

**MINUTES** of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on May 30, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

**PRESENT:** Nancy Ferguson (Chair), Bill Jones (Chair-Elect), Stewart Walker, Jim Jackson, Mastard Sakala, Susan Peverley, Laurie Stevenson, Lionel Ketola

**STAFF:** Peter Hartmans, Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Susan Whitehead

**GUEST:** Gord Roberts

**REGRETS:** Bill Steadman, Susan Lindquist, David LeGrand

Chair Nancy welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

Nancy honoured the traditional lands upon which we meet and then spoke about the CSRC being a safe space.

Peter opened the meeting with worship reading from one of his favourite passages, Philippians 4:4-9 and ended in prayer.

#### **INTRODUCTION AND CHECK-IN**

Executive has a new composition and members introduced themselves and did a check-in.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Mastard Sakala                      CS Exec 2024-05-30-01**  
**That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as circulated.**  
**CARRIED**

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION by Stewart Walker/Jim Jackson                      CS Exec 2024-05-30-02**  
**That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council**  
**Executive held on April 25, 2024 be approved, as circulated.**  
**CARRIED**

#### **RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS**

Peter shared that he is always amazed at the volume of work that the Commissions do and is grateful for their time.

**MOTION by Stewart Walker/Peter Hartmans                      CS Exec 2024-05-30-03**  
**That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from March**  
**26, 2024 and the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission**  
**from March 26, 2024 and April 23, 2024 be received, for information.**  
**CARRIED**

#### **CORRESPONDENCE**

*Email from Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa re: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UCC*

Peter discussed the letter from Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa re: the 100th Anniversary. The GCO is offering Regional Councils \$2,000 for a way to participate as we see fit in the 100th Anniversary celebrations. He wondered if we would be interested in pooling this money with SWRC and use it for the Festival of Faith celebration, which happens on the actual weekend of the 100th.

Nancy will represent the CSRC at the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary kickoff service on May 9, 2024 at Metropolitan UC in Toronto.

Executive has decided to refer this discussion to the fall of 2024. Celio will take the lead on helping to create the video.

#### *Retirement email from Todd McDonald – SWRC Staff*

Executive received this letter from Todd McDonald regarding his retirement in 2025.

### **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

Nancy pointed out that in the last minutes the decision was made to have a fall online RCM to elect GC45 Commissioners. The date will be chosen by the Nominations Committee at their June meeting and Bill Jones will report back to Executive with a date.

### **2024 REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING (RCM) RECAP**

Executive members shared their impressions of the meeting and gave suggestions on improvements:

- Great meeting and good to see everyone in-person;
- Table group facilitators were not clearly denoted – would have been better if they had time to introduce themselves and discuss what their role is;
- Sound and lighting were excellent; music leadership was adequate but there were moments where you couldn't hear them at the front;
- Rarely knew there was an online presence; might have been good to have another screen at the front of the room with just the online people there all the time during the meeting;
- In-person voting seemed cumbersome;
- Someone with hearing loss will be totally lost at table group discussion time; hard to hear everyone talking;
- It might be helpful to have a laptop set up somewhere in the meeting and invite people on site to jump into the zoom meeting to say hello;
- Many comments about how well Chaired the meeting was;
- Sometimes the font size of the hymns and slides were hard to see; the presiding table needs their own monitor;
- For the most part, evaluations expressed a relaxed and positive experience.

### **HONORARIA POLICY FOR VOLUNTEERS/GUEST TO RC EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

Nancy shared that the question has arisen about honoraria for volunteers or guests to the RCM and it was discovered that the CSRC does not have a policy around this. It was suggested that it be referred to the Finance Resource Team for consideration and for them to bring back a recommendation. Executive discussed what an honorarium means – is it a gift or is it money for services rendered? If we pay their travel costs, that's not an honorarium, per se, it is just covering their expenses.

**There was consensus that Peter will ask Kathie Smith and Helen Smith (as they were part of the Planning Team and Local Arrangements for this RCM) for their input on honoraria for guests and volunteers. Peter will work with them to draft a policy and will then forward that to the Finance RT.**

### **PROPERTY COMMISSION**

- Proposed Policy Changes
- Proposed Governance Document Changes

Jim Jackson shared that the Support to Communities of Faith Commission (SCoFC) received Executive's motion below and worked diligently on creating the definition, duties and responsibilities for the Commission Chair and Members. They also amended the Property Policies and Procedures Manual to reflect the new Commission and bringing it up-to-date.

*MOTION by Helen Smith/Stewart Walker*

*CS Exec 2025-04-25-06*

*That the CSRC Executive authorizes the establishment of a Property Commission, effective April 25, 2024, and that the current Property Resource Team to be transitioned into that role, with the terms of reference to be approved at the next Executive meeting on May 30, 2024.*

*CARRIED*

The task group in charge of this work (consisting of Jim Jackson, Gord Roberts, Susan Peverley, Bill Jones and Diane Matheson-Jimenez) endeavored to distinguish between which are related to temporal, practical property matters – which would remain with the Property Commission - and ones which are related to spiritual matters – which would remain with the SCoFC.

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Jones**

**CS Exec 2025-05-30-04**

**That the CSRC Executive approve the Property Commission Chair and Member Job Descriptions, Terms of Reference, and the Property Commission addition to the Property Policy and Procedures document.**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION by Bill Jones/Susan Peverley**

**CS Exec 2025-05-30-05**

**That a member of the Property Commission sit on the CSRC Executive and that the Property Commission Minutes be submitted to Executive, for information.**

**CARRIED**

### **GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT REVIEW TEAM**

Executive discussed the Governance Review Team and added new members as we have lost some over the years. This team will review the current Governance Document and update it.

**MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Lionel Ketola**

**CS EXEC 2025-05-30-06**

**That the CSRC Executive create a Governance Document Review Team to include Barb Nott, Bill Steadman, John Watson, Jim Jackson, Susan Whitehead and one other member to be added by the Chair of Executive.**

**CARRIED**

### **CSRC LOGO POLICY**

Regional council staff received a letter from Trinity UC in Capreol wanting to use our RC logo on their signage and there was a question about a policy around this.

**There was consensus that Peter and Susan would draft a policy for the use of the CSRC logo and report back at the September 5, 2024 meeting.**

### **CAMPING UPDATE**

Diane gave an update on issues concerning the two camps within the Canadian Shield Regional Council: Camp Duncan, facing complications from an unauthorized property sale, and Camp McDougall, struggling with financial and compliance challenges. The team made plans to draft policies and seek support for Camp McDougall, while also considering the allocation of remaining Mission Support Fund grants.

### **CSRC SUB-EXECUTIVE**

The CSRC has not had an active sub-Executive since the inception of the region. As Covid hit and doing business online became the norm, using e-votes has been very effective and we have not needed a sub-Executive. The decision was made to add this to the agenda for September for a more fulsome discussion.

### **GCE SUMMARY MAY 2024**

The General Council Executive Summary was distributed to Executive with the Agenda Package. There were no questions about the report.

### **EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (APPENDIX A)**

Peter gave his verbal update on his health situation and the Executive Ministers Report. He also shared that we are making progress with meeting with Huntington University; Peter will report back at the September meeting of Executive.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

*Spring 2025 CS Online RCM Date*

Executive discussed possible dates for the 2025 CS RCM, which will be online.

**MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Lionel Ketola            CS EXEC 2025-05-30-07**  
**That the 2025 Canadian Shield Online Regional Council Meeting be**  
**on Saturday, May 3, 2025.**  
**CARRIED**

### **NEXT MEETING DATES:**

- September 5, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

### **CLOSING**

Nancy gave a closing prayer and adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

**APPENDIX A**  
**Executive Ministers Report**  
**May 2024**

**RCM:**

I am so very grateful for the local arrangements and planning team for a successful and well-planned Regional Council Meeting (RCM). I am also very grateful for our staff and guests who played a key role organizing and providing leadership for the meeting. Most of all, I am grateful for Chair Nancy and Susan Whitehead, who sat at the head table and provided excellent leadership.

**GC45:**

General Council 45 will take place in Calgary in 2025. The Nominations Committee is considering Commissioners and we will be able to elect 9 Commissioners.

**Festival of Faith:**

Planning continues for our Festival of Faith in 2025. Hotel space has been booked and the planning team is been working on securing speakers and preparing a draft agenda for the Festival of Faith. The Moderator hopes to attend and provide a flourishing event, in advance of the FoF gathering on June 12, 2025.

**100th Anniversary Kick off - June 9, 2024 from 4p.m.-6 p.m.:**

Consider joining the UCC kick off celebration online via YouTube or in-person at Metropolitan United Church, Toronto, on June 9, 2024. Chair Rev. Nancy Ferguson, will attend the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary kick-off service following her attendance at Shining Waters RCM June 7-8, 2024.

**Staffing Update:**

Following the RCM, Shawn Redden (the new Faith Formation Minister) went on a road trip across the region, connecting with various groups, clergy etc. as a way of getting to know the CSRC.

**News from Shining Waters Regional Council:**

Todd MacDonald announced his retirement as of July 31, 2025. Glad we have one more year but both Regional Councils have benefited from his experience and advice as Rob Smith and others joined our team.

**Huntington University:**

We have made progress with Huntington University! We are in the process of scheduling a zoom connection. Huntington also invited me to their spring Convocation on Tuesday May 21, Science North Cavern. Barb Nott attended in my place and was also invited to attend via her own invitation. Barb agreed to wave the CSRC and United Church of Canada flag at Convocation.

**Executive Minister Health Update:**

As I write today, my surgery (a Cerebral Angiogram) is scheduled for Thursday May 23. I have taken Friday May 24 off as a recovery day.