

COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND RIGHT RELATIONS

Minutes of Meeting held on June 13, 2017, 1:00pm
at Bracebridge United Church, Bracebridge, ON

Chairperson: Susan Eagle

Recording Secretary: Glen Eagle

IN ATTENDANCE: Mary Belyea, Glen Eagle, Susan Eagle, Linda Parsons, Islay Scott,
Wendy Wight

REGRETS: Barb Kutcher, Betty Lou McNabb, Marg Smith, Donald Spratt

Guest: Angus MacLennan, Chair of Presbytery

OPENING PRAYER – was given by Susan Eagle with special remembrances to all members of the commission who are going through difficult times.

1. **QUORUM** 1/3 of 14; total voting members present: 6

2. **CALL TO ORDER**

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

MOTION: That the agenda for the meeting be approved as circulated.

Moved by: Wendy Wight

Seconded by: Mary Belyea

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

MOTION: That the Minutes of the meeting of the Community Connections and Right Relations Commission held April 4, 2017 be approved as circulated.

Moved by: Glen Eagle

Seconded by: Wendy Wight

CARRIED

3. **REPORTS AND UPDATES**

Staffing for Social Justice Person

This is a combined effort with Toronto Southeast Presbytery.

The final deadline for applications was the first week of June. Several people have applied and there is a short list. The selection committee hopes to finalize their choice by this week with the person starting during the summer. They will use primarily the Toronto Conference office. It is a three-year job.

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South Korea Trip

The return visit has taken place. Bracebridge United had a Korean speaker, with simultaneous translation. Grace United also had a speaker. Both were well received. Going forward there is a desire to have a report given to Presbytery. It was suggested that David Allen could be copied on this and perhaps facilitate the report. Martha Wood from Bracebridge United should also be involved.

Newsletter

The newsletter is on hold for the present. (While Donald gets his knees repaired so he can pray about the newsletter)

Collier Street United Church Motion

Susan Eagle and Jody Maltby were scheduled to speak to the Collier St United board but the meeting was postponed. They are going to speak at the September meeting of Collier Street Board. It was also decided we should emphasize that all congregations need to continue to educate themselves about the Middle East sanction issue.

Living Into Right Relations

Congregations are encouraged to re-visit the UN Declarations

Lodge Building Project

Tree Planting Date is Saturday July 29, on Georgina Island

4. MISSION AND SERVICE

(Report from Linda Parsons via email)

On Monday, June 19th, Toronto Conference Executive will be approving the criteria that will be discussed and supported at the 2017 Mission Support Consultation in the fall for 2018 criteria. We expect to receive the same amount from General Council as last year. We estimate the Indigenous ministries requests will total about \$200,000. The M&S consultation group is suggesting that this year we change the criteria to say we will pay up to 75% of the Indigenous ministries from the General Council Funds,(\$150,000) and cover the other \$50,000 by asking each presbytery and the Conference to pay \$10,000 each. The other ministries, unfortunately, will need to be cut this year to receive what remains.

Note: Conference gave the group \$75,000 for 2016 and \$37,500 for 2017 but they will not be receiving grants themselves from General Council in 2018. We will see how the executive responds to our application. Stay tuned!

5. NEW BUSINESS

Harmful Effects of Preservative Fructose

Videos - Sugar Coated on YouTube and another one on TVO by the same name.

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Simcoe Fathering

CCR is a member of Simcoe Fathering. This group is sponsored by the YMCA, libraries and health units of Simcoe. The effort is directed at helping organizations include fathers in their programs

SJNOC -no report

ISARC

Susan Eagle circulated ISARC flyers containing the 2016 Annual Report. ISARC has been asked to have conversations with the Premier of Ontario about the Billion or Bust campaign. The \$15 and Fairness campaign with the signatures of many religious leaders had a media event just one hour before the government announced their minimum wage raise. It appears that the media event got immediate results. Susan will distribute times and locations of the Government Town hall Hearings on the minimum wage announcement. The \$15 and Fairness web site has valuable info for those wishing to attend.

FUTURE

It was decided that Glen Eagle would send out a list during the summer of possible topics that the CCR Commission could look at during the next year. Some of the suggestions to be included were: Land Use - per Kate Middleton's email, Georgina Island Water treatment Plant, education issues surrounding GMO, women's issues: sex assault, trafficking and poverty are highest in Muskoka. These and other issues will be forwarded during the summer.

RESIGNATIONS

With regret we received the resignations of Maria Mindszenty, Marg Smith and Susan Eagle from the Commission. Linda Parsons thanked Susan for Chairing the Commission

NEW CHAIRS

We welcomed new Co-Chairs Wendy Wight and Linda Parsons.

NEXT MEETING September 12, 2017 at 1 p.m. at York Pines United Church

MOTION TO ADJOURN Linda Parsons

CLOSING PRAYER was given by Susan Eagle

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Addendum Topics for Future Discussion

Food Banks; Canadian Arms Trade; Minimum Wage; Homelessness and Housing; AURA; Blue Dot; Concern about Mental Health and Suicide; Concern – Double Standard of Salaries; Election Questions and Kit; Bill C51; Environment; Small Arms Trade Petition; Prison Inmate Petition; Bottled Water Petitions; SJNOC; KAIROS; ISARC; Refugee Support.

Related To Fructose from Donald Spratt

- First of all thank you for the information emailed regarding Harvard Medical School publication regarding fructose. It was most informative and made me realize that the problem I had was just the tip of the iceberg and we as a commission need to be educated on the alarming problems cause by sugar and the devastating effects of fructose in our diet. I am copying Susan and Glen, so they may note we need more discussions and education before putting forward a motion. I propose that I will copy the document you supplied me from Harvard for our CCRR meeting which each commission member can take home and over the summer view the video on YouTube produced by Dr. Robert H. Lustig, professor of pediatrics and obesity centre at the University of California. I watched the video he conducted in class and I was shocked at the information that he revealed as;
- Fructose is poison
- addictive, causes hypertension, stress and obesity
- Effect of sports drinks related to obesity in children and young adults and addictive
- harm to liver and other organs in the body and creation of plaque in the arteries
- how ethanol (poison) is produced in the body by consumption of fructose
- other information related to fibre