**Congregational Support Commission**

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

***Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith***

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

**Roster:** Greg Simpson (DLM, Chair), Herb deJong (L), Judith Fayter (OM), Adam Kilner (OM), Andi McKillop (L), Mark Perry (OM), Jim Stirling (L), Carey Wagner (DM), Dave Whiting (L)

**Staff Support:** Rev. Lynne Allin, Minister, Congregational Support, [lallin@united-church.ca](mailto:lallin@united-church.ca); Pretima Kukadia, Admin, Communications, Records [pkukadia@united-church.ca](mailto:pkukadia@united-church.ca)

**Present**: Herb DeJong, Judith Fayter, Jim Stirling, Carey Wagner, Dave Whiting, Lynne Allin

**Absent**: Adam Kilner, Mark Perry

**Regrets**: Greg Simpson, Andi McKillop, Pretima Kukadia

# Welcome and Constitute Meeting: All were welcomed to the meeting. The meeting was then constituted and opened.

# Acknowledging the Land: Territorial lands are acknowledged on behalf of the Congregational Support Commission:

# 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: Judith Fayter presented worship.

**Approval of Agenda**

**MOTION** byCarey Wagner /Jim Stirling that the agenda be accepted as circulated.

# MOTION CARRIED

**Consent Docket**

1. **Approval of Minutes** of October 4, 2023 be accepted as circulated and October 11, 2023 be accepted as circulated.
2. **Email Poll** of November 2, 2023 to be recorded in the minutes

**Bryanston United Church: Sale**

**MOTION** byMark Perry /Judith Fayter that the Congregational Support Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consent to the request from Bryanston United Church

1. To the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Plan 307 Lot 4 roll number 393903402013300, and the municipal address of which is 22925 Highbury Avenue North, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Bryanston United church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as trustees, and Jfree Enterprises Inc. as purchaser, dated the 26th day of October, 2023, and subject to Regional Council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Purchaser: Jfree Enterprises Inc.

Sale price: $ 322,000 (see purchase condition 4 below and well note below)

Deposit: $ 20,000

Closing date: November 30, 2023

Purchaser agrees to the following conditions:

1. To pay the balance of the purchase price on closing subject to adjustments
2. The sale is condition on approval by Antler River Watershed Regional Council (within 10 business days)
3. The property is sold "AS IS" condition and absolutely no warranties or representations of any type are made
4. Seller agrees to credit the buyer the sum of $ 20,000 on completion date for a new drilled well and seller acknowledges that currently there is no water source.
5. Buyer can view the property 3 times prior to closing
6. To the following disposition of the proceeds arising from the transaction:

The proceeds from the sale are to be held in a restricted fund for the beneficial use of the newly amalgamated Villages United Pastoral Charge, as per Antler River Watershed Regional Council policies and approval(s).

**MOTION** **CARRIED**

1. **Email Poll** of November 2, 2023 to be recorded in the minutes

**Avondale United Church, Tillsonburg: Lease**

**MOTION** byMark Perry /Judith Fayter that the Congregational Support Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consent to the request from Avondale United Church, Tillsonburg

To the lease of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Unity Room and specified storage within Avondale United Church, 60 Harvey St., Tillsonburg, N4G 5V8, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Avondale United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as leaseholder, and Operation Sharing, as lessee, effective the 1" day of November, 2023, and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

* For a lease of Unity Hall, the kitchen and washroom adjacent to Unity Hall, and specified storage space; from November 1 to April 30 annually from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. daily for a term of three years commencing in 2023,
* To be reviewed annually by Avondale United Church Council and Operation Sharing;
* Operation Sharing to provide liability insurance in the amount of no less than $5 million;
* This agreement may be cancelled or withdrawn by either party upon 60 days' written notice;
* Payment of utilities in the amount of $200 per month and rent in the amount of $1,000 per month.
* Unity Hall and kitchen remain available for Avondale United Church to use or
* Rent between 9:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. daily.
* See attached lease agreement for further details

**MOTION** **CARRIED**

1. **Appointment of Pastoral Charge Supervisors & Companions**
2. Eric Skillings as pastoral charge supervisor for Merlin-Fletcher Pastoral Charge effective October 20, 2023
3. George Bozanich as pastoral charge supervisor for Bedford Pastoral Charge, Windsor effective November 1, 2023
4. Carey Wagner as pastoral charge supervisor for Villages United Church, Granton effective November 27, 2023
5. **Annual Reports**

The Congregational Support Commission receives the following communities of faith 2022 Annual Reports with thanks:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| First-St. Andrew’s United Church, London |  |

1. **Self Assessments** to be received with thanks:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| White Oaks United Church, London |  |

1. **Community of Faith Profiles** to be received with thanks:

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Providence United Church, Strathroy | Sprucedale United Church, Strathroy |

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

**MOTION** byCarey Wagner /Jim Stirling that the Congregational Support Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the consent docket as circulated.

**MOTION** **CARRIED**

**New Business**

**Community of Faith Profiles**

1. **Camlachie United Church**

**MOTION** byDave Whiting / Carey Wagner that the Congregational Support Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the Community of Faith Profiles for Camlachie United Churchand their request to seek a call/appointment for a full-time minister, at 40 hours/week, up to Category F.

**2. Siloam United Church, London**

**Update:** portions of the CoF profile have been received, but there are questions about their financial viability. Lynne has requested a meeting to address these questions.

**Transitions**

**1. Essex United Church**

**MOTION** by Carey Wagner / Herb deJong that with deep appreciation for their ministry, the Congregational Support Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council consent to the request from Essex United Church to disband with their final worship service to be held in October 2024.

**Property**

1. **Mount Zion United Church, London**

**MOTION** by Herb deJong / Carey Wagner that the Congregational Support Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council advises Mount Zion United Church that the creation of a United Church of Canada corporation will be required to manage the proposed daycare centre.

1. **First-St. Andrew’s United Church, London**

**Update:** Considering creating a not-for-profit corporation to manage rental of church property.

**Other Business**

**1.**  **Payment of Pastoral Charge Supervisors Policy**

**MOTION** byMark Perry / Herb deJong that the Congregational Support Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the Pastoral Charge Supervisors Policy with a start date of January 1, 2024.

**MOTION** **CARRIED**

Jim Stirling and Carey Wagner abstained

**2. Update** regarding South Buxton, Charing Cross, Tilbury-Quinn and Merlin-Fletcher.

**3. Executive Report:** Greg Simpson

No Report.

**4. Congregational Support Minister Report:** Lynne Allin

Responses from the Fall Gathering discussion about Pastoral Charge Supervisors are available for the commission to review. Most were positive about the idea of paying Pastoral Charge Supervisors.

A document has been prepared by the UCC Foundation which will provide disbanding congregations with information about how they can use the foundation to create a legacy.

**Next Meeting:** December 13, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

**Worship by**:Carey Wagner

**MOTION** that the Congregational Support Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council having concluded its business, be adjourned at 10:25 a.m.

**MOTION** **AGREED**