

Westminster Presbytery **Regular Meeting Held at Shiloh-Sixth Avenue United Church, New Westminster, Tuesday April 1, 2008**

Present: (lay) Janet Babey, Rob Berkowski, Louise Best, Lois Brown, Barbara Copan, Carol Cox, Donna Dawson, Betty Anne Dempsey, Ross Dunning, Carole Finch, Diane Green, Jean Johnson, Eileen Karyula, Sue Kellas, Sue Leest, Jean MacLeod, Marilyn McCutcheon, Roger Nelson, Fred Nienaber, Marie Paul, Ruth Stebbing, Erick Vejerno, David Vervet, Jenna Wray

(Ministry personnel) Charles Ahn, Jan Bihl, Richard Bott, Dave Anderson, Bruce Cameron, Mary Duncan, Brenda Faust, Helen Hobbs, Kimiko Karpoff, Tim Lissimore, Ian Macdonald, Mary Nichol, Rick Newbury, Wendy Read, Gerildeine Smith, Bethan Theunissen, Barb Tunnicliffe, Janet Uren, Ria Van Holten,

(Visitors): Donald Copan, Becca Moughlin, Nick Stebbing, Leenane Shiels, Treena Duncan

Regrets: Ernie Roberts, Doug Troop, Scott Turnbrook, Marj Parker, Ralph Johnson, Jo Shearer, Kevin Hegseth, Doug Miller, Bruce VanLuvén, Bruce Cowburn, Gerhard Bihl

Leaving Court Early: Barb Tunnicliffe at 8:00, Brenda Faust at 8:30

Call to Order

Authority: The meeting of Westminster Presbytery of the United Church of Canada was convened at the call of the chair Mary Duncan at Shiloh-Sixth United Church, Burnaby, B.C. at 5:40 p.m. A quorum was present.

Agenda

Motion 56/2008 Moved and seconded (Richard Bott / Fred Nienaber) that we adopt the agenda. **Carried**

Corresponding Privileges

Motion 57/2008 Moved and seconded (Bethan Theunissen / Carol Cox) that corresponding privileges be granted to visitors. **Carried**

Welcome from Bethan Theunissen and Kimiko Karpoff at Shiloh-Sixth United Church.

Joys and Sorrows were shared.

Worship was led by Bethan Theunissen.

Dinner: Bethan Thuenissen said grace and then we enjoyed a delicious meal.

Minutes

Motion 58/2008 Moved and seconded (Ross Dunning / Robert Berkowski) That we approve the minutes of the meeting of Westminster Presbytery held March 4, 2008. **Carried**

Motion 59/2008 Moved and seconded (Ria Van Holten / Sue Leest) That we receive the executive minutes of March 18, 2008 for information. **Carried**

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Business Arising from Minutes

Treasurer's Workshop

There is a Trustees/Treasurer's Workshop scheduled for April 19 and 20 at Trinity United, Port Coquitlam. A workshop on the new payroll system will be held in conjunction.

Motion 44/2008 previously tabled, now moved and seconded (Jean McLeod / Wendy Read) that an externally audited financial statement of the Presbytery's financial books be presented before the end of June 2008 and that internal and external audits be conducted on an alternating yearly basis.

Defeated.

Motion 60/2008 Moved and seconded, (Jean McLeod / Carol Finch) that Presbytery conduct alternate annual internal (within United Church, but not a member of our presbytery) review of the financial books and external (from outside the United Church) review of the financial books and every six years a full financial audit.

Carried

Opposed by Robert Berkowski

Motion 61/2008 Moved and seconded, (Jean McLeod / Carol Finch) that Presbytery's 2007 books be reviewed internally and presented to Presbytery no later than May 31, 2008. **Carried**

The purpose of this proposed schedule of financial reviews is to manage the significant costs of a full financial audit.

Announcements

Ross Dunning announced a trip that is being planned for July 2008.

Bethan Thuenissen has requested a change in pastoral relations effective June 2008, to pursue further studies.

South Burnaby United Church Board will not be using the new payroll system at this time.

Guest Speaker

Sexual Abuse Policy – Nick Stebbing

The United Church's new policy on sexual abuse is available on the National Conference website. Yellow Booklets were mailed out to each congregation. These need to be posted so that Congregants can see it. Presbytery Oversight visits should check that the new policy on sexual abuse is posted and available to congregants.

Correspondence

1. Victoria Presbytery, Record of Transfer request for Wendy Read – Pastoral Relations
2. Information & Statistics Coordinator re outstanding 2007 Statistical Forms – action by Secretary
3. Bethan Thuenissen, request for a change in pastoral relations – Pastoral Relations
3. Paulette Phillips re transfer of membership – action by Secretary
5. Rob Dagleish re Leaders in Ministry Renewal – on file
6. Reminder of VST G. Peter Kaye Lectures May 11 – 12, 2008 - on file
7. BC Conference re Retained on the Roll – Pastoral Relations
8. VST Emerging Spirit Event July 11 – 12, 2008 – posted on web site
9. B.C. Conference, letter from Janice Young re volunteers at Conference –read aloud

* BC Conference Registration Materials were made available at the sign in table.

Reminder that pastoral charge Annual Reports are now being received by the presbytery secretary

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Divisions and Committees

Children and Youth

Barb Tunnicliffe reported 30 young people are going to Cuba. The adult trip to Cuba will probably be cancelled (only 2 or 3 were interested). They are looking for fundraising possibilities for their expenses to travel to Cuba. Contact Barb if you wish to host a Cuban meal.

Becca Moughtin is here at Presbytery to represent YAYAEN.

There is leadership training for youth, April 20th 1-8 pm at Shiloh-Sixth.

Youth at Conference registrations forms should be completed and given to Barb.

The Children and Youth Committee made the following suggestions to the Visioning Committee, who has been assigned to do a Needs Assessment for the YAYAEN.

1. They require an Interim contract position filled to cover jobs volunteers usually do and cannot.
2. Vision and Youth Cluster members will interview and provide supervision for the position.
3. They see Presbytery involvement in the Needs Assessment and will need some time for input at a future Presbytery meeting.

Motion 62/2008 Moved and seconded, (Marilyn McCutcheon / Sue Leest) that Presbytery hire an Interim supply 'Children, Youth and Young Adult Coordinator' for seven hours per week at a rate of \$20.00 per hour plus the requisite benefits for the months of September through December through the "Other Ministry" line in the Vision budget. **Carried**

This will be a contract position with vision and youth cluster doing the hiring and accepting accountability.

Stewardship – no report

Visioning

East Burnaby United Church's Recommendations, regarding the Use and Disposition of East Burnaby United Church, were presented to Presbytery by Rev. Helen Hobbs.

Having voted on March 1, 2008, to disband as the congregation of East Burnaby United Church, as of June 30, 2008, we here recommend the following to Westminster Presbytery:

1) Whereas:

- there is much scope in the area for outreach ministry, with many new immigrants from a number of different countries populating the area;
- the building is in good condition and generates substantial revenue;

Therefore, We recommend that the Presbytery and / or Conference establish a 'discernment' group from the wider church to explore the prospect of re-imagining the presence of the United Church in the area of East Burnaby.

2) Whereas:

- we presently have a contract for another three years with Ms. Olga Gorenchtein who owns and runs the Graham Montessori Pre-School and Day Care in the church building,
- the School presently consists of some 70 students of 10 different nationalities and languages, and there are enough children on the waiting list for significant expansion;
- Ms. Gorenchtein has recently upgraded substantially the space she uses;
- we believe that this service to the surrounding community is consistent with a possible mission presence in the area;

Therefore, We recommend that the contract with Ms. Gorenchtein be honoured.

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Visioning (cont'd)

Motion 63/2008 Moved and seconded, (Ian McDonald / Helen Hobbs) that Presbytery receive recommendations from East Burnaby and that Visioning negotiate with Conference the possibility of carrying out these recommendations for the future and that Visioning bring back final recommendations to this court. **Carried**

Next Meeting of Presbytery

Motion 64/2008 (Tim Lissimore / Robert Berkowski) Since Ellemere United Church is unable to cater our dinner, Presbyters bring brown bag dinners to our next meeting at Ellesmere. **Defeated**

Motion 65/2008 (Marilyn McCutcheon / Donna Dawson) That presbyters bring an additional \$7 for our meal to be held in an Indian Restaurant below Ellesmere United, with the amendment, except for those who chose not to do so. **Carried**

Fred will circulate an email asking Presbyters to register for dinner if they are planning on eating the restaurant-prepared food.

Motion 66/2008 Moved and seconded, (Richard Bott / Jean MacLeod) to extend the order of the day to 9:30 pm meeting. **Carried**

Pastoral Relations

Motion 67/2008 Moved and seconded (Tim Lissimore/Carole Finch) That Rev. Shannon Tennant be retained on roll, effective July 1, 2008 until June 30, 2009. **Carried**

Motion 68/2008 Moved and seconded, (Richard Bott / Ian McDonald) that we accept with regret and good wishes the request of Bethan Theunissen for a change in pastoral relations. **Carried**

Rev. Dave Anderson and Sue Leest have agreed to serve on a JNAC for Shiloh-Sixth Avenue United.

Motion 69/2008 Moved and seconded, (Richard Bott & Kimiko Karpoff) that we accept the following terms of appointment for interim ministry for Rev. Wendy Read: that she be appointed May 01, 2008 to June 30, 2010 at Esquimalt United Church with salary of \$39,570 (thirty nine thousand five hundred seventy dollars) per year, housing of \$20,000 (twenty thousand dollars) per year, telephone allowance of \$300 (three hundred dollars) per year, study allowance of \$1,200 (one thousand two hundred dollars) per year. All other terms according to the Manual.

Motion 70/2008 Move and seconded (Richard Bott /Kimiko Karpoff) that Westminster Presbytery approve the transfer of Wendy Read to Victoria Presbytery, May 01, 2008.

Treasurer No report

Education and Students

Anne White will be returning to work April 2, 2008 following a medical leave.
Be reminded that Education & Students Committee require a new chairperson.
For your information, two students are waiting for interviews.

Oversight

Donna Dawson reminded cluster groups to complete their visits before June. The make-up of each cluster group is on the presbytery web site.

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Divisions and Committees (cont'd)

Communication

Please check the hard copies of the Presbytery directory and note any corrections. This will be updated in the website directory.

Property No report

Nominations No report

Chaplaincy No report

Outreach No report

New Business

Dave Anderson will reserve a room at conference for a Westminster Presbytery gathering. We need to gather to congratulate Julie Lebrun who will be ordained and bid fair well to those leaving Westminster Presbytery.

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m and Beth Theunissen closed with prayer.

Chair

Secretary

**Next Regular Meeting: Tuesday May 6, 2008 at 5:30 pm
Ellesmere United Church, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby**

**Next Executive Meeting: Tuesday April 22, 2008 at 12:30 pm
Eagle Ridge United Church
Or at the call of the chair**