

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL MINUTES November 16 – 20, 2006

The Executive of the General Council of The United Church of Canada met from 9:00 a.m. on Thursday, November 16 to 4:00 p.m. on Monday, November 20, 2006 at the Holiday Inn Select Toronto Airport, Toronto, Ontario. The Moderator, The Right Reverend David Giuliano, presided.

ATTENDANCE

Voting Members

Jim Blanchard, Lynn Boothroyd, Debra Bowman, Anne-Marie Carmoy, Marion Carr, Shirley Cleave, Lewis Coffman, Brian Cornelius, Dwaine Dornan, Caryn Douglas, Diane Dwarka, Elizabeth Frazer, David Giuliano, Leah Halliday, Dorothy Hemingway, Fannie Hudson, Don Hunter, Linsell Hurd, Bruce Hutchinson, Sheryl Johnson, Betty Kelly, Don Koots, Ted Kostecki, Carmen Lansdowne, Heather Leffler, Mary-Beth Moriarity, Emmanuel Ofori, Paul Reed, Louise Rogers, Chuck Scott, Allan Seal, Peter Short, Allan Sinclair, Jim Sinclair, Paul Stott, Martha ter Kuile, Stéphane Vermette, Barbara White, Sharon Willis-Whitwell, Tarance Whiteye.

Corresponding Members

David Allen, Bill Bartlett, Wendy Bulloch, Bob Campbell, Sandra Dunning, Bruce Faurschou, Ian Fraser, Catherine Gaw, Aruna Gnanadason, Doug Goodwin, Bruce Gregersen, Cheryl Jourdain, Will Kunder, Rosemary Lambie, Sharon Larade, Gordon MacDermid, Lynn Maki, Janet McDonald, Fred Monteith, Teresa Moysey, Michelle Slater, Kim Uyede-Kai, David Woodall.

Regrets

Cindy Désilets, Amber Ing, Scott Parsons, Carol Hancock.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 16, 2006

The Moderator opened the meeting with welcome to all as the Spiritual leaders of the community and invited each to respond in the Spirit to the following:

God is Good
All the Time
All the Time
God is Good

The Moderator called on this response from the Spirit throughout the meeting.

CONSTITUTING THE EXECUTIVE

The Moderator constituted the meeting with the following words:

"Au nom de Notre Seigneur, Jésus-Christ, seul chef souverain de l'Église, et par l'autorité qui m'a été conférée par le 39ième Conseil général, je déclare ouvert, par la présente, l'exécutif du Conseil général et ses travaux dans l'intérêt du Royaume de Dieu."

"In the Name of the Lord Jesus Christ the only Sovereign head of the Church, and by the authority vested in me by the 39th 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."

The General Secretary noted the regrets and welcomed Elizabeth Frazer attending in Cindy Désilets' absence. He also introduced new members of the Executive, Heather Burton and Caryn Douglas, and new staff members, Nora Sanders, David Woodall, and George Takashima. He also noted those who would arrive late.

The Moderator welcomed our global partner Dr. Aruna Gnanadason.

The members of the Redesign Evaluation Task Group were introduced: Joan Wyatt, Jean Brown, Moses Kanhai, and Heather Leffler.

PROCEDURAL MOTIONS

Corresponding Members

Motion: Jim Sinclair/Don Hunter

2006-11-16-015

In addition to the corresponding members appointed by the 39th General Council: (Global Partner, Chairperson of the Committee on Theology and Faith, Chairperson of the Agenda and Planning Committee, Elected Officer of the National United Church Women, Chairperson of The Observer Board of Directors, Chief Archivist, Conference Executive Secretaries/Speaker, General Council Ministers),

That the additional corresponding members for this meeting be Dr. Aruna Gnanadason, Global Partner; Nora Sanders, General Secretary Designate; and Gordon MacDermid, Acting Chair, Committee on Theology and Faith

Carried

Resource Persons

Motion: Jim Sinclair/Leah Halliday

2006-11-16-016

That Resource Persons for this meeting be Executive Ministers and Officers, and Laverne Jacobs, Cynthia Gunn, Jamie Scott, Joe Ramsay, Barry Rieder, Linda Begley, Charles Black, Ted Reeve, Jim Marshall, Jocelyn Greene, Sharon Parks, Diane Bosman, Mary-Frances Denis, and Kate Rodd.

Administrative Staff

That the administrative staff for this meeting be Terry Beaumont, Robin Chen, Sarah Cooper, Lea de la Paz, Merjean Enriquez, Susan Fortner, Alison Jordan, Joan MacGillivray, and Debbie Siertsema, and that the minute secretary for this meeting be Joan MacGillivray.

Reference and Counsel

That the following persons be the Reference and Counsel Committee for this meeting of the Executive of the General Council: Diane Dwarka, Dwaine Dornan, and Stéphane Vermette.

Friend in Court

That the Friend in Court for this meeting of the Executive of the General Council be Jim Blanchard.

Agenda

That the Executive of the General Council adopt, as circulated and revised, 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 made on the recommendation of the Business Table.

Approval of Minutes of the Executive the of General Council

That the Executive of the General Council approve the minutes of the Executive of the General Council meeting held on April 28 – May 1, 2006.

Receiving Minutes of the Sub-Executive of the General Council

That the Executive of the General Council receive, for information, the minutes of the meetings of the Sub-Executive of the General Council held May 8, May 23, June 5, June 28, September 12, and October 10, 2006.

Carried

Business Assigned to Sessional Committees

Motion: Jim Sinclair/Leah Halliday

2006-11-16-017

That the Executive of the General Council assign correspondence, reports, and proposals to Sessional Committees as reported in the Workbook and

That the Executive of the General Council assign additional reports as follows:

Red Sessional Committee

- Moderator's Advisory Committee Report (GCE 5)
- General Secretary Supervision Committee Report (GS 10)
- Correspondence from Susan MacGregor regarding Emerging Spirit Ad Campaign (CORR 1)

Blue Sessional Committee

- Pension Board Report (GCE 6)
- Task Group on Funding the Work of the Church (GCE 12)
- World Council of Churches Report (GCE 14)
- Manual Committee Report (GS 20)
- Residential Schools Report (GS 21)

Green Sessional Committee

- Correspondence from Janice Young regarding Pulse of B.C. Conference (CORR 2)

Carried

General Secretary, General Council

Motion: Paul Reed/Deb Bowman

2006-11-16-018

That the Executive of the General Council declare Nora Sanders as the General Secretary, General Council effective January 8, 2007.

Carried

The Moderator thanked both Jim Sinclair and Nora Sanders for being with us and for changing plans to accommodate the work of the church.

The Moderator invited table groups to check in, introduce themselves, and to think of an animal they are most like today.

WORSHIP

The Moderator, General Secretary, General Secretary – Designate, and Harry Oussoren led the Service of Communion and Covenanting. The Moderator gave the sermon.

The Executive was invited to covenant with God and with each other. The following General Council staff were covenanted:

Nora Sanders – General Secretary - Designate

George Takashima – acting Executive Minister of the Ethnic Ministries Unit

David Woodall – Executive Secretary of London Conference

At worship and throughout the meeting Lynn Boothroyd led the music with the assistance of members of the Executive.

Table groups

Deb Bowman, chair of the Business Table of the Executive, introduced table group time to continue the work started at General Council. She invited everyone to be attentive to how we build our relationships that lead into difficult conversations and to be open to the Spirit. Deb invited table groups to introduce themselves, where they are from, and how they live out ministry. Deb then challenged groups to find something they all had in common.

Deb Bowman thanked the staff for the work they did to put the Workbook together.

MODERATOR'S ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

The Moderator asked Peter Short to assume the chair for the Moderator's Accountability Report.

The Moderator talked about the adjustments made since becoming Moderator and updated his written Accountability Report. He noted that first he has been listening and hearing. He also noted the desire to deepen our communal life with God through being prayerful together and celebrating growth and asked how we express our passion for social justice.

The Moderator talked about his priorities:

- A commitment to living out the Apology to First Nations and what this means in practical terms.
- Beginning to live into what it will look like to be a transformed intercultural church.
- Excitement and desire to work with youth and young adults.

The Moderator gave an invitation to listen to what God is asking us to do including finding the faith to overcome the anxiety of "Be Not Afraid". He also noted the work of imagination to build the work we are all engaged in including "A Call to Purpose".

The Moderator noted that answers are often held by the people on the fringes of the church and the community. He asked how do we listen to what these people have to offer us when they do not have a strong voice.

The Moderator also talked about some of the projects and activities he has been involved in since General Council including representing the United Church position on equal marriage, meeting with a Pakistani family in sanctuary in Winnipeg, the Emerging Spirit launch, and visiting the Christian Resource Centre in Regent Park in Toronto.

The Moderator asked for questions, comments and responses to his report including filling out the response sheets for the information of the Red Sessional Committee.

In response to the Moderator's report affirmations, comments, and concerns were expressed including the following:

- There is a need to ensure that the enthusiasm at General Council for the youth is celebrated throughout the church including harnessing youth's energy productively to keep the enthusiasm alive.
- The 400th anniversary in 2008 of the City of Quebec was highlighted as an opportunity to raise up being French and Protestant.
- Concern about the loss of many Native ministries in the north and the need to encourage northern communities to keep a United Church presence.
- Fear of a new kind of truth telling with interculturalism as well as the grief and loss people are feeling regarding the culture shift and change in society.

Peter Short thanked the Moderator for his report and spending time in this way including prayer for the bearer of our expectations and requests, demands and hopes, losses and regrets, and dreams.

The Moderator resumed the chair.

GENERAL SECRETARY'S REPORT

The Moderator introduced and reminded the Executive that this will be Jim Sinclair's last General Secretary's Report. The Moderator noted that the Executive has been served beyond anything they could ask and thanked Jim for his work with the church.

The General Secretary talked about the "Final" times. He reviewed the ruling he made regarding "Church privileges and oversight of congregational marriage policy" requested by the Green Commission at General Council. The General Secretary also addressed the correspondence from the Consistoire Laurentien (CORR 3) and talked about the dispute resolution that had taken place. He noted that it would be incorrect for the Executive to comment on something that did not come through the presbytery and Conference.

The General Secretary talked about the messages received regarding Emerging Spirit that ranged from wild enthusiasm to disagreement. He noted the efforts of faithful people to reach out and embrace who we are, as well as the need to encourage the enthusiastic while relating sensitively

to those who find this more difficult. He reminded the Executive of the work done to ensure the best possible result and to develop the partnerships necessary for the success of Emerging Spirit.

The General Secretary thanked everyone for the effort and dedication given to move the actions of the General Council forward into the system.

Affirmations and gratitude were shared with comments and questions raised as follows:

- Elizabeth Frazer, on behalf of Manitou Conferences, remembered the time of discernment by Jim and the Conference as they struggled and shared together. She also remembered the north star given to Jim and invited him to bring it back into Manitou Conference.
- Nora Sanders noted the privilege of working with Jim and the rare opportunity to have the guidance of this transition time.

The Moderator thanked the General Secretary for sharing his gifts over the past years.

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-019

That Correspondence from the Consistoire Laurentien (CORR 3) be moved from Sessional Committee Green to Sessional Committee Red.

Carried

GLOBAL PARTNER

Omega Bula introduced and welcomed global partner Dr. Aruna Gnanadason and talked about their meetings through the years with the World Council of Churches.

Aruna responded and thanked Omega for reminding her of their days of first meeting and participation with the United Church including its women's programs. Aruna named some of the United Church people who have influenced her personally through the years including Lois Wilson, Stan McKay, Marion Best and Carmen Lansdowne to name only a few.

Aruna brought greetings from the Church of South India, the largest protestant church in south India. She also brought greetings from Dr. Sam Kobia and all the staff of the World Council of Churches. She noted her interest in this meeting of the Executive because the World Council of Churches is going through a similar process of discernment and priorities. Aruna also thanked the members for welcoming her and for the family atmosphere she has experienced.

ORIENTATION

Janet McDonald, General Council Minister, Planning and Processes, gave an overview of the meeting including the big picture of the Executive and its work as the governing body of the General Council. Janet reviewed the agenda and the orientation that will continue throughout the meeting including a common language and how an organization governs effectively.

Janet noted that the questionnaire filled out by the last Executive had guided the process of orientation and also the agenda.

Gordon MacDermid, from the Committee on Theology and Faith, reviewed the Song of Faith document. Anne-Marie Carmoy and Peter Short recited the Song of Faith in both English and in French.

Deb Bowman reviewed A Call to Purpose from the 39th General Council 2006. The Moderator reviewed the process since General Council to work with A Call to Purpose. After silence, the prayer from A Call to Purpose was prayed.

FRIEND IN COURT

Jim Blanchard, Friend in Court, made announcements throughout the meeting concerning the care of the members of the court.

COMMON GROUPS

Janet introduced the common groups within the Executive and invited members to discuss in their common groups the following:

- What's the news "from away",
- What are your hopes and expectations for this meeting?

39TH GENERAL COUNCIL 2006 REFLECTIONS

The Moderator introduced reflections of the 39th General Council 2006. He noted the grace and struggle of the General Council through many of its significant issues and events. He also recognized the racial tension that surfaced on the Friday evening and the painful and difficult experience that this was for the General Council.

The Moderator introduced the opportunity to reflect on this experience as well as other experiences from the General Council. Deb Bowman, Kim Uyede-Kai, Laverne Jacobs, and Jamie Scott assisted the Executive with an opportunity for the Spirit to speak in a way to strengthen and grow.

The time line on surfacing racial tension from General Council was reviewed including what has happened since so that everyone had common information.

Deb Bowman and Laverne Jacobs led the Executive through reflection and a Sharing and Healing Circle. Laverne reminded the Executive that this is a gift and led a liturgy as a reminder of the One who gives this gift.

Questions considered in the Sharing Circles included:

- What good is God working?
- What wisdom is being offered?
- What did we find precious that we want to hang on to?

The Executive shared the grace and learnings they received during the Sharing Circle followed by silence. The Moderator concluded the time with prayer.

ORIENTATION OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

Janet McDonald continued the process regarding orientation with an exercise on thinking styles and who is the Executive of the General Council.

Ian Fraser gave an overview of the structure of The United Church of Canada including the staffing organization, roles, relationships, responsibilities, and funding the work of the church.

In reviewing the how and the job of the Executive of the General Council, Janet reviewed the programs of the church. She also reviewed the process to develop a plan by working with the purpose and priorities.

Executive of the General Council Priorities Task Group—Terms of Reference

The General Secretary introduced Proposal GS 12, a request for a task group to assist the Executive as it develops criteria for developing priorities and goals for ongoing work.

In questions and comments it was noted that the task of the group is not to set priorities; this is the work of the Executive of the General Council.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2006

WORSHIP

Laverne Jacobs introduced Donna Bomberry, coordinator Indigenous Ministries, from the Anglican Church of Canada who assisted in a strawberry ceremony and worship.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE, MINISTRY AND EMPLOYMENT POLICIES AND SERVICES

Jim Blanchard, chair of the Permanent Committee, Ministry and Employment Policies and Services, expressed appreciation to the Executive for appointing him the chair of the Permanent Committee on MEPS for a second term. The Permanent Committee was pleased with the response and support of their work from the 39th General Council 2006. He noted that the Permanent Committee is currently working on the work from this General Council but also the work from previous General Councils and reviewed the proposals coming to this Executive.

Jim recognized the work done by staff and raised a concern about staff work load. He noted that the Permanent Committee is looking forward to hearing from the co-chairs of the Staff Council at their next meeting.

Questions of clarification included questions on the pay back of the top up for maternity and adoptive leave and confirmation of the timelines for Ministry Compensation and centralized payroll.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE, GOVERNANCE, PLANNING AND BUDGETING PROCESSES

Paul Reed reported on behalf of the chair of the Permanent Committee, Martha ter Kuile. Paul reviewed the work of the Permanent Committee as it began its work on the transition from the old to the new structure, developed processes for the new structure, and did the work assigned.

He also talked about the consultation process of the Permanent Committee prior to bringing proposals forward.

Before the report was sent to Sessional Committee, there was an opportunity for comments and questions for clarification.

Executive of the General Council Priorities Task Group

Paul Reed reviewed Proposal GS12. Discussion took place and changes were made.

Motion: Paul Reed/Deb Bowman

2006-11-16-020

To establish the Executive of the General Council Priorities Task Group, reporting to the General Secretary, General Council, to review and make recommendations to the May 2007 meeting of the Executive of the General Council on the identified priorities and the following tasks:

1. To develop the criteria for setting priorities/goals.
2. To review the items to be considered for priority setting coming from the 39th General Council 2006 and from the General Secretary, for the ongoing work arising from earlier Councils.
3. To apply the criteria to items considered for priority setting.
4. To provide options with outcomes of priority setting to the Executive of the General Council in May 2007;

And in addition to the General Secretary, General Council, the Moderator, five voting members of the Executive of the General Council who:

- Will meet twice face to face in Toronto,
- Advise the General Secretary, General Council as requested
- Term to June 2007

And meet:

- Friday January 26, 2007 9:00 a.m. to Saturday January 27, 2007 4:00 p.m.
- Thursday March 22, 2007 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Friday March 23, 2007 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Saturday March 24 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- E-mail and teleconference calls expected

And voting members of the Executive will express interest in writing (maximum one paragraph – 50 words) to the Nominations Committee by noon on Saturday November 18, 2006.

And recommendations to the Executive of the General Council will be made by the Nominations Committee by November 20th, 2006.

Carried

PERMANENT COMMITTEE, PROGRAMS FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY

Diane Dwarka, Chair of Permanent Committee, thanked the Executive for appointing her for a second term as chair. She noted that staff related to the work will be present in the sessional committees to assist with questions. Diane reviewed the unit committee structure along with sub committees within the structure and noted that proposals will be brought to the next Executive

meeting. Diane also reviewed major initiatives of the Permanent Committee which are in their report and proposals.

Diane expressed deep gratitude to the members of the Permanent Committee and thanked the staff for their commitment, dedication, and grace in doing the work.

Questions for clarification were responded to including clarification of terminology. Concern that the members of Education for Church Leadership Co-ordinating Committee were not acknowledged was responded to and will be rectified. The General Secretary noted the concern regarding the committees of the unit and the necessity to bring all the bodies into the system.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE, FINANCE

Don Hunter introduced himself and expressed his gratitude to the Executive for the confidence given him as Chair to the Permanent Committee on Finance. He noted that finance is only a tool to accomplish the programs that are important.

Don reviewed the accountability report and highlighted the spirit of change as the Permanent Committee explores ways to do things differently including evaluating the size of its membership. He also reviewed the proposal from the Permanent Committee to move investments into a broader base of diversification.

Questions for clarification included that self insurance means no insurance and that any changes would have to be funded very carefully.

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Deb Bowman noted that table group time would also be time for theological reflection and would take place throughout the meeting. Deb invited the Executive to return to table groups to consider the work done in asking the broader questions that need to be part of the discernment of each proposal.

Barbara White excused herself from the Executive and the Moderator asked that Barbara and her family be kept in our prayers.

ORIENTATION

The Executive of the General Council travelled to the General Council Offices at 3250 Bloor Street West, Toronto to join the staff at Church House for lunch.

The Moderator welcomed the staff and invited them to join the Executive for the Residential Schools Steering Committee presentation.

RESIDENTIAL SCHOOLS

Jamie Scott introduced the Residential Schools Steering Committee report and the Truth and Reconciliation Agreement.

David Macdonald introduced National Chief Phil Fontaine of the Assembly of First Nations and noted the historical importance of the National Chief being at a meeting of the Executive of the General Council.

Phil Fontaine thanked the United Church for its support and assistance to First Nation communities that have led to many of the successes now celebrated. He shared his personal experiences in residential schools, the challenges we face together, and the Residential School Settlement Agreement as well as what lies ahead.

He talked about the challenges of today including that the First Nations people are too poor. He also talked about the achievements of First Nations people and the necessity of choosing success stories so that children hear what's right instead of what's wrong.

Phil talked about the national campaign to "Make Poverty History" and asked for the support of the United Church in the campaign to ensure that every First Nation child can expect a bright and hopeful future.

The Moderator thanked the National Chief for being with the Executive and talked about the commemoration of the 20th Anniversary of the Apology to First Nations people which took place at the 39th General Council 2006. The Moderator presented a copy of the Apology to the National Chief and asked him to receive it from The United Church of Canada.

ORIENTATION

Orientation continued with tours of the General Council Offices to meet the staff in their work areas.

The Executive returned to their meeting place at the Holiday Inn Select Toronto Airport to continue the meeting.

EMERGING SPIRIT

The Moderator welcomed Keith Howard, Aaron Gallegos, and Sharon Buttrey to the meeting.

Keith Howard gave an update of the major goals of Emerging Spirit including what has happened since General Council.

Questions and comments were responded to and it was noted that the sites and training events are constantly evolving as new and more information is received.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE, PROGRAMS EDUCATION

Diane Dwarka introduced a presentation of the program work.

Community Ministries

Jim Marshall, Program Coordinator for Economic Justice and Social Well Being, and two members of the Administrative Standards Committee for Outreach/Community Ministries - Jocelyn Greene, Director of Stella Burry Community Services and Barry Rieder, Director of Jane-Finch Community Minister gave a presentation on "Energy from the Edge". The

theological framework and history of the social gospel in which outreach/community ministries are deeply rooted was highlighted. Jim also noted the name change from Outreach Ministries to Community Ministries.

Jocelyn Greene talked about the Stella Burry Community Services and how the United Church supports this service in Newfoundland and Labrador. She talked about the role of the national church, the Emerging Spirit initiative to help to share the stories, and the investment in community development. She also noted the importance of new church development plans connecting with community ministries.

A video of Barry Rieder's work in the Jane-Finch Communities was also shown. Barry reviewed the evolution of Community Ministries including the loss of home within the church during decentralization in the 1970's and the movement from pain to reclaiming a place within the church.

VOTING MEMBERS

Voting members were given the opportunity to meet with and engage the Moderator and the General Secretary.

The Executive was also asked to think overnight about the intersections and connections between the work, the reports, and A Call to Purpose.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2006

The Moderator presented Emmanuel Ofori with an "I am Canadian" t-shirt to commemorate him and his family becoming Canadian citizens.

GOVERNANCE EDUCATION

Janet McDonald introduced Sharon Parks who has worked with The United Church of Canada in various capacities over the past three years. Sharon worked with the Alberta design team for Lead 2004 Event which was birthed by the Working Unit of the Division of Mission in Canada and delivered by the Faith Formation and Education Unit. She engaged the Permanent Committee on Governance, Planning and Budgeting and the General Secretary's Staff Leaders gathering on matters of leadership, authority, and change. Working with the planning team for the 39th General Council 2006, she advised on the discernment practices known to us as the Kerygma Café which engaged the Commissioners in conversations at General Council.

Sharon Parks introduced the "Commons" and what this means in this new Executive of the General Council. She helped to clarify and share a common language and common ways to work together. She also talked about the complexity and scale of governance as work towards a common purpose on behalf of the commons.

Sharon asked table groups to reflect on the following questions:

- As you think about your own life, where in the past have you experienced something of the commons, and where are you now?
- What is your experience with the three scales and how do you move between them (the micro commons, The United Church of Canada as a whole, and the global)?

- How do you move between the dance floor (participation) and the balcony (overview)?

Sharon also invited the Executive to talk in twos about experience of past and present commons.

Sharon continued talking about the confusion between leadership and authority and their differences. She asked the Executive to reflect on the following:

- In the role or roles that you hold, where, when, and on whose behalf do you hold authority?
- Where, when, and on whose behalf are you called to the practice of leadership?

BUSINESS TABLE

Deb Bowman introduced the declaration of interest, and asked the Executive to be transparent and alert people when they have an interest in a conversation or subject.

Motion: Jim Sinclair/Deb Bowman

2006-11-16-021

That corresponding privileges be extended to the following: Margaret Sawyer, Shannon Patterson, Jesse Root, Ryan McNally, Matt Woodall, and Adam Kilner.

Carried

39th GENERAL COUNCIL 2006 NEW BUSINESS

Awakening a Sleeping Giant: A Transformative Vision for Youth and Young Adult Ministries in the Third Generation of The United Church of Canada

The Moderator welcomed the youth commissioners who were present at General Council to present their proposal: Margaret Sawyer, Shannon Patterson, Jesse Root, Ryan McNally, Matt Woodall, and Adam Kilner. The youth commissioners spoke of their passion for this proposal with a summary of the events and the devotion that went into the development of this proposal.

Questions for clarification and comments noted that this is not meant to replace the Youth ministries portfolio and the importance of having the blessing of the General Council for this position. It was noted that the first youth Moderator was elected out of the Youth Forum in 1977 and one of the youth leaders was David Macdonald.

PENSION BOARD

Charlie Black from the Pension Board reviewed the report and gave an overview of the Pension Fund and Plan of the United Church. He noted that one of the responsibilities of the Executive of the General Council is the management of the Pension Plan with the assistance of the Pension Board.

PRIORITIES FOR THE EXECUTIVE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

Janet McDonald reviewed the proposals and actions of the 39th General Council 2006 that are before the Executive of the General Council and reviewed the priority setting process as the Executive moves towards May 2007. She noted that priority setting will not be done until the May 2007 meeting of the Executive.

Questions and comments included a concern about micro and macro managing the priority setting. It was confirmed that it is the job of the Executive to look at the overall priorities and the overall categories while the General Secretary will work with the individual items.

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Deb Bowman asked the Executive to prepare to go into the work that is the Executive's. She asked the Executive to enter into a time of prayer and waiting on the Spirit with Scripture reading, silence, and prayer.

SESSIONAL COMMITTEES

The Executive moved into Sessional Committees with the following work in each.

Red Sessional Committee

- Accountability Report – Moderator
- Moderator's Advisory Committee Report
- Accountability Report - General Secretary
- General Secretary Supervision Committee Report
- Correspondence - Timothy Eaton United Church (CORR 4)
- Decisions Not Subject to Appeal, Individuals in the Admission or Re-Admission Process
- Official French Version of The Manual of The United Church of Canada
- Supervision
- General Council Minister, Regional Relations
- General Council Office Accommodation Task Group
- Ministry Compensation
- Special Meeting of the Executive
- Isolation in Ministry
- Ministry Compensation
- Exercise of Discipline of Ministry Personnel
- Discipline
- Recognition of Spouses of Overseas Personnel
- Plan Design changes for the Active Employees Group Insurance Plan
- Group Insurance Plan Premium Changes
- Extending the Length of Parental Leave for Adoptive Parents (Ministry Personnel)
- Paying Back "Top Up" Benefits (Ministry Personnel)
- Weeks of Qualifying Employment for Maternity, Adoption and Maternal Leave (Ministry Personnel)
- Correspondence - Sharing the assets of the Finance and Extension Board of the Montreal Presbytery (CORR 3)
- Correspondence from Susan MacGregor regarding Emerging Spirit Ad Campaign (CORR 1)

Blue Sessional Committee

- Pension Board Report
- Task Group on Funding the Work of the Church Report
- World Council of Churches Report
- Manual Committee Report
- Residential Schools Report
- Rules Governing the Sharing of a Church Building by Two Congregations
- Awakening a Sleeping Giant: A Transformative Vision for Youth and Young Adult Ministries in the Third Generation of The United Church of Canada

- Pharmaceutical Laws in Canada
- Ethical Investment for Peace in Palestine and Israel
- Let's Make Child Poverty History
- A Transformative Vision for The United Church of Canada
- Living Faithfully in the Context of Empire
- Circle and Cross: The Relationship of The United Church of Canada to Aboriginal Spirituality
- That We May Know Each Other
- Special Funding for Experimental Ministries
- Tar Sands Moratorium - Protection of Canadian Sovereignty Over its Energy and Environment
- Gun Violence - Education re: Anti-Racism
- Administrative Standards and Best Practices for Healthy Ministry
- Emergency Response Protocol
- Emergency Response Fund
- Mandating Task Group for Reviewing Partnership Guidelines in the Context of Empire
- World Reformed Communion Proposal (Uniting the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the Reformed Ecumenical Council)

Green Sessional Committee

- Accountability Report – Permanent Committee, Finance
- Accountability Report - Permanent Committee, Governance, Planning and Budgeting Processes
- Accountability Report - Permanent Committee, Ministry and Employment Policies and Services
- Accountability Report - Permanent Committee, Programs for Mission and Ministry
- Correspondence - Request for GCE Action to De-Amalgamate (CORR 5)
- Revised Statement of Investment Policies & Services
- Decision-making and Administrative Processes of The United Church of Canada
- Elders
- National Extra Appeals
- Moderator as Presiding Officer of the General Council
- Current model of Recruiting Volunteers for General Council Volunteer Structure
- Opening Day at the 40th General Council 2009
- First Nations Representation to the Emerging Spirit Project
- Intercultural Protocols
- Nominations Committee Report
- Revised Terms of Reference for Redesign Evaluation Task Group
- Membership Requirement for Representatives of the United Church to External Partner Organizations
- Process for Review of Terms of Reference of Committees and Task Groups of the Executive of the General Council
- Powers of the Executive of the General Council
- General Council Commissioners
- Committees of the General Council
- Appointment of Auditors

- Emerging Spirit
- By-law changes
- Sexual Abuse Policy and Procedures
- Inclusion of “Mail-in Ballot” Process in *The Manual*
- Timing for Presbytery Appointments and Settlement of Ordered Ministry
- Changing the Definition of Quorum
- Quorum at a Meeting of Presbytery
- Permanent Committee, Ministry and Employment Policies and Services Representative on Pension Board of The United Church of Canada
- Task Group on Theological Schools
- Correspondence from Janice Young regarding Pulse of B.C. Conference (CORR 2)

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2006

WORSHIP

Carmen Lansdowne and Aruna Gnanadason led worship, Bible study, and reflection. Table Groups were asked what does it mean, in the context described by the Prophet’s voices, to be:

- God’s own people?
- God’s chosen race?
- The Royal Priesthood?
- A Holy Nation?

SESSIONAL COMMITTEES

Sessional Committees resumed their work.

COMMON GROUPS

Janet McDonald gave an update on “who we say we are” with a review of the membership of the Executive including voting and corresponding groups.

PERMANENT COMMITTEE, PROGRAMS FOR MISSION AND MINISTRY - EDUCATION

French Ministries

Claire Borel-Christen, the member of the Permanent Committee, introduced Pierre Goldberger, Executive Minister *Ministères en français* (UMiF), and presented on behalf of French Ministries the work of the Unit. Pierre talked about the 100th anniversary of Église Pinguet and the history and background of the Francophone Protestant family within the United Church. He noted the importance of identity and talked about the unanimous acceptance of the Francophone constituency at Union and the subsequent decline of bilingual ministry. He talked about the hopes for rebuilding “La Grande Famille” and the current growth with new signs of hope and life.

UMiF’s mandate to support Ministries in French with bilingual resources was reviewed. It was noted that this work cannot be done without the support and partnership of the whole church. Including the following:

- Help to strengthen existing work.
- Development of new Francophone and bilingual communities of faith across the country including feeling welcome into Anglophone churches.

- Promote a new vision of partnership in mission and witness by integrating French ministries into the work of the church.
- Help raise the visibility of L'Église Unie's public witness en français across the country.

Claire talked about the work to create new French resources, translation of current resources, and adapting some resources and books to express the voice and witness of our church for Francophones. She talked about the challenges to ensure the resources are culturally sensitive, represent the United Church identity, and are inclusive.

David Fines, editor of *Aujourd'hui Credo* reviewed the importance of public communication and the presence on the web.

IN MEMORIAM

The Moderator invited each member to take a moment and remember people who have gifted our church or gifted in faith during the past year.

We gratefully acknowledge the following members of our Church family who have left bequest gifts, annuity residues and insurance proceeds to The United Church of Canada April 2006 – October 2006

Mission and Service

Howard David Bedgood
W. J. Victor Buchanan
Ronald Reginald Clark
Reveda E. Dignan
Harold Whitfield Hedley
Margaret Heller
Florence Helen Melrose
Johnstone
Jack Lakavich
Roderick Hector
Longmore
Jessie Anne Mackintosh
Marjorie Madill
Betty M. McCullough
R. Russell McKittrick
Donald Beattie McLeod
Nora Isabel Miller
I. Ross Morgan
Irene M. Rinch

W. Stewart Rodger
Nora Elizabeth Ryrie
John Edward Sackville
Ethel Simpson
Isobel M. Stewart
Estrella Strachan
Ruth Walker
Florence M. Watson
Bernice Wettlaufer
Florence Wilkinson
Evelyn E. Wilson

The United Church of Canada

Ruth Boothroyd
Helen Thompson Clarkson
Marion Lola Francis
David Robert Harper
Charles Kappele
Ernest C. Mortin

Alice Marian Neilson
Margaret Plashka
Barbara Williams-Read
Robert Torrance
Jane Wightman

Pension Fund

Margaret E. Hutcheson
Arthur H. Long
Roswell Gordon O'Neil

Division of World Outreach

Eileen I. Kennedy
Rev. Harold R. King
Helen A. R. Prudham
Mary Margaret Slater

GOVERNANCE EDUCATION

Sharon Parks continued governance education talking about adaptive challenges, assumptions on how people learn, and moving adaptive work. Sharon also talked about the role of Executive members including their commitment of time, staying in and doing the work together, and

creating a container to make the work possible including orchestrating the work to help people to get back into the container and be productive.

The Moderator thanked Sharon for her gift of ideas and sharing herself with this Executive.

Executive of the General Council Priorities Task Group

Paul Stott reviewed the recommendations for appointments of members of the Executive of the General Council Priorities Task Group.

Whereas Proposal GS 12 requested the Nominations Committee to discern and recommend five to six voting members of the Executive of the General Council for the Priorities Task Group.

GCE 1

Motion: Paul Stott/Dwaine Dornan

2006-11-16-022

That the Executive of the General Council appoint the following people to the Executive of the General Council Priorities Task Group (November 2006-May 2007)

- J. Heather Burton – ordained member, BC
- Bruce Hutchinson – lay member, BQ
- Don Koots – ordained member, ANW
- Paul Reed – ordained member, BQ
- Allan Seal – lay member at large, under thirty
- Barb White – ordained member, TOR

Carried

PRIORITIES FOR THE EXECUTIVE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

Michelle Slater presented the priorities forwarded from the 39th General Council 2006.

The Meaning of Ministry (BQ 1)

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-023

To refer The Meaning of Ministry (BQ 1) to the General Secretary for work proposal and for the priority setting process.

Carried

Rethinking the Order of Ministry (ANW 3) (Red 4)

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-024

To refer to the General Secretary, the work proposal for ANW 3 with BQ 1 and for the priority setting process.

Carried

Call to Purpose (COM 1)

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-025

To refer Call to Purpose – A Message from the Church to the Church (COM 1) to the Moderator.

Carried

Ministry Compensation (GC39 GCE 3)

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-026

To refer Ministry Compensation (GC39 GCE 3) to the Permanent Committee on Ministry and Employment Policies and Services for future consideration.

Carried

Partnership of the Aboriginal Peoples in Healing the Church and the World (GCE 16)

Discussion took place on this proposal including how this could be included in the guiding principles for the whole of The United Church of Canada. Other questions included what it would mean to refer this to either the Moderator or the General Secretary or both.

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed

To direct GCE 16 – Partnership of the Aboriginal Peoples in Healing the Church and the World to the Moderator and to the General Secretary, General Council to be a guiding principle in the work of the church as follows:

“Acknowledging its historical legacy, The United Church of Canada transform its vision to that of an equal and joint partnership in healing the church and the world in the Spirit of Christ with the active partnership of the Aboriginal Peoples of The United Church of Canada.”

Discussion continued on the motion related to wording concepts.

The mover and seconder agreed to withdraw the motion.

Motion - Withdrawn

Education and Admission for Ethnic Ministers (Green 1) (TOR 10/ TOR 1)

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-027

To refer Item #1 to the General Secretary, General Council for work proposal and for the priority setting process.

1. Direct, for priority setting, the Executive of the General Council to establish a Task Group to review the educational and admission requirements for Ethnic Ministers, including but not limited to the following:
 - Seminary training for clergy whose first language is not English and who wish to transfer to The United Church of Canada in their own language;
 - Summer intensive programs taught in languages other than English to equip clergy from other countries to minister in their mother tongues to communities in Canada;
 - Scholarships to students who are fluent in other languages who wish to enter the ministry;
 - Settlement not only to pastoral charges but also to ethnic communities not being served;
 - Ways to facilitate and encourage the establishment of new ethnic ministries;
 - Ways to use our United Church of Canada mutuality in mission program to bring clergy from partner denominations to serve in particular ethnic communities in Canada;
 - Ways to invite returning overseas personnel who are fluent in a culture and language other than English to minister to those ethnic communities within Canada;
 - Ways to partner with congregations of other ethnic origins to begin to plant churches in Canada.

- The United Church of Canada's educational and language requirements for ethnic ministers seeking admission into The United Church of Canada.

Carried

Circle and Cross, National Aboriginal Consultation and Partnership of Aboriginal People (Green 6)

Discussion on the referral of this action from General Council was discussed.

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed **2006-11-16-028**

To refer Item 1 of Green 6 (Circle and Cross, National Aboriginal Consultation and Partnership of Aboriginal People) to the Moderator for consideration.

1. That the Moderator be requested to make the visiting of aboriginal congregations and communities a priority over the next three years.

To refer Items 2, 3, 4 to the General Secretary, General Council for further work and further consideration at the May 2007 meeting of the Executive of the General Council.

2. That all United Church bodies occupying treaty lands be encouraged to approach the First Nations owners of the lands and acknowledging their rightful ownership of the land and entering into conversation about respectful and appropriate ways to remain in their territory or ways to return the land to its rightful owners.
3. Use our resources to work with Aboriginal communities to resolve treaty issues with Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments.
4. Refer the three related documents cited above to the Executive of the General Council for development and implementation of the work.

Carried

National Aboriginal Consultations (HAM 4)

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed **2006-11-16-029**

To refer to General Secretary, General Council the National Aboriginal Consultations (HAM 4) for work proposal and for the priority setting process.

Carried

Transformative Vision (Green 9)

It was noted that this action from the 39th General Council 2006 will also be referred to the Blue Sessional Committee report.

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed **2006-11-16-030**

To refer Transformative Vision (Green 9) to the General Secretary, General Council for consideration.

Carried

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed **2006-11-16-031**

To refer the following to the Permanent Committee on Ministry and Employment Policies and Services for consideration.

- 363 Review Process – Resolution of Conflicts (BC 1)
- Combining Sections 333 and 363 of *The Manual* (BC 4)

- Review involving effectiveness of Ministry Personnel (GS 23)
- Interim Ministry Requirements (MNWO 9)
- Designation for Interim Minister (SK 6)
- Amendment to Section 363 of *The Manual* (LON 3)
- Changes to Article 363 of *The Manual* (TOR 4)

Carried

Leadership Outcomes Framework for Ordered Ministry (Red 5) (GCE 7)

The proposal was discussed including the action from General Council and the need for further study and review. It was agreed to bring this proposal back to the agenda at a later time.

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE GREEN

Louise Rogers and Paul Reed, co-chairs in Sessional Committee Green shared the reporting. Paul thanked the members of the Sessional Committee and Merjean Enriquez and Diane Bosman for their work.

Omnibus Motion – Accountability Reports

Paul noted the responses received and noted that each was read and shared as appropriate.

Motion: Louise Rogers/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-032

That the Executive of the General Council receive the Permanent Committee, Finance Accountability Report (FIN 1-3); Permanent Committee, Governance, Planning and Budgeting Processes Accountability Report (GPBP 1-3); Permanent Committee, Ministry and Employment Policies and Services Accountability Report (MEPS 1-3); and Permanent Committee, Programs for Mission and Ministry Accountability Report (PMM 1-7).

Carried

Accountability Report - Permanent Committee, Programs for Mission and Ministry (PMM 1-7)

Motion: Louise Rogers/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-033

That the Executive of the General Council direct to the Moderator and the General Secretary, General Council the responses to the Accountability Report of the Permanent Committee, Programs for Mission and Ministry and the concerns described in those responses, including but not limited to the disbanding of the Education for Church Leadership Co-ordinating Committee (ECL) and Committee on Ministry Vocations (CMV), the dismissing of members from a committee, workshops on leadership outcomes, merging of working units, and the decision regarding the mission theme, to take appropriate measures and to report to the Spring 2007 meeting of the Executive of the General Council with any additional recommendations.

Carried

Decision-making and Administrative Processes of The United Church of Canada (GC/BC 6)

The Sessional Committee presented the proposal from the workbook (GC/BC 6) as follows:

That the Executive of the General Council:

Strike a task group to consider the process by which The United Church of Canada is governed and decisions are made, such process to include considerations of, but not be limited to, the use

of Bourinot, consensus, All Native Circle Conference models, the four court structure, governance models, resources, and staffing, and report back to the 40th General Council 2009 with recommendations.

Motion: Paul Reed/Bruce Hutchinson **2006-11-16-034**

That the Executive of the General Council refer the proposal “Decision-making and Administrative Processes of The United Church of Canada” (GC/BC 6) to the Permanent Committee, Governance, Planning and Budgeting Processes for further work.

Carried

Moderator as Presiding Officer of the General Council (GC/GS 36)

Louise Rogers presented Proposal GC/GS 36 as follows:

That the Executive of the General Council:

Amend 8.5 of the Basis of Union by deleting the term “chief executive officer” and substituting the term “Moderator”; and

1. authorize a remit to test the will of the church with respect to this amendment.
2. and noted that the Executive of the General Council does not have the authority to authorize a remit.

Motion: Louise Rogers/Sharon Willis-Whitwell **2006-11-16-035**

That the Executive of the General Council refer Proposal “Moderator as Presiding Officer of the General Council (GC/GS 36) to the General Secretary, General Council for further work.

Carried

Terms of Reference for the Review of Duties and Powers of the Executive Task Group (GS 2)

Motion: Linsell Hurd/Bruce Hutchinson **2006-11-16-036**

That the Executive of the General Council adopt the Terms of Reference for the Review of Duties and Powers of the Executive Task Group.

Purpose:

To review and make recommendations regarding the duties and powers of the Executive of the General Council.

Scope of work:

1. To undertake a review of the duties and powers of the Executive of the General Council.
2. To report to the 40th General Council 2009 with recommendations as to any revisions to the duties and powers of the Executive of the General Council that the task group may consider appropriate.
3. Make recommendations to the Executive of the General Council for amendments to scope of work, timeframe, or composition of the task group should needs dictate.
4. Determine the task group’s work plan and communicate it to the Executive of the General Council.

Reporting relationship:

To the Executive of the General Council.

A written report to each meeting.

Term and Timeframe:

Mandate approved November 2006.
Recruitment January 2007, Appointment May 2007.
Term to August 2009.
Final report by February 2009.

Membership:

Four people who among them are knowledgeable about The United Church of Canada and in particular:

- the theological and historical understandings of a conciliar church,
- the current polity of the United Church of Canada,
- the current context of governance and fiduciary responsibilities in a faith based organization,
- the work of the General Council and its Executive.

The General Secretary, General Council, or designate.

Meetings:

Anticipated to be one face to face meeting of 2-3 days in Toronto per year, other meetings by conference call and email exchange.

Budget:

Assigned by the General Secretary in consultation with the task group and consistent with the task group's work plan once it is developed.

Carried

Terms of Reference for Review of Mandates of the Committees of the General Council Task Group (GS 3)

Motion: Bruce Hutchinson/Linsell Hurd

2006-11-16-037

That the Executive of the General Council adopt the Terms of Reference for Review of Mandates of the Committees of the General Council Task Group.

Purpose:

To review and make recommendations regarding the mandates of the committees of the General Council.

Scope of work:

1. To undertake a review of the composition, mandate and powers of each of:
 - the Judicial Committee,
 - the Audit Committee,
 - the Committee on Theology and Faith,
 - the Committee on Archives and History,
 - Transfer Committee, and,
 - the Manual Committee.

2. To report to the 40th General Council 2009 with recommendations as to any revisions to the composition, mandate and powers of each of these committees that the task group may consider appropriate.
3. Make recommendations to the Executive of the General Council for amendments to scope of work, timeframe, or composition of the task group should needs dictate.
4. Determine the task group's work plan and communicate it to the Executive of the General Council.

Reporting relationship:

To the Executive of the General Council.

A written report to each meeting.

Term and Timeframe:

Mandate approved November 2006.

Recruitment January 2007, Appointment May 2007.

Term to August 2009.

Final report by February 2009.

Membership:

Four people who among them are:

knowledgeable about the United Church of Canada and in particular:

- the theological and historical understandings of a conciliar church,
- the current polity of the United Church of Canada,
- the current context of governance and fiduciary responsibilities in a faith based organization,

have an appreciation of the work of these committees, and

have the ability to consult across a broad range of interests.

The General Secretary, General Council, or designate.

Meetings:

Anticipated to be two face to face meetings of 2-3 days in Toronto per year, other meetings by conference call and email exchange.

Budget:

Assigned by the General Secretary in consultation with the task group and consistent with the task group's work plan once it is developed.

Carried

Terms of Reference for Review of the Number of Commissioners Task Group (GS 4)

Motion: Sheryl Johnson/Sharon Willis-Whitwell

2006-11-16-038

That the Executive of the General Council adopt the Terms of Reference for Review of the Number of Commissioners Task Group as amended.

Purpose:

To review and make recommendations regarding the number of commissioners to the General Council.

Scope of work:

1. To review the number of Commissioners to the General Council and the process for calculating such number, including the formula “ $N=372$ ”.
2. To be aware of the proposed policy change and remit regarding ex-officio Commissioners to the General Council as also set out in GCE17.
3. To report to the 40th General Council 2009 with recommendations as to any revisions to the number of Commissioners and the process for calculating such number as the task group may consider appropriate.
4. Make recommendations to the Executive of the General Council for amendments to scope of work, timeframe, or composition of the task group should needs dictate.
5. Determine the Task Group’s work plan and communicate it to the Executive of the General Council.

Reporting relationship:

To the Executive of the General Council.
A written report to each meeting.

Term and Timeframe:

Mandate approved November 2006.
Recruitment January 2007, Appointment May 2007.
Term to August 2009.
Final report by February 2009.

Membership:

Four people who among them are knowledgeable about The United Church of Canada and in particular the work of the General Council and the Conferences.
The General Secretary, General Council, or designate.

Meetings:

Anticipated to be one face to face meeting of 2-3 days in Toronto per year, other meetings by conference call and email exchange.

Budget:

Assigned by the General Secretary in consultation with the task group and consistent with the task group’s work plan once it is developed.

Carried

Revised Terms of Reference for the Redesign Evaluation Task Group (GPBP 1)

Louise Rogers presented the amendments from the Task Group and the concerns raised. It was noted that this task group was put in place prior to establishing the policy that task groups report to Permanent Committees.

Motion: Shirley Cleave/Bruce Hutchinson

2006-11-16-039

That the Executive of the General Council adopt the Revised Terms of Reference for the Redesign Evaluation Task Group.

Mandate

1. The focus of the task group is to oversee the process to evaluate the redesign of the General Council Office staff model and the governance of the General Council and its Executive.
2. The task group will prepare a baseline document for the evaluation by reviewing the following materials:
 - GC37 2000 - Background and recommendations for the redesign
 - Future Directions Report - June 2001
 - Revised Future Directions Report – November 2001
 - Report of the Listening Team – April 2002
 - Called to the Table – Commission Report – August 2002
 - Other relevant documents
3. The task group will comment on the ongoing implementation of the redesign evaluation to the Executive of the General Council annually (Spring 2006✓, Spring 2007, Spring 2008).
4. The task group will propose to the Executive of the General Council by the fall of 2006 the project plan for the comprehensive evaluation of the redesign to be completed by Fall 2008. The proposal for the evaluation of the redesign will include the criteria for evaluation, stakeholders, methodologies, work plan and resources required.
5. The task group will report to each meeting of the Permanent Committee on Governance, Planning and Budgeting Processes for information purposes.
6. The task group will oversee this project. The task group will bring the report of the evaluation to the Executive of the General Council for Fall 2008. This report will include the findings, the analysis of the findings and recommended future directions.

Task Group Membership

There will six members: one voting member of the Executive of the General Council and five members with skills and experience (collectively) in organizational development and change, governance, theological reflection, research and evaluation. Staff resource to this task group will be assigned by the General Secretary.

Budget

Assigned annually in consultation with the General Secretary.

Carried

Task Group on Theological Schools and Programs (PMM 1)

Louise Rogers presented the proposal to:

Create a 7 person task group to:

- Review past work carried out by the Education for Church Leadership Coordinating Committee and other work by related bodies;
- study the leadership education capacity needed by the Church, with particular attention to inter-cultural issues, and
- study the Church's capacity to fund the theological education schools/centres/programs
- report to the Executive of the General Council through the Permanent Committee, Programs for Mission and Ministry with a view to ensuring that the Church's commitment to "educated and learning ministry" will be sustained for the next generation; and

That the Task Group be appointed through the Nominating Process of the General Council by the Executive of the General Council and that it include in its membership gifted people with experience such as:

- commitment to the theology of the ministry of the Whole People of God, and to the inter-cultural vision of the church
- appreciation of the significance of post-secondary education, theological education, and ongoing education to the church's mission
- experience in educational administration
- experience in professional education
- awareness of and appreciation of the Church's need for specialized ministry education, e.g. French, Diaconal, Aboriginal, Inter-Cultural, etc.
- appreciation of regional needs and aspirations.

Discussion included that the mandate and objectives were not clear and that further work was still needed on this task group terms of reference. There was also an operational question of whether this would be done by a staff person or a volunteer committee.

Motion: Martha ter Kuile/Linsell Hurd

2006-11-16-040

That the Executive of the General Council refer the Task Group on Theological Schools and Programs to the General Secretary, General Council for clarification of the objectives and the timelines of the Task Group.

Carried

Current model of recruiting volunteers for General Council Volunteer Structure (GC/MNWO 8)

Louise Rogers presented the proposal from General Council and noted that now that members of the Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario Conference have more information on the steps to take this is no longer an issue for them.

That the Executive of the General Council:

1. Examine the Opportunities to Serve process, and develop and implement ways to educate the church about the process of appointment through application, so that more volunteers can be identified and recruited; and
2. Adapt the current model to increase flexibility for church constituencies and General Council committees to assist in the recruitment of individuals, which might include developing a hybrid approach that allows for some nomination and direct recruitment, especially in seeking specific representation (such as gender, stream of ministry, region, age), and in situations where applications have not been forthcoming.

Motion: Heather Burton/Ted Kostecki

2006-11-16-041

That the Executive of the General Council refer item #1 of the Current model of recruiting volunteers for General Council Volunteer Structure to the General Secretary, General Council and

That item #2 be received and take no action, pending the report of the Redesign Evaluation Task Group.

Carried

Intercultural Protocols (GC/New 5)

Paul Reed introduced the new proposal from General Council as follows:

That the Executive of the General Council initiate a process involving broad consultation to develop protocols to address misunderstandings and conflict arising out of the multiple cultures present in The United Church of Canada.

Paul noted that the Sessional Committee embraced the proposal but was concerned that no time line was set.

Motion: Shirley Cleave/Linsell Hurd

2006-11-16-042

That the Executive of the General Council to refer the Intercultural Protocols to the General Secretary, General Council with an initial report to the Spring 2007 meeting of the Executive of the General Council.

Carried

Correspondence

The Sessional Committee reviewed the correspondence from Janice Young regarding the Pulse of B.C. Conference (CORR 2) and had no further action.

First Nations Representation to Emerging Spirit Project (GC/NEW 4)

Paul Reed presented the proposal from General Council as follows:

That the 39th General Council 2006:

1. act out the circle and cross and;
2. appoint a First Nations person(s) in an advisory capacity to the Emerging Spirit Project and
3. that the All Native Circle Conference name this person(s)

He noted that a relationship has been established between First Nations and the Emerging Spirit project. Cheryl Jourdain, Speaker of the All Native Circle, noted that Emerging Spirit shared in the Circle of Healing and Respect and an invitation was sent to other Conferences to be present.

Motion: Bruce Hutchinson/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-043

That the Executive of the General Council refer the question of First Nations Representation to Emerging Spirit Project to the General Secretary, General Council.

Carried

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE BLUE

Allan Seal and Don Koots introduced the report from the Blue Sessional Committee. Don thanked the members of the Sessional Committee and the resource people Sarah Cooper and Susan Fortner for their work.

Awakening a Sleeping Giant: A Transformative Vision for Youth and Young Adult Ministries in the Third Generation of The United Church of Canada (GC/New 1)

Allan Seal introduced the proposal from the General Council as follows:

That the 39th General Council 2006

1. Set aside resources for the creation and maintenance of a national youth and young adult network.
2. Set aside resources to fund youth and young adult ministries at the pastoral charge and presbytery levels over the next three years and investigate the creation of a national retreat for youth and young adults engaged in the Church to be held on the year in which neither KAIROS nor General Council are held.
3. Investigate the possibility of creating an elected position for a spiritual leader for youth and young adults and that the results of this investigation be reported to the Executive of the General Council no later than the fall executive meeting of 2008, so that the first election may take place at the 40th General Council 2009.

Allan reported on the work of the Sessional Committee. Discussion noted that any new initiatives of this kind should include both Aboriginal and black youth.

Motion: Allan Seal/Lynn Boothroyd **2006-11-16-044**

That the Executive of the General Council affirm the intent of GC39/NEW 1, and direct it to the General Secretary, General Council, for further work in preparation for the priority setting process.

Carried

That We May Know Each Other (GS 24)

Motion: Allan Seal/Betty Kelly **2006-11-16-045**

That the Executive of the General Council

Approve the project description attached to GS 24 “That We May Know Each Other” (Appendix A) and direct it to the General Secretary, General Council, for implementation.

Carried

Special Funding for Experimental Ministries (GS 25)

Allan Seal reported on the proposal and changes proposed by the Sessional Committee.

Motion: Allan Seal/Don Koots **2006-11-16-046**

That the Executive of the General Council

Approve the project description attached to GS 25 “Special Funding for Experimental Ministries” (Appendix B) and direct it to the Permanent Committee, Programs for Mission and Ministry.

Carried

Transformative Vision – Intercultural Ministries (GS 21)

Motion: Allan Seal/Don Koots **2006-11-16-047**

That the Executive of the General Council

Refer the project description attached to GS 21 “Transformative Vision – Intercultural Ministries” (Appendix C) to the General Secretary, General Council, for further work including consideration of GC39/GCE 5 (section 7), and GC39/Green 9, and to the priority setting process of the Executive of the General Council for May 2007.

Carried

Rules governing the sharing of a church building by two congregations (GC/M&O 12)

The Sessional Committee presented a new proposal and discussion took place.

Motion: Allan Seal/Brian Cornelius

2006-11-16-048

That the Executive of the General Council receive proposal GC39/M&O 12 and take no action. That the Executive of the General Council refer the concerns raised in proposal GC39/M&O 12 to the General Secretary, General Council, for consideration.

Carried

Let's Make Child Poverty History (GS 20)

A concern was raised about meaning of the acronym QUAD (Quality, Universality, Accessibility, and Development) used in the report. Other concerns raised in the Sessional Committee included the concern regarding specifying a defined amount.

Motion: Allan Seal/Marion Carr

2006-11-16-049

That the Executive of the General Council approve the project description attached to GS 20 "Let's Make Child Poverty History" (Appendix D) and direct it to the General Secretary, General Council, for implementation.

Carried

Living Faithfully in the context of Empire (GS 22)

The proposal was presented. Discussion and comments included the term "Empire" and it was noted that from the perspective of our global partners this is a key word. The term "Empire" will be part of the education process as well as raising awareness.

Motion: Allan Seal/Don Koots

2006-11-16-050

That the Executive of the General Council Approve the project description attached to GS 22 "Living Faithfully in the context of Empire" (Appendix E) and refer it to the priority setting process of the Executive of the General Council for May 2007, with the clarification that in the "Human and Financial Resources" section that "Task Group" be changed to "Working Group".

Carried

Mandating Task Group for Reviewing Partnership Guidelines in the Context of Empire (PMM 5)

Motion: Allan Seal/Chuck Scott

2006-11-16-051

That the Executive of the General Council authorize the Permanent Committee on Programs for Mission and Ministry to proceed with the implementation of the Review of United Church Partnership Principles, Practices and Guidelines in the Context of Empire.

Carried

There was a request to extend the order of the day until 9:30 p.m. There was no consensus and the Executive moved to the order of the day.

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

Michelle Slater led Taizé worship and reflection.

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2006

WORSHIP

The French Ministries Unit led worship.

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE RED

Co-chairs, Heather Leffler and Leah Halliday, thanked the members of the sessional committee for their work and Terry Beaumont and Robin Chen for their support.

Official French version of *The Manual of The United Church of Canada* (GC/M&O 10)

Version française officielle du *Manuel de l'Église Unie du Canada*

Motion: Jim Blanchard/ Stéphane Vermette

2006-11-16-052

That the Executive of the General Council direct the General Secretary to:

Provide a French translation of *The Manual of The United Church of Canada* and ensure that this French manual be updated following each General Council.

Further, should a discrepancy appear between English and the French translation, the most recent English language printed edition of *The Manual of The United Church of Canada* will govern.

Que le Conseil Général de l'Église Unie du Canada procède à une traduction officielle du *Manuel de l'Église Unie du Canada* au cours du prochain triennat et voie à sa mise à jour en français par la suite à chaque Conseil Général.

De plus, que la plus récente version anglaise imprimée du *Manuel de l'Église Unie du Canada* demeure la version de référence en cas de divergence avec la version française.

Carried

Terms of Reference for General Council Office Accommodation Task Group (GS 1)

Motion: Dwaine Dornan/Elizabeth Frazer

2006-11-16-053

That the Executive of the General Council adopt the following terms of reference for the General Council Office Accommodation Task Group.

Purpose:

To facilitate the work of the Executive of the General Council with respect to supervising and regulating the office accommodation of the General Council working units, and in particular planning for and providing future office accommodation.

Scope of work:

Develop, for consideration by the Executive of the General Council, a set of principles which will guide future office accommodation. Examples of such principles are:

- flexibility in size of office space
- ownership versus lease

- location (examples: access to public transportation, air travel, accessibility to hotels, impact on meeting costs)
- partnership with another court of the church (examples: a conference, congregation)
- partnership with another organization (s) with compatible mission / values (examples: another denomination, outreach ministry)

Identify and consult with the various groups with an interest in the United Church's office accommodation (examples. the Executive, staff, other denominations, potential partners) Explore and report on a variety of options consistent with the principles adopted by the Executive of the General Council.

Make recommendations to the Executive of the General Council for amendments to Scope of Work, Timeframe, or Composition should needs dictate.

Determine the Task Group's work plan and communicate it to the Executive of the General Council.

Reporting relationship:

To the Executive of the General Council.
A written report to each meeting.

Term and Timeframe:

Mandate approved October 2006.
Recruitment January 2007, Appointment May 2007.
Term to December 31, 2010.
Final report by November 2010.

Membership:

Four people who among them are:

- knowledgeable about The United Church of Canada and in particular the work of the General Council Office
- knowledgeable about commercial real estate practices and markets
- knowledgeable about trends in office accommodations and work practices
- able to consult across a variety of interest groups.

The General Secretary, General Council, or designate.

Meetings:

Anticipated to be three face to face meetings of 2-3 days each in Toronto per year, other meetings by conference call and email exchange.

Budget:

Assigned by the General Secretary in consultation with the Task Group and consistent with the Task Group's work plan once it is developed.

Carried

Martha ter Kuile, chair of the Permanent Committee, Governance, Planning and Budgeting Processes, noted the number of task groups that will be reporting to the Executive and raised a concern about how manageable this will be.

Isolation in Ministry (GS30)

The proposal was presented with discussion and concerns raised regarding consultation across the church. It was noted that what has been presented is only the preparatory work and the projects are only suggestions of how the work could be done once the priority setting has taken place. Clarification included that this process is not adopting specific programs but is putting the work into a priority sequence with an idea of the amount of budget and human resources involved in each project. The expectation was expressed that the Executive would still need to struggle over strategies and this will be a further conversation at the next meeting. Other comments included the need to step back and look at the discernment and settlement practices to ensure that the right people are in place.

Motion: Elizabeth Frazer/Heather Leffler

2006-11-16-054

That the Executive of the General Council

Refer GS 30 "Isolation in Ministry" to the General Secretary for further work and to the priority setting process of the Executive of the General Council for May 2007.

Carried

Ministry Compensation – Next Steps (GS 7)

The proposal was clarified and it was noted that GS 31 was tabled at the May 2006 meeting of the Executive of the General Council until these next steps had been clarified.

Motion: Jim Blanchard/Don Hunter

2006-11-16-055

1. The Executive of the General Council commit up to \$250,000 from the United Church of Canada Reserve Fund for 2007 for the purpose of the design and testing stage of the payroll service and its operation (item #1), and that no action be taken on # 2 (below) in view of GS 31.

Carried

2. The proposal MEPS 6 (April 2006) which is postponed definitely to the November 2006 meeting be further postponed to May 2007 for the priority setting process with respect to parts a, b, and c, which are:
- a. That ministry personnel be paid a comprehensive salary instead of a base salary and housing allowance/housing
 - b. Implement a redesigned salary structure that has minimum and maximum salaries, a greater differential between categories of ministry personnel and provision for pension credits during training periods
 - c. Establish a vehicle to compensate those persons in exceptionally high cost, remote locations and clergy couples where one person is restricted from claiming the clergy residence deduction.

Ministry Compensation (GS 31)

Motion: Elizabeth Frazer/Leah Halliday

2006-11-16-056

That the Executive of the General Council

Refer GS 31 “Ministry Compensation” to the priority setting process of the Executive of the General Council for May 2007.

Carried

Correspondence - Timothy Eaton United Church (CORR 4)

Motion: Leah Halliday/Anne-Marie Carmoy

2006-11-16-057

That the Executive of the General Council refer the correspondence from Timothy Eaton United Church to the General Secretary for response in the context of the decision of the General Council with respect to the Compensation study and recommendations.

Carried

Exercise of Discipline of Ministry Personnel (GS 32)

Motion: Dwaine Dornan/Dorothy Hemingway

2006-11-16-058

That the Executive of the General Council

Refer GS 32 “Exercise of Discipline of Ministry Personnel” to the priority setting process of the Executive of the General Council for May 2007.

Carried

Decisions Not Subject to Appeal, Individuals in the Admission or Re-Admission Process (GC/GS 14)

Motion: Elizabeth Frazer/Heather Leffler

2006-11-16-059

That the Executive of the General Council adopt the policy that Decisions about an individual with respect to the admission or re-admission process are not subject to Appeal;

and that section 077 and section 549 of the By-Laws—being identical—be revised to reflect this policy, as follows:

077, 549 Decisions Not Subject to Appeal are as follows:

[subsections (a) and (b) remain the same]

(c) Decisions about an individual with respect to the admission or re-admission process;

[subsections (c) and following to be re-lettered accordingly]

Although a Decision about an individual in the candidacy, admission, or re-admission process may not be appealed, the individual may request that the appropriateness of the procedures used to arrive at the Decision be addressed through the General Council’s approved policies and procedures for conflict resolution, other than a Formal Hearing. The individual may appeal the appropriateness of the procedures used to arrive at the Decision, but only if the matter is not resolved through the policies and procedures for conflict resolution.

Carried

Supervision (GC/MNWO 3)

Heather Leffler reviewed the understanding of the Sessional Committee that this proposal is not making policy but only looking at it in terms of the Human Resources policy review.

Motion: Stéphane Vermette/Don Hunter

2006-11-16-060

That the Executive of the General Council refer GC/MNWO 3 to the Permanent Committee, Ministry and Employment Policies and Services for consideration in the Human Resources Policy review:

- a. add to the Human Resources Policies a definition of “supervisor,” a statement of purpose for supervisors of program staff, and a statement regarding role functions of a supervisor, and clarify the relationship of Executive Secretaries and Conference Staff Committees with regard to the supervision of Conference staff members,
- b. change the General Council Staff Policies so that the responsibility and accountability to search for, appoint, supervise and terminate the ministries of Conference Program Staff be vested in Conference Executive, normally through Search Committees and Staff Committees. The Conference Executive will consult with the appropriate General Council Human Resources body/bodies prior to decision-making in these matters.
- c. clarify a process for how conflict between supervisors and supervisees in the Human Resources system is to be resolved in a clear, just and reasonable manner (for example, through steps taken by Staff Committees, or through a process such as the Alternate Dispute Resolution process outlined in *The Manual*, or by an ombudsperson).

Carried

General Council Minister, Regional Relations (GC/MNWO 4)

The Sessional Committee noted that this proposal refers to the Conference Executive Secretaries and the Speaker.

Motion: Leah Halliday/Heather Leffler

2006-11-16-061

That the Executive of the General Council refer GC/MNWO 4 to the Permanent Committee, Ministry and Employment Policies and Services for consideration in the Human Resources Policy review.

Carried

Date of Special Meeting of the Executive of the General Council (GS 8)

Discussion on the dates noted that the All Native Circle Conference meets June 24 – 29. Barbara White sent her regrets for these dates.

Motion: Jim Blanchard/Dwaine Dornan

2006-11-16-062

That the Executive of the General Council meet for the sole purpose of reviewing the priority plan and budget brought by the General Secretary on June 21 from 4:00 p.m. to June 23 at 4:00 p.m. (2007) in Toronto.

Carried

Recognition of Spouses of Overseas Personnel (GS 33)

The Sessional Committee noted that the proposal GS 33 is different from the proposal from the Red Commission of the 39th General Council 2006 and felt that more work was needed.

Motion: Heather Leffler/Leah Halliday **2006-11-16-063**

That the Executive of the General Council
Refer GS 33 “Recognition of Spouses of Overseas Personnel” to the General Secretary, General Council for further work in the context of the action adopted by the 39th General Council 2006.
Carried

Plan Design Changes for the Active Employees Group Insurance Plan (MEPS 1)

Motion: Heather Leffler/Dorothy Hemingway **2006-11-16-064**

That the Executive of the General Council approve the Group Insurance Plan design changes for Active Employees and Pensioners as set out in the chart below:

Plan Improvement	Cost
2.2% increase in Long Term Disability benefits to plan members who are receiving LTD benefits on December 31, 2006, with the increase to be effective January 1, 2007, and a corresponding increase in pension accrual for these individuals.	<u>\$318,000</u>
Effective January 1, 2007, change the pensioners annual health maximum to \$3,000 per family member and The pensioners’ annual dental maximum to \$1,500 per family member to \$3,000 per family member.	\$150,000 \$ 60,000
TOTAL COST Funded from the Pensioner Premium Stabilization Reserve	<u>\$210,000</u>

Carried

Group Insurance Plan Premium Changes (MEPS 2)

Motion: Jim Blanchard/Don Hunter **2006-11-16-065**

That the Executive of the General Council approve changes to the Group Insurance Plan premium collected from employers and members as set out in the chart below:

EMPLOYER ASSESSMENT			
	2006	2007	Amount of Change
Core Employer Sub-Total Premium Paid	4.87% of PE	4.87% of PE*	no change
<i>PLUS, where applicable:</i> Employer Indemnity	.12% of PE	.12% of PE*	no change
or Weekly Indemnity	1.15% of PE	1.15% of PE*	no change
or Short Term Disability	.34% of PE	.34% of PE*	no change

MEMBER ASSESSMENT			
Long Term Disability (all Members)	2.52% of PE	2.70% of PE*	+1.18% of PE
Pensioner H&D Support (all Members)	\$4.45	\$4.00	-\$0.45
Optional Health & Dental, if selected (including ETA)			
- Single coverage	\$ 41.92	\$ 41.92	no change
- Family coverage	\$119.51	\$119.51	
Optional Life Insurance	if selected rated by age, gender and smoking habits		no change
Optional AD&D, if selected			
- Single coverage	\$0.33/\$10,000	\$0.33/\$10,000	
- Family coverage	\$0.56/\$10,000	\$0.56/\$10,000	no change
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST Funded from the Group Insurance Reserve			<u>\$390,000</u>
EAP	\$8.00	\$8.00	no change
RCP	1% of PE	1.15% of PE*	+1.15% of PE
PENSIONER ASSESSMENT			
Pensioners' Health & Dental			
-Single Coverage	\$47.77	\$47.77	
-Family coverage	\$96.36	\$96.36	no change
TOTAL ESTIMATED COST Funded from the Pensioners Premium Stabilization Reserve			<u>\$90,000</u>

*PE=Monthly Pensionable Earnings
Carried

Extending the Length of Parental Leave for Adoptive Parents (Ministry Personnel) (MEPS 4)

Stéphane Vermette declared an interest in this proposal.

Motion: Heather Leffler/Leah Halliday

2006-11-16-066

That the Executive of the General Council adopt as policy for ministry personnel that adoptive parents are entitled to take up to 35 weeks of parental leave separate from, and in addition to, 17 weeks of adoption leave, such that a total of 52 weeks leave is possible.

Carried

RED 1

Motion: Leah Halliday/Allan Sinclair **2006-11-16-067**

That the Executive of the General Council direct the General Secretary to encourage the Governments of Canada and Bermuda to provide adoptive parents the same parental benefits as birth parents.

Carried

Paying Back “Top Up” Benefits (Ministry Personnel) (MEPS 5)

It was noted that this proposal was discussed at length in the Sessional Committee and it became clear that more work is necessary on the background information.

Motion: Jim Blanchard/Marion Carr **2006-11-16-068**

That the Executive of the General Council refer MEPS 5 to the Permanent Committee, Ministry and Employment Policies and Services for further work.

Carried

Weeks of Qualifying Employment for Maternity, Adoption, and Parental Leave (Ministry Personnel) (MEPS 6)

Motion: Allan Sinclair/Dorothy Hemingway **2006-11-16-069**

That the Executive of the General Council amend existing policy for ministry personnel respecting weeks of qualifying employment for maternity, adoption, and parental leave such that it corresponds to criteria used by Employment Insurance.

Carried

Correspondence - Emerging Spirit Ad Campaign (Bobble Head Jesus) (CORR 1)

Motion: Stéphane Vermette/Leah Halliday **2006-11-16-070**

That the Executive of the General Council refer the correspondence regarding the Emerging Spirit Ad Campaign from Susan MacGregor to the General Secretary, General Council for response.

Carried

Correspondence – Consistoire Laurentien (CORR 3)

Motion: Heather Leffler/Jim Blanchard **2006-11-16-071**

That the Executive of the General Council receive the correspondence regarding the Consistoire Laurentien and request the General Secretary to respond to all parties, that hearing the pain and brokenness we will continue to pray for them and offer our willingness to work with them if and when requested by the Montreal and Ottawa Conference.

Carried

Brian Cornelius and Anne-Marie Carmoy requested that their abstentions be recorded.

Omnibus Motion

The Sessional Committee noted that they had no guidelines by which to measure accountability reports. It was also noted that the Moderator’s Advisory Committee is addressing the purpose of the Moderator’s visits in light of priorities set by General Council.

Motion: Don Hunter/ Elizabeth Frazer

2006-11-16-072

That the Executive of the General Council receive the Moderator's Accountability Report, the Moderator's Advisory Committee Report, the General Secretary's Accountability Report, and the General Secretary Supervision Committee Report for information.

Carried

Mary-Beth thanked the members and resources of the Sessional Committee for their work with prayer.

PRIORITIES FOR THE EXECUTIVE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL

Leadership Outcome Framework for Ordered Ministry (Red 5) (GCE 7)

The proposal was reintroduced.

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-073

In response to Red 5 (GCE 7) "That we receive the report and direct the Executive of the General Council to review the Leadership Outcomes Framework in light of the Standards of Practice in the 39th General Council 2006 Record of Proceedings with a view to harmonizing the Leadership Outcomes Framework with the Standards of Practice; and to undertake further study including reviewing response forms and correspondence received by the 39th General Council 2006." Direct the General Secretary, General Council to establish the terms of reference of a task group to be approved by the Sub-Executive of the General Council and that an extraordinary recruitment to this task group be authorized.

Carried

Partnership of Aboriginal Peoples in Healing the Church and the World (GCE 16)

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-074

Refer GCE 16 to the Moderator and direct this to the General Secretary, General Council and the Executive of the General Council Priorities Task Group to inform their work.

Carried

Call to Purpose (COM 1)

In light of earlier discussions and to be congruent a further proposal was introduced regarding A Call to Purpose.

Motion: Deb Bowman/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-075

Direct Call to Purpose – A Message from the Church to the Church (COM 1) to the General Secretary, General Council and the Executive of the General Council Priorities Task Group to inform their work.

Carried

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE GREEN

The co-chairs, Paul Reed and Louise Rogers, continued the reporting of the work of the Sessional Committee.

Opening Day at the 40th General Council 2009 (GC/NEW 3)

The Sessional Committee introduced a new proposal to capture the concerns and intent of the original proposal and also to be consistent with A Call to Purpose.

Motion: Martha ter Kuile/Shirley Cleave **2006-11-16-076**

That the Executive of the General Council commit the Church as it gathers at the 40th General Council 2009 to the practice of interculturalism expressed in the “Call to Purpose”; and direct the General Council Agenda and Planning Committee to provide an intercultural meeting with sensitivity to the people of the land on which we gather.

Carried

Proposed By-Law Changes (GS 11)

Louise Rogers noted that the following items were referred by the 39th General Council 2006 to the Executive of the General Council.

Sexual Abuse Policy and Procedures (GS 39)

Motion: Bruce Hutchinson/Martha ter Kuile **2006-11-16-077**

That the Executive of the General Council adopt the changes to implement the Sexual Abuse Policy and Procedures as proposed by The Manual Committee.

Carried

Mail-In Ballot Process (MAR 1)

Discussion in the Sessional Committee and the Commons noted that our current practice is not to allow mail-in ballots. The General Secretary also noted the activity of a gathered community is one way the church is conciliar and listens to the Spirit.

Motion: Martha ter Kuile/Ted Kostecki **2006-11-16-078**

That the Executive of the General Council adopt option 7 (d) of the Mail-In Process as proposed by The Manual Committee, that is, not to allow mail-in ballots.

Carried

Presbytery Appointments and Settlement (MAR 2)

Motion: Paul Stott/Sharon Willis-Whitwell **2006-11-16-079**

That the Executive of the General Council adopt the changes on Presbytery Appointments and Settlement as proposed by The Manual Committee.

Carried

Motion: Louise Rogers/Paul Stott **2006-11-16-080**

That no further action be taken on MAR 1 and MAR 2

Carried

Presbytery Quorum (MTU 4) (SK 1)

Louise noted the two proposals and reviewed the discussion in the Sessional Committee. It was noted that the requirement for retirees to be present was removed.

Motion: Paul Reed/Louise Rogers **2006-11-16-081**

That the Executive of the General Council adopt the By-law changes to Section 001 "Quorum" of *The Manual*, as outlined on GC/MTU 4 and to refer to the General Secretary, General Council the question of the requirements on "retained" and "retired".

Motion: Betty Kelly/Leah Halliday **2006-11-16-082**

To table this motion.

Carried

Correspondence – St. Stephen's College and St. Andrew's College (CORR 5)

Discussion on the role of the Executive of the General Council in closures and de-amalgamation was discussed and it was noted that this may be an item for further orientation.

Motion: Linsell Hurd/Emmanuel Ofori **2006-11-16-083**

That the Executive of the General Council approve the dissolution of the amalgamation of St. Stephen's College and St. Andrew's College and refer the question in regards to the loan to the General Secretary, General Council.

Carried

Omnibus Motion (Appendix G)

Motion: Louise Rogers/Paul Reed **2006-11-16-084**

That the Executive of the General Council adopt the following as is:

- Revised Statement of Investment Policies & Procedures (FIN 1)
- Appointment of Auditors (GS 5)
- Emerging Spirit Funding (GS 6)
- Membership Requirement for Representatives of The United Church of Canada to External Partner Organizations (GPBP 2)
- Process for Review of Terms of References of Committees and Task Groups of the Executive of the General Council (GPBP 3)
- Elders (GC/GS 17)
- National Extra Appeals (GC/GS 29)
- Proposed By-Law Changes (GS 10)
- Permanent Committee on Ministry and Employment Policies and Services Representative on Pension Board of The United Church of Canada (MEPS 3)
- ~~Nominations Committee Report (GCE 100)~~

Carried

Nominations Committee Report (GCE 4)

Motion: Louise Rogers/Paul Reed **2006-11-16-085**

That the Executive of the General Council appoint the following people to the committees and task groups or as representatives of The United Church of Canada (with the stated terms):

GC - Theology and Faith (August 2009)

- Wendy MacLean (OM M&O)
- Kristin Philipson (L ANW)
- Tracy Trothen (OM BQ)

- Grant Joseph Queskekapow (OM ANC)

Re-appointment (December 2007)

- Gordon MacDermid (OM MNWO), Acting-Chairperson

GC - The Manual Committee (December 2009)

- Pat West (L N&L)
- Cindy Laing (OM Mtu)

GC- Audit Committee (August 2009)

- Bruce Richards (L Sask)

GCE - PC-Governance, Planning and Budgeting Processes (August 2009)

- Desmond Parsons (L N&L)

GCE - PC–Ministry and Employment Policies and Services (August 2009)

- Wayne Flewelling (L ANW)

GCE - PC-Programs for Mission and Ministry (August 2009)

- Elizabeth Pike (L ANC)

GCE - Gender Justice Advisory Committee (August 2009)

- Cora Krommenhoek (OM Tor)
- Robin Sherman (OM Sask)

GCE - Pension Plan Advisory Committee (December 2009)

- John McLean (L Lon)

GCE - Redesign Evaluation Task Group (December 2008)

- Heather F. Clarke (L BC)
- Grafton Antone (OM ANC)

Appointment of a Chairperson

Joan Wyatt (OM Tor), Chairperson

GCE - Task Group on the General Council Grant to Conferences (December 2007)

- Claude Hender (L N&L)
- William Rogers (L Mtu)
- Verna McKay (DM MNWO)
- Jane Johnson (OM Mar)
- Linda Anderson (L Sask)

PC-FIN - Gift Planning Committee (December 2009)

- Carole Bennett (L Tor)
- Tom Hierlihy (L Ham)

Re-Appointment

- Thomas Alton (L Ham) – 2nd term

PC-FIN - Mission and Service Fund Advisory Committee (December 2009)

- Pansy Martin (L N&L)
- Darren Liepold Nicholson (OM Tor)
- Judy MacKinnon (L BC)

PC-MEPS-Interim Ministry Steering Group (June 2008)

- Janet Cawley (OM BC)
- Elizabeth Weick (L BC)
- Margaret Fiddler (L ANC)
- Lynette Miller (OM MNWO)
- George Holliday (OM Sask)

PC-MEPS - Transfer and Settlement Review Task Group (June 2008)

- Bill Ford (OM N&L)
- Glenn Morison (OM MNWO)
- Linda Thompson (LTor)

PC-PMM - Justice Global and Ecumenical Relations Unit Wide Committee (December 2009)

- Faye Wakeling (OM M&O)
- Jill Piebiak (L ANW)

PC-PMM - Ministries in French Unit Wide Committee (December 2009)

- Michel Gadoury (L M&O)

PC-PMM - Duty of Care Program Advisory Committee (December 2009)

- Barb Van Norman (L Lon)
- Cecil Templeman (L N&L)
- Craig Neely (L Sask)

PC-PMM - Faith Formation for All Ages Committee (December 2009)

- Sid Woolfrey (L N&L)

PC-PMM - New Congregations and Ministries Task Group (December 2009)

- Lori Erhardt (OM Sask)
- Jeffrey Smith (L BC)
- Pam Lock (L Tor)
- Nancy Wilson (OM Mar)

JGER UW - Justice Peace and Creation Advisory Committee (December 2009)

- John Bullas (OM Sask)

Re-Appointment

- Barry Rieder (L Tor), Chairperson – 2nd term
- Mary Jackson (L Ham) – 2nd term

JGER UW - InterChurch and InterFaith Committee (December 2009)

- Denise Davis Taylor (DM ANW)
- Lindsay Ann Cox (L Tor)
- Angelika Piché (OM M&O)

ICIF - The Canadian Council of Churches: Commission on Faith and Witness (December 2009)

- Margaret Trapnell (OM Lon)

ICIF - The Canadian Council of Churches: Commission on Justice, Peace and Creation (December 2009)

- Janet Sigurdson (OM Sask)

JGER UW – Representative of the UCC to the Board of Management of the Canadian Churches Forum for Global Ministries (December 2009)

- Allison Playfair (OM Lon)

JGER UW - Representative of The United Church of Canada to the Caribbean & North American Council for Mission - CANACOM (December 2009)

- Vic Wiebe (L Sask)
- Danielle Ayana James (OM ANW)

ICIF - Representative of The United Church of Canada to the Reformed/Lutheran Ecumenical Conversation

- Allan Boyd (OM BQ)

JGER UW - Representative of The United Church of Canada to the National Coalition on Housing and Homelessness (December 2009)

- Michael Blair (OS Tor)

Sub-Executive of the General Council (August 2009)

- Scott Parsons (OM N&L)
- Paul Reed (OM BQ)
- Heather Leffler (OM Ham)
- Chuck Scott (L Lon)
- Cynthia Joan Desilets (OM Mtu)
- Dwaine Dornan (L Sask)
- Allan C. Sinclair (OM ANC)
- Anne-Marie Carmoy (L Francophone Constituent)
- Amber Ing (L Ethnic Ministries Constituent)

GCE Nominations Committee – British Columbia Conference Representative

- J. Heather Burton (OM BC)

Representative of The United Church of Canada to the World Council of Churches: Commission on International Affairs

- Maggie McLeod (OM Ham)

JGER - Global Partnership Advisory Committee, Renewal (December 2009)

- Erin McDonald (L Mar) - 2nd term
- H. Martin Rumscheidt (OM Mar) - 2nd term
- Geegee Mills (L Tor) - 2nd term

PC-PMM - Congregational Stewardship Development Committee, Renewal (December 2009)

- Ellinor Ruth Townend (L ANW), Chairperson – 2nd term
- Marvin Mackie (L Sask) – 2nd term

PC-FIN - Financial Assistance Committee, Renewal (December 2007)

- Karen Smart (OM BQ)

Other Appointments

That the Executive of the General Council receive for information the appointment of the following people to committees and task groups (with stated terms)

Executive of the General Council – Conference Representatives (GC40, August 2009)

- Caryn Douglas (DM MNWO) – as elected by Conference
- J. Heather Burton (OM BC) – as elected by Conference until 2008

The United Church of Canada Foundation (GC40, August 2009)

- Bruce Cook, Moderator's Designate - as designated by the Moderator

Aboriginal Steering Group (December 2007) - as named by the General Secretary

- Jim Angus
- Alberta Billy
- Russell Burns
- Lee Claus
- Gloria Cook
- Alan Jacobs
- Maggie McLeod
- Aletha Saulteaux Whitefeather
- Allan C. Sinclair
- Charlotte Sullivan

Justice Peace and Creation Advisory Committee (December 2009)

- Aletha Saulteaux Whitefeather, Aboriginal member - as named by All Native Circle Conference
- Ken Deslisle, Affirm representative - as named by Affirm

Correction to the Nominations Report to the Sub-Executive of the General Council, June 28, 2006.

That the Executive of the General Council receive for information the following correction to the Nominations Report to the Sub-Executive of the General Council, June 28, 2006.

- Linsell Hurd is appointed as Representative of the Executive of the General Council to the Pension Board, not to the Pension Plan Advisory Committee.

Carried

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE BLUE REPORT

Omnibus Motion

Motion: Allan Seal/Don Koots

2006-11-16-086

That the following reports to the Executive of the General Council be received:

- Pension Board Report
- Report of the Task Group on Funding the Work of the Church
- World Council of Churches Report
- Manual Committee Report
- Residential Schools Steering Committee Report

Carried

Circle and Cross: The Relationship of The United Church of Canada to Aboriginal Spirituality (GS 23)

Motion: Allan Seal/Lewis Coffman

2006-11-16-087

That the Executive of the General Council refer GS 23 “Circle and Cross: The Relationship of The United Church of Canada to Aboriginal Spirituality” to the priority setting process of the Executive of the General Council for May 2007.

Carried

World Reformed Communion (PMM 6)

Motion: Allan Seal/Lynn Boothroyd

2006-11-16-088

That the Executive of the General Council

Approve the proposal to unite the World Alliance of Reformed Churches and the Reformed Ecumenical Council; and

Direct that The United Church of Canada, having been a member of the World Alliance of Reformed Churches, be a member of the World Reformed Communion.

Carried

Peace Fund for Palestine-Israel and other Regions (GS 9)

Allan Seal gave an overview of the conversation in the Sessional Committee including the reordering of the proposal. Discussion in the commons included the concern about a balanced approach against violence and the amount of money to be raised including other fund raising projects.

Motion: Alan Seal/Lewis Coffman

2006-11-16-089

That the Executive of the General Council approve:

- the broadening of the mandate of the Peace Fund for Palestine-Israel to include other regions;
- a fundraising goal of \$2 million over 2 years;
- a grant of \$25,000 from the Project Fund for planning and resource development in order to launch the Peace Fund; and
- that 50% of the total funds raised over two years be allocated for support of peace initiatives in Palestine-Israel, and 50% going to initiatives in other regions.

Carried

Gun Violence – Educational Program re: Anti-Racism (GS 27)

Comments included concern over the title of “Gun Violence”. It was noted that this is the name of proposal and does not need to be the name of the program.

Motion: Allan Seal/Don Koots

2006-11-16-090

That the Executive of the General Council

Direct the project description attached to GS 27 “Gun Violence – Educational Program re: Anti-Racism” to the General Secretary, General Council for implementation.

Carried

Pharmaceutical Laws in Canada (GC/NEW 2)

The Sessional Committee noted the changes it made to the original proposal.

Motion: Allan Seal/Chuck Scott

2006-11-16-091

That the Executive of the General Council, through the General Secretary, General Council, call on the Government of Canada to amend federal pharmaceutical legislation in order to remove any disincentives for the export of less expensive or generic medicines to countries without pharmaceutical production capabilities.

Carried

EMERGENCY PREPARATION

It was noted that staff person, Bev Oag, was unable to attend and present the information and work being done in the General Council Office regarding in the case of a pandemic. Documents prepared by her were referred to the Executive for their information.

RECOGNITION

Omega Bula invited the Executive to celebrate the 31 years of service of David Hallman in The United Church of Canada and globally with the World Council of Churches. Omega gave insights and accomplishments of some of David’s work through his years with the church.

Aruna Gnanadason talked about the work David has done through the World Council of Churches and his global ecumenical commitment to climate change. Aruna thanked The United Church of Canada for David’s work with the global church.

Peter Short recognized Jim Sinclair’s gifts to the church at this his last Executive of the General Council as General Secretary, General Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Seal of The United Church of Canada

Motion: Deb Bowman/Allan Seal

2006-11-16-092

The Second General Council, meeting in June 1926, adopted By-Law Number 126 of The United Church of Canada with respect to the Seal of The United Church of Canada. By due and valid process, By-Law 126 has since been renumbered to become Section 515 of The Manual and has been amended by the proper Courts of the Church to read as follows:

There shall be an Official Seal for The United Church of Canada. When it is required to affix the seal to any document, except where otherwise provided by any Act respecting The United Church of Canada, it shall be attested by the signatures of any two of the following officers: The Moderator, the General Secretary of the General Council, the General Council Ministers, and the Executive Officer, Finance (any one of whom shall for this purpose be entitled to temporary custody of the Seal and to affix the same), or by any one thereof, together with any one of six other persons to be appointed by the Executive of the General Council.

NOW, this is to certify that the following are the persons above-mentioned who are authorized to affix the Seal of the Church and to attest it to wit:

Moderator, The United Church of Canada	David Giuliano
General Secretary, General Council	Nora Sanders
General Council Minister, Programs for Mission and Ministry	Bruce Gregersen
General Council Minister, Resources for Mission and Ministry	Ian Fraser
General Council Minister, Regional Relations	Carol L. Hancock
General Council Minister, Planning Processes	Janet McDonald
General Council Minister, Racial and Gender Justice	Kim Uyede-Kai
Executive Officer, Financial Services	Ron Olsen

AND, the following six persons all appointed by the Executive of the General Council:

Legal/Judicial Counsel	Cynthia Gunn
Legal/Judicial Counsel	Kathy McDonald
Executive Minister, Justice, Global & Ecumenical Relations	Omega Bula
Program Officer, Financial Services	Mary May
Executive Minister, Ministry and Employment Policies and Services	Michael Burke
Executive Minister, Resource Production and Distribution.	Daniel Benson

This authorization shall remain in full force and effect until written notice of revocation thereof shall have been filed by the Secretary.

Certified Correct:

Nora Sanders
General Secretary, General Council
Dated: January 8, 2007

Carried

End the siege of Gaza, dialogue to end the occupation of Palestinian territories (GCE 2)

The proposal was introduced as follows:

The Executive of the General Council issue a statement:

- Condemning all acts of violence;
- Condemning the Israeli military incursions that have resulted in the death of civilians; and
- Urging the Government of Canada to:

- i. call on the Israeli Government and its army to put an immediate end to the suffocating siege of Gaza; and
- ii. work with others in the international community in efforts to bring about a sustainable, negotiated resolution to end the occupation that forms the basis of the conflict, and ensure a long-lasting peace.

Concerns were raised including that the proposal was not balanced and discussion took place.

A new proposal as follows was suggested to set a framework for the first proposal.

Public Statements or Policies regarding Palestine-Israel (GCE 3)

Because of the highly complex and profoundly nuanced circumstances surrounding the situation and context that is Palestine-Israel and because of the variety of voices within our Church on this issue,

That the Executive of General Council; or any Committees, Task Groups or Working Groups; will only make public statements or policies regarding Palestine-Israel that bear faithful witness by presenting perspectives which are balanced and fair. Until all parties in that region are willing to actively seek peace and the mutual well-being of the others the Executive of the General Council will not be complicit in further complicating an already confounded situation and context.

An order of the day was reached and both proposals were put aside.

EVALUATION

Janet McDonald reviewed the work and memories of this Executive with a PowerPoint presentation "Hope is a Candle". She further noted the next steps including an on line community.

GLOBAL PARTNER AND WORLD COUNCIL OF CHURCHES REFLECTIONS

Carmen Lansdowne reviewed her role as representative to the Central Committee of the World Council of Churches (WCC) with a PowerPoint presentation entitled "Six Months in the Life of a World Council of Churches representative".

Aruna Gnanadason gave her reflections from the meeting and expressed deep appreciation for being with the Executive to watch the church in action. She noted that churches all over the world are struggling with the same issues as they try to be faithful to discern what God is calling the church to do.

Aruna affirmed the role of the United Church within the global church and the World Council of Churches. She noted the commitment shared with the world including climate change, the role of women, and world ecumenism. She reviewed the major programs from the WCC and hoped that the United Church would be able to help including:

- the Decade to overcome violence
- Statement on Ecclesiology
- Study of poverty and wealth
- Common voice and action to impact peace in the Middle East.

She also asked how we can all continue to be part of the global community and challenge the world church on issues such as Empire. She also stressed the challenge to continue to work on ecumenically sharing resources within the world church.

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE GREEN

Presbytery Quorum (MTU 4)

Motion: Paul Stott/Leah Halliday

2006-11-16-093

To lift the motion (Presbytery Quorum MTU 4) from the table.

Carried

Paul Reed reviewed the motion and noted that this is a technical fix. Implications of the motion are that the ratio of order and laity is changed and there is no longer a guarantee of a minimum ratio. However, this motion will ensure diversity of thought and opinion to determine the will of the body.

Motion: Paul Reed/Louise Rogers

2006-11-16-081

That the Executive of the General Council adopt the By-law changes to Section 001 “Quorum” of *The Manual*, as outlined on GC/MTU 4 and to refer to the General Secretary, General Council the question of the requirements on “retained” and “retired”.

Carried

Motion: Louise Rogers/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-094

Having taken this action that there will be no further action taken on SK 1.

Carried

Betty Kelly asked the Green Sessional Committee members and resource people to stand and thanked them for their work through prayer.

SESSIONAL COMMITTEE BLUE

Administrative Standards and Best Practices for Healthy Ministry (PMM 2)

Motion: Allan Seal/Don Koots

2006-11-16-095

That the Executive of the General Council

Adopt the *Administrative Standards and Best Practices for Healthy Community Ministry*; and Delegate to the Permanent Committee, Programs for Mission and Ministry, oversight of the implementation of these standards.

Carried

Emergency Response Protocol (PMM 3)

Motion: Allan Seal/Don Koots

2006-11-16-096

That the Executive of the General Council approve these revised National and Global Emergency Response Protocols.

Carried

Emergency Response Fund (PMM 4)

Discussion included that there will be an education component to this fund and that it will be administered through an inter-unit table.

Motion: Allan Seal/Betty Kelly

2006-11-16-097

That the Executive of the General Council approve the creation of the National and Global Emergency Response Fund.

Carried

Tar Sands Moratorium – Protection of Canadian Sovereignty over its Energy and Environment (GS 26)

It was noted that there are some errors in the descriptions in the report, for example the city of Fort McMurray should read hamlet of Fort McMurray, and these will be changed.

Motion: Allan Seal/Don Koots

2006-11-16-098

That the Executive of the General Council

Direct the project description (Appendix F) attached to GS 26 “Tar Sands Moratorium – Protection of Canadian Sovereignty over its Energy and Environment” to the priority setting process of the Executive of the General Council for May 2007.

Carried

Linsell Hurd expressed the appreciation of the Executive to the members and staff of Sessional Committee Blue for its work with prayer.

Public Statements or Policies regarding Palestine-Israel (GCE 2) (GCE3)

The two proposals were reintroduced and discussed. The Moderator noted that he and the General Secretary will continue to respond to these issues and noted that the discussion had been valuable. The General Secretary noted that one of the challenges of the church is how to offer appropriate and faithful public witness.

In light of the discussion, the General Secretary withdrew his proposal (GCE 2). The other proposal (GCE 3) will return to the agenda of the May 2007 Executive meeting.

THEOLOGICAL REFLECTION

The Moderator reminded the Executive of the beginning of the meeting and A Call to Purpose as the places where the Executive began as a group.

In table groups, the Executive was invited to reflect on what had been done and where it encountered activities and expression of hope which reflects and serves our Call to Purpose.

The Moderator noted that the conversations will continue at the next meeting.

Authorizing the Sub-Executive of the General Council

Motion: Jim Sinclair/Don Koots

2006-11-16-099

That the Executive of the General Council authorize its Sub-Executive to deal with the business placed before it by this meeting of the Executive and any emergent business that may arise prior to the next meeting of the Executive of the General Council.

Carried

The Moderator closed the meeting at 4:00 p.m. with a poem and sending forth in faith.

Motion: Jim Sinclair/Paul Reed

2006-11-16-100

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

Moderator, David Giuliano

General Secretary, Jim Sinclair

Appendix A

That We May Know Each Other (GS 24)

Project Description

The purpose of this project is to create awareness among UCC congregations, institutions and interfaith/ecumenical colleagues of the policy statement on UCC-Muslim relations adopted at GC 39, and to encourage continued engagement by UCC people in study and action with Muslim neighbours, “that we may know each other.”

Components:

1. Continue to make available and encourage use of TWMKEO study, with necessary revisions to the document and a revised study guide.
2. Produce a poster of the adopted TWMKEO statement, with supplementary resources on the back. (At the same time reprint BFW and MTW posters and make available as a set, possibly accompanied by bibliography of interfaith resources.)
3. Provide liturgical resources to help congregations reflect on the statement and its implications in the context of a service.
4. Communication to congregations, organizations and individuals who responded to the document, participated in its creation, with final statement.
5. Prepare Infopac insert advertising interfaith resources (MTW, BFW, TWMKEO, Interfaith Resource Kit).

Appendix B

Special Funding for Experimental Ministries (GS 25)

Project Description

The proposal from Manitou Conference approved by the General Council appears to be a minor adjustment in policies and practices in relation to the Mission Support Grant program, but in fact may be the spark needed to ensure that the program is not for “life support” but for “mission support” – as the growing edge of the church’s support to pastoral charges and other ministries. The PC-PMM explored a possible revision of the mandate of the New Ministries Task Group (a GCE authorized Task Group on Funding New Congregations and Ministries in process of

formation) to include the referral from GC 39. Instead the Committee felt that a consultative period would be appropriate, and therefore recommends that consultation with the Mission through Finance Advisory Committee (SLM), the Mission Support Consultation (May 2007) take place concerning MTU 1, and that advice from Mission Support units in the Conferences be sought about how to fulfill the intention approved by the GC 39 and that the results of this consultation be reported back to the PC-PMM at an appropriate time.

Appendix C

Transformative Vision – Intercultural Ministries (GS 21)

Project Description

The purpose of this project is to enable the United Church to live out its denominational commitment to becoming an intercultural and racially just church, where there is mutually respectful diversity, and full and equitable participation of all Aboriginal, Francophone, ethnic minority, and ethnic majority constituencies in the total life, mission, and practices of the whole church. There are four dimensions to this project:

1. Task group on intercultural ministries to focus on researching and compiling information contemporary models of intercultural ministries, receiving and analyzing reports from a variety of inter-unit staff teams and two national consultations on intercultural ministries, developing respectful protocols for intercultural communications, consulting program units, and making recommendations through unit channels to the Permanent Committee on Programs for Mission and Ministry to the Executive of the General Council by March 2009.
2. National consultation on intercultural ministries, to be held in the fall of 2007, with staff and volunteers from Aboriginal Ministries, Ministries in French, and Ethnic Ministries to consider the diversity of community minority issues from their respective minority and racialized perspectives.
3. National consultation on intercultural ministries to be held in the fall of 2008, with staff and volunteers from Ethnic Ministries and other appropriate units to focus on congregational models, strategies, indicators, tools, and other objectives based on research and learnings from the first national consultation.
4. Creation of a variety of inter-unit task groups to focus on the integration of intercultural ministries with programmatic units.

Appendix D

Let's Make Child Poverty History (GS 20)

Project Description

The purposes of this project are to:

1. increase congregational awareness of the serious issue of the poverty of many of Canada's children,
2. raise awareness of the solutions proposed to this issue by Campaign 2000,
3. invite constituents to participate in a letter-writing campaign which would once again call upon the government of Canada to act with policy designed to greatly reduce child poverty,
4. specifically to make a long term commitment to increasing the Child Tax Benefit to \$4,900 per child.

This project will include children in the action planning. It will also include analysis of the gender and cultural dimensions of poverty (e.g. immigrant and refugee populations, urban aboriginal populations, one-parent families, etc.). This project is part of JGER's on-going work regarding Housing and Health care, and it is part of our larger work related to the systemic causes of poverty. It is also part of the Healthy community's vision of both The United Church of Canada and of Campaign 2000.

Appendix E

Living Faithfully in the context of Empire (GS 22)

Project Description

This program will animate the report: Living Faithfully in the Context of Empire. It seeks to foster in church courts an awareness of the current and biblical context of Empire, our complicity in it and engagement to live faithfully in its midst through transforming action. To do this, the animation program will: 1) convey a vision of hope, celebrate and encourage church efforts to live out and develop alternatives that reflect God's realm; 2) foster an understanding that resistance and alternatives to empire are grounded in scripture and essential to our faith; 3) promote understanding of the term across the church, build skills for critical awareness of empire and a coherent/holistic understanding of oppression and resistance that connects movements and struggles in which the church and others are involved; 4) develop a process which will lead to the adoption of a covenant at GC 40 that witnesses to empire, confesses our complicity, commits the church to live faithfully in the midst of empire through transformative action.

Many JGER campaigns, urgent actions can be understood to be part of "living faithfully" within the context of empire. Between 2006 - 2009 links will be made between these initiatives as part of an ongoing communications strategy. This will include articulating the relationship of "Living Faithfully" with the Peace Fund, Peace Task Group, Circle and Cross, That We May Know Each Other, and ongoing work on water issues. Empire Animation will also build on constituency knowledge of previous campaigns such as Beads of Hope and HIV/AIDS. If the Mission Theme for 2007 - 2009 is determined to be "From Profit to Gospel: Living Faithfully in the Midst of Empire", the Mandate Mission Theme Edition would become an integral part of the animation strategy below.

Appendix F

Tar Sands Moratorium – Protection of Canadian Sovereignty over its Energy and Environment (GS 26)

Project Description

Concerns about the social, economic and ecological costs of the pace of tar sands development have been rising in Alberta and across Canada including questions about the impact on aboriginal peoples, socio-economic affects on lower income Albertans, water-usage, greenhouse gas emissions, etc. A proposal is gaining support for a moratorium on further expansion of tar sands development until a more strategic plan is agreed upon to minimise these costs. Such diverse actors as former Alberta Premier Peter Lougheed, the Mayor and City Council of Fort MacMurray, and the Pembina Institute for Appropriate Development have expressed concerns about the pace of tar sands development and are encouraging a more considered approach.

Kairos: Canadian Ecumenical Justice Initiatives, of which the United Church is an active member, is planning a multi-year study/action program starting in 2007 that will focus on prospects for a sustainable and equitable energy economy. In the Canadian context, reflection on the tar sands development will be part of that process.

The Justice, Global and Ecumenical Relations Unit recommends to GCE that:

1. a 2-year study process be initiated to examine the social, economic and ecological impacts of the pace of development in the tar sands e.g. impact on aboriginal peoples, socio-economic affects on lower income Albertans, water-usage, greenhouse gas emissions, energy security implications, etc.;
2. this study process be facilitated by a small Task Group with representation from the JGER Unit, Alberta & Northwest Conference, Kairos, etc.
3. the study process include consultations with various interested parties including (among others):
 - a) churches in northern Alberta;
 - b) First Nations;
 - c) Industry, scientists, environmental organisations, research institutes, government, etc.;
4. a report with recommendations be prepared for the GC Executive meeting in November 2008.

JGER has budgeted in 2007 funds to implement the various energy/environment resolutions passed by GC39 and referred to JGER through the GC General Secretary e.g. advocacy on implementation of the Kyoto Protocol, energy security strategy, privatisation of water services, bottled water, extension of United Church's Water in Focus initiative for 2 more years. However, this current resolution (TOR 8) on the tar sands moratorium which was not passed by GC39 but referred to GCE for consideration would need additional funds for implementing the proposed study process.

Appendix G

Omnibus motion (2006-11-16-084)

Proposal FIN 1

Title: Revised Statement of Investment Policies & Procedures

Origin: Permanent Committee on Finance

Whereas the Permanent Committee on Finance reviewed the current Statement of Investment Policies and Guidelines at its September 2006 meeting;

Whereas the current policy mandates all of its investments in Canadian fixed income products and Canadian equities;

Whereas Canada only represents 4% of the world's equity markets;

Whereas the Permanent Committee on Finance believes that a component of international equities will provide greater diversification and increase opportunities in the asset mix decision process;

Therefore the Permanent Committee on Finance proposes:

That the Executive of the General Council adopt the draft Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures as outlined below:

**The United Church of Canada
General Funds
Statement of Investment Policies & Procedures**

The purpose of the Statement of Investment Policies and Procedures is to govern the investment activities of the Investment Manager (Manager) and the Trustees.

The General Funds (Fund) consist of a variety of trust, endowment and reserve funds as well as non-designated funds and working capital of The United Church of Canada (Church). For investment purposes, these funds are managed on a combined basis as one portfolio.

The Fund's cash inflows are heaviest in December and January because of personal tax planning. Expenses of the Fund are more uniform throughout the year. Because the Fund is operational in nature, the size remains relatively static over time. The Fund's purpose is to provide the financial resources for the work of the National Offices of the Church.

The general investment objectives of the Fund are as follows:

- Provide sufficient income to ensure the financial objectives of the Fund are achieved
- The preservation of capital so that future commitments of the Fund may be achieved
- Liquidity within the Fund to meet the needs for unexpected cash outflows or expenditures

General Investment Guidelines

The Trustees recognize the desirability of socially responsible investing. At the same time, all investments made by the Manager must be prudent in nature as well as meeting all legal requirements.

The Trustees have adopted guidelines regarding social, moral and ethical issues as they pertain to the Fund. They are attached in Appendix A. These guidelines are not applicable to pooled funds providing that the total of any securities which would have been excluded under the guidelines do not constitute more than ten percent (10%) taken at market values, of the pooled fund's total investment portfolio, also taken at market.

In order to satisfy the investment objectives of the Fund, it has been agreed that a balanced portfolio with a diversified set of asset classes is prudent. It has also been agreed that providing the Manager the latitude to manage the overall asset mix within prescribed guidelines would also be prudent. This combination will assist in producing the required income to meet current and preserve capital to meet future expenditures.

Eligible asset classes and asset mix parameters are as follows:

	Minimum	Benchmark	Maximum
Canadian Equities	5%	15	20%
U.S. Equities	5%	15%	20%
EAFE Equities	5%	15%	20%

Income trusts	0%	5%	10%
Fixed Income	35%	45%	55%
Cash	0%	5%	10%
		100%	

Specific Investment Guidelines

Canadian Equities

Investments shall be restricted primarily to dividend-paying companies that display some growth prospects as well. The dividend yield of the equity portfolio must be the same or exceed that of the S&P/TSX60. No more than 10% of the market value of the Canadian equity portfolio shall be invested in any one holding.

Foreign Equities

An investment in the shares of any single company shall not exceed 10% of the market value of the manager's portfolio.

Not more than 10% of the outstanding securities of any one company shall be purchased by any manager's portfolio.

Not more than 10% of the manager's portfolio shall be invested in small cap stocks (i.e., market capitalization of less than \$1.5 billion at the time of purchase).

Income Trusts

Investments shall be restricted to Canadian income trusts. No more than 10% of the market value of the income trust portfolio shall be invested in any one holding.

Fixed Income

Investments are restricted to bonds, debentures or other debt instruments issued by the Canadian government, its provinces as well as corporations with a minimum credit rating of 'BBB'. No more than 5% of the market value of the fixed income portfolio shall be invested in any one non-government entity. Investments shall be restricted to Canadian dollar denominated securities.

	Minimum	Maximum
Canada	25%	100%
Provinces	0%	50%
Municipalities	0%	5%
Total Government	40%	100%
Corporations		

A or better	0%	50%
BBB	0%	10%
Duration	SCM Universe - 1yr	SCM Universe + 1yr
Cash	0%	10%

Cash

Investments shall be restricted to demand deposits, treasury bills, short-term notes and bankers' acceptances, term deposits, and guaranteed investment certificates having a term to maturity of less than or equal to one year. All cash investments shall have a minimum rating of R1 by the Dominion Bond Rating Service (DBRS) or equivalent.

Responsibilities of the Investment Manager to the Trustees

- The Manager shall actively manage the portfolio within the prescribed asset mix parameters and be sensitive to the investment objectives of the Fund.
- They will meet with the Trustees annually to present an analysis of the investment performance and to describe their current and future investment strategies with respect to the Fund.
- Prepare quarterly written reports along with a certificate attesting to their compliance with the Fund's SIP&G.
- Bring to the attention of the Trustees any provisions within the SIP&P that may need to be revised due to new investment strategies or structural changes in the capital markets
- Govern themselves by the Code of Ethics and standards of Professional Conduct of the Association for Investment Management and Research

Portfolio Benchmark

The Fund will be measured against a blended benchmark:

- 15% of the S&P/TSX Capped Equity Index
- 15% of the S&P 500
- 15% of the MSCI EAFE
- 45% of the Scotia Capital Universe Bond Index
- 5% of the Scotia Capital Total Return Income Trust Index
- 5% of the Scotia Capital 91 Day Canadian Money Market

Given socially responsible investment practices are an integral part of the investment process, it is possible the Fund will be disadvantaged in absolute returns as a result of the exclusion of certain securities. It is the responsibility of the Manager to bring these items to the attention of the Trustees and where possible to quantify the impact on the Fund's investment return.

Portfolio Performance

The primary objective for a manager with an active mandate shall be to attain or exceed the annualized return of the benchmark. For the purposes of measuring the performance of the Manager, all returns will be measured before investment management fees, but after transaction costs. Rolling four-year periods will evaluate the Manager's long-term performance.

Proposal GS 5

Title: Appointment of Auditors

Origin: General Secretary, General Council

Whereas The Audit Committee met with Deloitte & Touche LLP to review its proposed audit plan for the Accounts of The United Church of Canada for 2006;

Therefore the General Secretary, General Council proposes:

That the Executive of the General Council appoint Deloitte & Touche LLP as auditors for 2006 at a fee to be negotiated by the Audit Committee.

Proposal GS 6

Title: Emerging Spirit Funding

Origin: General Secretary, General Council

Whereas the Executive of the General Council in April 2005 committed up to \$1 million in 2005 and up to \$2 million in 2006 from the Morrison Bequest for this project (2005-04-21-244),

Whereas actual expenditures in 2005 plus projected expenditures for 2006 are \$2.25 million,

Whereas the 39th General Council 2006 directed the Executive of the General Council to consider an expenditure of up to \$10.5 million for the years 2007, 2008 and 2009 for their project (Proposal GS 32 to the 39th General Council 2006),

Whereas the General Secretary, General Council has reviewed the workplan for the Emerging Spirit project and the budget for the project as set out below,

Therefore the General Secretary, General Council proposes:

That the Executive of the General Council commit up to \$8.25 million from the Morrison Bequest for the years 2007 2008 and 2009 for the Emerging Spirit project generally set out below:

Emerging Spirit Initiative

	ACTUAL Dec 31/05	BUDGET 2006	BUDGET 2007	BUDGET 2008	BUDGET 2009	Totals
Staff salary, benefits & travel	125,840	360,060	422,425	448,005	473,350	1,829,679
Research	96,575	120,000	60,000	60,000	60,000	396,575
Project Consultation	2,676	3,500	3,000	3,000	2,400	14,576
Office Expenses	24,147	14,500	24,000	20,000	19,750	102,397

Total Staff Support	249,237	498,060	509,425	531,005	555,500	2,343,227
Welcoming Min - Regional Training Events	686	50,000	510,000	510,000	500,000	1,570,686
Registration fees			-180,000	-180,000	-180,000	-540,000
Welcoming Min - Training Supplies & Equipment	7,911	20,000	75,500	45,000	20,000	168,411
Welcoming Min - Resource Development & Production	8,785	70,000	87,000	85,000	80,000	330,785
Training of Presenters		50,000	50,000	50,000		150,000
Translation and Customization of national material for specific groups		35,000	70,000	70,000	40,000	215,000
Total Program - Living the Welcome	17,382	225,000	612,500	580,000	460,000	1,894,882
Creative Services & Media Buy	86,888	1,000,000	1,500,000	1,500,000	1,450,000	5,536,888
Web Resources		75,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	225,000
Total - Advertising & Media Presence	86,888	1,075,000	1,550,000	1,550,000	1,500,000	5,761,888
Research & Development for Ethnic, French and First Nations Initiatives		100,000	300,000	100,000		500,000
TOTAL - Emerging Spirit	353,507	1,898,060	2,971,925	2,761,005	2,515,500	10,499,997
Approved – GCE April 2005	3,000,000					
Actual 2005 + Projected 2006	2,250,000					
Proposal GS 6 November 2006				8,250,000		
Total Project						10,500,000

Proposal GPBP 2

Title: Membership Requirement for Representatives of The United Church of Canada to External Partner Organizations

Origin: Permanent Committee on Governance, Budgeting, and Planning Processes

RATIONALE

The Nominations Committee holds responsibility for recommending individuals to be appointed to committees and task groups of the General Council and those appointed to serve as representatives of The United Church of Canada to external organizations with whom we have a partnership. In carrying out this responsibility, the Nominations Committee follows the *Guiding Principles, Practices and Processes for Members of Committees and Task Groups* (Executive of the General Council 2004). The Nominations committee is seeking guidance regarding the requirement of membership in The United Church of Canada for members who are appointed to serve as representatives of the church.

Whereas representatives of The United Church of Canada hold unique positions in which they may be required to, or perceived to, speak on behalf of the church with varying levels of authority; and

Whereas the members of committees or task groups of the General Council may be either adherents or members of the United Church but membership is a requirement for chairpersons, a role which holds additional authority and responsibility; and

Whereas the Permanent Committee on Governance, Planning and Budgeting Processes (PC-GPBP) is undertaking a more complete review of the roles and responsibilities of representatives for presentation at a later meeting of the Executive of the General Council, but the Nominations Committee is required to make recommendations for appointments prior to that time;

Therefore, it the Permanent Committee on Governance, Planning and Budgeting Processes proposes:

That the Executive of the General Council affirm that until further work can be completed and recommendations be prepared regarding expectations of elected and appointed representatives, the interim working assumption be that full membership in The United Church of Canada be a requirement for appointment as a representative of The United Church of Canada to an external partner organization.

Proposal GPBP 3

Title: Process for Review of Terms of References of Committees and Task Groups of the Executive of the General Council

Origin: Permanent Committee on Governance, Planning and Budgeting Processes

Whereas the Executive of the General Council has directed the review of the mandates of all committees and task groups by the mandating/parent body;

Whereas the committees and task groups listed below need to be reviewed;

Therefore the Permanent Committee on Governance, Planning and Budgeting Processes proposes:

That the Executive of the General Council adopt the following process for this task:

For the following committees and task groups (committees or task groups whose mandate has not been reviewed in the past three years)

- Permanent Committee on Finance
- Permanent Committee on Governance, Planning & Budgeting Processes
- Permanent Committee on Ministry and Employment Policies and Services

- Permanent Committee on Programs for Mission and Ministry
- Racial Justice Advisory Committee
- Gender Justice Advisory Committee
- Executive of the General Council Agenda, Planning and Business Committee
- General Council Agenda and Planning Committee
- Residential Schools Steering Committee

And further that the process recommended by the PC-GPBP be accepted:

1. Committee Member Services will provide each of the above committees with their terms of reference using the *Guidelines for Terms and Reference* and indicate where further information is requested (December 2006)
2. Each Committee or Task Group will review their terms of reference and provide a response to Committee Member Services (March 1, 2007) either confirming the current terms of reference or with requests for changes to be considered.
3. The Permanent Committee on Governance, Planning and Budgeting Processes will assign a task Group to receive the work of the Committee Member Services and will review and propose recommendations to the Executive of the General Council (May 2007)

Proposal GC/GS 17

Title: Elders
Origin: General Secretary, General Council
The Manual Committee

Whereas section 134 of the By-Laws provides that Elders must be members of the United Church (with certain limited exceptions specified therein);

And whereas section 183 of the By-Laws provides that the membership of the Official Board includes members of the Session and members of the Committee of Stewards;

And whereas section 162 of the By-Laws contemplates that some members of the Committee of Stewards may not be in full membership of the Congregation;

And whereas section 131 of the By-Laws as a currently worded creates inconsistencies with other sections of the By-Laws, by stating that the term “Elder” is used to refer to the membership of an Official Board, and may include the role of Steward;

Therefore be it resolved

That the 39th General Council 2006 amend section 131 of the By-Laws, as follows:

131 The term “Elder” is used to refer to the membership of a Session, ~~Official Board~~, Church

Board, or Church Council, and may be used along with the term “Steward” and may include the role of Steward.

Proposal GC/GS 29

Title: **National Extra Appeals**
Origin: **General Secretary, General Council**
 The Manual Committee

Whereas subsection 524(o) of the By-Laws authorizes the Executive of the General Council to consider any proposal to solicit funds from the Pastoral Charges of more than one Conference for any purpose other than the Mission and Service Fund;

And whereas such proposals appear to require both the approval of the Executive of the General Council and a recommendation of approval by the Extra Appeals Committees of the relevant Conferences;

And whereas the current wording of subsection 524(o) results in confusion about the process to be followed in obtaining such approval;

Therefore be it resolved

That the 39th General Council 2006 amend subsection 524(o) of the By-Laws, as follows:

524(o) to consider any proposal to solicit funds from the Pastoral Charges of more than one (1) Conference for any purpose other than the Mission and Service Fund, ~~on recommendation of the lead staff of the appropriate General Council working unit.~~ Such proposal request for approvals shall be submitted to through the lead staff of the appropriate General Council working unit, by the party seeking to solicit funds. ~~Conference Committees before recommending the authorization of such appeals shall consult with the Committees of other Conferences involved, in order that the time of the beginning and ending of the appeal will be reasonably acceptable to each Conference.~~ The lead staff of the appropriate General Council working unit shall review ~~be responsible for reviewing~~ any such proposals, and shall consult including consultation with the appropriate Extra Appeals Committees of the relevant Conferences, including consulting as to the time frame for the appeal, before prior to making recommendations to the Executive of the General Council;

Proposal GS 10

Title: **Proposed By-Law Changes**
Origin: **General Secretary, General Council**
 Manual Committee

Therefore the General Secretary, General Council proposes:

That the Executive of the General Council approve the following changes:

			PG
	adopted by GCE, Nov 2005	Sabbatical Leave	2
BQ 3/GCE 12	carried by Red, with changes	Police Records Check	4
GCE 4	carried by Green, with changes	Lay Presidency at the Sacraments	9
GCE 10	carried by Blue, with changes	Incorporated Ministries	11
GCE 11	carried by Red	Retirement	14
GCE 15	carried by Green, with changes	Ecumenical Shared Ministries	15
GS 34	carried by Red	Designated Lay	17
		Ministry/Congregational	
		Designated Ministry	
RED 2	carried by Red	Diaconal Ministry	34
RED 3	carried by Red	Interim Ministry	45
BQ 2	carried by Red to GS	Repayment of Moving Expenses	47

Proposal MEPS 3

**Title: Permanent Committee on Ministry and Employment Policies and Services
Representative on Pension Board of The United Church of Canada**

Origin: Permanent Committee on Ministry and Employment Policies and Services

Whereas Robert James, former member of the Permanent Committee on Ministry and Employment Policies and Services (PC-MEPS) and PC-MEPS representative on the Pension Board of The United Church of Canada, has completed his term on the PC-MEPS, a vacancy exists for this representation on the Pension Board.

Therefore the Permanent Committee on Ministry and Employment Policies and Services proposes:

That the Executive of the General Council appoint PC-MEPS member, Brian Copeland, to replace Robert James as a PC-MEPS representative on the Pension Board of The United Church of Canada.