

Minutes of the Presbytery of London

Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, London, Tuesday, September 12, 2017, 7:00 p.m.

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

Constitution The Moderator, The Reverend Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen, constituted the Court with prayer.

Worship The Worship Service and Communion was led by The Reverend Dr Andrew Fullerton and The Reverend Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen.

Welcome, Courtesies and Announcements The Moderator welcomed everyone to the meeting. Margaret McCullough and Mildred Greig represented the WMS.

Attendance John Bannerman, Michelle Butterfield-Kocis, James Clark, Jeffrey Crawford, Mavis Currie, Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen, Andrew Fullerton, Ed Hoekstra, William Khalil, Keith McKee, John Park, Andrew Reid, Andrew Thompson, Ministers; Robert Shaw, David Stewart, Appendix; Bob Bedggood, Cal Bigg, Lily Carrothers, Richard Cote, Janet Donkervoort, Ruth Ann Drozd, Lynda Drummelsmith, Ian Fleck, Richard Foster, Mary Ellen Gagnier, Mildred Greig, Kris Kuhlmann-Bigg, Matt Marshall, Sheila McMurray, Nancy Newell, Ben Ormseth, John Stewart, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Trudy van der Hoek, Elders; Margaret McCullough, Valerie Shaw, WMS; Lu Brule, Treasurer; Carrie Thornton, Clerk; Patrick Laurin, members of Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church, Guests.

Regrets Amanda MacMillan, Jon Van Den Berg, Ministers; Bob Baron, Tom Jeffery, Gerald Stocking, Elders.

Absent Mark Turner, Minister; Linda Charlton, Inge Stahl, Sandra Van Der Veen, Elders.

On Leave Heather Paton, Minister.

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

Stated Hour WMS Annual Report The President of the W. M. S. Presbyterial, Valerie Shaw, presented a verbal report on the activities of the Women's Missionary Society in the past year. The W.M.S. currently has 11 active groups with 107 active members and 111 associate members. The 103rd annual meeting was held at Oakridge Presbyterian Church and the theme was "Rooted in Faith". Mrs. Shaw was thanked by the Moderator for the good work that the Society does within the Presbytery and nationwide.

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Minutes **MOTION:** (McKee/Fleck) THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 9, 2017 and the Regular Meeting of June 20, 2017 be adopted. CARRIED.

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

MOTION: (Fleck/McKee) THAT recommendations 1 through 7 be adopted by consent. CARRIED.

RECOMMENDATION #1: THAT the following correspondence be received for information:

| | | |
|-------|------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 17-41 | T. Hamilton, Assembly Office | memorial for Rev Gloria Langlois |
| 17-42 | A. Bisset, Clerk Presbytery East Toronto | Noel Ramsey not re-certified |
| 17-43 | M. Pettem, Clerk Presbytery of Montreal | Espoir Ndandala not re-certified |
| 17-44 | R. Brown, Clerk Presbytery of Niagara | McKay Plunkett not re-certified |
| 17-46 | M. Leung, Assembly Office | Clerks of Synods and Presbyteries |
| 17-48 | M. Leung, Assembly Office | changes to the roll |
| 17-50 | F. Hogg, Assembly Office | shipment of 2017 A&P |

RECOMMENDATION #2: THAT the following correspondence be referred as named:

| Number | From | Regarding | Refer To |
|--------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|---------------|
| 17-45 | J. Vissers, Knox College | David You | ministry team |
| 17-47 | D. Veenstra, Finance Office | invoice for GA commissioners | treasurer |
| 17-49 | T. Hamilton, Assembly Office | 2017 Acts & Proceedings | clerk |
| 17-51 | M. Sams, Clerk Presbytery of Pickering | certificate Rev D. Cook | clerk |
| 17-52 | J. Henderson, Clerk Presbytery of Huron-Perth | certificate Rev. L. Nichol | clerk |

RECOMMENDATION #3: THAT the following elders be named as Representative and Alternative Representative Elders to the Presbytery of London for the 2017-2018 year:

St. James, North Yarmouth : Nancy Newell (R) Joan Mansell (A);
Almanarah, London : Ruth Ann Drozd (R) Matt Marshall (A);
St. Lawrence, London : Inge Stahl (R) Alison Williams (A) Ben Ormseth (A);
Trinity Community, London : Sheila McMurray (R) Jenn Biltcliffe (A);
Westmount, London : Cal Bigg (R) Kris Kuhlmann-Bigg (A).

RECOMMENDATION #3: THAT the Clerk write a letter of appreciation to the following Representative Elders who have retired:

Janis Boyle, Westmount, London)

RECOMMENDATION #5: THAT the Rev. Dennis Cook be added to the Appendix of the Roll of the Presbytery of London effective August 17, 2017.

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RECOMMENDATION #6: THAT the Rev. Lynn Nichol be added to the Appendix of the Roll of the Presbytery of London effective August 31, 2017.

Preamble to Recommendation #7

Until this year, chaplains were required to be members of the Presbytery in which the institutions in which they are employed is located. Just as ministers are members of the Presbytery in which their congregations are located even if they reside in another Presbytery. For chaplains, this was deemed to be of little sense because the Presbytery may have little connection to the institution. The 2017 General Assembly issued a declaratory act stating that chaplains would be members of the Presbytery in which they reside and more likely worship. The Reverend Heather Vanderstelt lives in Ingersoll and worships at St. Paul's Presbyterian Church in the Presbytery of Paris.

RECOMMENDATION #7: THAT Rev. Heather Vanderstelt be transferred to the Presbytery of Paris effective September 12, 2017.

Preamble to Recommendation #7

At the June 20, 2017 Presbytery meeting, the Presbytery approved the purchase of a used tractor for Camp Kintail. The maximum cost would be \$10,000 and the funds would be advanced from the Trinity West Elgin Fund with the understanding that 50% of the final purchase price would be reimbursed by donations from congregations in the Presbytery. The actual cost of a suitable used tractor was \$11,500. This motion increases the maximum amount for the purchase to \$11,500.

RECOMMENDATION #8: (McKee/Fleck) THAT the action of the administrative team in authorizing an additional \$1,500 for the purchase of a suitable used tractor for Camp Kintail be homologated. The maximum purchase price is \$11,500 and 50% will be reimbursed by donations from the congregations in the Presbytery of London. CARRIED.

**Records
Examination**

MOTION: (van der Hoek/McKee) THAT the Session Records of Knox Presbyterian Church, Komoka, North Caradoc-St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Oakridge Presbyterian Church and Chalmers Presbyterian Church be attested as neatly and correctly kept. CARRIED.

Almanarah

The report was circulated in advance. W. Khalil spoke briefly about the report and advised the Court that the congregation has seen an increase in offerings.

Ministry Team

E. Hoekstra provided a verbal report.

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MOTION: (Thompson/Bannerman) THAT Rev. M. Currie be granted permission to attend the Lester Randall Preaching Conference from October 22-24, 2017. CARRIED.

E. Hoekstra advised the Court that Doug Bruce, Presbytery Hospital Visitor, has resigned effective September 30, 2017.

Mission Team J. Bannerman circulated a written report.

Congregational Life Team No report. The DVD of the Leading with Care workshop will be available soon.

Reports of Interim Moderators St. James, North Yarmouth – J. Bannerman provided a written report.

St. John's, Port Stanley – The report was circulated in advance.

Argyle, Crinan/Duff, Largie – The report was circulated in advance.

Burns, Mosa – M. Butterfield-Kocis reported that a candidate is preaching for the Call on Sunday.

Dorchester/South Nissouri – A written report was circulated.

New St. James, London – A. Fullerton reported that he has met with the session and a transition team has been appointed.

Other Business L. Brule asked the teams to consider their 2018 budget at the October team meetings.

The Moderator thanked the members of Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church for hosting dinner before the meeting.

Adjournment On a motion by A. Thompson, the Court stood adjourned at thirty-two minutes after eight o'clock in the evening, to meet again for Worship and team meetings on Tuesday, the tenth day of October, two thousand and seventeen, at seven o'clock in the evening, in London and within New St. James Presbyterian Church.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk