

Westminster Presbytery **Regular Meeting Held at Deer Lake United Church, Tuesday December 2, 2008**

**Present: (lay),** Janet Babey, Brian Baybay, Robert Berkowski, Lois Brown, Barbara Copan, Don Copan, Carol Cox, Donna Dawson, Ross Dunning, Carole Finch, Ralph Johnston, Eileen Karyula, Jean Macleod, Marilyn McCutcheon, Susan Morrow, Fred Nienaber, Cattarina Patrice, Marie Paul, Jo Shearer, Ruth Stebbing, Angela Stevens, David Vervaet

**(Ministry personnel)** Charles Ahn, Dave Anderson, Jan Bihl, Bruce Cameron, Betty Ann Dempsey, Brenda Faust, Julie Lebrun, Ian Macdonald, Gabrielle McLarty, Rick Newbury, Mary Nichol, Ernie Roberts, Shannon Tennant, Doug Throop, Barb Tunnicliffe, Scott Turnbrook, Ria Van Holten, Ann White, Jong Chul Woo

**(Visitors):** Kathy MacKean, Sandra Dunning

**Regrets:** Kim Horwood, Sue Kellas, Richard Bott, Carey Child, Becca Moughtin, Sue Leest

**Authority:** The meeting of Westminster Presbytery of the United Church of Canada was convened at the call of the chair Dave Anderson at Deer Lake United Church, Burnaby, BC at 5:30 pm.  
A Quorum was present.

**Call to order:** David Anderson called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

**Motion 136/2008** Moved and seconded (A. White/M. McCutcheon) that we adopt the agenda as circulated.  
**Unanimous**

**Motion 137/2008** Moved and seconded (S. Turnbrook/R. Johnston) that we grant corresponding privileges to our visitors.  
**Unanimous**

**Introductions of new members and visitors to the court:** Kathy McKean is visiting for this meeting. Julie introduced Susan Morrow, who is now the official representative from St. Andrew's Port Moody.

**Joys, sorrows and announcements:**

Sue Kellas is doing well after her surgery.

50 youth from Willingdon Heights will be performing in an orchestra this Sunday.

Brenda Faust shared the excitement of her upcoming marriage and retirement.

Eagle Ridge has now paid off their Conference loan.

Julie Lebrun reminded everyone of the Covenanting service at St. Andrew's Port Moody this Friday.

Presbytery members shared joys, sorrows and announcements, both personally and from their churches.

**Motion 138/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Dunning/S. Turnbrook) that we adopt the minutes of the regular meeting of October 7/08.  
**Unanimous**

**Motion 139/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Dunning/J. Shearer) that we receive the executive minutes of November 4/08 for information.  
**Unanimous**

**Business Arising from Regular Minutes:** none

**Correspondence**

1. BC Conference, request for Proposals for General Meeting (May 21-24/09) – executive
2. General Council, United Church issues call to action for the Congo
3. General Council, Moderator's new book traces path of an unwelcome blessing
4. BC Conference, request to be on Conference "Available for Pulpit Supply" list
5. BC Conference, workshop on conflict Resolution, May 2009, Naramata
6. Conference Archives, request for presbytery files/minutes – action by secretary
7. BC Conference, permission to solemnize marriages – Pastoral Relations
8. Residential Schools UPDATE newsletter
9. VST advertising Masters Programs

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**Small Group Time:** Presbyters broke into small groups for a time of sharing, prayer and reflection on scripture.

**Treasurer's Report – Budget:** Committee chairs outlined the rationale for each of the budget lines. There was some clarification around the Lower Mainland Mission Enhancement Funds (Dave Anderson Memorial Fund). After some discussion about several items, including housing allowance and mileage, the following motions were made:

**Motion 140/2008** Moved and seconded (D. Throop/L. Brown) that the Westminster Presbytery Mileage allowance be tied to the Federal Government's recommendation for BC (currently \$.52/km). **Carried**

*Note: the Federal numbers run from July 1 to June 30 each year.*

**Motion 141/2008** Moved and seconded (D. Throop/I. Macdonald) that the 2009 Budget be approved as presented. **Unanimous**

*A special thank you to Bruce for his work in preparing the budget.*

**Committee/Task Group/Ministry Reports**Education and Students:

**Motion 142/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Stebbing, C. Cox) that Westminster Presbytery recommend Nicholas Judson for Ordination to BC Conference at its next session. The Education and Students Committee supports this recommendation having completed its examination of Nicholas. **Unanimous**

*To be noted that Nicholas still needs to complete his final year at VST.*

**Motion 143/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Stebbing, C. Cox) that Westminster Presbytery confirm that status of Nicholas Judson as a Candidate for Ordained Ministry **Unanimous**

**Motion 144/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Stebbing, C. Cox) that Westminster Presbytery recommend Betty Anne Dempsey for Commissioning to BC Conference at its next session. **Unanimous**

*To be noted that Betty Anne is completing her educational process in March 2009.*

**Motion 145/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Stebbing, C. Cox) that Westminster Presbytery confirm the status of Betty Anne Dempsey as a Candidate for Diaconal Ministry. **Unanimous**

**Motion 146/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Stebbing, C. Cox) that Westminster Presbytery confirm the status of Ann White as a Designated Lay Minister. **Unanimous**

**Motion 147/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Stebbing, C. Cox) that Westminster Presbytery recommend Ann White to be recognized by BC Conference as a Designated Lay Minister. **Unanimous**

**Motion 148/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Stebbing, C. Cox) that Westminster Presbytery recommends Rick Newberry for Admission to the Order of Ministry at the next session of BC Conference. **Unanimous**

**Motion 149/2008** (R. Stebbing, C. Cox) that Westminster Presbytery confirm the status of Leenane Shiels as a Candidate for Ordained Ministry pending receipt of a current Police Record Check. **Unanimous**

**Motion 150/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Stebbing, C. Cox) that Westminster Presbytery receive Kimiko Karpoff as a Candidate for Diaconal Ministry and agrees that the applicant has demonstrated capacity to undertake the "Centre for Christian Studies" program of studies. **Unanimous**

**Motion 151/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Stebbing, C. Cox) that Westminster Presbytery confirm the status of Kathleen Edmunds as a Candidate for Ordained Ministry. **Unanimous**

**Motion 152/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Stebbing, C. Cox) that Westminster Presbytery change the Discernment committee for Min Goo Kang to an Appointment Advisory Committee with the same members – Scott Turnbrook, Charles Ahn, Paul Kim, Michael Yoon and Yunkyong Back. **Unanimous**

Pastoral Relations:

**Motion 153/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Dunning/D. Throop) that Westminster Presbytery approved the Joint Needs Assessment Committee Report of Trinity United Church, Port Coquitlam, and that the Joint Needs Assessment Committee be disbanded, with our thanks for their ministry. **Unanimous**

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**Motion 154/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Dunning/D. Throop) that Westminster Presbytery declare a full-time (40 hours per week) ordered ministry vacancy at Trinity United Church, Port Coquitlam, effective January 1, 2009.

**Unanimous**

**Motion 155/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Dunning/R. Berkowski) that Westminster Presbytery appoint the Rev. Brian Burke to the full time (40 hours per week) United Supply position at Trinity United Church, Port Coquitlam, beginning February 1, 2009, ending June 30, 2009, under the following terms:

- adequate secretarial assistance of 30 hours per week
- annual salary of \$38,585.04
- annual housing allowance of \$25,080
- basic telephone (not including personal long distance)
- annual financial support for study of \$1608
- all other terms as defined by The Manual (2007)

**Unanimous**

*(please note – a current Police Records Check – November 25, 2008 – has been reviewed)*

**Motion 156/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Dunning/R. Berkowski) that Westminster Presbytery initiate the transfer of the Rev. Brian Burke from Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery to Westminster Presbytery.

**Unanimous**

**Motion 157/2008** Moved and seconded (A. Stevens/L. Brown) that Westminster Presbytery appoint the Rev. Doug Alexander to the full time (40 hours per week) Retired Supply position at Queens Avenue United Church, New Westminster, beginning December 3, 2008, ending December 2, 2011, under the following terms:

- vacation of at least one month within each pastoral year, including 5 Sundays
- adequate secretarial assistance defined as 20 hours per week Church administrator
- travel expense reimbursement at \$.42/km
- annual salary of Category F + 15%
- annual housing allowance at approved Presbytery Amount for New Westminster
- basic telephone (not including personal long distance)
- annual financial support for study of \$1200
- all other terms as defined by The Manual (2007)

**Unanimous**

**Motion 158/2008** Moved and seconded (I. Macdonald/A. Stevens) that Westminster Presbytery initiate the transfer of the Rev. Doug Alexander from Fraser Presbytery to Westminster Presbytery. **Unanimous**

Congregational Support – Ian Macdonald

Ian asked a few questions of the court in order to generate ideas about how this group might be able to help congregations.

Chaplaincy at SFU – Doug Throop

Doug reported on campus ministry at SFU. Some highlights include: the average age of the congregation has dropped due to several students attending, average attendance on Sunday has risen to 30 to 40. In addition, the have hosted a number of events for the campus community and as fundraisers for local charities.

Youth Visioning – Robbie Berkowski

The youth retreat that has traditionally been held in May will be held in March this year.

Oversight – Jan Bihl

Members of the Oversight Committee are willing to come to church to go over records, and check how things are going. This is so an official Oversight visit will not be so intensive. They are also encouraging congregations to take the “Natural Church Development” survey (to be funded by Presbytery). They are asking for volunteers, in teams of 4 with at least one person from the committee, to go out and do this work ... people with gifts of discernment, listening, writing, etc. These people would be the “eyes and ears” of Presbytery.

Spiritual Care – Ann White

Ann indicated that she will be taking over this responsibility for Presbytery – wait for more information!

Communications – Fred Nienaber/Ross Dunning

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Fred reminded the new members to get current contact information to him. Ross reminded everyone that we need to contact Fred if our church has a new web address or email address.

Carole Finch reminded everyone that M & S targets are due in February. If you're unable to download the forms, contact Carole.

**New Business**

East Burnaby Trustees - we need to appoint trustees during the time that the property is held by BC Conference.

**Motion 159/2008** Moved and seconded (R. Dunning/S. Turnbrook) that the following persons be named as Trustees of the East Burnaby United Church property effective December 3, 2008: Rev. David Smith, Fred Nienaber, Rev. Dave Anderson, with Fred Nienaber named as Chair. **Unanimous**

**Other Business**

David Vervaet went to a presentation at Sharon United Church given by Derek Evans on the future of Fraser Presbytery. The presentation included graphs of membership and finances for the pastoral charges in the Presbytery. The recommendation was that 14 pastoral charges should shut down. David was concerned that there was nothing in the presentation about churches that were doing well.

**Adjournment** The meeting adjourned with prayer.

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Chair

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Secretary

**Executive meeting - TBA**

**Next regular meeting March 3, 2009 - TBA**