

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

**THE EXECUTIVE OF GENERAL COUNCIL
November 21-24, 1997**

The Executive of the General Council of The United Church of Canada met at the call of the Moderator on Friday, November 21, 1997 until Monday, November 24, 1997, at 3250 Bloor Street West, Etobicoke, Ontario. The Moderator, The Right Reverend Bill Phipps presided.

PRESENT: Steve Adams, Ross Bartlett, Marion Best, Jean Bethune, Hazel Bigby, Elizabeth Brown, David Carrothers, Helen Chisholm, Claire Borel-Christen, Kay Cho, Richard Choe, Virginia Coleman, Lois Creith, Sheila Duffin, Patty Evans, Gordon Groot, Carol Hancock, Ron Holotuk, Dave Iverson, Fred Jamieson, Jon Jessiman, B.J. Klassen, Bernice Luce, Randy MacKenzie, Joanna MacQuarrie, Faith March-MacCuish, Lynn Maki, Harold Manuel, Fred Monteith, John Moor, Teresa Moysey, Ann Naylor, Ruth Nicholls, Bill Phipps, Karen Ptolemy-Stam, Bernice Saulteaux, Michael Scott, Linda Slough, Don Smith, Glenn Smith, Sheila Snelling, Jack Spencer, Anne Shirley Sutherland, Lorna Teed, Rhea Whitehead, Peter Wyatt, Mark Wartman, Mollie Williams, John Yeo.

REGRETS: Bayani Baybay

WORSHIP: The opening worship was in the chapel and led by the Moderator on the theme of Uprooted People.

CONSTITUTING OF THE EXECUTIVE: The Moderator constituted the Executive with the following words:

"In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the only Sovereign head of the Church, and by the authority vested in me by the 36th General Council, I hereby declare this meeting of the Executive of General Council to be in session for the work that may properly be brought before it to the glory of God."

"Au nom de Notre Seigneur, Jésus-Christ, seul chef souverain de l'Église, et par l'autorité qui m'a été conférée par le 36ième (trente sixième) Conseil général, je déclare ouvert, par la présente, l' executif du Conseil général et ses travaux dans l'intérêt du Royaume de Dieu."

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed

That the corresponding members of the Executive of the General Council for this meeting be: Albion Wright, Jean Dryden, Alf Dumont, the Secretaries/Directors of Departments, the Executive Secretaries of the Conferences, Paul Campbell, Peter Short, Jamie Scott, Kerry Craig, ecumenical guests and observers and other persons attending the meeting as a resource to the Executive.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed

That the administrative staff for this meeting be: Alison Jordan, Melinda Moore and Mary Purdon and that the minute secretary for this meeting be Mary Purdon.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed

That the following persons be the Reference and Counsel Committee for this meeting of the Executive of General Council: David Allen, Jon Jessiman and Ruth Nicholls.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed

That the minutes of the Executive of the General Council April 25 – 28, 1997 be approved as circulated.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed

That the minutes of the Sub-Executive of the General Council of June 5, 1997 be approved as circulated.

The Motion**Carried****Motion:** Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed

That the agenda for this General Council Executive meeting be adopted as circulated and that changes to the Agenda which may be necessary as the meeting evolves be on the recommendation of the Business Committee.

The Motion**Carried****Motion:** Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed

That this list of correspondence be received and the recommended actions be taken:

| Received From | Date | Regarding | Recommended Action |
|--|--------------------|--|---|
| Anti-Racism Task Group | November 19, 1997 | appreciation | refer to Sessional Committee 4 |
| Saskatchewan Conference Division of Mission | November 14, 1997 | designated giving | refer to Sessional Committee 2 |
| Brian Thorpe, Executive Secretary, British Columbia Conference | November 18, 1997 | Residential Schools Follow-up | refer to Sessional Committee 4 |
| Elizabeth Peterson | November 19, 1997 | Friendship House, Prince Rupert | refer to General Secretary, Division of Mission in Canada |
| Manitou Conference | November 14, 1997 | Special Appeal for North Korea | refer to Sessional Committee 4 |
| Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Conference | October 29, 1997 | Special Appeal for North Korea | refer to Sessional Committee 4 |
| Maritime Conference Ecumenical Decade Committee | September 25, 1997 | maintenance of a national "Women's Desk" | refer to Sessional Committee 4 |
| The Very Rev. Bob Smith | October 30, 1997 | The Healing Fund | refer to Sessional Committee 4 |
| Lothar B. Scwill | October 22, 1997 | commemorative stamp | refer to Sessional Committee 6 |
| Harry Oussoren | September 29, 1997 | Powers of the Executive | refer to Sessional Committee 5 |
| various sources | various dates | related to media reports | refer to Sessional Committee 5 |
| Manitou Conference | November 11, 1997 | Executive Secretary Search | refer to Sessional Committee 5 |

The Motion**Carried****MODERATOR'S REPORT**

Marion Best took the chair while the Moderator reported on his work since his election in August. The Moderator briefly reviewed his written report particularly noting his interview with Gail Reid of Fellowship Magazine and his proposal regarding the Moral Economy.

Acknowledging that what was most prevalent on the minds of members of the court was the recent controversy in the media, Bill reviewed how the Ottawa Citizen article transpired. The trip to Ottawa was primarily related to another matter but in order to make the trip more fruitful it was decided that a meeting with the editorial board of the Citizen to discuss some of their recent articles unfavourable to the United Church would be worthwhile. At the interview the topics Bill was expecting were not discussed but rather questioned him for two hours on the fundamentals of Christian faith.

Since the time of the article there had been a tremendous response to the article, both positive and negative, and Bill had learned a great deal. Although it was never Bill's intention to hurt anyone, he realized that some people felt dismissed by the language that he had used. On the other hand Bill was aware that many people felt encouraged by his words and thousands of people who had never talked about religion had been talking about their faith around the dinner table. The Moderator concluded by clarifying his beliefs as follows:

I believe that God was revealed in Jesus. The way I put it is that I believe that God is big, mysterious and never fully to be understood. As much of the Divine as can be put in one human

being was put in Jesus. There is this large God and here is this human being, Jesus, in whom we see revealed as much of God as can be revealed in a human being. Therefore Jesus is the son of God, the word made flesh, God incarnate. Someone said to me "how can you celebrate Christmas?" well because God was revealed in this person Jesus of Nazareth and the Christian leap of faith is that we see Jesus as being unique and special and that's the Christian leap of faith -- that we take that God was revealed in very particular ways in Jesus.

I believe that regardless of what form of the resurrection you want to talk about, and there are a variety of ways, there is no question in my mind that something absolutely profound, significant, unusual, however you want to describe it, happened after Jesus was crucified. That for the people who were defeated, afraid, alone, and bewildered something so astounding happened to them that they were transformed and they were energized to go out into the world and carry on Jesus' ministry even at the risk of their own life. Now to me, if that happens, it is not just an hallucination or an interesting dream or a little vision, it is something far stronger and more profound than that -- people don't change like that and are willing to risk their life for a dream. So I believe in the power and the mystery of the resurrection and, my feeling is, the more you try to domesticate the mystery, or try to define it in a particular way, it loses its power. The resurrection is one of the mysteries of our faith that gives us power and energy.

I believe that the human spirit/soul continues after death in some form, in some way which we do not understand or know. But I believe very strongly that my parents, both dead, are in (to use traditional language) the everlasting arms of God. My parents are safe with God in whatever form that is but I trust God with that one. And I believe that my parents are safe in God's arms.

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed

That the General Council Executive move to a committee of the whole with Marion Best as chair and Mary Purdon as recorder.

The Motion

Carried

NOTES FROM THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Members of the Executive had an open discussion in response to the Moderator's statements. There were expressions of thanks to the Moderator for opening up this dialogue and helping the church re-examine our faith. It was suggested that the controversy may be the leading of the Holy Spirit.

There were concerns with the way the discussion had unfolded: that somehow the media was setting the church's agenda, that people were talking about Bill Phipps not their faith, and that the divisiveness of this discussion would not ultimately be helpful to the church.

Some members stated that much of the concern in the church was not with the Moderator's opinion but with the appropriateness of him expressing those opinions in a public forum. It was suggested that this controversy may offer an opportunity to clarify the role of the Moderator.

It was noted that, for some members of the Executive, one of the realities that the situation pointed to was the gap between theological school and the local Congregation. There was nothing that the Moderator said that was new to most members of the clergy, and yet, many in the pew had never heard it before. At the same time there were many people in the pews who had always used the language that the Moderator used but have not heard it from their minister.

For many members of the Executive there were pastoral concerns for those who felt marginalized by the Moderator's statements. There was acknowledgment of the power clergy hold in determining the reaction of their parishioners.

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed

That we move out of the committee of the whole.

The Motion

Carried

ARCHIVES AND THE DIVISION OF MISSION IN CANADA'S REAL PROPERTY REPORT

Jean Dryden reported on the archives endowment fund and Dave Iverson and Lynn Maki reported on Real Property.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

Virginia Coleman reviewed her report, particularly noting her visit to Uniting Church in Australia. Out of her experience at that assembly, she presented the following proposals which will be considered by a Sessional Committee:

that the General Secretary, General Council, be authorized to set up a small task group to:

- gather more information about the decision-making model used by the Uniting Church in Australia and by the Methodist Church in New Zealand,
 - to study the model,
 - to consult with the General Secretary, Human Resources, Anne Shirley Sutherland (because of her responsibility for the meeting life of the church),
 - to bring to the April 1998 meeting of the Executive of General Council a report, including recommendations about if and/or how the model might be used by the United Church, and,
- that up to \$5,000. be provided from the General Council Executive Project Fund to cover expenses.

Nominations

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Bernice Luce

That the General Secretary convene the following four members of the Executive of the General Council to serve the function of a nominating committee and to present to this Executive the names of three people to add to the membership of the Human Resources Committee: Harold Manual, Ruth Nicholls, Don Smith, Fred Jamieson.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Virginia Coleman/B.J. Klassen

That Steven Chambers be appointed as the General Secretary, Ministry Personnel and Education beginning March 15, 1998.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Virginia Coleman/B.J. Klassen

That this executive express its thanks to Ann Naylor who has served the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education faithfully.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Virginia Coleman/ David Carrothers

That the Executive of General Council approve that the dates of the 37th meeting of the General Council be from Friday, August 11 through Saturday August 19, 2000.

The Motion

Carried

Virginia offered her public thanks to those who worked for hours behind the scenes to make the General Council meeting happen.

FIRST NATIONS GATHERING

Fred Jamieson reported on the First Nations pre-council gathering in August. The First Nations Gathering was held August 8 - 11 in Camrose, Alberta. This was the first time in over ten years that aboriginal ministries from the entire United Church were brought together in one forum. The purpose of the gathering was to provide an opportunity for people to tell stories sharing common issues and concerns. Out of that gathering a number of recommendations were made for the consideration of this Executive. The recommendations were before a Sessional Committee for their consideration.

General Council Sessional Committee Six

RESOLUTION 47 -- NEEDS ASSESSMENT

Motion: B.J. Klassen/Ann Naylor

That this General Council Executive confirm and clarify mandatory needs assessment policy in accordance with the actions of the 35th General Council and of its Executive as expressed in Resolution 10 to that Council and in Section 052 of *The Manual* (1995) by providing that:

- A. Initiation of needs assessment be authorized by Presbytery / District in response to:
 - i. Discipline or oversight of ministry personnel, Pastoral Charges or other employing unit, or of their pastoral relationships;
 - ii. Request by ministry personnel for change of pastoral relationship by giving notice to end a relationship to be available for call or appointment, to be retained on the roll, to retire, or to resign from the Order of Ministry;
 - iii. Decisions by Pastoral Charge or other employing unit to request a change of pastoral relations ending the relationship without cause;
 - iv. Recognition by the Presbytery / District of incapacity of ministry personnel through death or disability, requiring change of pastoral relations; or
 - v. Request for needs assessment by a Pastoral Charge or other employing unit or their official board or equivalent, or by ministry personnel.
- B. Implementation of needs assessment be effected by establishment of Joint Needs Assessment Committees to study and report on ministry personnel needs of Pastoral Charges or employing units.
- C. Reporting of needs assessment be required to include written summary statements of community, ministry, resources, position descriptions, skills and knowledge requirements, and terms, and to conclude with recommendations to the Pastoral Charge or employing unit.
- D. Action on needs assessment reports be taken by official boards, or equivalent, of Pastoral Charges or employing units, and in turn by their memberships, receiving reports for decision.
- E. Presbytery / District be required to receive and respond to needs assessment reports, recommendations and resulting requests, and to require a needs assessment and report before declaring any vacancy.
- F. *The Manual* be changed to implement these policies, including provisions similar to those outlined in the following draft provisions, and incidental and definitional revisions for consistency.

David Iverson and Randy MacKenzie expressed a desire to offer an amendment in the form of an additional point to A. Rather than writing the amendment on the floor the following motion was made:

Motion: Joanna MacQuarrie/Patty Evans

That Resolution 47 be tabled for further clarification.

The Motion (to table)

Carried

RESOLUTION 35 -- ELIGIBILITY OF RETIREE FOR CALL

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive adopt the policy that a retired member of the Order of Ministry applying for active status must provide a letter of good standing from the Presbytery in which the member last served and that Section 055(b) be amended as follows to reflect this policy:

055 (b) Eligibility of Retiree. A retired member of the Order of Ministry may apply to the Conference through the Presbytery for active standing and if the application is approved by the Conference, is eligible to accept a call. A letter of good standing from the last Presbytery served prior to retirement must accompany such application.

Motion: Mollie Williams/Jean Bethune

That this Executive of General Council refer Resolution 35 to the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education for consideration in its ongoing work on these issues.

The Motion (to refer)

Carried

PETITIONS 5, 21, 132, 133, 136, 139

Motion: Mollie Williams/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive refer the following petitions to the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education for consideration in its ongoing work:

PETITION 5 -- INTENTIONAL INTERIM MINISTRY

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada

1. develop standards for the practice of intentional interim ministry, and clarify procedures for covenanting with interim ministers;
2. develop guidelines for steering committees for intentional interim ministries, including Presbytery and pastoral charge responsibilities, and clarify *Manual* procedures in this area, and
3. remove section 340 (b) iii from *The Manual*, and clarify procedures in section 340 (b) ii.

PETITION 21 - EXTENDING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE SACRAMENTS

That this General Council Executive:

- 1) grant that any person deemed to be suitable to give full time or part time ministerial leadership in a pastoral charge by the Presbytery and having been approved to their appointment by the Conference Settlement Committee, be given by virtue of the appointment the privilege of the sacraments under the authority of the Session (or equivalent);
- 2) that this granting of the permission of the sacraments be seen as a part of the appointment and be for the duration of the appointment and that *The Manual* be changed to show this change in policy.

PETITION 132 -- TIME LINE FOR PASTORAL RELATIONS CHANGES

That this General Council Executive instruct the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education to create a "Change of Pastoral Relations" time-line that is:

- (a) fair to clergyfolk as they look for ways to live their ministry,
- (b) fair to Congregations who wish to have the necessary time to properly work through the Joint Pastoral Relations process, and
- (c) fair to ordinands and commissionands who have a need to know where the transfer and settlement process will lead them.

PETITION 133 -- FUNDING FOR INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

That this General Council Executive continue the Internship Programme as an obligatory component in the preparation of Candidates for ordained ministry; and ensure that the Internship Programme receive adequate funding.

PETITION 136 -- EIGHT HOUR MINIMUM RULE

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada:

- I. remove the eight hour minimum rule for Presbytery accountability, such that all persons in (paid) ministry personnel positions, regardless of the number of hours per week, are accountable to Presbytery; and
- II. establish workable, flexible guidelines for short term appointments, regardless of the number of hours per week allowing for part time and/or short term contracts, including such considerations as
 - a) a minimum of bureaucratic procedures;
 - b) the function of ministry;
 - c) the stated need of the pastoral charge;
 - d) the local structure (pastoral charge) for accountability; and
 - e) the length of appointment in question.

PETITION 139 -- DISSOLUTION OF PASTORAL RELATIONSHIPS

That this General Council Executive direct all courts of the United Church to follow all labour codes and laws and natural law in deciding on the dissolution of a pastoral relationship including, but not limited to:

1. the right to know the charges and complaints,
2. the right to face the accusers,
3. the right to respond to all charges and complaints,
4. the right of notice of all meetings to consider dissolution of the pastoral relationship, and the right to attend, and
5. the right to be considered innocent until proven guilty by due process.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 47 -- NEEDS ASSESSMENT (continued)

Motion: Bernice Luce/Glenn Smith
That Resolution 47 be lifted from the table.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Randy MacKenzie/David Iverson (in amendment)
vi) a pastoral charge notifying of its intention to assess its ministry personnel needs.

Motion: Patty Evans/Lynn Maki (amendment to amendment)
That the word "assess" be changed to "change".

The Motion to amend amendment

Defeated

Motion: Don Smith/Joanna MacQuarrie
That Resolution 47 be tabled.

The Motion (to table)

Carried

RESOLUTIONS 6, 7, 12, 13, 15, 28, 32, 58

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Fred Monteith
That the motions contained in Resolutions 6, 7, 12, 13, 15, 20, 21, 28, 32, 58 be before the Executive for consideration.

RESOLUTION 6 -- MANUAL, NOTICE PROVISIONS

WHEREAS there is concern that the words "unless otherwise provided for in the procedure of the United Church" could cause confusion in this Section, particularly having regard to the general notice provision contained in Section 003 of The Manual;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT the General Council Executive approve Section 112 amended as follows in order to provide clarification and certainty regarding notice for meetings of a Congregation or Pastoral Charge:

112 (a) ~~Unless otherwise provided for in the procedure of the United Church, the notice for any meeting of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation shall specify its object, and shall be read during public worship or inserted in the calendar of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation at least once before the meeting.~~ The notice for any meeting of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation shall specify its object.

(b) When the object of the meeting is the pastoral relationship, the meeting shall be called by notice ~~shall be read during public worship or inserted in the calendar of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation on two (2) successive Sundays.~~

(c) When the object of the meeting is the election of members of the Session or Church Board or Church Council, the meeting shall be called by notice during public worship on each of the two (2) preceding Sundays on which public worship is held.

(d) When the object of the meeting is to deal with matters referred to in Section 9 of the Trusts of Model Deed, the meeting shall be called by notice from the pulpit during public worship on each of the two (2) next ~~(2)~~ preceding Sundays on which public worship is held.

(e) When the object to the meeting is to deal with matters not contemplated by Subsections (b), (c) and (d), the meeting shall be called by notice read during public worship or inserted in the calendar of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation at least once before the meeting.

Motion: Elizabeth Brown/Ross Bartlett (in amendment)

That Resolution 6 be amended to read:

112 "It is desirable that adequate notice be given for every meeting of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation." The notice for any meeting of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation shall specify its object.

(a) When the object of the meeting is the pastoral relationship, the meeting "shall be called by notice read during public worship or inserted in the printed order of worship of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation on each of the two (2) preceding Sundays on which public worship is held".

(b) WhenCouncil, the meeting "shall be called by notice read during public worship or inserted in the printed order of worship of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation on each of the two (2) preceding Sundays on which public worship is held".

(c) When... Deed, the meeting "shall be called by notice read during public worship or inserted in the printed order of public worship of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation on each of the two (2) preceding Sundays on which public worship is held".

(d) When the object "of" ...

The Motion to amend

Defeated

Motion: Mark Wartman/Lois Creith (in amendment)

That the following be the wording to section 112

112 Notice shall be given for every meeting of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation. The notice for any meeting of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation shall specify its object.

(a) When the object of the meeting is

- i. to consider the pastoral relationship,
- ii. to elect of members of Session or Church Board or Church Council, or
- iii. to deal with matters referred to in Section 9 of the Trusts of Model Deed,

the meeting shall be called by notice read during public worship or inserted in the printed order of worship of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation on each of the two (2) preceding Sundays on which public worship is held.

(b) When the object of the meeting is to deal with matters not contemplated by Subsection (a) the meeting shall be called by notice read during public worship or inserted in the printed order of worship of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation at least once before the meeting.

The Motion to amend

Carried

The Motion as amended

Carried

RESOLUTION 7 -- MANUAL, DEFINITION OF COMMISSION

That this General Council Executive clarify that an Executive of a Court may appoint a Commission and approve new Sections 323, 424 and 526 as follows:

323 Commission. The Presbytery or its Executive may act by Commission. The Commission shall report its Decision to the appointing body for information only and for record in the minutes.
[Existing Section 323 to be re-numbered accordingly.]

424 Commission. The Conference or its Executive may act by Commission. The Commission shall report its Decision to the appointing body for information only and for record in the minutes. The powers of such Commission do not extend to such items as are expressly excluded in Subsections [423(a)-1995 edition] and [430(a)-1995 edition].
[Existing Section 424 to be re-numbered accordingly]

526 Commission. The General Council or its Executive may act by Commission. The Commission shall report its Decision to the appointing body for information only and for record in the minutes.

That this General Council Executive adopt the policy that tasks accomplished by Commission be designated as Decisions, and that the definition of Commission be amended to reflect this policy as follows:

"Commission" means a person or persons appointed by any Court or its Executive and given power to do a specific task and ~~given power to issue~~ to make a Decision(s).

The Motion

Defeated

Motion: Mark Wartman/Lois Creith

That the definition of Commission be as follows:

"Commission" means a person or persons appointed by any Court or its Executive and given power to do a specific task and to make a Decision(s).

[new - Pastoral Charge Commission.]

276 Commission. A Pastoral Charge or Congregation, or its Executive, may act by Commission. The Commission shall report its Decision to the appointing body in keeping with its terms of reference for record in the minutes. Such Decision is not debatable.

[new - Presbytery Commission]

323 Commission. The Presbytery or its Executive may act by Commission. The Commission shall report its Decision to the appointing body in keeping with its terms of reference for record in the minutes. Such Decision is not debatable.

[Existing Section 323 to be renumbered as appropriate.]

[new - Conference Commission]

424 Commission. The Conference or its Executive may act by Commission. The Commission shall report its Decision to the appointing body in keeping with its terms of reference for record in the minutes. Such Decision is not debatable. The powers of such Commission do not extend to such items as are expressly excluded in subsections [423(a)-1995 edition] and [430(a)-1995 edition].

[Existing Section 424 to be re-numbered as appropriate]

[new - General Council Commission]

526 Commission. The General Council or its Executive may act by Commission. The Commission shall report its Decision to the appointing body in keeping with its terms of reference for record in the minutes. Such Decision is not debatable.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 12 -- MANUAL, AUTHORITY OF COURT TO ACT ON BEHALF OF LOWER COURT

That this General Council Executive clarify the role of each of the Presbytery, the Conference and the General Council to take action in any cases where the functioning of the lower court is ineffectual, or the lower court fails to take appropriate action, or the lower court requests the higher court to take action on behalf of the lower court, and that a new Section 337 be inserted in *The Manual* and Sections 505(l) and 422 be amended, to reflect this clarification as follows:

107. Where, in the opinion of the Presbytery, the functioning of a Pastoral Charge is ineffectual or if the Pastoral Charge fails to take appropriate action or where the Pastoral Charge requests the Presbytery to take action on its behalf, the Presbytery shall adopt such measures as may be deemed necessary.

329. Action by Conference. Where in the opinion of the Conference, the functioning of a Presbytery is ineffectual or if the Presbytery fails to take appropriate action or where the Presbytery requests the Conference to take action on its behalf, the Conference shall adopt such measures as may be deemed necessary.

337 Action by Presbytery. Where, in the opinion of the Presbytery, the functioning of a Pastoral Charge is ineffectual or if the Pastoral Charge fails to take appropriate action or where the Pastoral Charge requests the Presbytery to take action on its behalf, the Presbytery shall adopt such measures as may be deemed necessary.

420 Action by General Council. Where, in the opinion of the General Council, the functioning of a Conference is ineffectual or if the Conference fails to take appropriate action or where the Conference requests the General Council to take action on its behalf, the General Council shall adopt such measures as may be deemed necessary.

[Existing Section 420 to be renumbered as 419].

422. Presbyteries. It shall be the duty of the Conference:

(a) to determine the number and boundaries of the Presbyteries within its bounds, to have oversight of them, and to review their records; (Basis 7.6.2)

(b) to receive the reports of the Presbyteries concerning the religious life of the United Church within its bounds. The Presbytery shall send to the Executive Secretary of the Conference, annually, before April 15th, a report of the religious life within its Pastoral Charges and of the oversight exercised by the Presbytery. These reports shall be retained and studied by the Conference;

(c) ~~where if, in the opinion of the Conference, the oversight functioning of a Presbytery is ineffectual or if the Presbytery fails to take appropriate action or where the Presbytery requests the Conference to take action on its behalf, the Conference shall to~~ adopt such measures as may be deemed necessary; and
[Existing Subsection (c) remains unchanged and is to be re-numbered as (d)]

505 Powers. The General Council shall have full power: (Basis 8.6)

[Existing Subsections (a) to (k) remain unchanged]

(l) to determine the number and boundaries of the Conferences, have oversight of them, and review their records; (Basis 8.6.1)

ii. where, in the opinion of the General Council, the functioning of a Conference is ineffectual or if the Conference fails to take appropriate action or where the Conference requests the General Council to take action on its behalf, the General Council shall adopt such measures as may be deemed necessary.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 13 -- MANUAL, LAYING CHARGES

That this General Council Executive adopt the policy that a Court shall have the right to lay a charge under Section 072 of *The Manual*, and that a new Subsection 072 (b) be inserted to reflect this policy as follows:

072(b) If a Court has reasonable and probable grounds for believing that an offence has occurred, such Court may lay a charge as provided in Subsection (a).

[Existing Sections 072(b) and (c) to be re-numbered accordingly.]

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 15 -- MANUAL, DEPOSITION

That this General Council Executive approve the amendment of Section 075(i) by deleting the provision that a person under suspension be automatically restored to office at the end of the period of suspension, and clarify that a Formal Hearing Committee may recommend to the Conference that the name of a member of the Order of Ministry be placed on the Discontinued Service List, and that Section 075(i) be amended as follows to reflect this amendment and clarification:

075(i) Decisions arising from a Charge. In the case of a charge, when the charge has been proven, the Committee shall make a Decision to admonish, rebuke, suspend, depose and recommend placement on the Discontinued Service List or the Discontinued Lay Ministry Appointment List, or expel, as it may consider appropriate having regard to the nature of the offence. The Committee may also require restitution which may involve monetary payment or other form of symbolic restoration.

i. [Existing Subsection unchanged]

ii. [Existing Subsection unchanged]

iii. Suspension. In the case of a ~~member of the Order of Ministry~~ person functioning as Ministry Personnel, suspension shall be from all rights, privileges, and duties with respect to the Pastoral Charge or with respect to one or more offices held by such ~~member of the Order of Ministry person~~. In the case of a lay person, suspension shall be from one (1) or more offices held by such person. The Decision of the Committee may be to suspend for whatever period it considers appropriate and, at the end of such period, such person shall automatically be restored to the office with respect to which suspension was invoked.

iv. Deposition. Deposition consists of the permanent removal of a person from one or more offices held. In the case of a ~~member of the Order of Ministry~~ person functioning as Ministry Personnel deposition may involve

dissolution of the pastoral relationship or permanent removal from all rights, privileges, and duties with respect to a Pastoral Charge or ~~with respect to any other office or position office held by such member of the Order of Ministry one or more offices or positions held.~~ In the case of a lay person, deposition may involve removal of such person from ~~any one or more~~ offices held.

v. Deposition and Placement on the Discontinued Service List or the Discontinued Lay Ministry Appointment List. When a Decision has been made to depose a person functioning as Ministry Personnel, the Committee may make a request to the Conference that the name of such person be placed on the Discontinued Service List or the Discontinued Lay Ministry Appointment List as appropriate.

[Existing Subsection 75(i)v. to be re-numbered accordingly]

Motion: Elizabeth Brown/Ross Bartlett (in amendment)

Be it resolved that Resolution 15 be amended to read:

075(i) ..."depose, depose and recommend placement"

and that sub-sections iv. and v. read:

iv. Deposition. Deposition consists of the permanent removal of a person from one or more offices held. In the case of a lay person deposition may involve removal of such person from one or more offices held. In the case of a person functioning as Ministry Personnel deposition may involve dissolution of the pastoral relationship; or permanent removal from all rights, privileges and duties with respect to a pastoral charge or one or more offices or positions held.

v. Deposition and Recommend. A person functioning as Ministry Personnel may be deposed and removed from ministry by making recommendation to the Conference that the name of such person be placed on the Discontinued Service List, or to the Presbytery that the name of such person be placed on the Discontinued Lay Ministry Appointment List, as appropriate.

(existing subsections to be renumbered accordingly)

The Motion to amend

Defeated

Motion: Mark Wartman/Lois Creith (in amendment)

We move the following amendment:

075(i) Decisions arising from a Charge. In the case of a charge, when the charge has been proven, the Committee shall make a Decision to admonish, rebuke, suspend, depose, depose and recommend placement on the Discontinued Service List or the Discontinued Lay Ministry Appointment List, or expel, as it may consider appropriate having regard to the nature of the offence. The Committee may also require restitution which may involve monetary payment or other form of symbolic restoration.

i. *[Existing Sub-section unchanged]*

ii. *[Existing Sub-section unchanged]*

iii. Suspension. In the case of a person functioning as Ministry Personnel, suspension shall be from all rights, privileges, and duties with respect to the Pastoral Charge or with respect to one or more offices held by such person. In the case of a lay person, suspension shall be from one or more offices held by such person. The Decision of the Committee may be to suspend for whatever period it considers appropriate ~~and at the end of such period such person shall be automatically be restored to the office with respect to which suspension was invoked.~~

iv. Deposition. Deposition consists of the permanent removal of a person from one or more offices held. In the case of a lay person deposition may involve removal of such person from one or more offices held. In the case of a person functioning as Ministry Personnel deposition may involve dissolution of the Pastoral Relationship; or permanent removal from all rights, privileges and duties with respect to a Pastoral Charge or one or more offices or positions held.

v. Deposition and Recommendation. When a Decision has been made to depose a person functioning as Ministry Personnel, the Committee may make a recommendation to the Conference that the name of such person be placed on the Discontinued Service List, or to the Presbytery that the name of such person be placed on the Discontinued Lay Ministry Appointment List, as appropriate.

[Existing sub-section 75(i)v. to be unchanged and re-numbered accordingly]

The Motion to amend

Carried

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 20 -- MANUAL, DECISIONS NOT SUBJECT TO APPEAL

Motion: Elizabeth Brown/Ross Bartlett

Be it resolved that this General Council Executive adopt the policy that all of the following not be subject to appeal:

- i) a Decision by a Pastoral Charge to request a change in pastoral relations;
- ii) a Decision made by a Presbytery in disposing of a request by a member of the Order of Ministry for a change in pastoral relations;
- iii) a Decision made by a court to hold a Formal Hearing.

and that Sections 077 and 549 be amended accordingly as follows:

077 Decisions Not Subject to Appeal. Decisions not subject to Appeal are as follows:

[Existing Subsections (a) - (h) remain unchanged]

- (i) a Decision by a Pastoral Charge to request a change in the pastoral relationship;
- (j) the disposition by a Presbytery of a request from a member of the Order of Ministry for a change in the pastoral relationship; or
- (k) a Decision by a Court to hold a Formal Hearing.

549 Decisions Not Subject to Appeal. Decisions that are not subject to Appeal are as follows:

[Existing Subsections (a) - (h) remain unchanged]

- (i) a Decision by a Pastoral Charge to request a change in the pastoral relationship;
- (j) the disposition by a Presbytery of a request from a member of the Order of Ministry for a change in the pastoral relationship; or
- (k) a Decision by a Court to hold a Formal Hearing.

Sessional Committee 2 requests that the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education look at procedures to safeguard the rights of a candidate when the process of candidacy is not correctly followed.

The Motion

Defeated

Motion: Mark Wartman/Lois Creith

That this General Council Executive adopt the policy that all of the following not be subject to appeal:

- i) a Decision by a Pastoral Charge to request a change in pastoral relations;
- ii) a Decision made by a Presbytery in disposing of a request by a member of the Order of Ministry for a change in Pastoral Relations;
- iii) a Decision made by a court to hold a Formal Hearing; and
- iv) the appropriateness of procedures used to arrive at Decisions in relation to elections, individuals in the candidacy process, calls or appointments;

and that Sections 077 and 549 be amended accordingly as follows:

077 Decisions Not Subject to Appeal. Decisions that are not subject to Appeal are as follows:

[Existing Subsections (a) - (h) remain unchanged]

- (i) a Decision by a Pastoral Charge to request a change in the pastoral relationship;
- (j) the disposition by a Presbytery of a request from a member of the Order of Ministry for a change in the pastoral relationship; or
- (k) a Decision by a Court to hold a Formal Hearing.

~~Although Decisions in relation to elections, individuals in the candidacy process, calls, or appointments may not be appealed, the appropriateness of the procedures used to arrive at the Decisions may be appealed.~~

549 Decisions Not Subject to Appeal. Decisions that are not subject to Appeal are as follows:
[Existing Subsections (a) - (h) remain unchanged]

- (i) a Decision by a Pastoral Charge to request a change in the pastoral relationship;
- (j) the disposition by a Presbytery of a request from a member of the Order of Ministry for a change in the pastoral relationship; or
- (k) 2a Decision by a Court to hold a Formal Hearing.

~~Although Decisions in relation to elections, individuals in the candidacy process, calls, or appointments may not be appealed, the appropriateness of the procedures used to arrive at the Decisions may be appealed.~~

The Motion

Carried

CONFERENCE RECORDS

Motion: Anne Shirley Sutherland/Glenn Smith
Sessional Committee 5 of the Thirty-sixth General Council (1997) reviewed the Records of all of the Conferences of The United Church of Canada for the period since the Thirty-fifth General Council (1994). For the most part, the books have been well-kept. Technical problems, where they occur, have been noted and will be entered in the official Records of the Conferences concerned.

Noting the importance of accuracy, clarity and completeness for The United Church of Canada's current and archival purposes, the Committee expressed its thanks all Conference Executive Secretaries for their care and attention to these Records.

Be it resolved that the Executive of General Council:

- (i) receive the Report of Sessional Committee Five on Conference Records, and
- (ii) direct that, in future, the Conference Records be reviewed by a General Council Committee made up of persons knowledgeable about and skilled in the maintenance of official records and archives.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 50 -- POLICY ON SEXUAL ABUSE

Motion: B.J. Klassen/Ann Naylor
That the General Council Executive be authorized, upon recommendation by the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, to revise the policy and procedures related to Sexual Abuse (Sexual Harassment, Pastoral Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Assault) and Child Abuse from time to time between meetings of the General Council.

The Motion

Carried

PETITIONS 100, 101, 102, 103

PETITION 100 -- COUNSELLING SUPPORT TO COMPLAINANTS OF ABUSE

That the General Council Executive establish a special fund to pay the costs of providing counselling support to complainants of abuse by ministry personnel.

PETITION 101 -- SUPPORT OF COMPLAINANTS OF ABUSE

That the General Council Executive make funds available for counselling and restitution in substantiated cases of sexual abuse by ministry personnel in the United Church.

PETITION 102 -- FINANCIAL RESTITUTION FOR VICTIM OF SEXUAL ABUSE

That the General Council Executive make funds available for counselling and restitution in substantiated cases of sexual abuse by persons in positions of trust in the United Church.

PETITION 103 -- FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TOWARD THE COST OF COUNSELLING OF COMPLAINANTS IN SITUATIONS OF SEXUAL ABUSE (SEXUAL HARASSMENT, SEXUAL EXPLOITATION, PASTORAL SEXUAL MISCONDUCT, SEXUAL ASSAULT) & CHILD ABUSE IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

That the General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada through its appropriate Divisions find the ways and means by which the church may extend its ministry to include financial contributions towards the costs of counselling of Complainants in situations of **Sexual Abuse (Sexual Harassment, Sexual Exploitation, Pastoral Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Assault) and Child Abuse** which have been substantiated through approved procedures of The United Church of Canada.

Motion: Bernice Luce/Anne Shirley Sutherland
Having heard and considered Petitions 100, 101, 102 and 103;
Recognizing that sexual abuse was identified by the 35th. General Council as a major concern; and
Recognizing that sexual abuse is always a violation of trust;

Be it resolved that this General Council Executive:

- (i) direct the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education to find ways and means by which the Church may extend its ministry to include financial contributions towards the costs of counselling of Complainants in situations covered by the Sexual Abuse (Sexual Harassment, Pastoral Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Assault) and Child Abuse policy which have been substantiated through the approved procedures of The United Church of Canada or by a court of law;
- (ii) invite its Conferences, Presbyteries, Congregations and their agencies, including extension councils, to follow this example;
- (iii) set aside a minimum fund of \$25,000 for the fiscal year 1998 for this purpose (Designation B);
(iii) replenish this fund annually to at least this level (Designation A); and
- (iv) take no further action on Petitions 100, 101, 102 and 103.

Motion: Jon Jessiman/Lynn Maki (in amendment)
That the word respondents be inserted after complainants.

The concern that arose from this amendment was that it changed the basic intent of the original petitions.

The Motion to amend **Defeated**

The Motion **Carried**
RESOLUTION 46 -- BOARD APPOINTMENTS FOR UNITED CHURCH RELATED SCHOOLS

Motion: B.J. Klassen/Ann Naylor
That this General Council Executive approve the Board Appointments for United Church Related Schools as listed in the report:

CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN STUDIES
Members of the Central Council

United Church Appointments

Ordained
Elizabeth Macdonald

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay

Term Expires 1998

Ordained

Diaconal

Lay
Ron Williams

Ordained

Term Expires 1999
Diaconal

Lay
Marion Kirkwood

Non United Church Appointments

Ordained

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay
Tony Barlow
Clementina Thomas

Ordained
Jim Boyles

Term Expires 1999
Diaconal

Lay
Janette Ledwith

Centre for Christian Studies Nominations

Ordained

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay
Jane Leonard
Sita Ramanujam
Sharon Smith

Ordained
Chris Ferguson

Term Expires 1998
Diaconal

Lay

Ordained

Term Expires 1999
Diaconal

Lay
Maureen Aslin
Alan Thomas

Ex-Officio Members

Betsy Anderson, Interim Staff for Theological Education

DR. JESSIE SAULTEAUX RESOURCE CENTRE

Members of the Board

United Church Appointments

Ordained

Term Expires 1998
Diaconal

Lay
Joe Charter
Peggy Monague
Linda Olson

Ordained
John Crate
Bernice Saulteaux

Term Expires 1999
Diaconal
Rita Flett

Lay
Maria Sheperd
Janet Sigurdson
Frank Saulteaux

Honorary Members

Ordained
Alf Dumont

Diaconal

Lay
Jane Marx

Non United Church Appointments

Ordained

Diaconal

Lay
Barbara Shoomski

FRANCIS SANDY THEOLOGICAL CENTRE

Members of the Board

United Church Appointments

Ordained
Bob Hyde
Catherine Moore
Aileen Rice

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay
Sandra Bell-Buttars
Thelma Davis
Peggy Monague

Ordained

Term Expires 1998
Diaconal

Lay
Sylvia Bethune
Ray Shipp

Honorary Elders

Ordained
Jake Noganosh

Diaconal

Lay
Dora Benson
Lavina Day
Nicholas King
Myra McWilliams
Reta Monture
Murray Whetung

HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY
Board of Regents

United Church Appointments

Ordained

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay
Flora Barnard
Albert Brankley
Judith Brocklehurst
E. Norman Carscallen
William Cook
M. Jean Dick
W.G. Neil Smith
Ronald D. Warwick

Ordained
Murray Arnill
Bryan Lapier

Term Expires 1998
Diaconal

Lay
Frances Howe
Theodore K. Jewell
William Taylor

Ordained
William Ferrier
Robert Williams

Term Expires 1999
Diaconal

Lay
Christopher John Stewart

Non United Church Appointments

Ordained
Douglas Joblin

Diaconal

Lay
Charlotte Leonard

IONA COLLEGE
Board of Directors

United Church Appointments

Ordained
Alex Kasirye-Musoke
Bo-Jeong Kim

Diaconal

Lay
Susan Belcher
Linda Blair
Gordon Boggs
Donna Goulin
Ruth Lavery-Medd
Mary Helen Pronger
Don Rigney

Non United Church Appointments

Ordained
Roy Amore

Diaconal

Lay
Stan Buconjic
Patricia Curry
Diane Huber
Derek Jane
Dietmar Lage
Donald Lescheid
Richard Nadalini
Patrick Rose

Student Representative
Christie Ononkwa

PINE HILL DIVINITY HALL

Board of Governors

United Church Appointments

Ordained

Carman W. Riggs
Norman J. Whitney
William N. Williams

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay

Roberta J. Clarke
Helen Ferguson
Sandra MacBean
Mary Osborne
Gordon Robertson
Evelyn Salsman
Mary Swetnam
Allison D. Tupper

Ordained

David MacLachlan
Clifford R. Moase
Ivan L. Norton
Laird R. Stirling
Diane P. Tingley
Nancy L. Warder

Term Expires 1998
Diaconal

Lay

Edgar G. Goss

Ordained

Margaret J. Archibald
Vincent Ihasz
M. Elaine Smith

Term Expires 1999
Diaconal

Lay

Pat Archibald- Condon
Sjouke Kuipers
Blair MacKinnon
Ruth March
Blenis Nicholson

Student Representatives

Aaron Billard, Patricia Melindy

QUEEN'S THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Board of Management

United Church Appointments

Ordained

Douglas Heard
B. Josephine Mewett
Mary Smith

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay

Marion Brown
Douglas Clark
Kevin Guthrie

Ordained

Terrence Deline
Charles Ketcheson
Hallett Llewellyn
Audrey Whitney

Term Expires 1998
Diaconal

Lay

Ordained

C. Wayne Hilliker

Term Expires 1999
Diaconal

Lay

W.D. Macnamara
Gordon C. Shaw
Kay Summers
Wayne Tompkins

Ordained

Term Expires 2000
Diaconal

Lay

Ross Bartlett
Carolyn Hudson
Robert Lockhart
Thomas Miles
Joseph Ramsay
Catherine Tovell

Ordained

Term Expires 2001
Diaconal

Lay
Katherine Finlay
Linda Hutchinson
Linda Mainse
Barbara Parrott

ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE
Board of Regents

United Church Appointments

Ordained
Brent Denham
Bruce Fauschou
Dave Petrie
Betty Lynn Schwab

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay
Boyd Drake
Sheila Krueger
Charles McKenzie
Jean Schmitt
Maureen Somers
Isobel Spence
Eleanor Thompson

Ordained
Don Laing
Arlene Reynolds

Term Expires 1998
Diaconal

Lay

Ordained
Ken de Man

Term Expires 1999
Diaconal

Lay
Terry-Lee Degenhardt
Carl Krause

Ordained
Patricia Wotton

Term Expires 2000
Diaconal

Lay
Janet Buckley

Non United Church Appointments

Ordained

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay
Marilyn Legge
Gina Martinson

Ordained

Term Expires 2000
Diaconal

Lay
Bob Anderson

United Church Members (non UCC-appointed)

Ordained
Charlotte Caron
(Ex-Officio)

Diaconal
Charlotte Caron

Lay
Michael Bourgeois
(Ex-Officio)

Corresponding Members

Ordained
 Roger Coll
 Catharine Fife
 George Rodgers

Diaconal

Lay
 Betsy Anderson
 Yvonne Hunter

ST. PAUL'S UNITED COLLEGE
 Board of Governors

United Church Appointments

Ordained
 Robert Hyde

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay

Ordained

Term Expires 1998
Diaconal
 Katharine Edmonstone

Lay

Ordained

Term Expires 1999
Diaconal

Lay
 Paul Bitzer

Non United Church Appointments

Ordained

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay
 Peter Frick
 Edward Kulchecki

United Church Members (non UCC-appointed)

Ordained

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay
 Thomas Hunter

Ordained

Term Expires 1998
Diaconal

Lay
 Mary Anne Connell
 Cyndi Cronk
 Kenneth Summers
 Robert Truman

Ordained

Term Expires 1999
Diaconal

Lay
 Carmeta Abbott
 Lynne Calnek
 Donald Irish
 Lynn Schmehl

Ex-officio Members

United Church Appointments

Ordained

Diaconal

Lay
 Betsy Anderson
 MP&E acting for
 General Secretary,
 General Council

United Church Members (non-UCC appointments)

Ordained

Diaconal

Lay

Helga Mills, Principal

ST. STEPHEN'S COLLEGE

Members of the Council

United Church Appointments

Ordained

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay

Nancy Lord
Alan Robertson
Bud Squair

Ordained

Bill Cantelon

Term Expires 1998
Diaconal

Lay

Mary Pemberton

Ordained

Lynn Maki
Clark Saunders

Term Expires 1999
Diaconal

Lay

Anne McCracken
Don Milne
Philip Ponting

Non United Church Appointments

Ordained

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay

Shirley Philips

Ordained

Martin Garber-Conrad

Term Expires 1998
Diaconal

Lay

Francis McMenemy

Ordained

Term Expires 1999
Diaconal

Lay

Patricia O'Brien

UNITED THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Board of Governors

United Church Appointments

(no expiration dates)

Ordained

Jean Barkley
Dennis Dwyer
Edward Furcha
Pierre Goldberger
Doug Hall
Rosemary Lambie-Bromby
Murdock McFarlane
Jack Nield
Allister Rose
Jose Velasco
Neil Wallace

Diaconal

Lay

Sheila Arnopoulos
Sandra Baines
Ken Bentley
Hazel Bigby
Helen Hanna
Phyllis Holtz
George Houston
Anne-Marie Kubanek
John Lehnert
Royal Orr
Elia Ramamonjisoa
Roger Snelling
Victor Stark
A.L. Thompson
Mary Vipond

Non United Church Appointments

Ordained

Diaconal

Lay

Roberta Clare
Richard Miller

Student Representation (for 1996-1997)

Laurie Stevenson, Student Coordinator
Wendy Wright-Mackenzie, Student Coordinator
Carol Bain, House Committee Chair

UNIVERSITY OF WINNIPEG

Board of Regents

United Church Appointments

Ordained

Term Expires 1997
Diaconal

Lay

David Andrews
Ed Byard
Julia DeFahr
Allison Frate
Laurie Goldberg
Susan Kushneryk
Garry Leach
Margaret McPherson
Monica Papendick
Gordon Pollard
Jim Richardson
Darcy Rollins
Joel Weinstein

Ordained

Term Expires 1998
Diaconal

Lay

Carlene Besner
Robert Bulman
Dianne Cooper
Bob Grant
Richard Graydon
Michael Hill
Hatem Howlader
Ken Meadwell
Chris Pappas
Christel Spletzer

Ordained

Term Expires 1999
Diaconal

Lay

Connie Ballen
Keith Black
Judy Dyck
Kristine Hansen
Frank Hechter
Marilyn Huband
Lillian Neaman
Joy Wood
Ray Wyant

Ex-Officio Members

| | | |
|-----------------|---|---|
| <u>Ordained</u> | <u>Term Expires 1999</u> <u>Diaconal</u> | <u>Lay</u> Marsha Hanen Carol Sheilds |
| <u>Ordained</u> | <u>Term Expires 2001</u> <u>Diaconal</u> | <u>Lay</u> George Tomlinson |

VANCOUVER SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY
Board of Governors

United Church Appointments

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <u>Ordained</u> David Lochhead Gabrielle Suedfeld Brian Thorpe | <u>Term Expires 1998</u> <u>Diaconal</u> | <u>Lay</u> Robin Leckie |
| <u>Ordained</u> Neil Parker Janice Young | <u>Term Expires 1999</u> <u>Diaconal</u> | <u>Lay</u> Jim Angus Louise Rolston Barrie Lindsay |
| <u>Ordained</u> | <u>Term Expires 2000</u> <u>Diaconal</u> | <u>Lay</u> Ian Housego |

Non United Church Appointments

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <u>Ordained</u> Elizabeth Forrester David McKay Frank Wood | <u>Term Expires 1998</u> <u>Diaconal</u> | <u>Lay</u> Conrad Guelke Jean Mickelson Delma Murray Ian Robertson Stephanie Shepard John Spencer |
| <u>Ordained</u> J.H. Kouwenberg | <u>Term Expires 1999</u> <u>Diaconal</u> | <u>Lay</u> Charles Burns Jacquie Jessup |
| <u>Ordained</u> Linda St. Clair | <u>Term Expires 2000</u> <u>Diaconal</u> | <u>Lay</u> |

Non-appointed Members

| | | |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|
| <u>Ordained</u> W. Phillips | <u>Diaconal</u> | <u>Lay</u> Norm Alban Bertram McKay Don Risk |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|---|

VICTORIA UNIVERSITY
Board of Regents

United Church Appointments

Ordained

J.M. Ball
J.S. McKnight
W.E. Steadman
L. Wilson

Diaconal

Lay

S.M. Armstrong
P.J. Clarke
D.A. Lemmon
L. Leung
W.G. Pridham

Ordained

Term Expires 1998

Diaconal

Lay

Robert Dowsett
Dorothy Hellebust
W.G. Hewitt
Alex Langford
Donald Lawson
Ian Morrison
Nadine Nowlan

Non United Church Appointments

Ordained

J.M. Butler
W.R. Johnstone
S.C. Lee
L.C. Perigoe

Diaconal

Lay

R.M. Barford
L.J. Brooks
D.E. Clark
P.W. Fox
E.S. Jarvis
P.A. Kennedy
W.J.H. Ostrander
L. Petroff
D. Silcox
C.E. Stone

Ordained

Term Expires 1998

Diaconal

Lay

R.P.K. Cousland
Elizabeth Vosburgh

Ex-Officio Members

Roger Hutchinson, B. Merrilees, R. Runte, L.R. Kurtz

Faculty Board Members

P. Airhart, P. Blanchard, J.H. Galloway, R.J. Helmstadter, A.F. Johnston, A. Keith, D.W. Smith, P. Wilson

Student Reps

S. Berry, D. DubJ, E. Nicholson, A. Ryder, R. Sampson,

Honorary Members

W.G. Alexander, F.M. Cass, R.H.M. Davidson, G.D. Lane, D.W. Pretty, H.J. Sissons,
F.C. Stokes

WESTMINSTER COLLEGE
Members of the Board

United Church Appointments

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| <u>Ordained</u> | <u>Term Expires 1997</u> <u>Diaconal</u> | <u>Lay</u> Drew Annable Peggy Buck Robert Shepherd |
| <u>Ordained</u> Herb Summers | <u>Term Expires 1998</u> <u>Diaconal</u> | <u>Lay</u> Sheila Duffin John Prueter Shirley Smith |
| <u>Ordained</u> David Carrothers | <u>Term Expires 1999</u> <u>Diaconal</u> | <u>Lay</u> Charles Brown James MacNeill Judith Walker |

Non United Church Appointments

| | | |
|-----------------|---|------------------------------|
| <u>Ordained</u> | <u>Term Expires 1997</u> <u>Diaconal</u> | <u>Lay</u> Trish Beckwith |
|-----------------|---|------------------------------|

Motion: Sheila Snelling/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive ask the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education to consider and take appropriate action with respect to the following issues:

- 1) The wisdom is questioned of having no diaconal ministers on the board for the Centre for Christian Studies.
- 2) There is concern about the big turnover of board appointments in some schools and college boards, namely, Dr. Jessie Saulteaux Centre, Huntington University, and Francis Sandy Theological Centre, and the resulting loss of continuity of experience.
- 3) In the report of Board Appointments it is advisable for the terms of all board members to be included.
- 4) There is concern that the use of initials for first names of board appointments does not give an indication of gender at a time when the United Church is striving for gender representation and balance.
- 5) There is a concern that board appointments for Emmanuel College are not clearly denoted as such.

and commends the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education for its work in fostering relationships with the schools.

Sessional Committee No. 7 recommends that this General Council Executive adopt Resolution No. 46, with one editorial amendment, namely that the name Audrey Whitney be recorded as ordained (not diaconal as indicated).

Motion to amend

Carried

The motion as amended (motion and recommendation)

Carried

PETITION NO. 97 -- CONTINUING EDUCATION ACCREDITATION

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada study models of accreditation for ministry personnel which would require regular continuing education, considering what such a model would look like, how continuing education could be funded, and how any particular course or event might be considered for accreditation.

Motion: Sheila Snelling/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive

- 1) refer Petition No. 97 to the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education and to the Education for Church Leadership Coordinating Committee for consideration and appropriate action, and
- 2) affirm the requirements for study leave as presented in *The Manual* section 039(a)

Study Leave. Members of the Order of Ministry and others in Presbytery Accountable Ministries are entitled to and are expected to take advantage of three (3) weeks study leave per year. This study time is to be arranged in consultation with the Ministry and Personnel Committee of the Pastoral Charge and the appropriate Presbytery and Conference. Funding for such leave shall be a shared responsibility of the Pastoral Charge or employer, the individual, and the Life Long Learning Fund administered by the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education. Each Conference determines the procedure and the extent of the financial grants to its members from this Fund within the terms of reference set for the Fund by the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education.

- 3) commend this provision regarding leave to ministry personnel and pastoral charges, and
- 4) request that the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education and Education for Church Leadership Coordinating Committee promote study leave as outlined in this provision.

NOTE:

Sessional Committee No. 7 is forwarding the comments and suggestions from Table Groups and the Sessional Committee concerning models of accreditation for continuing education for ministry personnel to Division of Ministry Personnel and Education and Education for Church Leadership Coordinating Committee.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION NO. 98: THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION FOR STAFF ASSOCIATES

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada develop a policy for the theological education of persons serving as staff associates which would take into consideration the following suggestions:

- the theological education be concurrent with the appointment, congruent with the responsibilities of the position, and negotiated between the Congregational ministry & personnel committee, the Presbytery education and students committee, and the staff associate; and
- the policy include the requirement that the terms of appointment for any staff associate include a specific number of paid work hours to be devoted to this.

Motion: Sheila Snelling/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That theological education be concurrent with the appointment, congruent with the responsibilities of the position, and negotiated between the Congregational ministry & personnel committee, the Presbytery education and students committee, and the staff associate; and

the policy include the requirement that the terms of appointment for any Staff Associate include a specific number of paid work hours to be devoted to this.

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Bernice Luce

That Petition 98 be tabled until Sessional Committee 17 reports.

The Motion to table

Carried

PETITION NO. 96: FUNDING FOR THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION BASED IN COMMUNITY

That this General Council Executive commit to ensuring adequate funding for theological education based in the community.

Motion: Shirley Snelling/Anne Shirley Sutherland

Having heard Petition numbered 96 and having reviewed the responses from table groups and individuals, and noted and given careful consideration to the following concerns:

- (a) source of funding to respond to the petition's concern,
- (b) that "theological education based in the community" could refer to a variety of programs, and whereas the concerns raised by the petition are already a priority of the Education for Church Leadership Coordinating Committee.

That this General Council Executive refer Petition No. 96 to the Education for Church Leadership Coordinating Committee for consideration in the context of its ongoing work.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 99 -- PHASING OUT LAY PASTORAL MINISTRY PROGRAMME

That this General Council Executive phase out the Lay Pastoral Ministry Program in favour of the experiential model leading to Ordination, and to accept no new students into the Lay Pastoral Ministry-In-Training program as of January 1999.

Motion: Shirley Snelling/Anne Shirley Sutherland

Having heard Petition numbered 99 and having reviewed the responses from table groups and individuals, and noted and given careful consideration to the following concerns:

- (a) that the current experiential model (that is, In-Community Program for Ordination) leading to ordination is experimental, currently confined to one region and has not yet been evaluated
- (b) the validity and place of Lay Pastoral Ministry in the church alongside ordination and commissioning and whereas the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education and the Education for Church Leadership Coordinating Committee are already looking into the concerns raised by this petition.

Sessional Committee number 7 recommends that this General Council Executive take no further action on Petition No. 99.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 79 -- DISABILITY AND DEATH OF MINISTRY PERSONNEL

Motion: B.J. Klassen/Ann Naylor

That this General Council Executive clarify as policy that eligibility for disability coverage and death benefits is based on Group Insurance Plan membership, and

this General Council Executive clarify as policy that manse and housing allowance are equal alternatives, and

this General Council Executive declare as policy that when Total and Permanent Disability has been certified by a medical record with regard to a ministry personnel serving in a pastoral charge, suitable alternative accommodation is to be arranged by the person serving as ministry personnel, and

this General Council Executive declare as policy that when moving costs are incurred in conjunction with arranging suitable alternative accommodation in the event of certification of Total and Permanent Disability with regard to a ministry personnel serving in a pastoral charge, reasonable moving costs will normally be borne by the pastoral charge; and that consultation in regard to special circumstances or needs should take place among the person experiencing the disability, the pastoral charge, the Presbytery, and the appropriate Conference staff person, and

this General Council Executive declare as policy that ministry personnel for whom disability has been certified may initiate a return to work by:

- (a) providing a medical certificate verifying their readiness to return to work;
- (b) meeting with the Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee for authorization to return to work; and
- (c) consulting with the Department of Pensions and Group Insurance regarding rehabilitation programme options, and

this General Council Executive declare as policy that disability in and of itself does not constitute an end to a pastoral relationship; that any request for a change in the pastoral relationship shall be initiated by either the person experiencing the disability or the pastoral charge, in consultation with the Presbytery and in accordance with the process described in *The Manual* Section 042 and following (1995); and that normally, such a request would not occur before Long Term Disability has been approved, and

this General Council Executive declare as policy that when moving costs are incurred in conjunction with arranging suitable alternative accommodation in the event of death of a person serving as ministry personnel who meets the eligibility requirements, reasonable moving costs will normally be borne by the pastoral charge; and that consultation in regard to special circumstances or needs should take place among the eligible survivors of the deceased ministry personnel, the pastoral charge, the Presbytery, and the appropriate Conference staff person, and

The Manual Section 037 (1995) be changed to reflect these policies.

Motion: Harold Manuel/John Yeo (in amendment)

That item #3 and item #7 of Resolution #79 be amended for greater clarity as follows:

Item #3 to read "this General Council Executive declare as policy that when Total and Permanent Disability has been certified by a medical record with regard to Ministry Personnel serving in a pastoral charge, the person serving as Ministry Personnel is responsible for arranging suitable alternative accommodation.

Item #7 to read "this General Council Executive declare as policy that when moving costs are incurred in conjunction with arranging suitable alternative accommodation in the event of death of a person serving as Ministry Personnel who meets the eligibility requirements, reasonable moving costs of of the eligible survivors of the deceased Ministry Personnel will normally be borne by the pastoral charge; and that consultation in regard to special circumstances or needs should take place among the eligible survivors of the deceased Ministry Personnel, the pastoral charge, the Presbytery, and the appropriate Conference staff.

The Motion to amend

Carried

The Motion as amended

Carried

Motion: Mark Wartman/Lois Creith

In order to reflect the policy adopted by this Executive we move that the following changes be made to *The Manual*:

037

(a) Disability. In the event of a person serving as Ministry Personnel in a Pastoral Charge, Mission or Outreach Ministry and who is a member of the Group Insurance Plan and is not in receipt of a United Church pension, or who is on maternity leave or parental leave, the disabled person shall remain under the care of the Pastoral Charge, the Presbytery and the United Church for the duration of the disability or a period of six (6) months from the date of the disability (last day worked), whichever is shorter, as certified by a medical record and confirmed by the Presbytery after consultation with the appropriate Conference staff person. During this period the disabled person shall be entitled to:

- i. the salary and allowances being paid by the Pastoral Charge at the time of the disability; and
 - ii. the use of the manse or housing allowance. When Total and Permanent Disability has been certified by medical record, consultation about special circumstances or needs related to alternative accommodation will take place among the person experiencing the disability, the Pastoral Charge, the Presbytery and the appropriate Conference staff person. The person serving as Ministry Personnel is responsible for arranging suitable alternative accommodation. When moving costs are incurred in conjunction with arranging suitable alternative accommodation, reasonable moving costs will normally be borne by the Pastoral Charge
- (b) Recurrent Disability. If the period of disability referred to in Section 037(a) ends before the expiration of six (6) months and, within ninety (90) days thereafter, because of the same reason, a further period of disability commences, the Ministry Personnel shall be entitled to receive only the benefits set out in Section 037(a) for a period equal to the lesser of: the duration of the new period of disability and six (6) months less the duration of the original period of disability.

(c) A person for whom disability has been certified may initiate a return to work by:

- i. providing a medical certificate certifying their readiness to return to work;
- ii. meeting with the Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee for authorization to return to work; and
- iii. consulting with the Department of pensions and group Insurance regarding rehabilitation programme options.

(d) Disability, in and of itself, does not constitute an end to the pastoral relationship. Any request for a change on pastoral relationship shall be initiated either by the person experiencing the disability or by the Pastoral Charge in consultation with the Presbytery and shall be dealt with in accordance with the procedures for the termination of the pastoral relationship. Normally, such a request would not be initiated by the Pastoral Charge before Long Term Disability for the person has been approved.

(e) Death. In the event of the death of a person serving as Ministry Personnel in a Pastoral Charge, Mission or Outreach Ministry, who is a member of the Group Insurance Plan and is not in receipt of a United Church pension ... *[remainder of this paragraph to remain as currently appears]...*

i. *[remains as currently appears]*

ii. the use of the manse, or housing allowance if such is being paid in lieu of a manse, or alternative accommodation. When moving costs are incurred in conjunction with arranging suitable alternative accommodation, reasonable moving costs of the eligible survivors of the deceased Ministry Personnel shall normally be borne by the Pastoral Charge. Consultation in regard to special circumstances or needs should take place among the eligible survivors of the deceased Ministry Personnel, the Pastoral Charge, the Presbytery, and the appropriate Conference staff person.

(f) The following are entitled to disability and death benefits in accordance with this section:

i. Members of the Order of Ministry;

ii. others appointed as General Council staff, Conference staff, Presbytery staff;

iii. professional staff of Outreach Ministries; and

iv. any others in the service of the General Council or who in accordance with the policies of the General Council, are eligible.

Motion: Glenn Smith/Randy MacKenzie (in amendment)
That Order of Ministry be changed to Ministry Personnel in every case.

The Motion to amend

Carried

The Motion as amended

Carried

RESOLUTIONS 5, 36, 37, 48, 61, 80

Motion: Harold Manuel/John Yeo
That the sessional recommendations for the following resolutions be carried:

RESOLUTION 5 -- SUBSTITUTION OF TERM "MINISTRY PERSONNEL" FOR "MEMBERS OF THE ORDER OF MINISTRY"

That this General Council Executive approve the amendment to the following Sections by deleting the term "member of the Order of Ministry" and substituting "Ministry Personnel":

036(g) Travel Allowance. Where the work of a Pastoral Charge requires ~~a member of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel to use a car, such Pastoral Charge shall, in addition to other remuneration, contribute to the cost of upkeep and travel. In no case shall the amount contributed be less than the minimum travel scale (rate per kilometer) set for the year by the General Council.

039(a) Study Leave. ~~Members of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel and others in Presbytery Accountable Ministries are entitled to and are expected to take advantage of three (3) weeks study leave per year. This study time is to be arranged in consultation with the Ministry and Personnel Committee of the Pastoral Charge and the appropriate Presbytery and Conference. Funding for such leave shall be a shared responsibility of the Pastoral Charge or employer, the individual, and the Life Long Learning Fund administered by the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education. Each Conference determines the procedure and the extent of the financial grants to its members from this Fund within the terms of reference set for the Fund by the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education.

044 Cooperation during Change. In any case of a proposed change in the pastoral relationship, it is recommended that the Pastoral Charge and the ~~member of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel cooperate in the effort to secure reasonable provision for the future of both the Pastoral Charge and the ~~member of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel.

072(a) Laying a Charge. Any member, Adherent, or employee of the United Church, its Congregations, Presbyteries, Conferences, and related agencies, or any ~~member of the Order of Ministry~~ person who is Ministry Personnel, who has personal knowledge of any alleged offence by a member, an Adherent, a Candidate for the ministry, or a person who is member of the Order of Ministry ~~Ministry Personnel~~ which is a proper ground of discipline, may lay a charge, in writing, before the Session or Church Board or Church Council, the Presbytery, the Conference, or the General Council, as the case may be.

121 ~~Every member of the Order of Ministry~~ All Ministry Personnel settled in or appointed to a Pastoral Charge shall be in a specific covenant relationship with the Presbytery, the Pastoral Charge, and the other staff (that is, other Ministry Personnel and other church staff).

122 ~~Every member of the Order of Ministry~~ All Ministry Personnel settled in or appointed to a Pastoral Charge shall be ex officio a members of all Committees of the Pastoral Charge except for the Joint Pastoral Relations Committee of the Pastoral Charge and the Ministry and Personnel Committee of the Official Board or Church Board or Church Council.

332(e) The Presbytery shall visit any Pastoral Charge that pays its ~~member of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel a salary and travel allowance less than the minimum and the applicable salary increment and it shall endeavour to arrange for an appropriate salary responsibility for the Pastoral Charge. If at least the salary scale currently authorized by the General Council cannot be otherwise ensured, the Presbytery shall apply, on behalf of the Pastoral Charge, to the General Council Division of Mission in Canada for a mission support grant from the Mission and Service Fund.

332(f) The Presbytery has the right to call a meeting of the Official Board or Church Board or Church Council or of the Congregation(s) within a Pastoral Charge or Mission, or of both the Official Board or Church Board or Church Council and any Congregation within a Pastoral Charge or Mission, at any time, to consider any matter pertaining to their or its interests, and may give directions as to who shall be Chairperson of such meeting. The ~~member of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel settled in or appointed to the Pastoral Charge or the Pastoral Charge Supervisor shall read the notice of such meeting to the Congregation(s) as ordered by the Presbytery.

333(b) When there is reason to fear that a Pastoral Charge is in an unsatisfactory state, the case may be brought before the Presbytery for its consideration, by:

- i. the Presbytery itself;
- ii. the ~~member of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel settled in or appointed to the Pastoral Charge;
- iii. the Pastoral Charge Supervisor;
- iv. the Session;
- v. the Official Board or Church Board or Church Council; or
- vi. a petition properly transmitted to the Presbytery and signed by ten (10) persons in full church membership with the Pastoral Charge.

354(b) The Presbytery Pension and Group Insurance Committee shall report as to the observance of pension fund regulations by each ~~person who is member of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel on the roll of Presbytery and by each Pastoral Charge within its bounds. The Presbytery shall take such action as may be deemed advisable.

364(d) ~~a member of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel may retire as early as age fifty-five (55) and receive a discounted pension. Between ages sixty (60) and sixty-five (65) but after thirty-five (35) years of service, a ~~member~~ Ministry Personnel may retire and receive a non-discounted pension based on pension credits accrued to the date of retirement.

371 Secretary. The Presbytery shall elect a Secretary who shall continue in office at the pleasure of the Court. It shall be the duty of the Secretary:

(e) to send to the Executive Secretary of Conference annually:

- i. the names of Pastoral Charges, Missions and Outreach Ministries, with the names of ~~members of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel serving them, with their addresses, and the names of the Secretaries of the Official Boards or Church Boards or Church Councils, with their addresses;
- iii. the names of ~~members of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel who have retired and those who are seeking retirement;
- viii. the names of ~~members of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel who have died during the year, together with their obituaries;

[Subsections 371(e) ii., iv., vii, ix., and x. remain unchanged]

371 (f) to notify forthwith the Director of the Department of Pensions and Group Insurance of the death of any a member of the Order of Ministry Ministry Personnel;

380 Archives Committee.

[Subsections 380(a) and (b) remain unchanged]

(c) Duties. It shall be the duty of the Committee:

[Subsections 380(c)i. to iii. remain unchanged]

iv. to encourage ~~members of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel and office bearers of the United Church to be aware of the importance of recording fully and accurately, in registers and minute books, the events, proceedings, and decisions of Pastoral Charges and their organizations, and the Committees of the Presbytery; and

389 Pastoral Relations Committees

(b) Duties

i. The Committee shall seek to maintain a close relationship between the Presbytery and the Pastoral Charges through the Ministry and Personnel Committee of the Official Board or Church Board or Church Council, and it shall, on behalf of the Presbytery, oversee the pastoral relationship of ~~members of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel and Pastoral Charges in the Presbytery.

[Subsections 389(b)ii. and iii. remain unchanged]

435. List. The Executive Secretary of the Conference shall compile the list of its Presbyteries and Pastoral Charges as follows: the Presbyteries, and the Pastoral Charges within the Presbyteries, shall be arranged in alphabetical order. Where two (2) or more Pastoral Charges are in one (1) place they shall be listed under that place name in alphabetical order of the Pastoral Charges. A grant-receiving Pastoral Charge, or a Pastoral Charge, the name of which is not one of the preaching appointments of that Pastoral Charge, should be clearly indicated by an asterisk or other sign. The names of the ~~members of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel

shall immediately follow the name of each Pastoral Charge. The names of all Members of the Order of Ministry not in pastoral work shall be listed at the end of the roll of the Presbytery to which they are attached by action of the Conference. The names and addresses of Candidates for the Order of Ministry should be inserted at the end of the Presbytery roll to which they are attached.

535 Duties. The duties of the Committee [on Archives and History] shall be:

[Subsections 535(a) to (f) remain unchanged]

(g) to encourage ~~members of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel and office bearers of the United Church to recognize the importance of recording fully and accurately, in registers and minute books, the events, proceedings, and decisions of Pastoral Charges and their organizations, and the Courts, Divisions, Departments, and Committees of the Church.

672 Duties. The duties of the Department [of Pensions and Group Insurance] shall be:

[Subsections 672(a) and (b) remain unchanged]

(c) to administer the Compassionate Assistance Fund for the purpose of relieving distress or emergency amongst:

(i) ~~members of the Order of Ministry~~ Ministry Personnel

[remaining Subsections of 672(c) remain unchanged]

The Sessional Committee recommends that resolution #5 be **approved**

RESOLUTION 36 -- VACATION PAY

That this General Council Executive approve the deletion of Section 036(i) from *The Manual*:

036

~~(i) Vacation Pay. When a member of the Order of Ministry moves between July 1st and August 31st, the Pastoral Charge to which that minister goes shall be responsible for the ensuing year's vacation pay. When a call with an effective date between September 1st and June 30th of the next year is approved, the two Pastoral Charges involved shall share the cost of the vacation pay on a pro-rated basis, the Pastoral Charge from which the minister moves being responsible for an amount proportionate to the percentage of the Pastoral Year spent in the service of that particular Pastoral Charge, and the Pastoral Charge to which the minister moves being responsible for the remainder of that year's vacation pay,~~

[Subsections 036 (j) to (q) to be re-numbered accordingly]

The Sessional Committee recommends that the General Council Executive **refer** Resolution #36: *Manual*, vacation pay to the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, in consultation with Human Resources Committee, to develop clear guidelines for pastoral charges with respect to the allocation of responsibility for the cost of vacation pay which are consistent with the understanding of ministry within the United Church; and present an appropriate resolution to the 37th General Council;

RESOLUTION 37 -- DEATH AND DISABILITY BENEFITS

That this General Council Executive adopt the policy that recognition be given to the special needs related to alternative accommodation for the person experiencing a Total and Permanent Disability who is entitled to the benefits provided under Section 037, and that there be consultation in relation to such needs with the person experiencing the Total and Permanent Disability, and that Section 037(a) be amended to reflect this policy as follows:

037(a) Disability. In the event of the disability of a ~~member of the Order of Ministry, a Lay Pastoral Minister, a Lay Pastoral Minister in Training, a Student Supply, a Candidate Supply, or a Staff Associate~~ person serving as Ministry Personnel in a Pastoral Charge, Mission or Outreach Ministry and who is a member of the Group Insurance Plan and is not in receipt of a United Church pension, or who is on maternity leave or parental leave, the ~~disabled person experiencing the disability~~ shall remain under the care of the Pastoral Charge, the Presbytery and the United Church for the duration of the disability for a period of six (6) months ~~from the date of the disability (last date worked), whichever is shorter, following the end of the month in which such disability occurs as certified by a medical record and confirmed by the Presbytery after consultation with the appropriate Conference staff person. During this period the disabled person experiencing the disability shall be entitled to:~~

- i. the salary and allowances being paid by the Pastoral Charge at the time of the disability; and
- ii. the use of the manse or housing allowance if ~~such is being paid in lieu of a manse, except that~~ When Total and Permanent Disability has been certified by medical record, suitable consultation about special circumstances or needs related to alternative accommodation may be arranged by will take place among the person experiencing the disability, the Pastoral Charge, the Presbytery after consultation with and the appropriate Conference staff person, in which case moving expenses to the alternative accommodation shall be provided. Alternative accommodation may be arranged by the person serving as Ministry Personnel.

That this General Council Executive adopt a policy that if a disability lasting less than six (6) months recurs within ninety (90) days after the disability ceases, the disabled person shall only be entitled to receive the benefits set out in Section 037(a) for an additional period equal to six (6) months less the original period of disability as outlined in the following new Section 037(b) to reflect this policy.

037(b) Recurrent Disability. If the period of disability referred to in Section 037(a) ends before the expiration of six (6) months and, within ninety (90) days thereafter, because of the same reason, a further period of disability commences, the Ministry Personnel shall only be entitled to receive the benefits set out in Section 037(a) for a period equal to the lesser of: the duration of the new period of disability and six (6) months less the duration of the original period of disability.

Be it Further Resolved that this General Council Executive adopt the policy that those persons returning to work after receiving benefits under Section 037(a) shall follow the procedure as outlined in the following new Section 037(c) to reflect this policy:

- 037(c) A person for whom disability has been certified may initiate a return to work by:
- I. providing a medical certificate certifying readiness to return to work;
 - ii. meeting with the Presbytery pastoral Relations Committee for authorization to return to work; and
 - iii. consulting with the Department of Pensions and Group Insurance regarding rehabilitation programme options.

Be it Further Resolved that this General Council Executive approve a new Section 037(d) amended as follows to clarify that disability does not end a pastoral relationship, and approve Sections 037(e) and (f) amended as follows to clarify entitlement to death benefits:

037(d) Disability, in and of itself, does not constitute an end to the pastoral relationship. Any request for a change in pastoral relationship shall be initiated either by the person experiencing the disability or by the Pastoral Charge in consultation with the Presbytery and shall be dealt with in accordance with the procedures for the termination of the pastoral relationship. Normally, such a request would not be initiated by the Pastoral Charge before Long Term Disability for the person has been approved.

037(e) Death. In the event of the death of a ~~member of the Order of Ministry, a Lay Pastoral Minister, a Lay Pastoral Minister-in-Training, a Student Supply, a Candidate Supply, or a Staff Associate, who is serving a Pastoral Charge~~ person serving as Ministry Personnel in a Pastoral Charge, Mission or Outreach Ministry, who is a member of the Group Insurance Plan and is not in receipt of a United Church pension or who is on maternity leave or parental leave, the spouse, or dependent children if there is no spouse, shall continue to be provided for financially by the Pastoral Charge, the Presbytery, and the United Church for a period of six (6) months following the end of the month in which death takes place, except that the combined benefit payable herewith and that payable under Subsection (a) shall not exceed six (6) consecutive months. In calculating the period for which disability benefits have been paid under Subsection (a) above, only those months immediately preceding the death shall be counted. Entitlements from the end of the month following death are to:

- i. the salary being paid by the Pastoral Charge at the time of the disability or death; and
- ii. the use of the manse, or housing allowance if ~~such is being paid in lieu of a manse, or alternative accommodation as provided in subparagraph (a)ii.~~

037(f) The following are entitled to disability and death benefits in accordance with this Section:

- I. members of the Order of Ministry;
- ii. other persons appointed as General Council staff, Conference staff, Presbytery officers staff;
- iii. professional staff of Outreach Ministries ~~for which the United Church has the sole responsibility, and incorporated bodies or institutions of the United Church;~~ and
- iv. any others in the service of the ~~Divisions or Committees of the~~ General Council and in categories G to O or who in accordance with the policies of the General Council, are eligible

~~shall be entitled to disability and death benefits in accordance with this section.~~

[Existing Sections 037(c), (d) and (e) to follow, re-numbered accordingly.]

The Sessional Committee recommends that resolution #37 be **defeated**.

RESOLUTION 48 -- MEMBERSHIP OF THE TRANSFER COMMITTEE

That the membership of the Transfer Committee be:

Chairpersons of the Conference Settlement Committees or their nominees; and

Two Members at Large, appointed through the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education at least one of whom shall be a lay person and one of whom shall be a Diaconal Minister, if no other members of the committee are Diaconal Ministers; and

Three student observers in the candidacy process not in their first or final year, one named by each of three United Church theological schools each year from among their classes, upon the request of the Secretary of the Transfer Committee; and

and Executive staff person designated by the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, who shall serve as the Secretary of the committee; and

a Chairperson, selected by the committee in addition to its regularly determined 15 members, three Observers, and Secretary.

And that *The Manual* be changed accordingly.

The Sessional Committee recommend that resolution #48 be **approved**.

RESOLUTION 61 -- MATERNITY/PARENTAL LEAVE

That this General Council Executive approve the following revision to Section 036(n) in order to reflect the clarification provided by the 34th General Council in relation to maternity and parental leave:

036(n) ~~Pregnancy~~ Maternity/Parental Leave: A member of the Order of Ministry Ministry Personnel, when pregnant, may request a maternity/parental leave of absence according to the policies determined from time to time by the General Council. Such policies shall at no time reflect rights that are provided that her rights are never less than those provided by dominion federal or provincial employment statutes.

The Sessional Committee recommends that resolution #61 be **approved** with the editorial amendment of including the word "territorial" after the word "provincial" on the last line of the motion.

RESOLUTION 80 -- DISABILITY

That this General Council Executive request that a resource similar to "When Disability or Illness Interrupts the Pastoral Relationship" be developed for non-ministerial staff serving in pastoral charges (e.g. secretaries, custodians, musicians, etc.).

The sessional Committee recommends that resolution #80 be **approved**.

The Omnibus Motion (Resolution 5, 36, 37, 48, 61, 80)

Carried

RESOLUTION NO. 48 - MEMBERSHIP OF THE TRANSFER COMMITTEE

Motion: Mark Wartman/Lois Creith

That in order to reflect the policy adopted by this Executive the General Council Executive move that the following changes be made to *The Manual*:

[new]

711 Membership. The membership of the Transfer Committee shall consist of :

- (a) the chairpersons of the Conference Settlement Committees or their alternates;
- (b) two (2) members at large, appointed by the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, of whom one shall be a Diaconal Minister if no other member of the committee is a Diaconal Minister and one shall be a lay person;
- (c) three (3) student observers, who are Candidates and who are not in their first or final year of candidacy, selected one by each of three (3) United Church theological schools upon the request of the Secretary of the Transfer Committee;
- (d) a Secretary, who shall be an executive staff person and who has been designated by the General Secretary of the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education;
- (e) a Chairperson, who shall be selected by the Transfer Committee to serve in addition to those members listed in subsections (a) to (d).

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 87 -- DISTRIBUTION OF ASSETS

Motion: Lyn Maki/Dave Iverson

That this Executive of General Council request the Division of Mission in Canada to appoint a task group to review section 270 of *The Manual (1995)* and recommend appropriate amendments for the purpose of making a fair and equitable portion of the assets from the sale of property available for church development according to the needs of all church courts.

The Sessional Committee recommends defeat of the motion.

The Motion

Defeated

Motion: Mark Wartman/Carol Hancock

That this General Council Executive appoint a representative Task Group to review and recommend policies for the fair and equitable sharing of assets from property sales and assets of Congregations which have ceased to exist (in the light of the concerns of Petitions 62-65) and then to recommend appropriate policy changes to the General Council Executive.

COST of \$1200.00.

Motion: Bernice Luce/Jean Bethune (in amendment)

That after the words "Task Group" insert the words "coordinated by Division of Mission in Canada at a cost of \$10,000".

Motion to amend

Carried

Motion as amended

Carried

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Peter Wyatt and Marion Best offered their theological reflection on the work before this court. They reviewed the various credal statements in use within the United Church reflecting on what they say about Jesus.

Table groups discussed perceptions of the boundaries around The United Church of Canada's Christology.

RESOLUTION 1 -- MENDING THE WORLD

There was a request that each item be dealt with separately.

Motion: Randy MacKenzie/Ruth Nichols

That this General Council Executive request all General Council units to review their mandate and activities through the lens of the Mending the World report and provide, through the General Council Secretaries, a report to every General Council;

The Motion

Defeated

Motion: Randy MacKenzie/Ruth Nichols

That the Division of World Outreach to restore the Inter-Faith portfolio to the equivalent of one full-time position in order to foster interfaith dialogue and mission partnerships, and to facilitate implementation of the goals of Mending the World report; and

That funds for this staffing increase be provided from the United Church Reserve in 1998 (approximately \$35,000, funding designation B), and then be considered in the regular budget process.

Patty Evans reported on the work of the Division of World Outreach in response to budget concerns that resulted in the down-sizing of the Inter-Faith dialogue portfolio. She explained that to reinstate that position to full-time would have a significant impact on the variety of shifts in staffing and work focus that had been carefully worked out. The Division believed that it embraced the spirit of Mending the World in all its work.

Motion: Bernice Luce/David Carrothers

That an immediate vote be taken.

The Motion (for an immediate vote)

Carried

The Motion

Defeated

General Council Sessional Committee Seventeen

RESOLUTION 42: POLICIES FOR ADMISSION TO THE ORDER OF MINISTRY

Motion: B.J. Klassen/Ann Naylor

That this General Council Executive approve the policy which follows regarding admission to the Order of Ministry of The United Church of Canada:

I. Policies for Admission to the Order of Ministry in The United Church of Canada

1. Role of the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education

- (a) The Division of Ministry Personnel and Education shall establish a Committee with the responsibility to review all of the documentation and make a Decision regarding the initial qualification of applicants from other denominations who are seeking admission into the Order of Ministry of The United Church of Canada.
- (b) To accomplish this, the Division shall establish a Committee on Admission to the Order of Ministry comprised of the General Secretary of the Division, the Secretary for Theological Education, one Ordained and one Diaconal minister and, when applicants are seeking appointment to an Ethnic Ministry of The United Church of Canada, one representative of the Ethnic Ministries Council.
- (c) Prior to submitting the documentation it may be helpful for a potential applicant to inquire about whether the ordination / commissioning of her / his denomination is recognized by the United Church of Canada. The following documentation will be received as a part of the application process: proof of ordination or commissioning, official academic transcripts, letters of current standing from current denomination [should the applicant be refused a letter of standing based solely on criteria which would not prevent the applicant from serving in The United Church, i.e. divorce, marriage, or sexual orientation, this requirement may be waived], letters of reference and a completed application form.
- (d) When a decision has been made the committee will notify the applicant in writing. Decisions of the Committee on Admission to the Order of Ministry (CAOM) are final.

2. Criteria for Appointment and Admission

- (a) Ministers who are in good standing within their own denomination may seek appointment as Ordained or Diaconal Supply. They shall begin by requesting an Application from the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education. Persons whose initial application is approved by the Division are eligible for a twelve month appointment as outlined in Section 5 of this document. Following this appointment the Presbytery and the applicant will determine the advisability of the applicant entering into the admissions process. If the decision is to enter the process, the applicant will serve a minimum of 18 consecutive months (up to 42 months if required to complete the process) in an appointment, preferably the same as the initial appointment.
- (b) If the decision of the Presbytery or the minister is not to enter the admissions process, the applicant will not be permitted further appointments in The United Church of Canada.
- (c) Exceptions to the limitation of one twelve month appointment without continuing into the Admissions Process are Ministry Personnel who are serving in: Mutuality in Mission positions, Ecumenical Shared Ministries, ministerial exchanges, Interim Ministers, other exceptions as determined by the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education.
- (d) If at any time persons, who have served or are serving in such ministry positions, wish to enter the admissions process they will be required to apply through the usual Admissions Process. (Previous experience in the United Church will not exempt them from any portion of this process.)

3. Persons Eligible To Apply

- (a) Persons eligible are:
 - (i) Members of the Order of Ministry from other denominations within Canada or the United States of America, or
 - (ii) Members of the Order of Ministry of other denominations in Canada who are currently serving in a Recognized Ministry (see Section 7b for definition), or
 - (iii) Members of the Order of Ministry serving in partner churches outside of Canada and the United States, or
 - (iv) Members of the Order of Ministry wishing to serve in an Ethnic Ministry in The United Church of Canada.
- (b) Normally the Ordinations or Commissionings to be recognized shall be those performed by denominations holding membership in The World Council of Churches or in a National Council of Churches.
- (c) Ministers who have not been presbyterially ordained/commissioned by presbyters orderly assembled for this purpose shall be required to produce satisfactory evidence that:
 - (i) their ordination/commissioning was intended to be within and to the ministry of the holy catholic church, and

- (ii) that their ordination/commissioning was performed by the authority charged with the exercise of this specific church power within the ordaining/ commissioning communion, and
- (iii) that their ordination/commissioning has been accompanied by prayer and the laying on of hands, and
- (iv) their understanding of ordination and commissioning is consistent and compatible with understanding and ordering in the United Church of Canada.

- (d) If unable to fulfill these requirements the applicant will not be eligible for appointment as ordained or diaconal supply within The United Church of Canada. (If the applicant is interested in pursuing ministry in The United Church, he/she may be advised of the candidacy procedures of The United Church of Canada).

4. Educational Qualifications

- (a) Educational qualifications shall be in accordance with those of The United Church of Canada. The minimum standards are those required for testamur prior to commissioning or ordination to the Order of Ministry (normally an undergraduate degree and three years of theological studies).
- (b) All applicants in the admissions process will be required to take a minimum of five(5) courses for credit, one in each of United Church Polity, Theology, Christian Education, Worship and Sacraments in the United Church context, History of the United Church. These may be taken at a United Church theological school or through correspondence or directed study courses offered by a United Church theological school. In cases where language is a barrier to study, the Ethnic Ministries Council may be asked to work with the United Church Theological School.
- (c) The Division of Ministry Personnel and Education may require the applicant to take additional courses in order to meet the minimum United Church educational requirements. The Presbytery may also require the applicant to complete programs or courses. Failure to obtain a satisfactory result in any of the courses or programs would disqualify the applicant from continuing in the admissions process.
- (d) Where it can be demonstrated that the applicant has considerable background and familiarity in a specific course requirement, the Presbytery may recommend to the Committee on Admission to the Order of Ministry that the requirement be waived.

5. Initial Interviews

- (a) Once the application is approved by the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, the applicant is granted permission to approach a Presbytery Education and Students Committee. The Presbytery Education and Students Committee will request all of the relevant documentation from the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education. They will then conduct an initial interview. If satisfactory, The Presbytery Education and Students Committee will request an interview with the Conference Interview Board.
- (b) When the applicant is a member of a denomination outside Canada or the United States, the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education shall work with the General Council Division of World Outreach or the Ethnic Ministries Council (depending upon the nature of the ministry being applied for) to arrange for an initial interview. This interview will take place in the applicant's country of residence. (The interviews with the Presbytery Education and Students Committee and the Conference Interview Board may be delayed until the applicant has secured an appointment).
- (c) Based upon a report from the Conference Interview Board and approval by the Presbytery, the name of the applicant shall be forwarded to the Conference Personnel Minister as available for appointment. The applicant is also free to approach Joint Pastoral Relations Committees.
- (d) Upon request, the Conference Personnel Minister will assist the applicant in placing their name on the National Availability List.
- (e) If the applicant is residing outside Canada or the United States the Presbytery Education and Students Committee will conduct an interview as soon as possible following the appointment. An interview with the Conference Interview Board must take place within six months of the initial appointment. Continuation of the appointment is dependent upon a satisfactory recommendation from the Conference Interview Board.

6. Initial Appointment

- (a) Upon appointing an applicant (called Ordained/Diaconal Supply), Presbytery will designate a Pastoral Charge Supervisor and one other member appointed by the Presbytery Education and Students Committee, who will

work with an ad hoc committee of the pastoral charge to determine the suitability of the appointee for ministry in The United Church of Canada. It is recommended that the ad hoc committee include one pastoral charge lay representative to Presbytery.

- (b) The ad hoc committee and the Pastoral Charge Supervisor will meet with the appointee a minimum of six times. At least 90 days prior to the ending of the appointment, this committee will recommend to the Presbytery Education and Students Committee as to the suitability of the appointee to enter into the Admissions Process. The Presbytery Education and Students Committee must interview the appointee and recommend to the Presbytery that the appointee continue (or not) in the Admission Process. If the Presbytery decides that it is inappropriate for the appointee to enter the Admissions Process, the appointment will not be renewed and the appointee will not be eligible for any other appointment in The United Church of Canada.

7. Admissions Process

(a) Persons appointed in pastoral charge ministries

- (i) When the applicant begins the Admission Process the Presbytery Education and Students Committee will appoint an Educational Supervisory Team of at least two lay representatives and two Ordered Ministers of the United Church. The appointee must serve a minimum of 18 consecutive months in the same appointment. (Normally this appointment will be to the same pastoral charge where the applicant served the initial 12 month appointment.) The maximum time allowable within which to complete all of the requirements for Admission is 42 months.
- (ii) During this time the applicant will be expected to complete all of the educational requirements of the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education as well as any courses or programmes required by the Presbytery. The Educational Supervisory Team will conduct progress evaluations at six month intervals (a minimum of 3 will be required) and report their findings to the Presbytery Education and Students Committee.
- (iii) If after the authorized time has elapsed the applicant has not completed the requirements, or decides not to seek Admission or the Presbytery decides that it is unable to recommend the applicant for Admission, the appointment will be Terminated and no subsequent appointments will be permitted.

(b) Persons serving in a Recognized Ministry

[Definition: A Recognized Ministry is one that is established within the United Church such as Professor of a Theological School, or a Conference or General Council Staff position, or under the oversight or jurisdiction of an institution other than The United Church of Canada, such as Hospital Chaplaincy or Prison Chaplaincy.]

Members of the Order of Ministry from other denominations who are currently serving in a Recognized ministry, and who have had at least three years of satisfactory service in a Congregational setting within their own denomination, may be eligible to begin the Admission process if the following criteria are met:

- (i) all of the documentation required on the application must meet the minimum standards for admission, and
- (ii) a satisfactory recommendation is obtained from a Presbytery Education and Students Committee and Conference Interview Board, and
- (iii) the applicant is affiliated with a Congregation of The United Church of Canada and takes an active role within the Congregation for at least twelve months, and
- (iv) the applicant agrees to enter into an Educational Supervisory relationship with the Presbytery, while completing all of the required courses, for a minimum period of 18 months (up to 42 months if required), to determine the suitability of the applicant for ministry in The United Church of Canada. The Educational Supervisory Team would be comprised of at least two ordered and two lay members of the United Church. A primary responsibility of this Committee will be to determine the suitability of the applicant to engage in any ministry of Education, Service and Pastoral Care or Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care in The United Church of Canada and not just suitability for the applicant's current specialty.

8. Role of Presbytery

- (a) Once an applicant has been approved by Committee on Admission to the Order of Ministry, s/he may contact a Presbytery Education and Students Committee requesting the initial interview. The Presbytery Education and Students Committee will notify the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education and request copies of all the relevant documentation. The Committee will conduct the initial interview. If satisfactory, the Presbytery Education and Students Committee will request an interview with the Conference Interview Board.
- (b) Following receipt of a report of the Conference Interview Board, the Education and Students Committee may recommend to Presbytery that the applicant be available for appointment within The United Church of

Canada. With the approval of Presbytery, the applicant's Ministerial Personnel Records will be forwarded to Conference to be made available to Pastoral Charges seeking a Presbytery Appointment.

- (c) Upon an applicant's appointment as Ordained or Diaconal Supply, the Presbytery (of appointment) will designate a Pastoral Charge Supervisor, and the Presbytery Education and Students Committee will request the applicant's complete file (application, educational requirements, report of C.I.B., etc.) from the Presbytery of initial interview (if different).
- (d) Where the applicant is a member of a denomination outside Canada and the USA, the Division of World Outreach will assist with the initial interview. Interviews with the Presbytery Education and Students Committee and the Conference Interview Board must take place in the first six months after appointment.
- (e) The Presbytery Education and Students Committee will request the Pastoral Charge to establish the Ad Hoc Committee which will meet with the Pastoral Charge Supervisor at least six times within the first year and recommend to the Presbytery Education and Students Committee regarding the applicant's suitability to enter the admissions process.
- (f) Before the completion of the first year of appointment, the Presbytery Education and Students Committee will review the recommendations of the Ad Hoc Committee, interview the applicant and make a recommendation to the Presbytery that the appointee enter (or not) the Admission Process. If the decision of Presbytery is not to recommend the applicant, the appointment will not be renewed and the applicant will not be eligible for any other appointment within The United Church of Canada.
- (g) If the applicant enters the Admission Process, the Presbytery Education and Student Committee will continue its supervision through the appointment of an Educational Supervisory Team (See section 7). After 18 months and no more than 42 months the Educational Supervisory team will make a recommendation to the Presbytery regarding completion of the requirements for Admission. Presbytery will request the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education to circulate the name of the applicant to the Presbyteries (section 10).
- (h) As a result of the circulation of Presbyteries, should any objection be raised to the admission of the applicant, the Presbytery will establish a Commission to consider the objection(s). The Commission will report to the Presbytery, whose decision will be communicated to the Presbytery raising the objection and to the Division.

9. Final Interviews

- (a) When all of the above requirements have been satisfactorily met and a minimum of 18 months of Educational Supervision has been completed, the Educational Supervisory Team will make a recommendation to the Presbytery Education and Students Committee. The Presbytery Education and Students Committee will interview the applicant, and if satisfied, refer the applicant to the Presbytery which may in turn recommend that the Conference Education and Students Committee conduct the final interview.
- (b) The Presbytery Education and Students Committee, having decided to recommend the applicant for an interview with the Conference Education and Students Committee, will notify the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education to circulate the name of the applicant to all Presbyteries. This notification must take place no later than February 1 in the year in which the applicant is to be admitted.
- (c) The Conference Education and Students Committee will conduct a final interview and recommend to the Conference Executive concerning the suitability of the applicant to be received into the Order of Ministry of the United Church.
- (d) The Conference Education and Students Committee shall send its recommendation to the Conference which will make a decision and notify the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education that all the requirements have been met.

10. Circulation of names

The General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education will circulate the name of the applicant and the name of the Presbytery through which the application is being made, to each of the Presbyteries of the United Church. The name of the applicant shall be read at a regular meeting of the Presbyteries. Any Presbytery wishing to raise an objection shall present the objection to the Presbytery through which the application is being made. The objection shall be in writing and shall be accompanied by all supporting documentation. Notice that an objection has been raised shall be sent, by the Secretary of the Presbytery raising the objection, to the Presbytery

through which the application is being made and to the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education. The Secretary of the Presbytery through which the application is being made shall acknowledge, in writing, the receipt of the material. The Presbytery shall establish a Commission to consider the objection and to meet with the applicant to discuss the objection. The Presbytery shall decide how the matter will be dealt with and shall send a report to the Presbytery raising the objection and to the Division.

11. Reception Into The Order of Ministry of The United Church of Canada

Candidates for the Order of Ministry are subject to Transfer and Settlement within the United Church of Canada. Admission is conditional on the applicant having assurance of Call, Appointment or Settlement. Once the applicant has completed all of the requirements of the Admissions Process as outlined above, the Conference will make a Decision to receive the individual into the Order of Ministry. Reception will occur during the Celebration of Ministry Service during the Annual Meeting of Conference.

The Motion

Defeated

Motion: Hazel Bigby/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive refer the policy and procedures on Appointment as Ordained/Diaconal supply and Admissions to the Order of Ministry to the Manual Committee for inclusion in *The Manual* as approved by the Executive of the General Council.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 42, 43, 44 - ADMISSION TO ORDER OF MINISTRY.

Motion: Mark Wartman/Lois Creith

In order to reflect the policy having been adopted by this Executive we move that:

(i) current Sections 031 and 342 of *The Manual (1995)* be suspended for the trial period; and

(ii) for the trial period, pending action of the 38th General Council, the following procedures be included in *The Manual*:

Delete current sections 027, 031, and 342, and substitute proposed sections 031 and 342, as follows:

031 Admission from Other Denominations. The admission process of any person whose admission process was initiated under or was at any point in the process governed by the admission provisions set out in the 1995 edition of *The Manual* continues to be governed by those admission procedures.

(a) Initial Process. A minister seeking admission to the Order of Ministry of the United Church from another denomination shall first contact the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education. The Division shall provide the applicant with the policies and procedures for admission to the Order of Ministry of the United Church, a preliminary evaluation of the acceptability of the applicant's ordination or commissioning, and an application form.

(b) Application. The General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education shall receive the necessary documentation, including proof of ordination or commissioning, official academic transcripts, current letters of standing from the applicant's current denomination, letters of reference, and a completed application form. Should the applicant be refused a letter of standing from the applicant's current denomination based solely on criteria that would not prevent the applicant from being a member of the Order of Ministry of the United Church, the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education may dispense with this requirement once it is assured that there is no other reason for the refusal of the applicant's current denomination to provide a letter of standing.

(c) Evaluation. When all of the initial documentation is received, the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, through its Committee on Admission to the Order of Ministry, shall evaluate the acceptability to the United Church of the applicant's ordination or commissioning, and shall indicate what academic standards must be met before admission.

(d) Acceptability of Ordination or Commissioning. Normally the ordinations or commissionings to be recognized shall be those performed by churches holding memberships in the World Council of Churches or in a national

Council of Churches. Applicants who have not been presbyterially ordained or commissioned by presbyters orderly assembled for this purpose shall also be required to produce satisfactory evidence to the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education that:

- i. their ordination or commissioning was intended to be within and to the ministry of the holy Catholic Church;
- ii. their ordination or commissioning was performed by the authority charged with the exercise of this specific church power within the ordaining or commissioning communion;
- iii. their ordination or commissioning was accompanied by prayer and the laying on of hands; and
- iv. their understanding of ordination and commissioning is consistent and compatible with the understanding and ordering in the United Church.

If the applicant seeking admission is unable to fulfil these requirements, the applicant shall be advised to enter the candidacy process to seek ordination or commissioning according to the usages of the United Church.

(e) Agreement with Doctrine and Polity. Applicants shall also be required satisfactorily to answer the following questions:

- i. What are the applicant's reasons for applying for admission to the Order of Ministry of the United Church, and what has led to any change of views?
- ii. Is the applicant in essential agreement with the doctrine of the United Church? and
- iii. Is the applicant willing to conform to the government and polity of the United Church?

(f) Academic Requirements. The educational qualifications required of an applicant seeking admission to the Order of Ministry of the United Church shall conform to the educational standards set by the General Council and required for membership in the Order of Ministry of the United Church, the minimum educational standing acceptable being that of the Shorter Course or its equivalent. All applicants in the admission process will be required satisfactorily to complete a minimum of five (5) courses for credit, one (1) in each of: United Church polity, theology, Christian education, worship and sacraments in a United Church context, and history of the United Church. The General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education or the Presbytery may require the applicant satisfactorily to complete additional courses. Courses may be completed at a United Church theological school or by correspondence or directed study from a United Church theological school.

(g) Presbytery Initial Interview. Once an applicant has been approved by the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, through its Committee on Admission to the Order of Ministry, the applicant may contact a Presbytery seeking appointment as Ordained or Diaconal Supply. The Presbytery will request copies of all relevant documentation from the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education. The Presbytery Education and Students Committee will interview the applicant. Expenses related to all interviews are the responsibility of the applicant. If the Committee is satisfied with the documentation and the interview, the Committee will request that the Conference Interview Board interview the applicant.

(h) Overseas Applicant. When the applicant resides outside Canada or the United States, the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education shall work with the General Council Division of World Outreach to arrange for an initial interview to take place in the applicant's country of residence, if practicable.

(i) Conference Initial Interview. The Conference Interview Board will interview the applicant and forward its recommendation regarding the suitability of the applicant for ministry in the United Church to the Presbytery for its consideration.

(j) Overseas Applicant. When the applicant resides outside Canada or the United States, an interview arranged by the General Council Divisions of Ministry Personnel and Education and World Outreach may take the place of the interview by the Conference Interview Board. The recommendation regarding the suitability of the applicant for ministry in the United Church received by the General Council Divisions of Ministry Personnel and Education and World Outreach will be forwarded to the Presbytery for its consideration.

(k) Initial Appointment. Having satisfied itself as to the validity of the credentials presented, the educational standing, and the ministerial competence of the applicant, the Presbytery may appoint the applicant as Ordained

Supply or Diaconal Supply to a Pastoral Charge, Mission, or Outreach Ministry of the United Church, for a term of twelve (12) months.

The Presbytery shall consult with the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education prior to making the appointment, and shall notify the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education of the appointment once made. The appointment shall be made only after the Settlement Committee of the Conference has presented its final report.

If the Presbytery making the appointment is not the Presbytery that initially interviewed the applicant, the Presbytery making the appointment shall obtain the applicant's complete file from the Presbytery that initially interviewed the applicant, prior to making the appointment.

The appointment shall also be subject to all other policies and procedures governing Presbytery appointments.

(l) Overseas Applicant. When the appointment is of an applicant whose initial interview was arranged by the General Council Divisions of Ministry Personnel and Education and World Outreach, the applicant must be interviewed by the Presbytery Education and Students Committee and by the Conference Interview Board within the first six (6) months of the appointment. The Presbytery shall have the right to terminate the appointment if it is not satisfied with the interview by its Education and Students Committee or if the Conference Interview Board does not recommend the applicant.

(m) Supervisor. The Presbytery shall appoint a supervisor for the applicant.

(n) Pastoral Charge Committee. The applicant shall meet periodically during the term of the initial appointment, with his/her supervisor and a committee of the Pastoral Charge chosen for that purpose.

(o) Early Termination. The process of admission to the Order of Ministry of the United Church is intended to be a time of discernment and decision-making for both the applicant and the United Church. Should either party decide to terminate the appointment, the appropriate procedures will be applied.

(p) Presbytery Decision. Before the completion of the term of the initial appointment, the Presbytery Education and Students Committee will review the recommendations of the supervisor and the Pastoral Charge committee, interview the applicant, and make a recommendation to the Presbytery as to whether the applicant should proceed to the admission process. If the Decision of the Presbytery is not to permit the applicant to proceed to the admission process, the appointment will not be renewed and the applicant will not be eligible for any other appointment within the United Church.

(q) Admission Process. If the Decision of the Presbytery is to permit the applicant to proceed to the admission process, the applicant will serve as Ordained Supply or Diaconal Supply to a Pastoral Charge, Mission, or Outreach Ministry of the United Church, in a Presbytery appointment preferably the same as the initial twelve (12) month appointment, for at least eighteen (18) consecutive months prior to the date of admission, but not more than forty-two (42) consecutive months prior to the date of admission.

(r) Exceptions: Extended Initial Appointment. Unless the Presbytery has made a Decision to permit the applicant to proceed to the admission process, the applicant may not continue beyond the initial twelve (12) month appointment, except while the applicant is serving in: a Mutuality in Mission position, an ecumenical shared ministry, a ministerial exchange, or an Interim Ministry, or in other exceptional circumstances as determined by the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education. Applicants who have served or are serving in such ministry positions are not otherwise exempted from the requirements of this section.

(s) Exceptions: No Initial Appointment. An applicant serving as a hospital chaplain, a prison chaplain, a professor at a United Church theological school, a Conference staff person, or a General Council staff person, or in another such ministry recognized by both the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education and the Presbytery, may be permitted by the Presbytery to proceed to the admission process without first having served an initial twelve (12) month Presbytery appointment and without then continuing to serve in a Presbytery appointment, provided that the applicant satisfies all other requirements of this section and in addition has completed at least three (3) years of satisfactory service in a Congregational setting within the applicant's own denomination, has been a member of a United Church Congregation for at least the preceding twelve (12) months, and has been taking an active role in that Congregation for at least the preceding twelve (12) months.

(t) Postponement of Admission Process. When the Presbytery has made a Decision to permit the applicant to proceed to the admission process, the applicant may postpone proceeding to the admission process for up to three (3) years. During the period of such postponement, the applicant is not eligible for appointment.

(u) Educational Supervisory Team. If the applicant proceeds to the admission process, the Presbytery will continue its supervision of the applicant through the appointment of an Educational Supervisory Team comprising at least two (2) lay representatives and at least two (2) members of the Order of Ministry. A primary responsibility of the Educational Supervisory Team will be to determine the suitability of the applicant to engage in any ministry of Education, Service, and Pastoral Care or Word, Sacrament, and Pastoral Care in the United Church. The applicant shall meet periodically during the admission process, with the Educational Supervisory Team. The Educational Supervisory Team will conduct progress evaluations of the applicant at six (6) month intervals.

(v) Presbytery Final Interview. When:

i. the applicant has proceeded to the admissions process and has then completed at least eighteen (18) consecutive months in the admissions process,

ii. the applicant has those educational qualifications and satisfactorily has completed those courses required under subsection (f), and

iii. the Educational Supervisory Team has recommended that the applicant be admitted to the Order of Ministry of the United Church, the Presbytery Education and Students Committee will review the recommendation of the Educational Supervisory Team, interview the applicant, and make a recommendation to the Presbytery.

(w) Presbytery Recommendation. If the Presbytery does not recommend that the applicant be admitted to the Order of Ministry of the United Church, any Presbytery appointment in which the applicant is serving will be terminated and the applicant will not be eligible for any other appointment within the United Church. If the Presbytery recommends that the applicant be admitted to the Order of Ministry of the United Church, the Presbytery will request a final interview of the applicant by the Conference Education and Students Committee and will request that the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education circulate the name of the applicant to each of the Presbyteries of the United Church.

(x) Circulation of Name. The General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education will then circulate the name of the applicant and the name of the Presbytery through which the application is being made, to each of the Presbyteries of the United Church. The name of the applicant shall be read at a regular meeting of each Presbytery, and included in the minutes of that meeting. Any Presbytery wishing to raise an objection shall present the objection to the Presbytery through which the application is being made. The objection shall be in writing and shall be accompanied by all supporting documentation. Notice that an objection has been raised shall be sent, by the Secretary of the Presbytery raising the objection, to the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education. The Secretary of the Presbytery through which the application is being made shall acknowledge, in writing, the receipt of the material. The Presbytery shall establish a Commission to consider the objection and to meet with the applicant to discuss the objection. The Presbytery shall decide how the matter will be dealt with and shall send a report to the Presbytery raising the objection.

(y) Conference Final Interview. The Conference Education and Students Committee will conduct a final interview of the applicant and make a recommendation to the Conference concerning the suitability of the applicant to be received into the Order of Ministry of the United Church. Each applicant to be admitted shall be examined on the statement of doctrine of the United Church; the Conference shall be assured that they are in essential agreement with the statement of doctrine, and that as a member of the Order of Ministry of the United Church they will accept the statement as being in substance agreeable to the teaching of the Holy Scriptures. The Conference shall be assured that the applicant will agree to abide by the polity of the United Church. The Conference shall be assured that the applicant will agree to be subject to transfer and settlement within the United Church.

(z) Conference Decision. The Conference shall decide whether the applicant should be admitted to the Order of Ministry of the United Church, and shall notify the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education of its decision. The applicant shall not be admitted unless assured of call, settlement, or appointment. Reception will occur during the Service of Ordination, Commissioning, and Reception.

(aa) Report to General Council Executive. The General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education shall report annually to the Executive of the General Council the name of each person who has been admitted to the Order of Ministry of the United Church from another denomination.

342. Ordained/Diaconal Supply. The Presbytery shall have authority to appoint an Ordained/Diaconal Supply to a Pastoral Charge. Normally a person will serve as an Ordained/Diaconal Supply in preparation for admission to the Order of Ministry of the United Church.

(a) No person shall be appointed by a Presbytery as Ordained/Diaconal Supply until the requirements of subsections 031(b), (c), (d), (e) (except question i.), and (f) have been met and the person has been approved by the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, regardless of whether the person is seeking admission to the Order of Ministry of the United Church.

(b) The Presbytery will request copies of all relevant documentation concerning a prospective appointee from the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education. The Presbytery Education and Students Committee will interview the prospective appointee. The expenses of the prospective appointee related to all interviews are the responsibility of the prospective appointee. If the Committee is satisfied with the documentation and the interview, the Committee will request that the Conference Interview Board interview the prospective appointee.

(c) The Conference Interview Board will interview the prospective appointee and forward its recommendation regarding the suitability of the prospective appointee for ministry in the United Church to the Presbytery for its consideration.

(d) Having satisfied itself as to the validity of the credentials presented, the educational standing, and the ministerial competence of the prospective appointee, the Presbytery may appoint them as Ordained Supply or Diaconal Supply to a Pastoral Charge, Mission, or Outreach Ministry of the United Church, for a term not exceeding twelve (12) months.

The Presbytery will consult with the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education prior to making the appointment, and will notify the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education of the appointment once made. The appointment shall be made only after the Settlement Committee of the Conference has presented its final report.

If the Presbytery making the appointment is not the Presbytery that initially interviewed the prospective appointee, the Presbytery making the appointment shall obtain the prospective appointee's complete file from the Presbytery that initially interviewed the prospective appointee, prior to making the appointment.

The appointment shall also be subject to all other policies and procedures governing Presbytery appointments.

(e) When the prospective appointee resides outside Canada or the United States, the provisions of subsection 031 (l) shall be applied and the provisions of subsections 031(h) and (j) may be applied.

- (f) The Presbytery shall conduct a service of covenant for the Presbytery, Ordained/Diaconal Supply and the Pastoral Charge.
- (g) The Ordained/Diaconal Supply is a member of the Presbytery as permitted in paragraph 310(a)vi.
- (h) The Presbytery shall appoint a supervisor for the Ordained/Diaconal Supply.
- (i) The Ordained/Diaconal Supply shall meet periodically during the term of the initial appointment, with their supervisor and a committee of the Pastoral Charge chosen for that purpose.
- (j) Ordained Supply whose ordination is recognized and accepted by the United Church shall be authorized to administer the sacraments and may be recommended by the Presbytery to the Conference for licensing to solemnize marriages. Diaconal Supply whose commissioning is recognized and accepted by the United Church may be recommended by the Presbytery to the Conference for authorization to administer the sacraments or licensing to solemnize marriages.
- (k) Salary shall be paid to the Ordained/Diaconal Supply on the basis of years of service in the ministry of a denomination recognized by the United Church.
- (l) Should either party decide to terminate the appointment, the appropriate procedures will be applied.
- (m) Unless the Presbytery has made a Decision to permit the Ordained/Diaconal Supply to proceed to the admission process, the Ordained/Diaconal Supply may not continue beyond the initial twelve (12) month appointment, except while the Ordained/Diaconal Supply is serving in: a Mutuality in Mission position, an ecumenical shared ministry, a ministerial exchange, or an Interim Ministry, or in other exceptional circumstances as determined by the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education.

(n) Ordained/Diaconal Supply seeking admission to the Order of Ministry of the United Church may pay in trust into the pension plan and may participate in the group insurance plan.

(o) Ordained/Diaconal Supply seeking admission to the Order of Ministry of the United Church must satisfy the requirements for admission set forth in section 031.

(p) When the Presbytery has made a Decision to permit the Ordained/Diaconal Supply to proceed to the admission process, the person may postpone proceeding to the admission process for up to three (3) years. During the period of such postponement, the person is not eligible for appointment.

(q) Ordained/Diaconal Supply appointed to an Ethnic Congregation so designated by the Ethnic Ministries Council may elect not to seek admission to the Order of Ministry of the United Church and may be reappointed so long as the appointment is to an Ethnic Congregation. Such Ordained/Diaconal Supply may not be appointed until the requirements of subsections 031(b), (c), (d), (e) (except question (e) i.), and (f) have been met and the person has been approved by the General Council Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, notwithstanding that the person is not seeking admission to the Order of Ministry of the United Church.

424 Ordination and Commissioning, and Admission.

[unchanged, except reference in subsection (b) is to "Education and Students Committee" instead of "Committee on Education and Students"]

458 Responsibilities *[of Interview Board]*.

in paragraph (a)ii., delete: "These should be seen as early as possible, but at least prior to final action by the Conference."

in subsection (f), add the last sentence: "Expenses related to interviews of applicants for admission to the Order of Ministry and of prospective appointees as Ordained/Diaconal Supply are the responsibility of the interviewee."

462 *[Conference]* Education and Students Committee.

[unchanged]

The Motion

Carried

Motion: B.J. Klassen/Ann Naylor

That this General Council Executive authorize changes to *The Manual* to delete Sections 800 and 802 through 807 from *The Manual* of the UCC, 1995, and add to the Definitions section of *The Manual* definitions of the terms certified churchman, deaconess and the deaconess order.

The Motion

Defeated

Motion: Hazel Bigby/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive authorize changes to *The Manual* to delete the current Sections 800, and 802 through 807, and add a new Section 800 which would give the historic explanations of the terms "Certified Churchman", "Deaconess", "Deaconess Order", and "Designation".

The Motion

Defeated

Motion: Mark Wartman/Lois Creith

That in order to reflect the policy adopted by this Executive we move the following revisions be made to *The Manual*:

- (i) that Sections 800 to 807 inclusive be deleted;
- (ii) that the definitions of "Certified Churchman" and "Deaconess" as contained at the end of Section 001 be updated to include the content of these Sections 800 to 807;
- (iii) that the definition of "Deaconess Order" as contained in Section 802 be included with the definitions at the end of Section 001 of the Manual.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 71 -- DEFINITION OF TESTAMUR

Motion: B.J. Klassen/Ann Naylor

1. That this General Council Executive approve as the definition of Testamur "the witness of a United Church theological school that a Candidate has completed the programme of study prescribed by The United Church of Canada and, in the opinion of the school, is ready for ordination or commissioning".
2. That this General Council Executive ask the Manual Committee to ensure that the authority of the General Council, through its Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, to grant or deny the right to grant Testamur to a United Church theological school be clearly stated in *The Manual*.
3. That in the instance that a time-limited experimental programme for theological education is undertaken, suitable alternate arrangements for granting the Testamur be made by the General Council on recommendation of the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education for the duration of the experiment.

The Motion

Defeated

Motion: Hazel Bigby/ Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive

1. ask the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education to continue its consultation process regarding reaching a consensus on the definition and use of the word "Testamur," with particular attention to the partnership between theological schools and the church in assessing readiness for ministry, but, at the same time, the church's ultimate responsibility for determining readiness;
2. ask the Manual Committee to ensure that the authority of the General Council, through its Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, to grant or deny the right to grant Testamur to a United Church theological school be clearly stated in *The Manual*; and
3. in the instance that a time-limited experimental program for theological education is undertaken, suitable arrangements for granting the Testamur will be made by the General Council on recommendation of the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education for the duration of the experiment.

Motion: Elizabeth Brown/Richard Choe (in amendment)

That section one be deleted and at the end of number two the words "and that *The Manual* include a reference to the reporting function of the theological school prior to ordination or commissioning".

The Motion to amend

Carried

Motion as amended

Carried

General Council Sessional Committee One

DIVISION OF FINANCE ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

Motion: Michael Scott/Steve Adams

That the Division of Finance Accountability report be received for information.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 1 -- RETIREMENT INCOME FUND

That this General Council Executive:

- 1) Call upon the Government of Canada to recognize the important role that public support has played in reducing poverty among the elderly; and to strengthen that support by:
 - A. Rejecting the proposal to income-test Old Age Security based on family income.
 - B. Maintaining the Old Age Security (OAS) and Guaranteed Income Supplement (GIS) as separate programs funded through a Retirement Income Fund (RIF).
- 2) Call upon the Government of Canada to support the raising of the GIS rate, thus strengthening support to the poorest seniors, indexing it to the rate of inflation.
- 3) Call upon the Government of Canada to maintain and strengthen the Canada Pension Plan (CPP), and index it to inflation.
- 4) Call upon the Government of Canada to reduce the Registered Retirement Saving Plan tax deduction maximum extended to higher income groups, since it contributes to significant wealth inequalities in Canada.

Motion: Gordon Groot/Anne Shirley Sutherland

Having heard Petition No. 1, and having reviewed the responses from groups and individuals, and Whereas the Government of Canada is already acting on and addressing the issues in this petition, That this General Council Executive take no further action on Petition No. 1.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 2 -- APPROVED WORDING FOR FINANCIAL BOOK EXAMINERS

That this General Council Executive instruct the Manual Committee to designate a phrase to be used by financial Book Examiners at all levels of The United Church of Canada.

Motion: Gordon Groot/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That the General Council Executive request the Division of Finance to designate terminology to be used from financial book examiners that would standardize financial reporting and request the Manual committee make this information available.

Motion: Linda Slough/Richard Choe

That we postpone definitely until tomorrow when we deal with Sessional Committee's report.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 3 -- CREATING GUIDELINES, NEW INVESTMENT INSTRUMENTS FOR CHURCH TRUSTEES.

That Knox United Church, Agincourt petitions the 36th General Council of The United Church of Canada through Toronto Scarborough Presbytery and Toronto Conference to revise the policy of The United Church of Canada with respect to the criteria to be used by United Church trustees to make it more flexible as it relates to today's investment environment while maintaining prudent safeguards.

Addendum from Conference

A small group had worked on recommendations that might go along with the petition to General Council from Knox United Church, Agincourt regarding investment guidelines. The group noted that the General Council office, TUCC and the Task Force on Churches and Corporate Responsibility have established guidelines for investments. They also noted that some local Congregations have established guidelines for ethically and socially responsible investment of trustee funds, while other Congregations such as Trinity-St. Paul's in Toronto are drafting guidelines, and other Congregations have requested assistance in developing guidelines.

That Toronto Conference

1. encourage local Congregations and their trustees to educate themselves about ethically and socially responsible investment opportunities, supported by whatever materials and other resources are available from the General Council and Conference staff, with a view to incorporating these considerations in performing their fiduciary responsibilities; and
2. communicate this action to the 36th General Council in a memorandum accompanying the petition submitted by Knox United Church, Agincourt concerning the creation of guidelines for new investments for United Church trustees.

Motion: Gordon Groot/Anne Shirley Sutherland

Having heard Petition No. 3 and having reviewed the responses from table groups and individuals, and Whereas trustees are restricted by Canadian Law and not The United Church of Canada as to how they may invest, That this General Council Executive take no further action on Petition No. 3.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 88 -- CENTRAL PAYROLL OFFICE

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada explore with pastoral charges the desirability and feasibility of creating and operating a central payroll office for the purpose of administering payment of remuneration for ministry personnel and other staff persons serving with pastoral charges.

Motion: Gordon Groot/Anne Shirley Sutherland

Having heard Petition No. 88, and having reviewed the responses from table groups and individuals, and Whereas preliminary research indicates that a central office would be cost prohibitive, and WHEREAS potential loss of small employer benefits, loss of registered charity numbers and several outstanding legal issues indicate that the expense of a feasibility study is not justified, That this General Council Executive take no further action on Petition No. 88

The Motion

Carried

General Council Sessional Committee Nine

PETITIONS 108,109, 110, 113

PETITION 108 -- DEAF MINISTRIES IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

That this General Council Executive establish an ad hoc committee to examine the role of deaf ministries within The United Church of Canada and the provision of United Church resources for the deaf community. This committee would:

- i) examine existing deaf ministries in which the United Church has direct involvement, including whether these ministries effectively meet the needs of the deaf community, and what other effective ways to meet those needs might exist, given also the reality of limited financial resources.
- ii) make recommendations to the Division of Mission in Canada concerning future United Church funding of deaf ministries given the needs of these ministries and the present financial resources of the United Church.
- iii) examine whether and how the United Church might help provide a training programme for Church interpreters.
- iv) request the Division of Communication to provide open or closed captioning in the video resources it produces, within the limits of its budget.
- v) Explore, with input from the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, possibilities for the training of deaf ministry personnel.

PETITION 109 -- DEAF MINISTRIES SUPPORT

That this General Council Executive:

1. establish a Deaf Ministries Committee whose purview would be the facilitation and oversight of Deaf ministries; and
2. request the Division of Mission in Canada to secure short and long term funding for these ministries;
3. request the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education to form a Feasibility Team to explore with the deaf community the establishment of:
 - a) a Community-Based Training Program for Deaf and hearing persons who wish to become involved in the work of deaf ministry; and
 - b) a training program for Church interpreters; and
4. request the Division of Communication to adapt suitable resources presently available and develop new resources that are culturally appropriate for the deaf; and
5. request that an interim report be presented at the 37th General Council and a plan for implementation be presented to the 38th General Council.

PETITION 110 -- DEAF MINISTRIES SUPPORT

That this General Council Executive:

1. Request the Division of Mission in Canada to form a Feasibility Team to explore with the deaf community the establishment of a National Deaf Ministries Committee whose purview would be the facilitation and oversight of deaf ministries. This Committee would be comprised of at least 51% deaf persons.
2. Request the Division of Communication to adapt suitable resources presently available and to develop new resources that are deaf culturally appropriate.
3. Request the Division of Mission to secure short and long term funding for this ministry.
4. Request the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education to form a Feasibility Team to explore with the deaf community the establishment of:

- a) a training programme for church interpreters;
 - b) a community-based training programme for deaf and hearing persons who wish to become involved in the work of deaf ministry.
5. Request that an interim report be presented to the 37th General Council and a plan of implementation be presented to the 38th General Council.

PETITION 113 -- DEAF MINISTRIES SUPPORT

That this General Council Executive:

1. Request the Division of Communication to adapt suitable resources presently available and to develop new resources that are culturally appropriate to the deaf; and
2. Request the Division of Mission in Canada to secure short and long term funding for this ministry; and
3. Request the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education to form a feasibility team to explore with the deaf community the establishment of:
 - a) provide a training programme for Church interpreters;
 - b) a community-based training programme for deaf and hearing persons who wish to become involved in the work of deaf ministry; and
 - c) a National Deaf Ministries Committee whose purview would be the facilitation and oversight of deaf ministries.
4. Request that an interim report be presented to the 37th General Council and a plan for implementation be presented to the 38th General Council.

Motion: Jean Bethune/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That the General Council Executive refer these petitions to the Division of Mission in Canada staff presently resourcing this work for further consideration and appropriate action if consistent with current mandates and budgets.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 69 -- RELIGIOUS EDUCATION IN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

That this General Council Executive:

1. Petition the Provincial Governments of Canada to include a Multi-Faith Religious Education Programme in the public schools. This programme would include the major religions of the world, with the option of minority religions being able to be studied independently.
2. This programme would not only examine the major tenets of the world's religions and their implications for life, but would provide an overview of the religious and spiritual searchings of humankind throughout history and pre-history. It would foster the realization that to be human is to engage in a search for the meaning of existence.
3. As part of the learning process, in order to encourage mutual understanding among all faith communities, the religious holidays of all the major religions would be explained, acknowledged, and celebrated.

Motion: Jean Bethune/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive of the United Church of Canada encourage Conferences, Presbyteries, and Congregations to continue to petition their respective provincial and territorial governments to include provisions for a Multi-Faith religious education program in the public schools, which could include the study of major religions of the world, with the option of minority religions being studied independently; **and**

that Conferences, Presbyteries and Congregations be encouraged to share/provide available resources.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 114 -- VOICES UNITED

That this General Council Executive:

1. Authorize publication of a self-funded traditional edition of Voices United to be called "Voices United Traditional Edition", in both music & words and words only formats;
2. Direct the Division of Mission in Canada to appoint members of the Traditional Edition Committee from traditional Congregations and from the renewal/reform groups Church Alive, Community of Concern within The United Church of Canada, and the National Association of Covenanting Congregations, with Worship & Liturgy staff as resource;
3. Authorize and direct the Division of Finance to make start-up funds available for the work of the Traditional Edition Committee until publication of the Traditional Edition, such funds to be repaid from sales of Voices United Traditional Edition;
4. Authorize the Executive of General Council Executive to approve publication of Voices United Traditional Edition.

Motion: Jean Bethune /Anne Shirley Sutherland

Having read and considered Petition #114; having deliberated at length; having considered Table Group and individual responses demonstrating a clear lack of support for this petition; having consulted with resource people; having considered that Voices United was developed through broad consultation in the United Church community; having affirmed that Voices United contains a diversity of images, including both historic and innovative language; having heard initial estimates indicating that it is unlikely costs would be recovered from this project;

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada take no further action on this petition.

The Motion

Carried

General Council Sessional Committee Eleven

PETITIONS 25 -- RESOURCING PRESBYTERIES FOR THEIR MANDATES

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada

1. Affirm the crucial role of the Presbyteries in the renewal and strengthening of the Congregations of the church;
2. Give priority to directing resources of both staff and money to enable Presbyteries to carry out their mandated tasks more effectively and in more supportive ways for Congregations;
3. Assist Conferences in redirecting their resources of staff and money towards the Presbyteries for the purpose of renewing and strengthening local communities of faith;
4. Assure Congregations that the General Council, in conjunction with the Conferences, is committed to the renewal and strengthening of Congregations.

Motion: Jon Jessiman/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive take no further action on Petition 25.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 28 AND 29

PETITION 28 -- CONFLICT RESOLUTION POLICY AND PROCEDURES

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada instruct the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education to:

1. Explore various models of conflict management and resolution.
2. Create, adopt or otherwise implement a handbook on conflict resolution, policy and procedures.
3. Make the necessary changes to *The Manual*.

PETITION 29 -- RESOLUTION OF CONFLICT

That this General Council Executive amend the bylaws of *The Manual* by adding to section 069 the following:

"by first bringing the parties together to seek reconciliation. None of the parties shall be excluded, by intent or default from any meeting, except by their consent in writing for any specific meeting."

Motion: Jon Jessiman/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive take no further action on petition 28 and 29.

The Motion

Carried

Saturday, November, 22, 1997

Worship: Ethnic Ministries Council led the court in opening worship.

General Council Sessional Committee Thirteen

PETITION 56 -- TIME OF MOURNING

Motion: Karen Ptolemy-Stam/Ron Holotuk

That the Division of Mission in Canada, in consultation with the All Native Circle and Newfoundland and Labrador Conferences, develop resources for an annual "Time of Mourning" in order to remember the Beothuk First Nation who were brought to extinction.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 31 -- CRIMINAL CODE 745

Motion: Karen Ptolemy-Stam/Ron Holotuk

That this General Council Executive

- 1) reaffirm its belief in the possibility of rehabilitation within the criminal justice system; and
- 2) affirm that, by allowing for early parole review, section 745 of the criminal code (the "faint hope clause") exists to give opportunity to periodically evaluate rehabilitation efforts, and in this regard, is an important and necessary provision of the Criminal Code.

And be it further resolved that the General Secretary of the General Council be asked to inform the Minister of Justice of this action.

Motion: Ross Bartlett/Jean Bethune (in amendment)

That section one be deleted.

Motion: Patty Evans/Joanna MacQuarrie

That the discussion of Petition 31 be postponed definitely until wording has been worked on.

The Motion (to postpone)

Carried

DIALOGUE QUEBEC

Motion: Karen Ptolemy-Stam/Ron Holotuk

That this General Council Executive

- 1) receive this Dialogue Quebec interim report as partial fulfillment of its mandate;
- 2) direct the Division of Mission in Canada to consult with Dialogue Quebec in order to format this interim report into a study document that could be utilized throughout the United Church, and to present this study document to the General Council Executive for its consideration and appropriate action.

Motion: Carol Hancock/Helen Chisholm

That we delete number two.

The Motion to amend

Carried

Motion: Clare Borel Christen/Joanna MacQuarrie (in amendment)

That one be amended by adding the words "and further support dialogue throughout the UC with Dialogue Quebec".

The Motion to amend

The Motion as amended

Carried

General Council Sessional Committee Sixteen

PETITION 58 -- PROVISION FOR NON-CHURCH MEMBERS TO SIT ON CHURCH BOARDS OR COUNCILS

That this General Council Executive make a clear provision in the policy of The United Church of Canada for the full participation of a minority number of non-church members on church boards and councils.

Motion: David Carrothers/Anne Shirley Sutherland

that having reviewed petition #58 regarding, "Provision for Non-Church Members to Sit on Church Boards or Councils" this General Council Executive **take the following action:**

Request the DMC to:

- a. prepare for the Church a study of church membership including the implications for Boards and Congregational governance. The DMC study is asked to take into account the need for both flexibility and order as well as these factors in Congregational life:
 - "mixed families" (i.e. inter-church and inter-faith families)
 - that people come to commitment in different ways with different time frames
 - that Congregations need and cannot always find appropriately skilled Board/Council members
 - the relationship between membership baptism and confirmation
- b. prepare a report and recommendation for such action as may be required at the 37th General Council.

Motion: Peter Wyatt/Bernice Luce/ (in amendment)

That this work be done in consultation with the Theology & Faith Committee.

The Motion to amend

Carried

Motion: Mollie Williams/Glenn Smith (in amendment)

That the words for such actions as may be required at to be deleted.

The Motion to amend

Carried

Motion as amended

Carried

General Council Sessional Committee Eighteen

PETITIONS 33, 39, 43, 44, 45, 54

Motion: Kay Cho/Anne Shirley Sutherland

Sessional Committee 18 has reviewed the response forms submitted to it and thoroughly discussed the Petitions involved in the following omnibus motion. Having determined that there is very widely shared, if not unanimous, agreement on the following proposed actions:

That this General Council Executive **take the actions** requested in these petitions:

PETITION 33 -- "NATIONAL FORUM ON HEALTH" [FUNDING PRIORITY A --\$10 000]

That this General Council Executive urge the federal, provincial and territorial governments to implement the "Priorities for Action" proposed by the Final Report of the National Forum on Health "*Canada Health Action: Building on the Legacy*".

PETITION 39 -- "GAMBLING ADVERTISEMENTS"

That this General Council Executive

1. appeal to the Federal Government to restrict gambling advertisements to an extent comparable to restrictions on hard liquor and tobacco; and
2. request Congregations and individuals of the United Church to make similar appeals to their Members of Parliament.
3. urge all United Church members to refrain from participating in government sponsored gambling activity.

PETITION 43 -- "NATIONAL CHILDCARE"

That this General Council Executive call upon the Government of Canada to implement a National Childcare Program which provides affordable, accessible, and quality childcare.

PETITION 44 -- "HEALTH POLICY"

That this General Council Executive:

- 1) Call upon the Government of Canada to renew its commitment and support for a national medicare program based on the five fundamental principles of the Canadian Health Act: universality, accessibility, portability, comprehensiveness, and public administration.
- 2) Call upon the Government of Canada to increase and guarantee the federal cash funding for health care.
- 3) Call upon the Government of Canada to recognize the acute need in the field of health care for First Nations peoples, and applaud the commitment to increase spending in this area.
- 4) Call upon the Government of Canada in partnership with the provincial and territorial governments to implement a national drug plan to be phased in over four years, to ensure access to necessary drugs for all Canadians.
- 5) Call upon the Government of Canada to support and encourage the development of community based health care.

PETITION 45 -- "SHORTAGE OF AFFORDABLE NON-PROFIT HOUSING"[FUNDING PRIORITY A \$10 000]

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada call upon the Government of Canada to return to its proper role as major funder for social housing in Canada; and

urge the Government to initiate negotiations with Provincial and Municipal Governments to develop long-term plans and adequate financial commitment for the creation of adequate stock of community owned, affordable housing for low-income families, both rental and assisted ownership, including co-operatively owned projects; and

be it further resolved that this position be communicated to the Prime Minister of Canada and other appropriate Federal Government officials.

PETITION 54 -- "FLOOD IMPACT"

That the General Council through Division of Mission in Canada issue a press release paralleling the two flood stories, Northern Manitoba and the Red River Valley,

Be it further resolved that the General Council Executive support the All Native Circle Conference First Nations communities in Northern Manitoba in seeking a just settlement with both federal and provincial governments for the long term negative impact on their spiritual practices, employment, and way of life.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 40 -- "GAMBLING, A GENERAL STATEMENT"

Motion: Kay Cho/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive reaffirm the 1977 General Council's *Report on Gambling and Lotteries*.

The Motion

Defeated

WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES, THEOLOGY & FAITH COMMITTEE, EDUCATION FOR CHURCH LEADERSHIP, INTER-CHURCH INTER-FAITH COMMITTEE REPORTS

Marion Best reported first on the structure of the World Council of Churches and the United Church's relationship to that structure and then on the most recent meeting of the Central Committee. Alf Dumont reported on the work of the Theology & Faith highlighting the Christology report and the committee's discussion regarding the possible merger of the Theology and Faith and ICIF committees. Ruth Nichols reviewed the work of the ECL Committee. Following the reports table groups spent time into discussion of the four reports.

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed

That the reports of the World Council of Churches, Inter Church Inter Faith Committee, Theology & Faith Committee, Education for Church Leadership Committee be received for information.

The Motion

Carried

AUDIT COMMITTEE

Virginia Coleman reported on the activities of the Audit Committee.

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Gordon How

The Audit Committee Report be received for information.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed

That the following New Business go to Sessional Committees as listed:

Multilateral Agreement, Sessional Committee 4

Concern for Seafarer Witnesses, Sessional Committee 6

Increasing the Days of Council, Sessional Committee 6

The Motion

Carried

OBSERVER BOARD MEETING

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed

That the meeting of the General Council Executive be adjourned until the rise of the Observer Board Annual Meeting.

The Motion

Carried

The Observer Board meeting took place.

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed
That the meeting of the General Council Executive reconvene.

The Motion

Carried

AGENDA & PLANNING COMMITTEE

Gordon How reviewed the final report of the Agenda & Planning Committee from the 36th General Council. This report was the opportunity for the committee to pass on its learning to future planning committees. Gordon expressed his deep appreciation to Anne Shirley for all her hard work over the two years of preparation. He also noted that for fourteen General Councils Rod Booth has organized the staging of the meeting and that has been an invaluable service to the church.

Gordon Roberts responded to the report by expressing the appreciation of this Executive for the enormous amount of work Gordon How put into the 36th General Council. Appreciation was also expressed for the countless people who worked far beyond the time they should have to make the meeting a success.

REVENUE GENERATION REPORT

Michael Scott and Steve Adams reported on the Revenue Generation plan. Each Conference shared briefly the Revenue Generation activities in their region.

DIVISION OF WORLD OUTREACH

To illustrate aspects of the Division's work, Rhea and Patty reviewed the Africa Area guidelines and strategic directions for the work.

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed
That we receive for information the Revenue Generation Task Group Report and the Africa Area Guidelines and Strategic Directions.

The Motion

Carried

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Alf Dumont and Peter Wyatt led a time of theological reflection asking the question "How does your faith allow for both fidelity and risk?"

CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES TASK GROUP, TRANSITION TEAM, MINISTRY PERSONNEL AND EDUCATION REPORTS

Virginia Coleman reviewed the report of the task group on Conference boundaries, Bernice Saulteaux and Bill Wall reported on the work of the Transition Team, and BJ Klassen and Ann Naylor reported on the work of the Division.

BUDGET STEERING GROUP

Jamie Scott, interim chair, reviewed the report of the Budget Steering committee. Jamie requested that the General Council Executive provide the church with a stronger sense of planning to enable BSG in its work.

DIVISION OF FINANCE STRUCTURE, HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE, SPECIAL GIFTS, DESIGNATED GIVING REPORTS

Michael Scott reviewed the work that was presented in the workbook regarding the Division of Finance structure. Paul Campbell reviewed the report from the Human Resources Committee. Michael Scott and Elsie Manley-Casimir reviewed the Special Gifts material. Michael Scott reviewed four options for designated givings.

ECUMENICAL CURRICULUM

LyNn Maki and Randy Mackenzie reported on the interdivisionally developed ecumenical curriculum. The work was in response to strong requests from across the country for a good Bible-based curriculum. This had been an exciting opportunity for interdivisional cooperation that had very high commitment from both Divisions.

CANADIAN FOODGRAINS BANK

Rhea Whitehead, General Secretary of the Division of World Outreach, and Dave Iverson, General Secretary of the Division of Mission in Canada, reported on the United Church's work with the Canadian Foodgrains Bank, another example of interdivisional cooperation.

Notice of Motion: Mark Wartman/Jon Jessiman

That the Executive of General Council direct the Division of Finance, Office Services to ensure that the sound system for this meeting space be upgraded before the next meeting of the Executive of General Council (Spring 1998); and that the sound system be set up and checked by a technician for the next meeting (Spring 1998); and that a technician be on call throughout the Spring 1998 meeting in case there are system problems.

Funding source to be determined by the Division of Finance.

Sunday November 23, 1997

Worship: Richard Choe, Hazel Bigby and Kay Cho opened the meeting with worship.

Announcements: It was announced that David Carrothers had left the court and returned to his pastoral charge to deal with a pastoral emergency.

Bill Phipps and Rhea Whitehead introduced Basil Manning from the Congregational Church of South Africa who joined the meeting as a global partner.

The remainder of the morning was spent in General Council Executive Sessional Committee groups. Following lunch, members of the Executive re-assembled to continue their deliberations. Sessional Committee five requested that it absent themselves from the court to complete with their assigned tasks. Permission was granted.

General Council Sessional Committee Eighteen

PETITION 41 -- "GOVERNMENT-RELATED GAMBLING AND REVENUES THEREFROM"

Motion: Kay Cho/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive:

1. reaffirm the 1977 General Council's Report on Gambling and Lotteries;
2. petition all Canadian governments to discontinue their participation in the gambling business;

That General Council Executive take the action recommended.

Motion: Dave Iverson/Ross Bartlett (in amendment)

That item one be removed.

The Motion to amend

Carried

The Motion as amended

Carried

PETITIONS 36 AND 38

PETITION 36 -- THE WORSENING CRISIS OF THE POOR IN CANADA

That this General Council Executive:

1. recognize the present social situation throughout Canada as an economic, emotional, physical and faith crisis for many people.
2. affirm its commitment to a gospel vision which includes a vision of healthy community, the rebuilding of a civil society and the adequate meeting of basic human need. Such a social vision would need to include a commitment to the following core principles:
 - (a) that all people have security: a stable home, a safe community and a decent standard of living.
 - (b) that all community members recognize their interdependence: each of us is responsible to work with others to improve community life and solve issues and problems in the best interests of the whole community.
 - (c) that fairness and equity govern social and economic relationships: regardless of economic status, everyone has equal access to health care, education and representation in government and under the law.
 - (d) that many ways of participating and contributing are valued: a sense of belonging and ownership of community can only be fostered when the contributions, including paid work, parenting and voluntary time, of all citizens are valued and all community members are able to play a meaningful role in decision making.
 - (e) that diversity is respected and celebrated: freedom from persecution, intolerance and social and economic inequities for citizens and newcomers.
3. establish an emergency multi-divisional task group to mobilize and direct the church's constructive and creative response to this crisis. The group would include people with the following skills: research methodology, data-gathering, theological reflection, economic justice analysis, legal procedures, financial, political, community economic development, and community animation expertise. Importantly, the group would seek the wisdom of our overseas partners who have guided churches and national in the midst of restructuring mandated by both the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.
4. this multi-divisional task group will be appointed through General Council procedures in consultation with Conference Church In Society Committees and Conference World Outreach Divisions.
5. this task group will report on its actions to Annual Conference Meetings in 1998, 1999 and the 37th General Council.
6. develop ways of funding this task group by immediately seeking special grants and the temporary re-allocation of existing resources, including the secondment of present staff.

PETITION 38 -- EMERGENCY MULTI-DIVISIONAL TASK GROUP TO DEAL WITH CRISIS ISSUES

That this Executive of the General Council:

1. recognize the present social situation throughout Canada as an economic, emotional, physical and faith crisis for many people,
2. establish an emergency multi-divisional task group as a way of directing the church's constructive and creative response to this crisis. The group would include skills in research methods, data-gathering, theological reflection, economic justice, legal procedures (freedom of information access requests, defining where the appropriate lines are for church-political action) and financial and political expertise and would seek the wisdom of our overseas partners who have guided churches and nations in the midst of restructuring mandated by both the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.
3. develop ways of funding this task group by seeking special grants and the temporary re-allocation of existing resources, including the secondment of present staff.
4. establish a Multi-Divisional Task Group to guide the United Church's response to the worsening crisis of the poor in Canada.

Motion: Kay Cho/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive **refer** Petitions 36 and 38 to the Division of Mission in Canada Church in Society Coordinating Committee to incorporate these concerns into the ongoing work of the Division without establishing a new task group, multi-divisional or otherwise.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 35 -- EDUCATION FOR TOLERANCE

Motion: Kay Cho/Lorna Teed

Sessional Committee 18, after reviewing response forms and thoroughly discussing the matter, recommends That this General Council Executive request the Moderator write a letter to:

- 1) all provincial and territorial governments in Canada, and the Government of Bermuda, urging them to promote tolerance by having their Departments of Education require that all teachers and counsellors take a course of study on issues regarding gay, lesbian, and bi-sexual students.
- 2) the Conferences encouraging them to:
 - a) urge all school boards in their jurisdictions to adopt policies similar to those of the Calgary Board of Education, placing the words "sexual orientation" in their non-harassment policy; and have books and other resource materials sensitive to gay, lesbian, and bi-sexual issues as part of the resources of all libraries.
 - b) urge all teachers' unions and associations to provide in-service education on gay, lesbian, and bi-sexual issues in order to promote tolerance.

[Funding priority B --\$10 000]

Motion: Randy MacKenzie/Fred Monteith (in amendment)

That the word "tolerance" be replaced with "respect and understanding" in all cases.

The Motion to amend

Carried

Motion: Ross Barlett/Lynn Maki

That the words Government of Bermuda be removed from the motion.

The Motion to amend

Carried

The Motion as amended

Carried

PETITIONS 42 AND 47

PETITION 42 -- ON FEDERAL TAXATION

That this General Council Executive:

- 1) Call upon the Government of Canada to provide a system of fair taxation through such measures as the elimination of corporate tax loopholes, the implementation of a national wealth tax as found in other industrialized nations, and a graduated tax structure for persons earning over \$60,000 a year.
- 2) Call upon the Government of Canada to implement a financial transactions tax on financial speculation rather than increasing consumption taxes which disproportionately hurt low and middle income earners.

PETITION 47 -- CONCERNING MACROECONOMIC AND FISCAL POLICY

That this General Council Executive:

- 1) Urge the Government of Canada, provincial governments, municipal governments, and all their agencies to stop blaming social programs as the cause of the debt and deficit;
- 2) Urge the Government of Canada to acknowledge that its policy of slow growth, zero inflation, and price stability has caused:
 - chronic high unemployment;
 - loss of tax revenue which is essential to the reduction of the debt and deficit; and
 - increasing demand on other support systems.

This policy is detrimental to a public and social infrastructure that may deny opportunity to millions of Canadians and hold back our responsible economic development;

- 3) Urge the Government of Canada to take seriously the conclusions and recommendations of institutions like the Canadian Centre for Policy Alternatives which hold that a good society is built around people and the needs of people;
- 4) Urge that the Government of Canada increase the role of the Bank of Canada in financing the federal debt as outlined in the Alternative Budget of 1996 by:
 - Requiring a real interest rate that encourages the economy to grow and thus increase employment;
 - Adopting an alternative debt management structure;
 - Regulating their capital market through the elimination of the allowable foreign investment quota on tax assisted pension plans;
 - Reimposing the reserve requirement on Canadian chartered banks and similar financial institutions;
 - Increasing the withholding tax on the income of foreign investors and taxing overseas earnings; and by
 - The implementation of a Tobin Tax (in consultation with other countries) as well as a financial transfer tax within Canada.

Motion: Kay Cho/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That the General Council Executive strongly supports the directions contained in these petitions and **refers** them to the Division of Mission in Canada for action and for the Division to report on their work at the 37th General Council. We suggest a theme centered on "Economics in the Third Millennium" for the 37th General Council.

The Motion

Carried

General Council Sessional Committee Ten

PETITION 66 -- MISSION AND SERVICE UNDERWRITING OF BOOK ROOMS

That this General Council Executive recognize and affirm the service and mission outreach role of Book Rooms as a primary resource to the Church, its Divisions, programs and church leaders and give higher priority to their financial underwriting as a low-cost and often no-cost to the church method of distributing materials and information to the United Church.

Motion: B.J. Klassen/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive

- 1) affirm the vital ministry of the Book Rooms and refer this petition to the Division of Communication; and
- 2) encourage all Book Rooms to be available to distribute the material of the church.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 67 -- RESEARCHING THE POSITION OF MEN IN THE CHURCH

Motion: B.J. Klassen/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada:

- 1) encourage Congregations, Presbyteries, and Conferences to consider the needs of men in a changing society;
- 2) encourage the communication of needs in a written form, web pages, collected stories, The Observer, etc.;
- 3) request the Division of Mission in Canada to include the role of men in their discussions and planning in the renewal of Congregational life;
- 4) request the Division of Mission in Canada to allocate one-third of the time of a staff person to prepare a bibliography of print, film, and other material concerning men in the church for distribution;

Financial Implications: Staff Time, \$10,000 (A) (For two meetings of the Task Group.)

Motion: Ross Bartlett/Patty Evans (in amendment)

That the words from "to allocate" to "person" to be removed from the motion.

The Motion to amend

Carried

There was a request from the floor to deal with the two items seriatim.

The Motion as amended

Carried

and be it further resolved that this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada through the Division of Mission in Canada establish a Task Group to explore the various possibilities and ways to encourage the creation of a welcoming environment for Christian expressions of male spirituality and a place of nurture for men in their journeys of faith.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 68 -- CULTURE

Motion: B.J. Klassen/Anne Shirley Sutherland

Having heard Petition 68 from Regina Presbytery transmitted by Saskatchewan Conference and having reviewed the responses from the table groups and individuals and having noted and given careful consideration to the following concerns about the:

CBC

- a) the affirmation of Children and Young Teens at General Council for the distinctive nature of the CBC and their concern that such programming is under threat from budget cuts;
- b) the importance of the CBC due to the limited availability of other channels in rural areas;
- c) the further Americanization of Canadian culture with the cutbacks to a major distinctly Canadian broadcasting corporation;

Information Highway

- a) awareness that The United Church of Canada is increasingly hampered in its ability to use modern technology to maintain communication with its members by the inequity of access to the information highway;

That the General Council Executive ask the Moderator on its behalf to call upon the Government of Canada to:

- 1) reaffirm and enhance the mandate of the CBC with a viable plan to restore necessary funding levels on a multi-year basis;
- 2) reverse the cuts made to arts funding and consult with artist groups on how best to update the cultural support systems of grants and planning;
- 3) restore funding to those programs which promote understanding and appreciation of Canada's linguistic and culture differences

- 4) restore and enhance funding for programs that address the problem of systemic violence including Aboriginal friendship centers, Native Broadcasting Access programs, Aboriginal women's programs and related programs; and
- 5) create a National Universal Access Fund to level the playing field so that income, region, and education do not limit access to the evolving information highway. This is to be financed in part by the Federal Government and in part by service providers.

Motion: Elizabeth Brown/Mark Wartman (in amendment)

That the words "that address the problem of systemic violence" be moved to following "and related programs"

The Motion to amend

Carried

Motion: Lynn Maki/Sheila Snelling (in amendment)

Delete the words "create a National Universal Access Fund" and replace with "find ways".

Motion: Mollie Williams/Glenn Smith

That we refer this whole matter to the Division of Communication for further work.

The Motion

Carried

General Council Sessional Committee Fourteen

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS

Motion: Fred Jamieson/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That the General Council Executive receive the accountability reports of the Moderator, the General Secretary, the Chief Archivist, the Observer, and COPERMIF, and recognize the tireless efforts of these people on behalf of the church.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 23 -- GENERAL COUNCIL BUDGET FORUM

That this General Council Executive engage the church in a means of naming those programs which are a priority for the continuing ministry of The United Church of Canada;

those programs named as priorities would be ensured of stable adequate funding until the church discerns that they are no longer priorities; and

the remaining programs and ministries share the burden of current and future financial shortfalls.

Motion: Fred Jamieson/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That the actions contained in Petition 23 be studied by the General Council Executive.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 47 -- NEEDS ASSESSMENT (continued)

Motion: B.J. Klassen/Ann Naylor

That this General Council Executive confirm and clarify mandatory needs assessment policy in accordance with the actions of the 35th General Council and of its Executive as expressed in Resolution 10 to that Council and in Section 052 of *The Manual* (1995) by providing that:

- A. Initiation of needs assessment be authorized by Presbytery / District in response to:
 - i. Discipline or oversight of ministry personnel, Pastoral Charges or other employing unit, or of their pastoral relationships;
 - ii. Request by ministry personnel for change of pastoral relationship by giving notice to end a relationship to be available for call or appointment, to be retained on the roll, to retire, or to resign from the Order of Ministry;
 - iii. Decisions by Pastoral Charge or other employing unit to request a change of pastoral relations ending the relationship without cause;
 - iv. Recognition by the Presbytery / District of incapacity of ministry personnel through death or disability, requiring change of pastoral relations; or
 - v. Request for needs assessment by a Pastoral Charge or other employing unit or their official board or equivalent, or by ministry personnel.
- B. Implementation of needs assessment be effected by establishment of Joint Needs Assessment Committees to study and report on ministry personnel needs of Pastoral Charges or employing units.
- C. Reporting of needs assessment be required to include written summary statements of community, ministry, resources, position descriptions, skills and knowledge requirements, and terms, and to conclude with recommendations to the Pastoral Charge or employing unit.
- D. Action on needs assessment reports be taken by official boards, or equivalent, of Pastoral Charges or employing units, and in turn by their memberships, receiving reports for decision.
- E. Presbytery / District be required to receive and respond to needs assessment reports, recommendations and resulting requests, and to require a needs assessment and report before declaring any vacancy.
- F. *The Manual* be changed to implement these policies, including provisions similar to those outlined in the following draft provisions, and incidental and definitional revisions for consistency.

Motion: David Iverson/Randy MacKenzie (in amendment)

That the following be added as A vi.:

A pastoral charge considering a reduction or increase in the number of ministry personnel positions and/or a change in the percentage of time specified in the terms of any existing call, settlement, or appointment.

The Motion to amend

Carried

The Motion as amended

Carried

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lois Creith

In order to reflect the policy adopted by this Executive, we move the following changes be made to *The Manual*:

[new - to be numbered as appropriate]

XXX Needs Assessment.

(a) A Needs Assessment for a Pastoral Charge may be initiated only as follows:

- i. by written notice to the Secretary of Presbytery from the Pastoral Charge or its Official Board or Church Board or Church Council;
- ii. by a person serving as Ministry Personnel with the Pastoral Charge; or
- iii. at the direction of the Presbytery.

(b) The Pastoral Charge or its Official Board or Church Board or Church Council shall appoint members from its Congregation(s) to serve on the Joint Needs Assessment Committee. The Presbytery shall appoint at least two (2) of its members to serve on the Joint Needs Assessment Committee. Representatives appointed by the Presbytery shall be voting members of the Joint Needs Assessment Committee.

(c) The work of the Joint Needs Assessment Committee may include written summary statements of community, ministry, resources, position descriptions, skill and knowledge requirements, and terms; and shall include recommendations to the Pastoral Charge or its Official Board or Church Board or Church Council. The Pastoral Charge or its Official Board or Church Board or Church Council may in turn make a request to the Presbytery as appropriate.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTIONS 8, 60, 68, 77, 78, 78, 89

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Anne Shirley Sutherland
That Resolution 8, 60, 68, 77, 78, 78, 89 be before us for consideration.

Motion: Mollie Williams/Fred Jamieson
Having heard the following resolutions and reviewed the response forms submitted and having thoroughly discussed the implications therein, and having determined that there is a very widely shared, if not unanimous agreement on the following proposed actions,

That this General Council Executive **adopt**:

RESOLUTION 8 -- MANUAL, POSTPONEMENT OF RETIREMENT

That this General Council Executive clarify that it is the Presbytery which consults with the Official Board or Church Board or Church Council of the Pastoral Charge or its appropriate Committee prior to the approval and recommendation by the Presbytery to the Conference that retirement of a member of the Order of Ministry be postponed, and that Section 364(c) be amended to reflect this clarification as follows:

364(c) On application by the member of Order of Ministry concerned, following consultation by the Presbytery with the Official Board or Church Board or Church Council of the Pastoral Charge or its appropriate Committee, the Presbytery may approve and recommend to the Conference that retirement be postponed beyond the normal retirement age. Such approval by the Presbytery and the Conference shall be required annually.

RESOLUTION 60 -- DEFINITION OF VACANCY

That this General Council Executive clarify that a vacancy may not be declared until after a ministry needs assessment study has been completed to the satisfaction of the Presbytery, and that the following provision be inserted in *The Manual* to reflect this clarification:

[number to be determined as appropriate] When a Pastoral Charge wishes to create a new ministry position or fill an existing ministry position it shall use the following procedure to request the Presbytery to declare a vacancy. A vacancy shall only be declared after a ministry needs assessment has been completed to the satisfaction of the Presbytery.

RESOLUTION 68 -- FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR MINISTRY PERSONNEL CHARGED WITH CRIMINAL OFFENCES

That:

1. provisions of Section 363 in *The Manual* (1995) which refer to financial assistance be deleted.
2. the wording of Section 363 consistently apply these provisions to all ministry personnel as indicated in the introduction to Section 363.
3. Section 363 (b) in *The Manual* (1995) be revised to reflect these policies.

RESOLUTION 77 -- SUPERVISION OF PASTORAL CHARGES EMPLOYING RETIRED SUPPLY MINISTERS

That the General Council Executive authorize as policy that where Presbytery has appointed a retired United Church minister to serve as United Supply, there be no requirement of a Pastoral Charge Supervisor; and

The Manual Sections 341 (1995) and 389(b)viii (1995) be revised to reflect this policy.

RESOLUTION 78 -- PRESBYTERY SUPERVISION OF PASTORAL CHARGES EMPLOYING LAY PASTORAL MINISTERS

That the General Council Executive authorize as policy that where Presbytery has appointed a Lay Pastoral Minister to serve a pastoral charge, there be no requirement of a Pastoral Charge Supervisor; and

that *The Manual* Sections 341 (1995) and 389(b)viii (1995) be revised to reflect this policy.

RESOLUTION 89 -- SECTIONS OF THE BYLAWS DEALING WITH THE PASTORAL RELATIONSHIP

That this General Council Executive authorize the editor of the next edition of *The Manual* to include an appendix outlining, by topic, the sections of the by-laws which deal with the pastoral relationship. The appendix will follow the example below on the understanding that some revision may be required as the result of the actions of this General Council.

APPENDIX VI

**SECTIONS IN THE BY-LAWS
DEALING WITH THE PASTORAL RELATIONSHIP**

DEFINITIONS

001 Candidate Supply
Diaconal Minister
Diaconal Supply
Interim Minister
Interim Ministry
Intern Supply
Lay Pastoral Minister
Lay Pastoral Minister-in-Training
Lay Preacher
Ministry Personnel
Multiple Staff
Ordained Minister
Ordained Supply
Pastoral Charge Supervisor
Presbytery Appointment
Settlement
Staff Associate
Student Supply
United Supply
Vacancy

REMUNERATION OF MINISTRY PERSONNEL

- 036 Salary, Allowances and Benefits
- 037 Disability or Death
- 038 Obligation in Case of Disability of Death

CONTINUING EDUCATION OF MINISTRY PERSONNEL

- 039 Continuing Education

THE PASTORAL RELATIONSHIP

- 040 Without Time Limit
- 041 Pastorate Without Interruption. Duration. Appointment by Presbytery. Interim Minister.

PROCEDURES WITHIN THE PASTORAL CHARGE

- 042 Consultation with Presbytery
- 043 Application for Settlement
- 044 Co-Operation During Change
- 045 Request by Minister
- 046 Request by Pastoral Charge
- 047 Notice of Meeting
- 048 Chairperson
- 049 Opportunity to Respond
- 050 Notification to Presbytery
- 052 Reduction in Ministry Personnel
- 053 Decision Not to Declare a Vacancy
- 054 Joint Pastoral Relations Committee
- 055 Extension of Call. Ineligibility. Eligibility of Retiree.
- 056 Right to Extend a Call
- 057 Settlement
- 058 Delegation of Official Board

PROCEDURES by the PRESBYTERY

- 059 Pastoral Relationship
- 060 Calls
- 061 Act of Covenant
- 062 Appointments
- 063 Consultation over Disability

PROCEDURES by the CONFERENCE

- 064 Duty of Settlement Committee

THE PASTORAL CHARGE

THE CONGREGATION

Meetings

- 112(b) Notice of Meeting

MINISTRY PERSONNEL

- 120 Right to Conduct Service
- 121 Specific Covenant Relationship
- 122 Member of Committees
- 123 Required Component of Quorum
- 124 Relationships among Multiple Staff
- 125 Responsibilities among Multiple Staff
- 126 Absent More than Three Months
- 127 Pastoral Charge Supervisor

THE OFFICIAL BOARD

Duties and Powers

- 184(g) Representations concerning the Pastoral Relationship

Official Board Standing Committees

- 189 Ministry and Personnel Committee

THE CHURCH BOARD

Church Board Standing Committee

- 211 Ministry and Personnel Committee

THE CHURCH COUNCIL

Church Council Standing Committee

- 226 Ministry and Personnel Committee

STANDING COMMITTEES FOR ALL MODELS

- 244 Ministry and Personnel Committee

THE PRESBYTERY

Duties and Powers

Appointment by Ministry Personnel

- 340 Interim Ministers
- 341 Pastoral Charge Supervisors
- 342 Ordained/Diaconal Supply
- 343 Lay Pastoral Ministers-in-Training and Lay Pastoral Ministers
- 344 Lay Preachers
- 345 Staff Associates

Oversight of the Pastoral Relationship

- 350 Pastoral Relationship without Interruption
- 351 Multiple Staff
- 352 Act of Covenant
- 353 Licence to Administer Sacraments
- 354 Oversight of Pastoral Relationships
- 355 Death or Disability
- 356 Application for Change in Pastoral Relationship

Suggested Presbytery Standing Committee

389 Pastoral Relations Committee

THE CONFERENCE

Duties and Powers

425(a) Pastorate Without Interruption
426 Settlement Committee

Settlement Committee

442 to 453 Duties and Powers of the Settlement Committee

The Omnibus Motion

Carried

PETITION 135 -- PASTORAL CHARGE SUPERVISORS.

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada amend section 341 of *The Manual (1995)* relating to pastoral charge supervisors in order to

1. remove the comprehensive requirement for the appointment of such supervisor (i.e. appointment in all cases where there is no regularly settled member of the order of ministry),
2. require that for any pastoral charge not having a regularly settled or appointed member of the order of ministry, but being served by a Presbytery-appointed lay pastoral minister or staff associate, the Presbytery shall determine whether there is a need or supervision, and, if so, appoint one of its own members as the pastoral charge supervisor (with duties as outlined in Section 341), and;
3. require that for any pastoral charge not having a member of the order of ministry, a lay pastoral minister, or a staff associate regularly settled or appointed, the Presbytery shall appoint one of its own members as the pastoral charge supervisor (with duties as in Section 341).

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 140 -- DISSOLUTION OF A PASTORAL RELATIONSHIP

That this General Council Executive legislate that no pastoral relationship may be dissolved, for other than cause, by other than the Order of Ministry incumbent, on less than three hundred and sixty days notice.

Motion: Mollie Williams/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That General Council Executive take no further action on petition 140.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 21 -- CHURCH BOARD/CHURCH COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP REQUIREMENTS AND OFFICERS

That this General Council Executive adopt the policy that members of a Church Board be required to be members of one of the Congregations constituting the Pastoral Charge, unless the Presbytery has granted an exception, and that Sections 203 and 208 be amended as follows to reflect this policy, and

That this General Council Executive adopt the policy that a Church Board be required to have the offices of Chair, Secretary and Treasurer, and that Section 208 be amended to reflect this policy, and

That this General Council Executive approve the following amendments to Sections 219 and 220 in order that the provisions contained in these Sections relating to the offices and membership on a Church Council be as comprehensive as, and consistent with, the corresponding provisions for an Official Board and Church Board.

203: Unless the Presbytery has granted an exception pursuant to Section 134, each member of the Church Board shall be a member in good standing of any one of the Congregations constituting the Pastoral Charge.

Members of the Church Board are Elders.

208: Normally each member of the Church Board shall serve on a Committee according to interest or calling. Other members and adherents of the Congregation(s) may be encouraged to serve as members at large of Committees of the Church Board. From among the members of the Church Board, the Pastoral Charge or the Church Board shall select officers to perform the functions of a Chairperson, a Secretary and a Treasurer.

219: The membership of the Church Council shall consist of:

(a) persons selected by each Committee created by the Pastoral Charge or Congregation(s) to be members of the Church Council, according to the numbers and qualifications determined by the Pastoral Charge or Congregation(s). ~~Those selected shall be members of the Congregation in good standing.~~

(b) all members of the Order of Ministry settled by the Conference or appointed by the Presbytery to serve the Pastoral Charge;

(c) the lay representatives to the Presbytery; and

(d) additional members as determined by the Pastoral Charge or Congregation(s), which may include officers elected by the Pastoral Charge, such as the Chairperson, the Vice-Chairperson, the Secretary, the Treasurer, the Chairperson(s) of the Board(s) of Trustees or their appointee; and persons elected to leadership positions in other organizations of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation(s), such as United Church Women, the AOTS, or the youth group.

220: Unless the Presbytery has granted an exception pursuant to Section 134, each officer of the Church Council elected by the Pastoral Charge and each person selected by the Committees to be a member of the Church Council shall be a member in good standing of any one of the Congregations constituting the Pastoral Charge. ~~Both the Officers of the Church Council elected by the Pastoral Charge and those persons selected by the Committees to be members of the Church Council are Elders.~~

Motion: Elizabeth Brown/Ross Bartlett

Be it resolved that Resolution 21 be postponed definitely to the 37th General Council and that the Executive of the General Council study the issue of "Membership" and bring recommendations to the 37th General Council.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 28 -- OVERSIGHT OF PRESBYTERY

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive approve the deletion of the existing Sections 333(a) and 363(a) in order to clarify that Sections 333 and 363 pertain to oversight and not to discipline:

~~333(a) In its exercise of care and oversight the Presbytery will act within the spirit and regulations to be found in Sections 065 to 071, 333 and 363. In its exercise of discipline the Presbytery will act within the provisions of Section 072 to 077, 314 and 363.~~

~~363(a) In its exercise of care and oversight the Presbytery will act within the spirit and regulations to be found in Sections 065 to 071, 333 and 363. In its exercise of discipline the Presbytery will act within the provisions of Sections 072 to 077, 314 and 363.~~

Motion: Elizabeth Brown/Ross Bartlett (in amendment)

Be it resolved that Resolution 28 be amended to remove section 333 (a) as proposed and reword 333 as follows: "333. Oversight of Pastoral Charges. It shall be the duty of Presbytery to exercise care and oversight of the Pastoral Charges within its bounds."

Remove section 363(a) as noted.

The Motion to amend

Defeated

The Motion

Defeated

Sessional Committee 2 recommends that the Manual Committee consider the removal of section 354(a) which contains the same wording.

Motion: Mark Wartman/Lois Creith

We move a replacement to Resolution No. 28 as follows:

333 (a) In its exercise of care and oversight the Presbytery will act within the spirit and regulations to be found in Sections 065 to 071, 333 and 363. In its exercise of discipline the Presbytery will act within the provisions of Section 072 to 077, 314, 363(b)vi., 363(d)i., 363(d)f. and 363(d)g.

363 (a) In its exercise of care and oversight the Presbytery will act within the spirit and regulations to be found in Sections 065 to 071, 333 and 363. In its exercise of discipline the Presbytery will act within the provisions of Section 072 to 077, 314 and 363(b)vi., 363(d)i., 363(d)f. and 363(d)g.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 32 -- HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE - PERSONNEL POLICIES

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive approve the following amendment to Section 505(m):

505 (m) to appoint the General Secretary of the General Council, whose appointment may not be delegated to the Executive of the General Council.

~~Personnel policies as approved by the General Council and its Executive shall be followed for all staff appointments.~~

That this General Council Executive approve the deletion of Section 524(j) and the insertion of new 524(j) and (k) as follows:

~~524 (j) to appoint senior staff of the General Council and its Division, other than the General Secretary of the General Council, and to report its action to the following General Council to approve personnel policies for the General Council and Conference staff on recommendation from the Human Resources Committee. Those personnel policies shall recognize essential differences among category or occupational groupings as appropriate;~~

524(k)

i. to appoint senior staff of the General Council and its Division (General Secretaries and Directors) and, after consultation with the Conferences, the Conference Executive Secretaries. Those appointed shall be accountable to the General Council.

ii. to arrange a covenanting service

[Existing Section 524(k) and remaining Subsections of Section 524 to be re-numbered accordingly.]

Motion: Elizabeth Brown/ Ross Bartlett (amendment)

Be it resolved that Resolution 32 be amended to replace the words struck out in section 505(m) with the words: "to adopt personnel policies for the General Council and Conference Staff on recommendation from the Human Resources Committee".

and that section 524(j) be amended by changing the word "approve" to "adopt" and by deleting the sentence "Those personnel policies shall recognize essential differences among category or occupational groupings as appropriate."

Motion: Mark Wartmen/Lois Creith (in amendment to the amendment)

That the General Council Executive move the wording proposed by the Sessional Committee be included as a separate sub-section in 505.

The Motion to amend the amendment

Carried

The Motion to amend **Carried**

The Motion as amended **Carried**

RESOLUTION 58 -- PRESBYTERY EXECUTIVE

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That this General Council Executive approve the deletion of Section 373 in order to resolve the inconsistency between Sections 373 and 322, and adopt the policy that the Executive of a Presbytery consist of a balance of lay and ordered members and that Section 322 be amended to reflect this policy as follows:

322 Executive. It shall be the duty of the Presbytery to provide for the continuing work of the Presbytery between regular meetings by appointing an Executive. Such Executive shall consist of at least five (5) persons, of whom at least two (2) shall be lay people; if the Executive consists of more than five (5) persons, the proportions of lay members shall be maintained.

(a) Such Executive has all of the duties and powers of the Presbytery unless the Presbytery otherwise determines. When the Executive acts for the Presbytery between regular meetings, its actions shall be reported to the Presbytery for information only and for record in the minutes.

(b) Unless the Presbytery otherwise determines, the Executive may appoint a Sub-Executive with such of its duties and powers, exercisable between meetings of the Executive, as the Executive shall determine. The actions of the Sub-Executive shall be reported through the Executive to the Presbytery for information and for record in the minutes.

Motion: Elizabeth Brown/Ross Bartlett (in amendment)

Be it resolved that Resolution 58 be amended to replace the words underlined in section 322 beginning "Such Executive shall consist..." with "Such Executive shall consist of at least five (5) persons, of whom at least two (2) shall be lay persons and at least two (2) shall be Ministry Personnel; if the Executive consists of more than five (5) persons, at least one-third shall be lay persons and at least one-third shall be Ministry Personnel".

The Motion to amend **Defeated**

The Motion **Carried**

General Council Sessional Committee Four

RESOLUTION #84 -- CONGREGATIONAL FINANCING

Motion: Lynn Maki/Dave Iverson

Instruct the Division of Mission in Canada through its Task Group on Church Development Finance to develop at least three options for mechanisms for the pooling of Congregational Mission;

The Motion **Defeated**

Motion: Lynn Maki/Dave Iverson

Instruct the Division of Mission in Canada through the Task Group on Church Development Finance to engage in an appropriate consultative and collaborative process with Presbyteries, Conferences, the Mission Support Consultation, Divisions/Councils, and Congregations, regarding the proposed options for specific direction.

The Motion

Defeated

Motion: Lynn Maki/Dave Iverson

Instruct the Division of Mission in Canada, following this consultative process, to bring forward to the General Council Executive a vehicle for the pooling of financial resources for Congregational mission, for its decision or referral to the 37th General Council.

The Motion

Defeated

Motion: Mark Wartman/Carol Hancock

That this General Council Executive call upon its Division of Mission in Canada to develop, and, after approval of such plans by the Executive of General Council, to implement strategies to address the current crisis of a shortage of capital funds to support and empower New Church Development and Church Re-development. The 1997 costs of this work of planning and consultation would come from the Division of Mission in Canada's existing Task Force budget. An additional amount of \$20,000 would be authorized for the 1998 -1999 period (up to \$10,000 of this to come from the reserve fund and the remainder from the 1999 budget).

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Mark Wartman/Carol Hancock

Having carefully considered responses from table groups, after consultation with members of the Division of Mission in Canada, and after a thorough review of the report and its recommendations, Sessional Committee recommends to the 36th General Council that Resolution #84 "New Directions For Funding Congregational Mission" be defeated in order to move the following substitute resolutions:

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada call upon all the people of The United Church of Canada, beginning with its ministry personnel, to prayerfully commit to the Biblical challenge to tithe, equitably dividing this tithe between local and Mission & Service giving, in order "that all may have life, and have it abundantly."

Motion: Marion Best/Lynn Maki (in amendment)

That the motion be amended replacing "tithe" to "to prayerfully commit to sacrificial giving".

The Motion to amend

Carried

Motion: Joanna MacQuarrie/John Moor (in amendment)

To strike the clause "beginning with ministry personnel"

The Motion to amend

Defeated

The Motion as amended

Carried

Motion: Mark Wartman/Carol Hancock

And be it resolved that this General Council Executive call upon all corporate bodies within the structures of The UCC who hold capital to tithe (10%) their earned income each year to the work of the whole church through the Mission and Service Fund.

Motion: Glenn Smith/Randy MacKenzie

That this item be referred to the Reference and Counsel for a ruling.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Mark Wartman/Carol Hancock

That the General Council Executive receive the report That They May Have Life.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 62, 63, 64, 65

PETITION 62 -- USE OF ASSETS FROM PROPERTY SALES

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada eliminate Sections 268, 269 and 270 of *The Manual (1995)*, replacing them with provisions that would allow:

- a) the needs of newly-amalgamated Congregations to be considered [as they are in the current Section 268],
- b) of the remaining assets - up to 50 percent of the assets generated through the sale of United Church property to be directed to support defined needs within the Presbytery, and
- c) the remaining assets to be used for the wider work of the church as the Conference may determine.

PETITION 63 -- SHARING ASSETS FROM SALE OF PROPERTY (1)

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada to amend Section 270 of *The Manual (1995)* to

include "ethnic ministries" in Section 270(a), so the section would read "that Conferences be strongly encouraged to allocate a fair and equitable portion of the assets from the sale of the property for the purposes of **ethnic ministries**, new church developments/redevelopments (and metro core developments) within the United Church".

PETITION 64 -- SHARING ASSETS FROM SALE OF PROPERTY (2)

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada to amend Section 270 of *The Manual (1995)* to

add a sub-section stating that "when a United Church building becomes vacant as the result of a Congregation being disbanded, the trusteeship of the property should be transferred at appraised value to the applying 'ethnic' Congregation within The United Church of Canada in preference to sale elsewhere".

PETITION 65 -- REAL PROPERTY SALE PROCEEDS ALLOCATION FORMULA

That Section 270 of *The Manual (1995)* be amended to provide that all sale proceeds from former Congregational properties be allocated in future according to a percentage formula to be calculated by a General Council Task group including First Nations representation for the following:

1. The United Church Division of Mission in Canada Real Property Fund for the support of nationally owned properties; and
2. The purpose of new church development/redevelopment and metro core developments, following consultations with the local mission unit and Presbytery, with an implementation date to be established by General Council Executive.

Motion: Mark Wartman/Carol Hancock

That the General Council Executive take no further action on Petition 62, 63, 64, 65.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 1 -- MENDING THE WORLD (continued)

Motion: Randy MacKenzie/Ruth Nicholls

5. Offer to the whole United Church

-the ***Mending the World*** document, and especially its "Affirmations," as a resource and tool for use as a lens through which individuals and households, Congregations and other mission units may prioritize their response to God's call to commit ourselves and our resources to work with God for the transformation and healing of the whole human family in a universe that is respected as the creation of God.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Randy MacKenzie/Ruth Nicholls

6. Invite Congregations

-to review their mission statements and activities through the lens of the ***Mending the World*** report.;
-to pursue actively partnerships for mission with other Christian communities and other faith communities and all people who seek healing and wholeness in God's world.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Randy MacKenzie/Ruth Nicholls

7. Invite Presbyteries and Conferences

-to support Congregations as they deepen and strengthen their faithful participation in God's mission;
-to encourage increased support of the Mission and Service Fund;
-to review their mission statements and activities through the lens of the ***Mending the World*** report and to encourage related corporations to do the same.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Randy MacKenzie/Ruth Nicholls

8. Request the Inter-Church and Inter-Faith Committee

-to prepare, in cooperation with the Division of Mission in Canada, a supplementary educational resource to ***Mending the World*** for use by groups and individuals [\$15,000 — Funding Designation B];
-to prepare, in consultation with relevant units, an instrument by which other mission units and courts can use ***Mending the World*** as a lens through which mission statements and activities are assessed;
-to ensure that in any printing of the ***Mending the World*** report, these actions of the General Council Executive precede the body of the report.

The Motion

Carried

REFERENCE AND COUNSEL REPORT ON RESOLUTION 84

The Reference and Counsel reported on their reflection on the language of Resolution 84. There continued to be confusion on the part of members of the court regarding precisely what the resolution meant.

Motion: Michael Scott/John Moor

That we refer Resolution 84 to the Division of Mission in Canada and the Division of Finance.

The Motion

Carried

General Council Sessional Committee Seventeen

RESOLUTION 76 -- STAFF ASSOCIATES

Motion: B.J. Klassen/Ann Naylor

That this General Council Executive approve as policy that applicants for a Staff Associate position be required to be interviewed by the Conference Interview Board and the Presbytery Education and Students Committee prior to making application to a vacancy in a pastoral charge or outreach ministry.

This General Council Executive approve as policy that the Conference Interview Board interview Staff Associates only once for suitability for ministry within the United Church.

The Manual Section 345 (e) and (d) (1995) be changed to reflect these policies.

The Motion

Defeated

Motion: Hazel Bigby/Anne Shirley Sutherland

Having considered Resolution 76 carefully, including reviewing the response forms submitted to it, Sessional Committee 17 recommends that this Resolution be defeated and recommends the following replacement motion:

1. That the General Council Executive approve as policy that the Conference Interview Board interview Staff Associates only once for suitability for ministry within the United Church.

2. *The Manual* Section 345 (d) (1995) be changed to reflect these policies.

Motion: Joanna MacQuarrie/Fred Monteith (in amendment)

That the motion be amended with the addition of the words "unless otherwise requested by the Presbytery"

The Motion to amend

Carried

The Motion as amended

Carried

Motion: Mark Wartman/Lois Creith

That in order to reflect the policy adopted by this Executive we move the following changes to *The Manual*:

Persons wishing to serve as "Staff Associate" shall be interviewed by the Conference Interview Board for suitability for ministry within the United Church, normally such interview will take place prior to a first appointment as a Staff Associate. Interviews by the Conference Interview Board are not required prior to succeeding appointments unless deemed necessary by the Presbytery.

The Motion

Carried

PETITIONS 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 84, 148 -- INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

INTERNSHIP PROGRAM

Motion: Hazel Bigby/Anne Shirley Sutherland

Having heard Petitions 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 84 and 148 regarding the Internship Program and having reviewed the responses from table groups and individuals, and noted and given careful consideration to the following concerns:

- a) the expressed desire and need for a high quality, flexible internship program;
- b) the increasing inequities experienced due to limited funding and the down-loading of costs on to the internship sites and the interns;
- c) the potential shortage and unpredictable number of internship sites required on a yearly basis; and
- d) the general financial pressures being experienced by the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education;

That this General Council Executive

1. affirm the importance of the Internship Program as an obligatory component in the preparation of candidates for ordained ministry who are not in community-based programs;
2. direct the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education to ensure that the Internship Program continues to receive funding that maintains the present level of activity; and
3. direct the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education to report to the 37th General Council on a new vision for all aspects of the Internship Program, including its funding.

A request was made that Petition 84 be dealt with separately.

Motion: Mollie Williams/Michael/Scott (in amendment)
That the motion be amended to read maintains "adequate" funding.

The Motion to amend **Carried**

The Motion as amended **Carried**

PETITION 84 -- UNIFORM TRAVEL EXPENSE REIMBURSEMENTS

Motion: Ross Bartlett/John Moor
That the General Council Executive concur with the action requested in petition 84, and

That this General Council Executive recompense all persons receiving travel expenses through the Divisions of General Council at a rate no less than the minimum travel scale set for the year by General Council.

The Motion **Carried**

Motion: Ron Holotuk/Sheila Duffin
That this be effective January 1999.

The Motion **Carried**

PETITION 18 -- CHANGES TO FORMS USED BY CONFERENCE INTERVIEW BOARDS

Motion: Hazel Bigby/Anne Shirley Sutherland
That General Council Executive request that the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education strike the following questions from forms MPE 270a, 270g, 270l, 270r, and 270s:

- c. Describe your family background and how that has shaped your growth and development.
- d. Describe your present family situation.

and, through its Candidature Committee, replace these questions with more appropriate questions on how one's past has shaped them and their vision of ministry, without direct reference to family.

The Motion **Carried**

ORDER OF THE DAY -- HEALING FUND PRESENTATION

Marion Best reminded the members of the Executive about the history of the Healing Fund. In 1994 at Fergus the church knew that we needed to live out the apology by raising funds. Following the 36th General Council in August there were people in the church who feared that the motion about repentance would be just words with no substance to back it up. The Healing Fund is one tangible way to go beyond words and it has not met its goal. Bob Smith through Marion requested the visible support of this Executive for the Healing Fund. Basil Manning offered theological reflection on the theme of repentance to end the proceedings for the day.

Monday, November 24, 1997

The Moderator opened the proceedings of the day with a brief time of worship. David Carrothers returned to the court.

General Council Executive Sessional Committee One

BUDGET STEERING GROUP REPORT

Motion: Mark Wartman/Lois Creith

1. That the Business Committee of the Executive of General Council set aside agenda time to engage in long range planning, visioning and direction setting at the fall 1998 meeting of the Executive of General Council;
2. That the Budget Steering Group, as a result of its March 1998 meeting, bring to the April 1998 meeting of the Executive of General Council some recommendations for the use of that block of agenda time at the Executive of General Council's fall 1998 meeting.

That we receive the report of the Budget Steering Report.

The Motion

Carried

General Council Executive Manual Committee Sessional Committee

RESOLUTIONS 73, 74, 75, 65, 67, 22, 81

Motion: Virginia Coleman/ Anne Shirley Sutherland

That Resolutions 73, 74, 75, 65, 67, 22, 81 be before the Executive.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Mark Wartman/Lois Creith

That the following motions contained in Resolutions be included in an Omnibus Motion: 73; 74; 75; 65; 67; 22.

RESOLUTION 73 -- CANDIDACY PROCESS: INTERVIEW TEAMS

That the General Council Executive authorize the use of interview teams by Presbytery and Conference Education and Students Committee, and

The Manual [esp. Sections 382 (c) and 462(a)iii (1995)] be revised to reflect this policy.

Suggested wording for additions:

382(c) Interviews. Where it is deemed appropriate, the Presbytery Education and Students Committee may conduct its interviews through interview teams, provided that the recommendation from the interview team is ratified by the whole Committee.

462 (Conference) Where it is deemed appropriate, the Presbytery Education and Students Committee may conduct its interviews through interview teams, provided that the recommendation from the interview team is ratified by the whole Committee.

RESOLUTION 74 -- CANDIDACY PROCESS: DISCERNMENT COMMITTEES

That the General Council Executive direct that the representatives from the Presbytery Education and Students Committee on the Discernment Committee be given the responsibility to call the first meeting of the Discernment Committee, and

The Manual Section 022(e) (1995) be revised to reflect this policy.

Suggested addition (underlined):

It is the responsibility of the Presbytery representatives to the Discernment Committee to call the first meeting and to ensure that appropriate education and preparation of the Committee members is completed prior to meeting with the Inquirer.

RESOLUTION 75 -- CANDIDACY PROCESS: INTERNSHIP

That the General Council Executive authorize the Presbytery Education and Students Committee to receive, assess, and make a decision regarding each application from a Candidate for an internship, and

The Manual Section 024(d) (1995) be revised to reflect this policy.

Suggested wording for addition: (changes underlined)

The Presbytery Education and Students Committee shall consider each application and make a decision regarding the Candidate's participation in the Internship Programme. The Presbytery Education and Students Committee's decision shall be accompanied by a report concerning the Candidate's learning needs and readiness for an internship.

RESOLUTION 65 -- ALTERNATE DISPUTE RESOLUTION

(i) That the current informal hearing process [as outlined in Section 074 of *The Manual* (1995)] be replaced with the Draft Model for Conflict Resolution;

(ii) That the General Council retain an appropriate outside consultant to assist in the design of a United Church conflict resolution facilitator training course, and the General Council develop the course, through the staff resource of the General Secretary of the General Council and the Legal/Judicial Counsel;

(iii) That each Conference establish a pool of, at minimum, three trained individuals to perform the functions of the conflict resolution facilitators as outlined in the Draft Model for Dispute Resolution;

(iv) That persons wishing to become conflict resolution facilitators under the new model apply for consideration by their Conference with the following minimum qualifications:

- (a) successful completion of a basic alternate dispute resolution course from a list of courses to be approved by the General Council; and
- (b) successful completion of the United Church conflict resolution facilitator training course;

(v) That Conferences offer workshops in conflict resolution to educate church staff and volunteers in conflict resolution generally, and specifically, in the Draft Model for Dispute Resolution; and

(vi) That the 36th General Council authorize the expenditure of up to \$20,000.00 for the design of the training course for conflict resolution facilitators;

(vii) That a working group be continued under the staff resource of the General Secretary of General Council and the Legal/Judicial Counsel, with a mandate:

- (i) to assist in the implementation of the Draft Model for Dispute Resolution; and
- (ii) to continue the work of reviewing the formal hearing process for dispute resolution, and to report to the 37th General Council with recommendations for consideration by the 37th General Council;

and that the 36th General Council authorize an additional expenditure of up to \$5,000.00 for this purpose.

RESOLUTION 67 -- CRIMINAL CHARGES

That this General Council Executive approve as policy that local bodies and Presbyteries be permitted to proceed with employment discipline or dismissal at their discretion in the usual manner prior to the final disposition of criminal charges against their employees, and

That *The Manual* be changed to reflect this policy.

RESOLUTION 22 -- RESIGNATION/REMOVAL OF MEMBERS FROM PASTORAL CHARGE GOVERNING BODY

That this General Council Executive adopt a policy that a member of a Church Board or Church Council may resign or be removed, in accordance with the process outlined in the following Sections, and that the following Sections be inserted in *The Manual* to reflect this policy:

205(?) [To be inserted as a Section at or near Section 205, with the exact number to be determined as appropriate] Resignation or Removal. A member of the Church Board may resign the office, either on personal motion or when requested to do so by the Pastoral Charge or Congregation, or may be removed by the order of Presbytery when the interests of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation are deemed by the Presbytery to require it, or may be deposed by process of discipline. If any member of the Church Board has been absent from its meetings for a year without adequate cause, the Church Board, after having given notice to such person, may make a Decision that such person has ceased to be a member of the Church Board.

221(?) [To be inserted as a Section at or near Section 221, with the exact number to be determined as appropriate] Resignation or Removal. A member of the Church Council may resign the office, either on personal motion or when requested to do so by the Pastoral Charge or Congregation, or may be removed by the order of Presbytery when the interests of the Pastoral Charge or Congregation are deemed by the Presbytery to require it, or may be deposed by process of discipline. If any member of the Church Council has been absent from its meetings for a year without adequate cause, the Church Council, after having given notice to such person, may make a Decision that such person has ceased to be a member of the Church Council.

The Motion

Carried

RESOLUTION 81 -- THEOLOGICAL SCHOOL PERSONNEL POLICIES

That this General Council Executive declare as policy that the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education is responsible for ensuring that comprehensive personnel policies are in place at theological schools related to The United Church of Canada and that these are reviewed regularly, and the General Council Executive declare as policy that consultations on questions of termination of academic staff require a careful following of agreed procedures, and that *The Manual* Section 705 (1995) be changed to reflect these policies.

Suggested wording follows: (changes in underlined)

new point following current (d) "to ensure comprehensive personnel policies are in place and are reviewed regularly"

current point (e) revised to read "in relation to the theological schools of the United Church, to confirm or to acknowledge, subject to the charter rights of the educational institution concerned and subject to procedures agreed to by the Division and the educational institution:

- i. the establishment or the disestablishment of Chairs; and
- ii. the making or terminating of appointments.

Any action taken on these matters by any of the Church's theological schools shall be in consultation with the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education or the Executive of the Division.

change current (f) second sentence to read "No Board of a theological school should remove any professor without having consulted the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education, and without having satisfied the Division that the appropriate personnel policies have been followed."

Motion: Mark Wartman/Lois Creith

That the General Council Executive request the Judicial Committee to Rule on the question of jurisdiction raised by the action of the 36th General Council with regard to Resolution No. 81.

The Motion

Carried

General Council Sessional Committee Eight

PETITION 10 -- SETTLEMENT

That this General Council Executive:

1. reaffirm the present procedure for Transfer and Settlement as the method with which the Church will abide at the present time;

2. remind all Conferences through their Executive and Settlement Committee that it is inappropriate to initiate or encourage or suggest conversations or contacts around settlement between candidates and pastoral charges before the report of the Transfer Committee is in their possession.

Motion: Harold Manuel/John Yeo

The Sessional Committee had many responses to the two petitions #10 and #134 concerning transfer and settlement. It was evident as we read the many lengthy stories and comments of the table groups that this was an issue where there are strong feelings. Further, as we discussed the issue, we realized that not only was there no consensus but that this issue is very complex and beyond the ability of our Sessional Committee to solve.

A comprehensive review of the transfer and settlement process is currently underway by the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education (DMPE) entitled "*Harmony and Discipleship*". Further, it is our understanding that a report will be completed and presented to the annual meeting of the DPME in February 1998. The Sessional Committee believes that we must honour this work in progress and, until then, honour the spirit and the letter of the current transfer and settlement process.

Therefore be it resolved that the General Council Executive adopt Petition #10.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 134 -- TRANSFER AND SETTLEMENT PROCESS

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada make transfer and settlement a preferred option for those being ordained or commissioned, and not a requirement.

Motion: Harold Manuel/John Yeo

Therefore be it resolved that the General Council Executive refer Petition #134 to the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education for consideration in conjunction with its work.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 137 -- CLARIFYING THOSE TO WHOM A CALL MAY BE EXTENDED OR A FIRST PLACEMENT MADE IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING A PRESBYTERY APPOINTMENT

That this General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada adopt a policy that:

Presbytery shall declare, prior to making a Presbytery appointment to any pastoral charge, whether the appointee would be eligible to receive a call should Presbytery declare a vacancy for that pastoral charge, or would be eligible for a first placement following ordination or commissioning, and that Section 055 of *The Manual* be amended accordingly.

Motion: Harold Manuel/John Yeo

The committee was of the opinion that while clarification may be required in some cases, action on this petition, at a time when the DMPE is conducting a ministry study, may be premature and lead to more rather than less confusion.

Therefore be it resolved that no further action be taken on petition 137.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 141 -- REGULATIONS CONCERNING PROCEDURES FOR APPOINTMENT, RE-APPOINTMENT OR TERMINATION OF STAFF ASSOCIATES, LAY PASTORAL MINISTERS AND LAY PASTORAL MINISTERS IN TRAINING

That this General Council Executive instruct the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education (or a Task Group which would include representation from MPE) to draw up regulations concerning procedures for appointment, re-appointment or termination of Staff Associates, Lay Pastoral Ministers and Lay Pastoral Ministers in Training giving a similar degree of clarity to that found in procedures for changes in Pastoral Relations for members of the Order of Ministry.

Motion: Harold Manuel/John Yeo

There is a needs assessment study currently in process by the DMPE which directly addresses the concerns outlined in petition #141; therefore, further study and costs are unnecessary. Therefore be it resolved that no action be taken on petition 141.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 142 -- A PROPOSAL TO EFFECT A CHANGE TO THE SIX MONTH DISABILITY PROGRAMME AS STATED IN SECTION 37, PAGE 65 OF *THE MANUAL*

That this General Council Executive implement a SHORT TERM DISABILITY BENEFIT PROGRAMME for Clergy and Staff of the United Church of Canada.

Motion: Harold Manuel/John Yeo

There is work currently being done by both the DMPE and the Department of Pensions and Group Insurance. In addition, effective January 1, 1998, a new preventative program, Employee Assistance Plan (EAP), is beginning and will address many of the situations which currently have financial implications for pastoral charges. A short term disability program would increase costs by approximately \$400 per full time employee per year.

Therefore be it resolved that no further action be taken on petition 142.

The Motion

Carried

PETITION 143 -- CHANGES TO SUBSECTION 340(H) OF *THE MANUAL (1995)*

That this General Council Executive alter Subsection 304(h) of *The Manual (1995)* to limit the period of ineligibility to 90 days.

Motion: Harold Manuel/John Yeo

That no further action be taken on petition 143.

The Motion

Carried

General Council Executive Sessional Committee Six

HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY

Motion: Teresa Moysey/Ron Holotuk

That the Executive of General Council approve the request from Huntington University for an extra appeal to be conducted in Algoma, Cochrane, Muskoka, North Bay, Sudbury and Temiscaming Presbyteries until December 31, 2000.

The Motion

Carried

CURRICULUM PROJECT

The Sessional Committee proposes that the two part motion be dealt with seriatim.
The Sessional Committee recommends that the Executive of General Council approve part (a).

Motion: Dave Iverson/Lynn Maki

a) That the General Council Executive authorize a loan of up to \$900,000 spread over the years 1998-2000 from the United Church Reserves to allow The United Church of Canada to invest in the development and publishing of a Bible story based curriculum through the Basic Bible Curriculum Publishing Partnership. Beginning in 2001, current development and production costs will be financed from returns from The United Church of Canada share of North American profits and repayment of development and production costs incurred by The United Church of Canada. Excess proceeds above production costs in 2001 and subsequent years will be returned to the United Church reserves as loan repayment.

Motion: Linda Slough/Dave Iverson (in amendment)

That the words "at the pooled rate of interest" be inserted prior to "spread over".

The Motion to amend

Carried

The Motion as amended

Carried

Motion: Dave Iverson/Lynn Maki

b) That the Executive of General Council authorize that, once the loan has been repaid, any additional revenues coming to the United Church shall be placed in a curriculum reserve within the United Church Reserves.

Motion: Teresa Moysey/Ron Holotuk

That part (b) of the motion be referred to the Division of Finance with the request that the Division discuss the principle of designated reserves and bring a recommendation to the April 1998 meeting of the Executive of General Council, if possible.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed

That all motions relating to the Project Fund be dealt with provisionally until Sessional Committee Two's report has been approved.

The Motion

Carried

REPORT ON ANCC TRANSITION TEAM

Motion: Teresa Moysey/Ron Holotuk

That the General Council Executive adopt the recommendations and approve the continuation of the ANCC "Transition" Team until the end of 2000 and that the Transition Team report to the April 1999 meeting of the General Council Executive with regard to the need for its continuation.

1. That the Executive of General Council approve the continuation of the ANCC "Transition" Team for another 3 years (until the end of 2000).
2. That the mandate be the following sections from the current mandate of the ANCC Transition Team:
 - A1. Support
The Team is to provide support for the work of ANCC and its staff. Ways of doing this:
 - a) Discussion of the life and work of pastoral charges, Presbyteries and staff.
 - b) Forum for sharing of information and testing of ideas.
 - c) Place for the staff to gather with colleagues. (Remember that, formerly, there were mostly geographically divided.)
 - d) Providing a safe environment for challenges, questions and sharing from all involved.
 - A2. Advisory
The Team will act as an advisory body, with respect to the ANCC, in its internal issues and relationships within The United Church of Canada, and for other outside bodies who might need advice in working with the ANCC. The Team has no authority to instruct or direct anybody in the Church, but could offer observations. Ways of doing this include:

- review and discussion of specific issues and problems
- inviting others to join us for discussion and mutual learning
- writing to others (Conferences, individuals, Presbyteries or Divisions) with information, questions or suggestions
- when invited, acting as mediators
- other?

A3 Interpretation:

There was, and continues to be, an interpretative role to play in helping the ANCC and the rest of the Church to understand each other. Matters of policy and practice are frequently discussed and shared so that there can be mutual learnings. Suggestions might be made to the ANCC Presbyteries and pastoral charges about sharing their life and work with the rest of the Church.

A4 Advocacy:

There is a role of advocating on behalf of ANCC with other bodies within the Church, and of assisting the ANCC to find ways to do its own advocacy. This is especially true in regard to policy decisions and practices which have direct impact on the life of the ANCC. Wherever feasible, advocacy will be done by members of the ANCC themselves or by members and non-members together.

B Reporting and Accountability:

The Team shall report, at least yearly, to the Executive of General Council and to the ANCC.

C Frequency of Meetings:

Twice per year, fall and mid-winter

3. That a different name be found, by the group; for example, the All Native Circle Support Team.
4. That the membership be reduced from 11 members to 8, as follows:
 - the executive staff of ANCC (3)
 - the General Secretary, General Council
 - two representatives named by the ANCC
 - a representative from DMC
 - one member at large to be appointed by the Executive of General Council.
5. That a budget of \$8,000 be approved for 1998 from the Project Fund of the Executive of General Council.
6. That the General Secretary of the General Council be responsible for ensuring that budget requests for 1999 and 2000 are submitted through the General Council Offices budgeting process as a part of the budget of the office of the General Council.

The Motion

Carried

GENERAL SECRETARIES REPORT

Motion: Teresa Moysey/Ron Holotuk

That the General Council Executive meet the last weekend in April and the last weekend October each year unless otherwise decided by the Executive or Sub-Executive of General Council.

The Motion

Carried

General Council Executive Sessional Committee Four

REPORT ON FIRST NATIONS GATHERINGS

Motion: Elizabeth Brown/Ross Bartlett

Having read the Final Report of the First Nations Gathering; and
Having heard that the original form of the report, as presented to General Council 36 presented the priorities in the reverse order (i.e. (1) Capital Needs; (2) Funding; (3) Education; (4) Gatherings); and

Having heard the submissions from the Executive members of General Council in response to the report; and

Recognizing that other motions before the Executive of General Council will put in place strategies to address the capital needs thought distribution of assets and Real Property Fund; and

Feeling deep appreciation that the gathering occurred and for its importance at this point in the whole life of the church;

That the Executive of General Council:

1. Receive the final report of the First Nation's Gathering (1997) with the renumbering of priorities;
2. Commend the priority regarding capital needs to the groups addressing distribution of assets and the Real Property Fund;
3. Refer the priority regarding Funding to the Division of Mission in Canada to initiate a gathering of persons representative of all native ministries to explore strategies in relation to needs, funding resources and decision making concerning resource allocation with a progress report to the fall 1998 meeting of the Executive of General Council;
4. Refer the recommendation on education to the Transition Team or its successor. We affirm the process of ongoing education of United Church members and the wider community regarding First Nations issues; and
5. Affirm the recommendation on gatherings and begin planning for a pre-Council gathering in 2000.

The Motion

Carried

HEALING FUND

Motion: Elizabeth Brown/Ross Bartlett

That the General Council Executive

- 1 Re-affirm its strong support for the Healing Fund;
2. Commend the volunteer work done so far;
3. Refer the request for advice and expertise to the Division of Finance through the Department of Stewardship Services asking for their support with the Healing Fund; and
4. Request that mention be made concerning the Residential Schools Healing Fund in the January 1998 "Moderator's Package".

A suggestion was made that the video viewed by members of the Executive be made available to every Pastoral Charge.

The Motion

Carried

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

Motion: Elizabeth Brown/Ross Bartlett

That the Executive of General Council acknowledge with gratitude the letter of the BC Executive and refer the letter to the General Secretary and ask the Moderator's Advisory Committee to examine whether the Moderator's presence at the trial should be a priority.

Motion: Fred Monteith/Ruth Nichols

That this item be tabled definitely until the business committee finds time for this to be dealt with in the agenda.

The Motion

Carried

General Council Executive Sessional Committee Five

CORRESPONDENCE RELATED TO MEDIA

Marion Best took the chair to moderate the proceedings with regard to concerns in response to Bill Phipps' recent public statements. Virginia Coleman noted that visitors are welcome as they are at all meetings as observers.

Jean Bethune presented the work of the Sessional Committee and expressed appreciation to the members of the Sessional Committee for all their long and hard work. She thanked the various staff and volunteers who acted as resources to the committee.

Motion: Jean Bethune/Helen Chisholm

That the General Council Executive receive for information the Moderator's Accountability Report.

The Motion

Carried

Jean Bethune reported on behalf of the Sessional Committee dealing with the correspondence regarding the Moderator's recent statements in the media. In the Sessional Committee's review of the correspondence they found that a large portion of the correspondence was supportive, some letters raised concerns, some letters asked for his resignation. The committee tried to hear the correspondence very clearly. They struggled to hear the pain and to recognize the diversity of the church. They also recognized their responsibility to the Moderator. Copies of the report were circulated to members of the court for their review and discussion followed.

Motion: Lorna Teed/Ron Holotuk

That we extend this discussion until 12:15.

The Motion

Carried

There was a request to deal with these the recommendations of the Sessional Committee one at a time.

Motion: Jean Bethune/Helen Chisholm

That the Executive of General Council acknowledge that there is pain in the body of Christ in the midst of our diversity and that we commit ourselves to work towards dialogue and healing.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Jean Bethune/Helen Chisholm

That the Executive of General Council express gratitude and respect for the unique gifts our Moderator brings, and for the contribution that he will be able to make to the Church during his term of office.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Jean Bethune/Helen Chisholm

That the Executive of General Council call the Church to continue the conversation about Christology through the use of the study document, "Reconciling and Making New."

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Jean Bethune/Helen Chisholm

That the Executive of General Council affirm our Moderator's intent to communicate directly and in a pastoral way with all the people of the church so as to acknowledge the effects of the statements as reported in the interview with the "Ottawa Citizen" and that this be done in a pastoral letter sent to Secretaries of Pastoral Charge Boards/Councils, Presbytery/District Secretaries, Conference Offices, specialized ministries, theological schools, educational centres and the United Church Web Page.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Jean Bethune/Helen Chisholm

That the Executive of General Council endorse the recommendation of the Conference Presidents and Leading Elder that, as a pastoral response, a video be produced and distributed to Presbyteries/Districts and theological schools and educational centres.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Jean Bethune/Helen Chisholm

That the Executive of General Council request the General Secretary of the General Council to communicate to Pastoral Charges, specialized ministries, theological schools, educational centres, Presbyteries/Districts and Conferences regarding the actions of the Executive with respect to this matter.

There was a request from the floor that the entire content of the Sessional Committees report be included with the letter.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Lorna Teed/Ron Holotuk

That this discussion be extended by 10 minutes.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Jean Bethune/Helen Chisholm

That the Executive of General Council request the General Secretary of the General Council to circulate to Conferences and Presbyteries/Districts the document, "Public Statements and The United Church of Canada".

Motion: John Moor/B.J. Klassen (in amendment)

That this motion be amended to include every pastoral charge.

Motion: Ross Bartlett/Claire Borel-Christen (Amendment to amendment)

That the words "upon request" be added.

The Motion to amend the amendment

Defeated

The Motion to amend

Carried

The Motion as amended

Carried

Motion: Jean Bethune/Helen Chisholm

That the Executive of General Council request the General Secretary of the General Council to respond to letters specifically requesting that the Moderator be removed from office by informing the writers of the actions of the Executive of General Council and of the options available to them.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Jack Spencer/Teresa Moysey

That the Executive of General Council affirm the doctrine of the United Church as set forth in the two basic documents, the Basis of Union (1925) and the Statement of Faith (1940) and expressed further in such documents as the "New Creed" (1968, as further revised in 1994), "The Lordship of Jesus" (1978) and the Authority and Interpretation of Scripture (1992), recognizing and celebrating the diversity of interpretation of these official statements and documents within the membership of The United Church of Canada.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Jack Spencer/Don Smith

That this item become number one and all others be renumbered accordingly.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Ross Bartlett/Patty Evans

That the General Council Executive adopt the report of Sessional Committee #5 related to section two as a whole and ask that the report and its recommendations be translated into various languages and communicated to the church.

The Motion

Carried

Virginia Coleman, on behalf of this General Council Executive, expressed deep gratitude and profound appreciation to members of Sessional Committee Two for their long hours and significant work on this matter.

Motion: David Carrothers/Karen Ptolemy-Stam

That the General Council Executive record a formal vote of thanks to the entire church for the time they took to convey their thoughts and feelings and to express their love for their church and their faith.

The Motion

Carried

MANITOU CONFERENCE, CONFERENCE BOUNDARIES TASK GROUP

Motion: Jean Bethune/Helen Chisholm

That the Executive of General Council receive for information the report of the Conference Boundaries Task Group and express appreciation for the work done to date.

The Motion

Carried

Having read a letter from Manitou Conference re: lifting the freeze on hiring of an Executive Secretary and having heard the recommendation of the Conference Boundaries Task Group, Sessional Committee 5 moves

Motion: Jean Bethune/Helen Chisholm

That (1) the "freeze" on the search for the Executive Secretary for Manitou Conference be lifted; (2) a comprehensive job description be prepared; (3) the candidates for the position of Executive Secretary for Manitou Conference be made aware of the Conference Boundaries Task Group and possible changes that it may bring about.

The Motion

Carried

General Council Executive Sessional Committee Three

1999 SALARIES

Motion: David Carrothers/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That the Executive of General Council approve that the 1999 salaries be determined by increasing the 1998 General Council/Conference salaries and the 1998 Ministry Personnel minimums by 2.0%.

Mollie Williams reported that the Sessional Committee concurs.

The Motion

Carried

NOMINATIONS

Motion: Mollie Williams/Jon Jessiman

That the General Council Executive approve the following nominations:

That the Executive of General Council approve the appointment of David Sherwin (O) (TOR) as the Conference representative to the Budget Steering Group.

That the Executive of General Council approve the appointment of Kim Uyede-Kai (L) (TOR) to the Agenda & Planning Committee for the 37th General Council.

That the Executive of General Council approve the appointment of John Young-Jung Lee (O) (TOR), Susan Green (L) (NFLD), Grafton Antone (O) (ANC) and Dwaine Dornan (L) (SK) to the Education for Church Leadership Coordinating Committee.

That the Executive of General Council approve the appointment of Zestaline Kim (L) (TOR) as the youth representative to the 8th Assembly of the World Council of Churches.

Note: a previously nominated youth, Shunaha Kim, can no longer attend due to the change in the dates of the meeting.

That the Executive of General Council approve the appointment of Linda Steinacker (L) (LON) to the Division of Mission in Canada.

That the Executive of General Council approve the appointment of Bradley Newcombe (O) (BC) to the Education for Church Leadership Coordinating Committee.

That the Executive of General Council approve the appointment of Marion Best (L) (BC), Elizabeth Brown (O) (MTU), Fred Monteith (O) (HAM), Bill Wall (O) (SK) and Anne Shirley Sutherland (L) (TOR) to the Planning Task Group of GCE.

That the Executive of General Council approve the appointment of Aleace Davidson (O) (LON) as a member at large in the Division of World Outreach.

The Motion

Carried

SEXUAL ABUSE POLICY

Motion: B.J. Klassen/Anne Shirley Sutherland

That the Executive of the General Council direct the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education not to implement the amendment to the amendment (Elliott/Fisher), carried at the 36th General Council, which required that Respondents to complaints related to the policy on *Sexual Abuse (Sexual Harassment, Pastoral Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Assault) and Child Abuse* be informed of the complaint in person by an Officer of the Church Court accompanied by a support person trained in issues of confidentiality (thereby eliminating the option of the Respondent being notified of the complaint by telephone and requiring the presence of a second person in the delivery of the complaint)

and that, in order to honour the intention of the amendment to ensure pastoral concern for Respondents at the time of notification that a complaint related to the policy on *Sexual Abuse (Sexual Harassment, Pastoral Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Assault) and Child Abuse* has been received,

the Executive of the General Council approve the following change to the "Response" section of the ***Sexual Abuse (Sexual Harassment, Pastoral Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Assault) and Child Abuse*** policy document [the additional words appearing in bold type]:

When the Officer of the Church Court has been notified by the Conference Coordinating Committee that Consultant B has been named, and the Officer of the Church Court and Consultant B have met, the Officer of the Church Court shall notify the Respondent in person or

by telephone that a complaint related to sexual abuse has been received, and arrange for an immediate meeting between the Respondent and Consultant B. **Decisions regarding the method of informing the Respondent that a complaint has been received shall take seriously pastoral concern for the Respondent and his/her family.** The Respondent shall be informed of his/her right to have a support person present during the Response. The name of the Complainant and other identifying information shall not be disclosed until the Response meeting. In meeting with the Respondent prior to the Response meeting, Consultant B shall ensure that the Respondent is given a complete copy of the *Sexual Abuse (Sexual Harassment, Pastoral Sexual Misconduct, Sexual Assault) and Child Abuse* document, and shall serve in a consultative capacity in relation to the Respondent, clarifying the process and addressing any questions the Respondent might have about the procedures.

The Motion

Carried

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION OF THE UNITED CHURCH PENSION PLAN

Motion: Michael Scott/Steve Adams

The rate referred to in Section 12.03 (a) shall not exceed the actuarial increase calculated by the Actuary.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Michael Scott/Steve Adams

The Executive of General Council approves that Section 1.45 (a) Constitution, definition of Total and Permanent, be amended as follows:

“..... as attested to by a medical certificate *from a duly licensed medical doctor where such certificate is satisfactory to the Executive*”

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Michael Scott/Steve Adams

That Section 14.06 of the Constitution be amended, as follows, to remove the possibility of a reduction in disability pension when pension plus employment income exceed 133 1/3% of Minimum Salary, and change the policy to have the disability pension cease when employment income exceeds pre-disability Pensionable Earnings.

If a Member in receipt of a disability pension earns an income from any employment which exceeds 100% of the Member's Pensionable Earnings immediately prior to the date of disability, the disability pension shall be discontinued and Section 14.08 shall apply, and

That Section 14.03 of the Constitution be amended to remove the reference to 14.06.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Michael Scott/Steve Adams

That the General Council Executive take such actions that will ensure compliance with the minimum housing (20% of base salary) policy.

The Motion

Defeated

Motion: Mollie Williams/Jon Jessiman

That the General Council Executive direct the Department of Pensions and Group Insurance to seek the assistance of the Conference Executive Secretary/Speaker and Conference Personnel Ministers in working with those Presbyteries/Districts within which there are Pastoral Charges which have not yet complied with the regulations related to the minimum housing (20% of base salary) policy.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Michael Scott/Steve Adams

That the Executive of General Council approves the amendment of Constitution of the Pension Plan as follows: (changes are in italics):

- 28.01 No pension payable hereunder *nor any other benefit entitlement of a Member* shall be capable of being assigned, alienated, charged, anticipated, given as security or surrendered, except assignment does not include assignment pursuant to a decree, order or judgment of a competent tribunal or a written agreement in settlement of rights arising out of a marriage or other conjugal relationship between the Member and the Member's Spouse or Former Spouse, on or after the breakdown of their marriage or other conjugal relationship, and assignment also does not include assignment by the legal representative of a deceased individual on the distribution of the individual's estate, and surrender does not include a reduction in benefits to avoid revocation of the registration of the Plan.
- 28.02 No pension payable hereunder *nor any other benefit entitlement of a Member* confers upon any Member, personal representative, beneficiary, dependent or other person any right or interest therein that is capable of being assigned, alienated, charged, anticipated, given as security or surrendered except as indicated in this section.
- 28.03 No document purporting to effect any assignment or alienation shall be binding on the Executive, the Department, the Trustees, or The Church except as provided in this section.
- 28.04 No pension payable *nor any other benefit entitlement of a Member* hereunder is or shall be subject to execution, seizure, attachment or other legal process or be available to satisfy the claims of creditors except in satisfaction of an order for support to the limit permissible under the Pension Benefits Act or *other* legislation.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Michael Scott/Steve Adams

That the General Council Executive approve the amendment to the Pension Plan Constitution, as shown on Appendix A of this report and that it be approved retroactive to January 1, 1997.

The Motion

Carried

Motion: Michael Scott/Steve Adams

That the General Council Executive approve

That effective January 1, 1998, the core premium rate collected from employers for Health and Dental be increased by 4%; and

That effective January 1, 1998 the optional employee-paid health and dental rates be increased by 5%; and

That effective January 1, 1998, the pensioner-paid health and dental rate be increased by 4%.

The Motion

Carried

General Council Executive Sessional Committee Two

DIVISION OF FINANCE RESTRUCTURING

Motion: Michael Scott/Steve Adams

That the General Council Executive give their approval to the Division of Finance to examine and explore the fundamental structures of the Division of Finance; including the composition of their membership, and recommend any changes it feels are necessary to enable the Division to carry out its work. The Division will bring these recommendations back to this Executive for approval at the Fall meeting in 1998; and

That the Executive of General Council give their immediate approval to allow ordered members to participate as members-at-large on the Division of Finance;

and ask that *The Manual* be revised to reflect this change.

Motion: Glenn Smith /John Moor

That the resolution be amended by deleting the words "bring these recommendations" and inserting in their place the word "report", and by deleting the words "for approval".

The Motion to amend

Carried

The Motion as amended

Carried

DIVISION OF FINANCE APPOINTMENTS

Motion: Anne Shirley Sutherland/David Carrothers

That the Executive of General Council approve the appointment of Elaine MacLaughlin (O) (SK), Louise Mahood (O) (TOR), John Kim (O) (TOR), and Kathy Chenier (L) (BQ) as members at large to the Division of Finance.

The Motion

Carried

SPECIAL GIFTS

Motion: Michael Scott/Steve Adams

That the General Council Executive endorse the direction of the report and affirms that the work of this unit is an integral part of the General Council Offices.

The Executive of General Council recognizes the need to provide stable funding to the Special Gifts unit and recognizes the dilemma caused by charging fixed percentage commissions on bequest and therefore, endorses the idea that 100% of bequests go to the destination and that the Special Gifts unit fully participate in Unified Funding as part of the budget process.

The Sessional committee concurs.

Motion: Linda Slough/Bernice Luce (in amendment)

That item 5 under Summary of Recommendations [appendices] in the body of the report be referred to the Department of Stewardship Services for continued reflection within the stewardship network.

The Motion to amend

Carried

Motion: Jon Jessiman/Teresa Moysey (in amendment)

That item 4 under Summary of Recommendations [appendices] in the body of the report be amended to read "make information available to allied professionals regarding Special Gifts".

The Motion to amend

Carried

The Motion as amended

Carried

Fred Jamieson asked the court's permission to leave to court to make his way home.

General Council Executive Sessional Committee Six

ARCHIVES ENDOWMENT FUND

Motion: Teresa Moysey/Ron Holotuk

1. That the \$365,000 representing the Archives' share of the proceeds from the sale of 85 St. Clair be placed in a fund called the Archives Endowment Fund.
2. That the capital and interest in this fund be used to pay for materials, equipment, and/or services that will improve the quantity and/or the quality of space available to the Archives. Such measures could include but are not limited to: purchase/ installation of additional shelving, rental of offsite space, reformatting paper records through microfilming or digitization, renovations to current or alternative space(s), upgrades to environmental controls, etc.
3. That approval of disbursement from this fund be made by the General Council Executive or Sub-Executive, on the recommendation of the Archives Management Committee.

The Motion

Carried

General Council Executive Sessional Committee Four

CORRESPONDENCE FROM B.C. CONFERENCE

Motion: Elizabeth Brown/Ross Bartlett

That the Executive of General Council acknowledge with gratitude the letter of the British Columbia Conference Executive and refer the letter to the General Secretary and ask the Moderator's Advisory Committee to examine whether the Moderator's presence at the trial should be a priority.

Motion: Jon Jessiman/Mollie Williams (in amendment)

That the report of Sessional Committee #4, section 2, be amended to include:

In the spirit of repentance and in view of an imminent trial date, the General Council Executive express its view that the parties to the current B.C. litigation commenced by survivors of the former Port Alberni Residential School should be strongly encouraged to continue to explore possible settlement of the issues involved prior to trial.

Discussion: Virginia Coleman reported that there have been discussions. Representatives of B.C Conference stated that the intent of the amendment was the continual invitation to reach out to one another in dialogue.

Some members of the court were concerned that the only way that the story of the residential schools will get told is through the court proceedings. The church needs to ensure that what prevents the survivors from settling out of court is known and to offer to address their concerns.

The Motion to amend

Carried

The Motion as amended

Carried

Concern was raised for the need for intentional support networks for leadership involved in this litigation if the court action goes forward. This concern must be dealt with at an upcoming sub-executive meeting.

NOMINATIONS TASK GROUP REPORT

The task group appointed to name three people to the Human Resources Committee reported that they were unclear of the role that the three appointees were to play on the committee and therefore recommended one name at that time.

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Ruth Nicholls
That Irene Parker be appointed to the Human Resources Committee.

The Motion

Carried

SUB-EXECUTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Motion: Ron Holotuk/Ross Bartlett
That the following people be named as the Sub-Executive for this triennium.
The General Secretary of the General Council: K. Virginia Coleman (O) (HAM)

Members:

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|------------|
| 1 Business Committee member | Lorna Teed | (L) (MAR) |
| 1 Division Chair | Michael Scott | (L) (TOR) |
| 1 French constituency rep | Claire Borel-Christen | (L) (M&O) |
| 1 Ethnic Ministries rep | Hazel Bigby | (L) (M&O) |
| 7 Conference reps | David Carrothers | (O) (LON) |
| | Mollie Williams | (O) (BC) |
| | Don Smith | (O) (M&O) |
| | Kay Cho | (O) (TOR) |
| | Bernice Luce | (L) (ANW) |
| | Harold Manuel | (L) (NFLD) |
| | Lois Creith | (L) (MNWO) |

Corresponding Members:
General Council Secretaries

The Motion

Carried

AUTHORIZATION OF THE SUB EXECUTIVE

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Lorna Teed
That the Sub-Executive be authorized to deal with the business remaining from this meeting of the General Council Executive and other business of an emergency nature.

The Motion

Carried

Worship: The meeting closed with worship led by the Ethnic Ministries Council.