

The United Church of Canada: Assiniboine Presbytery Executive Meeting 17-50
At Central United Church, Brandon, Manitoba **Wednesday, March 14, 2018**

PRESENT: Craig Miller, Barb Jardine, Natasha Pearen, Diane Janzen, Lyn Fefchak, Joan Jarvis, Mária Szabó Bérces, Coral Meggison, Doug Neufeld, David Howell, Heather Sandilands

The meeting was called to order by Mária Szabó Bérces at 10:15 am.
It was noted that a quorum was present. (10 of 10, at least 1/3)

ACKNOWLEDGED THE TREATY LAND
Mária Szabó Bérces led us in prayer.

We joined in a time of sharing and reflecting.

AGENDA

Motion # 112: Craig Miller / Doug Neufeld
That the Agenda be accepted as circulated. CARRIED

MINUTES

Motion # 113: Coral Meggison / Heather Sandilands
That the minutes of Assiniboine Presbytery Executive meeting from
January 17, 2018 be approved as circulated. CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE REPORT: Coral Meggison
Report attached as **Appendix A.**

Motion # 114: Coral Meggison / Barb Jardine
That the correspondence report be received as printed. CARRIED

TREASURER'S REPORT: Diane Janzen

- There is one pastoral charge with an outstanding 4th quarter 2017 assessment.
- For full report, see **Appendix B.**

Motion # 115: Diane Janzen / David Howell
That the treasurer's report be accepted as presented. CARRIED

COMMITTEE REPORTS

AFFIRMING MINISTRIES: No Chairperson at this time

We discussed an email that had been received by Mária Szabó Bérces from Affirm United, regarding what will happen with Affirming Status of courts upon United Church of Canada restructuring. It was determined that this letter does not pertain to presbytery court because presbyteries are to be eliminated, not restructured.

NOMINATIONS: Craig Miller

Nothing new to report.

EDUCATION, STUDENTS & CHURCH VOCATIONS: Heather Sandilands

SACRAMENT ELDER RENEWALS Congregations are being encouraged to submit Sacrament Elder renewal of license forms to this committee before April 20, 2018, in order that renewal motions can be completed at the April 21, 2018 full court meeting.

SACRAMENT ELDER TRAINING At this time, the committee is not planning to offer fall training for new Sacrament Elders, as no need is anticipated at this time.

INQUIRER An Inquirer has been advised to wait to begin the Inquiry Process once the United Church restructuring has taken place.

CANDIDATE This committee is supporting one person in the Candidate for Ordained Ministry process. Rolanda Taylor has been assigned as the committee member to specifically support this candidate.

PASTORAL CHARGE OVERSIGHT: Lyn Fefchak

RUSSELL Russell congregation is applying for a Modernization Grant for their proposed Sanctuary Lift. This \$170000-\$200000 project was presented at the congregation annual meeting.

ANNUAL REPORTS This committee is reading & reviewing Pastoral Charge Annual Reports as they are received.

PASTORAL RELATIONS: Natasha Pearen

SETTLEMENT COMMISSION The Conference Settlement Commission met January 9, 23, 31, and February 13, 2018.

Settlement Commission Report for January 9, 23, 31, and February 13, 2018 is attached as **Appendix C**.

The following action was taken on behalf of Assiniboine Presbytery:

1) Approved the Transfer of Natasha Pearen from Assiniboine Presbytery to Chignecto Presbytery in Maritime Conference, effective July 1, 2018.

PASTORAL CHARGE SUPERVISORS FORM PR441 All Pastoral Charge Supervisors must complete form PR441: Report of the Pastoral Charge Supervisor and submit to Pastoral Relations, David Howell by May 24, 2018. Scan completed forms to peacefullonedh@gmail.com
Remember to list everyone who receives a T4A for providing ministry.
Remember to list volunteers from the congregation.

NEW CRIMINAL RECORD PROCESS David Howell will contact all ministry personnel, active, retired and retained, regarding the new requirement to complete an online verification of your most recent Criminal Records Check report.

M&P WORKSHOP Saturday, April 14, 10 am – 3 pm. Promotional information will be sent out to all pastoral charges.

OUTREACH & JUSTICE: Barb Jardine

LEARNING CENTRE FUNDING An application has been made to the Justice and Reconciliation Fund at General Council requesting \$6500 to fund four purposes: a published history and accompanying booklet -1200 copies; remounting of the pictures on lighter material; travelling/shipping funds to enable sending the Centre to places beyond our presbytery; funds to develop a website – to allow the future of this Centre to be managed through a developed Cluster.

LEARNING CENTRE UPDATE The Brandon Indian Residential School Mobile Learning Centre has several spring bookings including a visit to University College of the North in The Pas.

KAIROS BLANKET EXERCISE Members of this committee participated in a Blanket Exercise at Neepawa Area Collegiate Institute on March 8, morning and afternoon.
Pending are exercises at Brandon University, Wawanesa, and Killarney.
A training event is to happen to extend our numbers of facilitators.

PROMOTIONAL LETTER A letter promoting the Mobile Learning Centre and Kairos Blanket Exercise has been drafted but not yet sent to School Divisions and Municipalities.

OUR RELATIVES Thinking about feeding, housing and clothing our neighbours who are homeless in Brandon and area continues to be important.
Folks are invited to help Bannock in the Park with donations of cash and food.
A 'Safe and Warm' program is available at Samaritan House.

IRIDESCE May 11-14, 2018 Knox United Brandon invites youth and adults to an event of
WORKSHOP Workshops, Conversation, Storytelling about IRIDESCE: The Living Apology
Project, Illuminating Gender and Sexual Identities and Expressions.

PRESBYTERY PLANNING: Doug Neufeld

APRIL Rendezvous report – Navan Forsythe is organizing the participants
Proposals; Transition checklist; Life after Presbytery; Clusters that we would like
formed, Technology and Worship

SEPTEMBER Possibly hosted by Reston-Pipestone Pastoral Charge

CONFERENCE The time slot is 40 minutes on Thursday evening of Conference Annual Meeting.
WORSHIP
PLANNING

CONFERENCE STAFF: Joan Jarvis

Life for conference staff is in chaos and uncertainty.

CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE: Craig Miller and Mária Szabó Bérces

- Archives will prepare a guidelines list of what to send to Archives
- Archivist, Erin Ackland has an assistant until May 10, so start sorting and sending information now.
- Agassiz Presbytery plans retreats for LLWL, Lay and Ordained Ministers. Rock Lake Camp could be a location.
- Other Presbyteries have started working on the 'Closing Checklist'
- There will be no Conference Personnel Minister as of December 31, 2018
- other presbyteries have started planning their 'Good bye Celebrations'
- if we have any specific projects we want to see continue to be funded from present presbytery funds in the new region, then it is recommended that our presbytery prepare a document similar to a Will, to document these intentions.
- The MNWO Conference Retirees Dinner will be held Saturday evening of the Annual Meeting. It will be a celebration open to all Conference Annual Meeting participants. If ministers are planning to retire in 2018, they are encouraged to be included/recognized in this celebration.
- Conference Executive has established a Transition Team including all current presbytery chairpersons.
- Wayne Sanderson, Conference President Elect has connected with the symbol of the boat. Maybe it is time to abandon the boat and get into the rest of the world. There are some creative possibilities 'outside of the boat'.
- Current Retirees, if they are not on email, then need to get their contact information to Judy Hare.
- about ½ of our MNWO conference pastoral charges are in Ministry Profile/Search process or are perpetually vacant.
- Presbytery meeting time during conference Annual Meeting will take place during Friday lunch.
- Annual Meeting Planning Team is trying to have Annual Meeting Sunday Worship Live Streamed.
- June 23 – General Council Commissioner Training
- be thoughtful of information that will need to go to the new Regional office. It will need to be in digitized format.
- Seeking names for the Proposal Facilitation Group
- Navan Forsythe was selected as Youth Pilgrim for MNWO conference
- Betty Kelly asked the Executive to think about: what do you need the new Executive Minister to know?; What do our partner regions (administrative) need to know?; such as: we are an Affirming Presbytery, the Mobile Learning Centre is important to us, youth gatherings are important in our conference.
- **Motion # 116: Lyn Fefchak / Diane Janzen**
That the reports be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

TRANSITION TEAM QUESTIONS **Questions for the Transition Team to ask: What is your experience living rurally? What is your understanding of the rural church and how it functions. The Prairie Executive Minister needs to have a sensitivity to rural/farm/where our food comes from.**

PROPOSALS There were initial discussions of ideas for Proposals to General Council.

EXTRA EXECUTIVE MEETING An executive meeting has been set for Wednesday, May 9, 2018, with the specific business being to work on the Transition Checklist.

Mária Szabó Bérces led us in prayer to close the meeting.

Motion # 117: David Howell / Craig Miller
That the meeting be adjourned at 2:52 pm. **CARRIED**

MEETING DATES

FULL COURT: April 29, 2017 Shoal Lake school

EXECUTIVE: Wednesday, May 9, 2018 10 am Central United Brandon
Wednesday, June 13, 2018 10 am Central United Brandon

Coral Meggison
Secretary
Assiniboine Presbytery

Mária Szabó Bérces
Chair
Assiniboine Presbytery