



MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE

Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE
The United Church of Canada

27 April 2015
CONFERENCE CALL

PRESENT	Don Seaton, Marion Hollingshead, Reta Robertson, Leslie Ross (Secretary), Norma Fraser (Chair), Leslie Stirling (Treasurer), Stephen Hershey, Ian Fraser, and Bari Castle Guest: Ken Jones
REGRETS	Ivy Thomas (Conference Minister).
AUTHORITY & CALL TO ORDER	Pursuant to the authority of the Spring Meeting (February 13-15, 2015) of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery (KOP), the Executive of KOP was Called to Order at 10:02 am. Norma Fraser (Chair) presided. A quorum was present. The meeting was called so that Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery could <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • make decisions regarding property and major renovations, • decide on the next steps for the work with the Congregational Vitality Resource, • provide feedback to our representatives attending a gathering of presbyteries to discuss the Effective Leadership Project, • make decisions regarding proposals coming out of the conversations held to discuss the final report of the Comprehensive Review Task Group, • elect an alternate nominee for General Council Commissioner, and • elect lay presbyters to BC Conference.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	Motion: (Reta Robertson / Marion Hollingshead) that the agenda be adopted as circulated. Carried.
OPENING PRAYER	Don Seaton led us in prayer.
PROPERTY AND MAJOR RENOVATIONS	
PARTIAL RELEASE OF EASEMENT FROM MORTGAGE HELD BY NARAMATA CHURCH AGAINST PROPERTY OF PLURA HILLS UNITED CHURCH	Motion: (Don Seaton / Leslie Stirling) that Kamloops Okanagan Presbytery give consent to Trustees of the Naramata Church congregation of The United Church of Canada at Naramata, in the Province of British Columbia, to execute and deliver a partial release of Easement KM89994 from the lands and premises situate in the City of Kamloops, in the Province of British Columbia: PID: 029-387-299 Lot A Section 25 Township 19 range 18 w6m Kamloops Division Yale District Plan epp43314 (the "Lands"), And that any two Trustees are authorized to sign the partial discharge of Easement KM89994 on behalf of the Trustees of the Naramata Church congregation of The United Church of Canada. Carried.

TRANSFER OF BUILDING AT HEDLEY AS REQUESTED BY CAWSTON PASTORAL CHARGE **Motion: (Don Seaton / Leslie Stirling)** that Kamloops Okanagan Presbytery give consent to Trustees of Cawston Pastoral Charge of The United Church of Canada at Cawston, in the Province of British Columbia, to the sale of the United Church building, located on provincial Crown land at 856 Ellis Street, Hedley BC V0X 1K0 from the Cawston Pastoral Charge to Hedley Grace Church. The purchase price payable for the building shall be \$1 payable to Cawston Pastoral Charge.

And that any two Trustees are authorized to sign the sales agreement and supporting documents on behalf of the Trustees of the Cawston Pastoral Charge.

Carried.

MAJOR RENOVATION BY ST. ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH, ENDERBY **Motion: (Don Seaton / Leslie Stirling)** that Kamloops Okanagan Presbytery give consent to Trustees of St Andrew's United Church of The United Church of Canada at Enderby, in the Province of British Columbia, to make a major renovation at St Andrew's United Church building, 1110 Belveder Street, Enderby, BC, by the installation of a lift at a cost estimated to be \$74,000. This consent replaces the prior consent to construct a ramp. **Carried.**

MORTGAGE FINANCING FOR ST. PAUL'S UNITED, KELOWNA **Motion: (Don Seaton / Leslie Stirling)** that That Kamloops Okanagan Presbytery give consent to the Trustees of St Paul's United Church, a congregation and Pastoral Charge of the United Church of Canada:

To mortgage property for securing finance of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Lot 1, district **Lots 14 and 135 Osoyoos Division Yale District Plan 34984 except plans 35454 and KAP67299** and the municipal address of which is **3131 Lakeshore Road, Kelowna, BC, Canada V1W 3S9**, pursuant to an agreement between the Board of Trustees of St Paul's United Church, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, as owner dated the 23rd day of April, 2015, the terms of which are:

- Issue mortgage approval to Valley First Credit Union to enable the securing letter of credit (loan) for the design and construction of St. Paul's Arts & Worship Centre:
 - Develop a new church building which is responsive to the changing needs of the congregation and community, opening up new opportunities for inclusiveness and providing a welcoming environment for the community.
 - Secure an initial \$450,000 line of credit to pay for 'soft' development, design and engineering costs of the building.
 - Secure a construction finance loan of \$2,690,000 available on a draw basis during the construction of the building. The loan will concur with the stipulated price contract for construction and released on progress draws.
 - The total loan amount will not exceed the sum of the above two components (\$3,140,000) and not ever exceed project equity value.
- Construction is planned to begin in 2015. Upon completion of the project there will be a return of capital to St. Paul's United Church from the sale of lands/buildings to Sandevco Properties Inc.

Carried.

PROPERTY AND MANSE WORKING UNIT Don Seaton reports that Rob Couch plans to dedicate Thursday afternoons to work on property and manse matters. A new e-mail has been set up for contacting him: property@kopunited.ca

CONGREGATIONAL VITALITY RESOURCE **Motion: (Ian Fraser / Reta Robertson)** that this item be tabled to the next face-to-face meeting of the Executive. **Carried.**

- EFFECTIVE LEADERSHIP PROJECT** Norma Fraser and Ken Jones will be attending a gathering of representatives from presbyteries at the Conference office on April 30 to receive feedback about the Effective Leadership Project and what Conference can do to further support presbyteries in this Project as well as to discuss the role of presbytery into the future. Marion Hollingshead will be attending as a member of the Conference Committee. Norma Fraser will provide information about the Congregational Vitality Resource; Ken Jones, the Sounding Board. Individuals are asked to e-mail Norma Fraser and Ken Jones with any comments or concerns that they have by Wednesday, April 29.
- PROPOSALS** Individuals that attended Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery’s southern conversation about the Comprehensive Review Task Group’s final report have developed two proposals to be forwarded to BC Conference.
- Motion: (Stephen Hershey / Bari Castle)** that Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery forwards the proposal titled “Concerning Covenants” to BC Conference with concurrence. **Carried.** It is attached as Appendix 1 on page 4 of these minutes.
- Motion: (Stephen Hershey / Bari Castle)** that Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery forwards the proposal titled “Amending *United in God’s Work*” to BC Conference with concurrence. **Carried.** It is attached as Appendix 2 on pages 5 to 6 of these minutes.
- Norma Fraser reported that about 45 attended the Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery’s northern conversation about the Comprehensive Review Task Group’s final report. A committee of Leslie Ross, Kathy Johnson, and Martha Ashbaugh will be writing proposals based on the deliberations. Another Executive conference call meeting will be required.
- ELECTION OF LAY REPRESENTATIVES TO BC CONFERENCE** **Motion: (Leslie Ross / Leslie Stirling)** that all lay members of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery be elected as lay members of BC Conference. **Carried.**
- Electing lay members to BC Conference needs to be an action of all Spring Presbyteries prior to a BC Conference General Meeting.
- Stephen Hershey left the conference call prior to the next item.
- GENERAL COUNCIL COMMISSIONER** LeAnn Blackert has informed Norma Fraser that she would no longer be able to let her name stand as a nominee for Commissioner to the 2015 General Council. Other than Jim Hannah who had also been elected as a nominee, Rev. Stephen Hershey was the only other order of ministry person to put his name forward at the 2015 meeting of Spring Presbytery.
- Motion: (Reta Robertson/ Leslie Stirling)** that Rev. Stephen Hershey be elected to be a clergy representative nominee for Commissioner to 2015 General Council in Cornerbrook. **Carried.**
- In future, when electing nominees for Commissioners to General Council, Presbytery should also elect alternate lay and order of ministry nominees.
- ADJOURNMENT** Norma Fraser adjourned the meeting at 10:57 am with a prayer lifting up concerns for the people of Nepal and all affected by the earthquake as well as blessings for us.

Norma Fraser, Chair

Leslie Ross, Secretary

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Appendix 1

General Council Proposal 2015

Proposal Name: **CONCERNING COVENANTS**
 Originating Body: Kamloops Okanagan Presbytery
 Financial Implications: none
 Staffing Implications: none
 Source of Funding: n/a
 Recipient: GENERAL COUNCIL 42
 Proposed Action: **That the 42nd General Council eliminate the requirement of Covenants between Communities of Faith and the Regional Councils in the United in God's Work Proposal: A Three Council Model.**

Background:

1. There is no rationale given for the creation of the Covenants between a Community of Faith and the Regional Council.
2. Nowhere in the report or background material are we told that should we adopt a new Governance Model that existing Communities of Faith would no longer be part of the United Church of Canada and that each would have to rejoin by covenant as implied in the Three Council Model Proposal pages 4 and 5.
3. There is confusion regarding the frequency of the making and renewal of covenants. (e.g. Report & Background material say renewed yearly, p. 21. Proposal #3 Three Council Model says a Covenant would happen but has no mention of yearly renewals, p. 4)
4. If Covenants were made yearly as suggested in the Report & Background material, we may find ourselves in a chaotic state if Communities of Faith refuse to covenant based on theological, financial, or other reasons. What would happen to the Minister, the mission of the Community of Faith, or the Property?
5. The responsibilities outlined in the Sample Covenant could easily be delineated within the body of Three Council Proposed Model itself.

Intermediate Court Action:

Pastoral Charge Action (if applicable)

- Concurrence
 Non-Concurrence
 Comments

Presbytery Action (if applicable)

- Concurrence
 Non-Concurrence
 Comments

Concurrence to this proposal was given by Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery at its Executive Meeting held by teleconference on April 27, 2015.

Appendix 2

General Council Proposal 2015

Proposal Name: **Amending *United in God's Work***
 Originating Body: Kamloops Okanagan Presbytery
 Financial Implications: unknown
 Staffing Implications: unknown
 Source of Funding:
 Recipient: GENERAL COUNCIL 42
 Proposed Action: **That the 42nd General Council amend the proposals of “United in God’s Work” to accomplish and reflect these goals:**

with respect to ‘Governance’

1. Lessen the Denominational Council power and authority; and
2. Strengthen the power and authority of Regional Councils.
 for instance: budget and assessment setting at the Regional Council with Denominational Council providing their financial needs for inclusion in the budget process of the Regional Council
 the separation of M&S and governance (admin) funding is enhanced when financing the governance of the church is done at the Regional Council and M&S operations at the Denominational Council
 the General Secretary be one among equals of the Regional secretaries. Regional secretaries to be employed and accountable to their Regional Councils.
3. Policy matters, while decided at Denominational Council, be formulated out of the desires and concerns of the Regional Councils.
4. Increase the number of Regional Councils to reflect the diversity and breadth of our geography, and to be close enough to the communities of faith to adequately respond to their passions and pastoral care needs.
5. Encourage Regional Councils to be more adaptable to identify the needs and thus provide more localized resources and support to Communities of Faith.

with respect to Ministry Personnel

1. Delete the notion of the College of Ministers and leave formation and oversight of ministry personnel with the Regional Councils. With the unfolding experience of the pilot project, “Emerging Leadership,” skills and procedures have been developed to continue this piece of ministry.
2. Establish a national office of Vocation as an administrative office (to function on behalf of the Regional Councils) to register ministry personnel and keep records.

3. Denominational Council to act in support of the Regional Councils by
 - a. setting standards for ministry,
 - b. handling administration of benefits and pensions,
 - c. processing formal hearings and complaints, and
 - d. advocating for ministers on conditions of employment.

The Proposal for the Association of Ministers be considered within these responsibilities:

- a. provide support
- b. ensure standards are being met
- c. promote solidarity and collegiality with other clergy

Background:

This proposal comes out of conversation with these concerns:

- a perception of a model of church that shifts away from theological language and action, distancing ourselves from whom we are as church and our historical process;
- an increased role for the staff of the Denominational Council who are most usually located in Central Canada;
- a fear of an unintended consequence: With the suggestion of only 4 or 5 regional councils nationally, the ability to respond and provide resources to smaller and/or geographically outlying communities of faith will be reduced. As people of faith, we are regularly invited to care for the small one. We fear that too few Regional Councils could, to all intents and purposes, render them invisible.
- an appreciation for elements of the response of the Maritime Conference to the document *Fishing on the Other Side*.

Intermediate Court Action:

Pastoral Charge Action (if applicable) Concurrence
 Non-Concurrence

Comments

Presbytery Action (if applicable) Concurrence
 Non-Concurrence

Comments:

Concurrence to this proposal was given by Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery at its Executive Meeting held by teleconference on April 27, 2015.