

Minutes of the Presbytery of London

Dorchester Presbyterian Church, Dorchester, Tuesday, September 9, 2014, 7:00 p.m.

In Dorchester, and within Dorchester Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of London met in Regular Session on Tuesday, the ninth day of September, two thousand and fourteen, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening.

Constitution The Moderator, the Reverend Andrew Reid, welcomed everyone to the meeting and constituted the Court with prayer.

Worship The Worship Service was led by the Reverend Andrew Reid, the Reverend Heather Paton and youth and adult participants at CY14. Communion was served by the Reverend Andrew Reid.

Installation of New Moderator The Reverend Andrew Reid proceeded with the installation of Mr. Robert Baron as Moderator of the Presbytery of London for the two year term beginning September 9, 2014.

The newly installed Moderator, Mr. Robert Baron, assumed the chair and resumed the business of the Court.

Welcome, Courtesies and Announcements The Moderator thanked Reverend Reid for his service as Moderator and thanked the youth and adults from CY14 for their participation in the service. The Moderator extended a welcome to all present and invited introductions of the guests from St. Lawrence and New St. James. Margaret McCullough represented the WMS.

Attendance John Bannerman, Charlotte Brown, Mavis Currie, William Khalil, Jacob Lee, Keith McKee, John Park, Heather Paton, Andrew Reid, Kevin Steeper, Jon Van Den Berg, Kate Ballagh-Steeper, Jim Redpath, Ministers; Bob Baron, John Cameron, Ruth Ann Drozd, Ian Fleck, Debbie Kemp, David Laphorne, Patrick Laurin, Pat MacKay, Jain Mahabir, Matt Marshall, Margaret McCullough, Linda McKenna, Bill McMurchy, Sheila McMurray, Nancy Newell, Barbara Nyitray, Angela Osborne, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Trudy Van der Hoek, Peter Vanderkooy, Sandra Van Der Veen, Elders; Carrie Thornton, Clerk; John Van Eyk, Fingal.

Regrets Deb Dolbear-VanBilsen, Tom Godfrey, Ed Hoekstra, Amanda MacMillan, Mark Turner, Ministers; Janet Donkervoort, Tom Jeffery, Linda Riddell, Elders; Lu Brule, Treasurer.

Absent Michael Stol, Minister; Doug Hill, Elder.

Docket **MOTION:** (Bannerman/Laurin) THAT the Docket as circulated be adopted for the meeting. CARRIED.

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Stated Hour 8:00 pm AGREED that the representatives of the various organizations receiving funds from the former Knollwood Park Presbyterian Church be granted

Distribution of Knollwood Park Funds permission to address the Court.

D. Laphorne came forward to present the cheques to the following:

Peter Rozeluk from the Men’s Mission; K. Ballagh-Steeper from the London Community Chaplaincy; J. Duncan from Habitat for Humanity; W. Khalil from Almanarah Presbyterian Church; T. Medland from the 45th Cubs and Scouts; K. McKee from Assembly Council on behalf of the National Office of the Presbyterian Church in Canada; A. Clarkson from the Presbyterian Museum; S. Ghougassian from Knox College; B. Baron, Moderator of the Presbytery of London on behalf of the Presbytery.

Stated Hour 8:15 pm AGREED that Ben Ormseth, Inge Stahl and members of the Goor family be granted permission to address the Court.

Retirement of Reverend Tom Godfrey

B. Ormseth and I. Stahl spoke about the new style of ministry introduced by Rev. Godfrey and their sense of loss now that he is retiring. The Goor family spoke about the puppet ministry introduced by Rev. Godfrey and performed a brief puppet play.

The Moderator offered his thanks for the ministry of Rev. Godfrey and also best wishes for the future.

The Moderator invited the guests from St. Lawrence and New St. James to stay for the remainder of the meeting but gave them permission to leave if they wished.

Minutes **MOTION:** (Mahabir/Drozd) THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Presbytery of London, held on June 17, 2014, be adopted as circulated. CARRIED.

MOTION: (Mahabir/Drozd) THAT the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Presbytery of London, held on July 17, 2014, be adopted as circulated. CARRIED.

Report of the Administrative Team The Moderator invited the Clerk, C. Thornton, to present the Report of the Administrative Team.

CORRESPONDENCE

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RECOMMENDATION #1 (Mahabir/Bannerman) THAT the following correspondence be received for information: CARRIED.

Number	From	Regarding
14-49	D.S. Woods, Presbyterian College	applications for Director of Pastoral Studies
14-50	Pension & Benefits Board	employer rate increases Jan 1, 2015
14-51	E. Bartlett, Assembly Office	changes to the roll
14-58	S. Kendall, Principal Clerk	items for attention of Sessions
14-62	T. McDonald-Lee, Camp Kintail	Thank you for donation to scholarship fund

RECOMMENDATION #2 (Mahabir/Bannerman) THAT the following correspondence be referred as named: CARRIED.

Number	From	Regarding	Refer To
14-52	T. Hamilton, Assembly Office	YAR for 2015 General Assembly	youth ministry team
14-53	S. Kendall, Principal Clerk	items for the attention of Presbyteries	denom work team
14-54	S. Kendall, Principal Clerk	2014 remits	denom work team
14-55	S. Kendall, Principal Clerk	nominations for Moderator 141 st GA	denom work team
14-56	S. Kendall, Principal Clerk	overtures, memorials, petitions 2015	denom work team
14-57	S. Kendall, Principal Clerk	commissioners 2015 GA	Clerk
14-59	R. Bosch, Lay Missionary	lay missionary colleague group	lay missionaries
14-60	T. Hamilton, Assembly Office	orders 2014 A&P	Clerk
14-61	B. Nawratil, Finance Office	General Assembly invoice	Treasurer
14-63	S. Allen, Justice ministries	Project Poughshares Rep	circ.elect .

RECOMMENDATION #3 (Bannerman/Mahabir) THAT the following Elders be named as Representative and Alternative Representative Elders to the Presbytery of London for the 2014-2015 year: CARRIED.

Knox-St. Andrew`s Dutton : (R) Ian Fleck (A) John McIntyre;
St. James, North Yarmouth : (R) Nancy Newell (A) Joan Mansell;
St. John`s Port Stanley : (R) Linda McKenna (A) William Cron.

RECOMMENDATION #4 (Mahabir/Bannerman) THAT the action of the Moderator placing the Rev. Tom Godfrey on medical leave effective August 1, 2014 until September 30, 2014, be homologated. CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATION #5 (Mahabir/Bannerman) THAT the action of the Moderator naming the Rev. Andrew Reid as moderator pro tem of St. Lawrence Presbyterian Church effective August 1, 2014, be homologated. CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATION #6 (Mahabir/Bannerman) THAT the Rev. John Park be appointed as interim moderator of St. Lawrence Presbyterian Church effective September 10, 2014. CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATION #7 (Mahabir/Bannerman) THAT the action of

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the Clerk transferring the Rev. Kirk Summers to the Presbytery of East Toronto effective July 14, 2014 be homologated. CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATION #8 (Mahabir/Bannerman) THAT the Canada Ministries grant application from Almanarah Presbyterian Church for 2015 be approved. CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATION #9 (Reid/Van den Berg) THAT the request from the Reverend Tom Godfrey to retire from ministry in the Presbyterian Church in Canada on October 1, 2014 be granted. CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATION #10 (McKee/Currie) THAT the Rev. Tom Godfrey be placed on the Appendix to the Roll of the Presbytery effective October 1, 2014. CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATION #11 (Reid/Van den Berg) THAT the action of the Clerk citing the congregation of St. Lawrence Presbyterian Church be homologated. CARRIED.

Records Examination

MOTION: (Van der Hoek/McKee) THAT the Session Records of St. John`s Presbyterian Church, Port Stanley be attested as being neatly and correctly kept with notes. CARRIED.

MOTION: (Van der Hoek/McKee) THAT the Session Records of Knox-St. Andrew`s Presbyterian Church, Dutton be attested as being neatly and correctly kept. CARRIED.

Notice of Motion

K. McKee made the following notice of motion: THAT at a future meeting of the Presbytery of London I will move or cause to be moved that changes to the Standing Orders of the Presbytery of London be approved.

Continuing the Conversation

K. Steeper reports that the work of the committee continues.

Memorial Minute The Rev. Murdo J. Pollock

K. McKee read the Memorial Minute for the Reverend Murdo J. Pollock.

The Reverend J. Murdo Pollock was born in 1922 in Vancouver, British Columbia and died on August 3, 2014 in London, Ontario. Following his studies at King Edward High School and the University of British Columbia, Murdo entered Knox College, graduating in 1947.

Murdo was called to new Church development work. A gifted preacher,

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administrator, pastor, and leader, Murdo was appointed to new church development work in the Fraser valley of British Columbia. He established two congregations, Haney Presbyterian Church in Maple Ridge and St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in Mission. Murdo was soon joined in his ministry by his wife Joyce, a graduate of the Presbyterian Missionary and Deaconess Training School.

After serving fourteen years in British Columbia, the Reverend Murdo Pollock was called to Hamilton Road Presbyterian Church, London, Ontario. Much loved and respected, Murdo's ministry at Hamilton Road lasted twenty nine years until his retirement. During that time, he was active in many local organizations, including the London Public Library Board, the United Way, and the council for London Seniors. He was the first Chari of the Hamilton Road Area Council.

The Reverend Murdo Pollock also served as Moderator of the Presbytery of London, Moderator of the Synod of Hamilton and London, and for many years Clerk of the Presbytery of London. He is well remembered for his gentlemanly professionalism and his love of study. Murdo read voraciously and remained intently interested in current events.

Following his retirement, Murdo preached regularly within the Presbytery of London. He also served as stated supply in several charges during periods of pulpit vacancy. In his later years, Joyce and Murdo worshipped at St. George's Church, London.

Murdo is survived by his wife Joyce Pollock and their children Elizabeth Firth, Jean and Janice. He is also survived by his son-in-law Stephen Firth and grandson Mark. Murdo was the much beloved brother of the Reverend Robert Pollock of Vancouver. A Celebration of the Life of the Reverend J. Murdo Pollock was held at St. George's Presbyterian Church, London on Thursday, the seventh of August, 2014.

MOTION: (McKee/Fleck) THAT this memorial be read into the minutes and transmitted to the Clerks of the General Assembly. **CARRIED.**

Almanarah

W. Khalil circulated a written report.

MOTION: (Khalil/Bannerman) THAT the written report be accepted. **CARRIED.**

MOTION: (Drozd/Khalil) THAT the Presbytery of London allocate \$5,000

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for the year 2015 as the second year of the 3 year allocation approved last year from the Presbytery of London for Almanarah Presbyterian Church for assistance in church development. Said approval was to be subject to review annually in the second and third year. CARRIED.

**Students and
Education Team** No report.

**Denominational
Work Team** No report.

**Vacancy and
Visitation Team** R.A. Drozd advised the Court that the team is working to complete the annual visitations according to the rotation.

**Leading with
Care Team** No report.

**Mission and
Evangelism Team** J. Van Den Berg advised that the team will be meeting to plan the upcoming year.

**Hospital Visitor
Team** No report.

**Youth and
Campus
Ministries** H. Paton presented a written report. She highlighted the care packages and One Day Wonder. She also thanked the youth leaders throughout the Presbytery for their work.

M. Currie thanked H. Paton for her work in arranging the CY14 worship service.

**Website and
Communications
Team** M. Currie reported that J. Mahabir is working with B. Stephenson to set up the new website.

**Small Church
Ministries Team** No report.

**Reports of
Interim
Moderators** Knox, Fingal – The clerk read a report provided by E. Hoekstra. Diligence is reported.

St. James, North Yarmouth – J. Bannerman provided a written report.

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St. John's, Port Stanley – C. Brown presented the lay missionary agreement.

MOTION: (Brown/McKenna) THAT the one year lay missionary agreement (2014-2014) between Mr. Tom Jeffery and the congregation of St. John's Presbyterian Church, Port Stanley be renewed under the negotiated and stated terms. CARRIED.

A copy of this agreement is attached to these minutes.

Knox, Komoka/North Caradoc-St. Andrew's – K. Ballagh-Steeper provided a verbal report. The congregational profile is almost complete, the pulpit is being supplied and the sacraments are being celebrated.

Argyle, Crinan/Duff, Largie – R. Shaw provided a written report. The sacraments are being celebrated, the pulpit is being supplied, the Sessions and boards continue to meet. R. Shaw also advised the the Rev. Ryan Kim has been appointed to a congregation within the United Church of Canada. In response to questions from the Court, the Clerk advised that she has not been contacted by officials from the United Church of Canada. The Moderator advised the Court that the administration team will follow up and report at the next regular meeting of Presbytery.

Knox St. Andrew's, Dutton – H. Paton reported diligence. The session and search committee are meeting.

Other Business M. Currie encouraged everyone to read the Synod reports that are available on the Synod website. J. Bannerman encouraged everyone to attend Synod this year.

Adjournment On a motion by K. McKee, the Court stood adjourned at ten minutes after nine o'clock in the evening, to meet again in Regular Session on Tuesday, the fourteenth day of October, two thousand and fourteen, at seven o'clock in the evening, in Largie, and within Duff Presbyterian Church.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk

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**St. John's Presbyterian Church, Port Stanley, Ontario
Lay Missionary Agreement Between
Tom Jeffery and St. John's Presbyterian Church, Port Stanley**

The contract of employment with Mr. Jeffery is for the period of October 1, 2014 to September 30, 2015. The contract must be renewed in writing yearly. Either party may terminate the contract by providing thirty (30) days written notice.

The contract consists of sixteen (16) hours of paid employment weekly, with the expectation that eight (8) hours will be spent in the preparation and deliverance of preaching and worship, with eight (8) hours committed to performing pastoral care, attending meetings and programs (as outlined by Session).

Mr. Jeffery will receive a yearly stipend of \$22,000, which is inclusive of housing, utilities and study leave. (This figure is greater than the calculated minimum stipend and allowances for Category III, 8th increment as set out in the 2014 Acts and Proceedings of the General Assembly). In addition, Mr. Jeffery is to receive five (5) weeks of paid holidays annually.

Roles and Responsibilities of Mr. Jeffery will include but are not limited to the following:

- **Worship and Preaching each Sunday**
Order and share conduct of worship (i.e. order of service, choice of scripture, readings, hymns);
Prepare and preach sermons on all Sundays except Communion Sundays, and occasional absences such as illness, or those with prior permission of the Session and Interim-Moderator;
Conduct funerals and other appropriate services as requested;
Conduct nursing-home services as requested, and with the permission of Session.
- **Pastoral Care**
Oversee the general pastoral care of the congregation, working in close association with the Session and Interim-Moderator;
Visit new families who have come into the church;
Do hospital and institutional visits.
- **Nurture and Christian Development**
Support and nurture Christian Development through Bible Study and other Activities designed for adults and children, and as requested by Session.