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[tco-president@united-church.ca](mailto:tco-president@united-church.ca)**

Rev. Bryan Ransom, President  
Sub-Executive, Toronto Conference Office  
65 Mayall Avenue  
Downsview ON M3L 1E7

June 1, 2015

Dear Rev. Ransom,

**Re: Motion to Order a Review of Rev. Gretta Vosper**

Rev. Gretta Vosper has retained our office in respect of a motion of the Sub-Executive of the Toronto Conference, dated May 11, 2015 as well as the earlier Ruling of the General Secretary of the General Council, dated May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2015.

As a result of both substantive and procedural concerns over the treatment of Rev. Vosper, we have been instructed to challenge the proposed Review process (which appears to be unprecedented) including, but not limited to filing an appeal of the General Secretary of the General Council's May 5, 2015 Ruling.

We respectfully propose that the Sub-Executive of the Toronto Conference exercise its discretion to refrain from implementing the May 11, 2015 Motion to order a Review of the effectiveness of Rev. Gretta Vosper until such time as the aforementioned Appeal has been determined. As you know section J.13.8 of *The Manual* provides for the following:

“The Court that made the decision may decide not to implement the decision until the conclusion of the appeal process. The court may make this decision on its own initiative or at the request of the appellant.”<sup>1</sup>

Rev. Vosper remains eager and willing to exercise her Ministry subject to the oversight and discipline of The United Church of Canada; however, in light of these substantive concerns, we appeal

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<sup>1</sup> *The Manual*, 2013, The United Church of Canada, Section J.13.8 at page 205

to your good judgement to refrain from implementing the Sub-Executive's decision until Rev. Vosper has exercised her right to appeal.

We invite you to meet with us at your earliest convenience to discuss a non-adversarial and fair outcome to the events that have unfolded to date. In the spirit of compassion, fairness and fellowship, we are prepared to entertain any and all discussion on a process that respects the rights of Rev. Vosper, the polity of the United Church of Canada, and the members of the West Hill United Church congregation.

I can be reached via telephone through my assistant, Odi Dashesambuu, at (416) 964-0495 ext 248 and via email at [julianf@falconers.ca](mailto:julianf@falconers.ca).

Your prompt acknowledgment to this correspondence would be appreciated.

Yours very truly,



Julian N. Falconer

Cc: Rev. Gretta Vosper  
Rev. David W. Allen, Executive Secretary, Sub-Executive, Toronto Conference, via email: [dallen@united-church.ca](mailto:dallen@united-church.ca)

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**SENT VIA EMAIL ([cgunn@united-church.ca](mailto:cgunn@united-church.ca))**

Ms. Cynthia Gunn  
Legal Counsel  
The United Church of Canada  
3250 Bloor St. West, Suite 300  
Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4 Canada

June 18, 2015

Dear Cynthia,

**Re: Toronto Conference Review of Rev. Gretta Vosper**

It feels like a long time since we have chatted. I trust that you and your family are well.

As you may know, I represent Rev. Gretta Vosper in respect of a number of appeals that have been filed flowing from a Conference order for a review. I am unclear on who I should correspond with so, as luck would have it, I thought of you.

I have had an opportunity to fully canvas Rev. Vosper and to have some useful conversations with the West Hill United Church leadership. While I have much to learn about the issues being discussed, one common theme repeatedly emerges: that there must be a non-adversarial way to address what are fundamental issues of concern to members across the United Church of Canada.

There is a sincere wish by both Rev. Vosper and members of her congregation to enter into a dialogue with the Toronto Conference Executive and other leadership in an effort to identify a respectful process for addressing these matters.

The folks I am advising are open to discussing the details of how and by what means such conversations can take place - the idea is to hold confidential discussions which would allow all parties to consider a variety of options and to hopefully find a constructive way forward, if not full agreement.

I am writing to see if there is interest in engaging in such discussions. I look forward to hearing from you. My cell number is 416-420-4202 if you prefer to call.

Yours very truly,



Julian N. Falconer

Cc: Kathy McDonald, Legal Counsel, The United Church of Canada, via email: [kcdonald@united-church.ca](mailto:kcdonald@united-church.ca)

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# CAVALLUZZO

<b>Please refer to:</b>	<b>Elizabeth J. McIntyre</b>
Direct Line:	416-964-5501
Email:	<a href="mailto:emcintyre@cavalluzzo.com">emcintyre@cavalluzzo.com</a>
Assistant:	Maria Marcantonio
Assistant's Email:	<a href="mailto:mmarcantonio@cavalluzzo.com">mmarcantonio@cavalluzzo.com</a>
File No.	151009

July 23, 2015

**BY E-MAIL: [julianf@falconers.ca](mailto:julianf@falconers.ca)**

Julian N. Falconer  
Falconers LLP  
Barristers and Solicitors  
200 - 104 Syndicate Avenue North  
Thunder Bay, ON P7C 3V7

Dear Mr. Falconer:

**Re: Vosper Appeal of General Secretary's Ruling - 15-001-R**

As you know, I act for The General Secretary of the General Council of the United Church of Canada. This letter is in response to your Notice of Motion dated July 2, 2015 in which my client is named as the Respondent.

In that motion you ask for an order extending the time to deliver a statement of argument in support of the appeal which is being filed on behalf of Rev. Vosper. In our telephone discussion of July 21, 2015, you advised that an extension until September 18, 2015 would be adequate. Please be advised that this is acceptable to my client; we would consent to an order to this effect.

In our conversation of July 21, 2015 you also asked for a response to your letter dated June 18, 2015 directed to Cynthia Gunn, Legal/Judicial Counsel for the United Church of Canada. In that letter you suggest that discussions take place with respect to an alternative process to the one identified in the ruling of The General Secretary dated May 5, 2015. Having already considered the matter and made a ruling with respect to the appropriate procedure, The General Secretary is not in a position to reconsider that decision. We note that a number of concerns regarding the decision have been raised through the Notice of Appeal which you filed on June 4, 2015 on behalf of Rev. Vosper; we assume that any concerns can be addressed through the appeal process.

**CAVALLUZZO SHILTON MCINTYRE CORNISH LLP** BARRISTERS & SOLICITORS

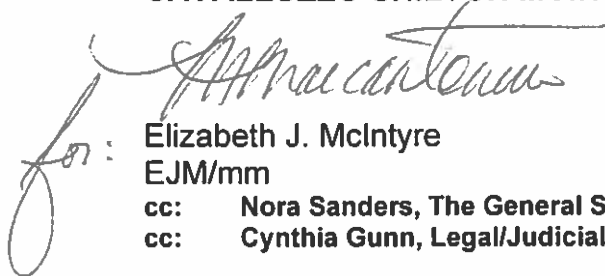
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In your letter of June 18, 2015 you make reference "both to Rev. Vosper and members of her congregation". Please advise if you are acting on behalf of the congregation as well as Rev. Vosper.

Yours very truly,

**CAVALLUZZO SHILTON MCINTYRE CORNISH LLP**

  
For: Elizabeth J. McIntyre  
EJM/mm

cc: **Nora Sanders, The General Secretary, General Council, The United Church of Canada**  
cc: **Cynthia Gunn, Legal/Judicial Counsel, The United Church of Canada**