

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London**  
**Online Meeting, Tuesday, July 6, 2021, 7:00 PM**

The Presbytery of London met online in special session on Tuesday, the sixth day of July, two thousand and twenty-one, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening for the purpose of considering a call from St. James Presbyterian Church to Mr. Gordon Brown.

**Constitution**        The Moderator, Reverend Mavis Currie, constituted the Court with prayer.

**Attendance**        John Bannerman, Michael Burns, Michelle Butterfield-Kocis, David Clark, Mavis Currie, Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen, Andrew Fullerton, Amanda MacMillan, Lynn Nichol, James Patterson, Andrew Thompson, Jon Van Den Berg, Ministers; Wendy Lampman, Andrew Reid, Appendix; Norm Belyea, Em Cameron, Linda Charlton, Lynda Ford, Elizabeth Leitch, Janice Lockhart, Brian Lunn, Margaret McGugan, Sheila McMurray, Inge Stahl, Lizz Thibodeau, Elders; Carrie Thornton, Clerk; Gordon Brown, Carl Taylor, Sharon Buchanan, St. James Presbyterian Church; Wilma Boyce, Guest.

**Regrets**            Keith McKee, Minister; Richard Cote, Lynda Drummelsmith, Richard Foster, Tom Jeffery, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Elders; Lu Brule, Treasurer.

**Absent**             Janet Donkervoort, Doug Hill, Elizabeth MacLeod, Trudy van der Hoek, Elders.

**On Leave**         Julia Morden, Minister.

**Receive and Consider**        The Moderator invited the interim moderator, Rev. J. Patterson, to present the Call.

**MOTION:** (Patterson/Lunn) THAT the Call from St. James Presbyterian Church, to Gordon Brown, be received and considered. **CARRIED.**

**Narration of Steps**        To the Reverend, the Presbytery of London, Concerning the call from St. James, North Yarmouth, to Mr. Gordon Brown, B.A., M.Div., under the care of the Presbytery of Pickering (which Presbytery certified Mr. Brown for ordination in November 2019) at present Student Supply at St. James: These are the step which have led to this call arriving before the Presbytery of London.

1. As the court is aware, when St. James first approached Presbytery with our desire to have Mr. Brown as our minister, we were not yet able to guarantee a stipend of more than 4/9ths time, mostly due to the application of various emoluments for ½ time which would have applied. The Presbytery, at that time, appointed Mr. Brown as Student Supply at 4/9ths time.

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London**  
**Online Meeting, Tuesday, July 6, 2021, 7:00 PM**

**Narration of Steps (cont.)**

2. St. James (in the able persons of Elder Kent Buchanan and Clerk Sharon Buchanan) then set about requesting funding from the PCC. St. James was successful in securing a one year grant at this time, which, when coupled with a generous grant from a sister congregation, puts the possibility of ½ time (and thus ordination) firmly within our reach.
3. St. James has applied for a longer term grant from the PCC, which, in conjunction with the grant from our sister congregation, should allow stability of finance while St. James works toward renewal.
4. The present grants having been received, the Kirk Session called for a congregational meeting to be held virtually, broadcasting from the church building with myself, two elders and one other lay person present so that Mr. Brown could actually be speaking to live bodies (suitably distanced) when he would lead worship and preach for the call.
5. To that end, on the 13<sup>th</sup> day of June of this present year, St. James, North Yarmouth, met as arranged. Following worship, each person present was given the opportunity to ask Mr. Brown any questions they might have. After Mr. Brown was dismissed, the congregants were polled in a like manner to determine if they had any questions for the elders. The vote was then taken by roll call. Any not wishing to make their vote known in the meeting were invited to request that their vote be recorded later in the week by their assigned elder.
6. During the following week, care was taken to solicit votes from all elders, members and adherents, including those who may have fallen away, or even moved away. The result is in the call that is placed before the court this evening.

**Approve Conduct**

**MOTION:** (Fullerton/Thompson) THAT the conduct of the interim moderator, Rev. James Patterson, be approved. CARRIED.

**Guarantee of Stipend**

The Moderator invited Rev. J. Patterson to present the terms of the call and read the guarantee of stipend.

**Call and Guarantee to Presbytery of Stipend**

*We, the professing members of St. James, North Yarmouth Presbyterian Church, Central Elgin, Ontario, being well satisfied with your faithfulness to the Gospel and your qualifications for the ministry of Word and Sacraments and confident that the Holy Spirit has led us to you due to your notable interest and proficiency in church renewal, earnestly and solemnly call you, Mr. Gordon Clare Brown, BA, MDiv, to become the minister of this St. James, North Yarmouth congregation at 50% time. . In calling you we promise you all due respect, encouragement, and allegiance in the Lord as, together, we seek to use our gifts in the church and in the world to the glory of God.*

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London**  
**Online Meeting, Tuesday, July 6, 2021, 7:00 PM**

**Guarantee of Stipend (cont.)** *In order that you, Mr. Gordon Clare Brown, may be free to devote yourself to ministry of Word and Sacraments among us for 50% of your work time, , we the congregation of St. James, North Yarmouth Presbyterian Church hereby guarantee to the Presbytery of London, of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, that out of our estimated annual revenue of Thirty Seven Thousand Three hundred dollars plus Eight Thousand Dollars in grants, we promise and obligate ourselves to provide you, as a first charge thereon, the following annually:*

<i>Annual Stipend (inclusive of travel allowance)</i>	<i>\$19,777</i>
<i>Housing and utilities allowance</i>	<i>\$ 7,200</i>
<i>Total</i>	<i>\$26,977</i>

*We agree to make payments of the above amounts on the first day of each month and agree to adjust the stipend and allowances annually, in view of any changes in the cost of living or the needs of our minister.*

*We agree further:*

- 1. To provide two weeks for continuing education annually and at least the minimum allowance as set by the General Assembly.*
- 2. That the benefits of number 1 above shall be cumulative up to five years.*
- 3. To provide five weeks vacation annually, which shall be used in the year they are given.*
- 4. To pay supply during the periods of continuing education and holidays.*
- 5. In case of disability or extended illness, to continue to provide stipend, accommodation and allowances for a period not less than that set by the General Assembly, and to pay the cost of pulpit supply.*
- 6. To pay for Medical and Dental Insurance as provided through the Pension and Benefits Board of the General Assembly and to make contributions to the Pension Plan in compliance with the terms of the plan.*
- 7. Cell phone expense \$20 per month.*

The review team confirmed that the terms of the call and the guarantee of stipend have been reviewed and found to be acceptable.

**Congregational Representatives** **MOTION:** (Fullerton/Thompson) THAT representatives from St, James Presbyterian Church be given permission to address the Court. CARRIED.

The Presbytery heard from Kent Buchanan and Carl Taylor who spoke to the call and asked that the Presbytery of London sustain the call to Mr. Gordon Brown.

**Call Sustained** **MOTION:** (Patterson/Lunn) THAT the Call to Mr. Gordon Brown be

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London**  
**Online Meeting, Tuesday, July 6, 2021, 7:00 PM**

**Call Sustained (cont.)** sustained as a regular gospel call and transmitted to the Presbytery of Pickering. CARRIED.

**Ordination** **MOTION:** (Patterson/Lunn) THAT, subject to the decision of the Presbytery of Pickering, permission be granted to the Presbytery of Pickering to ordain Mr. Gordon Brown. CARRIED.

**Ministry Commences** **MOTION:** (Patterson/Lunn) THAT the ministry of Mr. Brown at St. James Presbyterian Church begin on September 1, 2021 subject to the decision of the Presbytery of Pickering. CARRIED.

**Induction** **MOTION:** (Patterson/Lunn) THAT subject to the approval of the Presbytery of Pickering that a service of Induction be arranged by the Co-Moderators, Interim Moderator and Clerk of Presbytery. CARRIED.

The Moderator granted the guests from St. James permission to leave if they wished but invited them to stay for the balance of the meeting.

**General Presbyter** The Moderator invited A. Fullerton to briefly narrate the steps.

At a previous meeting, the Presbytery of London decided to create the position of General Presbyter. A position description and related financial details were approved. The Co-Moderators named a Search Committee, comprising Janice Lockhart and Lynda Drummelsmith (Representative Elders), together with John Bannerman and Andrew Fullerton (Ministers). Andrew Fullerton was appointed Convenor. The Search Committee met four times. We received and reviewed applications and conducted interviews. The Search Committee is now prepared to recommend Jim Patterson, a Minister on the roll of this Presbytery, to assume this position.

**MOTION:** (Lockhart/Bannerman) THAT Reverend James Patterson be appointed as General Presbyter beginning September 1, 2021. CARRIED.

**CONTRACT** J. Bannerman read the contract to the Court. A copy of the contract is found beginning at page 6096 of these minutes.

**MOTION:** (Lockhart/Bannerman) THAT the clerk of Presbytery be authorized to sign the contract on behalf of the Presbytery of London. CARRIED.

**Service of Recognition** **MOTION:** (Lockhart/Bannerman) THAT the plans for a service of recognition be left in the hands of the Co-Moderators. CARRIED.

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London**  
**Online Meeting, Tuesday, July 6, 2021, 7:00 PM**

**Search Committee**      **MOTION:** (Lockhart/Bannerman) THAT the search committee be dismissed with the thanks of the Court. CARRIED.

The Moderator thanked the members of the search committee for their work.

**Adjournment**      On a motion by B. Lunn, the Court stood adjourned at fifty-two minutes after seven o'clock, to meet online in regular session on Tuesday, the fourteenth day of September, two thousand and twenty-one, at seven o'clock in the evening.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

---

Moderator

---

Clerk

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London  
Online Meeting, Tuesday, July 6, 2021, 7:00 PM**

**Agreement for the General Presbyter  
The Presbytery of London within The Presbyterian Church in Canada**

This agreement (“Agreement”) is dated 1 September 2021

Between:

**The Presbytery of London within The Presbyterian Church in Canada  
and  
The Rev. James Patterson of West Lorne, Ontario (General Presbyter)**

This Agreement outlines the terms for the Presbytery appointment of the Rev. James Patterson to the position of General Presbyter.

- 1.0 The goals and expectations for this ministry are found in the position description for the General Presbyter as approved by The Presbytery of London.
- 2.0 This ministry is for three years and is a half-time position (i.e., 22.5 hours per week on average).
- 3.0 This ministry will begin on 1 September 2021 and end on 31 August 2024. The agreement can be terminated by either the General Presbyter or The Presbytery of London with sixty days written notice.
- 4.0 The stipend and allowances shall meet or exceed General Assembly and Presbytery requirements.
- 5.0 The Presbytery of London shall pay the following monthly stipend and allowances, less payroll deductions, to the General Presbyter at the beginning of each month:

	Annual	Monthly
Stipend	\$ 23,393.00	\$ 1,949.42
Housing allowance (fair rental value of appropriate housing or use of manse)	\$ 9,000.00	\$ 750.00
Utilities	\$ included	\$ included
Travel allowance	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 333.33
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 36,393.00</b>	<b>\$ 3,032.75</b>

- 6.0 In addition to the above, the Presbytery shall provide:
  - five weeks vacation per year and two weeks continuing education within the twelve month period.
  - Continuing Education allowance according to General Assembly and Presbytery regulations, to be used on approval of the Presbytery.

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London**  
**Online Meeting, Tuesday, July 6, 2021, 7:00 PM**

- 7.0 In the case of the General Presbyter's total disability or extended illness, this Agreement will terminate as of the date the medical leave commences. The Presbytery will then continue to provide stipend and all allowances for a period of three months. Housing allowance and cost of utilities only will be continued for a further four months.
- 8.0 The Minister shall be a member of and accountable to the Presbytery in accordance with *The Book of Forms* 176.1.
- 9.0 The Presbytery shall arrange for a service of recognition and periodic evaluations of this ministry.
- 10.0 This Agreement is in accordance with the policies for ministry within The Presbyterian Church in Canada and shall be subject to the laws of the province of Ontario.
- 11.0 This Agreement may only be amended or modified in writing and with the consent of all parties.