

ATTENDANCE

Present

Ordered Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, Cathy Larmond, Connie Ellis, Kenji Marui, Paul Rodey, Mark Marshall, Wanda Burse, Eun-Joo Park, Doug Wright, Sheila MacGregor, Jeffrey Crittenden

Lay Glenda McMillan, Mary Anne Silverthorn, Beverley Slater, Brent Caslick, Sandra Stock, Chuck Scott, Tanya Cameron

Regrets Carey Wagner, Doreen Hewitson, Mark Ferrier, John Brown, Wendy Brown, Ken Hunking

OPENING - Cathy Larmond

In the name of Jesus Christ, the one true head of the church, and by the authority given to me by the 91st Annual Meeting of London Conference, I declare this meeting of the Executive of London Conference duly constituted for any business that may properly come before it. The bounds of the meeting shall be this conference call.

President Cathy Larmond opened the meeting with a devotion based on her Conference theme of "Travelling Along With You." She shared the wisdom of procuring a "good pair of boots" for our journey together. The check-in question for the round-table introductions asked the members to identify the type of footwear their division/area of responsibility needs for the upcoming adventure as we look to the future of the Church. Responses ranged from soft slippers, hard hikers, pairs that fit well, ones that feel tight, and some to tread softly.

CONSENT DOCKET

Motion It was moved, seconded and carried to accept the consent docket as amended:

CONSENT DOCKET	
Motion	That the Executive approve the minutes of the November 18th and January 28, 2016 Meetings of the Conference Executive
Motion	That the Executive approve that the effective date for Doreen Hewitson to become the Chair of the Division of Communication and Public Relations be changed from the rise of Conference to January 1, 2016.
Motion	That the agenda as circulated be adopted.
Motion	That Assistant Treasurer, Brent Caslick, be made a corresponding member.
Motion	That the Executive receive the following correspondence and deal with it at the appropriate point in the agenda: 1. Church World Services

	2. Alex Miller 3. Iona College
Motion	That the Executive approve the following as members of the Board of KeeMoKee: Brenna Ardiel and Marci Pluss, and Penny Cox and the following as a member of the Board of Lambton United Church Centre: Brenda Roby. (Appendix 1 - 4)
Motion	To write a letter of blessing on behalf of London Conference to the Right Reverend Linda Nicholls in recognition of her new role as Coadjutor bishop by the Synod of the Anglican Diocese of Huron.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM MINUTES

1. Fairfield Museum - Proposal 3 "Fairfield – vacant land" (Appendix 5)

Motion **It was moved and seconded to accept Proposal 3 – "Fairfield – vacant land" and that the Executive authorizes the transfer of the Fairfield property described in the attached Agreement of Purchase and Sale attached hereto.**

There was a request to confirm the use of "interpretative" centre in the final paragraph of the Agreement of Purchase and Sale.

Motion carried.

Motion **It was moved, seconded and carried that the London Conference Executive supports the financial arrangements that the Executive Secretary has arranged for the land transfer process and associated transactions.**

Fairfield Correspondence - Letter from Alex Miller (Appendix 6)

Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa explained the history of Alex's discontent with London Conferences' approach to the land transfer.

Motion **It was moved, seconded and carried that President Cathy Larmond acknowledges the correspondence from Alex Miller and communicates to him that the Executive Secretary acted in consultation with and at the London Conference's Executive direction.**

2. Remits Update

On February 22, 2016 all remits will be sent to all Presbyteries for study and discussion. All remits have accompanying study guides. Cheryl-Ann confirmed that although the remit that names the number of regions only includes the London Conference Executive motion, she did

take care to send each presbytery's recommendation as background information for consideration.

3. Iona College

In response to Iona College's failure to provide input on their move to Legacy Status, including the provision of a repayment plan for the Middlesex Presbytery trust funds by the deadline of January 31, 2016 the Executive Secretary brought forth **Proposal 2 – "Iona College Legacy Agreement"**. (Appendix 7)

Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa sent her February 11, 2016 correspondence to the current Board of Directors (Appendix 8) and in response received:

- a. Notification from Rev. Bo Jeong Kim on January 28, 2016 stating his resignation from the Board of Iona College effective January 28, 2016.
- b. Correspondence from the current Board of Directors of Iona College responding to the February 11, 2016 correspondence from the Executive Secretary.

There was a lengthy discussion about the number of opportunities that Iona has been offered to participate in conversations about their future which they have consistently and repeatedly failed to take advantage of. It is now time for the London Conference Executive to act.

It was clarified that if the London Conference Executive approves **Proposal 2 – "Iona College Legacy Agreement"**, it will be the Public Guardian and Trustee that has authority to consult with them about their misuse of funds. While it may not necessarily result in the money being returned, it will have implications about Iona College's ability to function as a corporation in the future.

Motion **It was moved, seconded and carried to accept Proposal 2 – "Iona College Legacy Agreement" and that the Executive of London Conference authorizes the Executive Secretary to negotiate a legacy agreement with Iona College on the following terms:**

- 1. London Conference will draft the legacy agreement and cover the legal cost for the same;**
- 2. Iona College will provide The United Church of Canada with indemnity for all present and future claims against the church relating in any way to the operation of the incorporated ministry;**
- 3. Iona College will cease to use any United Church of Canada identifiers;**
- 4. London Conference will communicate this change to Canterbury College, Assumption University and the University of Windsor as well as to the Presbyteries of London Conference and the pastoral charges of Essex Presbytery;**
- 5. Iona College will be responsible for the required changes in its Letters Patent and by-laws, with the proposed application for amendment of the Letters Patent to be provided to The United Church of Canada for review before the application is filed;**

6. Iona College will agree to repay the missing principal from the Middlesex Presbytery Trust Fund (it will be agreed that the full principal to be repaid is \$100,000.) according to the following terms:
- a. \$5,000 per year with a payment of \$2,500 due every November 1st and April 1st to Middlesex Presbytery or, if the Presbytery ceases to exist, to the Middlesex United Church Council;
 - b. An additional balloon payment of \$25,000 on the payment date immediately following the fifth and the tenth anniversary of the agreement;
 - c. Security will be provided for the repayment in the form of a charge/mortgage in favour of the United Church of Canada registered against the property at 208 Sunset Ave., Windsor, being Property Identifier Number 01233-0042 (LT).

General discussion revealed that there was some confusion as it was thought by some that today (February 17, 2016) is the effective date for reporting to the Public Guardian and Trustee. As a result:

Motion It was moved, seconded and carried that the London Conference Executive direct the Executive Secretary to secure legal counsel to create a legacy agreement document per "Proposal 2 – Iona College Legacy Agreement" for Iona College Board of Directors to sign and return to the Executive Secretary by *March 31, 2016*. The vote was unanimous.

Motion It was moved, seconded and carried to support the Executive Secretary as acting on behalf of the London Conference Executive.

Motion It was moved, seconded and carried to authorize President Cathy Larmond to communicate the content of the current discussion and upcoming legal steps to Marilyn Farough as soon as possible.

REPORTS

Nominating Committee – Chuck Scott

They are currently seeking three new Committee Chairs. Chuck Scott reminded the court that it is important for each Presbytery to have a representative on the Nominations committee. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa noted that she sent an expression of gratitude to Bill Butt for his service as Chair of Division of Public Relations and Communication.

The Nominations Committee intends to take a motion to the London Conference 2016 Annual Meeting to make a Youth and Young Adult representative a permanent member of the London Conference Executive.

Staff Support Committee

Motion It was moved, seconded and carried to accept the revised Position Description for Minister, Vocations and Training. (Appendix 9)

Division of Finance and Administration – Mary Anne Silverthorn

Please note that due to adjusting entries from the audit, year-end 2015 financial statements and January 31, 2016 financial statements are not available at this time. They will be sent to you as soon as they are prepared.

Archives Committee clarified it is the responsibility of the Presbytery to be in charge of the archives and remitting to Toronto.

Division of Ministry Personnel and Education – Tanya Cameron

There is a Division of Ministry Personnel and Education meeting on February 18, 2016. A report on the outcomes of that meeting will be made at the next meeting of the London Conference Executive.

Social Justice Division – Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa

a) Pedra Girls Bursary Program Update – see correspondence from Church World Services (Appendix 10) for details. It raises the Canadian Revenue Agency only to highlight that if London were to be the partner with Christian Council of Mozambique it would require a significant change to our partnership agreement and mandate.

b) Proposal for 2016 Budget (Appendix 11)

Motion It was moved, seconded and carried to approve “Proposal – 2016 Budget for Division of Social Justice” and these additional funds are to be drawn from the Conference’s Unrestricted Reserves if there is not capacity within the 2016 Budget.

Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa announced that Rev. Mark Marshall is the General Council Office appointee to Right Relations work.

Division of Communication and Public Relations – Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa

The Division is exploring how the Riverside United Church’s Multi-Purpose room can be adapted and configured for sound to facilitate large meetings and remote participation. Horizon Audio is providing options for consideration.

United Church Women – Sandra Stock

Sandra Stock updated the court on the various upcoming Spring and Summer events. She reinforced the importance of the United Church Women’s focus on Child and Youth poverty by

displaying her doll to serve as a continuous visual reminder of the assistance we can offer (in various ways) to mitigate poverty in youth.

Annual Meeting Planning Committee – Jeffrey Crittenden

The Annual Meeting Planning Committee is on schedule for task completion and registration for all events related to the Annual Meeting 2016 is available on the London Conference website.

Affirm Task Group

The members of the Affirm Task Group met on February 16, 2016 and brought **Proposal 4 – “Becoming an Affirming Ministry”** to London Conference Executive for consideration. (Appendix 12)

- Motion** **It was moved and seconded that the London Conference Executive accept Proposal 4 – “Becoming an Affirming Ministry” and that they:**
- a. Authorize the Executive Secretary to enrol London Conference as a member of Affirm United/S’Affirmer Ensemble at an annual cost of \$100 per year;**
 - b. Provide a budget line of up to \$2,500 for the Affirm Task Group starting in 2016 to cover**
 - i. Affirm membership**
 - ii. Travel costs and participation fees for 2 – 3 members of the Task Group to attend the Affirm Annual Meeting (July 22 – 24, 2016) in Ottawa**
 - iii. Meeting costs**
 - iv. Provision of resources for Affirming ministry process**
 - c. Authorize the Affirming Task Group to expand its membership to provide for the voices of youth and young adults and lay people.**

Kenji Marui explained the process of membership and education associated with the Conference becoming an affirming Conference as compared to an Affirming Presbytery or Pastoral Charge (the Conference cannot regulate a lower court). How do we move beyond tokenism and instead promote and encourage lower courts to recognize the value of moving into an “Affirm mindset?”

There was some discussion about creating an educational budget to promote this movement for 2017.

Motion carried.

Executive Secretary’s Accountability Report (Appendix 13)

Provided for information.

Motion **It was moved, seconded and carried to adjourn.**

Cathy Larmond, President
Secretary

Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, Executive