

**GS 03 CONSENT**

Origin: General Secretary

That the 43rd General Council 2018 approve the following in response to the requests for action in the following proposals and direct the Executive of the General Council (Denominational Council) to ensure that such actions are taken as outlined bellow:

Proposal	Notes Explanation of inclusion and/or changes
<p><b>ANW 01 - Adding Line Numbers to <i>A Song of Faith</i> Section 2.6 (Basis of Union)</b>  Edit the Basis of Union by adding line numbers in the margin of Section 2.6 “A Song of Faith” in future editions of <i>The Manual</i>, so as to increase its usability in devotional and instructional applications.</p>	<p>Considered an edit to <i>The Manual</i>. The language was changed to reflect as much.</p>
<p><b>ANW 05 - Language in The Manual</b>  Adopt the principles of clarity and simplicity of language to guide the writing of all future editions of <i>The Manual</i>.</p>	<p>Responds to the desire for easy to understand language in <i>The Manual</i> while recognizing that some words of Latin origin are used in a legal context and are part of the English language.</p>
<p><b>BC 07 - Assessments for Ecumenical Shared Ministries</b>  Affirm the principle that there be a reasonable and equitable assessment for ecumenical shared ministries, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• consideration of how pastoral charges that are ecumenical shared ministries are presently assessed by all their judicatories, and</li> <li>• clear communication of all assessment procedures.</li> </ul>	<p>Changed to clarify the original language.  Considered a worthwhile consideration in determining assessments.</p>
<p><b>BQ 07 - Fairness in the New Funding Assessment</b>  Affirm that money given by individual communities of faith towards significant capital projects is not assessed in the new funding assessment model.</p>	<p>No change.  This is already an aspect of the assessment formula.</p>
<p><b>BQ 09 - Not Limiting Grant Applications to One per Pastoral Charge</b>  Initiate a review of all available grants and change the granting criteria to limit the number of applications to one per community of faith instead of one per pastoral charge.</p>	<p>No change.  Considered a reasonable request as our structures are changing.</p>
<p><b>GCE 02 - G&amp;A 27 Three Council Model Governance Requirements</b></p>	<p>No change.</p>

<p>Approve the policies set out in the appendix to GCE 02, for each of the three councils.</p>	<p>Basic policy changes needed as we move into the new structure.</p>
<p>GCE 03 - G&amp;A 29 Conflict of Interest Policy Approve the updated Conflict of Interest Policy appended to GCE 03.</p>	<p>No change. Update to existing policy.</p>
<p>GCE 04 - G&amp;A 30 Nominations Committee, Mandate and Membership Approve the mandate, responsibilities, membership and terms of appointment of the Nominations Committee as outlined below:</p> <p><b>Mandate</b> The Nominations Committee recommends appointments for the Denominational Executive, and other committees, boards, task groups, or United Church representatives, as requested by the Denominational Council, its Executive, or the General Secretary.</p> <p><b>Responsibilities</b> The Nominations Committee is responsible for reviewing nominations and submitting to the Denominational Council, its Executive, or the General Secretary, as appropriate, recommendations for appointment. In carrying out this responsibility, the committee will</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. reflect theologically on the basis for appointed member participation in the church</li> <li>2. discern who is equipped to serve</li> <li>3. develop and test processes for selecting individuals and developing effective groups</li> <li>4. strive to meet the church's commitments to <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• becoming an intercultural church</li> <li>• the full inclusion of people with disabilities</li> <li>• ensuring that Francophone ministries are an integral part of our identity</li> <li>• developing new and young leadership</li> <li>• the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples</li> <li>• any future commitments regarding the appointed leadership of the United Church</li> </ul> </li> </ol>	<p>Addition to the list under responsibility number 4 of the churches commitment to ensuring that Francophone ministries are an integral part of our identity.</p> <p>Basic policy changes needed as we move into the new structure.</p>

<p><b>Members of the Nominations Committee will actively seek out and encourage nominations from across the diversity of the church and its geographic regions.</b></p> <p><b>Membership</b>  <b>The Nominations Committee will consist of eight members:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>two members of the Executive</b></li> <li>• <b>six members of the United Church not serving on the Executive</b></li> </ul> <p><b>The composition of the Nominations Committee will reflect the intercultural church.</b></p> <p><b>The members and chair of the Nominations Committee will be appointed by the Denominational Council. Vacancies on the committee may be filled by the Executive until the next meeting of the Denominational Council.</b></p> <p><b>For the Nominations Committee that will serve from July 2018 to July 2021, the two members of the Executive will be from those appointed to the incoming Executive (2019–2021). Members will be appointed by the 43rd General Council.</b></p> <p><b>Terms of Appointment</b>  <b>Members will serve for a term of three years, corresponding with the term of each Denominational Council, with the possibility of reappointment for a second term.</b></p> <p><b>Meetings</b>  <b>The Nominations Committee will meet as needed, primarily by videoconference call. As needed, and possible, the committee may meet in person.</b></p>	
<p><b>GCE 05 - G&amp;A 31 Judicial Committee Membership</b>  <b>Approve the actions outlined in GCE 05.</b></p>	<p><b>No change.</b>  <b>Basic policy changes needed as we move into the new structure.</b></p>
<p><del><b>GCE 08 – GS 84 Remit Related Revisions to the Basis of Union</b></del>  <del><b>Approve the revisions to the Basis of Union appended to GCE 08.</b></del></p>	<p><del><b>No change.</b></del>  <del><b>Basic policy changes needed as we move into the new structure.</b></del></p>

<p><b>GCE 09 - MEPS 25 Board of Vocation and Candidacy Board</b>  <b>Approve the recommendations in GCE 09.</b></p>	<p><b>No change.</b>  <b>Basic policy changes needed as we move into the new structure.</b></p>
<p><b>GCE 10 - MEPS 27 Policy Change Ministry Positions Accountable to the Governing Body</b>  <b>1) Change the Lay Ministry policy of the United Church, such that members of the order of ministry may not be appointed to positions “accountable to the governing body rather than the presbytery,” resulting in policy that serves rather than conflicts the Church; and</b>  <b>2) Remove section I.1.8.3 (a) from <i>The Manual</i>.</b></p>	<p><b>No change.</b>  <b>Clarifying the policy for Filling Positions Accountable to the Governing Body, found in <i>The Manual</i> at section I.1.8.3.</b></p>
<p><b>GCE 11 - MEPS 30 New Pastoral Relations Covenant Policy</b>  <b>Make the policy changes to allow for a new pastoral relations covenant policy and process as outlined in GCE 11.</b></p>	<p><b>No change.</b>  <b>Basic policy changes needed as we move into the new structure.</b></p>
<p><b>GCE 13 - PMM 15 Iridesce the Living Apology Project</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1) Recommit The United Church of Canada to the full inclusion of all people.</b></li> <li><b>2) Extend The Living Apology Project, to report to the spring 2020 meeting of the Executive of the General Council</b></li> <li><b>3) Request the Executive / General Secretary to appoint a group to work with the outcomes of The Living Apology Project, to offer an apology to the LGBTQ2+ community at the Denominational Council in 2021</b></li> <li><b>4) Reaffirm the church's endorsement of the Affirming Ministries Program and invites all communities of faith to participate.</b></li> <li><b>5) Direct the General Secretary, General Council to develop resources for ministers, church leadership, and the wider church in their ministry with LGBTQ2+ communities that:</b> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>a. offer pastoral care</b></li> <li><b>b. create opportunities for healing and reconciliation</b></li> <li><b>c. demonstrate respectful engagement in conflict/disagreement</b></li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p><b>No change.</b>  <b>Continuation of the project initiated by GC42 2015-060.</b></p>

<p><b>GCE 15 - PMM 18 LGBTQ+ Communities and Human Rights</b></p> <p><b>Affirm a commitment to:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>1) Naming LGBTQI2+ Solidarity and Human Rights solidarity as a key component of the Global &amp; Canadian Partnership Program of the United Church of Canada,</b></li> <li><b>2) Affirming the United Church of Canada participation in and support of the Dignity Network, a network of organizations and individuals from across Canada that encourage a stronger Canadian voice on human rights issues facing LGBTQI2+ communities around the world. The initiative has the twin objectives of strengthening solidarity work by Canadian civil society groups and Canada’s foreign policy commitment to the realization of human rights for LGBTQI2+ people internationally. (See: <a href="http://www.dignityinitiative.ca/en/">www.dignityinitiative.ca/en/</a> )</b></li> <li><b>3) Supporting Aboriginal Ministries Circle and Council in their work towards full inclusion and support work towards an Indigenous Two Spirit consultation within Aboriginal Ministries</b></li> <li><b>4) Paying particular attention to supporting Migrant Church communities on their journey of full inclusion</b></li> </ol>	<p><b>No change.</b></p> <p><b>Affirming our continued support of this work as requested by our Partner Council.</b></p>
<p><b>GS 04 - The United Church of Canada Act</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>• Request Parliament and provincial legislatures to make the legislative changes to their respective acts that are necessary to reflect the three-council restructuring.</b></li> <li><b>• Declare and affirm that, during the interim period until the revisions to the Acts are all in effect, the</b></li> </ul>	<p><b>No change.</b></p> <p><b>Request needed to move forward with the structural changes.</b></p>

<p>regional council is the successor to the presbytery and performs all functions of the presbytery with respect to the Model Trust Deed and property transactions involving congregations and pastoral charges within the bounds of the regional council.</p>	
<p><b>GS 05 - Regional Council Transitional Commissions</b> Appoint a commission for each of the regional councils with membership and mandate as outlined in GS 05.</p>	<p>No change. Creation of the structure needed to move into structural changes.</p>
<p><b>GS 06 - Communities of Faith and Covenants</b> Declare that all applicable existing requirements for membership, meetings, governance body and organizational matters set out in the by-law portion of <i>The Manual</i> and as approved by the presbytery for the community of faith will continue to apply and will be deemed to be the covenant between the community of faith and the regional council unless and until modified with the approval of both the community of faith and regional council.</p>	<p>No change. Basic policy changes needed as we move into the new structure.</p>
<p><b>GS 07 - Assets of Presbyteries, Districts and Conferences</b> Establish the process for the transition of presbytery/district and Conference assets to regional councils as outlined in GS 07. This process must be followed by presbyteries/districts and Conferences that will still own assets on December 31, 2018.</p>	<p>No change. Policy needed as we move into the new structure.</p>
<p><b>GS 08 - Formal Hearings and Appeals</b> Provide for the transition to the new structure of formal hearings and appeals that are outstanding as of December 31, 2018 as outlined in GS 08.</p>	<p>No change. Basic policy changes needed as we move into the new structure.</p>
<p><b>GS 09 - Reviews of Ministry Personnel and or Pastoral Charges</b> Approves that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. responsibility for all reviews of ministry personnel that have not been concluded by December 31, 2018, including completion and final assessment of all remedial work, be automatically transferred from the presbytery/district or Conference, as applicable, and automatically assumed by the Office of Vocation as of that date; and</li> </ul>	<p>No change. Basic policy changes needed as we move into the new structure.</p>

<p><b>b. responsibility for all reviews of pastoral charges that have not been concluded by December 31, 2018, including completion and final assessment of all remedial work, be automatically transferred from the presbytery/district or Conference, as applicable, and automatically assumed by the regional council with oversight of that pastoral charge.</b></p>	
<p><b>NOM 02 - Recommendations for Appointment to the Committees of the GC Approve the recommended appointments and reappointments in NOM 02</b></p>	<p><b>No change. Affirming the work of the Nominations Committee</b></p>
<p><b>SK 07 - Admission Process Questions be Reviewed for Today's Reality of More Intercultural Ministers Direct a review of the general process of admission from the intercultural perspective including the suggested questions for interview.</b></p>	<p><b>Considered a reasonable request for a policy review. Language changed to be clear and directive.</b></p>

**Moved: N. Sanders**

**Seconded: L. Doyle**

**Amendment:**

**To remove GCE08 from the consent docket and placed in the remit implementation theme.**

**Moved: D. Macdonald**

**Seconded: P. Nelson**

**CARRIED.**

**Amendment:**

**To remove GCE09 from the consent docket and placed in the remit implementation theme.**

**Moved: S. Nixon**

**Seconded: P. Reed**

**DEFEATED.**

**Carried as amended**