

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA****SPECIAL MEETING OF THE 42ND GENERAL COUNCIL****DRAFT MINUTES****Saturday, September 30, 2017**

A special meeting of the 42nd General Council of The United Church of Canada was convened on Saturday September 30, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. (EDT) and concluded at 2:45pm (EDT). The meeting was held by video / teleconference. The Moderator, Jordan Cantwell, presided.

**Attendance****Commissioners:**

Ralph Angel, Sharon Aylsworth, Esther Baerends, Mead Baldwin, Richard Balson, Bella Barbeiro, Edison Bardock, Suzanna Bates, Lorraine Beasley, Elaine Beattie, Nicole Beaudry, Carole Bennett, Robert Bennett, Steve Berube, Jean Bethune, Joy Bott, Miriam Bowlby, Frederick Braman, Brenda Brand, Beverly C. Brazier, Evelyn Broadfood, Susan Brodrick, Audrey Brown, Jean Brown, Wendy Brown, Robyn Brown-Hewitt, Janice Brownlee, Graham Brownmiller, Elizabeth Bryce, Phyllis Buchner, Allan Buckingham, Sue Campbell, Jordan Cantwell, Sarah Chapman, Gloria Churchill, Shirley Clarke, Gail Clarkson, Shirley Cleave, D. Lewis Coffman, Catherine Collins-Barker, Caroline Copeman-Haynes, Brian Cornelius, Susan Cowan, Basil Coward, Kate Crawford, Tim Crouch, Carol Cunday, Martha Cunningham Closs, Kathy Dahmer, Terry Davies, Barbara Davison, Joey Dearborn, Kenneth DeLisle, Cindy Desilets, Mary Dillon, Heather Donnelly, Dwaine Dornan, Paul Douglas Walfall, Jane Doull, Michelle Down, Lawrence Doyle, Emily Duggan, Gord Dunbar, Janet Enns, Alison Etter, Judith Evenden, Matthew Fillier, Rebecca Fillier, Janice Frame, Paige Fraser, Shaun Fryday, Paula Gale, Mervin Gallant, Janet Gear, Wilson Gonese, Brian Goodings, Cathy Gradante, Mark Green, Vilvan Gunasingham, Catherine Gutjahr, John Haas, Adam Hall, Margaret-Anne Hall, Cathy Hamilton, Sean Handcock, Ann Harbridge, Andrea Harrison, Ted Harrison, April Hart, Nelson Hart, Ralph Hayman, Daniel Hayward, Andrew Hecker, Carol Hennigar, Steve Hershey, Lauren Hodgson, Lee Ann Hogle, Richard Hollingsworth, Hewitt Holmes, Kim Horwood, Neil Hudson, John Hurst, Sheila Ivanochko, Hugh Johnson, Jane Johnson, Kathy Johnson, Roy Johnson, Janet Jones, Raymond Jones, Sungmin Jung, Moses Kanhai, Scott Kell, Betty Kelly, Adam Kilner, Jong Kim, Julia Kimmett, Valerie Kingsbury, Michael Kooiman, Beverly Kostichuk, Jope Langejans, Cathy Larmond, Heather Leffler, Sarah Leffler, Aidan Legault, Alice MacAskill, Jean Macdonald, Joan MacGillivray, Sheila Macgregor, Donald MacKay, Angus MacLennan, Erasmus Madimbu, Charlene Maguire MacKnight, John Maich, Shelly Manley-Tannis, Mynt Marsellus, Alana Martin, Carol Martin, Kenji Marui, Michelle Matson, Bill McAuslan, Patrick McDonough, Erin McIntyre, Linda McLaren, Charles McMillan, Stephanie McClellan, Ryan McNally, Vicki McPhee, Teresa Melnychuk, Teri Meyer, Bill Millar, Barbara A. Miller, Russell Mitchell-Walker, Kathryn Moase, Linda Moffat, Mary Mohn, Frederick Monteith, Katharine Moore, Amy Mueller, Jay Olson, EunJoo Park, Blair Paterson, Gary Paterson, Joyce Payne, Caroline Penhale, Anna Peters, Takouhi Petro, Ken Pettigrew, Dave Pollard, Evelyn Porter, James Ravenscroft, Tim Reaburn, Helen Reed, Andrew Richardson, Maggie Rogers, Mary Royal-Duczek, Nora Sanders, Heather Sandilands, Bernice Saulteaux, Leith Saunders, Cathie Savage, Ralph Schmidt, Norman Seli, William Sheaves, Susan Sheppard, Krystal Sheremeta, Janet Sigurdson, Mary Anne Silverthorn, Greg Simpson, Dale Skinner, Darla

*Draft minutes*

Sloan, Tom Smart, Mary Smiley, Carolyn Smith, Deborah Smith, Kathleen Smith, Wayne Smith, Gregory Smith-Young, John Snow, R. Matthew Stevens, Jan Stevenson, Anna Stewart, Don Stiles, Paul Stott, Hanna Strong, Catherine Stuart, Grant Stuckless, Krista Tabor, Annette Taylor, James Tenford, Martha ter Kuile, William Thomas, Norma Thompson, Mardi Tindal, Erin Todd, Katelyn Vardy, Grant Vaughan, Kim Vidal, Alex Walker, Pauline Walker, Stewart Walker, Russell Wardell, Melanie Weaver, Roy West, Greg White, David Whiting, Donalee Williams, Sharon Willis-Whitwell, Sybil Wilson, Brie Wohlers, Garth Wood, Patrick Woodbeck, Daryl Woods, Cheryl Wood-Thomas, Douglas Wright, Yvonne Wright, Joyce Wylie

### **Corresponding:**

David Allen, Michael Blair, William Doyle, Doug Goodwin, Alan Hall, Peter Hartmans, David Hewitt, Cheryl Jourdain, William Kunder, Rosemary Lambie, Jody Maltby, Faith March-MacCuish, Erik Mathiesen, Shannon McCarthy, Maggie McLeod, Marion Parady, Catherine Rodd, Peter Short, William Smith, Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, John Young

### **For a total of 257 participants**

#### **Welcome**

Roy West, chair of the 42nd General Council Planning Committee was invited to offer words of welcome. Owing to technical difficulties he was unable to be heard. His welcome was shared by email afterwards.

The Moderator explained the meaning of Orange Shirt Day, recognized each November 30. She invited everyone to observe a moment of silence in remembrance of the children who attended Residential Schools.

The Moderator constituted the meeting in English and French: “Au nom de Notre Seigneur, Jésus-Christ, seul chef souverain de l'Église, et par l'autorité qui m'a été conférée par le quarante-deuxième Conseil général, I hereby declare this meeting of the 42nd General Council to be in session for the work that may properly be brought before it to the glory of God.”

The Moderator welcomed those present and invited participants to acknowledge the traditional territory of the First Nations and Métis where they are situated.

#### **Worship**

Worship, including communion, was led by Maya Landell. The Moderator read the scripture passage Revelations 21:5.

#### **Procedural Motions**

Nora Sanders, General Secretary, introduced the opening and procedural motions.

#### **GS 12 Opening and Procedural Motions**

**Motion: Nora Sanders/Fred Monteith**

**GC42 2017-018**

#### **Bounds of Council**

That the bounds of the 42nd General Council, 2017, be the General Council meeting room and the connections through Adobe Connect and the telephone to that meeting space.

*Draft minutes*

### **Corresponding Members**

That the following persons in attendance be named corresponding members of the special meeting of the 42nd General Council, 2017, and as such, be entitled to speak but not to move motions or to vote:

- Former Moderators of The United Church of Canada
- General Council Officers, Executive Ministers, Executive Officers, and Conference Executive Secretaries and Speaker
- those who have been requested by the General Secretary to serve as resource persons to the Council

### **Business Table Membership**

That the Business Table for the special meeting of the 42nd General Council, 2017 be

- Fred Monteith, Chair
- Tim Reaburn
- Jordan Cantwell, Moderator
- Nora Sanders, General Secretary
- Diane Bosman, resource to the Business Committee
- Cynthia Gunn, resource to the Business Committee (Parliamentarian)

### **Scrutineers**

That the Scrutineers for the special meeting of the 42nd General Council, 2017 be

- Norma Thompson (Chief Scrutineer)
- Kathy McDonald

### **Minute Secretary**

That the Minute Secretary for the special meeting of the 42nd General Council, 2017, be Susan Fortner.

### **Business before the Special Meeting of the 42nd General Council, 2017**

That the business before the special meeting of the 42nd General Council, 2017, be the following proposals:

- GCE 12 Effective Date for Comprehensive Renewal Implementation
- GCE 13 Mandate and Nominating Process for GC 43 Executive and Transition
- GCE 14 Mandate and Nominating Process for Boundaries Commission
- NOM 3 Recommendations for Appointment to the Boundaries Commission

### **Agenda**

That the special meeting of the 42nd General Council, 2017, accept as its agenda the agenda as circulated and approved on the understanding that the agenda may be changed, as necessary, by the action of the General Council, on the recommendation of the Business Table.

### **Business Procedures**

The Moderator will assume responsibility for chairing the meeting, making any rulings necessary and ensuring that there is full opportunity for discussion and decision-making. The Moderator

will apply the Rules of Debate and Order (*The Manual Appendix*). Bourinot's Rules of Order will be used as the authority should a question arise that is not answered by the Appendix.

Speakers will:

- indicate their intention to speak as per instructions provided at the meeting
- be recognized by the Moderator prior to speaking
- begin comments by identifying themselves by name, role, and Conference (or position as appropriate)
- only speak once to a given proposal except at the discretion of the Moderator
- offer a new perspective or information
- keep comments brief except at the discretion of the Moderator

**Carried**

### **Effective Date for Comprehensive Renewal Implementation**

Bev Kostichuk, chair of the Permanent Committee on Governance and Agenda, introduced the proposal regarding the date for Comprehensive Renewal implementation.

There was time for responding to questions and comments.

### **GCE 12 Effective Date for Comprehensive Renewal Implementation**

**Motion: Bev Kostichuk/Kathleen Smith**

**GC42 2017-019**

That the recalled 42nd General Council on September 30, 2017, establish January 1, 2019 as the effective date of Comprehensive Renewal implementation with respect to all changes contemplated by the approved remits, subject to enactment by the 43rd General Council and recognizing that some transitional steps may take place before or after that date.

**Carried**

### **Mandate and Nominating Process for GC 43 Executive and Transition**

Graham Brownmiller, chair of the Nominations Committee, and Bev Kostichuk introduced this proposal. This was followed by time for questions and comments.

While in the proposal stage two changes were made: in section 1. the membership of the proposed new Executive was increased to include the Past Moderator; and section 2. c) was revised to read "...diversity of *gender, sexual orientation and race*, lay/ministry...".

### **GCE 13 Mandate and Nominating Process for GC 43 Executive and Transition**

**Motion: Bev Kostichuk/Teri Meyer**

**GC42 2017-020**

That the recalled 42nd General Council on September 30, 2017 approve that:

1. The Nominating Committee of the 42nd General Council Executive be authorized and empowered to serve as the Nominating Committee for the 43rd General Council, to bring to the General Council recommendations for 15 members to serve along with the Moderator, Past Moderator and the General Secretary, as the Executive of the General Council from January 1, 2019, until the next Executive is installed by the 44th General Council.

2. In doing this work, the Nominating Committee will:
  - a. Request that a representative be chosen by the Aboriginal Ministries Council;
  - b. Request that each Conference recommend 3 – 5 people for consideration; and
  - c. Take into account the need to reflect diversity of gender, sexual orientation and race, lay/ministry personnel, geography, age, culture and language, as well as the need to ensure that competencies in theology, governance, finance and vision are present within the group of those recommended.
  
3. Except for the Moderator, who will be replaced by the Moderator elected by the 43rd General Council, and who would in turn replace the past Moderator in that role on the executive, the Executive of the 42nd General Council be extended to serve until December 31, 2018, to enable appropriate transitional arrangements to be put in place.

**Amendment: Russell Mitchell-Walker/Gordon Dunbar**

An amendment that point 2. c. read as follows was moved:

- c. Take into account the need to reflect the diversity of an intercultural church ~~gender, sexual orientation and race~~, lay/ministry personnel, geography, ~~age, culture and language~~, as well as the need to ensure that competencies in theology, governance, finance and vision are present within the group of those recommended.

**Amendment Carried**

**Motion as amended**

That the recalled 42nd General Council on September 30, 2017 approve that:

1. The Nominating Committee of the 42nd General Council Executive be authorized and empowered to serve as the Nominating Committee for the 43rd General Council, to bring to the General Council recommendations for 15 members to serve along with the Moderator, past Moderator and the General Secretary, as the Executive of the General Council from January 1, 2019, until the next Executive is installed by the 44th General Council.
  
2. In doing this work, the Nominating Committee will:
  - a. Request that a representative be chosen by the Aboriginal Ministries Council;
  - b. Request that each Conference recommend 3 – 5 people for consideration; and
  - c. Take into account the need to reflect the diversity of an intercultural church, lay/ministry personnel, geography, as well as the need to ensure that competencies in theology, governance, finance and vision are present within the group of those recommended.
  
3. Except for the Moderator, who will be replaced by the Moderator elected by the 43rd General Council, and who would in turn replace the past Moderator in that role on the executive, the Executive of the 42nd General Council be extended to serve until December 31, 2018, to enable appropriate transitional arrangements to be put in place.

**Carried**

**Mandate and Nominating Process for the Boundaries Commission**

Bev Kostichuk introduced this proposal. This was followed by time for questions and comments.

While in the proposal stage, the words “*number and*” were added to point 1.

**GCE 14 Mandate and Nominating Process for Boundaries Commission**

**Motion: Bev Kostichuk/Ken DeLisle**

**GC42 2017-021**

The Executive of the General Council recommends that the recalled 42nd General Council on September 30, 2017:

1. Establish a commission to determine the number and boundaries for the regions of The United Church of Canada, with a mandate to:
  - a. Consult broadly through meetings or electronic or other means taking into consideration geographic, cultural, linguistic and other affinities and
  - b. Take into account discussions that have already been held across the church
  - c. Consider the study guide that was made available to the church for remit 1, along with input received through the consultation process and related research, having in mind the history, present day, and future of The United Church of Canada;
  - d. Issue an interim report not later than January 10, 2018, and after receiving and considering the responses, issue a final report by March 15, 2018.

**Amendment: Richard Hollingsworth/Tom Smart**

An amendment to change the date of the final report in point 1. d. from March 15, 2018 to May 15, 2018 was moved.

**Amendment Defeated**

Motion as originally presented.

**Carried**

**Recommendations for Appointment to the Boundaries Commission**

Graham Brownmiller introduced this proposal. The names recommended for the Commission are: Andrew Richardson (chair, provisional), Lorraine Stewart, Mark Laird, Janet Sigurdson, Ryan McNally, Nicole Beaudry, Gord Waldie, Sarah Jane Wetelainen, and Marion Parady.

There was time for responding to questions and comments.

**NOM 3 Recommendations for Appointment to the Boundaries Commission**

**Motion: Graham Brownmiller/Wilson Gonese**

**GC42 2017-022**

That the recalled 42nd General Council (2017)

1. receive the Report of the Nominations Committee
2. appoint the members named in the Report of the Nominations Committee to serve as the Boundaries Commission until the convening of the 43rd General Council (July 2018).

**Carried**

*Draft minutes*

Nora Sanders provided an update on Remit Implementation, noting that former Toronto Conference Executive Secretary, David Allen, has been named as project manager. The Remit Implementation Task Group has been meeting monthly to plan for the changes needed to implement the changes if/when the final stage of approval is given at the 43rd General Council next July 2018.

Parallel to this process the Caretakers have prepared a report that will offer principles to guide the work of the Indigenous church and its relationship with the broader church.

**Adjournment**

**Motion: Nora Sanders/Fred Monteith**

**GC42 2017-023**

That the special meeting of the 42nd General Council 2017 be adjourned.

**Carried**

The Moderator closed the meeting in prayer.

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Moderator, Jordan Cantwell

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General Secretary, Nora Sanders