

Covenant Commission
Antler River Watershed Regional Council
OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith

Place/Time: Zoom Meeting 9:00 a.m.

Roster: Greg Simpson (DLM, Chair), Jim Evans on med leave (OM), Adam Kilner (OM), Andi McKillop (L), Mark Perry (OM), Dave Whiting (L)

Staff Support: Rev. Lynne Allin, Minister, Congregational Support & Mission, lallin@united-church.ca; Pretima Kukadia, pkukadia@united-church.ca

Present: Greg Simpson, Adam Kilner, Andi McKillop, Mark Perry, Dave Whiting, Lynne Allin, Pretima Kukadia

Regrets:

Absent:

Welcome and Constitute Meeting: Greg Simpson welcomed everyone to the meeting. The meeting was then constituted and opened.

Acknowledging the Land: Territorial lands are acknowledged on behalf of the Covenant Commission by Greg Simpson:

We are gathered this morning on traditional lands. We recognize and deeply appreciate the historic connection to this ground we share. 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 communities in which we live and worship. We are grateful to the Creator for this time and this place.

Opening Worship: Lynne Allin presented worship. What is covenant. There are many in scriptures. John 1, The word became flesh and blood generous from start to finish. We're in this together. When we reach out to congregations we are saying, we are in this together, us.

Consent Docket

1. **Approval of Agenda** of November 2, 2022 be accepted as circulated.

2. **Previous Minutes**

Approval of Previous Minutes of **September 7, 2022** be accepted as circulated.

Approval of Previous Minutes of **October 12, 2022** be accepted as circulated.

3. **Pastoral Charge Supervisors & Companions**

Sandra Fogarty is at Rural Pastoral Charge, effective September 9, 2022.

Appointment of Mary Dillon as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Richards Memorial Pastoral Charge, London, effective September 16, 2022.

4. **Email Poll of October 27, 2022 to be recorded in the minutes**

MOTION by Andi McKillop / Dave Whiting that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consent to

- 1) the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Conc 7 Les Pt Lot 18 Pt SE ½ Lot 18, and the municipal address of which is 20218 Mull Road, Blenheim, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of New Scotland-Ridge United Church , a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as Seller, and John Bradley Campbell, as Purchaser dated the 23rd day of October, 2022 and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows: sale price One Thousand Five Hundred dollars, deposit Five Hundred dollars, closing date November 25, 2022.
- 2) to the following disposition of the proceeds arising from the transaction: For the use of New Scotland-Ridge United Church as needed to first cover demolition costs of the Ridge Community Church and any remaining funds to be used at the discretion of the congregation.

The Real Property referred to in the above resolution is within the bounds of Antler River Watershed Regional Council;

The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of New Scotland-Ridge United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada and part of the Rondeau Pastoral Charge, in trust for New Scotland-Ridge United Church as a part of The United Church of Canada.

5. Receive with thanks **confirmation that the amalgamation** agreement between St. Paul's United Church, Chatham and Victoria Ave United Church, Chatham has been approved by both congregations at separate meetings on October 23, 2022.

----- End of Consent Docket -----

MOTION by Adam Kilner / Andi McKillop that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the consent docket as amended.

MOTION

CARRIED

New Business

1. **West Lorne United Church: Asset Disbursement**

MOTION by Dave Whiting / Adam Kilner that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the final disbursement of assets from West Lorne United Church following disbanding on December 31, 2021.

MOTION

CARRIED

Andi McKillop abstained from this vote.

2. White Oaks United Church: Property Redevelopment Letter of Intent

MOTION by Mark Perry / Adam Kilner that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consents to

- 1) to the redevelopment of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Parcel 297, Section 33W2 being part of Lot 29, Concession 2 (Formerly in the Township of Westminster) now in the City of London and being Parts 2 and 3 on Plan 33R-5608J, and the municipal address of which is 1901 Jalna Boulevard, London, ON., pursuant to a Letter of Intent (LOI) between the Trustees of White Oaks United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as owner, and United Property Realty Corporation (UPRC), as Developer, dated the 3rd day of August, 2021, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

The terms are outlined in the attached Letter of Intent (LOI).

- 2) The Real Property referred to in the above resolution is within the bounds of Antler River Water Shed Regional Council pastoral charge;
- 3) The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of White Oaks United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada and part of the Antler River Water Shed Regional Council Pastoral Charge, in trust for White Oaks United Church as a part of The United Church of Canada;

MOTION

CARRIED

3. Melville United Church, Ilderton: Name Change

MOTION by Mark Perry / Adam Kilner that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the request from Melville United Church to change the name of Ivan Pastoral Charge to Melville Pastoral Charge (Ivan), effective immediately.

MOTION

CARRIED

4. Covenant Commission: Vulnerable Congregations Study

MOTION by Dave Whiting / Andi McKillop that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council enter into a contract with Sphaera Research/Halo Canada Project to conduct research to help identify vulnerable congregations in ARWRC, for a maximum cost of \$1,800 up to a maximum cost of \$2,100.

MOTION

CARRIED

5. Covenant Commission: Requirements for Supply Positions, Change from CDM to Candidate

MOTION by Adam Kilner / Mark Perry that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council that approval of the Community of Faith profile will not generally be required for the creation of a Supply Position or to change the status of a Congregational Designated Minister to a Candidate position.

MOTION

CARRIED

Other Business**1. Discussion re the Name of the Covenant Commission and Minister's Titles**

For Indigenous communities of faith, 'Mission' has many negative connotations. If we are ready to change the position titles for Congregational Support and Mission Ministers, John Neff and Lynne Allin, are we ready to change the name of the commission? What name can represent what we do clearly to communities of faith?

2. Discussion re Covenanting Materials

Changing the liturgy to reflect the current relationship. We are in a covenanted relationship. Is it contractual?

3. Executive Report: Greg Simpson

Will be taking the commission's thinking on the naming of our commission to the Tri Executive meeting on November 25 and 26, 2022.

4. Congregational Support & Mission Report: Lynne Allin

Update of CoF Profile Worksheets and Handbooks: looking at updating the forms

Pastoral Charge Supervisors Gathering is on November 15, 2022.

Lay Representatives Gathering is on November 23, 2022.

Occupational Health and Safety Update: all communities of faith must be in compliance. We will find some documentation to support this. Privacy, Copyright, Accessibility and Occupational Health and Safety are all required regulations. WHMIS compliance and training required for superintendents and insurance purposes.

Next Meeting: December 7, 2022 at 9:00 a.m.

Worship: Greg Simpson

MOTION that the Covenant Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council having concluded its business, be adjourned at 11:05 a.m.

MOTION

AGREED