

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on October 13, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.

PRESENT: Barb Nott (Chair), Jim Jackson, Nancy Ferguson, John Watson, Kathie Smith, Helen Smith, Dave Le Grand, Mastard Sakala, Susan Lindquist, Bill Steadman, Joy Galloway

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead

REGRETS: Stewart Walker, Eun-Joo Park

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

Barb honoured the traditional lands upon which we meet with the following words:

The lands where we gather today, across this region, have been places of gathering for First Nations people as they camped and travelled across the land for generations beyond our knowing. Before people arrived from across the seas, these Nations lived, loved, raised children and made a living. They lived in harmony with all that the Creator had made. As we meet today, we recognize those traditional sojourners in this land. We give thanks for them and for the lands on which we gather today. We acknowledge that our history has come at a great cost to the Indigenous community and we commit ourselves to be partners in healing and reconciliation.

Barb then read the CSRC safe space statement:

The Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive, as an affirming community, is a safe place that welcomes and includes all people to gather and participate in the life and work of the regional council regardless of age, ability, race, cultural background, sexual orientation or gender identity. In this space, all are welcome.

Peter led Executive in a reflection and then he ended with prayer.

CHECK-IN

Executive took time to do a check-in with each other.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Jim Jackson **2022-10-13-01**
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There are 4 errors in the Regional Meeting Update section and have been corrected.

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Nancy Ferguson **2022-10-13-02**
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on September 8, 2022 via Zoom be approved as amended.
CARRIED

The point was brought up that the e-votes, according to The Manual, need to have at least 48 hours' notice before closing. In the future, all CSRC E-votes will have at least 48 hours' notice. Also, John Watson was added as a voting member of Executive to the minutes.

MOTION by Dave Le Grand/Helen Smith **2022-10-13-03**
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on September 13, 2022 via E-vote be approved as amended.
CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Bill Steadman **2022-10-13-04**
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from May 25, 2022 and June 29, 2022 be received, for information.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

FINANCIAL UPDATE (IF ANY)

Janet has indicated that all the financial information from the meeting continues to come in and she cannot update the final budget until she received that information. There will be an update at the next meeting of Executive.

INCORPORATED MINISTRIES OMNIBUS MOTION (ST. PAUL'S HOUSING CORP.)

Peter gave a brief overview of what Incorporated Ministries are and why we have them.

MOTION by John Watson/Helen Smith **2022-10-13-05**
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council (6) Executive take the following action:

a) **St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation**

... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation 2021-2022 Board of Directors

**Lynne Curran
Laurie Forbes
H. Brian Foster
Gail Henderson
Don Macdougall
Doreen Macdougall
Debra Mehagan
Bert Rowson
Ray Quinn**

This is based on the draft Annual Meeting minutes of September 21, 2021, the 2021 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per The United Church of Canada Incorporated Ministries Policy.

CARRIED

REGIONAL MEETING UPDATE

Regional Council Reflection, Comments, Thanksgiving, and Learning

Peter gave thanks for everyone who worked on the meeting and especially the tech team.

Nancy gave a brief reflection and stated that the evaluation forms are still coming in and the team will continue to review them. A report to Executive will be forthcoming.

Executive was asked to share their views of the meeting and one point that came up was that there needed to be more volunteers to help with set up and tear down. Also, there needs to be people from the host church on the planning team to help with the local arrangements.

The comment was made that in the future, we need to have hybrid meetings in case people are still uncomfortable meeting in-person due to Covid/Flu and also because of mobility reasons. Several evaluations stated that the online experience was excellent.

Other comments included were that we could/should have taped or made live the discussion groups. Also, it was stated that not having a choir was missed – Bill explained we didn't have one because of Covid protocols and concerns.

There was an indication that people felt that voices were not heard from the floor at all, especially during the GC44 piece. This was an important oversight with the General Secretary present at our meeting, he could have answered many questions directly.

Some people still had Covid anxieties at the meeting. The face-to-face meeting was very important for our region, bridging all the 3 conferences together, as this was only our 2nd in-person meeting since becoming a region.

Executive members who attending the campfire at Hannah Lake enjoyed their time.

Proposal: Renaming the Regional Council

This decision has been deferred to the next meeting, as members of Executive did not receive the proposal ahead of time.

Executive Conversation around Scheduling the Next RCM and Location

Peter indicated that the planning team has not had their final wrap-up meeting and their feedback may have an impact on the scheduling and location. The planning team co-chairs will report back to Executive at the next meeting.

REGIONAL MEETING TRAVEL REMUNERATION POLICY

Executive discussed the 2019 and 2022 Regional Meeting Travel Remuneration Policy. Peter indicated it would be beneficial to have a regional policy in place that will not need to be altered at each meeting.

It was suggested that communities of faith should realize that there is a cost to “being church” and travel for their Ministry Personnel, and possibly Regional Reps, will need to be covered by each pastoral charge.

Nancy mentioned that there are two ministry personnel in Sault Ste. Marie are now in “formal association” with communities of faith there. It is understood that the community of faith in which the Ministry Personnel are in Formal Association with will cover the cost of their travel to a regional meeting and maybe that could happen in other places.

EXECUTIVE MINISTER'S REPORT

Peter discussed one portion of his report – the hiring of a new full-time administrative assistant. The job posting was just put up online today by the General Council Office.

There was consensus that the members of the hiring team for the new administrative staff will be one from each region, plus Peter, with the ability to make hiring decisions.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- November 3, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- December 1, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

CLOSING

Barb adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m. and she ended with a prayer.