

**MINUTES** of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on March 6, 2025 at 12:30 p.m. online via Zoom.

**PRESENT:** Nancy Ferguson (Chair), Susan Lindquist, Bill Steadman, Stewart Walker, Jim Jackson, Lionel Ketola, Susan Peverley, Bill Jones, David LeGrand, Gord Roberts, Laurie Stevenson

**STAFF:** Peter Hartmans, Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Kathleen Jones, Jody Maltby

**ABSENT:** Susan Whitehead

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.

As a lot of people are thinking about the beginning of Lent and the trade war with the USA, Peter shared something Melody Duncanson Hales had written in at beginning of Lent in February 2022, about the time when the pandemic hit. Peter then opened the meeting with prayer.

#### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Items added to the agenda include the thank you letter from Living Skies Regional Council under Correspondence, and a Nominations Committee request under New Business.

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Lionel Ketola                      CS EXEC 2025-03-06-01**  
**That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.**  
**CARRIED**

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

There was an error noted in the February 6, 2025 Executive Draft Minutes – motion #11 was not added and consequently, this set of Minutes will not be approved. Susan will correct this error and both the February 6, 2025 Draft Executive Minutes and the March 6, 2025 Draft Executive Minutes will be up for approval at the April 3, 2025 Executive meeting.

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

**MOTION by Dave LeGrand/Susan Peverley                      CS EXEC 2025-03-06-03**  
**That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission**  
**from November 20, 2024 and December 4, 2024 be received, for information.**  
**CARRIED**

#### **OMNIBUS MOTION: INCORPORATED MINISTRIES**

**MOTION by Bill Jones/Peter Hartmans                      CS Exec 2025-03-06-04**  
**That the Canadian Shield Regional Council (6) Executive take the following**  
**action(s):**

a)        **Camp McDougall Inc.**

**... based on the guidance received from General Council Staff, pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve**

**Bylaw No. 1 as approved by the members on October 8, 2024 of the incorporated ministry known as Camp McDougall Inc.**

**... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the Camp McDougall Inc. 2024-2025 Board of Directors**

**Sherrill Dewar  
Rayna Evoy  
Sylvia Hanniman  
Debbie Kirby  
Mary A. Laundrie  
Amy Lawson  
Brian Lawson  
Anita Mitchell  
Steven Mullins  
Nick Sinclair  
Lauren Towell  
Eric Verbonac**

**These are based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of October 8, 2024, the 2024 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.**

**This is the first annual meeting held since 2021. Board members, Regional Council and General Council staff have spent many hours getting this camp up to date with the IM and Duty of Care Policies of The United Church of Canada. Camp McDougall is now in compliance.**

**b) Thunder Bay United Church Camps, Incorporated o/a Camp Duncan**

**... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the Thunder Bay United Church Camps, Incorporated 2025-2026 Board of Directors**

**James E. Bidnall  
A. Ernest Epp  
Dave Hammond  
Linda Hammond  
Gerhardt F. Jansekovich  
Lori Jansekovich  
Shane Judge  
Steve Kranyak  
Ross McCubbin  
Ken Moffatt  
Kathy Neill  
Richard Paterson  
David White**

**This is based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of February 16, 2025, the 2025 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.**

**N.B. Information - ONCA deadline for by-laws has passed and updated by-laws have been received by all incorporated ministries. Thunder Bay United Church Camps, Incorporated (Camp Duncan) is working on its by-laws but they were not ready for the Annual Meeting.**

**CARRIED**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

*Email from Ricci Family re: LSRC Investigation*

Executive discussed the response received from the Plaintiff's family and Peter stated that he shared the learnings from the investigation with the Office of Vocation with the intent to help inform the church with guidelines regarding a potential employee's gifts and skills as a leader within the church.

Peter thanked Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Stewart Walker, and the Executive for their work on this issue.

*Letter from SJNORC*

A letter was received from the Social Justice Network of Ontario Regions, a body that was created to offer one voice of the Ontario regional councils around issues of justice and often time, political issues.

**MOTION by Lionel Ketola / Susan Lindquist** **CS EXEC 2025-03-06-04**

**That the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request for \$1,000 in support of SJNORC for the 2025 year.**

**CARRIED**

## **GC45 PROPOSAL: A CALL FOR FULL INCLUSION AND PASTORAL SUPPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS ACCESSING MAID UNDER TRACK TWO**

Executive received and reviewed the GC45 proposal entitled, "A Call for Full Inclusion and Pastoral Support for Individuals Accessing MAID under Track Two."

**MOTION by Dave LeGrand / Bill Steadman** **CS EXEC 2025-03-06-05**

**That the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council forward the proposal "A Call for Full Inclusion and Pastoral Support for Individuals Accessing MAID Under Tract Two" to the General Council, with concurrence.**

**CARRIED**

**1 Abstention – Lionel Ketola**

## **INTERIM INTERNAL REPORT OF TOWARDS 2035 DISCUSSION**

Peter shared a PowerPoint presentation from the GCO on Toward 2035 with Executive. After the presentation, it was decided that Peter would report back to the April Executive meeting with more details after an upcoming meeting with the GCO regarding Towards 2035.

## **2025 ONLINE CSRC RCM UPDATE**

There will be a continuation of the theme "Upon This Rock" for the 2025 CS Regional Council Meeting (RCM) as a two-year theme. Agenda planning is going ahead and there will be more details at the April Executive meeting.

## **POSSIBLE CATEGORIES FOR RC FEEDBACK**

Nancy shared that Diane has recognized 10 connecting points of feedback that were identified across the region. Under each of those 10 categories, there are a few questions listed that arose from those shared connectors. The next step in this process would be to look at the 10 connecting points as a regional Executive and discern which group, either a Commission or a staff person, can go back to that category and questions and brainstorm ideas to bring back to the next Executive meeting. Executive discussed the 10 connecting points and which group would be responsible for them:

1. **Communications and Tech (hybrid)** – Staff (Donna and Celio) and SCoFC
2. **Hybrid Connections** – Dave LeGrand (MILC, St. James ITV) and SCoFC
3. **Connection Between Regional Council and Communities of Faith** – Commission Connections Group and Regional Reps
4. **Connecting Ministry Personnel** – Health, Joy and Excellence Team
5. **Connecting Lay Leaders** – LLWL Resource and Support Team and SCoFC
6. **Fostering Ecumenism** – PRC
7. **Pastoral Charge Supervision** – PRC
8. **Relationship to Shining Waters Regional Council/General Council Office** – Executive
9. **Theology of Space and Place** – PC, Commission Connections
10. **Networks and Clusters** – SCoFC and MILC

This list will be distributed to each group above with the intent that the groups will take time to discuss at their next meeting and report back to Executive at the June meeting.

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

Peter shared his report with Executive.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### *CS Nominations Committee Request*

Bill Jones shared that with Fraser Williamson moving from an alternate GC45 Commissioner to the actual Commissioner position after someone stepped down, we now have no alternates. Bill is asking Executive to tap people they know to become alternates, both Lay and Ministry Personnel. Dave LeGrand offered to put his name forward.

## **NEXT MEETING DATES:**

- Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- Thursday, May 1, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- **2025 Online Regional Council Meeting** - Saturday, May 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom
- Thursday, June 5, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

## **CLOSING**

Nancy read a blessing from a book by Janet Richardson entitled, "Where the Breath Begins," then gave a closing prayer and adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

**APPENDIX A**  
**Executive Ministers Report**  
**March 2025**

**GC 45**

Major preparation continues for General Council 45 starting in the new year, with an in-person meeting August 7-12, 2025. The regional council offered an orientation time for GC45 Commissioners January 21, 2025. The Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Council Commissioners were briefed on upcoming meetings and the work of General Council 45. For the second half of the meeting, the two regions separated into two regional groups to connect locally. Youth Forum is also in the late planning stages and will send a number of youth to General Council 45 in Calgary.

**100th Anniversary June 8<sup>th</sup> 2025**

The June 2025 UCC 100<sup>th</sup> celebration will take place on Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup> in Newfoundland. We have been invited to consider how we use the \$2,000 grant for the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration. Executive Ministers have been invited to attend the service in-person. We have also been invited to produce a one-minute video.

With the recent decision of the Regional Council Executive to promote Regional gatherings to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of The United Church of Canada, a motion regarding granting \$100 to each community of Faith was forwarded to the Grants team and community of faith Ministers, Diane and Melody.

*MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Jim Jackson*

*CS EXEC 2025-02-06-16*

*That the Executive of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of the Grants Resource Team to top up the \$2,000 from The United Church of Canada (UCC) to provide \$100 to each communities of faith to acknowledge the 100th Anniversary of the UCC and the Grants Resource Team will organize the distribution.*

*CARRIED*

**Festival of Faith**

Planning continues for our CSRC and SWRC Festival of Faith in 2025. Hotel space has been booked and the planning team is been working preparing a draft agenda. John Bell will be providing key leadership for the Festival of Faith! He is a Scottish hymn-writer and Church of Scotland minister. He is a member of the Iona Community, a broadcaster, and former student activist. He works throughout the world, lecturing in theological colleges in the UK, Canada and the United States, but is primarily concerned with the renewal of congregational worship at the grass-roots level. The festival will also include a number of workshops and key leadership from within the United Church too. Registration for the Festival of Faith will begin the first week of March. The Moderator also hopes to attend the FoF and will provide some workshops.

**Huntington University**

We have made some progress with Huntington University. They reached out in the New Year and we are in the process of scheduling an in-person or zoom meeting with President Kevin. I would like to add to the April Executive meeting a conversation around

how we could expand or improve our relationship with Huntington University, as prioritize we ministry to Youth and Young adults in our UCC 2035 vision.

