

Human Resources Commission
Antler River Watershed Regional Council
OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith
Minutes of Meeting of July 13, 2021

Place: Zoom Meeting 9 a.m.

Roster: Olav Kitchen (OM, Chair), Paul Browning (OM), Jim Drummond (L), Carol Ferguson (OM), Louise Hall (L), Doreen Hewitson (DLM), Norm MacPherson (L), Mary Anne Silverthorn (L), Tracy Wygiera (L)

Staff Support: Pretima Kukadia-Kinting, Admin Assistant PKukadia@united-church.ca
Rev. Diane Blanchard, Minister, Pastoral Relations DBlanchard@united-church.ca

Present: Olav Kitchen, Paul Browning, Jim Drummond, Louise Hall, Doreen Hewitson, Norm MacPherson, Mary Anne Silverthorn, Tracy Wygiera, Diane Blanchard

Regrets: Carol Ferguson, Pretima Kukadia-Kinting

Absent:

Welcome and Constitute Meeting: In the name of Jesus Christ, the Head of the Church, I, Olav Kitchen, call this meeting of the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Region to order and to do the work of the Commission.

Acknowledging the Land: Territorial lands are acknowledged on behalf of the Human Resources Commission by Mary Anne Silverthorn:

We are gathered this morning to worship on traditional lands. We recognize and deeply appreciate the historic connection to this ground we worship on. We also recognize the contributions of the Metis, Inuit, and other Indigenous peoples have made to our country. As settlers, this recognition must be clearly connected to our commitment to make the promise and the challenge of the Truth and Reconciliation real in the community in which we live and worship. We are grateful to the Creator for this time and this place.

Opening Worship: Mary Anne Silverthorn provided worship.

Opening Motions:

Approval of Agenda:

MOTION that the agenda be accepted as circulated.

MOTION

AGREED

Approval of Previous Minutes:

MOTION by Jim Drummond / Paul Browning that the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the minutes of June 8, 2021 as amended. The exit interview with Doreen Hewitson occurred on May 21 but the report had not been finalized.

MOTION

CARRIED

Motion to minute from email poll

July 5, 2021: That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed accede to the request of First-St Andrew’s, London for the call of Joshua Lawrence, OM, fulltime, effective 21.09.01 according to the terms of the Record of Call agreed to in ChurchHub on 21.07.05.

MOTION

CARRIED

Business Arising

1. **First-St. Andrew’s, London** – motion deferred from meeting of 21.06.08 and discussion of whether the commission wants to contact the church about the second half. Proposed motion - that that the Human resources commission accede to the request First St. Andrews for the call of Joshua Lawrence, OM, full time.....conditional on the Leadership Council of FSA putting \$2000.00 in their annual budget to pay for a mediator should staff or the M & P committee feel that a problem has emerged that is not being satisfactorily resolved. Following conversation, it was agreed that Diane compose a letter to First-St. Andrew’s on behalf of the commission to strongly recommend the Council budget money for mediation in order to support a healthy pastoral relationship.
2. **Exit Interview** with Doreen Hewitson, DLM, as she completed her pastorate with Port Lambton United Church.

An exit interview was conducted by Louise Hall, Tracy Wygiera and Mary Anne Silverthorn on May 22. The summary was shared with Doreen and comments noted. Some problematic patterns of behavior were noted by the commission. Diane will prepare a letter for the Covenant Commission outlining some concerns that may best be addressed by an active pastoral charge supervisor. Training and compliance needed on the part of the Trustees and M&P committee.

New Business:

1. **Consent Docket**

Request for Change of Pastoral Relations:

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed approve the request from Carol Ferguson, OM, for a change of pastoral relations from the Sprucedale-Providence Pastoral Charge effective 21.09.30 to accept a call to St. Paul’s, Petrolia.

Approval of Open Positions:

Youth Minister, London – draft, for information

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed, having reviewed the description for a supply position, full-time, submitted by Maidstone-Gesto Pastoral Charge approve the position for posting on ChurchHub.

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed, having reviewed the description for a supply minister, part-time, 20 hours, submitted by Peace Pastoral Charge, approve the position for posting on ChurchHub.

Appointment of Liaisons:

Norwich – Bonnie Pilkey (one congregational meeting only); Mary Anne Silverthorn

Colborne Street, London – Paul Browning

Melville (Ivan Pastoral charge)

Ilderton

Renewal of appointments:

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed accede to the request of White Oaks, London for the supply appointment of Anne Beattie-Stokes, OM-R, fulltime, from 21.09.01 to 22.02.28 according to the terms of the Record of Appointment agreed to in ChurchHub on 21.06.23.

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed accede to the request of Central, St Thomas for the appointment of Paul Vollick DLM-R, part-time, 10 hours/week from 21.07.01 to 21.12.31 according to the terms of the Record of Appointment agreed to in ChurchHub on 21.06.15.

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed accede to the request of Riverside, London for the appointment of Marilyn Arthur, DLM, fulltime, 40 hours/week from 21.07.01 to 21.06.30 according to the terms of the Record of Appointment agreed to in ChurchHub on 21.06.30.

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed accede to the request of South Buxton Pastoral Charge for the appointment of Eric Skillings, DLM, fulltime, 40 hours/week from 21.07.01 to 26.06.30 according to the terms of the Record of Appointment agreed to in ChurchHub on 21.06.30.

Approval of new appointments:

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed accede to the request of Maidstone-Gesto for the supply appointment of Paul Rodey, OM-R, part-time, 20 hours/week, from 21.07.05 to 22.01.03 according to the terms of the Record of appointment agreed to in ChurchHub on 21.06.24.

Approval of calls:

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed accede to the request of St. Paul’s, Petrolia for the call of Carol Ferguson, OM, fulltime, effective 21.11.01 according to the terms of the Record of Call agreed to in ChurchHub on 21.06.17.

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed accede to the request of the Belmont, Harrietsville-Mossley Pastoral Charge for the provisional call of Karlene Kimber, DM (candidate), part-time, 30 hours, effective 21.07.01 according to the terms of the Record of Call agreed to in ChurchHub on 21.06.19.

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed accede to the request of Erie Street, Ridgetown, for the call of Lynne Wilson, OM, fulltime from 21.10.01 according to the terms of the Record of Call agreed to in ChurchHub on 21.06.22

Approval of Consent Docket:

MOTION by Mary Anne Silverthorn / Norm MacPherson that the consent docket be accepted as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED

2. Richards Memorial, London

MOTION by Paul Browning / Tracy Wygiera that the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed having reviewed the position description for an SME position, half-time, submitted by Richards Memorial, London, approve the position for posting on ChurchHub.

Since this is a half-time position, the approval is contingent on providing 4 weeks of pulpit supply apart from usual vacation and continuing education coverage.

MOTION

CARRIED

3. Reports:

Pastoral Relations: Diane Blanchard

Diane’s Sabbatical is from August 1 to October 31; Micol Cottrell will be acting minister, Pastoral Relations to provide full-time coverage; Diane and Tanya Cameron conducted an exit interview with Chris Matheson, OM, from Peace United Church, Plattsville. Summary will be added to DropBox by the end of July.

United Fresh Start: Diane Blanchard – Letters of invitation to ministers for peer groups have gone out and responses are coming in. Micol will need to finalize the groups. Letter needs to be composed for corresponding congregations to outline modules being offered in the year on-line as well as how to contract with a facilitator if able to have in-person workshops. Diane is hopeful of offering a facilitator training event (3 days) in the new year if COVID permits.

Licensed Lay Worship Leader Resource Team: Mary Anne Silverthorn – Request has been made to put expression of interest form in regional council newsletter to recruit three or more new members.

Executive Committee: Louise Hall – Louise Hall is now the appointee from this commission to the regional council executive. Diane will follow-up.

Next Meeting: August 10, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. (at the call of the chair) **OR** Tuesday, September 14 at 9:00 a.m. as regular meeting. If no meeting in August, a consent docket of urgent motions will be sent to the commission for approval.

Devotions and Closing Prayer, next meeting, if August: Olav Kitchen, **if September:** Paul Browning

Closing Prayer: offered by Mary Anne Silverthorn

MOTION by Norm MacPherson / Tracy Wygiera that the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council having concluded its business, be adjourned.

MOTION

AGREED

