

Regular Meeting of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington
Westminster-St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Guelph, Ontario
January 14, 2020, 7PM

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington met for its regular meeting at Westminster-St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Waterloo, on Tuesday, January 14, 2020.

Worship was led by the Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst of Westminster-St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Guelph.

Opening Prayer and Constitution of the Court: Mr. Gib McIlwrath, moderator, constituted the Presbytery.

Attendance:

Ministers

Rev. Brooke Ashfield, Rev. Linda Ashfield, Rev. John Borthwick, Rev. Peter Bush, Rev. Bill Bynum, Rev. Ed Charlton, Rev. Hugh Donnelly, Rev. Herb Gale, Rev. Mark Gaskin, Rev. Scott McAndless, Rev. Kathy Morden, Rev. Kristine O'Brien, Rev. Nick Pavel, Rev. Mark Richardson, Rev. Scott Sinclair, Rev. Greg Smith, Rev. Glen Soderholm, Rev. Jane Swatridge, Rev. Frank Szatmari, Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst

Rep. Elders:

Lenore Arbuckle, Joanne Baxter, William Cassels, Janet DeGroot, Les Ferrier, George Forsyth, Andrew Foster, Pauline Hall, Henry Heidinga, Marion Hunter, Alan Israel, Frank Kivell, Wener Kuemmling, Daewon Lee, Walter MacNeil, Peggy Lennox, Janet MacDowell, David Mallet, Gib McIlwrath, Vern Platt, Ross Rowat, Sue Senior, Bonnie Street

Alt. Rep. Elders:

John Baxter, Peter DeVries, Erik Kabbes, Alistair McIlwraith, Robert Renton, Vaughan Sauve

Students:

Diane Boyd

Treasurer:

George Myers

Appendix:

Rev. Linda Bell, Rev. Arnold Bethune, Rev. Darrell Clarke, Rev. George Robertson

Regrets:

Ministers

Rev. Aubrey Botha, Rev. Susan Clarke, Rev. Alex Macleod, Rev. Johan Olivier,

Rep. Elders

Lydia Maitland

Appendix:

Rev. Wendy Paterson, Rev. Angus Sutherland

Welcome and Introductions

Visitors: Bev Brown introduced by Marion Hunter

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Guests from Rockwood Presbyterian Church, including Marion Hunter, Clerk of Session, were present and introduced.

Moved by Karla Wubbenhorst/Ed Charlton that members of Rockwood Presbyterian church be invited to sit and correspond. Carried

Moved by Ed Charlton/Scott McAndless that the agenda be adopted as presented. Carried

Moved by Janet MacDowell/Linda Ashfield that the minutes of the November 12, 2019 Regular Meeting and Nov. 24th and Dec 15th Emergent Meeting be adopted as presented. Carried

At the stated hour of 7:45 PM the Call to the Diane Boyd from the congregation of Rockwood Presbyterian Church, Rockwood, was presented to the Presbytery.

A Call to Diane Boyd from the Congregation of Rockwood Presbyterian Church.

We, the professing members of Rockwood Presbyterian Church, Rockwood Ontario being well satisfied with your faithfulness to the Gospel and your qualifications for the ministry of Word and Sacraments and confident that the Holy Spirit has led us to you, earnestly and solemnly call you, Diane Boyd, to become the minister of this congregation, at 50% time. In calling you we promise you all due respect, encouragement, and allegiance in the Lord as, together, we seek to use our gifts in the church and in the world to the glory of God.

The clerk of Presbytery, reviewed the terms of the call and guarantee of stipend to be in the proper form.

In order that you, Diane Boyd, may be free to devote yourself to ministry of Word and Sacraments among us we, the congregation of Rockwood Presbyterian Church, Rockwood, Ontario, hereby guarantee to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington, of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, that out of our estimated annual revenue of fifty-four thousand, two hundred and fifty-nine dollars, we promise and obligate ourselves to provide you, as a first charge thereon, the following annually:

Stipend -	\$19,777.00 (inclusive of travel)
Housing Allowance -	\$8,597.94 (inclusive of utilities)
Total -	\$28, 374.94

We agree to make payments of the above amounts on the first day of each month and agree to review the stipend and allowances annually in view of any changes in the cost of living or the needs of our minister.

We agree further

1. To provide two weeks for continuing education annually and \$300 annually as a continuing education allowance.
2. That the benefits of number 1 above shall be cumulative up to five years.
3. To provide five weeks holiday annually, which shall be used in the year they are given.
4. To pay supply during the periods of continuing education and holidays.
5. To provide \$110 annually as a book or IT allowance.

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6. To promote the practice of intermission, a self-funded 10-week furlough to be taken every five years for the purposes of spiritual renewal, engagement in mission, or other salutary endeavour, subject to approval by the Presbytery.
7. In case of disability or extended illness, to continue to provide stipend, accommodation and allowances for a period not less than that set by the General Assembly, and to pay the cost of pulpit supply.
8. To pay for Medical and Dental Insurance as provided through the Pension and Benefits Board of the General Assembly¹ and to make contributions to the Pension Plan in compliance with the terms of the plan.
9. To enrol in the denomination's Group Insurance Plan and to offset the mandatory deduction of this premium from the minister's stipend by topping up the stipend to cover what the plan member must pay.
10. To pay any necessary moving expenses.

Karla Wubbenhorst provided the Presbytery with the Narration of the Steps Leading to the Gospel Call of Diane Boyd.

NARRATION OF STEPS and REASONS FOR TRANSLATION

- 1) The Presbytery meeting of January 9, 2018 approved the offer of appointment to the Rev. Amanda Bisson from the congregation of Knox Presbyterian Church, Goderich, which led to her resignation from the congregations of Rockwood and Eden Mills, effective February 28, 2018. The same Presbytery meeting of January 9, 2018 appointed the Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst interim moderator of the sessions of Eden Mills and Rockwood, effective February 12, 2018. An exit interview was conducted January 31, 2018 with the Rev. A. Bisson and the pulpits were preached vacant on Sunday March 4, 2018.
- 2) Early in the vacancy the Session of Eden Mills expressed doubts that it would be financially able to enter into another call on the historic 50/50 cost-sharing basis with Rockwood. A congregational questionnaire circulated June 19, 2018 and a congregational meeting held at Eden Mills June 25, confirmed that it was not the will of the Eden Mills congregation to enter into another Call with Rockwood, knowing that within a 2-5 year timeframe the congregation would be unable to meet its commitments toward the guarantee of stipend. The congregational questionnaire of June 19, and a follow-up one circulated August 13, confirmed that the thinking of Eden Mills toward its future was for amalgamation, but not with Rockwood. Receiving this news in a joint session meeting held June 28, the Rockwood Session was left to consider the future of Rockwood independently of Eden Mills.
- 3) In a congregational meeting held September 10, 2018, the Rockwood congregation resolved that its first choice would be to find another congregation to take up Eden Mills' role in the two-point charge. Accordingly the Rockwood Session made enquiries with 4 other local-area Sessions during the Fall of 2018. The Presbytery was apprised of these developments and it passed a motion at its regular meeting November 13, 2018 "that the Rockwood and Eden Mills Sessions be encouraged to continue their discussion with other local-area Sessions concerning amalgamation or partnership in a new configuration of the pastoral charge."
- 4) When Rockwood's search for another congregational partner to take up Eden Mills' role in the two-point charge failed to bear fruit, the session of Rockwood called another congregational meeting for December 17, 2018. At this meeting the congregation voted to seek Presbytery's permission to let it advertise for a half-time minister as a single-point charge. The Presbytery, at its meeting of January 8, 2019, approved a motion "that the congregation of Rockwood be granted permission to prepare a profile and begin advertising for a call at 50% time, as a single-point charge." In discussion of this motion, the Rev. K. Wubbenhorst explained that

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Rockwood and Eden Mills desired to benefit from the economies and stability of continuing to operate as they had done (ie. as a two-point charge) until such time as Rockwood was ready to enter into a Call. Then Presbytery would be requested to dissolve the tie between the points.

5) Notwithstanding this irregular situation in which an interim moderator is assigned to a two-point charge only to discover that the two congregations are discerning a future in separation from one another, with only one of the congregations able to proceed to a Call, once there was congregational resolution and Presbytery permission to move toward a Call, the actual search at Rockwood proceeded straightforwardly. Session struck a search committee which met for the first time on January 27, 2019. By the middle of March, the committee had completed the congregational self-assessment and had shown a draft of the profile to the Session. Within its acknowledged limitations (being able only to offer a half time position at minimum stipend), Rockwood hoped to attract a minister who would be committed to the congregation and community, who would lead spiritually-nourishing, Christ-centred worship and small group Bible study in clear and audible speech, who would help the church to grow and to reach into the community and across the generational divide with gospel hope and godly love, who would build on the strengths already present in the congregation of member-to-member pastoral care and of active social mission, and who would possess the interpersonal and leadership skills necessary to keep the congregation's sometimes forceful personalities marching to the same beat, rather than murmuring amongst themselves. The profile was completed, placed with Ministry and Church Vocations, and the position advertised on the PCC website and in the Connections newspaper as of May 9, 2019.

6) From May 10 to May 28, 2019 the vacancy received six expressions of interest, three of which resulted in viable applications from eligible candidates (the first wave). Throughout June, July and August, while it was going out to hear these three lead in worship, the search committee received a further two eligible applications (the second wave). In all, the search committee auditioned five applicants and interviewed two: Diane Boyd (who was a first wave applicant) on August 31 and another serious contender (whose application arrived in the second wave) on September 23. Meeting after the second interview, the search committee discerned impressive strengths in both the candidates it had seen, and felt that it would be possible to make a good selection between them, but it had one candidate still to hear, and wanted to keep the door open in case God would send conviction that this "last" should be "first." In the end, at their meeting of November 4th, the search committee moved to recommend Diane to the session as the candidate who should preach for the Call.

7) Diane impressed the committee members with her sense of energy generally and her urgency for mission. They believe she will be a hard-worker and that her skills of organization and direct communication will stand her in good stead. In observing her at coffee hour after the worship they attended, and in the interview, she displayed an emotional intelligence and appropriateness of response when relating both to very young children and to seniors that was winsome. Her voice is well-pitched for carrying, and her participation in school and community sports would seem to provide a natural point-of-contact with people in the wider community of Rockwood (a community that values its sports and recreation) and with people of a younger generation. Diane is undoubtedly centred in her faith. Although she may have to adjust culturally to a family-sized congregation where the minister is looked to to have a hand in everything vs. the program-sized churches which she has chosen as a worshipper, her ministry experience has been with a wide range of congregational types, from traditional to contemporary, from program-sized to very small. Like the relationship of Anne and Gilbert, Diane was "the one who had been there from the beginning." With commitment to the local area, family ties to the congregation of Rockwood, a proven track-record of all the skills and experience to fit her for the work of ministry, and a solid demonstration of preaching and interpersonal abilities in worship leadership and in the interview, the search committee is confident that Diane is well-matched for co-ministry with the congregation of Rockwood, to the glory of God, and to the blessing of this church as it moves into its next chapter.

8) At its meeting on November 6, 2019 the session of Rockwood, on recommendation from the search committee, moved to invite Diane Boyd to preach for the Call as sole nominee on December 1, 2019, or on a Darrell Clarke, Clerk – clerkwatwell@gmail.com

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date to be determined after the action of Presbytery to separate the two points of the pastoral charge. The interim moderator communicated to the Congregational Affairs committee convener and to the Presbytery clerk that this was the state-of-play in the Rockwood Session, and that the Session hoped (provided the congregation upheld its recommendation to Call Diane Boyd after hearing her preach), to have her start-date set for January 1, 2020. Being aware that the severing of the points in the charge would have to be completed prior to the congregational meeting to moderate in the Call, she sought advice of the Congregational Affairs committee convener, and the Business Committee — which in turn consulted the Clerks of Assembly — as to the most expeditious way to complete the sequence of steps that would need to occur.

9) In the end, the date which was fixed upon for Diane to preach for the Call was December 22, 2019 enabling a potential examination of the Call by the Presbytery at its regular meeting January 14, 2020, and a potential start-date of January 15, 2020. This was to allow for congregational meetings to be held, (Eden Mills' under the moderation of a new interim moderator, appointed in recognition that the severing of the points marks a new departure in the story of Eden Mills) in which each congregation formally expressed to the Presbytery, by way of an extract minute, its will to be severed from the other. As separation was the presupposition of the journey the congregations had each been undergoing since June of 2018, the motions were uncontroversial, as was the Presbytery motion which formalized the dissolution of the two-point charge, adopted at an emergent meeting of Presbytery, held December 15, 2019.

10) On December 22, Diane Boyd, who was certified for ordination by the Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington at its meeting of May 9, 2017, preached for the Call at Rockwood. A goodly attendance of 24 professing members and 6 adherents attended the meeting following the worship. The clerk of Session, Marion Hunter, read the Presbytery clerk's letter which advised the congregation of the Presbytery's action in severing the two points of the charge. The Rev. K. Wubbenhorst moderated the congregational meeting according to section 214 of the Book of Forms. The congregation heard representatives from the search committee and session speak in favour of the Diane Boyd as the nominee whose name should be inserted in the Call, and heard the guarantee of stipend as prepared by the Board and endorsed by the Session. In a vote by secret ballot, the congregation voted unanimously to extend the Call to Diane Boyd.

11) The Call has subsequently been subscribed by 36 out of a possible 38 professing members of Rockwood Presbyterian Church, 28 signing the Call themselves, and 8 asking that their elder sign the Call for them. This represents 95% support. The two members who were contacted and declined to sign the Call, did not do so because of any objection to Diane, but because they are uncertain of their own future with Rockwood Presbyterian Church. A further 8 adherents of the congregation have signed their concurrence to the Call. By their own persuasion and by the movement of the Lord through the due processes of the Church, the search committee, session and congregation of Rockwood Presbyterian Church believe this to be a Call from God upon the life of the Diane Boyd. They beseech the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington to duly examine it and to sustain it as a regular gospel Call, placing it into the hands of Diane Boyd at its regular meeting of January 14, 2020.

INITIAL MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING RE: USE OF PART-TIME HOURS

While not a traditional or mandatory part of the Call document, the *Calling a Minister* policy handbook issues the following exhortation on p. 68: "Presbyteries considering calls or appointments to part-time ministries are cautioned to ensure that the congregation has developed specific terms of the call or appointment, including stipend and allowances, responsibilities and hours to be worked weekly. The clear definition of the mutual expectations of the congregation and the part-time professional church worker can greatly undergird good working relationships (A&P, 1991, p.344 and 1992, p. 396)."

Accordingly, Diane has proposed and the Rockwood session has accepted, the following as an initial

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memorandum of understanding, as to responsibilities and hours to be worked weekly:

15 hours for sermon/service preparation and Sunday delivery

1 hour for communication (emails etc)

6.5 hours for meetings, Bible studies, and visits.

This is a total of 22.5 hours

It is understood that as an inductee to her first pastoral charge, and as a congregation which is new to having a part-time minister, as opposed to a 50% share in a minister working full-time, both Diane and the congregation of Rockwood will be on a learning curve. Therefore, these expectations may have to be significantly refined and adjusted as the working ministry relationship evolves. This initial memorandum of understanding, however, is a starting place to provide both minister and congregation with some orientation to the uncharted way ahead, and to provide Presbytery with the assurance that due consideration has been given to the concerns raised in paragraph quoted above.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Peter Bush that the actions of the interim Moderator be Approved. Carried.

The Clerk attested the Call by Officiating Minister

I hereby certify that in pursuance of appointment of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington, this Call has been moderated in, and that out of a total number of thirty-eight (38) professing members, 28 have themselves subscribed and 8 have requested an elder to subscribe to same.

The Clerk attested the Concurrence by Officiating Minister

I hereby certify that 8 adherents of the congregation of Rockwood Presbyterian Church, Rockwood, Ontario have this day signed this concurrence to the Call in favour of Diane Boyd.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Peter Bush that the Call to Diane Boyd, from Rockwood Presbyterian Church be received and considered, and that representatives of Rockwood Presbyterian Church be heard. Carried.

Moved by George Forsyth/Linda Ashfield that the guarantee of stipend be deemed acceptable. Carried.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Les Ferrier that the call to Diane Boyd, a graduate student of this Presbytery, from Rockwood Presbyterian Church be sustained as a Gospel call and the call be placed in the hands of Diane Boyd. Carried.

The moderator placed the call in the hands of Diane Boyd. Diane accepted the call and thanked the Presbytery for their support.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Karla Wubbenhorst that Diane Boyd be ordained in her home congregation, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in this Presbytery and that the arrangements for the service of ordination be left in the hands of the moderator, clerk and interim moderator. Carried.

The suggested date is February 2nd, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. with the presbytery meeting at 2:30 p.m.

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Moved by Linda Ashfield/John Borthwick that the arrangements for the induction service be left in the hands of the moderator, clerk, and interim moderator. Carried.

As per standing orders the last minister inducted (recognized) will preach (Rev. Peter Bush)

Edict of Induction: The Edict of Induction will be read in the calling congregation the two Sundays prior to the induction. It will be prepared by the Clerk and a signed copy of the edict be returned to the Clerk before the Induction Service.

Offering at Induction: As per the standing orders of presbytery the offering received at the induction service will be used for the ongoing work of the presbytery.

Consent Agenda

The following recommendations of the reports to the Presbytery were included in the consent agenda:

Business Committee: Recommendations 1-3, 5-7, the entire report

Treasurer: Recommendations 1-3, the entire report

Ministry Committee: 1-5, the entire report

Mission and Outreach: 1-3, the entire report

Moved by John Borthwick/Ed Charlton that the consent agenda be accepted. Carried.

Additional Business: It was noted by the moderator that correspondence has been received from the Session of Knox's Galt that a congregational meeting was held and that the congregation agreed to dissolve the congregation with the final service to be held on June 28, 2020.

Moved by Glen Soderholm/Scott McAndless that the business committee be given power to issue to establish a committee to support and oversee the process of dissolution and appoint assessor elders as needed. Carried.

Discussion:

Brooke Ashfield inquired if the recommendation of amalgamation with neighboring congregations recommended by the special committee appointed to investigate the Knox's Galt congregation desire to sell its property was being considered. Glen Soderholm, interim moderator stated that there was no will to do so.

John Borthwick asked for further clarification as to what the process would be and where would any recommendations be presented. Ed Charlton inquired as to the status of the lease with Grace Bible Church.

At the stated Hour of 8:15PM The Presbytery considered Remits B and C.

In order to ensure the fullest participation of the members of the Presbytery (including those on the Appendix) in the debate on this matter, the clerk of the Presbytery at the direction of the moderator and the business committee asked such, if they wished to speak on the matter, in favour or against the remits, to communicate their desire to the clerk. Seventeen members of the Presbytery and Appendix have listed their desire to speak on the matter.

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It was moved and duly seconded that the vote on the remits be done by secret ballot. The Presbytery voted 15 in favour of a secret ballot and 28 against, thus as more than one-third of the Presbytery has voted in favour of a secret ballot, a secret ballot would be taken.

Moved by Frank Szatmari/John Borthwick that each speaker be given no more than two minutes to speak.
Carried.

Moved by Karla Wubbenhorst/Les Ferrier that the Presbyters on the constituent roll be issued ballots and return their ballots at the March meeting of the Presbytery.

The moderator ruled the motion of order. The moderator's ruling was challenged by Karla Wubbenhorst. The ruling of the moderator was upheld by the Presbytery.

Brooke Ashfield spoke against the motion. Les Ferrier spoke in support. George Robertson spoke in favour of the motion. Greg Smith and Bill Bynum spoke against the motion.

Moved by Brooke Ashfield/Henry Heidinga that remit B be approved.

REMIT B, 2019

Special Committee on Implications of Pathway B, Recommendation. No. 2, A&P 2019, p. 5, as amended, p. 51

Re: Definition of Marriage

You are asked to approve or disapprove this change.

That the following be approved and remitted to presbyteries under the Barrier Act. (Special Committee on Implications of Pathway B, Recommendation No 2, as amended, p. 51):

The Presbyterian Church in Canada holds two parallel definitions of marriage and recognizes that faithful, Holy Spirit filled, Christ centred, God honouring people can understand marriage as a covenant relationship between a man and a woman or as a covenant relationship between two adult persons. That congregations, sessions, ruling and teaching elders be granted liberty of conscience and action on marriage.

The following members of the Presbytery spoke in favour of the motion: Greg Smith, Linda Ashfield, Brooke Ashfield, John Borthwick, Scott McAndless, Hugh Donnelly, Mark Gaskin, Glen Soderholm, Andrew Foster, Kathy Morden, Sue Senior, Frank Szatmari.

Peter Bush stated that he was unsure as to how he would vote.

The following members spoke against the motion: Karla Wubbenhorst, Janet DeGroot, Ed Charlton, George Robertson (appendix).

Moved by Brooke Ashfield/Henry Heidinga that remit C be approved.

REMIT C, 2019

Special Committee on Implications of Pathway B, Recommendation No. 1, A&P 2019, p. 52

Re: Ordination of LGBTQI persons (married or single)

You are asked to approve or disapprove this change.

That the following be approved and remitted to presbyteries under the Barrier Act. (Special Committee on Implications of Pathway B, Recommendation No 1, 2019 (A&P 2019, amended, p. 52):

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That congregations and presbyteries may call and ordain as ministers and elect and ordain as ruling elders LGBTQI persons (married or single) with the provision that liberty of conscience and action regarding participation in ordinations, inductions and installations be granted to ministers and ruling elders. The Presbytery asked for an immediate vote on Remit C and it was carried.

The Clerk outline to the Presbyters the procedure for the secret ballot. A ballot would be taken for Remit B and the a ballot would be taken for remit C. The Presbyters would sign their name and receive a ballot for Remit B – vote and return the ballot to the Moderator. The Presbyters would initial their signature and receive a ballot for remit C – vote and return this ballot to the moderator.

The following members of the Presbytery signed and initialed for ballots:

Ministers

Rev. Brooke Ashfield, Rev. Linda Ashfield, Rev. John Borthwick, Rev. Peter Bush, Rev. Bill Bynum, Rev. Ed Charlton, Rev. Hugh Donnelly, Rev. Herb Gale, Rev. Mark Gaskin, Rev. Scott McAndless, Rev. Kathy Morden, Rev. Kristine O'Brien, Rev. Nick Pavel, Rev. Mark Richardson, Rev. Scott Sinclair, Rev. Greg Smith, Rev. Glen Soderholm, Rev. Jane Swatridge, Rev. Frank Szatmari, Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst

Rep. Elders:

Lenore Arbuckle, Joanne Baxter, William Cassels, Janet DeGroot, Les Ferrier, George Forsyth, Andrew Foster, Pauline Hall, Henry Heidinga, Marion Hunter, Alan Israel, Frank Kivell, Werner Kuemmling, Daewon Lee, Walter MacNeil, Peggy Lennox, Janet MacDowell, David Mallet, Gib McIlwrath, Vern Platt, Ross Rowat, Sue Senior, Bonnie Street

Linda Bell was asked to supervise the counting of the ballots.

For the approval of Remit B (motion to approve) 32, opposed 11. For the approval of Remit C (motion to approve) 34, opposed 9. Both motions were carried.

Karla Wubbenhorst and Janet deGroot asked that their dissent be recorded.

Reasons for Dissent, from Karla Wubbenhorst, submitted Jan. 23, 2020

I asked that my dissent from the action of Waterloo Wellington Presbytery in approving remits B and C be recorded. Here are my reasons: As I understand the action of dissent, it is for the purpose of distancing oneself from the corporate decision of a body of which one is a part, in case censure — human or divine — should later fall. While I understand and respect the context out of which the remits came to us from the 2019 General Assembly, and recognize in them the desire to provide a mediating solution to our Church's present impasse raised by the 2015 overtures re: sexuality, I cannot support legislation that formally introduces into the PCC, in any of its congregations or Presbyteries, a permission for the church marriage of same-sex couples, or the ordination of those in same-sex erotic relationships to the ruling and teaching eldership. I find nothing in Scripture which would give warrant for such permission, but strong words in Scripture discouraging same-sex practice. The effect of our Church (our *Reformed* Church which supposedly holds the authority of "Scripture alone") making such a move into Scriptural disobedience cannot avoid divine censure. Perhaps no additional judgment will be added to the effects of our action itself, which will be 1. to further erode our trust in the Scriptures 2. to further erode our unity as fellow Presbyters, sworn to uphold the same things in the vows which bind us to Scripture and the subordinate standards, and 3. to further erode the theocentric/Christocentric core of our Church-identity in favour of an anthropocentrism that insists on affirming people's declared gender

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identities and sexual expressions even at the expense of revealed doctrine. Our revealed doctrine is the only way in which the Church can offer to the world a Light, apart from what it knows by its own lights, and so fulfill the distinctive vocation of the Church. Even if no additional divine censure falls on us apart from these three action-entailed consequences, it is enough to seal our ailing Church's decline into spiritual death. I can have no part in officiating at the funeral of a Church which I love.

If the first and greatest commandment which is enjoined upon me as a Christian is to give God the first allegiance of my entire being, then the second great commandment is to love my neighbour as I love myself. If I truly believe (as I do) that Scripture is trustworthy and wise — the gift of the God who loves us — in guiding us into the Way of life, and steering us away from the ways of death, I cannot believe that the affirming churches do any favours to the LBGTQ+ community by encouraging an embrace of practices which Scripture discourages. It is because I love my queer neighbour that I feel the Church is called to preach a more nuanced gospel than simple affirmation. I am able to stand under everything the 2017 Apology confesses about homophobia and hypocrisy in the Church. I am proud of our Church's advocacy for the civil rights of gay people. I do not covet a Church in which there are no LBGTQ+ people, but rather a Church in which people with same sex attraction and gender dysphoria can join with hetero and cis folk, single and married, to speak together candidly about the human need for intimacy, and the complexities that creates when our desires take us beyond the Scriptural boundaries for disciples of Christ. I do not think the remits are helpful in moving the PCC toward such a vision. I understand the ideology that is new gender theory (eg. Judith Butler *Gender Trouble* 1991, *Undoing Gender* 2004) and much of the behavioural counsel offered to queer and questioning youth around Pride Week and in Gay-Straight Alliance groups, to be a way of framing and exploring the experience of atypical sexual attraction, or gender identification. The Bible also offers a way of framing and exploring this experience, but its core ideology and behavioural counsel is very different — I would argue life-giving as opposed to harm-inducing. As Christians I believe we are called to critique false ideologies and our culture's idolatries, for the love of those they damage. Instead we are allowing new gender theory to critique and displace our theology with the consequence of real-world physical, psychological and spiritual harm to queer people and their families. I wish to distance myself by dissent from any church action which would place a stumbling block before one of these "little ones" (ie. vulnerable people), as a fearsome divine censure attaches to that (viz. Mt. 18.6).

Besides the demands of Scriptural obedience and neighbour-love, the third reason I dissent from the approval of the remits is because I feel that when building any tower it is wise to count the cost (Luke 14.28). There are times when things are permissible/lawful, but are still not wise/beneficial (I Corinthians 6.12 and 10.23). I do not believe it would be wise (even were I to believe that it would be theologically permissible) for the PCC to bless same sex marriage and endorse same-sex practice among its office-bearers, for such moves in our doctrine and practice at this juncture remain highly divisive. The cost — in terms of members lost, and ethnic diversity lost — is a cost I am not prepared to underwrite, and that is what I would be doing if I voted in favour of the remits.

The mindset in the affirming churches is that *surely* everyone in our day and age *must* affirm marriage equality and agree how outrageous it is to expect a lesbian or gay minister to eschew the practice of their sexuality — it's a no-brainer. This initial confidence that the prayer of the affirming overtures from 2015 could be granted in the PCC without significant division or loss of people, displayed an inadequate understanding of our denomination's reality from coast to coast, and where we are really "at" — even in 2020. We have evangelical-identity congregations and ethnic congregations (and these among our denomination's more spiritually vibrant and youthful) who, in the wake of these remits passing, will either stay, and find themselves decimated as their members express their conscience with their feet, or they will leave, and leave the PCC correspondingly impoverished (imagine what the loss of Korean students would do to Knox College). We also have euro-centric congregations who are going to disappear if these remits are passed, not because they are particularly theologically conservative, but because they are so numerically fragile that if even 3% of their membership leaves (the 3% they gained in 1988 from the UCC?) it will mean the difference between their life and death. We have many other congregations who simply do not care about this issue as they have different priorities; their membership includes LBGTQ individuals and theological conservatives who have coexisted amicably for years. It is telling that the UCC, having made LBGTQ activism a priority at the central office level

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for 40 years have, to date, signed on only 7% of UCC congregations as affirming-identity congregations — a meagre dividend when weighed against what the determination to forge this “prophetic” path has cost the UCC. However passionately our LGBTQ activists and allies want to make the PCC into their image of the perfectly affirming Church, do they not have to moderate these desires and interests according to what are the legitimate perspectives and interests of others in the Body?

The PCUSA has hemorrhaged 22% of its membership since the affirming decisions it took in 2011 and 2014. This issue has precipitated a church split in every communion that has entertained it, most recently the United Methodists; this is not fear-driven rhetoric, it is a sober counting of the foreseeable cost. It would be incredibly unrealistic to think that we in the PCC would be the exception to what has held true in every other denomination which has gone this way. Much has been said of the 2019 Assembly's majority vote for Pathway B. I respond that that was a 58% majority of 240 commissioned Presbyters in a specific year, with 81 commissioners asking for their dissent to be recorded. A 42/58 percent vote-split does not indicate that our church is ready to move forward with one heart and mind. Would Presbytery be happy to sustain a call that had received only 58% congregational support? It may be permissible, but it would certainly not be wise. It would also be wantonly destructive of small congregations, and the ethnic diversity we cherish in our church.

The remits are designed to hold the denomination together despite granting a controversial permission, by assuring theological conservatives that their interpretation of marriage is still doctrinally supported (it's not as if the new marriage definition superseded the older one — the two definitions and the two theological constituencies they imply in the church will share standing) and nothing has to change for anyone in their local context — liberty of conscience is extended to congregations, sessions, ruling and teaching elders. There are a couple of reasons why the remits will not obviate church division. 1. They do not make the church a “safe and equal space” for either LGBTQ persons who wish to avail themselves of the new permissions — not if same sex marriage can be denied by some congregations and sessions and ordinations, and installations of candidates in same-sex relationships can be boycotted by individual ruling and teaching elders. Nor is the church a “safe and equal space” for those of a traditional theological orientation — not if freedom of conscience and action protections stop at the level of the individual and the congregation, ignoring the fact that our system is Presbyterian in nature — also ignoring the fact that ministers and search committees exercising their freedom of conscience and action bear a legal vulnerability that ministers and search committees who are comfortable with the new permissions do not. 2. Since the remits make neither side feel safe or equal enough, there will always be pressure to tip the careful balance of power as expressed in these remits so as to secure that safety for one's own constituency by encroaching on the space afforded to the other. For those of traditional theological orientation to hear fellow Presbyters argue in favour of the remits by saying they were a good beginning but didn't go far enough, destroys any trust that would be a necessary prerequisite for making the church envisioned by the remits a real-world success.

The remits sound like a very non-judgmental, live-and-let-live, sort of solution, but in fact they judge Scripture as being unclear, and given our inability to agree about it, a matter of secondary importance behind the main value which is respecting one another's Christian character and sincerity, and providing space for one another to live out of our own understanding of the gospel. In fact neither party believes the Scripture's/the Spirit's leading to be unclear, and to say it is and that compromise is possible when there is theological truth at stake/a social justice imperative at stake, would be asking each side to deny the property that defines them. For these reasons I find the action of the Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington in approving the remits to have been a failure to defend Biblical truth, to practice neighbour-love and to apply real-world wisdom. It was also, I believe, a disingenuous action on the part of any who voted “approve,” with anything less than full commitment to this power-sharing arrangement, but only as a stop-gap on the way to more total transformation of the PCC away from its Basis of Union, and toward the Promised Land at the far end of the Riddle scale.

Special Committee on Knox, Palmerston

At the November 2019 regular meeting of the Presbytery, a special committee was created to [insert language]. At the November 24th emergent meeting of the Presbytery, the committee reported to the Presbytery that they would

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chair a congregational meeting on December --- to receive and consider options for the future of the congregation. This meeting was delayed to January 12th. Their report on this meeting was received for consideration.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Janet deGroot that the report of the special committee on Palmerston be received and considered. Carried.

Report of Special Committee re Knox Church Palmerston

Linda Ashfield, Ed Charlton, Janet de Groot

At the emergent meeting of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington on Sunday, November 24th at Gale Church, Elmira the following motion was passed: "That the Session of Knox Palmerston call a Congregational Meeting (in consultation with the Presbytery and Moderated by an appointee of Presbytery) as soon as possible to discuss and decide about a preferred future. Decisions will be brought to the January 14th meeting of Presbytery."

A letter was sent to the congregation to explain the reason for the meeting and signed by the team (Linda Ashfield, Ed Charlton and Janet de Groot) Originally a congregational meeting was called for December 18th but due to weather was postponed to January 12th.

The congregational meeting of Knox Palmerston was held in the Minto Fire Hall (due to its accessibility) at 12:30 on Sunday, January 12th. Out of 44 members, 28 members were in attendance. No adherents were present. The meeting was moderated by Ed Charlton and Janet de Groot took minutes.

After welcoming everyone, the meeting was opened with prayer. Members were invited to sign in. The reason for the meeting was reviewed and congregational meeting rules and guidelines were reviewed. Background and what had led to the meeting was presented. Then the Presbyterian guidelines regarding dissolution of a congregation and amalgamation were outlined by Linda Ashfield. Henry Heidinga (Clerk of Session) presented a report on behalf of some members outlining the proposal of new vision for ministry in Palmerston.

Questions were invited regarding each option were considered. The Moderator then called for a motion. The following motion was presented and duly seconded.

"That Knox Palmerston move forward in their continued ministry in the town of Palmerston under the direction of the Presbytery, and ask Presbytery permission to sell the building."

(This motion was in support of the vision plan presented which would move the ministry of Knox from the church into rental space close to the local school)

A secret ballot was taken and the vote was 15 in favour and 13 against.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Janet DeGroot that the report be referred to finance and property committee with power to add members and power to issue, and to report back to presbytery at its next regular meeting.

Discussion

Peter Bush asked that should a plan for the future of the congregation not be approved and if the building is sold that severance for the incumbent be set aside.

Linda Ashfield, a member of the special committee noted the closeness of the vote.

The motion was carried.

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Moved by Ed Charlton/Janet deGroot that the report be adopted. Carried.

Overtures (Overture from the Session of Westminster-St.Paul's PDF attached.)

Recommendation 4 of the Business Committee report:

That the overture from the Session of Westminster – re congregational stake in relinquished church property, be referred to the 146th General Assembly, with *approval/disapproval/no comment*.

It was moved by Ed Charlton/John Borthwick that the overture be referred to the assembly council without comment. Carried

1. Reports

- a. **Business Committee – Rev. Darrell Clarke (Appendix “A”)**
- b. **Treasurer, George Myers (Appendix “B”)**
- c. **Education, Issues, and Fellowship Committee – Revs. Wubbenhorst and MacLeod (Appendix “C”) (no report)**
- d. **Ministry Committee - Rev. Ed Charlton (Appendix “D”)**
- e. **Congregational Affairs– Rev. Scott McAndless (Appendix “E”) (no committee report - A Interim Moderators report from Doon PC is included)**
- f. **Mission and Outreach – Rev. Greg Smith (Appendix “F”)**
- g. **Finance and Property – Gib McIlwrath (Appendix “G”) (report pending)**

Adjournment

Moved by John Borthwick/Brook Ashfield that the meeting adjourn. Carried

Next Meetings

Business Committee (at Kitchener East Presbyterian – 10am)

Feb. 4, March 3, Apr. 2, May 5, June 9, 2019.

Future Presbytery Meetings: Mar. 10 2020 – Joonim Presbyterian Church, Waterloo

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Appendix 'A' – Business Committee Report

Recommendation 1:

That the report of the Business Committee be received and considered.

a. Correspondence

#	Received from	Topic	Referred to:
19	177 Jennifer Astop	Grant to Two Rivers Congregation	Clerk, Glen Soderholm
19	178 Maggie Leung	Presbyterian Sharing	Presbytery
19	179 Ruth Song	Terms of Loan to Waterloo Knox	Treasurer
19	180 Don Muir	Presbytery Correspondence	Clerk, Bus. Committee
19	181 Rev. Linda Ashfield	Report - Knox, Palmerston	Presbytery Ministry Comm. CA
19	182 Rev. Scott Sinclair	Notification of Pastoral Exchange	Comm.
19	183 Terri-Lee Hamilton	Reminder of Nominations for Moderator	Clerk
19	184 Liz Brewer	E and R Candidates	Clerk
19	185 Don Muir	Assembly Council Correspondence	Clerk, Bus. Committee
19	186 Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst	Complaint re Presbytery Inaction on Correspondence Item 19-148	Clerk, Bus. Committee
19	187 Nicola Furley-Smith	Letter of Good Standing for Rev. Mark Godin	Clerk
19	188 Kathryn Muir	Changes to the Roll, Nov, 2019	Presbytery
19	189 Terri-Lee Hamilton	Acknowledgement of Nomination for Moderator	Clerk
19	190 Jennifer Astop	Deadlines for Fall and winter Grants	Presbytery
19	191 Maggie Leung	Presbyterian Sharing Update	Presbytery
19	192 Don Muir	Reminder for Remit Decisions to G.A.O.	Clerk
19	193 Rev. Peter Bush	St. Andrew's Fergus Cooke's Fund Application	Clerk, Bus. Committee
19	194 Kathryn Muir	Ballots and Election of Moderator Instructions	Clerk
19	195 Rev. Peter Bush	St. Andrew's Fergus, Strategic Planning Grant Request	Miss. & Out. Comm
19	196 Rev. Peter Bush	Reasons for Dissent. Dec 15 emergent Meeting St. Andrew's, Fergus, Implementation Ready Project Grant Request.	Clerk
19	197 Rev. Peter Bush		Miss. & Out. Comm
19	198 Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst	Dissent and Appeal to General Assembly	Clerk
20	1 Rev. Hugh Donnelly	Knox, Waterloo - Request for Loan Forgiveness	Clerk, Prop.& Fin. Comm.
20	2 Alexis McKeown	Request for Applications for NPWG Mission Fair	Clerk, Bus. Comm
20	3 Rev. Don Muir	Legal opinion on Barrier Act and Presbytery deliberations	Clerk
20	4 Terri-Lee Hamilton	Position at St. Andrews Hall Revised Policy on Amalgamation and dissolutions of congregations	Presbytery
20	5 Rev. Don Muir		Presbytery
20	6 Rev. Stephen Kendall	Receipt of transmission of Complaint	Clerk

Recommendation 2:

That the decision of the Business Committee in the distribution of correspondence be homologated.

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b. Notice of Motion: Re allocation of proceeds from the sale of Waterloo North – Rev. Peter Bush

Whereas the 2019 General Assembly agreed with the overtures from the Presbytery of Northern Saskatchewan, the Presbytery of Western Han-Ca and the Presbytery of Winnipeg asking for 10% of the proceeds of land sales be dedicated to Indigenous Ministries, overtures prompted by and written in consultation with the Indigenous community that is part of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, and Whereas the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington received \$1.3 million from the sale of the Waterloo North property and now has an opportunity to retroactively commit 10% of the proceeds to Indigenous Ministries,

Therefore be it resolved that the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington give \$130,000 to the ten Indigenous Ministries within The Presbyterian Church in Canada on the following pattern:

Anamiewigummig Fellowship Center – Kenora, Ontario	\$13,000
Winnipeg Inner City Missions	\$13,000
Place of Hope Presbyterian Church, Winnipeg	\$13,000
Birdtail Sioux First Nation (through Knox Church, Neepawa)	\$13,000
Saskatoon Native Circle Ministry	\$13,000
Mistawasis Memorial Presbyterian Church	\$13,000
Edmonton Urban Native Ministry	\$13,000
Nazko & Area Dakelh Outreach– Cariboo Region, BC	\$13,000
Hummingbird Ministries	\$13,000
Cedar Tree Ministries	\$13,000

And that these checks be sent directly to the ministries named.

c. Notice of Motion: Re formula for Presbytery dues – Rev. Peter Bush

That the formula for the presbytery dues for 2020 in the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington be set as an average of the historic formula at a rate of 1.952039% of the Base rate.

d. Cooke's Fund request:

St Andrew's Presbyterian Fergus
325 St George St W
Fergus ON

Dec. 12, 2019

Business Committee
c/o Clerk of Presbytery, The Rev. Darrell Clarke
The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington
The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Subject: Approving a Proposal for Cooke's Church Trust Grant

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Dear Presbytery,

In order to make our summer sports camp financially accessible to local families, St Andrew's Fergus is searching for means of offsetting our overhead camp costs. The Cooke's Church Trust (of the Presbytery of East Toronto) accepts grant proposals if they are first approved by a congregation's presbytery. In the accompanying pages you'll see a proposal for an \$800 grant. These funds will be used to offset camp costs and thereby keep registration fees at a level more affordable for local families.

If our proposal is approved by you, would you please provide us with an extract of minutes that we can include with our application to the Presbytery of East Toronto.

We thank you for your consideration,
 On behalf of the congregation at St Andrew's Fergus,
 Peter Bush
 Pauline Hall
 Chris Clements

St Andrew's Fergus
 Proposal for funding a Special and Short-Term Ministry

Cooke's Church Trust grant requests have six published requirements. Each of these are addressed in turn here:

1. Written presentation of the project or program, its objectives/ purpose

St Andrew's Fergus hosts a one-week sports camp outreach in August each summer. This camp aims to involve young people from the local community in a fun sporting program, where Christian values and teachings are part of everyday camp life. The camp is evangelistic in the sense that the camp aims to communicate the Gospel in such a way that young people are able to make a conscious decision for (or against) Christ. Our hope is that young people who choose into the Christian life make this choice knowing what they are choosing into. Conversely, young people who reject the Christian life will make this choice knowing what it is they are rejecting.

The camp has hosted an average of forty children per camp over the summers this camp has run. Campers tend to be from neighbourhood families, local to St Andrew's Fergus. Both children and grandchildren of congregation members also attend.

Our intent with this proposal is to lower the overhead costs of hosting a sports camp. With some staffing positions potentially funded by Cooke's Trust, we will be able to offer the camp at a more affordable rate for local families.

2. Detailed budget showing sources of funding and costs of the project or program

We are partnering with On-side Sports Ministries (Guelph) who charge \$155 per participant. A fee which would prevent some families from participating in the sports camp. In our request for \$800 we are asking for funds towards off-setting the costs of 2 staff which will allow us to reduce registration fees. These funds when added to the \$2,000 (committed by the congregation and one outside donor) mean the registration cost can be reduced to \$95 (a reduction of almost 40%), making it possible for more children to participate.

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Expenses:

Program Costs (40 participants @ \$155)	\$6,200
Promotion and Incidentals	\$ 400
TOTAL	\$6,600

Income:

Registration Fees (40 participants @ \$95)	\$3,800
Congregational Support	\$1,500
HillTop Singers Choir Donation	\$ 500
Grant from Cooke's Church Trust	\$ 800
TOTAL	\$6,600

3. A copy of the most recent annual financial statement of the congregation or entity requesting the grant

This requirement is exempted for summer programs and summer programs and short-term ministries

4. Minute of a congregation meeting /Board meeting approving the project/program.

This requirement is exempted for summer programs and summer programs and short-term ministries

5. Minute from the local Presbytery approving the congregation/entity making a grant request to Cooke's

A minute from the Waterloo Wellington Presbytery is attached.

6. The project/program must be identified within items 2 to 8 in the Cooke's Fund Guidelines

This proposal to fund a sports camp fits within item number eight of the Cooke's Fund Guidelines. We ask for funding to help support two staff positions for the week of August 10 to 14, 2020. At \$400 a person, we ask you consider our proposal for a total of \$800.

Recommendation 3

That the application to the Cooke's Fund of the Session of St. Andrew's, Fergus be approved.

e. Overtures (Overture from the Session of Westminster-St.Paul's PDF attached.)

Recommendation 4

That the overture from the Session of Westminster – re congregational stake in relinquished church property, be referred to the 146th General Assembly, with *approval/disapproval/no comment*.

f. Commissioners to General Assembly 2020:

Captain: Rev. Mark Gaskin; Rev. Kathy Morden, Rev. Johan Olivier, Rev. Bill Bynum, Rev. Brooke Ashfield
Alternates: Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst, Rev. Ed Charlton

Elders: Joonim, Waterloo; Knox, Palmerston; Knox, Conn, Knox, Guelph, Knox, Waterloo
Alternates: St. Andrew's, Kitchener, Doon, Kitchener

Darrell Clarke, Clerk – clerkwatwell@gmail.com

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Recommendation 5

That the members of Presbytery identified above are the commissioners from the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington.

g. Participation in Women's Gathering and Canada Youth

Recommendation 6

Participation in the 2020 Women's Gathering and Canada Youth be subsidized up to 50% of their application fees upon request to the Clerk. Please let the Clerk know by Feb 28 for Women's Gathering and by for Canada Youth by May 31, 2020.


Recommendation 7

That the report as a whole be adopted.

For information of the Presbytery:

h. Appeal to General Assembly

December 24, 2019

To: The General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, 
From: Appellants Karla Wubbenhorst (the Rev.), Alex MacLeod (the Rev), George Foryth (Mr.), Les Ferrier (Mr.), Janet DeGroot (Mrs.), and


Naming as respondent: The Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington

We, the appellants, offer this description of the decision we allege to have been incorrect: At an emergent meeting of Presbytery held December 15, 2019, the Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington erred in adopting recommendation #1 of the Special Committee struck to deal with the complaints, _ namely: "That the first complaint be not received for the reason that it is not in a proper form (Reasons above)." For the complaint to be not received is equivalent to its having been deemed out of order, in which case Book of Forms 386.1, grants the complainants recourse to an appeal. We believe the complaint was in order and in the proper form, having met all formal criteria for a complaint as given in Book of Forms sections 382 and Appendix A-58, 383a and 384.

We believe that the Presbytery erred in confusing its first duty toward the complaint (the determination, upon formal grounds, of whether it was in the proper form) with its second duty (to invite a motion to reconsider the action complained against). In the debate on a motion to reconsider, or on the matter itself, opened for reconsideration, the Presbytery might have expressed its opposition to our contention that it had acted ultra vires in sustaining a Call to a man in a same sex marriage. While the Presbytery's settled conviction that it was competent to sustain this Call, whether or not permissive legislation, such as is being currently considered under the Barrier Act, has been set in place by the General Assembly, may have been grounds for the Presbytery to decline to reconsider its action when it came to the substantial question, to refuse to receive the complaint amounts to "a prejudice or injustice in the process or decision" (Book of Forms 395b). The Presbytery's Special Committee did provide reasons for its determination which enter

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upon a substantial refutation of the merits of the complaint. We, in turn, could argue the invalidity of these reasons, which we believe to rest upon an improper understanding of the Book of Forms, as appeal grounds, but then we, too, would be entering upon matters of substance. The essential error we allege that the Presbytery made, and the chief grounds for our appeal, was in judging the merits of the complaint and refusing the requested relief, all under the guise of making a "proper form" determination.

We, the appellants, would list as witnesses to be called, ourselves, appearing as a group, if this is possible. We would also ask that there be named, as an expert witness in Church polity, the Rev. Peter Bush, who was present at the meeting and dissented (as did the complainants who were there, and a further member of the court). It is hoped that the documentary record, not only of the complaints but also of Presbytery minutes, including dissents and the reasons for them, and of analogous decisions (most recently in the case of Cousineau et al. v. the Presbytery of Niagara, by a commission of the Synod of Southwestern Ontario), would be allowed to bear witness in this matter. 

We, the appellants, seek the following remedy: That the General Assembly, through such vehicles as it has to act between sittings (eg. the office of the Moderator, Assembly Council), strike a commission to judge this matter in a timely way. If it is found that the Presbytery opened the door for the substance of the original complaint to be looked at by the commission in advancing refutations in its stated reasons for the complaint not to be received, we would be pleased for this to happen. If it is necessary for the commission only to judge the appeal of the Presbytery's action of declining to receive our complaint, and then for it to be referred back (provided our appeal is upheld) to the Presbytery in order for opportunity for reconsideration to occur, then we shall commit to that longer process.

The Clerk of Presbytery has transmitted this appeal with all relevant materials.

- i. Ballots for Moderator – available this evening.**
- j. Confirmation of Presbyterian Sharing Amount 2020 – Due March 1, 2020**
- k. Statistical Reports – Due March 1, 2020**

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Appendix "B" Treasurers Report

TREASURER'S REPORT TO WATERLOO-WELLINGTON PRESBYTERY JANUARY 2019

TREASURER'S REPORT TO WATERLOO-WELLINGTON PRESBYTERY JANUARY 2019

Interim Financial Report to December 31, 2019

The general fund monthly financial report to December 31, 2019 is on the following page. The report is very much in line with budget, although some line items were underspent and there are no issues of concern. There are still some items to be adjusted for year-end that will not significantly change this picture. This report also shows the operations of the other funds, especially the development fund.

Also please find a statement of financial position to December 31, 2019 with a comparison to Year-end of 2018. This statement shows the proper balances in each fund. Please note that the Development Fund has a balance of \$1,111,754 of which \$598,780 is loaned out to congregations, leaving only \$512,974 to be used against the remaining commitments as set out by the the Committee of the Whole Meeting held at Gale Elmira in March 2017 . Most of these commitments support congregational planning for renewal, missional church planting or next generation ministry efforts.

Also please find attached Statements of Notes Receivable at December 31, 2019 and Allocation of Amounts committed from the Waterloo North Proceeds of Disposition at December 31, 2019.

There are outstanding requests for over \$1,300,000 in loans for financial support for building infrastructure and repair issues. Obviously, there are not enough funds to meet all of the requests. It will be the difficult task of the new presbytery Finance and Property committee to discern the best way forward in this situation. Congregations cannot be guaranteed support until this new committee has completed its deliberations

As reported to the May 2019 presbytery meeting that we encountered a loss from our PCC consolidated fund investment due to a very adverse 2018 last quarter, especially in December. Also noted there had been a very strong positive market rebound in both January and February of 2019 and this was reflected in the Q1-2019 report from the PCC consolidated fund with a gain of close to 6.8% in Q1-2019 alone, which translates to over \$46,000. The Q2-2019 Q3-2019 reflect smaller gains than the first quarter of 1%. The 4th quarter results will not be known until mid-February.

Respectfully submitted,
George L Myers, Treasurer

To reach me: George L Myers, 671 Woolwich Street #709 Guelph ON N1H 3Y9 519-823-2378 glmyers1945@gmail.com

Recommendation #1 Receive the Treasurer's Report

Recommendation #2 Re-appoint Beverly Brown as auditor for 2019

Recommendation #3 Approve the report as a whole.

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INMTERIM FINANCIAL REPORT TO WATERLOO-WELLINGTON PRESBYTERY AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2019

	GENERAL FUND			GENERAL FUND	RESERVE FUND	TRUST FUND	DEVELOP FUND	TOTAL ALL FUNDS
	to DEC2019	Budget	Variance					
INCOME								
Assessment Income	127,326	127,326	-	127,326				127,326
Income from induction services	-	1,000	1,000	-	826			826
Other income - interest	1,907	4,532	2,625	1,907	2,095	205	3,645	7,851
Total Income	129,233	132,858	3,625	129,233	2,921	205	3,645	136,004
EXPENSES								
Synod Assessment	51,970	51,970	-	51,970				51,970
Special project -EGEF Contract	-	-	-	-			36,379	36,379
Special project -Grants to Congregations	-	-	-	-			25,000	25,000
Special project - Post Sec. student grants	16,900	16,900	-	16,900				16,900
Special project - Bunun Exchange	1,840	4,000	2,160	1,840				1,840
Special project - Women Gathering-2019	1,900	3,000	1,100	1,900				1,900
Special project - L3 Cosulting Group	-	-	-	-			1,456	1,456
Special projects - total	20,640	23,900	3,260	20,640	-	-	62,835	83,475
Clerk's honorarium	13,366	13,366	0	13,366				13,366
Treasurer's honorarium	7,055	7,055	(0)	7,055				7,055
CPP/EI	966.24	967	1	966				966
Liability Insurance	2,831	3,000	169	2,831				2,831
General and office supplies	1,301	2,000	699	1,301			5,085	6,387
Telecommunications	408	1,500	1,092	408				408
Audit and legal fees	500	500	-	500				500
Bank interest and service charges	203	300	97	203				203
Office expenses - total	26,630	28,688	2,058	26,630	-	-	5,085	31,716
Travel and mileage	2,978	5,000	2,022	2,978				2,978
Meals and hospitality	535	500	(35)	535				535
Travel - total	3,514	5,500	1,986	3,514	-	-	-	3,514
Grants - U of G chaplaincy	9,000	9,000	-	9,000				9,000
Grants - Students for Ministry	-	2,500	2,500	-				-
Grants - New Life Counselling	1,500	1,500	-	1,500				1,500
Grants - total	10,500	13,000	2,500	10,500	-	-	-	10,500
Commissioner's Expenses GA 2019/2018	3,124	3,500	377	3,124				3,124
Conference Funds	1,522	2,500	978	1,522			2,600	4,122
Student Psych. assessments/counselling	-	1,000	1,000	-				-
Pulpit supply for visitation	-	1,000	1,000	-				-
Visitors and Gifts	-	1,000	1,000	-				-
Christian education	-	500	500	-				-
Clerk's consultation April 2018	-	-	-	-				-
Student certification	-	300	300	-				-
General expense - Total	4,646	9,800	5,155	4,646	-	-	2,600	7,246
Total All Expenses	117,899	132,858	14,959	117,899	-	-	70,521	188,420
Surplus/(Deficit)	11,333	-	(11,333)	11,333	2,921	205	(66,876)	(52,416)

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PRESBYTERY OF WATERLOO-WELLINGTON
STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION
as at December 30, 2019

	AS AT DECEMBER 30, 2019					AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2018				
	GENERAL FUND	RESERVE FUND	TRUST FUND	DEVELOPME FUND	ALL FUNDS NOV30,2019	GENERAL FUND	RESERVE FUND	TRUST FUND	DEVELOPME FUND	ALL FUNDS DEC31,2018
CURRENT ASSETS										
CASH	271,914		18,773	15,761	306,448	206,415		18,568	15,589	240,572
ACCOUNTS RECEIVABLE	-				-	1,831				1,831
ACCRUED INTEREST				1	1					-
G.I.C.'S		107,048			107,048		107,248			107,248
PREPAID EXPENSES					-					-
	<u>271,914</u>	<u>107,048</u>	<u>18,773</u>	<u>15,761</u>	<u>413,496</u>	<u>208,246</u>	<u>107,248</u>	<u>18,568</u>	<u>15,589</u>	<u>349,651</u>
LONG-TERM ASSETS										
NOTES RECEIVABLE(CHURCHES)				598,780	598,780				524,280	524,280
PCC CONSOLIDATED FUND				500,000	500,000				717,378	717,378
CORPORATE&GOVERNMENT BONDS				309,978	309,978				319,571	319,571
ADJUST TO MARKET VALUE		2,245		30,444	32,689					-
	-	<u>2,245</u>	-	<u>1,439,202</u>	<u>1,441,447</u>	-	-	-	<u>1,561,229</u>	<u>1,561,229</u>
FIXED ASSETS										
COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	2,827				2,827	2,827				2,827
LESS DEPRECIATION	(1,346)				(1,346)	(1,346)				(1,346)
	<u>1,482</u>	-	-	-	<u>1,482</u>	<u>1,481</u>	-	-	-	<u>1,481</u>
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>273,396</u>	<u>109,293</u>	<u>18,773</u>	<u>1,454,963</u>	<u>1,856,425</u>	<u>209,727</u>	<u>107,248</u>	<u>18,568</u>	<u>1,576,818</u>	<u>1,912,361</u>
LIABILITIES										
ACCOUNTS PAYABLE	(520)				(520)					-
LONG TERM DEBT				42,324	42,324				45,324	45,324
	<u>(520)</u>	-	-	<u>42,324</u>	<u>41,804</u>	-	-	-	<u>45,324</u>	<u>45,324</u>
FUND BALANCES										
OPENING BALANCES	8,432	108,535	14,892	659,261	791,120	8,432	108,535	14,892	659,261	791,120
CURRENT SURPLUS(DEFICIT)	11,333	2,921	205	(66,876)	(52,416)	42,054	4,084	(8,126)	(164,509)	(126,497)
PRIOR UNDISTRIBUTED	532,694	30,383	(6,530)	519,369	1,075,917	490,641	26,299	1,596	683,878	1,202,414
	<u>552,460</u>	<u>141,840</u>	<u>8,567</u>	<u>1,111,754</u>	<u>1,814,621</u>	<u>541,127</u>	<u>138,918</u>	<u>8,362</u>	<u>1,178,630</u>	<u>1,867,037</u>
TOTAL LIABILITY/FUND BALANCES	<u>551,940</u>	<u>141,840</u>	<u>8,567</u>	<u>1,154,078</u>	<u>1,856,425</u>	<u>541,127</u>	<u>138,918</u>	<u>8,362</u>	<u>1,223,954</u>	<u>1,912,361</u>

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PRESBYTERY OF WATERLOO-WELLINGTON
Notes Receivable-Waterloo-Wellington
at December 31, 2019

Church	Year of Loan	Due Date	2017 Balance	Repaid 2018	New Loans	2018 Balance	Repaid 2019	New Loans	2019 Balance
WW020 Livingston PC, Baden	2004	Dec-34	26,793	2,000		24,793	2,000		22,793
WW050 Knox's Galt	2006	Open	10,000			10,000			10,000
WW260 Knox PC, Waterloo	2010	Dec-20	25,901			25,901			25,901
WW090 Gale PC, Elmira	2011	Dec-21	92,793			92,793			92,793
WW080 St. Andrew's PC, Hespeler	2014	Dec-24	17,500	2,500		15,000	2,500		12,500
WW030 Central PC, Cambridge	2015	Dec-23	75,000	12,500		62,500	12,500		50,000
WW040 Knox Preston PC, Cambridge	2015	Dec-25	28,000	1,000		27,000			27,000
WW150 Kortright PC, Guelph	2015	Dec-25	60,000	7,500		52,500	7,500		45,000
WW290 Kitchener East PC, Kitchener	2016	Dec-26	18,000	2,000		16,000	2,000		14,000
WW170 Knox PC, Palmerston	2017	Dec-27	25,000	2,500		22,500	2,500		20,000
WW180 Doon PC, Kitchener	2018	Dec-28	10,293		25,000	35,293	2,500	15,000	47,793
WW180 St. Andrew's PC, Guelph	2018	Dec-28			140,000	140,000	14,000		126,000
WW030 Central PC, Cambridge	2019	Jan-20				-	60,000	60,000	-
WW150 Kortright PC, Guelph	2019	29-Sep				-		105,000	105,000
Westminster - St. Paul's						-			-
Central PC, Cambridge						-			-
Knox's Galt						-			-
Westside PC, Cambridge						-			-
						-			-
						-			-
						-			-
						-			-
						-			-
						-			-
						-			-
						-			-
Totals			<u>389,280</u>	<u>30,000</u>	<u>165,000</u>	<u>524,280</u>	<u>105,500</u>	<u>180,000</u>	<u>598,780</u>

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PRESBYTERY OF WATERLOO-WELLINGTON
2019 Waterloo-Wellington Allocation of Amounts from Waterloo North Proceeds of Disposition
As Approved at Committee of the Whole and Presbytery Meetings

PROJECT	Year Allocated	Amount Allocated	Spent 2017	3017 Balance	Spent 2018	2018 Balance	Spent 2019	2019 Balance
KITCHENER-WATERLOO QUADRANT DEBT RET	2017	200,000	200,000	-		-		-
CONGREGATIONAL IMPLEMENTATION READY	2017	150,000		150,000	24,000	126,000	12,000	114,000
COMPLETION of PRESBYTERY STRATEGIC PLAN	2017	135,000		135,000		135,000		135,000
EMERGING GENERATIONS ENGAGEMENT FAC	2017	120,000	11,709	108,291	40,935	67,356	41,465	25,891
MISSIONAL CHURCH PLANT	2017	110,000		110,000		110,000	10,000	100,000
NEXT GENERATION MINISTRY	2017	110,000		110,000	5,400	104,600	2,600	102,000
FUTURE DIRECTIONS FACILITATOR	2017	100,000		100,000		100,000	1,456	98,544
CONGREGATIONAL STRATEGIC PLANNING	2017	75,000		75,000	2,000	73,000	3,000	70,000
		1,000,000	211,709	788,291	72,335	715,956	70,521	645,435

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Appendix "D": Ministry Committee Report

January 14th, 2020

Recommendation 1: That the Ministry Committee Report be received for consideration.

The Ministry Committee has the following recommendations to put forward for the Presbytery's consideration.

The first two recommendations are regarding a potential student, Mr. Chris Clements. Mr. Clements is the Youth pastor at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church in Fergus where he has held this position for 10 years. He will have been a member of the congregation for one year no later than February 2020. Two members of the ministry Committee interviewed him on December 17th. He was asked the requisite questions from the Book of Forms Appendix J, notes were taken, A CV was submitted along with a Statement of Faith. Both interviewers found him to be an excellent candidate for ministry. Also, with his education background of having already achieved a Masters of Divinity, an M. A. in Christian Studies, and is working on a Ph. D. in Christian Theology, we would need to recommend Mr. Clements to Education and Reception.

Recommendation 2

That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington accept and certify Mr. Chris Clements as a student for ministry within the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Recommendation 3

That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington through the Clerk of Presbytery, send to Ministry and Church Vocation/Education and Reception Committee Mr. Chris Clements' name to be examined by them.

Secondly, we were informed that Rev. Scott Sinclair has agreed to take part in a ministry exchange with Rev. George Shand from The Church of Scotland. The Session of Gale Presbyterian Church has approved this ministry exchange and the appropriate arrangements have been made on both ends to and ministry will be looked after. The ministry exchange is laid out in the appendix to this report. The next recommendation is regarding this ministry exchange.

Recommendation 4

That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington acknowledge and support the ministry exchange that the Rev. Scott Sinclair will be participating in along with acknowledging that the details are being worked out with the congregations and that ministry is being taken care of during this exchange.

Recommendation 5

That the report of the Ministry Committee be adopted.

Respectfully submitted by :

Rev. Edward Charlton

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Ministry Committee Chairperson.

Appendix 1.

GALE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

PROPOSAL FOR INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE – 2020

November 25th, 2019

I am proposing a unique opportunity for ministry at Gale Presbyterian Church in 2020. I have been in communication with a minister of the Church of Scotland, Rev. George Shand. We are proposing a ministry exchange to occur from early June 2020 to mid-July 2020, five Sundays.

Rev. George Shand is minister in the Tinto Parishes, three congregations in South Lanarkshire, near Glasgow. He has participated in many exchanges during his career, most recently in Ottawa with Trinity Presbyterian Church, Kanata (Rev. Shaun Seaman, minister).

The exchange operates like this:

1. George and his wife live in my house in Elmira and he preaches at Gale for the Sundays of June 14th, 21st, 28th, July 5th and 12th. During these dates I preach in the churches of the Tinto Parishes. (note: Starting June 28th Gale may be joining with St. James and Trinity for Sunday worship. This proposition has yet to be finalized). It is expected the minister may invite guests from his home to visit.
2. Pastoral emergencies are arranged between the visiting minister or a designated person more familiar with the situation. In our case I will ask Rev. Kees Vandermey or a nearby Presbyterian minister to cover situations that may arise. If he/she is not compensated by other means I will make them whole upon my return.
3. We each rent a vehicle and telephone for the duration of the exchange.
4. We designate a liaison person in each parish to orient the visiting minister and be a "go-to" for arising matters.
5. We each participate in the life of the congregation to the best of our abilities. Each minister will make this an enriching experience for the host congregations and for themselves.
6. The host church is not responsible for any remuneration to the visiting minister.
7. A written agreement that includes these details is signed by both ministers.

A colleague, Rev. Shaun Seaman (Kanata) has participated in several exchanges of this nature. He expresses it is a valuable, enriching experience for a congregation to host a minister from another country for an extended period of time. The minister is in the community for enough time to become familiar with its customs and culture while at the same time exposing the host congregation to a unique style and practice of another minister. Both parties understand it is a short-time thing and there will be a return to normal within a few weeks. During the exchange growth and learning are evident.

For my part, I am particularly excited to exchange with the Tinto Parishes as this is very close to the community from which my Scottish ancestors emigrated. I hope to use some time to expand the record of my family tree. This was one of the unrealized goals of my Scotland trip in May 2019; curtailed due to matters arising here in Canada. In addition, the surname Shand is a significant ancestral name in my heritage and I am curious to discover if there is any connection between Rev. George Shand and myself.

I plan to add at least one week to the beginning or the end of this time away to participate in a walking pilgrimage on the Orkney Islands. This pilgrimage follows the route of St. Magnus' remains to his final interment in the Cathedral of St. Magnus in Kirkwall. This was an important spiritual focus of the medieval church in Scotland, something of which very few people are aware.

There are employment details regarding this request. I ask Gale to consider this a combination of vacation and study leave.

I am offered 5 weeks vacation and 2 weeks study leave each year plus a study leave allowance of \$600.00 per year. The study leave portion is allowed to accumulate up to five years. I have a good record of my study leave time and allowance. By my record, beginning January of 2020 I am allowed an accumulated study leave of 7.5 weeks and an allowance of \$1,017.37. It is unwise to allow this to accumulate to an unreasonable amount. I

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plan to be absent from Gale Presbyterian Church for a total of six weeks. It is reasonable to consider this to be four weeks of study leave and 2 weeks of vacation. I will claim the balance of the study leave allowance to defray travel expenses during the exchange.

If session supports the proposal to participate in this exchange I will present the proposition for consideration at the presbytery in January 2020. I will make the congregation aware of this plan as part of our annual congregational meeting in February 2020.

I ask the session of Gale Presbyterian Church consider the following motions:

1: That Gale Presbyterian Church supports Rev. Sinclair's proposal for a ministry exchange with Rev. George Shand, Tinto Parishes, Church of Scotland, to occur on the Sundays of June 14th, 2020 to July 12th, 2020 inclusive as outlined in the attached proposal.

Or other as the court deems appropriate.

2: That the proposal for a ministry exchange between Rev. Scott Sinclair and Rev. George Shand, Tinto Parishes, Church of Scotland, as outlined in the attached proposal be forwarded to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington for their consideration.

Or other as the court deems appropriate.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Rev. Scott Sinclair

Appendix "E" – Congregational Affairs Committee

DOON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

INTERIM MODERATOR'S REPORT TO PRESBYTERY

January 14th, 2020

The Doon Presbyterian Church vacancy is progressing well.

The Board of Managers, dormant for a few years, has been reinstated and is managing the concerns of the building.

A search committee has been organized and is preparing a congregational profile.

Regular preaching supply is being arranged. The Session has met monthly with the exception of December 2019. The clerk and I have met monthly. Each session meeting has included some orientation and training on the pastoral and leadership responsibilities of elders. There continues to be concern regarding the regular absence of some elders from session meetings.

Submitted with charm.

Rev. Scott Sinclair

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Appendix "F" Report of the Mission and Outreach Committee

January 7, 2020

The Mission and Outreach Committee did not hold a meeting, but our report was circulated electronically and duly considered by the members of the committee.

The committee had two requests from a congregation referred to us in December. These will be addressed at our regular meeting in February.

A friendly reminder for those making submissions:

The Mission and Outreach Committee generally meets on the second Tuesday of the month, alternating months to Presbytery. Requests need to be submitted to the Clerk and received by the committee in time to allow us to review them at our meeting and to include recommendations in our report to Presbytery.

Recommendations:

1. To receive and consider.
2. That the Presbytery extend the deadline for congregational grant applications to the Strategic Planning Fund to June 30, 2020.
3. Report as a whole.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Greg Smith, Convener
Mission & Outreach Committee