

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERY MEETING
September 30, 2011 from 9:00 – 4:00
The Old Mill at The Boathouse

The purpose of Westminster Presbytery is to empower, support and oversee congregations, ministry personnel, and special ministries as they raise up disciples of Jesus Christ.

Ministry Personnel Present: Charles Ahn, Jan Bihl, Brian Burke, Kathleen Edmunds, Kimiko Karpoff, Laurie Lamb, Julie Lebrun, Rick Newbury, Mary Nichol, Leenane Shiels, Shannon Tennant, Doug Throop, Scott Turnbrook, Ria Van Holten

Lay Representatives Present: Ralph Johnston, Jean Johnson, David Vervaet, Gil Kim, Eileen Karyula, Angela Stevens, Carole Finch, Sue Kellas, Kathy Young, Roger Nelson, Janet Babey, Betty McLean, Jo Shearer, Reine Hitchen, Georgia Runcie, Carol Cox, Lois Brown

Corresponding Members Present: Dona Lethbridge

Honoured Guest: Deb Bowman, BC Conference President

The gathering was opened with prayerful singing, prayer and a meditation on Luke 17:11-19.

The morning was spent with the Rev. Deb Bowman, President of BC Conference, who offered her insights into the roll of leadership in the United Church in these times and the challenges facing Presbyteries.

Division Meetings

Presbyters were invited to meet in their divisions.

The Court of Westminster Presbyter convened at 1:15.

- 1 Authority : The meeting of Westminster Presbytery of the United Church of Canada was convened at the call of the Chair, Scott Turnbrook, at The Boathouse at Rocky Point, Port Moody, B.C. who declared that a quorum was present.
- 2 The Chair outlined the upcoming meeting schedule and stressed the importance of having all members of presbytery present at all meetings
- 3 Divisional Business
 - 3.1 Education & Students
 - 3.1.1 The United Church of Canada is embarking on a new candidacy pathway which BC Conference is one of the conferences acting as a pilot project for it. Carol Cox outlines this process [include summary]. As part of this a "Thinking about Ministry" weekend is being held at Naramata Centre November 18-20, with another being held May 29-31, 2012. Presbyters are encouraged to identify and encourage individuals with gifts and skills for ministry to consider attending these events. The role of the Presbytery Education & Students committee will now be supporting students rather than evaluating them. All evaluative interviews will be done through a Candidacy and Admissions Board, but help will be needed to serve in the Ministry of Accompaniment with Students.

Motion 88/2011: It was moved and seconded that Westminster Presbytery, on the advice of its Education & Students Committee, which has:

- reviewed the application CAN202(b) of the individual;
- reviewed the report of the Discernment Committee and the Session or its equivalent DIS202(a);

reviewed the report of the Conference Interview Board;
met with and interviewed the Inquirer;
ensured a current police records check has been seen;
receive Dona Lethbridge as a candidate for ordained ministry and agrees that the applicant has demonstrated capacity to undertake the M.Div. Program of studies.. **Carried.** A brief covenanting service was held.

The remainder of the day was spent considering the new things that are happening in Westminster Presbytery; how the work of the Presbytery Divisions is able to carry out the mission, values and ministry of the Presbytery; and what the focus of the next chapter of the Presbytery's work should be.

The meeting concluded with worship and prayer.

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