

## Remit 3 – Office of Vocation

### Background:

The 42<sup>nd</sup> General Council 2015 approved, subject to remit, the establishment of a denominational office of vocation in the structure of the United Church with the following responsibilities and structure:

#### *Office of Vocation - Responsibilities:*

- establishing standards for training and accreditation of ministry personnel according to denominational policies;
- establishing expectations and standards for continuing education, formation, and professional development of ministry personnel according to denominational policies;
- determining the person's fitness and readiness for accreditation to ministry;
- maintaining registry of accredited ministry personnel;
- disciplining of ministry personnel including formal hearings and complaints;
- supporting and responding to requests for assistance from regional councils;
- administering the Discontinued Service List (Disciplinary and Voluntary);
- maintaining a list of trained conflict resolution facilitators;
- maintaining a list of recognized Interim Ministers, and those trained for the Ministry of Supervision; and
- establishing and implementing standards for admitting ministers from other denominations and re-admitting ministers.

#### *Office of Vocation - Structure:*

The office of vocation would be overseen by an elected body honouring and living into intercultural mission and ministry, as described in *Vision for Becoming an Intercultural Church*; consisting of a balance of ministers whether ordained, diaconal, or designated lay ministers and lay people, with a variety of active experience.

The 42<sup>nd</sup> General Council 2015 authorized this Category 3 remit to presbyteries and pastoral charges to test the will of the church with respect to this change.

### The Question:

Does the presbytery/pastoral charge agree that:

- (a) a denominational office of vocation be established in the structure of the United Church, with responsibilities and structure as approved by the 42<sup>nd</sup> General Council 2015; and that
- (b) the Basis of Union be amended to reflect this change?