

Westminster Presbytery **Executive Meeting Held at Eagle Ridge United Church, Tuesday September 1, 2009**

**Present:** Dave Anderson, Jan Bihl, Richard Bott, Bruce Cowburn, Carol Cox, Carole Finch, Kim Horwood, Sue Kellas, Fred Nienaber,

**Regrets:** Ian Macdonald, Barb Tunnicliffe,

**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, Coquitlam B. C. at 12:00 pm on Tuesday September 1, 2009.

**Check In:** Members were given an opportunity to check in.

**Opening Prayer:** Dave Anderson offered an opening prayer.

**Agenda:** Items for discussion were presented and agreed upon.

**Minutes**

**Motion 31/2009** Moved and seconded (Richard Bott/Bruce Cowburn) That we approve the minutes from the executive meeting held June 9, 2009. **Carried**

**Old Business**

Mission and Service Convener Carole Finch was encouraged to continue to request that those pastoral charges who have not completed their M & S Commitment form do so.

Sue Kellas requested that Congregational Oversight pursue the missing statistical returns for IOCO.

**Correspondence**

1. VST newsletter, Perspectives - file
2. Fellowship Newsletter - Education and Students
3. General Council, change of Broker of Record from Willis to Hub International Ltd. - file
4. Mary Nichol, CD power point presentation from Children's Retreat 2009 - share
5. Settlement, completed forms for G. McLarty, A. White and Warrant to Covenant for B. Burke - action
6. General Council, 2008 Annual Report - file
7. Shiloh-Sixth Avenue, Action Recognizing an Inquirer for Christopher Burkholder - Education and Students
8. General Council, Statistical Returns - Oversight
9. Ann White, Pitt Meadows United Church, request for change in pastoral relations - action
10. Brenda Wolff, Conference Office re status of some ministry personnel - action

**Business Arising**

Statistical Review

Surveys have been sent to all pastoral charges for completion by September 21st. The information requested is different from the National Statistical Forms but it is vital for our strategic review of Westminster Presbytery being compiled by Marina Gilson. It is expected that presbytery will request similar data in the future so pastoral charges are encouraged to begin tracking this information. Oversight will be contacting congregations if their survey is overdue.

Fall Retreat

The retreat will be held Thursday October 22 to Saturday October 24 at Chehalis Retreat Centre in Agassiz. Fred Nienaber will send a detailed email closer to the event. Dave Anderson, Richard Bott, Jan Bihl and Kim Horwood agreed to facilitate the event. Dave will contact a music resource person. Carol Cox and Barb Tunnicliffe will facilitate the parallel Youth Event. Each Pastoral Charge is encouraged to send one youth who is between grade 7 and 12.

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Proposed Presbytery Youth Minister Position

Carol Cox and Barb Tunnicliffe have a draft proposal for a Presbytery Youth Minister for Westminster Presbytery. It is based on 7 hours per week and the job description includes planning certain youth events, networking, website and leader support. The proposal will be presented at the fall retreat.

Fall Clergy Retreat

Bowen Island Rivendell has been booked for November and Richard Bott and Julie Lebrun will plan the event.

Carol Cox left the meeting at 2:00 pm.

**Oversight**

Jan Bihl circulated the oversight report for Pitt Meadows United Church (Appendix A) It was agreed to review the format of Oversight Reports at a later date. Discussion focused on the Support and Training and Recommendations and the need to take immediate action.

**Motion 32/2009** Moved and seconded (Jan Bihl/Carole Finch) That we receive the oversight report for Pitt Meadows United Church. **Carried**

**Motion 33/2009** Moved and seconded (Carole Finch/Fred Nienaber) That we direct Presbytery Congregational Support to work with Pitt Meadows United Church and provide the support and training they have asked for and follow up on the recommendations, with particular emphasis on conflict and healing before the current minister leave and that regular progress reports be provided to the executive. **Carried**

Dave Anderson will contact Ian Macdonald about this important piece of work.

**Pastoral Relations**

Pitt Meadows United Church

**Motion 34/2009** Moved and seconded (Jan Bihl/Bruce Cowburn) That Westminster Presbytery accept Ann White's request for a change in pastoral relations effective October 31, 2009. **Carried**

**Motion 35/2009** Moved and Seconded (Jan Bihl/Bruce Cowburn) That a JNAC be set up at Pitt Meadows United Church and that Pastoral Relation Committee name two persons to represent Presbytery on this committee.

Queens Avenue United Church

**Motion 36/2009** Moved and seconded (Kim Horwood/Carole Finch) That we accept the resignation of Doug Alexander from Queen Avenue United Church effective June 30/09 due to illness and transfer his membership to Fraser Presbytery at his request. **Carried**

**Motion 37/2009** Moved and seconded (Kim Horwood/Carole Finch) That we approve the ending of the pastoral relationship between Doug Alexander and Queens Avenue United Church waiving the 90 day requirement. **Carried**

**Motion 38/2009** Moved and seconded (Kim Horwood/Carole Finch) That we affirm the decision made by Queens Avenue pastoral charge supervisor Richard Bott to call a congregational meeting, establish a Joint Needs Assessment Committee and proceed with completing the JNA in a timely manner. **Carried**

The Joint Needs Assessment report from Queens Avenue United Church was circulated (Appendix B) and discussed. The congregation has reviewed and accepted this report.

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Pastoral Relations (cont'd)

**Motion 39/2009** Moved and Seconded Kim Horwood/Fred Nienaber) That we approve the Joint Needs Assessment report from Queens Avenue and establish a search committee. **Carried**

Richard Bott, Sue Kellas and Kim Horwood agreed to represent Presbytery on the search committee.

Kim Horwood will contact Barb Tunnicliffe, Kevin Hegseth and Rick Newbury about the need to complete appointment and call paper work for presbytery approval.

**Education and Students**

**Motion 40/2009** Moved and seconded (Bruce Cowburn/Fred Nienaber) That Westminster Presbytery accept the request from Shiloh-Sixth Avenue United Church to establish a discernment committee for Christopher Burkhold and that Education and Students name the presbytery representatives to this committee.

**Carried**

**Treasurer's Report**

Bruce reported that our housing allowances and housing policy is 'in-line' with the church's requirements. Budget will be on the agenda at the retreat.

Bruce also reported that the student summer project to compile archival records of certain congregations has been very successful.

**Property**

Bruce reported that a Korean Full Gospel Church has shown an interest in purchasing the East Burnaby United Church Site.

**Motion 41/2009** Moved and seconded (Fred Nienaber/Bruce Cowburn) That Westminster Presbytery thank B. C. Conference for granting us time to investigate options for the East Burnaby property. Having not found anything appropriate we ask B. C. Conference to proceed with the sale. **Carried**

**Announcements**

Cliff Avenue United Church will celebrate their 50th Anniversary on Sunday September 13th from 12:30 to 4:00 pm. Watch for details

There will be a covenanting service for Brian Burke at Trinity United Church on Sunday September 20th. Watch for details.

The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm

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Chair: Dave Anderson

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Secretary: Sue Kellas

**Next Executive Meeting - October 6, 2009  
1:00 pm Eagle Ridge United Church**

**Next Regular Meeting - Fall Retreat  
October 22 to 24, 2009  
Chehalis Retreat Centre, Agassiz, B. C.**