

## Minutes of the Presbytery of London

St. George's Presbyterian Church, London, Tuesday, January 9, 2018, 7:00 PM

In London, and within St. George's Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of London met in regular session on Tuesday, the ninth day of January, two thousand and eighteen, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening.

**Constitution** The Moderator, the Reverend Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen, welcomed everyone to the meeting and constituted the Court with prayer.

**Worship** The Worship Service was led by Reverend Keith McKee.

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

**Attendance** Michael Burns, James Clark, Jeffrey Crawford, Mavis Currie, Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen, Andrew Fullerton, Ed Hoekstra, William Khalil, Keith McKee, John Park, David Thompson, Ministers; James Patterson, Appendix; Bob Baron, Bob Bedggood, Cal Bigg, Ray Burgess, Lily Carrothers, Richard Cote, Janet Donkervoort, Ruth Ann Drozd, Linda Drummelsmith, Ian Fleck, Richard Foster, Sheila McMurray, Nancy Newell, Inge Stahl, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Trudy van der Hoek, Sandra van der Veen, Elders; Margaret McCullough, WMS; Lu Brule, Treasurer; Carrie Thornton, Clerk; Robert Shirley, Ian Buchanan, Oakridge Presbyterian Church; John Van Eyk, Guest.

**Regrets** John Bannerman, Amanda MacMillan, Andrew Thompson, Jon Van Den Berg, Ministers; Tom Jeffrey, Elder.

**Absent** Michelle Butterfield-Kocis, Mark Turner, Ministers; Linda Charlton, Elder.

**On Leave** Heather Paton, Minister.

**Docket** **MOTION:** (McKee/Baron) THAT the Docket as amended be adopted for the meeting. CARRIED.

**Stated Hour Resignation of Rev. John Park** **MOTION:** (Hoekstra/Donkervoort) THAT the letter of resignation of the Reverend John Park from Oakridge Presbyterian Church be received and considered. CARRIED.

**MOTION:** (Fleck/Crawford) THAT the action of the Clerk in citing the congregation of Oakridge Presbyterian Church be homologated. CARRIED.

**MOTION:** (Hoekstra/Donkervoort) THAT Robert Shirley and Ian Buchanan, members of Oakridge Presbyterian Church, be given permission to address the Court. CARRIED.

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R. Shirley and I. Buchanan spoke about the ministry of Rev. Park, his passion for evangelization, leadership of the Alpha program and work with the chaplaincy department at Western.

**MOTION:** (Hoekstra/Donkervoort) THAT the resignation of the Reverend John Park from Oakridge Presbyterian Church be accepted with the gratitude of the Presbytery for his service to Oakridge and to the Court during his time within the Presbytery of London. CARRIED.

E. Hoekstra and J. Clark both spoke briefly about Rev. Park's ministry at Oakridge and during his time as interim moderator at St. Lawrence.

J. Park thanked everyone for their kind words and spoke about his feeling that God is calling him and his wife to another form of ministry.

**MOTION:** (Hoekstra/Donkervoort) THAT the Reverend John Park be placed on the Appendix to the Roll of the Presbytery of London effective April 2, 2018. CARRIED.

The Moderator invited the guests from Oakridge Presbyterian Church to stay for the remainder of the meeting but gave them permission to leave if they wished.

### Minutes

**MOTION:** (Crawford/Baron) THAT the minutes of the Special Meeting of November 5, 2017, the Regular Meeting of November 14, 2017 and the Special Meeting of November 19, 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:** (Baron/Crawford) that recommendations 1 through 5 be adopted by consent. CARRIED.

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

Number	From	Regarding
18-1	M. Leung, Assembly Office	November changes to the Roll
18-2	S. Shaffer, Ministry & Church Vocations	Starting Well program for new ministers
18-3	H. Hilder, Clerk Presbytery of Kamloops	Mark Carter not recertified
18-5	T. Hamilton, Assembly Office	nomination for moderator received
18-7	J. Henderson, Clerk Synod SW Ontario	2017-18 Synod directory
18-10	B. Anger, assistant archivist PCC	receipt of DaySpring records
18-12	S. Shaffer, Committee on Ed & Reception	competent objections by Presbyteries to applications
18-13	C. Inksetter, Clerk Presbytery of Niagara	McKay Plunkett not recertified
18-14	C. Macmillan, Pension & Benefits Office	copy of correspondence to congregations

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

Number	From	Regarding	Refer To
18-4	P. Bush, moderator 2017 General Assembly	letter to teaching & ruling elders	circ. elect.
18-6	J. Henderson, Clerk Synod SW Ontario	items arising from 2017 Synod	admin team
18-8	D. Kim, Interim Director of Academic Programs, Knox College	David You 2 <sup>nd</sup> level assessment	ministry team
18-9	K. Dore, Presbytery of Hamilton	report about 2017 Synod	admin team
18-11	J. Park, minister Oakridge PC	letter of resignation	admin team
18-15	B. Curtis, Clerk of Session New St James	request from session re Minister Emeritus	admin team
18-16	R. Shropshire, refugee office PCC	presbytery approval of refugee sponsorship	admin team

**RECOMMENDATION #3:** THAT Rev. Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen, Rev. Mavis Currie, Rev. Amanda MacMillan, Joan Mansell (St. James, North Yarmouth) and Rosemary McDonald (Glencoe) be appointed commissioners to the 144<sup>th</sup> General Assembly in June 2018.

**RECOMMENDATION #4:** THAT the overture from the Session of Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church which was supported by the Presbytery at the November 14, 2017 meeting, be referred to the Life and Mission Agency.

**RECOMMENDATION #5:** THAT, at the request of the Session of New St. James Presbyterian Church and approved by the Session at the November 21, 2017 Session meeting, the Reverend Andrew Reid be named Minister Emeritus at new St. James Presbyterian Church.

**RECOMMENDATION #6:** (Cote/McKee) THAT the action of the administrative team in approving the following motion be homologated: *The Presbytery of London agrees to support the sponsorship of a single Syrian man currently residing in Turkey.* CARRIED.

**Records Examination** **MOTION:** (van der Hoek/Van Bilsen) that the Session Records of Westmount Presbyterian Church be attested as neatly and correctly kept. CARRIED.

**Almanarah** W. Khalil presented the report which was circulated with the advance reports.

**Ministry Team** **MOTION:** (Hoekstra/Clarke) THAT Rev. Dr Jeffrey Crawford be granted permission to attend a coaching course called "Synergy" at the Coaches Training Institute from February 9-11, 2018. CARRIED.

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**Mission Team** No report.

**Presbyterians Sharing** B. Baron reminded the Court that the recommended allocations were distributed in late November and the congregational commitments are due March 14, 2018.

**Congregational Life** M. Currie reminded the Court about One Day Wonder. Rev. Mark Turner has provided the team with a Police Records Check including vulnerable sector screening. The team will now start the review the Leading With Care policies of each congregation. The team is planning a pulpit exchange for an upcoming Sunday.

**Reports of Interim Moderators** St. James, North Yarmouth – The report was circulated in advance.

St. John's, Port Stanley – No report.

Argyle, Crinan/Duff, Largie – No report.

Dorchester/South Nissouri – The report was circulated in advance.

New St. James Church – A. Fullerton reported diligence.

**Other Business** L. Brule reported that the balance owing on the Camp Kintail tractor is \$1,800.00.

**Adjournment** On a motion by I. Fleck, the Court stood adjourned at nineteen minutes after eight o'clock, to meet again for Worship and team meetings on Tuesday, the thirteenth day of February, two thousand and eighteen, at seven o'clock in the evening, in London and within St. Lawrence Presbyterian Church.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

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Moderator

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Clerk