



## MINUTES OF KAMLOOPS-OKANAGAN PRESBYTERY

OF BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE  
The United Church of Canada

February 13-15, 2015

HOSTED BY PENTICTON UNITED CHURCH  
PENTICTON, BRITISH COLUMBIA

### Friday, February 13, 2015

<b>PRESENT</b>	<p><b>Ministry Personnel / Recognized Designated Lay Ministers:</b> Juanita Austin, LeAnn Blackert, Bruce Chalmers, Richard Chung, Bruce Comrie, Elaine Diggle, Lynn Elliott, Kathy Hogman, Armand Houle, Ken Jones, Nick Judson, Carolyn Ronald, Jeff Seaton, Sandra Stickney, Laura Turnbull, Sharilynn Upsdell; <b>RDLM:</b> Jim Hannah, Cheryl Perry, Carol Shatford</p> <p><b>Retired Order of Ministry:</b> Harvey Barker, Mark Bedford, Gloria Christian, Stephen Hershey, Ann Pollock, Elaine Smith</p> <p><b>Student Ministers:</b> Wade Lifton, Ian McLean</p> <p><b>Lay Delegates:</b> Berva Armitage, Shawna Banman, Cathie Basket, Bob Blakely, Beth Campbell, Betty Chenoweth, Rob Couch, Katy Cox, Luise Denter, Ian Fraser, Norma Fraser (Chair), Audrey Frisken, Nan Hendrie, Heather Jackson, Kathy Johnson, Marion Kozier, Linda Langevin, Megan Loyer, Sheila MacDermott, Rollanda Mailloux, Nina Maricle, Kris Nickerson, Rose Perkins, Rhonda Pigott, Geri Pronovost, Edith Rice, Robert Riddle, Reta Robertson, Helen Ross, Mary Schooff, Leslie Stirling, Judy Tolhurst</p> <p><b>Members at Large:</b> Martha Ashbaugh, Lee Fraser, Dee Hershey (Registrar), Marion Hollingshead, Janet McDonald, Leslie Ross (Secretary), Don Seaton, Peggy Whitley</p> <p><b>Youth Council:</b> Brianna Huet, Tayana Simpson</p> <p><b>BC Conference Staff:</b> Ivy Thomas</p> <p><b>Past Moderator:</b> Marion Best</p> <p><b>Camp Representative:</b> Nancy House</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> Hugh Chown, Pat Chown, Mary Herbert, Sharon Hoffman, Lenore McLean, Marlene Smail</p>
<b>REGRETS</b>	<p><b>Ministry Personnel / Recognized Designated Lay Ministers:</b> Bari Castle, Sheila Dunbar, Brian Krushel, Karen Medland, Rick Potter</p> <p><b>Retired Order of Ministry:</b> Wayne Atkinson, Lorraine Powell, Dawne Taylor, Lily Watson</p> <p><b>Lay Delegates:</b> Marena Glacier, Beryl Itani, Abigail Rutley, Pat Totten</p> <p><b>Members at Large:</b> Susan Sullivan</p> <p><b>Guests:</b> Jack Best</p>
<b>PRE-PRESBYTERY WORKSHOP</b>	<p>Ministry personnel met with the Sounding Board, formerly the Kamloops-Okanagan Pastoral Relations Working Unit, to discern the needs of ministry personnel and discuss possible ways to meet them in light of the changes in structure and process resulting from BC Conference's Effective Leadership Project.</p>
<b>NEWCOMER ORIENTATION</b>	<p>Stephen Hershey gave newcomers an orientation to the structure and workings of Presbytery.</p>
<b>DINNER</b>	<p>Norma Fraser led us in a blessing for our meal. Volunteers from Penticton United Church provided supper.</p>

<b>WORSHIP</b>	We gathered for worship based on Mark 1: 1-12, recognizing how we are rooted in baptism, as a way to lead us into the weekend's theme of <i>Vitality in our Congregations</i> .																														
<b>AUTHORITY &amp; CALL TO ORDER</b>	Pursuant to the authority of the 2014 Fall Meeting of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery, the 2015 Spring Meeting was Called to Order in the Hall of Penticton United Church, Penticton, BC and was declared open to conduct the business properly before it with Chair Norma Fraser presiding. A quorum was present.																														
<b>ADOPTION OF AGENDA</b>	<b>Motion: (Reta Robertson / Martha Ashbaugh)</b> that the agenda be accepted as amended. <b>Carried.</b>																														
<b>MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING</b>	<b>Motion: (Leslie Ross / Rob Riddle)</b> that the minutes of the October 24-26, 2014 meeting of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery be adopted as circulated. <b>Carried.</b>																														
<b>CORRESPONDING PRIVILEGES</b>	<b>Motion: (Stephen Hershey / Laura Turnbull)</b> that Corresponding Privileges be granted to visitors and guests to this meeting of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery. <b>Carried.</b>																														
<b>GREETINGS &amp; INTRODUCTIONS</b>	<p>Norma Fraser, Chair, welcomed everyone to the Spring Presbytery meeting. She thanked the Worship Animation Working Unit, naming Armand Houle, Cheryl Perry, Linda Langevin, and Rose Perkins, for the leadership with the evening's worship. Sheila McDermott welcomed us to Penticton United Church.</p> <p>Norma Fraser asked that new members and guests to Presbytery be identified and welcomed.</p> <table border="0" style="margin-left: 40px;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>Introducer</u></th> <th style="text-align: center;"><u>New Member or Guest</u></th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Kathy Hogman</td> <td>Audry Frisken</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Laura Turnbull</td> <td>Sheila MacDermott and Marion Kozier</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lyne Elliott</td> <td>Helen Ross</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Elaine Diggle</td> <td>Mary Schoof</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nan Hendrie</td> <td>Hugh and Pat Chown</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Wade Lifton</td> <td>Heather Jackson</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lynn Elliott</td> <td>Mary Hebert</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Carol Shatford</td> <td>Mark Bedford</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Katy Cox</td> <td>Marlene Smaill</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Jim Hannah</td> <td>Rhonda Piggott</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Leslie Stirling</td> <td>Nancy House</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Ken Jones</td> <td>Beth Campbell</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Shelia McDermott</td> <td>Ann Pollock</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Nan Hendrie</td> <td>Wade Lifton</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	<u>Introducer</u>	<u>New Member or Guest</u>	Kathy Hogman	Audry Frisken	Laura Turnbull	Sheila MacDermott and Marion Kozier	Lyne Elliott	Helen Ross	Elaine Diggle	Mary Schoof	Nan Hendrie	Hugh and Pat Chown	Wade Lifton	Heather Jackson	Lynn Elliott	Mary Hebert	Carol Shatford	Mark Bedford	Katy Cox	Marlene Smaill	Jim Hannah	Rhonda Piggott	Leslie Stirling	Nancy House	Ken Jones	Beth Campbell	Shelia McDermott	Ann Pollock	Nan Hendrie	Wade Lifton
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<b>GIFTS &amp; CALLINGS</b>	Reta Robertson announced that she has completed two terms for the Gifts and Callings Working Unit. Therefore, there is a need for someone to serve on Gifts and Callings. The Worship Animation Working Unit also needs more individuals. Nan Hendrie thanked Reta Robertson for years of service, a sentiment that was echoed by the court.																														
<b>COMMISSIONERS PROCESS</b>	Ian Fraser explained the process for nominating and electing Commissioners to General Council. Two order of ministry delegates and two lay delegates are to be nominated from Presbytery and will be included in the list of those nominated to become Commissioners at BC Conference. The first step at this meeting will be for those interested in being nominated to submit in writing the name of the person to be nominated and the nominator to Leslie Ross by 1:30 pm on Saturday. During Saturday afternoon, the nominees to be forwarded to BC Conference will be selected by ballot.																														
<b>GETTING TO KNOW EACH OTHER / CIRCLE PROCESS</b>	Ivy Thomas introduced the circle process, explaining the purpose of the candle, talking piece, chime or bell, and agreement card that were found on each table. Presbyters were then asked to use that process as a way of getting to know the people sitting with them by sharing their name, where they were from, and the answer to "What did it take for you to get here today?"																														
<b>THEME</b>	Norma Fraser introduced the Leadership Circle members who were present: Rob Riddle, Elaine Diggle, Martha Ashbaugh, and Kathy Hogman. They would be leading the theme sessions.																														

Rob Riddle provided background information. As a result of BC Conference's Effective Leadership, Healthy Pastoral Relations Pilot Project, there needed to be a change in the pastoral oversight process. Congregations are now responsible for evaluating their own vitality rather than having presbytery oversight visits. Leadership Circle had been asked to discover and develop a new way to do pastoral oversight in Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery. The start of that occurred during Fall Presbytery when presbyters created the Congregational Vitality Resource. The Leadership Circle requested that congregations pilot the survey to discover how it could be used in congregations. The desire was to create a tool that would be adaptable to different congregational settings.

Martha Ashbaugh moderated a reporting time in which presbyters shared how the Congregational Vitality Resource was used in their congregations. The intent of this time was to hear about the process and not the outcome. Implementation of the resource would be explored on Saturday.

<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Congregation</b>	<b>Report</b>
Kathy Hogman	Westbank United Church	The church's Visioning Team hosted a congregational gathering after church with lunch to be served after the meeting. There were five table groups with a different question from the survey at each group. Comments were recorded on chart paper. After ten minutes, the question sheet was moved to the next table. This was repeated until all the table groups had a chance to respond to each question. The charts were put up on a wall for a week so that people could add to the charts. The Visioning Team put the results together in a report. They felt that the process was good for them.
Barb Godsmark	Penticton United Church	As a result of the Presbytery Report to the December Council Meeting, the Council chose the six questions that they thought would generate the most discussion. Two weeks prior to the Annual Congregational Meeting, the six questions plus two others pertinent to the congregation were put in the bulletin asking people to be prepared to discuss them at the ACM. The discussion went well with the responses being collated for the executive to decide the next step. The results will be published in the newsletter. They thought the process was good, thinking that it might have been improved if a question from each of the categories had been chosen. They may choose one or two questions to be discussed during coffee hour time over the next few months.
Elaine Diggle	Peachland United Church	Copies of the questions were taken to the next Board meeting. She used sermon time to have a conversation about a few of the questions with responses being written on sticky notes and then placed on the wall. These responses were collated. From the feedback, this process did not work that well. Some did not know how to respond to the questions. She is concerned that this may be more difficult to implement in smaller congregations.
Juanita Austin	Sicamous United Church	Over the course of several Sundays, the congregation went through the same process that was used at Presbytery. The communion service was used the first Sunday; the sticky note exercise was done the next Sunday. On another Sunday, small groups discussed vitality in diversity based on the scripture reading for that Sunday. Questions were formulated on another Sunday. A circle conversation based on the questions and sticky notes occurred. There was holy delight in

		observing the conversations. The process would be great if the congregation is healthy, but is not sure how well it would work if there were any difficulties.
Rob Riddle	First United Church, Kelowna	There was a brief meeting with the Board to decide how it should be introduced to the congregation. It could be overwhelming considering the number of questions. Some thought the Resource was too positive; that real issues were avoided. Others thought that those issues would arise during conversations. There was also a question about why there was so little about some topics, such as stewardship and the building.
Lynn Elliott	First United Church, Salmon Arm	The Resource was taken to the transition team who was planning a workshop on visioning. It was used as a tool to “kick start” the planning.
Ken Jones	Revelstoke United Church	Four questions were chosen to be discussed at a congregational meeting.
Nick Judson	Trinity United Church, Merritt	There was some “push back” because there was a reluctance to respond to forms. A conversation was held after church.
Leslie Ross	Clearwater United Church	Since the congregation was overdue for a visit from Presbytery, the Board decided to answer all the questions at one of its meetings.
Ian McLean	St. Andrew’s United Church, Enderby	The process was started by asking a few of the questions.

Martha Ashbaugh concluded the session with the comment that the Leadership Circle had not expected that all the questions would be used. Kathy Hogman outlined the work that would be done during the theme time on Saturday.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ivy Thomas reminded Presbytery that she had tickets for the African Dinner and Presentation being held at Trinity United, Vernon on February 27th.

Jim Hannah announced that Winfield United Church is hosting a weekend led by Rev. Bruce Sanguin on March 13<sup>th</sup> to 14<sup>th</sup> titled “The end of religion? The rise of spiritual wisdom” with Friday being a public event and Saturday being an all day workshop.

Sheila McDermott announced that choir practice would start about 12:45 pm.

Jeff Seaton expressed appreciation from Irene Hart for the prayers and support she has received.

**BENEDICTION**

Jeff Seaton led us in a benediction. We adjourned for the evening at 9:15 pm, noting that we would gather Saturday morning at 8:30 am.

**Saturday, February 14, 2015****GATHERING IN SONG**

We gathered in the hall with song at 8:30 am.

**OPENING WORSHIP**

The Worship Animation Working Unit led us in worship based on Luke 4: 14-21 to help centre us for the day’s work.

**CALL TO ORDER & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Norma Fraser called us back to order. Announcements included a reminder to those needing to leave early to inform Leslie Ross in writing and that nominations for Commissioners to General Council were due at 1:30 pm. As a fundraiser, Youth Council members were creating Valentines that would be delivered at dinner. They also had a card for Irene Hart available for signing.

**GIFTS AND CALLINGS**

Norma Fraser’s term as Chair of Presbytery would be completed at the rise of BC Conference. There was also a vacancy on the Leadership Circle. Individuals interested in letting their name stand for these positions needed to inform members of the Gifts and Callings Working Unit by the end of the afternoon’s Wellness Break.

<b>THEME DISCUSSION AND WELLNESS BREAK</b>	<p>The Leadership Circle continued leading the theme discussion.</p> <p>Elaine Diggle described the revision to the Congregational Vitality Resource created at Fall Presbytery. Presbyters were asked to work in table groups to refine the process, looking for desired changes, errors, and omissions.</p> <p>After a refreshment break, Kathy Hogman led the work on how to implement this resource in our Presbytery. Questions to be considered were How often/frequency? Who should facilitate the use of this resource? Should there be a written record? Given to whom? For whom? For what purpose? What follow up should there be?</p> <p>Responses were recorded for the Leadership Circle to compile and to create a report to be presented later in the meeting.</p>										
<b>WORKING UNITS MEETING TIME</b>	Working Units met to discuss business.										
<b>LUNCH</b>	Leslie Ross led us in grace. Volunteers from Penticton United Church served lunch. Choir practice for Sunday's service was held.										
<b>GATHERING IN MUSIC</b>	<p>We gathered with song.</p> <p>Norma Fraser called the meeting to order, thanking those who provided lunch and last night's dinner. She introduced Tayana Simpson from Zion United Armstrong who is the Youth Representative on the BC Conference Executive.</p>										
<b>PRESBYTERY, CONFERENCE, GENERAL COUNCIL LEADERSHIP</b>	<p>Using slides, Ian Fraser presented information about the organization, structure, and work of the courts of the United Church of Canada. He began with giving some current statistics.</p> <table border="0" style="width: 100%;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Congregations – 3075</td> <td style="width: 50%;">Counciliar Organizations</td> </tr> <tr> <td>464,000 members</td> <td>Basic unit – pastoral charges - 2182</td> </tr> <tr> <td>158,000 worship regularly</td> <td>Presbyteries / Districts - 86</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2250 Ministry personnel</td> <td>Conferences - 13</td> </tr> <tr> <td>2100 retired ministry personnel</td> <td>General Council - 1</td> </tr> </table> <p>Congregations meet weekly.          Presbyteries meet monthly or quarterly or semi annually.          Conferences for the most part meet annually.          General Council meets every three years with 380 commissioners (voting) and about 600 attending in total.</p> <p>The system of governance has its foundation in the Book of Acts. Each organization gathers to be guided by the Holy Spirit.</p> <p><u>Primary roles</u>          Congregations: public worship, sacraments, Christian Education, Pastoral Care, membership          Presbyteries: oversight of congregations, ministry personnel, pastoral relationships, and property          Conferences: admission to order of ministry; oversight of presbyteries          General Council: doctrine (belief); polity (govern); oversight of conferences</p> <p>Recently there have been some shifts in these roles. For instance pastoral relations has moved from presbyteries to Conferences. At the Presbytery level, the shift for pastoral charges is to assist mission development rather than pastoral oversight, and the shift for ministry personnel is from oversight to care and collegiality.</p> <p>BC Conference's mission is healthy congregations and ministries; effective leadership; and faithful public witness. It uses outcome statements to describe how the mission will be achieved. The Conference Executive meets twice a year. Its minutes can be found on the BC Conference website at <a href="http://www.bc.united-church.ca/minutes">http://www.bc.united-church.ca/minutes</a>.</p> <p>The next shifts may occur as the result of the Comprehensive Review Task Force Report that will be presented at General Council 42 in August. General Council can change bylaws. However, any changes to the Basis of Union have to come back to presbyteries and, sometimes, congregations in the form of remits. The Court at the congregational level is the Board of a pastoral charge.</p>	Congregations – 3075	Counciliar Organizations	464,000 members	Basic unit – pastoral charges - 2182	158,000 worship regularly	Presbyteries / Districts - 86	2250 Ministry personnel	Conferences - 13	2100 retired ministry personnel	General Council - 1
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**CONFERENCE MINISTER** Ivy Thomas reported. In BC conference, there are five (5) Conference Ministers doing work in nine (9) of the presbyteries. In clarifying her role, she explained that she no longer was to be pro-active about pastoral care of ministry personnel. She had been the only Conference Minister who had that responsibility in the job description. Her time now would be primarily spent with Ministry & Personnel Committees and the Ministry Profile Search process. The Effective Leadership Project of BC Conference is very clear that Presbytery is to provide pastoral care for ministry personnel.

There are three BC Conference committees: Pastoral Relations, Pastoral Relations Working Group, and Oversight Committee – Disciplinary action. The first is primarily a policy development group. The second does much of the work that had been done by presbytery Pastoral Relations Committees. They approve calls and transfers; make appointments; and consider and approve Ministry Profile Search Reports. The last one provides oversight of ministry personnel. Resources and forms are available on the Conference website.

Presbytery still has oversight of congregations. Ivy Thomas will facilitate this work.

## PRESBYTERY BUSINESS

### WORKING UNIT

#### REPORTS

**ADMINISTRATION** Don Seaton reported that there would be no further reports than what were in the Information and Reports Package excepting for the Registrar's report.

**DISCIPLESHIP**

- **Stewardship and M&S**  
Mark Bedford reported on the Working Unit's meeting. His report is attached to these minutes [Appendix 1, page 11].

**HUMAN RESOURCES**

- **Educational Support Committee**  
Richard Chung reported.  
**Motion: (Richard Chung / Laura Turnbull)** that the applicants Louise Burton, Darlene Cockerill, Fern Gibbard, Victor Ince, Lillian Mcleod, Judy Ritcey, and Diane Stuart be relicensed with Kamloops Okanagan Presbytery as Licensed Lay Worship leaders for the February 2015 to February 2016 period. **Carried.**
- **Sounding Board**  
Marion Best reported that sixteen (16) ministry personnel attended the Pre-Presbytery Workshop. Three proposals for future support were gleaned from the workshop. The Sounding Board would meet the last week of February and distribute a proposal to ministry personnel for consideration in March.

**COMPREHENSIVE REVIEW CONVERSATIONS IN PRESBYTERY** **Motion: (Kathy Hogman / Elaine Diggle)** that the gatherings in April 2015, called to examine the Comprehensive Review document be constituted as official meetings of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery for the purpose of transmitting proposals about the document to BC Conference. After discussion, the mover and seconder withdrew this motion.

Norma Fraser told the meeting that she would call meetings of the Executive following the meetings that have been organized to discuss the report of the Comprehensive Review Task Group being held in Summerland and Kamloops to respond to any proposals that are formulated as a result of those meetings.

**CORRESPONDENCE** Leslie Ross reported that some of the correspondence has been forwarded to appropriate individuals and groups.

- Memorandum from Susan Jackson, Information & Statistics Coordinator, dated January 14, 2015 regarding the 2014 Statistical and Information Forms, Procedures for Monitoring Returns of Statistical Forms, and Updating Presbytery information on the United Church of Canada website.
  - Contact the Secretary if your congregation did not receive your statistical forms because three blank sets of statistical forms were included in case a pastoral charge needs a replacement set.
- E-mail from Belinda Burke, Youth & Young Adult Ministries of BC Conference, dated January 21, 2015 providing information for Youth at Conference 2015. Each presbytery is eligible to

choose two youth delegates. Presbyteries are to ensure that they have voting status.

- Memorandum from Tom Broadhurst, Information & Statistics Coordinator, dated January 29, 2015 regarding the return of 2013 Statistical Forms for the 2014 Year Book identifying the pastoral charges in our Presbytery who had submitted the forms in time for inclusion in the Year Book. He also mentions that, after almost sixteen years, this will be his last cycle of statistical reporting in that he will be leaving the General Council Office. His position will be filled by Susan Jackson.
- Memorandum from Tom Broadhurst, Information & Statistics Coordinator, dated January 29, 2015 regarding pastoral charge statistics for 2013 that includes the final numbers for our pastoral charges as they will appear in the 2014 Year Book.
  - Contact the Secretary if you need to know any of the numbers for your pastoral charge.
- Letter from Carol J. Shatford, dated February 1, 2015, informing Presbytery that she intends to retire as of June 30, 2015.
- E-mail from Graham Brownmiller, Chair of Sexual Abuse, Prevention, & Response Committee via Brenda Wolff, dated February 4, 2015, indicating that there will be a Sexual Abuse, Prevention, & Response Policy Consultant Training from May 5-7, 2015 with the request to forward the names of four people who you would recommend us approaching to come to the training.
  - Contact Ivy Thomas to recommend yourself or someone you know who has the skills and might be interested in this work. Presently there are just two people in our Presbytery with the training.
- Memorandum from Katie Purych, Assistant to the Executive Secretary, dated February 11, 2015, outlining the information required from Presbytery for the General Meeting of BC Conference.

**ADMISSIONS AND READMISSIONS**

Having received the names of those seeking Admission to the Order of Ministry in the United Church of Canada from Abiel T. Khalema, Ministry & Employment Unit, in memos dated October 22, 2014 and November 28, 2014 and to fulfill a requirement of Admission’s Procedures, the following names were read and recorded in these 2015 Spring Presbytery Minutes:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Denomination</u>	<u>Recommending Conference</u>
Marlene Britton-Walfall	Methodist Church of Caribbean and the Americas	Alberta and Northwest Conference
David M. Crawford	Presbyterian Church in Canada	Alberta and Northwest Conference

Nathan Wright is being recommended for re-admission to the Order of Ministry by BC Conference.

**RESPONSES TO CORRESPONDENCE**

Leslie Stirling requested that the Secretary send a letter of thanks to Tom Broadhurst for all the assistance he has given to the Treasurer and pastoral charges in this Presbytery.

Juanita Austin offered thanks to Carol Shatford for her service in congregations and Presbytery and blessings to her in her retirement.

**REGISTRAR**

Dee Hershey reported.

**By the numbers:**

**15** offered Regrets for not being with us this weekend.

**78** attended the 2015 Spring Presbytery Meeting with a breakdown as follows:

- Order of Ministry and those Retained on the Roll = **16**
- Order of Ministry Retired = **6**
- Recognized Designated Lay Minister = **3**
- Designated Lay Minister = **0**
- Student Minister = **2**
- Lay Delegates = **28**
- Alternate Lay Delegates = **3**
- Member at Large = **8**
- Representative: Camp/UCW = **1**
- Youth Council = **2**

- Guests = 6
- Under the category of Others, there were:
  - 1 Former Lay Moderator
  - 1 Conference Staff
  - 1 Musician

8 were attending a Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery meeting for the first time.

The total number of billets required was 12.

Under the category of food:

- 72 attended the Friday night dinner
- 48 requested Sunday lunch
- 06 required vegetarian meals
- 18 responded to having Food Allergies/Diet Restrictions

And finally, please hand in your nametags before you leave.

#### 7/21 FROM FALL PRESBYTERY

Shawna Banman presented an update on the Sanctuary Project at St. Paul's, Kelowna.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

A Healing Pathways Phase 2 Workshop will be held at Trinity United, Vernon from March 27<sup>th</sup> to 29<sup>th</sup>.

Ian McLean introduced Lenore McLean to the Court.

#### WELLNESS BREAK

A refreshment break was taken.

#### GATHER IN SONG

We were called back to the meeting with lively singing.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Norma Fraser thanked Linda Langevin, Jim Hannah, and the others who were providing music leadership.

Juanita Austin announced that she was still available to visit congregations to share her stories and photos of her pilgrimage to Palestine and Israel. Any donations would be forwarded to Friends of Sabeel – Canada.

#### PERMISSION TO LEAVE EARLY

**Motion: (Leslie Ross / Jeff Seaton)** that the following people be given permission to leave the court early: Wade Lifton, Richard Chung, Ian McLean, Nancy House, Geri Pronovost, Heather Jackson, Mark Bedford, Sandra Stickney, and Carolyn Ronald. **Carried.** As requested, Carolyn Ronald's reasons for leaving early were reported.

#### VITALITY IN OUR CONGREGATIONS REPORT

Kathy Hogman provided the Leadership Circle's report on the feedback received concerning the implementation of the Congregation Vitality Resource. The report is attached to these minutes [Appendix 2, pages 12- 13].

The Leadership Circle recognized that the development of the implementation process requires individuals with skills in dealing with details. Therefore, they are requesting that the Executive organize the leadership for the next stage of this resource's development.

Norma Fraser thanked Kathy Hogman and Leadership Circle for their work.

#### GENERAL COUNCIL COMMISSIONERS

Don Seaton led the process for selecting those Presbytery would nominate to be Commissioners to General Council. Scrutineers would be Leslie Stirling and Laura Turnbull. Four lay delegates were nominated: Katy Cox, Norma Fraser, Kathy Johnson, and Reta Robertson. Three order of ministry delegates were nominated: LeAnn Blackert, Jim Hannah, and Stephen Hershey. Each were given an opportunity to speak to the Court. Don Seaton explained the ballot as the scrutineers distributed them. Jeff Seaton led us in prayer prior to the vote.

The result of the vote was that LeAnn Blackert and Jim Hannah were selected to be the order of ministry nominees and Kathy Johnson and Norma Fraser were selected to be the lay delegate nominees.

**Motion: (Laura Turnbull / Leslie Stirling)** that the names of LeAnn Blackert and Jim Hannah be forwarded to BC Conference as Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery's two order of ministry nominations for General Council Commissioners and the names of Kathy Johnson and Norma Fraser be forwarded to BC Conference as Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery's two lay delegate nominations for General Council Commissioners. **Carried.**



**Motion: (Laura Turnbull / Leslie Stirling)** that the ballots be destroyed. **Carried.**

**GIFTS AND CALLINGS**

Stephen Hershey took the chair. He announced that nominations for Chair of Presbytery were open. Gifts and Callings reported that Norma Fraser and Ken Jones had been nominated. A call for further nominations from the floor was made.

**Motion: (Lee Fraser / Bruce Comrie)** that nominations close. **Carried.**

Ballots were distributed and collected.

**Motion: (Reta Robertson / Sandy Stickney)** that, on the recommendation of Youth Council, Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery appoint Maia Walker, Brianna Huet, and Kiera Millen to be youth representatives to Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery and elect them as voting delegates to BC Conference, with Maia Walker and Brianna Huet being the Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery's representatives to Youth at Conference and Kiera Millen being the alternate. **Carried.**

**Motion: (Reta Robertson / Peggy Whitley)** that Marion Hollingshead be appointed Human Resources Coordinator. **Carried.**

**Motion: (Reta Robertson / Sandy Stickney)** that Stephen Hershey be appointed to the position of Home Missions Convenor. **Carried.**

**Motion: (Reta Robertson / Sandy Stickney)** that Ian Fraser's term as Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery Representative to BC Conference Executive be extended to May 31, 2016. **Carried.**

**EVALUATIONS**

While waiting for the election results, Norma Fraser asked that individuals record three things that worked well for them and one thing that they would like to be examined or rethought. These notes were collected to be used for the evaluation of this Presbytery meeting.

**GIFTS AND CALLINGS**

Stephen Hershey continued chairing the meeting. Reta Robertson announced that Ken Jones had been elected Chair of Presbytery.

**Motion: (Reta Robertson / Peggy Whitley)** that the following

Chair	Ken Jones
Vice-chair	Stephen Hershey
Secretary	Leslie Ross
Treasurer	Leslie Stirling
BC Conference Representative	Ian Fraser
Administration Coordinator	Don Seaton
Discipleship Coordinator	Bari Castle
Human Resources Coordinator	Marion Hollingshead
Youth Minister	vacant
Conference Minister	Ivy Thomas
Gifts and Callings Representative	Peggy Whitley

people be appointed to serve as the Executive of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery until the rise of BC Conference in 2017 with the exception of Ian Fraser whose term concludes May 31, 2016.

**Carried.**

Reta Robertson announced that Janet McDonald would be the third member of the Gifts and Callings Working Unit.

Stephen Hershey thanked those who were completing their terms for their service to Presbytery.

**Motion: (Sandy Stickney / Peggy Whitley)** that the ballots be destroyed. **Carried.**

Norma Fraser resumed the Chair and thanked Reta Robertson for her dedication to the work of Presbytery.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Youth Council reported they had earned \$289.00 from their Valentine sales.

Ivy Thomas thanked Norma Fraser for her service as leadership of Presbytery. The Court indicated its appreciation.

**DINNER**

Ivy Thomas led us in singing "For Health and Strength and Daily Food" as a round for our grace. Dinner was prepared and served by volunteers from Penticton United Church.

**GATHERING IN MUSIC** We gathered with song.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** Norma Fraser thanked our music leaders and those operating the technology.

Naramata Community Church, Okanagan Falls United Church, Osoyoos United Church, Oliver United Church, Summerland United Church, and Oasis United Church were thanked for their contribution of cookies and squares.

Choir practice will be at 9 am, worship will begin at 10 am, and lunch will be served after the service.

**WHAT WE ARE TAKING HOME** In table groups, lists were made of the ideas, images, memories, activities, concerns, information, and joys that presbyters would be taking home with them. As each group reported to the Court, the Secretary collected the lists so that the information could be gathered into a report. It is attached to these minutes [Appendix 3, pages 14 - 16].

**PRAYER** Armand Houle shared the concerns and feelings from some that the closure of Naramata Centre had not been recognized at this Presbytery meeting. Jeff Seaton led us in prayer that celebrated the life-giving work of Naramata Centre, acknowledged the pain, hurt, and loss that many feel with its closure, and asked for wisdom and blessings for those who continue to care for and make decisions about the Centre.

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

PRESBYTERY MEETING DATES	Year	Spring Presbytery		Fall Presbytery	
		Date	Place	Date	Place
	2015	February 13 - 15	Penticton United	October 23 - 25	Mount Paul United, Kamloops
	2016	February 19 - 21	St Mary’s, Sorrento	October 21 - 23	Summerland United

**MOTION TO EMPOWER** **Motion: (Nan Hendrie / Reta Robertson)** that the Presbytery Executive be empowered to carry out the business of Presbytery until Presbytery meets October 23-25, 2015, at Mount Paul United in Kamloops, BC. **Carried.**

**ADJOURNMENT** Norma Fraser declared that this meeting of Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery would adjourn with the benediction at the close of worship on Sunday morning.

**EVENING DEVOTION** The evening concluded with worship, based on Acts 2: 43-47, and included communion with the reminder that symbols – water for baptism, oil for anointing, and the elements of communion – ground us in Christ.

**Sunday, February 15, 2015**

**SUNDAY WORSHIP** Sunday morning worship, beginning at 10:00 am, was celebrated with the Penticton United congregation. During the service, Norma Fraser thanked the congregation for its hospitality and support throughout our weekend meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT** With the benediction at the close of worship, Kamloops Okanagan Fall Presbytery adjourned.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Ken Jones, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Leslie Ross, Secretary

*Balance of this page is intentionally left blank.*

## Appendix 1

**STEWARDSHIP, MISSION AND SERVICE WORKING UNIT****Meeting on Saturday, February 14<sup>th</sup> at Presbytery.**

Four presbyters attended. In the absence of the convener, Mark Bedford led the discussion.

Frequently, in congregations, "stewardship" is not taught or discussed until the Budget is published. Stewardship then is often reduced to "target practice" - hoping/requesting/encouraging members of the congregation to make pledges that will meet the "target".

(In English pubs, they have a dart board on the wall, and people throw darts at it!! In some churches, a budget appears in some format [often a model thermometer with the total budget at the top] and people throw coins and pledges at it!)

Our language around stewardship is often rather negative. e.g.: campaign, fund raising, collection. These terms all tend to downgrade stewardship.

Question: - Is the traditional "budget system" actually a negative practice that limits the offerings and income of the parish? How many Pastoral Charges in K-O Presbytery exceeded their budget last year?

Stewardship work needs to bring the focus onto the fact that stewardship is a basic component of our theology. We believe in a God who gives. If we are to believe that we are created in the "image of God", then we are not truly human until we are by nature Givers.

*"What giving again?" I asked in dismay. "Must I keep giving and giving away?"  
"Oh no," said the Spirit, looking me through. "Just give until God stops giving to you!"*

There is a need to re-discover the theology of giving, - and that is unlikely to happen in simply explaining the budget!

At the root of Stewardship is God's Word to Abraham: " I will bless you, so that you may be a blessing." (Genesis 12:2). This text is a good one to have in mind and heart as we work with congregations/groups/individuals to help move on beyond the all the limitations of budgets and target practice! The budget is actually a very useful "tool" used in money management, but it is not the basic block of stewardship.

What about P.A.R.? (Pre-authorized Remittance) It has been very useful for many people. The big factor is that our offerings are put on the primary front of our financial planning for each month. Our offering is made "up-front" along with other monthly expenses that are automatically paid out of our bank accounts.

**RAW FEEDBACK FROM FEBRUARY MEETING 2015.**  
**WILL REQUIRE REFINEMENT**

**Implementation of Congregation Vitality Resource (this is intended to replace Presbytery Oversight Visitation).**

**How do we implement this resource in our Presbytery and how often do we use it?**

***How often?***

**The Congregation Vitality resource should be used every three years. We recognize that some may choose to use this resource more frequently.**

*(this is the raw information from newsprints)*

*1-3 years, on as an ongoing project.*

***Who should facilitate the use of this resource?***

**Congregational Governing Body would ensure this process is used. They may appoint a committee or an individual to remind them to do this work and create a frame work within which it can happen. In keeping with the United Church ethos congregations will keep in mind that broad representation is best.**

**Some congregations may need an outside facilitator provided by Presbytery/Region. These folk should be trained and available.**

*(this is the raw information from newsprints)*

*Local Church Board,*

*Council or a committee appointed by them.*

*determine capacity of congregation, outside resources need by some congregations (not admin or management) weekend church retreat especially in preliminary phase*

*Outside facilitator, small group of trained people*

*Designate a person in the congregation to make sure it happens, separate from the Board.*

*Need a facilitator ( young person included)*

*Presbytery/District provides trained facilitators.*

*Give questions ahead to ponder.*

*Lay congregation member.*

*Someone from a neighbouring congregation.*

***Should there be a written record?***

**Yes.**

*(this is the raw information from newsprints)*

*Yes, kept by congregation.*

*Yes, chair of council*

*No*

***Report should be given to whom, for what purpose?***

**Congregation. Presbytery/Region?**

*(this is the raw information from newsprints)*

*Attached to AGM, church webpage – congregational use.*

*Any problems identified could be forwarded to appropriate body*

*Keep on track or change lanes – a reality check.*

*Automatically given to wider court and archives.*

***What follow up should there be?***

**There needs to be follow – up both by the local congregation and by Presbytery/Region. How or what that should be is the question!!!!**

*(this is the raw information from newsprints)*

*Within the local congregation*

*Issues identified name and tell the Board and suggest resources*

*Develop clusters of churches to be supportive, discuss vitality, journey together (cluster by similarity in program, issues, struggles, vision.)*

*30 days after Congregational Gathering inform Presbytery Executive and identify follow-up necessary*

*Build the process into a regular review by congregation.*

*Regular yearly progress reports on actions.*

*Who gets to hold up the mirror/ feet to the fire*

*Evaluation process – identify needs and resources available to assist*

**Points to Ponder**

*(this is the raw information from newsprints)*

*If systemic problem, outside help may be needed.*

*What does vitality mean?*

*Experience of Pastoral Oversight as a positive, healthy way of doing accountability*

*How do these changes affect shared ministries?*

*Presbytery needs to equip congregations on Governance, role clarity and lay leadership.*

*Do we have a clear mission and vision and are we living it?*

*Pastoral Care in times of conflict for congregations & ministers*

*Presbytery should review the resource every 2-3 years*

*In times of congregational conflict a different resource may be required. Where in Presbytery do we address the needs of a congregation in crisis?*

## Appendix 3

## **What We Are Taking Home!**

### **Spring Presbytery 2015**

#### **Tangibles**

- extra pounds! / a full stomach
- chocolate treats
- Valentines and the messages / great Valentine cards

#### **Appreciations**

- appreciated Ivy's reflection on the circle process and how that facilitated meaningful discussions
- prayer about & for the delegates to General Council
- prayer for retired / retiring people
- music, prayer, and humour to help to keep things flowing
- thanks for Ian Fraser's clear explanation of the courts of the church
- very full stomachs from the delicious food
- we have eaten well & been treated to exceptional hospitality from this congregation
- hospitality of this church
- Valentine theme decorations
- the Youth's Valentines idea
- Valentines and the messages
- the enthusiasm and efforts of the young people
- Healing touch
- chair kept us ahead of time
- keeping to the schedule in the agenda
- appreciate that we are not going to 9 or 10 as in the past
- good to meet new folks
- funny, punny companions
- good involvement in the process throughout the weekend
- good to be in table groups the whole Presbytery, really got to know folk
- met new people
- grateful for past leadership and looking forward to going forward
- appreciation of the many volunteer hours
- new ideas & sense of anticipation about what's coming
- encouragement
- renewed sense of purpose

#### **Relationships**

- meeting/connecting with presbytery members up and down the valley
- new acquaintances / new friends
- reconnecting with friends we haven't seen since October / reconnecting with old friends
- meaningful conversations with nice people
- feeling of friendship and family at Presbytery & a safeness I feel that makes it easier to be open
- We now know who everyone is after handing out Valentines!
- good fellowship
- youth: feeling like our opinions matter, like we're equal
- knowing people at our table better
- reconnecting and learning how things have changed, feel part of something much larger / rejuvenating

## Music and Worship

- worship has been very meaningful, nurturing & feeding
- learned new songs / taking home some new music
- music energizes – how can we bring this back – can we record it to show the congregation?
- beautiful Friday evening worship with aspersion baptism
- music really great; good to have Linda back
- the wonderful singing & music
- music – we're blessed to have such wonderful musical leaders
- inspiring worship
- uplifting music
- worship, prayers
- making music together
- love the music

## Congregational Vitality

- nice opportunity to be part of the structuring of the Vitality resource
- Latest draft of Vitality Resource is excellent.
- to hear the different ideas on the Vitality “issue” – showed how different we are; it's the same in our church though no one speaks up about it
- response and participation in Vital congregations exercise
- encouragement for the Vitality check up – doing one item at a time – not all at once
- Enjoyed the Friday stories of congregations using the Congregational Vitality Resource – very helpful
- more understanding of vitality

## Working Units and Workshop Time

- good session on stewardship and M&S
- ideas for getting people to sign up for PAR;
- resource for special gifts; Jane Harding for getting people to put the United Church in their will
- renewed energy for stewardship for work for local congregation
- Pre-presbytery workshop on clergy care
- Sounding Board workshop – options for care for ministry personnel
- a cautious hope about the pre-Presbytery ministry personnel “care” workshop
- Shared Ministries WU gave an opportunity for sharing and discussing the unique aspects of relating to more than one denomination.
- One sixth of KOP's pastoral charges are shared ministries.
- a new understanding of where youth stand in the church
- confidence in where youth stand in the church

## Presbytery

- sense of urgency about need for pastoral support. We need to take care of each other.
- sense that some are overwhelmed by the changes, but there is hope that the Spirit will move us to a solution
- actually voting for a chair of Presbytery – amazing experience
- thankfulness for the efforts and hard work done by the outgoing executive
- respectful listening and dialogue both at tables and on the floor of the court
- sense of hope that many have taken leadership roles but also concern for what challenges lie ahead of us

- hearing about St. Paul's work / progress
- came here not knowing what to expect – I learned a lot – people explained things to me – I see the bigger picture (I'm brand new)
- I've been in mourning since I moved from my old Presbytery; rejuvenated by being here at this Presbytery
- first time attendee – interesting to watch process and interaction

### **BC Conference, the National Church (General Council), the United Church**

- the process of nominating possible commissioners including the explanation was well done
- those who become GC Commissioners – the responsibility with that
- the struggle with how to bring the energy and passion for the wider church back to the local congregation – I want to bring Ian Fraser with me to show the connections – It's bigger than us, bigger than the United Church – ALL God's people
- Ian Fraser's explanation of governance structure
- more understanding of the Courts of the church
- Ian Fraser's clear presentation of church structure – please send out Ian's presentation (power point)
- a greater understanding of what the court system is all about
- clearer understanding of the courts of the church (thanks Ian)
- feeling good about the future (positive) but still anxious about what will come to fruition with the Comprehensive Review
- Will the proposed changes (review) really make a difference to our life and vitality in faithful ministry?
- a process set up for commenting on the Comprehensive Review
- need to get up to speed on Comprehensive Review
- Some anxiety about future of the church; example – possible demise of Presbytery
- frustration about declining resources
- greater clarity of what churches are facing
- some dis-ease about what lies ahead
- strength from others in similar spaces
- sense we are in it together