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**Selkirk Presbytery Executive Meeting
November 2, 2016
Weston Community Centre, Winnipeg MB**

In Attendance Scott MacAuley, chair; Rob Smith, chair-elect; Joan Jarvis, Conference Staff; Bruce Friesen, Treasurer; Wendy Joannis, Stewardship; Beth McLean, Education and Students, Teresa Melnychuk, secretary; Laurie Beachell, Splot-B, Shelly Manley-Tannis Community and Communications Team (by telephone until 1:30 pm) and Betty Kelly, Past Chair and Pastoral Relations (by telephone from 1 pm)

Regrets John Robertson, Oversight Committee

Constitution of Meeting Having determined quorum, Scott MacAuley called the meeting to order at 12:20 pm *"In the name of Jesus Christ, the only Head of the Church and by the authority vested in me by Selkirk Presbytery, I declare this meeting open for worship, fellowship, and for the business that comes before it."*

Mission Statement The mission statement was read in unison: Selkirk Presbytery is a Christian community called to nurture, support and enliven a spirit-filled church, and to enable Pastoral Charges to look beyond themselves. As congregations we connect, share, and inspire one another as we learn and grow in our faith together.

Acknowledging the Territory Teresa Melnychuk read: *As we gather to do this work, let us pause to remember that in this region we live and work and worship on Treaty One land, in the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree and Dakota peoples and in the heart of the Metis Nation. We acknowledge, with respect, the history, spirituality and culture of these peoples. We acknowledge their stories and their stewardship of the land and water, the plants and animals, through the many generations. May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with its peoples.*

Worship Scott opened with worship. Joan Jarvis read Matthew 10:40-42.

Minutes Motion 16069 moved by Teresa Melnychuk, seconded by Rob Smith, that we approve the minutes of the executive meeting September 8, 2016 as circulated. **CARRIED**

MOTION 16070 moved by Teresa Melnychuk, seconded by Beth McLean
That we receive for information the minutes of the Selkirk Presbytery General meeting of September 24, 2016. **CARRIED**

Committee reports

Community, Communications and Justice Team Shelly Manley-Tannis reported.

Although the team has not met since our last full meeting of Presbytery, there are still a few things to report and some questions for Executive.

General Meeting – September 24, 2016 @ Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre:

The meeting and education time, meals and location all seemed to go well for this gathering. It was lots of work to plan, but well worth it and Elder Melody McKellar was a real gift. She has asked that if anyone had feedback to share with her, she would welcome it.

The social evening and over-night also went well although the numbers were not very high. Although people have said that community building is important, it seems to be hard to make the time to do it. Even many of the CC&J team members were not able to

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be present. Those who were there had lots of fun though – the shared laughter was really enjoyable! It was good to be able to share stories.

CC&J Team Role & Update:

As of this month the team is down to 5 people, 2 of whom will not be able to attend the November General meeting, and 1 who will be retiring soon. I am wondering if the energy is there for this work to continue – and/or if we need others to help with this role. For example, Teresa asked if there was someone who is sending ‘cards of caring or concern’ and I have asked the team with no response.

I know that there are probably other things falling through the cracks – and I don’t feel I can keep it all going (along with also being on the Selkirk UC JNAC and being only part time at Little Britain).

Laurie raised some really good points and questions in his Splot B Report including whether this team might help take over some of the work that Splot B has been doing....I think the only way that that would be able to happen is if somehow Nominations has other ideas of people with energy to help with this work. I am not trying to be ‘negative’ but rather aware of the energy level and interest – I have a real sense of people kind of ‘waiting’ to see what happens with Presbytery – as we may soon no longer ‘exist’ and there is so much other work to do – especially in Selkirk Presbytery right now with so many changes in pastoral relations.

Next General Meeting (Nov. 26): We have made sure we have hosts for this meeting (Clandeboye/Winnipeg Beach – at the Netley Hall) but there are at least 2 of us from the Team who will not be able to attend the meeting. I am willing to help with the agenda planning and I am hoping that the others on the team will be able to take part in doing the registration, name-tags and animation (with music etc) but it is hard to know when I do not always hear back from my emails – I know people are away and busy in all kinds of ways!

As Team leader I will continue to do what I can to help with the flow and enjoyment of the general meetings, but I cannot take on all the aspects of the work that this team is supposed to be doing – together. Any feedback or ideas would be helpful!

Tessa Blaikie from 1JustCity will be the presenter at the November meeting. We are allowing 1 ½ hours on the agenda in the morning for her presentation. She will work out the details with Shelly. Teresa and Scott will help set the agenda for that meeting as well.

Retirement Portfolio Beth reported that she has not planned anything yet for the retirees of our presbytery, but will be in touch with Millie Lewis to work on something soon.

Education and Students presented by Beth McLean: Selkirk Presbytery has 2 Candidates for Ordered Ministry and 2 Inquirers who are entering into the discernment process in Oakbank United and Selkirk United. Beth McLean and Edith Chubey are appointed to the discernment committee for Tammy Bleue at Oakbank. Representatives from Selkirk Presbytery to the discernment committee for Lesley Eblie-Trudel of Selkirk are still being sought.

MOTION 16071 moved by Beth McLean, seconded by Rob Smith
That we confirm the continued candidacy for Diaconal Ministry of Pat Chabluk for the year 2015-16. **CARRIED**

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Pastoral Relations Report Mona Denton has had to step aside as chair of Pastoral Relations due to a conflict of interest. Betty Kelly and Leonard Oracheski have agreed to temporarily be co-chairs of this committee.

MOTION 16072 moved by Shelly Manley-Tannis, seconded by Bruce Friesen that we accept Mona Denton's temporary withdrawal from the Pastoral Relations committee. **CARRIED**

MOTION 16073 moved by Laurie Beachell, seconded by Rob Smith that we appoint Betty Kelly and Leonard Oracheski as acting co-chairs of the Pastoral Relations committee. **CARRIED** with 1 abstention.

Betty Kelly then presented the report.

Updates for information:

Beausejour and Stony Mountain Lilyfield are both working with Settlement commission representatives to identify & meet their short term ministry needs. Beausejour expects to have ministry in place for November 15.

ACTION required: Representative to Beausejour Board Meeting Nov. 13th, 11:30

Beausejour has their regular board meeting scheduled for after church on Nov. 13th, 11:30 AM. Their Pastoral Charge Supervisor, Rob Smith might not be able to be present that day. Selkirk Presbytery needs to name an alternate to be at their meeting simply as an accountable presence; there is nothing unusual or controversial on the agenda.

Betty Kelly is prepared to be present by phone if Rob is unable to be at the meeting.

MOTION 16074 moved by Laurie Beachell, seconded by Betty Kelly That we support the request of St. Paul's United Church, Beausejour to license Judy Limpricht for sacraments and that we forward this request to Conference Executive for their action. **CARRIED**

Selkirk The JNAC at Selkirk Pastoral Charge is proceeding well, with regular support from Shelly, and occasional support from Betty. The Pastoral Charge has scheduled their congregational meeting for Nov. 20th, in hopes of getting the vacancy onto the National Vacancy list for December which has a Nov.24th deadline. Yes that is before our Presbytery meeting on Saturday Nov. 26th.

ACTION requested: Conference Call meeting between Nov. 20 & 23rd.

The JNAC committee, is asking if Presbytery Exec could schedule a conference call to receive their JNAC and approve the vacancy between Nov. 20 and 23rd. Executive will also need to figure out how to get the signed documents to Conference office by the 24th.

Jim Warburton, LLWL, is requesting approval to continue the long term practise of providing Sunday Supply leadership with Plumas and Langruth congregations in Circle Marsh Pastoral Charge (Agassiz Presbytery) one Sunday per month for the 2017 calendar year. This is part of a long established ministry rotation at Circle Marsh, and the request comes each year. Last year's email from Deborah Vitt, giving approval and citing her checking with Judy Hare is on file. As the Pastoral Relations committee has not had an opportunity to meet, we bring this motion to the executive.

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MOTION 16075 moved by Betty Kelly, seconded by Rob Smith that Jim Warburton be given approval for pulpit supply with Plumas and Langruth congregations of Circle Marsh Pastoral Charge one Sunday per month for the period of January 1– June 30, 2017. This is a long standing arrangement and is requested by Circle Marsh Pastoral Charge.

CARRIED

Retained on the Roll: Teresa continues to work to ensure paperwork for those retained on the role is in place; i.e. applications and/or Criminal records forms.

Covenanting services: Has a date for covenanting service for John Robertson, Stonewall United Church, been set as yet? Scott MacAuley will contact John to discuss.

What should our practise be now for covenanting services for short term appointments?

Karen Toole, Birds Hill Pastoral Charge

Beausejour – St. Paul's United Church & Stony Mountain Lilyfield will soon have ministry in place with short term appointments.

Note: we often hear from both short term appointment ministers and these pastoral charges that they have been 'meeting' lots to get the appointments in place. They seem reluctant to have another 'extra event'. Is there a way to celebrate this as part of their regular service? A well-written letter and prayer of covenant from Presbytery to be read at the Sunday service perhaps?

Traditionally, our presbytery has covenanting services with one year appointment, and with shorter appointments at the request of the charge. Covenanting is also a very positive experience with the Presbytery, a time for celebrating the new relationship and a time for congregations to get to know the wider church. But we are living into a situation where our current practices may not be practical. We will continue to discuss this at a later time.

Pastoral Charge Supervisors: Wayne Larstone has requested to be removed as Pastoral Charge supervisor to Pine Falls since he has moved into Winnipeg. Teresa Melnychuk attended the last meeting and presented remit information. She will also be attending the next meeting to discuss the next set of remits with the board. Someone close to Pine Falls may be a better choice for a supervisor, perhaps from Selkirk area. Betty will contact Pat Bird to see if she will be able to do this.

For Southwest Interlake, Scott MacAuley will represent Selkirk Presbytery at their next meeting.

Stewardship: Wendy Jaonisse reported that the Mission support grants were discussed in October and the funds have been distributed.

Splot B Laurie Beachell reported that the committee will come to an end at the end of December but he and Gay Boese will continue working with the East Of 12 initiative. The committee will have a final report ready for the next presbytery meeting and they would like to present the information on the regional model at the next Presbytery meeting. They would like to request some time on the agenda at the November Presbytery meeting. It does not make sense to drop all of the work of this committee and they would like to have discussion on how to continue the conversations that have occurred. The executive agreed that these conversations need to happen.

Conference Staff Joan Jarvis reported that Shannon McCarthy and Bill Doyle both covenanted with Alberta NW Conference Executive at their last meeting. There is a film screening at CMU (Canadian Mennonite University) on Wednesday Nov 9 at 7p.m. and then in Morden at St. Pauls United on Nov. 10 called "On The Side of the Road." The documentary film maker will be present. The Conference had ten congregations receive funding for refugee sponsorship from the money received from Trinity Untied. The fund will stay open should anyone wish to make further donations for refugee sponsorship.

Budget Bruce presented the financial statements. He suggested we think about moving into the new funding model. At this point there are no plans to change the statistics forms for the new funding model. Betty Kelly suggested we send a request to the United Church of Canada to ensure that the forms are changed to reflect the new information that will be needed for assessing congregations. Our congregations are still paying assessments based upon where they were a few years ago, even if they have downsized to save money. It does not show up in the assessment right away as we work on a three year average. We looked at making changes to the assessment model a few years ago, however it did not affect the assessments for the struggling congregations in the way it was hoped it would.

We acknowledge that we are living into something new. The changes faced by some congregations are faster than our three-year schedule allows. We need to do some strategic planning for this. Perhaps we can set up a "cluster" fund. With our surplus, Bruce has suggested that can use it to reduce assessments for this year. We could also up our donation to Sandy Saulteaux Centre.

MOTION 16076 moved by Laurie Beachell, seconded by Wendy Joannis, That we use \$5500 of our surplus to increase the donation to SandySaulteaux Centre by \$500 and decrease assessments to pastoral charges by \$5000. **CARRIED** with 1 abstention.

Further to this motion it was suggested that we look into a "Forward in Faith" fund to plan for the future. Laurie Beachell will look into this.

MOTION 16077 moved by Bruce Friesen, seconded by Laurie Beachell, that the budget be presented as amended to the November General Meeting of Presbytery with the Conference allocation adjusted as needed. **CARRIED**.

MOTION 16078 moved by Teresa Melnychuk, seconded by Rob Smith That we pay \$120 for the space and refreshment costs, including muffins, for the October 29, 2016 remit presentation held at Stonewall United Church.

Correspondence is held over until the next meeting, due to time constraints for this meeting. No correspondence requiring immediate attention has been received.

Adjournment: Scott declared the meeting adjourned at 3:10 pm. The meeting was closed with prayer.

Scott MacAuley, Chair

Teresa Melnychuk, Secretary

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