

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL MINUTES April 27-30, 2001

The Executive of the General Council of The United Church of Canada met from 9:00 a.m. on Friday, April 27, 2001 to 3:00 p.m. on Monday, April 30, 2001, at Mount St. Vincent University, Halifax, Nova Scotia. The Moderator, The Right Reverend Marion Pardy, presided.

ATTENDANCE OF THE MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE

Voting Members

Steve Adams, Jim Balfour, Ross Bartlett, Marion Best, Hazel Bigby, Bonnie Burnett, Steven Chambers, Richard Choe, Claire Borel-Christen, Virginia Coleman, Jeff Cook, Gerald Doré, Sheila Duffin, Alf Dumont, Doug Einarson, Chris Ferguson, Carol Hancock, Ron Holotuk, Gordon How, David Iverson, Jim Jackson, Elaine Jacobs, Jon Jessiman, Kathy Koehler, Martha Ter Kuile, Stephen Mabee, Gwen Nicol-MacDonald, Joanna MacQuarrie, Lynn Maki, Harold Manuel, Teresa Moysey, Marion Pardy, Bill Phipps, Barbara Rafuse, James Scott, Dong-Chun Seo, Peter Short, Michelle Slater, Sheila Snelling, Norma Soble, Walter Sowa, Jack Spencer, Karen Ptolemy-Stam, Keith Stuckless, Anne Shirley Sutherland, Peter Wesley, David Woodall, Peter Wyatt.

Corresponding Members

Jim Blanchard, Debra Bowman, Wendy Bulloch, Roslyn Campbell, Richard Chambers, Roger Coll, Dianne Cooper, David Estey, Bruce Fauschou, Catherine Gaw, Bonnie Greene, Allan Hall, Sharon Larade, John Loughheed, Gordon MacDermid, Elsie Manley-Casimir, Jim Pickering, George Rodgers, Sharon Rose Joy Ruiz-Duremdes (Global Partner), Peter Scott, Clarence Sellars, Jim Sinclair, Dale Wiggins.

Regrets

Faith March-MacCuish, Ruth Nicholls, Kathryn Chenier (voting members), David Allen, Michael Bourgeois, Paul Campbell, Murray Lapp (corresponding members).

FRIDAY – APRIL 27, 2001

CONSTITUTING THE MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE

The Moderator constituted the meeting with the following words:

"In the Name of Jesus Christ the Sovereign head of the Church, and by the authority vested in me by the 37th General Council, I hereby declare this meeting of the Executive of the 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, chef souverain de l'Église, et par l'autorité qui m'a été conférée par le 37ième (trente septième) Conseil général, je déclare ouvert, par la présente, l'executif du Conseil général et ses travaux dans l'intérêt du Royaume de Dieu."

OPENING WORSHIP

Opening worship was a communion service led by the Moderator, Marion Pardy.

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENTS

Marion Pardy welcomed the members of the Executive and made the following announcements:

Regrets

- Paul Campbell, Chair, Human Resources Committee

- Murray Lapp, Chair, Budget Steering Group
- Faith March-MacCuish, ordered representative, Newfoundland & Labrador
- Ruth Nicholls, lay representative, Toronto
- Michael Bourgeois, Chair, Theology and Faith Committee
- Kathryn Chenier, lay representative, Bay of Quinte

Introduction of Global Partner

The Global Partner representative for this meeting is Sharon Rose Joy Ruiz-Duremdes. Sharon Rose is the General Secretary of the National Council of Churches in the Philippines. Sharon was National President of the Baptist Women's Federation from 1996 to 1999 and is currently the National Coordinator of the Association of Women in Theology. Sharon has an extensive history in ecumenical work in the Philippines.

Introduction of Others

- Robyn Brown-Hewitt, worship coordinator for this meeting
- Martha Martin, local arrangements coordinator for this meeting
- Norma Soble, alternate lay representative, Bay of Quinte
- Gordon MacDermid, alternate representative, Theology and Faith Committee
- Ruth Wright, Chair, Directions Committee, resource person for this meeting
- Jim Blanchard, alternate representative, Human Resources Committee

Late Arrivals

- Doug Einarson, Chair, Division of Finance
- Eric Tusz-King, staff member, Maritime Conference

GREETINGS FROM HALIFAX PRESBYTERIES AND MARITIME CONFERENCE

Greetings were brought by Ross Bartlett on behalf of the Halifax Presbyteries and Catherine Gaw on behalf of the Maritime Conference.

ANNOUNCEMENTS FROM THE BUSINESS COMMITTEE

Peter Short, chair of the Business Committee, informed the Executive of the facilities available in the Motherhouse and of general processes related to dealing with the business. Anne Shirley Sutherland informed the Executive of the kind of entertainment that was available at this meeting.

OPENING PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

Corresponding Members

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Peter Short

2001-04-27-0115.PRO

That the corresponding members of the Executive of the General Council for this meeting be: John Loughheed, Sharon Larade, Gordon MacDermid, the Directors of departments, the Executive Secretaries of the Conferences, Sharon Rose Joy Ruiz-Duremdes and other persons attending the meeting as a resource to the Executive.

Carried

Administrative Staff

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Peter Short

2001-04-27-0116.PRO

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

Carried

Reference and Counsel

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Peter Short

2001-04-27-0117.PRO

That the following persons be the reference and counsel committee for this meeting of the Executive of the General Council: Stephen Mabee, Joanna MacQuarrie and Jack Spencer.

Carried

Agenda**Motion: Virginia Coleman/Peter Short****2001-04-27-0118.PRO**

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

Carried**Minutes of the last meeting of the Executive of the General Council****Motion: Virginia Coleman/Peter Short****2001-04-27-0119.PRO**

That the Executive of the General Council approve, as circulated, the minutes of the meeting of the Executive of the General Council which was held November 3-6, 2000.

Carried**Correspondence****Motion: Virginia Coleman/Peter Short****2001-04-27-0120.PRO**

That the Executive of General Council approve the suggested actions related to the correspondence received:

FROM	DATE	REGARDING	SUGGESTED ACTION
1. St. Paul Presbytery	November 3, 2000	Request to re-address the request from Coronation Presbytery for Financial help for the debt from the hearings involving Ted Wigglesworth	For Action by GCE Assigned to Sessional Committee #4
2. The National Alliance of Covenanting Congregations within the United Church of Canada	December 5, 2000	Request related to the two resolutions dealing with the Conflict in the East Coast Fishery that were adopted by GC37	For Action by GCE Assigned to Sessional Committee #4
3. Vernon R. Wishart	January 2, 2001	GC37 decision related to the human sexuality petitions	For Action by GCE Assigned to Sessional Committee #4
4. Peter Wyatt	February 2, 2001	Resignation from position of General Secretary, Theology, Faith and Ecumenism	For Action by GCE - Receive with regret and appreciation for Peter's work
5. Good Spirit Presbytery	February 19, 2001	Request that GCE join the presbytery in calling upon the Govt of Canada to grant clemency to Mr. Latimer	For Action by GCE - Petition from Presbytery not "duly transmitted" through Saskatchewan Conference Assigned to Sessional Committee #4
6. Good Spirit Presbytery	February 20, 2001	Request for GC to review the base amount required to be paid by Pastoral Charges in excess heating costs for	For Action by GCE Assigned to Sessional Committee #4

		mances.	
7. Trinity United Church	February 27, 2001	Request for GC to rethink their position and withdraw their support for the Supreme Court of Canada's ruling regarding recognition of same sex couples	For Action by GCE Assigned to Sessional Committee #4
8. Gary Boratto	March 5, 2001	Resolution at GC37 on Able-ism	For Action by GCE - Assigned to Sessional Committee #4
9. Alberta & NW Conference	March 8, 2001	Approval of request from Josephburg UC of Christ to become a congregation of The United Church of Canada	For action by GCE - George Rodgers will supply more information at the meeting Assigned to Sessional Committee #4
10. Niagara Presbytery	March 23, 2001	Request that GCE submit resolutions on human sexuality passed by GC37 to the Presbyteries and Pastoral Charges by way of Remit	For Action by GCE - Petition not "duly transmitted" - GCE expressly forbidden from authorizing a Remit Assigned to Sessional Committee #4
11. Women in Ministry Committee, Committee on Diaconal Ministry, Pastoral Relations Committee	March 25, 2001	Request that the GCE postpone its June meeting	For action by GCE Assigned to Sessional Committee #1
12. Lawrence Pushee	March 30, 2001	Request that GC intervene to retire the debt and assume the ownership of Cedar Glen	For action by GCE Assigned to Sessional Committee #4
13. Maritime Conference - UCPH/AVEL Advisory Unit, Christian Growth Committee	April 2, 2001	Support for the Moncton Bookstore	For action by GCE Assigned to Sessional Committee #5
14. Irene Brydges	Received – April 9, 2001	Request that letterhead have English first and French second	For action by GCE Assigned to Sessional Committee #4
15. Green's Harbour Pastoral Charge	April 11, 2001	Petition re: reduction of debt for post secondary graduates	For action by GCE Assigned to Sessional Committee #4
16. The United Church Downtown Mission of Windsor, Inc.	April 12, 2001	Seeking permission to exceed its currently approved level of indebtedness in order	For action by GCE Assigned to Sessional Committee #4

		to enable it to purchase larger facilities	
17. British Columbia Conference Executive	April 24, 2001	Requesting consideration of a libel suit against Kevin Annett	For action by GCE Assigned to Sessional Committee #4
18. British Columbia Conference Native Ministries Council	April 23, 2001	Requesting funds to support the "Moving Beyond Apologies" healing initiative	For action by GCE Assigned to Sessional Committee #4
19. COPERMIF	March 30, 2001	Seeking response for Petition #102 which was referred by GC37 to the Human Resources Committee	Refer to HRC
20. COPERMIF	April 23, 2001	Concern about Francophone representation on task Groups and Committees	Assigned to Sessional Committee #5
21. Coronation Presbytery	April 25, 2001	Resource Distribution and concern about the book rooms	Assigned to Sessional Committee #5

Carried

Committee of the Whole and in Camera (INFO-18A – INFO-18B)

The Executive reviewed the process for dealing with business in the committee as a whole (refer to INFO-18A and INFO-18B)

Motion: Virginia Coleman/Bonnie Burnett

2001-04-27-0121

That the Executive of the General Council adopt this procedure (**section on page INFO-18A**) as the one which we will follow in our meetings with respect to committee of the whole.

Carried

This process would go to ***The Manual*** Committee so that this group can propose its inclusion in the ***The Manual***.

Process for dealing with Proposals (INFO-18C)

The Executive Reviewed the process for dealing with proposals. (refer to INFO-18C)

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

The Executive reviewed the new guidelines on Declarations of Interest (INFO-10). The following members of the Executive of the General Council declared their conflict of interest in the pieces of work before the Executive:

Gerald Dore – Pastoral Relations Salary System

Jon Jessiman – Pastoral Relations Salary System

General Council Secretaries – HRC part II, if moved for action

Mchelle Slater – Pastoral Relations Salary System

Jim Sinclair – Correspondence (Alliance of Covenanting) on Burnt Church

MODERATOR'S ACCOUNTABILITY (GC-51 – GC-53)

Marion Pardy called upon Bill Phipps to take the chair while she presented her accountability report. The members of the Executive were given an opportunity for questions.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S ACCOUNTABILITY (GC-54 – GC-61)

Virginia Coleman presented her accountability report. She took the opportunity to thank all the people who were involved in the production of the Record of Proceedings and The Manual and for all the hard work that was put into these projects. She also explained that although the Legal Aid fund is not quite ready it is very close to being finalized. The members of the Executive were given the opportunity to ask questions.

Clarification on which property sales go to Executive and how these sales get approved was requested. It was agreed that the guidelines on this would be sent to the members of the Executive.

Resignation the General Secretary for Theology Faith & Ecumenism - Proposal #21 (GC-61)**Motion: Virginia Coleman/Jamie Scott****2001-04-27-0122**

That the Executive of the General Council accept the resignation of Peter Wyatt from the position of General Secretary, Theology, Faith and Ecumenism, effective June 30, 2001 and that the Executive acknowledge its appreciation for Peter's work and his deep commitment to The United Church of Canada.

Carried

The meeting broke for Dinner.

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

The reflection was led by Sharon Rose Joy Ruiz-Duremdes on the theme of Globalization in the Phillipines and the destructive effects of Globalization on the people of Philipines. A copy of this reflection was made available to those of the Executive that wished to receive it.

DIRECTIONS COMMITTEE PROGRESS REPORT (GC-126 – GC-132)

Ruth Wright, Chair of the Directions Committee, presented this report and addressed some of the rationale behind it. An opportunity to ask questions for further clarification was given; some time was spent in table groups to gather comments and suggestions to forward to Sessional Committee #1 who would be dealing with this report.

HUMAN RESOURCES COMMITTEE**Review of Human Resources Policies (GC-29 – GC-33, GC-40 – GC-41)**

Jim Blanchard, member of the Human Resources Committee, presented the Human Resources Committee report and further clarified the part of the report dealing with the review of the HR policies. An opportunity for questions was given before the report would be dealt with by Sessional Committee #3.

Report on the Pastoral Relations Salary System (GC-36 – GC-38, GC-45)

Jim Blanchard presented on the Pastoral Relations Salary System. The Executive was given an opportunity to ask questions. Comments and suggestions would be forwarded to Sessional Committee #3 who would be dealing with this piece of the report.

GENERAL COUNCIL SECRETARIES' ACCOUNTABILITY**Resource Distribution (GC-133 – GC-135)**

The Resource Distribution piece of this report was addressed by Gordon How. Jeff Cook, chair of the Division of Communication presented the feedback from the wider church that he had received to date on this issue. Suggestions, comments and questions were forwarded to Sessional Committee #5.

After some announcements from Peter Short, the meeting broke for supper.

DIVISION OF FINANCE**Financial Position of the General Council Offices 2000 Update (FIN-27 – FIN-28)**

Steve Adams clarified the figures and the information presented in the Update on the Financial position of the General Council Offices for 2000.

Reserve Fund Policy Revisions and the General Council Operating Fund (FIN-14 – FIN-28, FIN-30)

Doug Einarson presented the information in this report related to the Reserve Fund and the proposal to establish the General Council Operating Fund. He informed the Executive that the Division of Finance is proposing that a fund called the General Council Operating Fund be established. Currently, Mission and Service donations can only go into the Reserve Fund. The decision to freeze the Reserve Fund to allow for payment of our legal obligations related to the Residential Schools legacy, will result in the United Church not being able to honour their donors' wishes to have their donations go towards supporting the Mission of the United Church; by establishing another fund to which donations could be transferred, this problem would be addressed. The money in this fund would then be used for what it was intended by the donors, the support of the Mission of the Church.

Budget 2002**Revenue Recommendation from Division of Finance (FIN-29)**

Doug Einarson presented the information in the report using a power-point presentation.

Revenue Recommendation from the Budget Steering Group (GC-1 – GC-6)

Jim Balfour addressed the Budget Steering Group (BSG) report and clarified the revenue and expenditure figures on GC-4.

The members of the Executive were requested to send their comments to Sessional Committee #2 who would be dealing with all the Finance reports.

Pension Trustees' Report (FIN-31- FIN-43)

Doug Einarson requested that the Executive familiarize themselves with their responsibilities as Administrators of the Pension Plan. He shared his concern that currently the pension fund is not being administered responsibly with only 2 staff members responsible for investing such a large fund.

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS STEERING COMMITTEE ACCOUNTABILITY (GC-20 – GC-22)

David Iverson addressed this report and clarified the 2001 budget for the work of the Residential Schools Steering Committee. The report would be dealt with by Sessional Committee #4.

The meeting adjourned for the day with a prayer led by the Moderator. The members of the Executive were invited to a performance by a local music group.

SATURDAY – APRIL 28, 2001**OPENING WORSHIP**

Worship was led by Robyn Brown-Hewitt, Barbara Rafuse and Dong-Chun Seo.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Lougheed reported on the seven awards that the UC Observer won at the recent American Church Press Awards. These were two Awards of Excellence, three Awards of Merit and two Honorable Mentions. He reported that the Canadian Church Press Awards are upcoming.

PLANNING AND PRIORITIES REPORT (GC-14 – GC-19)

The members of the Planning and Priorities group, Teresa Moysey, Jim Sinclair and Peter Wesley, presented this report. The report was to be dealt with by Sessional Committee #1

MEETING OF THE SUMMIT LEADERS IN QUEBEC CITY

Gerald Doré shared with the Executive his experience of the Summit of the Americas in Quebec City.

SESSIONAL COMMITTEES MEET

The meeting in plenary broke to allow for Sessional Committees to meet and deal with the pieces of business allocated to them.

CLOSING WORSHIP

At 8:00 p.m. the Executive participated in a Taizé Prayer Service.

SUNDAY – APRIL 29, 2001**OPENING WORSHIP – COMMUNITY-BASED MANAGEMENT PRESENTATION**

Eric Tusz-King, Martha Martin and John Kearney gave a presentation on a Community-Based Management movement including worship and reflection throughout it. John spoke about the Global Fisheries Crisis and explained how Community-based management model is a response to globalization.

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE #2 REPORT

Jamie Scott, chair of Sessional Committee #2 presented the work done by this committee (refer to SC2-1 – SC2-2).

Division of Finance Accountability (FIN-1 – FIN-11)

Motion: Jamie Scott/Stephen Mabee

2001-04-27-0123

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the accountability report of the Division of Finance.

Carried

Trustees of The United Church of Canada of Canada Pension Fund (FIN-31 – FIN-32)

Motion: Jamie Scott/Stephen Mabee

2001-04-27-0124

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the report of the Trustees of The United Church of Canada Pension Fund.

Carried

Motion: Jamie Scott/Stephen Mabee

2001-04-27-0125

That the Executive of the General Council endorse the overall general direction of the Report of the Trustees of The United Church of Canada Pension Fund and that the Executive request the Directions Committee to incorporate this into its work.

Carried

Financial Update for 2000 (FIN-27 – FIN-28)

Motion: Jamie Scott/Stephen Mabee

2001-04-27-0126

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the Financial Update for 2000 Report.

Carried

Financial Re-engineering – Proposal #5, Request for Project Funding (FIN-12 – FIN-13)

Motion: Jamie Scott/Stephen Mabee

2001-04-27-0127

That the Executive of the General Council approve an allocation of \$25,000 from the 2001 Project Fund to enable the review of the General Council offices finance functions.

Carried

Indian Residential Schools Fund – Proposal #8 (FIN-30)

Motion: Jamie Scott/Stephen Mabee

2001-04-27-0128

That the Executive of the General Council approve that:

1. The \$0.45 million not required for residential school related expenses in 2000, be transferred immediately from the United Church General Reserve Fund to the United Church Residential Schools Fund.

2. Effective in 2001, and continuing in 2002, the annual transfer from the United Church General Reserve Fund to the United Church Residential Schools Fund be set at \$2 million instead of \$1 million and that this be done in equal instalments on July 1st and December 31st annually.

Carried

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Gordon MacDermitt led the Theological Reflection. He put the following questions to the Executive: "What place do permanence and change have in your understanding of God?" and "What does your understanding of God imply for your agenda?"

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE #3 REPORT

Ross Bartlett, chair of Sessional Committee #3 presented the work done by this committee (refer to SC3-1 – SC3-4).

Travel Rate for 2002 – Proposal #9 (GC-39)

Motion: Ross Bartlett/Teresa Moysey

2001-04-27-0129

That the Executive of General Council approve the 2002 Travel Rate at 33 cents per kilometre.

Carried

Proposed revision to the Pastoral Relations Salary Schedule – Proposal #14 (GC-45)

Motion: Ross Bartlett/Teresa Moysey

2001-04-27-0130

That the Executive of the General Council revise the Salary and Allowances Schedule for Ministry Personnel in the pastoral relations system, effective January 1, 2002 to the following:

Category A: (1- 2 years of service) be increased by 6% of the 2001 Category A

Category B: (3 - 4 years of service) would be equal to A plus 4.5%.

Category C: (5 - 7 years of service) would be equal to A plus 9%.

Category D: (8 - 10 years of service) would be equal to A plus 13.5%.

Category E: (11 - 13 years of service) would be equal to A plus 18%.

Category F: (14+ years of service) would be equal to A plus 22.5%.

Carried

Referral of additional "Big Picture" Questions to the Division of Ministry Personnel & Education

Motion: Ross Bartlett/Teresa Moysey

2001-04-27-0131

That the Executive of the General Council refer the "big picture" questions on page SC3-4 of the Sessional Committee #3 report to the Division of Ministry of Personnel Education for study and report to the Spring 2002 meeting of the Executive of the General Council.

Carried

Review of Human Resources Policy regarding Termination – Proposal #10 (GC-40 – GC-41)

Motion: Ross Bartlett/Teresa Moysey

2001-04-27-0132

That the Executive of the General Council revise the Human Resources Policy Manual as follows: (additions are noted **in bold and underlined**, deletions are noted ~~**in bold with a strike through.**~~)

Introduction

Policies are reviewed every three years. Any employee or employing unit, **or Executive of the employing unit** is encouraged to provide input regarding existing policies or new policies for consideration. Policy questions should be directed either to your immediate supervisor or to the Human Resources Office.

Policy 1.2(a) Position Approval

Decisions to recruit for current vacancies or to realign existing staff positions within approved budgets will be made by **the Executive of** the employing unit.

Policy 1.3(c) Job Design

~~Staff input to job design and job descriptions is encouraged. Employing units must ensure, however, that final decisions on job designs that are most appropriate to meet the Church's needs rest with the elected decision makers and/or supervisors.~~

Employing units are responsible for designing jobs, including the writing of job descriptions, to implement the strategic goals of the unit.

Policy 1.7 Recruitment and Selection – Executive Staff**b. Committee Representation**

In the appointment of the General Secretary of General Council (category O), the Search and Selection Committee will **normally** place one name before the Court for approval as amended in September 1987.

d. Common Procedures**References**

In depth references are required for all executive positions. The timing and number of references required for either short-listed or final candidate(s) will be determined ~~through consultation among the employing unit, Human Resources and by~~ the search and selection committee.

Policy 6.2(b) Retirement (iii)

A thorough and satisfactory evaluation of the employee's work by ~~non-staff representatives of~~ the employing unit, in consultation with the Human Resources Office, has taken place within two months prior to the current request for continuance.

Policy 5.7 (g) Performance Review

To indicate their awareness of the performance of the senior staff person of the employing unit, (General Council Secretaries, Conference Executive Secretaries) the Chair of the Executive of the employing unit is required to sign the final copy of: a performance review; a notification of probation; any other written performance information regarding the senior staff person. For positions where the Moderator is the Chair of the Employing Unit, (General Secretary – Human Resources and General Secretary –Theology, Faith and Ecumenism), the immediate Past Moderator would sign the performance statement. In the case of an Conference Executive Secretary, this signatory shall be the president of the Conference.

Policy 6.3(k) Termination**Termination Due to Performance or During Probation**

In the case of an employee who reports directly to the General Secretary of General Council, the termination decision will be made by the General Secretary of General Council in consultation with the Overview and Support Committee of the General Secretary of General Council and the Human Resources Office.

Carried

Legislation changes that affect Policy – Proposal #11 (GC-42)**Motion: Ross Bartlett/Teresa Moysey**

2001-04-27-0133

That the Executive of the General Council approve the addition of the following paragraph to the Introduction section of the Human Resources Policy Manual:

“When government legislation changes or new legislation is adopted and the resulting legislation provides benefits or conditions of employment that are broader or more generous than that provided for under existing policy, the Human Resources Office will expeditiously draft and propose revised policy and in the interim will ensure that in the applicable jurisdiction, operational practices are amended to be in compliance with the revised/new legislation.”

Carried

Revised Maternity Leave Policy – Proposal #12 (GC34 – GC-36, GC-43)**Motion: Ross Bartlett/Teresa Moysey****2001-04-27-0134**

That the Executive of the General Council approve the deletion of the current **Pregnancy and Parental Leave Policy 4.7** and its replacement with the revised policy as printed.

Carried**Revised Contract Employment Policy 1.11 – Proposal #13 (GC-44)****Motion: Ross Bartlett/Teresa Moysey****2001-04-27-0135**

That the Executive of General Council amend the current Human Resources Policy 1.11 - Contract Employment with the addition of the following as noted in **bold and underlined**:

Employment Status: Interim & Provisional

Characteristics: Job being filled currently exists – contract employee filling in for vacancy, leave **or during a time period when there is a lack of clarity about the ongoing nature of the position.**

Usual Duration: - 3 months to 1 year

- **may be extended to a maximum of 3 years.**- **After 2 years employment, benefits are provided consistent with permanent employment.**

and that the implementation of this policy be effective June 1, 2001.

Carried**Nominations – Proposal #15 (GC-46 – GC-46a)****Motion: Ross Bartlett/Teresa Moysey****2001-04-27-0136**

That the Executive of the General Council appoint the following people to the named groups:

Task group on the Exercise of Discipline of Ministry Personnel

Chair: Joy Noble (MAR) (O)

Glen Stuart (TOR) (L)

Don Gillies (TOR) (O)

Richard Chambers (HAM) (L)

Beth Rutherford (MNWO) (O)

Anne Duncan (MNWO) (O)

Jai Lee (BC) (O)

Task group on funding options for the work of the United Church

Chair: Denny Young (TOR) (L)

Roger Aveling (TOR) (L)

Brian Cornelius (M&O) (O)

Foundation Task Group

Chair: Kay de la Ronda (ABNW) (L)

Martha Ter Kuile (M&O) (O)

Hubert Norman (NFL LAB) (L)

Tom Alton (HAM) (L)

John Durfie (TOR) (L)

Jackie Knowles (HAM) (L)

Roger Snelling (M&O) (L)

Ethnic Ministries Representative to the Agenda and Planning Committee 38th General Council.

Rev. Hiraku Iwai (SASK) (O)

Chair of COPERMIF (Le Comité Permanent des Ministères en Français)

Gordon Roberts (M&O) (O)

Theology and Faith Committee

Jennifer Balls (MAR) (O)

Academic Sub-Committee of the Education for Church Leadership Coordinating Council

Nel Ouwens (SK) (O)

Carried**Human Resources Office Mandate – Proposal #16 (GC-47)****Motion: Ross Bartlett/Teresa Moysey****2001-04-27-0137**

That the Executive of the General Council approve the mandate of the Human Resources Office:

The Human Resources Committee, a standing committee of the Executive of the General Council, has responsibility for developing human resources policies.

Policies in the Handbook of Personnel Policies apply to all staff, both Order of Ministry and lay, in the General Council and Conference Offices of The United Church of Canada, regardless of the source of funding for their salaries.

The Human Resources Office is responsible for interpreting, implementing, monitoring and ensuring compliance with these policies. Related operating procedures and policy exceptions are the responsibility of the Human Resources Office.

Carried**Formal Complaints Policy 5.10 – Proposal #23 (GC-139 – GC-140)****Motion: Ross Bartlett/Teresa Moysey****2001-04-27-0138**

That the Executive of the General Council approve the Formal Complaints Policy (GC-139 – GC-140) after adding the following:

GC-139, #3, line 1 - "The respondent will be informed *in writing* by the Human Resources. . . "GC-140 #14, line 2 - "Findings affecting status of ministry *personnel* shall be reported. . . "GC-140, last point, line 4 - the "predetermined list" described needs to be named as soon as possible**Carried****Response to Petition #112 – Proposal #17 (MPE-1 – MPE-4, MPE-5)**

It was noted that there was considerable discussion regarding the issues that were raised by the original petition #112 (MPE-4). Numerous scenarios (real and imagined) were cited where disputes might arise between courts of the church. The committee feels it would be helpful to have some mechanisms articulated or guidelines clarified. Accordingly, a request was made of the General Secretary, General Council for an opinion on how presbyteries in different Conferences resolve disputes such as expenses related to formal hearings. If an opinion has already been given, the request is for a ruling from the General Secretary of the General Council.

Motion: Ross Bartlett/Teresa Moysey**2001-04-27-0139**That the Executive of the General Council take no action on Petition #112 to the 37th General Council.**Carried****Division of Ministry Personnel & Education Accountability**

It was noted that since the report was printed, the news in relation to the Atlantic School of Theology has been much more positive. With AST moving toward a memorandum of agreement to affiliate with another university in Halifax, government funding appears to be more secure. Further, it was noted that the guidelines related to Congregational Accountable Ministry are provided for information, not for approval. The Division is continuing to work on issues and questions related to these guidelines.

Motion: Ross Bartlett/Teresa Moysey**2001-04-27-0140**

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the accountability report of the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education.

Carried

Anne Shirley Sutherland informed the Executive of the General Council that the implementation date of January 1, 2002 for the revised model of compensation for General Council & Conference Staff (motion 2000-11-03-0043 in the minutes of the November 2000 Executive of the General Council) has now been moved to January 1, 2003.

Omnibus Motion – Budget Steering, Human Resources and Division of Finance Reports**Motion: Virginia Coleman/Peter Short****2001-04-27-0141**

That the Executive of the General Council adopt, as a whole, the reports of the Budget Steering Group, Human Resources Committee and Division of Finance, noting the amendments which have been made to those reports in this meeting.

Carried**SESSIONAL COMMITTEE #1 REPORT**

Bill Phipps, chair of Sessional Committee #1 presented the work done by this committee (refer to SC1-1 – SC1-2).

Directions Committee Report – Additional Proposal #1 (GC-126 – GC-132)**Motion: Bill Phipps/Jim Jackson****2001-04-27-0142**

That the Executive of the General Council; at its June 2001 meeting:

- a) Receive from the Directions Committee a clear organizational design which includes identification of general implications regarding:

Governance

Staffing (stress/well-being)

Financial

Ability to respond to the larger church needs

Role of the General Council Executive

What will be done differently

- b) ***Make a decision on*** the new organizational structure for General Council Offices
- c) Begin to define the role of the Executive of the General Council, but this will need to be a separate issue
- d) Define the role and place of Strategic Planning

Carried**Planning and Priorities Group Report – Additional Proposal #2 (GC-14 – GC-19)****Motion: Bill Phipps/Jim Jackson****2001-04-27-0143**

That the Executive of the General Council receive the report of the Planning & Priorities Group for information and that the report of the Planning & Priorities Group be forwarded to the Directions Committee for incorporation into its work.

Carried**Directions Committee report – Receiving the report****Motion: Bill Phipps/Jim Jackson****2001-04-27-0144**

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the Directions Committee Change Process Progress report.

Carried

Remit Educational Resource – Proposal #18 (GC-58)**Motion: Bill Phipps/Jim Jackson****2001-04-27-0145**

That the Executive of the General Council authorize an amount of up to \$25,000 from the 2001 Project Fund to be used for a Remit Educational Resource.

Carried**Change of Conference Boundaries – Proposal #19 (GC-59)****Motion: Bill Phipps/Jim Jackson****2001-04-27-0146**

That the Executive of the General Council approve the change in boundaries of Toronto Conference and All Native Circle Conference which are required to accommodate the transfer of the Wasauking-Shawanaga Pastoral Charge from Toronto Conference into All Native Circle Conference and that the change be effective immediately.

Carried**Appointment of Conference Executive Secretaries – Proposal #20 (GC-60)****Motion: Bill Phipps/Jim Jackson****2001-04-27-0147**

That the Executive of the General Council authorize its Sub-Executive to make appointments to the positions of Conference Executive Secretary in Saskatchewan, Montreal and Ottawa and British Columbia Conferences and that the General Secretary ensure that information about the appointees be distributed, as quickly as possible, following the action(s) of the Sub-Executive, to all voting and corresponding members of the Executive.

Carried**Remits – Additional Proposal #3****Motion: Bill Phipps/Jim Jackson****2001-04-27-0148**

That the Executive of General Council stipulate that, for the two Remits being sent also to the Pastoral Charges, the conditions shall be:

- 1) The vote be taken at a meeting of the official Board or its equivalent of the Pastoral Charge;
- 2) Those eligible to vote must be members of The United Church of Canada, and on the roll of that Pastoral Charge,

And that the methods of procedure for these be the same as the methods of procedure for Remits which are sent to the Presbyteries, contained in the Basis of Union 8.6.2 (approval by the majority of Pastoral Charges who vote by the designated date, provided that at least 2/3 of the Pastoral Charges have responded by that date).

Much debate took place on the correct wording of this motion.

Motion: Peter Wyatt/Michelle Slater

That a vote on this motion be taken immediately.

Carried**Motion – Carried****SESSIONAL COMMITTEE #6 REPORT**

Marion Best, chair of Sessional Committee #6 presented the work done by this committee (refer to SC6-1 – SC6-2).

Draw from the United Church Reserve to support the 2002 Operating Budget – Proposal #2 (GC-6)**Motion: Marion Best/Keith Stuckless****2001-04-27-0149**

That the Executive of the General Council take no action on proposal #2.

Carried**Revenue Recommendation for 2002 – Proposal #7 (FIN-29)****Motion: Marion Best/Keith Stuckless****2001-04-27-0150**

That the Executive of the General Council adopt a 2002 Revenue Recommendation of:

\$30,500,000	– Mission and Service current gifts
<u>100,000</u>	– From Year 2000 Unified Funding surplus
\$30,600,000	– Total Unified Funding Recommendation for 2002

Motion to Amend: Chris Ferguson/Jon Jessiman

that the figure 100,000 to be changed to 345,000 so that it reads as follows:

\$30,500,000	– Mission and Service current gifts
<u>345,000</u>	– From Year 2000 Unified Funding surplus
\$30,845,000	– Total Unified Funding Recommendation for 2002

Carried

Motion as Amended – Carried**SESSIONAL COMMITTEE #5 REPORT**

Jon Jessiman, chair of Sessional Committee #5, presented the work done by this committee (refer to SC5-1 – SC5-3).

Resource Distribution (GC-63 – GC-125, GC-133 – GC-135)**Motion: Jon Jessiman/Jack Spencer****2001-04-27-0151**

That the Executive of the General Council accept the proposal for resource distribution prepared by the General Council Secretaries Group as altered and set forth below and the directions the General Council Secretaries should follow:

1. WHAT IS OUR **ESSENTIAL** RESPONSIBILITY

The General Council must provide for the distribution of the print resources it produces, both those produced for sale and those to be provided at no cost. To do this, we must centralize fulfillment and improve the management and administration (software) of our distribution system. We must provide resource advice by telephone as well as use mailings, the website and catalogues to promote our resources and provide information on how to acquire them. This also applies to the sale of audio-visual resources.

(N.B. The General Council resource production unit must ensure that the resources we produce for sale both address our church's program needs and are of an excellent quality.)

2. WHAT ELSE **SHOULD** WE DO?

We should also provide advice to our constituency regarding:

- recommending resources produced by others, and
- very helpful information as to exactly where and how people can purchase these.

Presumably this would be through telephone hot-line and email resource advisers, website book reviews and website links.

3. WHAT ELSE **COULD** WE DO?

- c) make these resources available to any regionally based operation at a wholesale rate sufficient to help them be a success. Full operating responsibility would rest with the regional operation (e.g. Presbytery Resource Centres, Conference Book Rooms). Strict financial arrangements would be put in place, such as no returns. Special purpose consignment orders only for Book Displays at special events. These operations would be totally responsible for all their costs. United Church recommended curriculum materials (e.g. Bible Quest) would be distributed nationally, though they would be displayed regionally.

4. WHAT ABOUT **SOFTWARE** NEEDS?

We would need to acquire and install a software system sufficient only for the needs of the centralized inventory. It would handle all the UCPH and other UCC resources. Regional based operations would not be linked electronically – because they would essentially only be ‘customers’ who are billed monthly.

5. HOW WOULD WE USE THE **INTERNET**?

We would provide on our website only promotion and ordering instructions – e.g. catalogue, brief reviews, ordering instructions for phone, email and fax.

The centralized fulfilment centre would receive email orders (as well as phone, fax and mail).

AND we ask the General Secretaries Group to prepare a business plan & an implementation plan for presentation to the November Executive meeting and that for the purposes of discussion at the meeting a forecast be made on proposal 3a (*Sell a limited number of titles of books (e.g. 150 per year) which are deemed by our educators and program specialists to be exceptional and in subject areas not addressed by our own resources..*) in the preparation of that business plan.

Motion to Amend: David Woodall/Claire Borel-Christen

That “**effective December 31, 2002**” be added after “...and the directions the GCS should follow”.

Defeated

Motion – Carried

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE #4 REPORT

Carol Hancock, chair of Sessional Committee #4 presented the work done by this committee (SC4-1 – SC4-3).

Letter from Alberta and Northwest Conference (#9)

Motion: Carol Hancock/Sheila Duffin

2001-04-27-0152

That the Executive of the General Council give its approval to the request of Yellowhead Presbytery that the Josephburg United Church of Christ become a congregation of The United Church of Canada.

Carried

Letter from the United Church Downtown Mission of Windsor, Inc. (#16)

Motion: Carol Hancock/Sheila Duffin

2001-04-27-0153

That the Executive of the General Council approve the request to increase the indebtedness for the United Church Downtown Mission of Windsor Inc. from \$50,000 to \$300,000 in order to facilitate its plans to purchase a larger building, subject to receiving a written undertaking from The United Church Downtown Mission of Windsor Inc that it will bring its by-laws into compliance with the provisions of Appendix IV of *The Manual* 2001.

Carried

Letter from Lawrence Pushee (#12)

Motion: Carol Hancock/Sheila Duffin

2001-04-27-0154

That the Executive of the General Council create a three person committee to be named by the General Secretary, General Council and the General Secretary of the Division of Mission in Canada to discern the viability of the proposals regarding Cedar Glen and that this committee report to the General Council Executive or Sub-Executive by September 30, 2001; and that up to \$3,000 be allocated from the Project Fund to cover the cost.

Carried

Statement on the Summit of the Americas**Motion: Carol Hancock/Sheila Duffin****2001-04-27-0155**

That the Executive of the General Council approve the statement on the Summit of the Americas (as shown below) and direct the Division of World Outreach and the Division of Mission in Canada to communicate the content of this statement to the Prime Minister, with copies respectively to the ministers of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, and to share this statement with ecumenical and global partners and with the whole of The United Church of Canada.

Carried**Statement on the Summit of the Americas**

1. The 37th General Council lifted up Economic Justice as a gospel imperative. In resolution 12, General Council affirmed that "global economic justice is essential to the integrity of our faith in God and our discipleship as Christians". Here, it specifically confessed that "the current system of unrestrained global market capitalism as described in *To Seek Justice and Resist Evil*, constitutes a false god which demands sacrifice of humans and the Earth and is thus a sin against God, against our neighbour and against creation".
2. The United Church of Canada has long worked in solidarity with people who suffer the consequences of unjust economic structures and whose human rights are abused. From the depths of our faith we are called to care for our neighbours and for the earth. We as people of the United Church participate in efforts that range from soup kitchens and emergency shelters to long-term affordable housing projects and addiction recovery initiatives. We have also joined with national and global partners to press for policy on issues ranging from human rights and care for the environment to cancellation of unjust debts and promotion of sustainable development internationally. These faithful efforts incarnate the spirit of "whole world ecumenism" affirmed by General Council 36 when it approved *Mending the World* as a lens for reviewing the work of the church and calling on the church to align itself with God's world-mending mission, making justice for the earth's inhabitants and healing for the whole creation its first priority.
3. As an expression of their faith witness, people of the United Church were present in the workshops and marches that made up the Second Peoples' Summit of the Americas in Quebec City April 17 to 21. Others made their views known in local events across the country and through letters to newspapers and political leaders. An official gathering of the heads of government from 34 countries in the Americas (excluding Cuba) took place in Quebec City April 20-22. Inside the tightly-secured walls of the old city, the leaders furthered their negotiations towards a Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA). The wall, supplemented by temporary chain-link fences, represented a political division as well as a physical one. On one side, the view was that increased trade will produce economic growth that will eventually reduce poverty. On the other, women, farmers, workers and indigenous people whose experience of free trade is marked by social disintegration, environmental degradation and increased poverty met to propose alternatives to the dominant economic model. ~~The United Church congregations in Quebec City provided a centre for "worship, prayer, and meditation" for those who were engaged with the events of the Summits.~~ ***The United Church congregations in Quebec City challenged the limitations to the free circulation of people and the freedom to worship caused to their members and the population at large by the Summit of the Americas. They provided info and referral to UCC members coming to Qc City from all parts of Canada. Most of all, they were involved in the leadership of an interfaith event lifting up the spiritual values underlying the issues raised by the Summit.***
4. In the wake of the Summit of the Americas and the People's Summit of the Americas, the Executive of the General Council of the United Church of Canada states: As people of faith, we believe the test of any economic agreement is the degree to which it enhances the well-being, dignity and essential human rights of all citizens, including the right to adequate nutrition, housing, education, health care, fair and safe working conditions, and a healthy environment.

5. We note the inclusion of clauses related to the practice of democracy in the official summit's final declaration. We express our concern about the declaration's narrow focus on the formal processes of electoral democracy. As important as free and fair elections are, there needs to be attention to other features of life in a democracy: equality, participation and respect for the full range of human rights -- economic, social and cultural as well as civil and political, including the right to dissent.
6. In keeping with UCC trade policy developed over the past decade, the 37th General Council in 2000 affirmed the document *To Seek Justice and Resist Evil* and passed resolution 21 on the Impact of Trade Agreements which states: "Citizens should actively participate in the formulation, implementation and evaluation of any trade agreements"
7. We add our voices to those of others in Canadian society who have called for a public inquiry into all aspects of security operations related to the official summit in Quebec City, including the decision to construct a wall to separate heads of government from citizens, as well as allegations of widespread and often arbitrary detentions and the indiscriminate and excessive use of force including tear gas, rubber bullets, and mistreatment of protesters while detained.
8. We stand in solidarity with those people of the United Church, our ecumenical partners, our global partners and other members of civil society organizations who, in the People's Summit and events surrounding it, successfully re-ignited a debate in Canadian society about issues related to economic globalization and trade liberalization, including those matters embraced in free trade agreements that have had a negative impact on disadvantaged sectors and on the environment, such as: investor protection clauses (notably Chapter 11 of the North American Free Trade Agreement); intellectual property rights and patent protection; and trade in services, among others. We thank them for their witness and courage.
9. We also encourage prayers for the leaders of governments in our hemisphere so that as they continue forward from the summit, they may find a just and participatory path forward.
10. The Executive of General Council calls on the Divisions of World Outreach and Mission in Canada to communicate the content of this statement to the Prime Minister, with copies respectively to the ministers of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, and to share this statement with ecumenical and global partners and with the whole of the UCC.

Receiving Divisional Accountability Reports

Motion: Carol Hancock/Sheila Duffin

2001-04-27-0156

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the following reports:

- The Division of World Outreach accountability
- The Ethnic Ministries Council accountability
- The Division of Mission in Canada accountability
- The Gender Justice Committee accountability
- The Moderator's accountability
- The Moderator's Advisory Committee accountability
- The Residential Schools Steering Committee accountability; and
- The Division of Mission in Canada Reconciliation and Healing project

Carried

The meeting was adjourned for the day and following this the members of the Executive were invited to participate in the Celtic Worship.

MONDAY – APRIL 30, 2001

OPENING WORSHIP

Worship was led by Robyn Brown-Hewitt, Jack Spencer, Claire Borel-Christen; music by Teresa Moysey.

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Theological reflection was led by Peter Wyatt, Carol Hancock and Jack Spencer. The following two questions were put before the Executive for their reflection:

1. What is nourishing and life-giving for you?
2. How might the work we have done here bring nourishment and life to the whole church?

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE #2 REPORT

Jamie Scott continued in the presentation of the work done by Sessional Committee #2 (refer to SC2-1 – SC2-2).

Future use of The UCC Reserve Fund – Proposal #6 (FIN-26)

1.

Motion: Jamie Scott/Stephen Mabee

2001-04-27-0157

That the Executive of the General Council approve the establishment of the *Mission and Service Operating* Fund as per the Statement of Policy presented (FIN-19 – FIN-20), effective January 1, 2001, with the addition of the following changes:

- a. That the name of the new fund be the “Mission and Service Operating Fund”.
- b. In the Statement of Policy remove the words ~~be transferred to The United Church of Canada Reserve Fund~~ and replace it with *remain in the Fund* (FIN-17).

Carried

2.

Motion: Jamie Scott/Stephen Mabee

2001-04-27-0158

That the Executive of the General Council approve the resulting amendments to the Statement of Policy regarding The United Church of Canada Reserve Fund and the Process for Developing Recommendations to Fund Spending Units' Deficits as presented with the following change to the policy statement:

- a. Remove the the words ~~as well as on the balance of the General Council Operating Fund~~ (under the title “**Purpose**” on FIN-19)

Carried

4.

Motion: Jamie Scott/Stephen Mabee

2001-04-27-0159

That the Executive of the General Council direct the Division of Finance to continue to monitor the status of the United Church of Canada Reserve Fund, the United Church Residential Schools Fund and the *Mission and Service Operating* Fund and report at each meeting of the Executive thereon making recommendations as appropriate.

Carried

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE #6 REPORT

Marion Best, chair of Sessional Committee #6 continued in the presentation of the work done by this committee (refer to SC6-1 – SC6-2).

Funding the Revenue Generation Project for 2002 & 2003 from Morrison Fund – New Proposal #1

Motion: Marion Best/Keith Stuckless

2001-04-27-0160

That the General Council Executive ask the administrators of the Morrison Fund to consider a \$500,000 contribution to finance the Revenue Generation Project for 2002 and \$550,000 for 2003 with the understanding that in 2004 and beyond the Revenue Generation Project will be part of the Unified Fund Budget process.

Carried

Additional Funding from Morrison Fund – New Proposal #2**Motion: Peter Wyatt/Joanna MacQuarrie****2001-04-27-0161**

That the Executive of the General Council ask the administrators of the Morrison Fund to consider whether additional support to the Unified Fund for 2002 might be provided.

Carried**General Council 2002 Expenditure Budget – Proposal #3 (GC-7)****Motion: Marion Best/Keith Stuckless****2001-04-27-0162**

That the Executive of the General Council approve a provisional 2002 Unified Fund of \$31,345,000 with \$30,500,000 from the Mission and Service Fund, \$345,000 from 2000 Unified Fund surplus and at least \$500,000 from the Morrison Fund (if approved by the administrators of the fund).

Carried**Funding of the implementation of the Three Council Structure – Proposal #1 (GC-5)****Motion: Marion Best/Keith Stuckless****2001-04-27-0163**

That the funding for the implementation of the three council structure be drawn over 5 years up to \$275,000 per year from the United Church Reserve Fund while maintaining the minimum of \$5 million balance.

Carried**SESSIONAL COMMITTEE #2 REPORT**

Jamie Scott continued with the presentation of the work done by Sessional Committee #2 (refer to SC2-1 – SC2-2).

Future use of The UCC Reserve Fund – Proposal #6, No. 3 (FIN-26)**Motion: Jamie Scott/Stephen Mabee****2001-04-27-0164**

Given the content and prominence of Note 3 of the financial statements concerning potential financial liability arising out of the residential school situation, the Executive of the General Council maintain the freeze that was put in place in October 1999 on The United Church of Canada General Reserve Fund except for a planned annual draw to the United Church Residential School Fund, a maximum draw of \$150,000 per annum to the General Council Executive project fund, and up to \$275,000 per year for five years (2002-2006) for the possible implementation of the three-council structure.

Carried**SESSIONAL COMMITTEE #1 REPORT**

Bill Phipps continued with the presentation of the work done by Sessional Committee #1 (refer to SC1-1 – SC1-2).

Staff Appreciation – Additional Proposal #4 (GC-57)**Motion: Bill Phipps/Jim Jackson****2001-04-27-0165**

That the Executive of the General Council request that at the June meeting of the Executive there be a service of appreciation for the work done by the staff, to which all staff is invited; that Sessional Committee #1 in consultation with the Moderator be responsible for organizing the event; and, that up to \$2500 be allocated from the Executive of the General Council Project Fund; and that staff of the General Council offices be given a day off, preferably for a long weekend, such day to be determined by the General Council Secretaries group and announced at the June 11th appreciation day.

Carried**General Secretary, General Council Accountability (GC-54 – GC-61)****Motion: Bill Phipps/Jim Jackson****2001-04-27-0166**

That the Executive of the General Council accept the accountability report of the General Secretary, General Council.

Carried

Authorizing the special meeting of the Executive of the General Council in June, 2001**Motion: Bill Phipps/Jim Jackson****2001-04-27-0167**

That the Executive of the General Council hold a special meeting from June 10-12, 2001.

Carried**SESSIONAL COMMITTEE #5 REPORT**

Jon Jessiman continued with the presentation of the work done by Sessional Committee #5 (refer to SC5-1 – SC5-3).

Amendment to the Constitution of the Canadian Council of Churches – Proposal #4 (GC9 – GC10)**Motion: Jon Jessiman/Jack Spencer****2001-04-27-0168**

That the Executive of the General Council approve the addition of the following article on "forum" to the Constitution of the Canadian Council of Churches:

The Canadian Council of Churches and all its parts shall function as a forum. In forum responsibility for all positions and views, doctrines, calls for action and decision to act, shall rest with the individual churches who have joined in any given dialogue. Church representatives shall speak with the authority and the mandate of the churches which they represent. Actions taken in the name of the Council as a whole will be those to which every member church has given consent.

The forum model recognizes our diversity and provides a method by which we can work together, acknowledging our unity as Christians, yet remaining faithful to the particularity of our respective traditions. It allows the widening of the ecumenical circle and has the potential for providing renewed commitment to ecumenism. To function properly this model relies on the concept that all representatives are expected to be able to speak for their churches. It is recognized that the authority with which the members speak will depend on the polity of the churches they represent. Such a method of interaction will facilitate the engagement of members and member churches in theological reflection on issues of common concern and in determining action as appropriate.

Carried**Funding for the Implementation of the Resource Distribution Business Plan****Motion: Jon Jessiman/Jack Spencer****2001-04-27-0169**

That the Executive of the General Council authorize the Sub-Executive to receive and act on a request for funding from the Executive of the General Council Project Fund to enable the development of the resource distribution business plan and implementation plan.

Carried**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING OF THE SUB-EXECUTIVE**

The Sub-Executive of the General Council met over lunch to approve the minutes of their last meeting held January 31, 2001.

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE #4 REPORT

Carol Hancock continued with the presentation of the work done by Sessional Committee #4 (refer to SC4-1 – SC4-5).

Moderator's Advisory Committee Report – Proposal #22 (GC-136)**Motion: Carol Hancock/Sheila Snelling****2001-04-27-0170**That the Executive of the General Council agree that a Moderator shall not *normally* become involved in administrative or management matters unless *requested* to do so by the General Council, its Executive, or Sub-Executive and request the General Secretary to make the appropriate changes in the "Roles and Opportunities" document.**Carried**

Correspondence #1, #3, #5, #10, #14, #15 and #17**Motion: Carol Hancock/Sheila Snelling****2001-04-27-0171**

That the Executive of the General Council refer the following pieces of correspondence to the General Secretary, General Council for response:

- Letter from Good Spirit Presbytery (#5)
- Letter from Niagara Presbytery (#10)
- Letter from Green's Harbour Pastoral Charge (#15)
- Letter from British Columbia Conference Executive (#17)
- Letter from St. Paul Presbytery (#1)
- Letter from Vernon Wishart (#3)
- Letter from Irene Brydges (#14)

Carried**Correspondence #7 and #18****Motion: Carol Hancock/Sheila Snelling****2001-04-27-0172**

That the Executive of the General Council refer the following pieces of correspondence to the Division of Mission in Canada for response:

- Letter from Trinity United Church (#7)
- Letter from British Columbia Conference Native Ministries Council (#18)

Carried**Correspondence #2****Motion: Carol Hancock/Sheila Snelling****2001-04-27-0173**

That the Executive of the General Council refer the correspondence from the National Alliance of Covenanting Congregations to Maritime Conference and request that the Division of Mission in Canada assist them to address:

- I. The pastoral concerns raised regarding the impact of the GC37 statement on St. Andrews United Church, Tabusintac, New Brunswick.
- II. Preventative action that may be required to contribute to a peaceful resolution to this conflict in the coming fishing season.

Carried**Correspondence #8****Motion: Carol Hancock/Sheila Snelling****2001-04-27-0174**

That the Executive of the General Council advise the Agenda and Planning Committee of the importance of attending to the accessibility needs of "persons of handicap" to enable full participation of all commissioners in the life and business of General Council.

That the Executive of the General Council request the Moderator, in consultation with the General Secretary and others as they deem appropriate, write a pastoral letter of response to Gary Boratto and inform him of the disposition of this resolution on "able-ism"; and that a copy of the Rev. Boratto's letter go to the Agenda and Planning Committee for their information.

Carried**SESSIONAL COMMITTEE #5 REPORT**

Jon Jessiman continued with the presentation of the work done by Sessional Committee #5 (refer to SC5-1 – SC5-3).

The UC Observer Report (GC-13)**Motion: Jon Jessiman/Jack Spencer****2001-04-27-0175**

That the Executive of the General Council receive for information the report of the United Church Observer and that congratulations be expressed to the Board, the Editors and the staff for the quality of the magazine they are producing as evidenced in the recent awards from the American Church Press.

Carried

The UC Archives Report (GC-49)**Motion: Jon Jessiman/Jack Spencer****2001-04-27-0176**

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the report of the Committee on Archives and History and express appreciation to the Chief Archivist for the support she has been providing to the Conferences & their archives.

Carried**The Committee on Theology & Faith Accountability Report (GC-23)****Motion: Jon Jessiman/Jack Spencer****2001-04-27-0177**

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the accountability report of the Committee on Theology and Faith while expressing our concern that an interim General Secretary for Theology, Faith & Ecumenism be appointed as soon as possible to assist the Committee in its major task of the development of a timely & contextual statement of faith.

Carried**World Council of Churches Report (GC-24)****Motion: Jon Jessiman/Jack Spencer****2001-04-27-0178**

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the report of the World Council of Churches.

Carried**Motion: Jon Jessiman/Jack Spencer****2001-04-27-0179**

That the Executive of the General Council request that the Business Committee find time on the agenda of General Council Executive meetings for our World Council of Churches representative to present a verbal report.

Carried**COPERMIF Accountability Report (GC-28)****Motion: Jon Jessiman/Jack Spencer****2001-04-27-0180**

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the COPERMIF report.

Carried**Correspondence #20**

In response to the correspondence from COPERMIF (#20), with regard to Consistoire Laurentien not being consulted in this appointment, regret was expressed that this did not occur.

Francophone Representation**Motion: Jon Jessiman/Jack Spencer****2001-04-27-0181**

That the Executive of the General Council request that in future situations, including preparatory work for the 38th General Council, when seeking representation from the Francophone constituency, the Human Resources Committee consult with Consistoire Laurentien first.

Carried**Division of Communication Accountability Report (COMM-1 – COMM-5)****Motion: Jon Jessiman/Jack Spencer****2001-04-27-0182**

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the Division of Communication accountability report.

Carried**General Council Secretaries' Accountability Report (GC-62 – GC-135)****Motion: Jon Jessiman/Jack Spencer****2001-04-27-0183**

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the report of the General Council Secretaries.

Carried

Correspondence on Resource Distribution**Motion: Jessiman/Jack Spencer****2001-04-27-0184**

That the Executive of the General Council refer the correspondence related to resource distribution to the General Secretary, Division of Communication for response.

Carried**NEW BUSINESS****Debt assistance to the newly ordained/commissioned – Proposal #24****Motion: Michelle Slater/Bill Phipps****2001-04-27-0185**

That the Executive of the General Council direct the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education to establish a task group to investigate ways of providing debt assistance to the newly ordained/commissioned, including student debt relief and low interest loans, and to report to the Spring 2002 meeting of the Executive; and

allocate \$6,000 from the 2001 Executive Project Fund to enable the work of this task group.

Carried**Receiving the Minutes of the Sub-Executive of the General Council****Motion: Virginia Coleman/Peter Short****2001-04-27-0186**

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the minutes of the meeting of the Sub-Executive of January 31, 2001 and the note of the results of the e-mail ballot, April 4, 2001.

Carried**CLOSING PROCEDURAL MOTION****Authorizing the Sub-Executive of the General council****Motion: Virginia Coleman/Peter Short****2001-04-27-0187**

That the Sub-Executive be authorized to deal with the business placed before it by this meeting of the Executive of the General Council (the appointment of Conference Executive Secretaries, the Legal Aid Fund, the Project Fund requests for Resource Distribution GCS work); and, any emergent business which arises prior to the June 2001 meeting of the Executive.

Carried**COURTESIES**

Jamie Scott and Michelle Slater thanked all the members of the Executive and staff for all their extra work; thanks was given in the form of a prayer each ending with “**gracious God we celebrate these gifts**”; the Executive responded with “**and give you thanks.**”

CLOSING WORSHIP

Closing worship was led by Robyn Brown-Hewitt; music by Teresa Moysey.

ADJOURNMENT

The Moderator declared the meeting of the Executive of the General Council adjourned.

Moderator, Marion Pardy

General Secretary, K. Virginia Coleman