



MINUTES OF  
**EXECUTIVE**  
Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery

OF BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE  
The United Church of Canada

November 17, 2011

HOME OF IVY THOMAS  
KAMLOOPS, BRITISH COLUMBIA

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- PRESENT** Dawne Taylor, Don Seaton, Elaine Diggle, Louise Burton, Reta Robertson, Leslie Stirling, Steve Hershey (Chair of Management Team), Graham Brownmiller (Secretary), Karen Medland (Chair), Ivy Thomas (Conference Minister)
- GUEST** Treena Duncan (BC Conference Personnel Minister)
- REGRETS** Teri Meyer, Jim Hannah, Joanne Koster, Ian Fraser, Norma Fraser, Lily Watson
- AUTHORITY & CALL TO ORDER** Pursuant to the authority of the 2011 Fall Meeting of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery (KOP), the Executive of KOP was Called to Order at 10 am at the home of Ivy Thomas, Kamloops, BC and was declared open to conduct the business properly before it, Chair Karen Medland presiding. A quorum was present.
- OPENING WORSHIP** Graham Brownmiller led worship that included prayers for Kent & Suzanne Israel, Summerland United Church, Oasis & Penticton United Churches and all ministries of the Presbytery.
- PENTICTON UNITED & OASIS UNITED CHURCH CONVERSATION** The Executive is gathered to have conversation regarding the continuing situation in Penticton. Treena Duncan, BC Conference Personnel Minister, joined the Executive for part of the conversation.
- Having received correspondence from both Oasis United Church and Penticton United Church, in regards to the decisions of October 6, 2011, in which both congregations voiced their displeasure and disagreement with our decisions, it is imperative that we continue to do the work of bringing resolution to these two congregations in the remaining matter of the Real Property of Penticton United Church.
- At the Fall Presbytery Meeting in Golden, BC, October 21-23, 2011, it was made clear by representatives of both Oasis United Church and Penticton United Church that they would like to be consulted in the resolution of this matter. Therefore, the Executive made the following decisions:
- MOTIONS** **MS** (S. Hershey / L. Burton) that we reconsider the following motion carried on October 6, 2011 by the Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery Executive: *that Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery will fund and appoint a quarter-time Presbytery staff person (.25 FTE) to work with both congregations for one-year to assist them to move effectively into the future and their respective ministries, with the appointment beginning in the spring of 2012.*

**Carried unanimously**

**MS** (S. Hershey / D. Taylor) that Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery will fund and appoint a quarter-time Presbytery staff person (.25 FTE) to work with both congregations for one-year to assist them to move effectively into the future and their respective ministries, with the appointment beginning in the spring of 2012.

**Defeated unanimously**

**MS** (S. Hershey / L. Burton) that we reconsider the following motion carried on October 6, 2011 by the Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery Executive: that Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery continue to recognize the interest of the Oasis United Church congregation in the property located at 696 Main Street, Penticton, BC (Penticton United Church); and that Presbytery directs that if at any time in the future the property is sold, that thirty-five percent (35%) of the net proceeds will be forwarded to Oasis United Church; and that until such time, a payment in good faith against such a sale, of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) will be paid to Oasis United Church by December 31, 2013.

**Carried unanimously**

**MS** (S. Hershey / L. Burton) that Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery continue to recognize the interest of the Oasis United Church congregation in the property located at 696 Main Street, Penticton, BC (Penticton United Church); and that Presbytery directs that if at any time in the future the property is sold, that thirty-five percent (35%) of the net proceeds will be forwarded to Oasis United Church; and that until such time, a payment in good faith against such a sale, of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) will be paid to Oasis United Church by December 31, 2013.

**Defeated unanimously**

**MS** (D. Taylor / L. Burton) that we reconsider the following motion carried on October 6, 2011 by the Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery Executive: that if the payment in good faith of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) is not made by Penticton United Church by December 31, 2013, Presbytery directs that the payment is made from investment and memorial funds held by Penticton United Church by January 31, 2014; if this is not possible, then we engage section 335(d) of The Manual (2010) which calls for the matter to be addressed through the policies and procedures approved by the General Council for dealing with resolution of conflicts (i.e., Alternate Dispute Resolution).

**Carried unanimously**

**MS** (D. Taylor / L. Burton) that if the payment in good faith of fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000.00) is not made by Penticton United Church by December 31, 2013, Presbytery directs that the payment is made from investment and memorial funds held by Penticton United Church by January 31, 2014; if this is not possible, then we engage section 335(d) of The Manual (2010) which calls for the matter to be addressed through the policies and procedures approved by the General Council for dealing with resolution of conflicts (i.e., Alternate Dispute Resolution).

**Defeated unanimously**

**CONVERSATION  
CONTINUED**

The Executive wished to re-affirm the recognition of Oasis United Church's historic interest in the Real Property of Penticton United Church.

**MS** (L. Stirling / R. Robertson) that Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery continues to recognize the interest of the Oasis United Church congregation in the Real Property located at 696 Main Street, Penticton, BC (Penticton United Church).

**Carried unanimously**

Having recognized this, we also hold up the desire for consultation from both congregations for an affordable and enforceable resolution. The Executive struggled with how to make this happen. The desire of the Executive is to help release the two congregations from dependency on each other, to complete the separation and allow each to continue to fulfill their mission and ministry.

We acknowledge that the Presbytery needs to support both congregations, as it is the right and responsibility of the Presbytery to support all congregations within its bounds.

The Executive is aware that even though we have been dealing with this issue for a number of years, we need to review some previous history in order to make better informed decisions. We want to be expeditious in our working, but we also want to make sure that we are taking care to do the work well. Conversation continued and resulted in the following motion:

***MS** (L. Stirling/ E. Diggle) that we establish a Task Group to determine how the interest of Oasis United Church in the Real Property known as Penticton United Church will be expressed, with the following parameters: a) dealing only with the Real Property of Penticton United Church; b) a recommendation will be made to the Presbytery Executive by March 15, 2012 that will result in a final decision by the Executive by April 30, 2012; c) the decision will strive to be one that is both affordable and enforceable; and d) that does not force the sale of or the taking out of a mortgage against the Real Property of Penticton United Church.*

**Carried unanimously**

***MS** (D. Seaton / D. Taylor) that this Task Group be made up of three (3) people; one (1) named by the Presbytery Executive as chair, one (1) appointed lay person from each of Oasis United Church and Penticton United Church; and that all three have a vote. This Task Group will be named by December 15, 2011 and if either of the congregations fails to appoint someone, the work of the Task Group will continue despite that vacancy and the decision of the Presbytery Executive will be binding.*

**Carried unanimously**

By consensus the Executive directed the Chair and Conference Minister to appoint the chair of this Task Group.

The Secretary will communicate these decisions to Oasis United Church and Penticton United Church.

**NEXT MEETING**

The Executive will next meet when called by desire of the Leadership Circle and/or Management Team.

**BLESSING**

Chair, Karen Medland offered a blessing.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Having reached the order of the day, we adjourned.

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Karen Medland, Chair

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Graham Brownmiller, Secretary