

Human Resources Commission
Antler River Watershed Regional Council
OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith

Place: Zoom Meeting 11:00 a.m.

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

Staff Support: Rev. Diane Blanchard, Pastoral Relations Minister dblanchard@united-church.ca
Pretima Kukadia, Admin, Communication & Records pkukadia@united-church.ca

Present: Olav Kitchen, Jim Drummond, Carol Ferguson, Louise Hall, Norm MacPherson, Mary Anne Silverthorn, Kerry Stover, Tracy Wygiera, Diane Blanchard, Pretima Kukadia

Regrets:

Absent: Paul Browning

Welcome and Constitute Meeting: Chair, Olav Kitchen, welcomed everyone to this special meeting of the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Region.

Acknowledging the Land: Territorial lands were acknowledged on behalf of the Human Resources Commission by Olav Kitchen: “We begin this meeting by acknowledging the Indigenous Peoples of all the lands that we are on today. While we meet today on a virtual platform, we acknowledge the importance of the lands, which we each call home. We do this to reaffirm our commitment and responsibility in improving relationships between nations and to improving our own understanding of local Indigenous peoples and their cultures. From coast to coast to coast, we acknowledge the ancestral and unceded territory of all the Inuit, Métis, and First Nations people that call this land home. We acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past and try to move forward in a spirit of reconciliation and collaboration. Rooted in these places, as a diverse gathering of God’s people, we move into a space of prayer.”

Opening Worship: Olav Kitchen said a short prayer.

Emergent Business

1. Report and Motions – Colborne Street United Church, London

At its June 23rd special meeting, the Human Resources Commission requested that Office of Vocation confirm the minister is in good standing. A letter to this effect has been received from Tanya Cameron, vocational minister, in South-west Ontario. It says, in part:

This letter is in response to the motion made at the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council meeting called for June 23, 2022 to consider the request to approve a call from Colborne St United Church, London to the Reverend Frank Staples, OM.

*That motion asked for confirmation from the Office of Vocation of Rev. Staples' status **(redacted)**. I can confirm that Rev. Frank Staples is on the Registry of Accredited Ministry Personnel, has completed both mandatory trainings and made a current Annual Declaration of Criminal Charges. He is not currently under discipline nor has outstanding orders from the Office of Vocation.*

Also, as decided on June 23rd, a member of the HRC, Louise Hall, and Diane Blanchard, Minister, Pastoral Relations, met with governing body and search team of Colborne St. United. The chair of council and a member of the search team had taken the initiative to meet with the chair of the Leadership Team and the search team of Wesley-Knox ahead of our meeting. They reported that the two congregations will look to ways of cooperating in the future.

The Human Resources Commission will seek venues for continuing to educate ministers who interview at multiple communities of faith that they are expected to negotiate with only one community of faith at a time. We will ask whether boundaries training might include such a topic.

Questions raised from this experience include whether any changes are called for in how the Human Resources Commission, through its liaisons, supports communities of faith in the search and selection process. The discussion could not identify changes that would catch this potential conflict without putting the confidential work of search teams at risk. Diane was asked to research at what point an agreement becomes a legal "contract" in the phase of negotiating a call.

MOTION by Kerry Stover / Louise Hall that the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council accede to the request of Colborne Street United Church, London for the call of Frank Staples, OM, full-time, effective 22.10.24 according to the terms of the Record of Call agreed to in Churchhub on 22.06.08.

MOTION

CARRIED

MOTION by Kerry Stover / Norm MacPherson that the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the request of Frank Staples, OM, for a change of pastoral relations from Riverside United Church, Windsor for the purpose of accepting a call to Colborne Street United Church, London, effective 22.10.23. (Note the change from the request of 22.09.12)

MOTION

CARRIED

Diane will send a letter to Wesley-Knox United Church sharing and clarifying the Human Resources Commission's actions in this matter.

2. Consent Docket

Approval of Open Positions

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council, having reviewed the position description from Forest United Church, approve the position and ask that a search team be trained and the position posted on Churchhub pending approval of the community of faith profiles by the Covenant Commission.

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council, having reviewed the position description from Princeton-Etonia, approve the SME position and ask that a search team be trained and the position posted on Churchhub.

Appointment of Liaisons

Dunwich – Barbara Robbins?

Mount Brydges Pastoral Charge – Kerry Stover

Metropolitan, London – Kerry Stover

Forest – David van Patter

Renewal of Appointments

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council accede to the request of Victoria Avenue Pastoral Charge for the appointment of Sandra Fogarty, OM-R, part-time, 10 hours/week from 22.07.01 to 23.06.30 according to the terms of the record of appointment agreed to in Churchhub on 22.06.24.

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council accede to the request of Grace, Sarnia for the renewed appointment of Patrick Morrison, DLM, full-time, from 22.07.01 to 23.06.30 according to the terms of the Record of Appointment agreed to in Churchhub on 22.07.08.

Approval of New Appointments

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council accede to the request of Merlin-Fletcher Pastoral Charge for the supply appointment of Colin Swan, OM-R, part-time, 20 hours/week from 22.07.01 to 23.06.30 according to the terms of the Record of Appointment agreed to in Churchhub on 22.06.24.

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council accede to the request of Beachville Pastoral Charge for the SME appointment of Janine Lunn, Candidate, part-time, 20 hours/week from 22.09.01 to 23.08.31 according to the terms of the Record of Appointment agreed to in Churchhub on 22.06.23.

Approval of Calls

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional council accede to the request of St. Paul's, Aylmer for the call of Brian Wilkie, OM, full-time, beginning 22.09.01 according to the terms of the Record of Call agreed to in Churchhub on 22.06.21.

Request for License to Administer the Sacraments

That the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council accede to the request of Beachville Pastoral Charge to grant a license to administer the sacraments to Janine Lunn, candidate, during her appointment with that pastoral charge.

Approval of Consent Docket

MOTION by Mary Anne Silverthorn / Tracy Wygiera that the Antler River Watershed Human Resources Commission approve the consent docket as circulated.

MOTION

AGREED by CONSENSUS

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 09, 2022 at 9:00 a.m. by Zoom. (Regrets Carol and Norm, Tracy)

Worship/Closing Prayers: Kerry Stover.

(Rotating List: Paul Browning, Jim Drummond, Carol Ferguson, Louise Hall, Norm MacPherson, Mary Anne Silverthorn, Kerry Stover, Tracy Wygiera, Olav Kitchen)

Closing Prayer: offered by Olav Kitchen.

Adjournment:

MOTION that the Human Resources Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council having concluded its business, be adjourned at 11:30 a.m.

MOTION

AGREED