

Westminster Presbytery **Executive Meeting Held At Eagle Ridge United Church, Tuesday Nov. 4, 2008**

**Present:** Dave Anderson, Richard Bott, Bruce Cowburn Carol Cox, Sue Kellas, Carole Finch, Ian Macdonald, Barb. Tunnickliffe

**Regrets:** Jan Bihl, Brenda Faust, Fred Nienaber

**Quorum present**

**Chairperson: Dave Anderson**

**Secretary: Sue Kellas**

**Authority:** The executive meeting of Westminster Presbytery of The United Church of Canada was convened by Dave Anderson at Eagle Ridge United Church at 1:00 pm on Tuesday November 4, 2008.

**Opening Prayer**

Dave Anderson offered an opening prayer.

**Agenda**

The chair outlined the proposed agenda topics.

**Minutes**

**Motion 134/2008** Move and seconded (Bruce Cowburn/Carole Finch) That we adopt the minutes of the executive meetings September 2 and September 18, 2008. **Carried**

**Correspondence**

1. General Council, Church expresses confidence in Truth & Reconciliation Commissioners - file
2. Education & Student's minutes, October 7/08 - file
3. Queen's Avenue United, invitation to 150th Anniversary April 18/19 09 - file
4. Fellowship Magazine - Education and Students
5. General Council Launch of You Tube Channel - file
6. Jennifer Cunnings request for financial support for Children's Retreat - treasurer
7. Oversight Visitation Report Components - file

**Budget**

Treasurer Bruce Cowburn led us through a process to compile a Presbytery Budget for 2009. A draft of the budget will be placed on the presbytery website. The budget will be discussed and approved at the December 2/08 meeting of presbytery.

Doug Throop will be consulted about the Interfaith Chaplaincy budget figure of \$1,000.00

A question was raised about why some positions in presbytery are offered honoraria such as Web Master and Secretary while others do not. It was noted that the current secretary declines the honoraria.

It was noted that mileage claims should be filed in June and November.

**Format of Presbytery**

For the purpose of setting the budget, the executive recommended that presbytery hold four meetings a year; a September retreat, a budget meeting in late November, a pre conference meeting in March and a celebratory meeting in June. It was also suggested that meeting at one location might help members arrive promptly.

Dave Anderson will contact Como Lake about the use of their facility.

**East Burnaby Property**

Ian Macdonald will pursue plans for the East Burnaby site and report back to the executive in late February.

**Environmental Footprint**

Ian Macdonald has print materials he will make available to presbyters. South Burnaby received financial support for the removal of hazardous material from their church.

**Housing Allowances**

**Motion 135/2008** Moved and seconded (Ian Macdonald/Barb Tunnickliffe) That housing allowances for ministry personnel in Westminster Presbytery be increased by 5%. **Carried**

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**Fairhaven Homes**

A question arose about Fairhaven Homes accountability to Presbytery. Ian Macdonald supervises their chaplain Dawn Purdy-Karkut. Further information will be sought

**Election Process for Commissioners**

Carole Finch presented the current process being used to elect commissions for General Council. Richard Bott questioned the process and will provide Carole with his thoughts in writing prior to the Conference Executive meeting.

**Lower Mainland Funds**

The chairs of the four lower mainland presbyteries will be meeting to discuss the use of the Conference funds made available to each presbytery. Consideration is being given to hiring a Presbytery Officer responsible for Pastoral Relations in all four presbyteries.

**Make-up of Divisions**

It was noted that Oversight and Pastoral Relations require more people to sit on their Divisions.

**Natural Church Development**

Executive members each received a copy of a document introducing Natural Church Development. Funds have been build into the budget to use this model within Westminster Presbytery.

**Coming Events**

The Pensioners Luncheon will be held Friday November 28/08 at Como Lake United Church from 11:00 am to 2:00 pm.

A Covenanting Service for Julie Lebrun will be held Friday December 5th at 7:00 pm at St. Andrew's Port Moody

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 4:15 pm

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Chair

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Secretary

**Next Regular Meeting Tuesday December 2/08  
Deer Lake United Church - 5135 Sperling Avenue, Burnaby  
604 299-4211**

**Next Executive Meeting TBA**