

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA  
TORONTO CONFERENCE**

**Minutes of a meeting of the  
Executive of Toronto Conference  
Wednesday, November 14, 2018**

The Executive of Toronto Conference met by video conference call on Wednesday, November 14, 2018. The meeting began at 9:12 a.m. A quorum was present.

**Members present**

Bryan Ransom (Past-President), Jody Maltby (Executive Secretary), Sharon Aylsworth (Toronto Southeast), Terry Davies (Living Waters), Gail Hamblin (South West), Anne Hepburn (Toronto Southeast), Kristal McGee (Northern Waters), Angus MacLennan (Living Waters), Henry MacLeod (South West), Betty Lou McNabb (Living Waters), Lawrence Nyarko (diversity), Thérèse Samuel (Northern Waters), Jessica Stevenson (diversity)

**Regrets**

Audrey Brown (President), Eiko Hosaka (diversity), Roger Hutchinson (Toronto Southeast)

**Absent**

- (South West), Ed Elliotson (Northern Waters)

**Community building, listening to God**

**Constituting the Court and introductions**

Past President Bryan Ransom welcomed everyone and constituted the meeting in the name of Jesus Christ to conduct the business properly brought before it.

**Worship/lighting the Christ candle/acknowledging the land**

Sharon Aylsworth and Anne Hepburn led the Executive in worship and invited each member to light a Christ candle at their location. Anne acknowledged that we are each of us on the traditional territory of Indigenous Peoples, and Sharon invited everyone to say a little about what it has meant to be part of the Executive, after which Anne led the Executive in communion.

**Questions for evaluating the meeting**

For this meeting, the Executive focused on the following questions: What voices have been heard? What voices have we not heard? What have we done or not done that's going to make a better church? What will be our legacy?

**Adoption of agenda**

MOTION by Betty Lou McNabb/Terry Davies that the agenda be adopted with the addition of the request for additional funding for Toronto Urban Native Ministry and a conversation about the ongoing relationship between Toronto Conference and Gretta Vosper.

MOTION

CARRIED.

**Business matters to be considered by the Executive****Minutes**

MOTION by Henry MacLeod/Thérèse Samuel that the Executive approve the minutes of September 12, 2018; and receive the sub-Executive minutes of November 6, 2018

MOTION

CARRIED.

**Business Arising from the Minutes and Executive Secretary's Report (Appendix A)**

- Funds requested by Toronto Southeast Presbytery from the sale of Victoria Park United Church

The Executive discussed the request from Toronto Southeast Presbytery.

MOTION by Sharon Aylsworth/Betty Lou McNabb that the Executive of Toronto Conference approve the request from Toronto Southeast Presbytery for \$600,000 from the sale of Victoria Park United Church to go to the Toronto Southeast Presbytery Major Capital Fund held by Toronto United Church Council.

MOTION

CARRIED.

**Request for Additional Funding for Toronto Urban Native Ministry**

The Executive reviewed the correspondence received regarding Toronto Urban Native Ministry (Appendix B)

MOTION by Terry Davies/Sharon Aylsworth that Toronto Conference approve an additional grant of up to \$7,300 for Toronto Urban Native Ministry for each of 2019 and 2020, funds to come from the Conference Fund.

MOTION

CARRIED.

### **Settlement with Rev. Gretta Vosper**

The Executive discussed how to have conversations in our congregations and in the wider church about the settlement with Rev. Vosper and how to deal with the call for transparency while being respectful of confidentiality. Gratitude was expressed for the challenging and heart-felt work of the sub-Executive.

### **Omnibus motion**

MOTION by Angus MacLennan/Jessica Stevenson that the Toronto Conference Executive take the following actions:

a) Suitability for Ministry of Applicant for Admission

...on the advice of its Conference Interview Committee, which has reviewed the application and references from the applicant and has met and interviewed the applicant for admission on October 24, 2018, hereby recognize The Rev. Stephen Whitaker as suitable to proceed in the admission process to the order of ministry of The United Church of Canada as an ordained minister.

b) Interim Ministry Designation

... on the advice of its Conference Interview Committee, which has reviewed the application (INT101); met and interviewed the applicant regarding the request for continuing designation as an Interim Minister hereby designate The Rev. Timothy Dayfoot as eligible to continue serving as an Interim Minister until October 24, 2023.

... on the advice of its Conference Interview Committee, which has reviewed the application (INT101); met and interviewed the applicant regarding the request for continuing designation as an Interim Minister hereby designate The Rev. Neil Parker as eligible to continue serving as an Interim Minister until October 24, 2023.

c) Bloor West Nursery School

... based on advice received from the General Council lawyer and staff approve the legacy agreement to recognize Bloor West Nursery School as a legacy incorporated ministry effective November 6, 2018

d) Camp Ahshunyoong operating as Camp Big Canoe

...approve Camp Ahshunyoong operating as Camp Big Canoe 2017-2018 Board of Directors

David Bell  
Doug Clark  
Patti Clark  
Laurie Cook  
Heather Dahmer  
John Dinner  
Constance Dupuis  
Julien Dupuis  
Jeremy Hyde  
Ian McTavish  
Kate Meyers  
Ted Meyers  
Ken Parsons  
Lou Petkow  
Scott Taylor

e) Church of the Master Homes Corporation

...approve the Church of the Master Homes Corporation 2017-2018 Board of Directors

Elaine Dalziel  
Robert Fletcher  
Janice Graham  
Bennett Olegasegram  
Mathew Peltier

f) Fred Victor Centre

...approve the Fred Victor Centre 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Sandra Bennett  
Deane Collinson  
John Dynes  
David Estabrooks  
Dawnmarie Harriott  
Jawad Kassab  
R. Scott Lawrence  
Janet Mason  
Karen O'Connor  
Paulett Ramsey

Bob Ssebagala  
Christina Topp  
Lis Wigmore

...that consent be given to Fred Victor Centre to lease 512 Jarvis Street, City of Toronto for the Transitional Shelter for Older Women program for a term of 15 years beginning October 2, 2018.

g) Grace Place Community Resource Centre

....approve Grace Place Community Resource Centre 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Preet Boparai-Dhindsa  
Daniel Clark  
C. Jean Jamieson  
Stephen Rhodes  
Joe Vera  
Cameron Welsh

h) Hillcrest Lodge Corporation

... approve Hillcrest Lodge Corporation 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Cam Davidson  
Sharon Hepditch  
Michael Jones  
Barry Keen  
Jim Saunders  
Dave Stinson  
Susan Walma

i) The Massey Centre for Women

....approve The Massey Centre for Women 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Omo Akintan  
Oliver Blunn  
Rhonelle Bruder  
Sarah Charters  
Amy Davies  
Jennifer Dockery  
Silke Dorego  
Kris Hollenberg  
Justine Humphries  
Eddy Popp

Rachel Solomon  
Sibel Turkman  
Stephanie Wang

... based on advice received from General Council Staff, approve the by-law no. 2018-1 of the incorporated ministry known as The Massey Centre for Women as meeting the policy requirements of an incorporated ministry of The United Church of Canada and direct the corporation to ensure it is in compliance with the Corporations Act of Ontario.

j) Simcoe Presbytery Camp (Camp Simpresca)

...approve the Simcoe Presbytery Camp (Camp Simpresca) 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Brian Cooper  
Lucas Cooper  
Paul Cooper  
Keri Craftchick  
Sarah Draper  
Colin Elliott  
Sarah Fairman  
Taylor Poulin  
Shelby Stevenson

... approve the addition of Anthony Phillgate to the 2018-2019 Simcoe Presbytery Camp (Camp Simpresca) Board of Directors

k) Toronto Christian Resource Centre

...approve Toronto Christian Resource Centre 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Peter Adamson  
Bill Dines  
Debbie Drewett  
Nancy Easton  
Andrew Gray  
Mary Morison  
John O'Leary  
Gary Schlee

l) Toronto United Church Council

... based on advice received from the lawyer retained by Toronto Conference to review by-laws, and from General Council Staff, approve

the by-law no. A and letters patent Article 3 updates of the incorporated ministry known as Toronto United Church Council as meeting the policy requirements of an incorporated ministry of The United Church of Canada.

MOTION

CARRIED.

### **Evaluation**

The Executive turned to the questions for evaluating the meeting. For this meeting, the Executive focused on what voices have been heard? What voices have we not heard? What have we done or not done that's going to make a better church? What will be our legacy?

The following comments were made:

- I'm sorry that we're missing some of our members in this last meeting, and hearing their collective memories of our time working together.
- We trust that the conversation will continue. We leave the space and live with the tension, which is what we do as people of faith. We ask God to bless the space between us.
- I'm sorry that we didn't all get together today and break bread together.
- I enjoyed the fact that we are all on the video because that's how I normally participate.
- I heard the care in which we're trying not to separate ourselves through our funding legacies. We are intentionally trying to ensure that what has been going on will continue to be funded for a couple of years but then trusting the region to make decisions that will make a better church for all people in our region and beyond.
- We lift up with celebration and grief the voice of Linda Parsons; she was such a powerful voice in our church for justice and Right Relations.
- I offer a prayer of gratitude for the leadership of Audrey Brown and Bryan Ransom.

### **Closing**

With the business completed, Past-President Bryan Ransom declared the meeting ended at 10:47 a.m.

Bryan offered a closing prayer and in particular lifted up Linda Parsons, the staff of the Conference, Gretta Vosper and the people of West Hill and a prayer of gratitude for the faithful leadership of the members of the Executive of Toronto Conference.

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Bryan Ransom  
Past-President

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Jody Maltby  
Executive Secretary