

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

**MEETING OF THE SUB-EXECUTIVE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL  
MINUTES**

**Thursday, December 13, 2018 (Teleconference Call)**

The Sub-Executive of the General Council of The United Church of Canada met from 1 p.m. until 1:37 p.m. (Eastern) on Thursday, December 13, 2018 by teleconference call.

**Attendance**

**Voting Members:** Jim Allen, Nicole Beaudry, Richard Bott, Sue Brodrick, Graham Brownmiller, Paula Gale, Bev Kostichuk, Nora Sanders, Anna Stewart, Pauline Walker

**Regrets:** Jordan Cantwell, Sungmin Jung, Norma Thompson

**Opening**

The Moderator opened the meeting with a short prayer.

**Constituting the Meeting**

The Moderator constituted the meeting: "Au nom de Notre Seigneur, Jésus-Christ, seul chef souverain de l'Église, et par l'autorité qui m'a été conféré par le quarante-troisième Conseil général, I hereby declare this meeting of the Sub-Executive of the General Council to be in session for the work that may properly be brought before it, to the glory of God."

**Procedural Motions**

**Motion: Nora Sanders/Paula Gale** **2018-12-13-240**

That Shirley Welch be appointed recording secretary, and Erik Mathiesen, Wendy Cranston and Adam Hanley be resource staff for this meeting of the Sub-Executive of the General Council.

**Carried**

**Minutes of the Sub-Executive of the General Council**

**Motion: Jim Allen/Sue Brodrick** **2018-12-13-241**

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council approve the minutes of the Sub-Executive of the General Council meeting held on November 2, 2018.

**Carried**

**GS 107 Indigenous Justice and Residential Schools Accountability Report**

Nora Sanders introduced the motion explaining that the Committee on Indigenous Justice and Residential Schools did not have their final meeting until after the last Executive meeting of the triennium.

**Motion: Nora Sanders/Anna Stewart** **2018-12-13-242**

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council receive the accountability report of the Indigenous Justice and Residential Schools Committee.

**Carried**

**GS 108 Appointment to Transition Commission****Motion: Pauline Walker/Graham Brownmiller****2018-12-13-243**

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council appoint Russel Burns to the Chinook Winds Regional Commission.

**Carried****Abstention: Sue Brodrick** (member of the Chinook Winds Regional Commission)**GS 109 Reducing Carbon Emissions, Phase 2**

Erik Mathiesen introduced this motion. This five-year plan was approved by the Executive at the March, 2018 meeting. There is to be an evaluation of the previous phase before the subsequent phase begins as the plan progresses. There was a question about whether the regional pilot areas had already been determined. Erik responded that the two areas chosen are the Maritimes and Manitoba.

**Motion: Sue Brodrick/Jim Allen****2018-12-13-244**

That the Sub-Executive approve Phase 2 of this initiative subject to the evaluation principles agreed at the outset. Phase 2 is Regional Pilots project, from November 2019 to April 2020 (18 months), at a cost of \$270 thousand, with an interim report to be provided in May or June 2019 to the successor committee of the Permanent Committee on Finance. This would mean that Phase 3 would require a further governor approval.

**Carried****MEPS 35 Sabbatical Policy for Interim Ministers**

Adam Hanley, Program Coordinator, Ministry Personnel Vitality (MEPS), introduced this motion outlining that the Financial Assistance Committee had conducted a review of the Interim Ministry Sabbatical Fund. This review recommended some changes to the sabbatical policy for interim ministers. There was a question about whether concerns raised by BC Conference had been taken into account. Adam replied that they had.

**Motion: Graham Brownmiller/Nicole Beaudry****2018-12-13-245**

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council, on the recommendation of the Permanent Committee MEPS, approve the following amendments to the Sabbatical Policy for Interim Ministers:

- a) modify the period of eligible service in intentional interim ministry appointments from 60 months to 54 months over a period of eight years or less;
- b) clarify that focus of study is to be approved by the credentialing committee of the Office of Vocation;
- c) clarify that recipients of a sabbatical leave agree to remain in ministry;
- d) modify the timing of receipt of a completed application to the Ministry and Employment Unit to be at least four months prior to start of the proposed sabbatical; and
- e) clarify that all pastoral charges who received the services of an interim minister are required to provide a payment of the equivalent of two weeks' salary per year to the Interim Ministry Sabbatical Fund.

**Carried**

### **MEPS 36 Pastoral Relations Procedural Policy**

Wendy Cranston, Program Coordinator, Ministry Personnel Administration (MEPS), introduced this motion, noting the importance of affirming that the procedural policies align with the policies passed by the 43rd General Council regarding the new pastoral relations policies allowing for a new pastoral relations system that will function within the new three council system, with the Office of Vocation and without settlement policy. There were questions raised about the reappointment process not being clear enough, so that there were variations in how it might be applied across the country; and about Church Hub and whether forms can be submitted in both French and English before Church Hub becomes bilingual. Wendy responded that both of these items would be addressed in the *Best Practices* section of the resources:

- Pastoral Relations: Community of Faith, and
- Pastoral Relations: Ministry Personnel.

The Moderator asked if this was sufficient or if these items should be in the policy. The General Secretary assured the group that addressing these items in *Best Practices* would be adequate.

### **Motion: Bev Kostichuk/Jim Allen**

**2018-12-13-246**

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council, on the recommendation of the Permanent Committee MEPS recommends:

affirming that the procedural policy is consistent with the policy passed by the 43rd General Council, July 2018.

### **Carried**

Nora noted that this would be the last meeting of this group and extended her thanks to everyone. There was a short time of members sharing about endings and beginnings.

There being no further business, the Moderator closed the meeting at 1:47 p.m. with thanks.

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Richard Bott, Moderator

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Nora Sanders, General Secretary