

Minutes of the Presbytery of London
Online Meeting, Tuesday, February 8, 2022, 7:00 PM

The Presbytery of London met online in regular session on Tuesday, the eighth day of February, two thousand and twenty-two, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening.

Constitution The Moderator, Reverend Andrew Thompson, constituted the Court with prayer.

Worship The Reverend Theresa McDonald-Lee, Director of Camp Kintail, led the worship service.

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

Attendance John Bannerman, Gordon Brown, Michael Burns, Michelle Butterfield-Kocis, David Clark, Mavis Currie, Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen, Wendy Lampman, Amanda MacMillan, Keith McKee, James Patterson, Jane Swatridge, Andrew Thompson, Ministers; Kent Buchanan, Em Cameron, John Conway, Cathy Cornhill, Richard Cote, William Cron, Nancy Donkers, Janet Donkervoort, Lynda Ford, Janice Lockhart, Elizabeth MacLeod, Margaret McGugan, Sheila McMurray, Inge Stahl, Gerald Stocking, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Elders; Lu Brule, Treasurer; Carrie Thornton, Clerk; Sonia Brule, Student; Theresa McDonald-Lee (for the worship service), Camp Kintail; Ian Buchanan, Taesang Ahn, Robert Shirley, Oakridge Presbyterian Church.

Regrets Jon Van Den Berg, Minister; Janet Carter, Doug Hill, Norm Sonnenburg, Elders.

Study Leave Andrew Fullerton

Absent Lynda Drummelsmith, Jamie Hayter, Elders.

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

Business Team **MOTION:** (Cote/Cameron) THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2022 be adopted. CARRIED.

Call from Oakridge The Moderator invited the interim moderator, M. Burns, to narrate the steps leading to the call.

Narration of Steps Following the resignation of the Rev. Ed Hoekstra from Oakridge Presbyterian Church (OPC) effective December 31, 2020, the Presbytery of London appointed me as interim moderator and I began my duties on January 1, 2021.

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**Narration of
Steps (cont)**

Over the month of January I met with staff and session and it was quickly decided that OPC needed an experienced minister leading worship regularly and providing some pastoral care within the congregation and we entered into a 20 hour per week contract with the Rev. Michael Stol (retired) beginning February 22, 2021. The congregation has been blessed through Rev. Stol's preaching and pastoral care. This, combined with the hard work of staff, the HR team and session, has allowed the congregation to weather the ups and downs of COVID while continuing to worship, celebrate baptisms and communion, deepen our faith and care for each other.

At the February session meeting a nine member search team was appointed with their first meeting being held March 1, 2021. In total, the search team met formally 25 times for over 65 hours not including time spent as individual team members completing work for the search process. The OPC HR team also worked with session to update the Minister's position description.

After much work by the search team the congregational profile was approved by session on May 31, 2021 and then by presbytery on June 15, 2021. The vacancy was posted on the PCC website at the beginning of June and an advertisement was placed in the summer edition of the Presbyterian Connection newspaper. Over the course of the summer the interim moderator answered inquiries regarding the vacancy and provided the congregational profile when requested.

By the end of September OPC had received nine candidate profiles which the search reviewed along with recorded sermons or worship services. The search team decided to interview four of the candidates using a prepared list of questions and all interviews were conducted via Zoom between October 27 and November 17 with each interview lasting approximately 2.5 hours.

After discussion within the search team we narrowed our search down to one candidate, The Rev. Dr Tim Archibald, and invited him to a second interview via Zoom on December 8. The search team met again on December 16, 2021 and recommended to the session of OPC that The Rev. Dr Tim Archibald be invited to preach for the call. The session met on December 20, 2021 with the search team present and voted to invite the candidate to preach for the call on Sunday January 30, 2022 and the candidate accepted.

Dr. Archibald, along with his wife Joyce and daughter Laura, arrived in London early in the morning of January 28, 2022 and spent the weekend meeting with staff, session and congregants of OPC mostly via Zoom. He also attended the Korean ministry Friday night worship service and then led worship and preached for the call on Sunday January 30, 2022. This service

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Narration of Steps (cont.) had 100 people in the pews plus those participating in worship in addition to being livestreamed.

A congregational meeting was held via Zoom at 4pm on Sunday January 30, 2022 with approximately 130 members and adherents present. The terms of the call were approved, and the name of The Rev. Dr Tim Archibald was inserted in the call. For those present in the meeting the vote was recorded using the chat function or verbally. Immediately after the meeting three telephone lines answered by elders to receive congregational votes and later in the evening all elders received lists of members and adherents to call. Results of the vote were finalized on Wednesday February 2, 2022. Session met via Zoom on Tuesday February 1, 2022 to review the preliminary results and agreed to extend the call to The Rev. Dr Tim Archibald. He was contacted by the interim moderator on Thursday February 3, 2022 with the final results of the call and after much discernment and prayer he agreed to proceed with the call.

Out of a membership of 355 we had 297 members sustain the call with 33 votes against or 83.6% in favour. We had 19 members on our do not call list for reasons of illness or incapacity and we were unable to reach six members despite at least two telephone calls with voice messages and emails if we had them. If we remove these members and only look at member votes cast (330) the in-favour percentage rises to 90% with 80 adherents concurring.

Dr Archibald has over 30 years of experience in ordained ministry as well as experience in effectively leading and coordinating staff. His Doctor of Ministry, with a specialization in Vision and Congregational Vitality, will help OPC revitalize their ministry within the congregation and in the City of London. Since 2010, Dr. Archibald has also served as a church planting coach for Cyclical PCC under Canada Ministries. His breadth of experience will strengthen and revitalize Oakridge Presbyterian and he will be an asset to our presbytery.

Moderator, I trust that presbytery approves of my stewardship of the congregation of Oakridge and the steps I have taken in moderating this Call to the point of bringing it forward tonight.

MOTION: (Donkervoort/McKee) THAT the conduct of the interim moderator, The Rev. Michael Burns, be approved. CARRIED.

The Moderator invited the Interim Moderator to present the Terms of the Call and read the Guarantee of Stipend.

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Guarantee of Stipend **Call and Guarantee to Presbytery of Stipend**

We, the professing members and concurring adherents of Oakridge Presbyterian Church, being satisfied of your faithfulness to the Gospel, your qualifications for the ministry of Word and Sacrament, and desiring to promote the glory of God, the growth and good of the church, and confident that the Holy Spirit has led us to each other, earnestly and solemnly call you, The Reverend Dr Tim Archibald, to be the minister of this congregation. We promise you, on your acceptance of this Call, all due respect, encouragement, and obedience in the Lord as we seek together, to use our gifts to further the work of the church in this congregation, in this country, and in the wider world.

In order that you may be free to devote yourself to the ministry of Word and Sacrament through Oakridge Presbyterian Church, out of our estimated annual revenue of \$541,000, we promise to provide you, as a first charge thereon, the following annually:

Annual Stipend

<i>Stipend</i>	\$72,825
<i>Housing and utilities</i>	\$25,000

We agree to pay these amounts on the first day of each month and agree to adjust these items annually in view of cost of living adjustments, or the needs of the minister, or considering the financial viability of the congregation.

We agree further:

- 1. To provide two weeks annually of continuing education with an allowance of \$2,000.*
- 2. That the benefits of number 1 above shall be cumulative up to five years.*
- 3. To provide six weeks of annual vacation, to be taken in the year they are given.*
- 4. To pay supply during the periods of continuing education and vacation.*
- 5. In case of disability or extended illness, to continue to provide stipend, accommodation, and housing 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 Pensions and Benefits Board of the General Assembly and to make contributions to the Pension Plan in compliance with the terms of the plan.*
- 7. To pay necessary moving expenses.*
- 8. To cover \$1,500 annual costs for congregational revitalization development training.*

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Receive and Consider **MOTION:** (Donkervoort/McKee) THAT the Call to The Rev. Dr Tim Archibald from the congregation of Oakridge Presbyterian Church, be received and considered and that representatives of the congregation be heard. CARRIED.

The review team confirmed that the Terms of the Call and the Guarantee of Stipend are acceptable.

Call Sustained **MOTION:** (Donkervoort/McKee) THAT the guarantee of stipend be deemed acceptable. CARRIED.

MOTION: (Donkervoort/McKee) THAT the Call to The Rev. Tim Archibald be sustained as a regular gospel call and transmitted to the Presbytery of Calgary-MacLeod. CARRIED.

MOTION: (Donkervoort/McKee) THAT the interim moderator, Rev. M. Burns, represent the Presbytery of London and that a member of Oakridge represent the congregation when the call is considered by the Presbytery of Calgary-MacLeod. CARRIED.

Induction Service **MOTION:** (Donkervoort/McKee) THAT if the Call is sustained by the Presbytery of Calgary-MacLeod and accepted by The Rev. Dr Tim Archibald, the arrangements for the induction service be left in the hands of the Moderator, Clerk and Interim Moderator. CARRIED.

The Moderator thanked M. Burns for all his hard work.

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

Business Team **MOTION:** (Currie/Cameron) THAT recommendations 1 through 4 be adopted by consent. CARRIED.

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

Number	From	Regarding
22-12	S. Kendall, Principal Clerk	2022 GA moderator – Rev Dr B. Faris
22-13	T. Hamilton, Assembly Office	Feb 1/22 deadline for referred overtures
22-14	T. Hamilton, Assembly Office	2022 GA online
22-15	T. Hamilton, Assembly Office	study & report reply received
22-17	T. Hamilton, Assembly Office	deadline nominations GA standing committees
22-18	S. Brule	thank you for grant from Stalker Fund

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

Number	From	Regarding	Refer To
22-11	T. Hamilton, Assembly Office	2021 presbytery statistics	clerk.
22-16	K. Muir, Assembly Office	January changes to the roll	circ. elect.

RECOMMENDATION #3: THAT Reverend Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen, Reverend Michelle Butterfield-Kocis. Reverend James Patterson and Sheila McMurray (elder Trinity Community PC) be appointed commissioners to the 2022 General Assembly.

RECOMMENDATION #4: THAT the following grants from the DaySpring Fund be approved: New St. James Presbyterian Church \$2,690 for technology upgrades; Chalmers Presbyterian Church \$1,995 for technology upgrades; Knox-St. Andrew’s Presbyterian Church, Dutton \$2,470 for technology upgrades, Rev. J. Patterson, General Presbyter, a maximum of \$1,000 for a one-day training session for elders in the congregations he serves to be paid when receipts received.

Treasurer’s Report This report was circulated in advance and includes updated fund balances.

Clerk’s Report The Clerk advised the Court that the Presbytery of London would not be sending a Young Adult Representative to General Assembly this year as no applications were received; the Stalker Fund report was circulated for information only; the Clerk requires storage space for a few boxes of Presbytery records.

General Assembly Referrals **MOTION:** (Butterfield-Kocis/Burns) THAT Presbytery, in response to 1.1 of the Referrals for Study and Report GA2021, circulate the above report and accompanying study guide: Living in God’s Mission Today commending it to the sessions within its bounds. **CARRIED.**

MOTION: (Butterfield-Kocis/Burns) THAT Presbytery in response to 1.5 of the Referrals for Study and Report GA2021, circulate the above report commending it to the session within its bounds. **CARRIED.**

MOTION: (Butterfield-Kocis/Burns) THAT the Moderator in response to 1.5 of the Referrals for Study and Report GA2021 strike a special committee to develop a presbytery response for the Clerks of Assembly regarding the presented provisional guidelines. And that this special committee report back at the April regular meeting of Presbytery in order to forward a response to the Assembly Clerks forthwith. **CARRIED.**

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Ministry Team K. McKee presented a verbal report.

Congregation Team The report was circulated in advance, nothing further.

General Presbyter The report was circulated in advance, nothing further.

Reports of Interim Moderators Westmount, London: The report was circulated in advance. Nothing further.

Trinity Community, London: No report.

St. Lawrence, London: Search committee in place; working on profile.

Oakridge, London: Nothing further.

Other Business There was no other business.

Adjournment On a motion by M. Butterfield-Kocis, the Court stood adjourned at eighteen minutes after eight o'clock, to meet online in regular session on Tuesday, the eighth day of March, two thousand and twenty-two, at seven o'clock in the evening.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk