

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on October 12, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Barb Nott (Chair), John Watson, Helen Smith, Bill Steadman, Stewart Walker, Susan Lindquist, Mastard Sakala, Jim Jackson, Kathie Smith, Joy Galloway

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead

REGRETS: Nancy Ferguson, Dave LeGrand

Chair Barb Nott welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive and welcomed Peter back after being off on leave.

Barb honoured the traditional lands upon which we meet and then read the CSRC safe space statement.

Peter opened the meeting with a prayer.

CHECK-IN

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were some changes to the Commission dates that needed to be made on the agenda.

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Jim Jackson CS Exec 2023-10-12-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was business arising from Huntington University from the June 1, 2023 meeting; Peter shared that he has reached out to Kevin McCormick to meet in-person but were unable to do this because of scheduling. Peter will attempt to schedule a meeting in November.

There was one error in the June 1, 2023 minutes – Page 16 above Motion 2023-06-01-02, change “to” to “the.”

MOTION by John Watson/Joy Galloway CS Exec 2023-10-12-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on June 1, 2023 be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

MOTION by Kathy Smith/Joy Galloway CS Exec 2023-10-12-03
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on August 16, 2023 be approved, as circulated.
CARRIED
1 Abstention

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by John Watson/Jim Jackson CS Exec 2023-10-12-04
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from April 26, 2023, May 24, 2023, June 27, 2023 and an e-vote in July 2023 be received, for information.

CARRIED

MOTION by Joy Galloway/John Waston CS Exec 2023-10-12-05
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith
Commission Minutes from May 30, 2023 be received, for information.
CARRIED

INCORPORATED MINISTRIES OMNIBUS MOTION

MOTION by John Watson/Susan Lindquist CS Exec 2023-10-12-06
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive take the
following actions:

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 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Lynne Curran
Laurie Forbes
Gail Henderson
Linda Hietanen
Terry Hietanen
Don Macdougall
Doreen Macdougall
Bert Rowson
Ray Quinn

This is based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of June
6, 2023, the 2023 board member approval form, contact list provided
and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated
Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

...pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United
Church of Canada approve the request of St. Paul's United Church
Non-Profit Housing Corporation to renew its loan with Peoples Trust
Company in the amount of approximately \$680,009.57 for a four-year
term at the rate of 5.11% paid monthly, maturing July 1, 2027 as
approved by the St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing
Corporation Board of Directors on September 19, 2023.

This is based on the draft Board Meeting Minutes of September 19,
2023, and receipt of other required documentation per the
Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

- *Letter of Concern re: 2024 RCM Date and Ordination*
Peter shared a letter of concern received regarding the Ordination of a student in the Canadian Shield RC and Executive discussed changes to the policy regarding Ordination, Commissioning, Admissions, etc. John highlighted that after it had been approved by there region, there was a modification to the policy where ordinations

could now occur outside of a Regional Council Meeting, allowing individuals to begin their work immediately without losing a year of pensionable time and that the choice of when the ordination should occur rested with the candidate.

After discussion, Executive made the decision to refer the letters to the Pastoral Relations Commission (PRC) for action.

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Jim Jackson CS Exec 2023-10-12-07
That the CSRC Executive refer the 2 letters (letter of concern from Rev. Catherine Somerville and the letter from the Chair of North and Central Ontario Candidacy Board) be referred to the CS Pastoral Relations Commission for review and possible action.
CARRIED

- *Proposal from Harry Oussoren*

The region received this proposal from Harry Oussoren. Peter had discussed this proposal with Melody Duncanson Hales and the chair of the Right Relations Resource Team, Lisa Blais. The proposal is lengthy and has been assigned to the Right Relations team for review.

RESCHEDULING OF JOINT EXECUTIVE MEETING IN SUDBURY

Peter shared his disappointment at having to cancel the Joint Executives meeting in Sudbury September 24-26, 2023. He will check in with Tina and Barb/Nancy in the upcoming weeks about dates for fall of 2024.

MOTION by John Watson/Jim Jackson CS Exec 2023-10-12-08
That the CSRC Executive suggest rescheduling the Joint CS and SW Executives Meeting in Sudbury for the fall of 2024, with consultation with the SW Executive.
CARRIED

NOMINATIONS UPDATE

Kathie proposed changes to the terms of office for the chair, chair-elect, and past chair positions, suggesting a four-year model instead of the current six-year commitment. This change was recommended to ease the burden on nominees and facilitate smoother transitions in leadership. She expressed hope that these changes would simplify the nomination process. She addressed John's question about the possibility of past chairs staying on for longer than a year, noting that while it would not be a problem, the current plan was for a four-year model. The team also discussed the importance of the past chair in maintaining continuity, and the challenges of retaining volunteers due to the long commitment required of 6 years.

Kathie shared the Chair Elect/Chair/Past Chair 4-Year Timeline with Executive to help illustrate the model. After a discussion, Executive passed a motion to receive the Nominations recommendation and adopt the model.

MOTION by John Watson/Bill Steadman CS Exec 2023-10-12-09
That the CSRC Executive receive the following motion from the Nominations Committee and approve it:

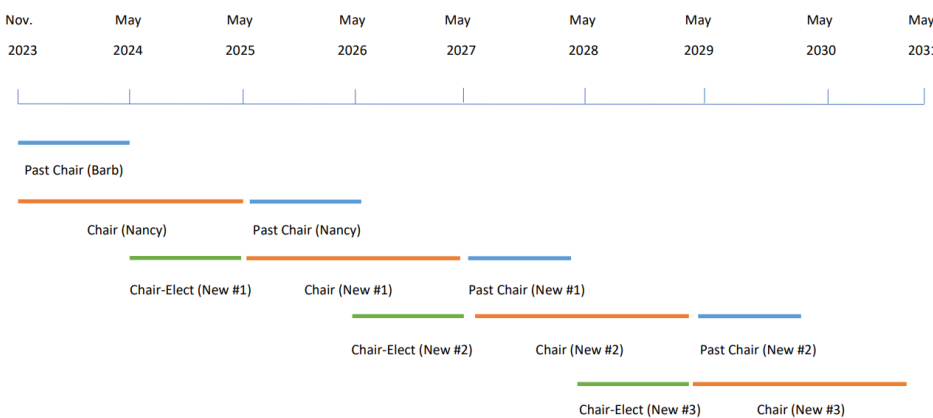
Kathie Smith/Helen Smith

CS Noms 2023-10-10-01

That the CSRC Nominations Committee recommend adopting a four-year model regarding the terms of office for Chair/Chair-Elect/Past Chair to the CSRC Executive for consideration.
CARRIED

And; will adopt the four-year model regarding the terms of office for Chair/Chair-Elect/Past Chair.
CARRIED

Chair-Elect/Chair/Past Chair 4-Year Timeline



The Nominations Committee also recommended 2 new names to the Mission Support Resource Team:

MOTION by Helen Smith/Janice Brownlee CS Noms 2023-07-31-01
That the CSRC Nominations Committee recommend Christine Paul and Dave Clarke to the Mission Support Resource Team, effective August 2023.
CARRIED

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Stewart Walker CS Exec 2023-10-12-10
That the CSRC Executive accept the Nominations Committee recommendation of Christine Paul and Dave Clarke to the Mission Support Resource Team, effective August 2023.
CARRIED

DISCUSSION RE: FORMAL POLICY AND TERMS FOR LOANS FROM THE CSRC

A potential policy regarding loans from the Canadian Shield was discussed, leading to the formation of a working group consisting of members from the Finance Committee, the Grants Committee, and Staff. A process for handling financial requests and approvals was discussed, with Bill suggesting that the responsible group should make recommendations, and Jim proposing a hierarchy for approvals. The role of the Executive was also discussed, with Peter highlighting that the current policy allows the Executive to approve up to \$5,000.

Executive agreed with the creation of a working task group consisting of:

- Diane Matheson-Jimenez (CSRC Staff)
- Melody Duncanson Hales (CSRC Staff)
- One member from the Finance Resource Team

- One member from the Grants Resource Team

This group will create a proposal to present to Executive regarding a policy for loans from the regional council. The decision was not made on which group/entity will be responsible for receiving and recommending to Executive; the Chair suggested that the working task group could make that decision and report back to Executive.

2021 CSRC DRAFT AUDIT – FINANCE MOTION

The 2021 CSRC Draft Audit was shared with Executive prior to the meeting.

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Joy Galloway CS Exec 2023-10-12-11
That the CSRC Executive receive the 2021 CSRC Audited Financial
Statements.
CARRIED

REGIONAL MEETING 2023 AND 2024

- *Planning Team Notes for 2023 and Updates for 2023 RCM*

Barb shared that there was a planning meeting to discuss the 2023 online RCM. The planning team consists of Barb, Peter, Diane and Susan; it was decided since this was a smaller, online meeting that a full planning team was not needed. Agenda includes the remit vote, proposals (if any), approval of the 2024 Draft Budget, Nominations and the installation of the new Chair, Nancy Ferguson.

The Support to Communities of Faith Commission will host the opening worship, while the Pastoral Relations Commission will host the closing worship. The decision was made to hold off on workshops, presentations, celebrations, retirements, church closures, etc. until the May 2024 in-person meeting. Susan is waiting for confirmation from St. Peter's UC in Sudbury to be the site for the installation of the Chair portion of the meeting.

There will also be an opportunity for Communities of Faith to have time to share what is going on at their churches.

- *Updates for 2024 RCM*

Kathie reported on expressions of interest for the 2024 Planning Team, noting that we have the following members of the team:

- Kathie Smith – Chair
- Mardi Mumford – Member
- Ryan Fea – Member
- Helen Smith – Member

- *Music Matters 2024 and our RCM Date*

Susan shared that Music Matters 2024 is occurring in Thunder Bay on the same weekend as our RCM. There are exciting plans in the works to do some joint events during our meeting time and their event time; more details to come.

GROWTH ANIMATOR POSITION

Jim Jackson shared information about our new Growth Animator, Calin Lau, who will be shared between CSRC and SWRC, and will be starting in the position in January 2024.

EXECUTIVE MINISTER'S REPORT

Executive received the Executive Minister Report, for information (attached as Appendix A).

NEW BUSINESS

Pastoral Relations Request

John shared that there is a request from the PRC re: ministers requesting financial support in our region. John proposed the creation of a benevolent fund for ministry personnel, to be administered by the Pastoral Relations Minister and the Chair of the Commission, funded at \$2,000 annually. The team agreed with Peter's suggestion that this fund could come from the existing special funds supporting ministers. Bill expressed concern about the limited amount, suggesting a higher funding of \$5,000 would be more reasonable and the Pastoral Relations Commission will set up the criteria for the fund.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Kathie Smith CS Exec 2023-10-12-12
That the CSRC Executive authorize the Pastoral Relations Commission to withdraw up to \$5,000 annually from the Health, Joy and Excellence Fund for Ministry Personnel in need of financial support, with the Pastoral Relations Commission to assess, and administer case by case.
CARRIED

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- November 2, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- December 7, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. viz Zoom

CLOSING

Barb adjourned the meeting at 3:34 p.m. and Peter ended with a prayer.

Executive Minister Report October 2023

Happy Fall!!! I am grateful to return from sick leave and continue to recover. I am currently on graduated return to work and hope to return full-time by the end of October. I deeply appreciate the time the United Church provided for recovery and in particular the support of Jody and Susan Whitehead, along with the entire staff of CSRC and SWRC who provided key support in my absence. I am grateful to be back.

The Joint Regional Councils Executives Ad Hoc Committee for the CSRC and SWRC met on May 2, 2023. The group included Chair Barb and President David and Chair-Elect Nancy and President-Elect Tina. The conversation focused on our relationship between Regional Councils, planning between Regional Councils and a discussion about the 2025 Festival of Faith event. A gathering of both Executives was planned for fall 2023, but needed to be postponed and we will need to discuss rescheduling.

Festival of Faith 2023 and 2025:

The 2023 Festival of Faith went well and I am grateful for the hard work of both volunteers and staff who supported the event. In particular, I am grateful to Rev. Rob Smith who planted the seed for the festival of faith initially! We gained many learnings from our first gathering and participants shared they were grateful to gather together to worship, laugh, learn and grow in faith. One key concern was the size of the facility and mobility issues.

The Festival of Faith in 2025 is planned for June 13-15, 2025. Currently the nominations committee has asked for expressions of interest from both Regional Councils and we are focusing on Sudbury as the venue location. The Moderator will attend the Festival of Faith 2025! Rob Smith will provide key leadership for this event.

UPCOMING MODERATOR'S FOURISH VISITS, hosted by the Moderator:

As previously mentioned, the CS Moderator's Flourish visit will be May 1- 4, 2024.

2023 Regional Meeting November

Budget: Janet continues planning for the 2024 budget and planning for the online Regional meeting continues.

Staffing:

Jeffery Dale:

We said goodbye to Jeffery Dale who accepted a Call to Port Elgin United Church. I want to express deep appreciation for Jeffery's ministry within Shining Waters Regional Council and Canadian Shield Regional Council. In my absence, Diane and Jody have been working towards replacing Jeffery's position who will provide key leadership support around Youth Ministry and Faith Formation in CSRC and Justice ministry, Youth Leadership and Faith Formation in SWRC.

Staff lead, CSRC:

As part of our transition to a more integrated staff, I have asked Diane Matheson-Jimenez to enter the role of Staff Lead for the Canadian Shield Regional Council. This would be a similar role to Jody Maltby in Shining Waters Regional Council. The Staff Lead role partners with the Executive Minister around coordination, partnership and key leadership. In particular, Diane will focus on coordinating

administrative staff, especially at events like the Regional Meeting and the Festival of Faith. Diane would also be in the position to provide key leadership in my absence.

Pastoral Relations Minister: Currently Dale Hildebrand has indicated that he will be retiring by the end of 2023. Dale serves as Pastoral Relations Minister for Shining Waters Regional Council. As part of our staff partnership with Shining Waters Regional Council, Rob Smith will begin to more formally partner with Shining Waters Regional Council focusing on Pastoral Relations work, in partnership with Todd Smith and Eun-Joo Park. Rob will continue to serve as CSRC Pastoral Relations minister.

Melody Duncanson-Hales: Melody continues to serve CSRC as Congregational Support Minister part-time and also supports the CSRC and SWRC part-time through the General Council Philanthropy Unit. This summer, at the request of the Philanthropy Unit, Melody's role shifted from 60/40 in CS&SW/General Council Office to 50/50 CS&SW/GCO. The shift reflects a shift in work within both CSRC and SWRC with greater demand for her work around stewardship development in both Regional Councils. GCO requested the financial shift to reflect the practical shift in work supporting congregations through stewardship support.