and an appointee by the Executive of Presbytery, the Ministry Development Group, the integration work of this meeting, and recommendation that Presbytery not meet at BC Conference General Meeting.

PERMISSION TO LEAVE EARLY **MS** (R. Robertson / D. Seaton) that Marion Kozier, Laura Turnbull, Harvie Barker, Victor Ince, Heather Burton, John Burton, Bob Blakely, Lily Watson, LeAnn Blackert, George Feenstra, David Matthew, Lorraine Powell, Ian McLean, Carolyn Ronald and Doreen Stuebing be granted permission to leave the court early. **Carried** with 2 votes in opposition

MANAGEMENT TEAM Steve Hershey, Chair of the Management Team spoke about the organization of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery; including the importance of the Working Unit Reports that are distributed prior to meetings. Steve shared some of the Management Team conversations about “How we operate?”

Steve asked the Coordinators to speak about their areas of responsibility.

ADMINISTRATION – Don Seaton, Administration Coordinator shared some information regarding the work of Administration. He is the one who receives BC Conference Van Dusen Grant applications and General Council flow-thru grant applications (Technology / Church or Manse Modernization) and brings a recommendation to Management Team; a Van Dusen Grant application was approved this weekend for Oasis United Church for an education event that they are engaging in. Information about grants and other monies available can be obtained from Don, or Ivy Thomas.

Don spoke about the work of the Communication Working Unit and that Presbytery will begin to engage in shared website hosting, so that every congregation can have a website. Training sessions will be available for those who need to learn how to do this work. Don also spoke about the Resource Centre and reminded folks that Saturday dinner would be a meal to honour and remember the people and the work of the Resource Centre.

HUMAN RESOURCES – Louise Burton, Human Resources Coordinator asked folks to please be open to volunteering when approached, especially in the areas of Pastoral Oversight, Joint Needs Assessment Committees and Joint Search Committees. Louise will be retiring from this role in one year, so please consider if this is an area that you might have some passion.

Ivy Thomas spoke about the new Candidacy and Admissions Board (CAB) of BC Conference. This is a test project that combines the work of four former committees: Presbytery Education & Students, Conference Interview Board, Conference Internship and Supervised Education, and Conference Education & Students. The first meeting of CAB was held in January, and Ivy shared some information about this new Board's work.

WELLNESS BREAK

CIRCLES

The Presbytery engaged the question of Remit #6B: Declaration of Church Doctrine (re: the New Creed), and Remit #6C: Declaration of Church Doctrine (re: the Song of Faith) in our circles. Harvest from the circle conversations is found in Appendix I of these minutes.

MANAGEMENT TEAM CONT'D

DISCIPLESHIP – Teri Meyer, Discipleship Coordinator introduced the Working Units in the Discipleship area; also she asked folks to indicate if they had ever been involved in many of those areas, and it was exciting to see that most people in the court had been involved in Discipleship work for much of their lives. MacKenzie Camp showed a video about their ministry.

LeAnn Blackert, Chair of the Youth and Young Adult Working Unit offered recognition of Presbytery Youth Minister Joanne Koster and her completion of the Youth Ministry Certificate Program of BC Conference of The United Church of Canada.

YOUTH COUNCIL

Zoe McNair and Emily Burke presented information about the Youth Council; planning worship for Presbytery, food justice, and Naari Kir, which is March 2-4, 2012 at First United Church, Kelowna.

DINNER

Dinner was served by the faithful volunteers from Winfield United Church. During dinner, the Presbytery celebrated the work of the Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery Resource Centre, especially Brenda Timm, Bette Cardinal, Irene Hart, Althea Naundorf and Cliff Turner.

GATHERING

We returned our bodies, our minds and our beings back to this space in singing.

REMITTS

In the matter of Remit #6A: Declaration of Church Doctrine, Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery votes:
Yes – 43 No – 16 Abstain – 7 (total votes 66)

In the matter of Remit #6B: Declaration of Church Doctrine, Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery votes:
Yes – 52 No – 13 Abstain – 8 (total votes 73)

In the matter of Remit #6C: Declaration of Church Doctrine, Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery votes:
Yes – 50 No – 17 Abstain – 6 (total votes 73)

EXTENDING THE ORDER OF THE DAY

MS (D. Taylor / N. Hendrie) that we extend the order of the day by 30 minutes (to 8:30 pm). Carried.

GENERAL COUNCIL COMMISSIONER NOMINEES	There were 2 nominees for General Council Commissioner Order of Ministry that will be forwarded to BC Conference: Laura Turnbull and Ruth Wright.
	There were 5 nominees for General Council Commissioner Lay: Norma Fraser, Jake Highfield (under 30), Kathy Johnson, Leslie Stirling, and Michele Walker. These nominees spoke to the court about why they wished to be nominated to the General Council.
YOUTH COUNCIL CONT'D	The Youth Council offered a presentation regarding certified fair trade and certified organic coffee and tea. <i>MS (Z. McNair / E. Burke) that only Certified Fair Trade and Certified Organic coffee and tea be served at Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery gatherings. Carried.</i> <i>MS (N. Judson / J. Valks) that Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery instruct the Secretary of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery to write a letter to the Pastoral Charges in the Presbytery encouraging them to only serve Certified Fair Trade and Certified Organic coffee and tea. Carried.</i>
GENERAL COUNCIL COMMISSIONER NOMINATION RESULTS	Nominees to be forwarded to BC Conference for General Council: Jake Highfield and Leslie Stirling. <i>MS (G. Brownmiller / R. Robertson) that the ballots of this election be destroyed. Carried.</i>
REGISTRAR'S REPORT	Bob Hendrie, outgoing Registrar, reported that there were ninety-nine (99) people present at this meeting. They are listed at the beginning of these minutes. Appreciation was expressed to Bob for his years of service as Registrar; Martha Ashbaugh will be taking on the role of Registrar.
GIFTS & CALLINGS	Reta Robertson presented this slate for nominations in the Gifts & Callings Portfolio: Registrar: Martha Ashbaugh Leadership Circle: Jake Highfield Outdoor Ministries: Lorraine Powell (1 year interim) Communications: David Martyn Christian Formation: Nick Judson <i>MS (R. Robertson / L. Stirling) the adoption of this slate of nominations. Carried.</i> Juanita Austin announced that Teri Meyer is joining the Spiritual Care Network team.
WHAT ARE WE TAKING HOME?	Graham Brownmiller led the court in an exercise to create our "What are we taking home" items which will be circulated through the email list and posted on the Presbytery Website. He reminded folks to submit their evaluations either through the website or via email.
RECOGNITION	The court was informed that both Wayne Atkinson and Steve Hershey would be retiring before the next time that Presbytery meets, and so the court showed appreciation for their work and ministry.
MOTION TO EMPOWER	<i>MS (G. Brownmiller/ S. Dunbar) that the Presbytery Executive be empowered to carry out the business of Presbytery until we meet October 17-19, 2012 at Naramata Centre, Naramata, BC. Carried.</i>
ADJOURNMENT	<i>MS (G. Brownmiller / K. Johnson) that this meeting of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery adjourn with the benediction of worship on Sunday morning. Carried.</i>
WORSHIP	Our worship team led us in evening worship, which included the celebration of Holy Communion.

SUNDAY FEBRUARY 19, 2012

SUNDAY WORSHIP	Sunday morning worship was celebrated with Winfield United Church.
ADJOURNMENT	With the benediction of worship, we were adjourned.

Karen Medland, Chair

Graham Brownmiller, Secretary

This page left intentionally blank.

Harvested Items from Circle Conversations

If your best friend were asked what gifts you brought to leadership, what would we hear?

- leadership begins with (radical) hospitality
- ability to get things done / organized
- point not just to the thing we do, but the character behind it (kindness / compassion behind bringing food)
- accepting
- inclusive
- fair
- sense of own being
- encouraging
- good listeners
- building bridges
- enthusiasm
- sense of humour
- imagination
- carry through to completion
- clarity
- directness
- empowerment
- not hesitant to take on leadership
- let go and trust
- lead with heart and vulnerability
- being fully present
- challenge
- think outside the box

Remit 6A (1940s Statement of Faith)

- essential as key word to focus us
- indicative of its times (non inclusive) and reflects childhood faith
- comforting
- common language ecumenically
- living document
- would our doctrine be complete without the statement?
- an answer document
- theology resonates for today
- strives for us to be in unity and peace
- historical document reflecting our faith at the time
- we don't throw one out because it's gotten old – it is part of who we are
- how do we get from one to another (if not all are included)
- closer to the Articles of Faith
- general theology is still relevant
- primarily a new testament statement
- credal statements are “snap shots” of where we were
- primacy of scripture; important but not only way
- respecting those who did this work
- if we don't have theological boundaries, it can make people feel like they're alone in an open field

- “in every generation we are called to state our faith afresh” (from the preamble)
- unfolding of the history
- respect for the resonance
- shows that we have grown and sets precedence that we can continue to grow
- hoarding our furniture; at what point do we make the decision
- adopt all three, only put the Song of Faith in *The Manual*
- not being bound to one statement or another
- will *The Manual* become a history book of everything we have ever done

Remit 6B (A New Creed)

- couldn't imagine it not being there
- cadence of poetry that can be memorized
- something from the heart – it resonates, deep and abiding affection
- the era of which we lived?
- we take ownership
- touches us in our own faith experience
- ecumenical; gift to the worldwide church
- it has a place, but is it doctrinal or a religious practice
- could another “New Creed” come from the Song of Faith?
- if we are going to alter the Basis of Union, we will need the supporting documents
- how far do we want to simplify our doctrine
- speaks to people deeply
- open to other senses of spirituality
- UCCan doctrinal statement
- moves beyond academia
- brevity, clarity, breadth
- tool of inclusion
- to say to others, “here’s what we believe”
- to counteract the movements to “return to the doctrine of the UCCan”

Remit 6C (The Song of Faith)

- common language of the day – an interpretation for its time
- good study document, yet inadequate
- core thoughts that are not easy to find
- not concise enough
- appreciation for Jesus / his ministry / how that is reflected
- followers of Jesus “in our time and place”
- too confessional / sense of shame and not acceptance
- truth of what happens of our brokenness and invitation to remain humble
- are they “Cherished, honoured and living” expressions of our faith?
- we are about talking about our faith, what happens if we enshrine it
- pushes us to wrestle in deeper conversations
- it's not intended to be memorized, but to be reflected on
- what harm could be done by including or excluding any of these statements
- does this honour all the voices?