

The Presbytery of Westminster met in Regular Session on Tuesday, March 1, 2022 at 7:00pm via Zoom Video Conferencing due to the Covid-19 restrictions on in-person meetings. Worship was led by Hummingbird Ministries.

CONSTITUTION

The Moderator, Isabel Evans constituted the Court and opened the meeting with prayer at 7:36pm.

The Moderator welcomed the following guests: Afonso Issa (VST student and Around the Well leader), Hummingbird Ministries Council member: Rennie Nahanee; Members of the Amalgamating Churches: Meilene Chia-Bois (Gordon), Judy Sinclair (Knox), Sandra Osborne (St. Aidan's).

Leave to withdraw received from visiting members from Hummingbird Ministries following the Hummingbird Ministries Annual General Meeting and from the Members of the Amalgamating Churches after the Amalgamating Churches report by the Administrative Committee.

DOCKET

It was moved by Victor Kim, seconded by Bev Shepansky that the consent agenda below be adopted.

CARRIED

Consent Agenda:

- that the Docket be as indicated,
- that the attendance be recorded as noted in the Roll Record Book,
- that regrets and requests for permission to withdraw be noted as sent to the clerk of presbytery,
- that the minutes of the regular meeting held on January 11, 2022 be adopted,
- that the correspondence be dealt with as indicated,
- that the appointed representatives of the congregations be invited to speak at the State Hours in the Docket,
- that reports without recommendations be received "for information."
- that reports with recommendations be received and their recommendations considered,
- that the presbytery treasurer be permitted to speak to financial issues.

If the Court is agreed, these motions will be adopted at the beginning of the meeting. Any member may ask for an issue on the consent agenda to be withdrawn from this list before the agenda is adopted.

ROLL

Constituent Roll:

M. Baxter, H. Botha, B. Childs, P. Eastwood, M. Fontaine, B. Fraser, G. Jay, T. Kim, V. Kim, R. Lockhart, C. MacLeod, L. McKay, R. Simpson, G. Snyman, M. Szigeti, W. van de Wall, R. Watson, D. Woods.

N. Abramson, M. Adams, B. Astop, J. Cheng, J. Con, B. Dennehy, I. Evans, B. Feick, C. Gleimius, L. Gorman, L. Johnson, K. Kim, L. Lanaras, K. Patrick, N. Pringle, C. Rebosura (Alt for First), K. Sewell, B. Shepansky, G. Shields, J. Sonachansingh, S. Stacey, E. Wilson, P. Wong, L. Yen, M. Zaine.

Victor Kim

Appendix:

B. Cairnie, P. Dutcher-Walls, M. Marple, D. Tait-Katerberg.

Students:

S. Charleton, J. Carr

REGRETS:

S. Goble, T. Hsieh, R. Topping, J. Allan, L. Bae, G. Davis, B. Garvin, A. Perrett, K. Jordan.

CORRESPONDENCE FOR - January 4 to February 26, 2022

Date	Name	Content	Action
01-04-22	Patty Panagiotopoulos	Acknowledgement of Rebecca Simpson change on the Roll.	Received
01-04-22	Dale Woods	Next workshop on “Thinking Styles” is coming up – RSVP by January 15 th	Received and circulated
01-05-22	Liane Maki	Receipt of change in roll for Rebecca Simpson	Received
01-06-22	Ross Lockhart	Guder Scholars Program - Exciting new opportunity for PCC leaders in their first fifteen years of ministry	Distributed
01-06-22	Kate Jordan	Betty McLagan will be turning 100 on February 28	Received and circulated
01-07-22	Terrie-Lee Hamilton	Acknowledges receipt of POW’s response to Referral BOF 176.1	Received
01-09-22	Pamela Wong	Submission of the results of Brentwood’s congregational meeting for approval to withdraw funds for additional planning/renovation work	Received
01-10-22	Ross Lockhart	Requires Letter of Good Standing	Received and responded
01-12-22	Brian Fraser	An Invitation to Study the Beatitudes with Brentwood	Received and distributed
01-13-22	Cameron Hart	Enquiring if the PCC Leading with Care Policy has been translated into Korean	Received and responded (yes)
01-17-22	Terrie-Lee Hamilton	Announcement regarding the Nominations for Moderator of the 2022 General Assembly	Received and circulated
01-17-22	Andrea Perrett	Invitation to Faithful Innovation Discussion, January 24th @ 7pm with Cyclical Vancouver	Received and distributed

01-17-22	Liz Brewer	Annual Certified Candidates Update	Received
01-18-22	Garth Youdan	Invoice for wiring work at Knox and appreciation for the technology grant	Received and forwarded to Treasurer
01-19-22	Jennifer Astop	Funds Designated for Indigenous Ministry (Hummingbird) will be distributed in the coming week.	Received and replied with thanks
01-20-22	Don Muir	Clerk's Consultation Meeting cancelled due to Covid Risk	Received
01-20-22	Andrea Perret	Would like to be added to Pulpit Supply List	Received and done
01-20-22	Loraine Johnson	Looking for updated Covid Protocols for churches	Received and responded
01-20-22	Rebecca Simpson	Approved Budget for Camp Douglas 2022	Received
01-21-22	Stephanie Bank	Crieff Hills Mental Health Workshop – January 26	Received and distributed
01-21-22	Terrie-Lee Hamilton	Referral Overture Deadline approaching – Feb 1 st	Received
01-21-22	Lip Boon Lee	Would like to be added to Pulpit Supply List	Received and done
01-24-22	Matthew Goslinski	Regional Resourcing Grant for Camp Douglas Worship Director approved	Received with thanks
01-24-22	Dale Woods	Announcement of four online ministry opportunities: Assisting Congregations, Lectionary Study, Online Book Study and Sharing Resources	Distributed
01-25-22	Bruce Cairnie	The Proposed Amalgamation of Knox, St Aidan's, and Gordon Presbyterian Churches	Received and circulated
01-25-22	Glen Davis	Grant Application Deadline Reminders	Responded
01-26-22	Teresa Charlton	Synod Planning Team considerations	Received and responded
01-26-22	Brian Fraser	Looking for list of grant deadlines	Responded
01-26-22	Daniel Martinez	Camp Douglas Information for summer 2022 now available	Received and circulated
01-27-22	Terrie-Lee Hamilton	GA for 2022 will be online June 5-8	Noted
01-28-22	Larry Eastwood	RRG approved for Camp Douglas request funds to be submitted to POW	Received and noted
01-29-22	Larry Eastwood	Enquiry if user groups are required to take Leading with Care courses and should such be written into the rental agreement	Responded and noted
01-29-22	Laurie McKay	Looking for direction on how to help a family who was impacted by the floods receive monies from the Flood Relief Fund	Received and responded

01-29-22	Larry Eastwood	Send reminder to congregations about forwarding Flood Relief money and to ensure Trust Deeds are completed	Received and circulated
01-31-22	Jackie Czegedi	Amalgamation Proposal (Knox, St. Aidan's and Gordon) has been approved by the Commission on Assets	Received with thanks
01-31-22	Kathryn Muir	Changes to the Roll January 2022	Received
01-31-22	Bruce Cairnie	Enquiring what the next steps will be now that the amalgamation proposal is approved by the Commission on Assets	Received and responded
01-31-22	Liz Brewer	Looking for updates on Certified Candidate under the care of the POW	Received and forwarded to Student Support and Certification Comm
01-31-22	Mary Fontaine	Requesting a letter of permission for Hummingbird to apply for Cooke's Fund 2022 grant	Received and responded
02-01-22	Presbyterian History	Presbyterian History - 70th Anniversary of Queen Elizabeth II becoming Queen	Received and circulated
02-02-22	Kiejoon Kim	Submission of two articles on human sexuality and Remits: PCC The Record March 2016 and Renewal Fellowship called "Together Talk"	Received, not circulated
02-02-22	Cooke's PC	Clerk of Session and Rep Elder, Rita Wensler passed away	Noted and shared
02-03-22	Rebecca Simpson	Note for Admin Committee to discuss back-up of electronic files for presbytery committees	Noted and forwarded to Admin Comm
02-05-22	Joe Mick	Coquitlam PC has presented an Overture to the POW they wish to be forwarded to the 2022 GA	Received
02-08-22	Dale Woods	Request the invitation to the Online Book Study be redistributed to the POW	Circulated
02-09-22	Colleen McCue	Seeking Nominations for PCC Executive Staff Position - Associate Secretary, Communications	Received and circulated
02-10-22	John Popiel	PWS&D and Response to the BC November 2021 Flooding	Received
02-10-22	Presbyterian College	February News and Events	Received and circulated
02-10-22	Diana & Tony Redden	100 th Birthday Celebration for Betty McLagan postponed	Noted
02-10-22	Jackie Czegledi	Statistical Reports for 2021	Circulated
02-10-22	Larry Eastwood	Trust Deed at ACM – reminder for Session Clerks	Received and circulated

02-11-22	Maggie Leung	Presbyterians Sharing Reports for December	Received and circulated
02-11-22	Brian Fraser	Copy of Trust Deed from 2018 – looking for authorized copy from Clerk	Received
02-13-22	Emmanuel Cheema	Kidnapped in Pakistan & miraculously safe; return to family in Canada looking for support	Received and forwarded to Admin Committee
02-13-22	Brian Fraser	Pat Dutcher-Walls Bible and Diversity Workshop at Brentwood – Feb 26 – please circulate	Distributed
02-14-22	Carragh Erhardt	Funding for Counseling re Harm Caused by Homophobia and Transphobia	Distributed
02-15-22	Kelly Patrick	2022 WPGPC Trust Deed required Clerk's signature	Received
02-15-22	Heinrich Botha	Resignation Letter from WVPC	Received and forwarded to Ministry Comm
02-16-22	Brian Fraser	Collaborating Churches Application for a Regional Resourcing Grant for Christian Urban Music Camp Summer 2022	Received by CEC
02-16-22	Gordon Shields	Haney PC 2021 Statistical Report received	Received
02-16-22	Ruth Chueh	VTPC submission of 2021 Statistical Report and Financials	Received
02-17-22	Laurie McKay	Clarification around congregational members from the collaborating churches and attendance at March 1 POW meeting	Replied
02-17-22	Glen Davis	Please circulate invitation to support Janette McIntosh from her release from sentencing	Distributed
02-20-22	Richmond Pres	Invitation to Learning from Indigenous Wisdom Event	Circulated
02-21-22	Teresa Charlton	General Assembly standing committee nomination	Circulated
02-22-22	Murat Kuntel	Notification of move to Prince George and asking for transfer to Presbytery of Kamloops	Responded
02-22-22	Teresa Charlton	Acknowledgement of transfer of Rev. Murat Kuntel to the care of the Presbytery of Kamloops	Received
02-23-22	Pamela Roa	Work Party notice for Camp Douglas	Circulated
02-23-22	Susan Stacey	Session of Kerrisdale seeking permission to pursue amalgamation with West Point Grey Presbyterian Church	Referred to Strategy and Leadership

02-23-22	Brad Childs	Information regarding upcoming call to Brad Childs from the Presbytery of Edmonton Lakeland	Information received, the call has not yet been received
02-24-22	Robert Paul	Request for copy of minutes around timing of being added to the roll of Westminster	Responded
02-25-22	Betty McLagan	Appreciation for flowers for her 100 th B-day	Acknowledged

HUMMINGBIRD MINISTRIES ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – Stated Hour 7:45 pm

Hummingbird Ministries
Annual Meeting 2022

Agenda

All motions, unless otherwise noted, were moved by Laurie McKay seconded by Mary Fontaine.

Recommendation #1: that Presbytery move into a Committee of the Whole to conduct the Annual General Meeting of Hummingbird Ministries and that Laurie McKay be the convenor of the meeting and that the Clerk of Presbytery be the recording secretary. **CARRIED**

Recommendation #2: that the attendance of the Annual Meeting be the same as that recorded as the March 2022 meeting of the Presbytery of Westminster. **CARRIED**

A slide show was presented that highlighted some of the challenges and engaging activities that were held during this past year. Mary Fontaine spoke to the trials of the unmarked graves at Residential Schools, continued treatment of indigenous peoples and the difficulties in gathering due to the pandemic. Mary expressed sincere gratitude for the support Hummingbird Ministries has received throughout the year through prayers and concern and from all levels of presbytery.

Adoption of the Annual Report

Recommendation #3: that the Annual Report of Hummingbird Ministries be accepted as presented. **CARRIED**

Financial Documents for 2021

(Not including budget 2022, which was adopted at the January 2022 meeting of presbytery)

Recommendation #4: that the Balance Sheet, Audit Report and Income Statement for 2021 be adopted. **CARRIED**

Election of Officers and Members

Recommendation #5: that the officers of Hummingbird Ministries and members of Hummingbird Council be those elected through the regular process of nomination and voting at the June meeting of the Presbytery of Westminster. **CARRIED**

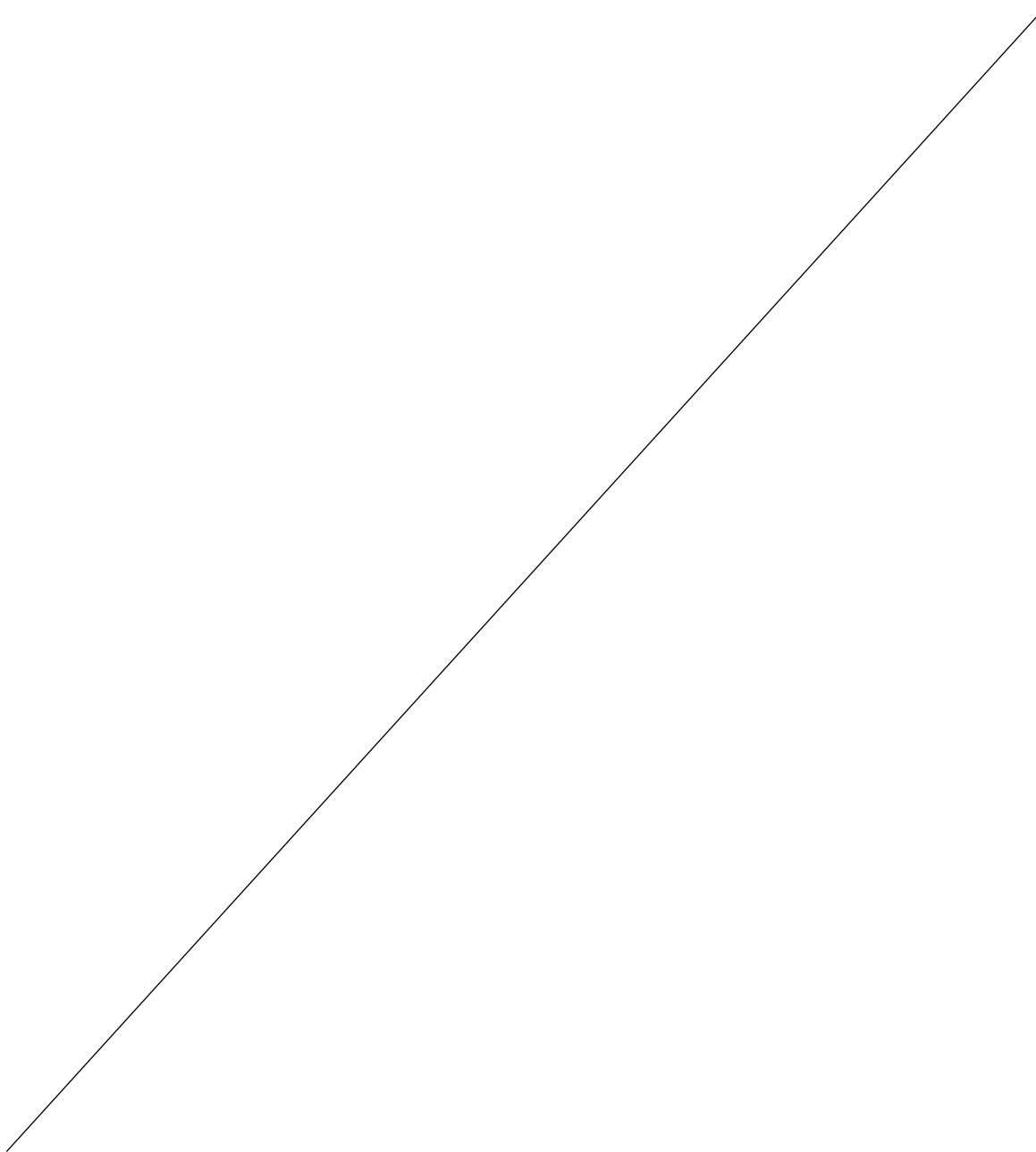
Victor Kim

The moderator offered a prayer for Mary Fontaine, the council members and the continued work of Hummingbird Ministries.

Motion to move out of Committee of the Whole

Recommendation #6: that this meeting be adjourned and presbytery move out of Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED



HUMMINGBIRD MINISTRIES



Providing opportunities for healing and reconciliation through Circles and the Arts – to restore hope, freedom, and justice for healing – socially, politically and spiritually



2021 ANNUAL REPORT 2022 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

WESTMINSTER PRESBYTERY, MARCH 1, 2022, VIA ZOOM

Rev. Laurie McKay, Convener, Hummingbird Ministries Council

INTRODUCING HUMMINGBIRD MINISTRIES 2021 ANNUAL REPORT



Dear Friends in Christ,

Hummingbird Ministries is now in its 17th year of service. We commend the Rev. Mary Fontaine, as the founding director of this unique healing and reconciliation ministry. Please take time to read her excellent report to learn how God is working through this ministry and to learn of the blessings and prayer concerns.

We acknowledge with sincere thanks God's blessing on Mary's unique ministry journey in the past year. Her heart for all people and her sincere desire for justice has taken her to places that we cannot go. God is using Mary as a servant leader who respects both the Presbyterian Church and Indigenous wisdom and worldview. In the ways that matter, there is no conflict between these two ways, although some would have us think otherwise (on both sides).

Major challenges in the Hummingbird community this year included the grief over the loss of an elder from Covid, and a young dancer from a drug overdose. Not able to gather with the children, due to the pandemic protocols and other reasons, meant taking the ministry outdoors on walks with teachings by Indigenous elders. The focus of the ministry shifted from the children to the elders and a demographic dictated by ministering to the current realities of the year. The discovery of children's graves at the Kamloops residential school site, and the climate change disasters were two of these current realities.

As a result of the shift, elders and cultural teachers, from both the Prairies and B.C., were filmed. Thirty-two videos about survival and the wisdom of the elders were created to be shared widely and with the Hummingbird children. As Mary has said, "the Holy Spirit has reminded that our ministry has a broader mission not confined to one demographic, nor to one place and time." But we are hopeful that the children's programs and our annual events can resume in the year ahead even though the filming is now a priority given the high mortality rate of Indigenous elders in these times. Filming is expected to continue regardless of the pandemic, but travel, fundraising and an assistant will be needed for the project. Your help and prayers would be appreciated.

We are expecting to proceed with the festival in April or May and look forward to a baptism in May and a wedding in August. Mary has been a voice in the Presbyterian Church nationally.

We encourage congregations, when gathering, to acknowledge the people of the traditional land on which you gather and give thanks for their good stewardship, as one step towards reconciliation with Indigenous people. If any congregation needs help to research which nation resided in your location I can help you with that.

We invite you to join us on our walks with the elders to learn from Indigenous knowledge about the land they know and love. To better understand this concept, I invite you to read [A Braid of Sweetgrass](#) by Indigenous author and botanist Robin Wall Kimmerer.

She compares Indigenous wisdom, scientific knowledge and the teachings of plants. Kairos has hosted book clubs on this book on Zoom and would probably host one for your church if asked.

Other ways to support Hummingbird Ministries in our mission for healing and reconciliation is:

- to invite Mary to preach
- to attend one of the upcoming events such as our spring festival
- to attend a Hummingbird Council meeting to experience a sharing circle
- to attend a Council meeting to listen for more ways to connect and support the ministry
- to consider helping with our film project in the spring and fall
- to consider donating towards the film project to interview elders who are so few already
- to serve on the Hummingbird Ministries Council, as we need you
- to show more visible support for this unique Indigenous-led healing ministry

We are grateful to Canadian Ministries, the Presbytery of Westminster, the Synod of B.C., the Cooke's Fund, the legacy fund of the West Point Grey Presbyterian Church, the PCC Project Funds, the WMS, the PAR donors, congregations and individual donors.

We continue to be grateful and pray for all those who walk with us on the path of Truth, Healing, and Reconciliation. We are grateful for your hearts of justice, compassion, and the prayer support. We thank those who have hosted events, invited us to preach or have attended our events. As a one-person staff ministry, the contributions of the Council, the elders, the teachers and volunteers cannot be overlooked.

The Hummingbird Council meets ten and sometimes eleven times per year, by Zoom and in person as Covid protocols permit. We are thankful for the leadership of Isabel Evans who stepped back as convener, after years of service, to pick up her duties as moderator of Presbytery. Cree Elder Dorothy Visser and Deacon Rennie Nahanee (Squamish) remain faithful voices on the Council. Working and learning from the Council is a privilege that refreshes my soul after healing circles.

Going forward the members of the HM Council are Rev. Mary Fontaine (Founding Director), Rev. Laurie McKay (Convener), Co-convener: Deacon Rennie Nahanee, Larry Eastwood (Treasurer), Dorothy Visser (Circle Elder). Other Elders include Lesley Graham (Circle and arts performance volunteer) and Darlene Mondor (Cooking volunteer)

Yours sincerely,

Laurie McKay

Convener,
Hummingbird Ministries Council

Rev. Mary Fontaine, Executive-Founding Director, Hummingbird Ministries
director@hummingbirdministries.ca



A joyful heart is good medicine, but a crushed spirit dries up the bones. (Prov. 17:22)

Another Pandemic Year of Ministry

Due to the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic protocols and Indigenous-specific challenges, the Hummingbird Ministries Prayer Circle, partially comprised of faithful members of the Westminster Presbytery prayed constantly in 2021. This act of sacred love and commitment to reconciliation with Indigenous people is good medicine going far to replace the pain, struggle, illness, grief and loss with joy. With our venue locked down, Zoom not an option for the children, families keeping their children at home and pandemic protocols preventing indoor gatherings, it was a year of adapting and re-evaluating our work plans and our vision. As a ministry of the Church, the Holy Spirit has reminded us that our ministry has a broader mission not confined to the children's ministry through the arts, nor to any one demographic, nor to one place or time.

The Spirit led me to pursue healing and reconciliation objectives, through engaging in current realities. I participated in several Indigenous-justice related meetings re Bill C-15, regarding the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People. My elder and our team visited the *Tk'em'lups* First Nation, after the discovery of 215 Indigenous children's graves at their former residential school site. We comforted and encouraged both Indigenous and non-Indigenous mourners. My associates and I filmed our elders as they walked, sharing their knowledge of the earth's edible plants and medicines. I filmed Indigenous elders and cultural teachers on the prairies about survival skills and asked what wisdom they would share with future generations. At a Cree language event, I filmed a Metis elder who taught the group how to play the spoons and the cultural aspects of this art of music and dance. Thirty-two videos will be shared with a wider audience on our website and with Hummingbird's children.

The trip to Kamloops to pick sage was a way of healing from the loss of our friend, Vivian, an Indigenous Anglican priest whom we lost to Covid-19. Later in the fall, we lost a youth to a drug overdose and an elder to Covid-19. Over the past two years, we lost seven members of my own family, not to Covid but in other ways. Grieving is a current reality balanced by God's peace (Phil 4:6-7).

Climate change is a current reality. I grieved and prayed for those who suffered and died from the heat dome. I prayed with those in flood zones of the Fraser Valley, grieved with friends in Lytton as their town burned and for others on evacuation alerts from wildfires. I walked in prayer with friends committed to reversing climate change and protecting the *Wet'su'wetin* First Nation and others from the Trans Mountain pipeline. Our work plans for 2022 are in place, but filming elders for the survival of future generations of **all children** is a priority in these times. Despite the pandemic, this report profiles our ministry's goals and objectives for healing and reconciliation in the past year. I am grateful for your continued support of Hummingbird Ministries.

Sincerely,

M. Fontaine

1. **Healing and reconciliation projects which brought Indigenous and non-Indigenous people together to promote personal well-being and reconciliation include:**
 - a. Walk in Beauty and Walk Humbly projects at various locations
 - b. Van Dusen Botanical Gardens walk featuring bees
 - c. Cedar walk led by West Coast elder Gene Harry and Dorothy Visser
 - d. Kamloops sage-picking walk led by elder Dorothy Visser;
 - e. Circle and sharing a catered meal after the cedar walk
 - f. Memorial ceremony on a hiking trail on the Sunshine Coast
 - g. Tour of Hummingbird at Sechelt First Nation
 - h. A Circle and a meal shared with Assembly Council visitor, Diane Jones

2. **Healing and encouragement for healing the heart and soul of Indigenous individuals and families through:**
 - a. A visit, a meal, prayer and a walk with a family in Mission
 - b. Prayer, pastoral care through calls, social media and brief in-person meetings
 - c. Prayers and sharing over meals arranged for two grieving families
 - d. Funeral service for our youth Zeus' family
 - e. Funeral service for family on the Prairies
 - f. Grocery gift cards for families struggling financially
 - g. Fuel gift cards on cold nights, for a family living in their van
 - h. Education about new approaches to drug and alcohol addictions treatment through a film produced by a Blackfoot filmmaker

3. **Reconciling cultural and spiritual gaps between cultures and races, and between Christian theology and Indigenous worldview and spirituality through:**
 - a. Pulpit supply for five churches, including the Presbytery of Westminster
 - b. Speaking on Matthew Brough's podcast, *Spirituality for Ordinary People*
 - c. Video re history of Indigenous people in Canada for the Chinese community
 - d. Cedar bouquet blessing to Presbytery by Rev. Fontaine and elder Dorothy
 - e. Memorial service on a hiking trail, for non-Indigenous friends of Sonya, who lost her battle to cancer
 - f. Indigenous ecological education through elder Dorothy's rattle-making workshop re Cree knowledge of water
 - g. Indigenous ceremonial education and medicine wheel teachings through elder Dorothy's smudge prayer and color meanings of ribbons, used to tie the cedar branches for Presbytery
 - h. Encouraging the Presbytery and the BC Synod to acknowledge the land and its people
 - i. Participating in Braiding Sweetgrass Book Club organized by Kairos; Indigenous author and botanist, Robin Wall Kimmerer reconciles science with Indigenous knowledge of plants

4. **Encouraging trust and faith in Jesus Christ through:**
 - a. A memorial service for our youth Zeus at Holland Park in Surrey
 - b. A memorial service for Sonya, on a hiking trail on the Sunshine Coast

- c. A memorial service video for Troy, a family member's friend in northern B.C.
 - d. Prayers with the family of our musician Amy, who lost her battle with Covid-19
 - e. Prayers and encouragement for those who are ill or discouraged
 - f. Prayers on Zoom meetings when invited, regarding Indigenous justice matters
 - g. Prayers with a family in Mission, after moving from *Kekinow* housing and encountering racism by a new neighbor
 - h. Prayers for *Tk'em'lups* and other First Nations searching the grounds for buried children at former residential schools
 - i. Prayer and encouragement for someone facing incarceration due to being wrongfully accused
 - j. Prayer for Indigenous prisoners suffering with Covid in their cells.
 - k. Prayer for those awaiting medical procedures and immune compromised
 - l. Prayers and encouragement for the addicted and lost
 - m. Prayer for our country and for peace to prevail
5. **Ecumenical work included the events and work as follows:**
- a. An AIDS vigil with a United Church colleague at Trinity Grace United Church
 - b. Communion service in Kamloops with an Anglican priest and a brief meeting with the Anglican Bishop
 - c. Video in conjunction with Fraser Lands church member regarding Indigenous-specific racism
 - d. Helping the Chinese community through a Zoom call to promote the publishing of a book on anti-Asian racism
 - e. Participation in a memorial service for colleague Vivian at Christ Church Cathedral
 - f. Phone meetings with United Church Festival partners to postpone and reschedule this annual event
 - g. Phone meeting with the Mosaic Church regarding the postponement of our National Indigenous Day celebration
 - h. Two worship services at St. Paul's Catholic Church, Squamish Nation, N. Van., to support Deacon Rennie Nahanee
6. **Church committees and Indigenous justice advocacy work through:**
- a. Zoom meetings hosted by Kairos, the Canadian Council of Churches and UBC regarding Bill C15 UNDRIP (United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous People)
 - b. The Special Committee of General Assembly, regarding ethnic racism
 - c. The All-Parties Covenant re TRC Call to Action #46 re residential schools
 - d. Zoom calls and creating a video re National Indigenous History month in June
 - e. Convening the National Indigenous Ministries Council (NIMC) and preparing the Standing Committee report
7. **Keeping Hummingbird Ministries afloat through essential administrative tasks including:**
- a. Grant applications
 - b. Regular Presbytery, Synod and Hummingbird Council meetings
 - c. Leading with Care & Healthy Boundaries workshops for volunteers & teachers
 - d. Office and technical
 - e. Making work plans and initiating work projects
8. **Annual events keep us connected to our artist community and our ministry partners. Annual events include:**
- a. Peace through the Arts Festival – met with United Church colleagues to reschedule the event for April or May 2022

- b. National Indigenous Peoples Day celebration in June – communicated with the Mosaic Church to reschedule event
- c. First National Day for Truth & Reconciliation, September 30 – Dorothy attended an event at Holland Park in Surrey
- d. Christmas Circle – Mary delivered food gift cards, Christmas gift cards & McDonald's gift cards to Hummingbird families, Dec. 9

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WORK PLANS FOR 2022

Hummingbird Ministries' plans for 2022 include the following plans adapted and adapting depending on the pandemic and health safety protocols.

1. Powwow Dance Instruction and the Connecting with Powwow Elders projects:
 - a. Powwow dance instruction – the older children who were dancing prior to the pandemic have not shown any interest in continuing to dance. Part of this is due to their grieving the loss of one of our young dancers to drug overdose last September. However, the mothers of younger children continue to want their children to learn to dance powwow, and the parents of a different *Kekinow* housing complex have invited Hummingbird to start teaching the children to dance when the pandemic is over. However, it may still be some time before we can start the program as our current dance instructor is waiting for results of medical tests and needs to adjust his physical activity.
 - b. Connecting our dancers to powwow elders and professional powwow dancers – on our dance instructor's advice we have taken our children to public powwows but perhaps not often enough. Elders could impress on the young dancers the values of discipline, powwow dance protocols, the importance of being good role models and living drug-free and sober lives. They could learn new steps from observing professional dancers and develop their own unique styles of dancing. If the pandemic allows, we propose spending more time connecting our children to the wider Indigenous community. The values they learn at home and at Hummingbird, could be affirmed, strengthening their will to make healthy choices in life.
2. Dance Skit – choreograph a skit based on the Cree story of the star man and the Earth woman featuring the Metis dancers. It will focus on one of the eight points of the star blanket – ancestors' teachings about the care of children, including care of their souls. It will include the story of Jesus being born of both Heaven and Earth. Powwow dancers in full regalia would dance to portray the Indigenous side of Metis people, and Celtic dancers would portray their White ancestors. Perhaps there would also be a song to which Heaven and Earth could dance together in harmony.
3. Navajo Workshop, about the Walk in Beauty Ceremony – invite a Navajo elder to teach online or in person, depending on the pandemic. The ceremony is based on the concept of how to live in harmony with all things in order to have joy. Based on YouTube videos, the ceremony focus seems to be on the significance of thoughts and beliefs with respect to suffering from fear and anxiety. This is one of the only Navajo ceremonies which survived colonial legislation. Given Indigenous wisdom about human nature, these (psychological) concepts could be very helpful for Hummingbird's and our partners' healing work. A contact in Navajo Land is seeking an elder to do the workshop.
4. Indigenous Wisdom Conference – featuring star-blanket teachings – in person or possibly an adaptation on Zoom and video. Indigenous elders and theologians would share their knowledge and spiritual perspectives. There are eight points on the star blanket and eight corresponding teachings about life and relationships. To the best of our knowledge and research, there is only one elder who still knows these teachings in North America.
5. Walk in Harmony – an extension of our Walk in Beauty / Walk Humbly project – the proposed "Walk in Harmony" project would inspire a deep connection with nature. A walking project could continue, since it can be done outdoors and be adapted to pandemic safety protocols. We would continue to invite Indigenous elders to share their knowledge of medicinal plants and other uses. We would also invite elders or cultural teachers to talk about the spiritual practice of the vision quest, especially the aspect of being in harmony with nature without fear. Indigenous people have maintained their connection to nature through hunting, fishing, ceremonies and cultural events which are held outdoors.

Walking in harmony with nature is a perfect way to meet social, emotional and mental health needs during these trying times. Walking in nature helps to clear the mind, focus on the journey and soak up surroundings. With this focus,

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discoveries are made along the way about self, the human spirit and the culture of the land we explore. With social isolation and fewer in-person worship services during the pandemic, smelling the pine trees, feeling the sun on your face, listening to the birds chirping and watching the sunsets allows for renewal of the soul, especially in these times. Meeting people of diverse backgrounds, and sharing the walk in beauty is like a pilgrimage, as we make our way to a common place of peace. Walking together in camaraderie and with interactions, we encounter along the way a new understanding of humanity.

Reconnecting with nature is especially important for church members who have not been able to meet for regular worship. For this reason, members of New Westminster's collaborating churches, from St. Aidan's, Gordon and Knox have asked to join our walks. To help accommodate their spiritual needs, we propose inviting a theologian to speak about ancient Christian practices such as the early desert fathers and mothers who went to the desert to rest.

6. Annual Events:
 - a. Peace through the Arts Festival in partnership with the Gilmore Park United Church (Richmond) and the Peninsula United Church (White Rock). April or May.
 - b. National Indigenous Peoples Day celebration. Mid-June.
 - c. Second Annual National Day of Truth and Reconciliation, Sept. 30, perhaps with one of our ministry partners.
 - d. Christmas Circle, Richmond PC, Dec. 10.
7. Musical Instruments – most likely to continue as it can be done one on one. Music jams are possible when the pandemic restrictions are lifted.
8. Anti-Bullying Workshop – created/facilitated based on the medicine wheel teachings.
9. Baptism in April and a wedding ceremony, Sat., Aug. 6.
10. Film Project – The film title "Light of the North Star" will be changed to one that reflects the 'building' of the Holy House. The storyline of the film is at the point where the hummingbird has returned with the seed to build the Holy House. Then the people have to decide how to build it.

We propose interviewing Indigenous elders to get their views on what a Holy House might look like. When the hummingbird returns, the people are in a Circle waiting to talk about the seed and what it means. In other words, if a Holy House (Indigenous church) were to honour an Indigenous worldview and spirituality and Christian theology, what Indigenous elements, if any, would be important for Indigenous people? We would interview Indigenous Christian adults, elders and ministry leaders who practice Indigenous culture or ceremonies in their lives or ministries. We would also interview traditional pipe carriers and longhouse elders to learn and understand their views. This is an important project, given that Indigenous elders continue to pass away at an alarming rate. Now is the time to retrieve Indigenous knowledge and spiritual wisdom that might help to bring healing to future generations. Should there be any Indigenous youth along the way, with views on this matter, we would also film them. Conversations about how these practices and ceremonies might coincide with Christian theology would be another conversation.

A questionnaire would be designed with specific questions but also open-ended questions regarding elders' stories. The project would mean travelling to interview elders, but some might have to be done by Zoom. Interview locations are likely to include the Lower Mainland of B.C., northern B.C., northern and central Alberta, central and southern Saskatchewan, Winnipeg area, Kenora region and any First Nations communities we may be referred to in the Toronto and Montreal areas and the Maritimes. We propose doing the interviews in May, June and July, unless the pandemic recedes significantly, allowing for work in indoor projects during those months. We would continue with the walking project in between interview trips. Depending on the pandemic, we could continue with the film interviews in mid-October to mid-November.

The film project would require the hiring of a ministry assistant and a camera person to film the elder interviews. Interviews further away may require airfare and car rentals. We currently have some funds for this project but would need to apply for funds from the Synod of British Columbia.

11. The director would continue with the work of pastoral care as needed. She attends meetings and responds to pulpit supply invitations and ministry promotions. Speaking engagements include Indigenous-justice related organizations. The director convenes the meetings for the National Indigenous Ministries Council and prepares the NIMC Standing Committee Report to General Assembly 2023. Grant applications include project grants and the specialized ministries grant. Administrative work includes the usual office duties including electronic communications.

THE HUMMINGBIRD MINISTRIES COUNCIL

The Hummingbird Community and 2021 HM Council are grateful for the ongoing support of the PCC Canadian Ministries grant, the PCC Project grants, our Presbytery, the BC Synod, the Cooke's Fund, the WMS, congregations, PAR friends, ecumenical partners, Brentwood Church Jazz Benefits and Indigenous communities we walk together with on the Lower Mainland of BC. Special thanks to the West Point Grey Presbyterian Church for sustaining us through the support of Hummingbird Ministries in 2019 and beyond.

We welcome invitations which "increase understanding of Indigenous people around issues of ministry, theology, and Indigenous cultures," according to the mandate of our national church. We look forward to another year of learning and growing.

Director:	Rev. Mary Fontaine
Convener:	Rev. Laurie McKay
Co-Convener (Indigenous):	Deacon Rennie Nahanee
Treasurer:	Larry Eastwood
Presbytery member:	Isabel Evans
Indigenous Circle Elder:	Dorothy Visser
Indigenous Elder:	Darlene Mondor (volunteer cook)
Indigenous Elder:	Lesley Graham (volunteer, children's programs)

Updates on our work and engagements for 2021 can be found on Facebook and our website at:
www.facebook.com/HummingbirdMinistries and www.hummingbirdministries.ca.

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Hummingbird Ministries
Comparative Income Statement (Cash basis)

	Actual Jan 01, 2021 to Dec 31, 2021	Budget Jan 01, 2021 to Dec 31, 2021
REVENUE		
Revenue		
PCC Ministries Grant	67,000.00	67,000.00
PCC NIMC grant	25,000.00	25,000.00
PCC Cookies Grant	7,500.00	7,500.00
PCC Synod Grants	0.00	8,000.00
Presbytery operating grant	8,000.00	8,000.00
Presbytery grant WPG	30,999.99	40,000.00
PCC Special Projects Grants	0.00	10,000.00
PCC Gifts Of Change grant	15,111.00	0.00
PCC Creative Ministries Grant	0.00	7,000.00
WMS National Grants	0.00	500.00
transfers from holding grants	0.00	20,500.00
Other Grants	1,051.00	2,000.00
Donations - Congregations	745.00	2,000.00
Donations - Individuals	220.00	500.00
Canada Helps donations	2,580.70	0.00
Donations - PAR	2,496.00	2,500.00
Sale of Goods	80.00	1,500.00
Peace Thru the Arts admin and sales	0.00	2,500.00
Non-receipted Donations	0.00	100.00
Total Revenues	<u>169,783.69</u>	<u>204,600.00</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	<u>169,783.69</u>	<u>204,600.00</u>
EXPENSE		
Projects		
Prayer Dance Project	1,250.00	0.00
Girls Butterfly Dance honoraria, mile	0.00	800.00
Boys Fancy Horse Dance honor, mile	0.00	800.00
Meals Rad River Dance honor, mileage	0.00	800.00
Honoraria, elders consultants	303.94	1,650.00
Honoraria, videographers, assistant	0.00	1,000.00
Circle food, regalia	0.00	550.00
Dance Performers honoraria	0.00	800.00
Total Dance Project	<u>303.94</u>	<u>6,400.00</u>
Venue	0.00	200.00
Honoraria, playwright	0.00	500.00
Honoraria, Director, Actors consult	0.00	500.00
Food, meetings, local actors	0.00	300.00
Drama Project Total	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>
Honoraria, voice lessons	0.00	200.00
Honoraria, guitar & uke teachers	0.00	700.00
Honoraria, piano lessons	0.00	800.00
Food	0.00	300.00
Total Film Project	<u>0.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>
Film Project	<u>1,258.96</u>	<u>0.00</u>
Cinematographer, editor, honor	0.00	3,000.00
Editor fees	0.00	6,000.00
Screenplay advisor honor	0.00	800.00
Meals, volunteer meetings	0.00	500.00
Total Film Project	<u>0.00</u>	<u>10,100.00</u>
Powwow regalia	0.00	600.00
Ribbon shirts & skirts, fabrics	0.00	500.00
Textile artist honoraria	0.00	400.00
Total Textiles	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>
Honoraria, consultants, interviews	0.00	1,200.00
Communications expenses	0.00	300.00
Total Radio Project	<u>0.00</u>	<u>1,500.00</u>
Honoraria, Deborah workshops	0.00	750.00

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Honoraria, Ernie workshops	0.00	750.00	
Honoraria, elders	0.00	300.00	
Online streaming & recording techs	0.00	250.00	
Transportation	0.00	200.00	
Food, lunches for hikers	0.00	500.00	
Honoraria, trauma counsellor	0.00	250.00	
Closing ceremony meal	0.00	500.00	
Total Anti-Bullying workshops	0.00		3,500.00
Walk Humbly Healing Path #2	782.18		0.00
Honoraria, walkabout guides	600.00	4,000.00	
Nature walk, Richmond, guide	0.00	200.00	
Honoraria, Elder consultants	435.24	300.00	
Honoraria, videographers	0.00	250.00	
Books on plants, gardening etc	0.00	200.00	
Transportation	0.00	200.00	
Honoraria, safety guides	0.00	250.00	
Food, hikers	175.04	500.00	
A Roche farm visit	0.00	600.00	
Van Dusen Xmas light show	201.20	500.00	
Total Walk Humbly project	1,412.36		7,000.00
spare	4,987.06		33,500.00
Annual Events			
Peace Through the Arts Festival	23.07		0.00
Honoraria performing artists, HM	0.00	6,900.00	
Honoraria, MC	0.00	250.00	
Catered dinner, lunches	0.00	3,500.00	
Online streaming, recording tech	12.72	300.00	
City permit, tents, portapotties	0.00	500.00	
Venue	0.00	600.00	
Sound & video systems, techs	0.00	350.00	
Salish welcome	0.00	250.00	
Honoraria, photographer, videograph	0.00	200.00	
Child Care	0.00	300.00	
Admin, supply expenses	0.00	400.00	
Transportation	0.00	350.00	
Total Arts Festival	12.72		13,900.00
Auction items	196.83	800.00	
gifts, volunteers	0.00	200.00	
Total Benefit Concert	196.83		1,000.00
Pastoral Care	2,871.83		0.00
Circles expense	328.90		0.00
Honoraria, cooks, food	42.33	150.00	
Gifts, children & grocery cards	1,309.72	700.00	
Santa honoraria or gifts	40.35	150.00	
Dinner, potluck/takeout	0.00	550.00	
Salish Welcome	0.00	150.00	
Total, Annual Christmas Dinner	1,482.40		1,700.00
Performing artists honoraria	0.00	1,200.00	
Honoraria, videographers, photograp	0.00	400.00	
Total, NAD Festival	0.00		1,600.00
Fundraising Expenses	275.60		0.00
Total Projects Expenses	5,191.35		18,200.00
General Expenses			
Advertising	12.98		0.00
Bank & PAR Fees	36.00		64.00
Bookkeeping	3,600.00		3,600.00
Financial Review fee	0.00		300.00
Council & Elders Mtgs. Mileage	126.80		800.00
Council Other Expenses	480.60		200.00
Equipment office	800.46		2,000.00
Equipment maintenance	612.15		290.00
Insurance	1,227.00		1,200.00
Office Supplies & Postage	836.63		1,800.00
Media Assistant	0.00		1,000.00

Office Staff	1,896.76	12,500.00
Office Utilities	0.00	700.00
Miscellaneous General	123.37	0.00
Total General Expenses	<u>9,731.75</u>	<u>24,254.00</u>
Salaries & Benefits Staff		
Stipend	52,230.03	52,230.00
EI	1,245.33	1,200.00
Minister's PCC Medical & Dental	4,502.00	4,502.00
Minister's Continuing Education	0.00	600.00
Minister's Car Allowance	4,500.00	4,500.00
Minister's Housing Allowance	38,400.00	38,400.00
Minister's Hydro	579.47	2,030.00
Minister's Fortis	1,027.54	0.00
Total minister's utilities	1,607.01	2,030.00
Minister's Cell Phone	1,531.07	650.00
PCC Pension	0.00	8,986.00
WorkSafeBC	101.18	245.00
Total Salaries & Benefits Staff	<u>104,206.62</u>	<u>113,343.00</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>124,116.78</u>	<u>189,297.00</u>
NET INCOME	<u>45,666.91</u>	<u>15,303.00</u>

Generated On: Dec 27, 2021

Hummingbird Ministries
Balance Sheet (Cash basis) As at Dec 31, 2021

ASSET

Current Assets

Total Cash	96,049.90
Total Receivable	1,400.00
Total Current Assets	97,449.90

TOTAL ASSET	97,449.90
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LIABILITY

Funds Reserved for Specific Use

Minister's Education Fund	1,800.00
Chisholm Grant - PTA Festival 2019	5,000.00
Synod grant - 2020 Jack Smith film	10,000.00
UCC grant - 2020 PTA Festival	5,500.00
Total Funds Reserved for Specific	22,300.00
Total Long-Term Liabilities	22,300.00

TOTAL LIABILITY	22,300.00
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EQUITY

Equity

Retained Earnings - Previous Year	29,482.99
Current Earnings	45,666.91
Total Equity	75,149.90

TOTAL EQUITY	75,149.90
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LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	97,449.90
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Hummingbird Ministries	FY 2022	
	DRAFT	
REVENUE		
Receiptable Donations		
PCC Canadian Ministries Specialized Ministries grant	67,000	
PCC Cooke's Fund	7,500	
PCC Presbytery grant 1	40,000	
PCC Presbytery grant 2	8,000	
PCC Assembly Council Grant 2022	22,222	
PCC Regional Resourcing Grant	1,000	
PCC Special Projects fund	5,000	
PCC Special Projects fund, Anti-bullying (from 2020)	3,000	
PCC Creative Ministries grant	5,000	
PCC Indigenous Ministries fund (from 2021)	13,111	
PCC Conference Fund	8,000	
Synod of BC	8,000	
Synod of BC, film project, (from 2019)	10,000	
WMS National Grant	2,000	
Donations - Congregations	1,500	
Donations - Individuals	1,000	
Donations - PAR	2,500	204,833
<hr/>		
Non-Receiptable Donations		
Sale of Goods, fundraising events, auction sales	2,000	
Peace thru the Arts Festival Anniversary Admission, sales	2,000	
Non-Received Donations	1,000	5,000
Total Revenue		209,833
<hr/>		
EXPENSE		
PERFORMING ARTS PROJECTS		
Pow Wow Community Connection Project		
Female Dance Instructor , honorarium, mileage	600	
Male Dance Instructor, honorarium, mileage	800	
Metis Dance Instructor, honorarium, mileage	800	
Pow Wow Elder consultations (workshops and interviews)	900	
Metis cultural elder, workshop and interview	400	
Travel & food expenses, accommodation, Kamloops pow wow	1,500	
Fuel and food expenses, local pow wows	500	
Circle food (take-out deliveries) elder workshops	500	
Dance Performers Honoraria	1,000	7,000
<hr/>		
DRAMA PROGRAM - Metis Dance Skit		
Dance instructor choreographer	1,000	
Drama Consultant, honorarium	200	
Performance Attire & Props	200	
Elder's Honorarium	200	
Circle Expenses, food, etc.	400	2,000
<hr/>		
MUSIC PROGRAM - Musical Instruments & Music Jams Project		
Honoraria, voice lessons for solo or duet if allowed	100	
Honoraria, Guitar and Uke lessons	600	
Honoraria, Piano lessons	600	
Music Jam & composition of new songs, venue, food	500	
Food, bag lunches, snacks	200	2,000
<hr/>		
FILM PROJECT: The Light of the North Star		
Cinematographer, editor assistant, honorarium	2,500	
Consulting fees with Indigenous elders, film-makers (story ending)	2,000	
Editor fees	2,500	
Screenplay advisor, honorarium	2,500	
Meals, volunteer meetings	500	10,000
<hr/>		
Regular Programs		
Textile Arts, Dance Regalia, Performance Attire		
Pow Wow Dance Regalia Accessories, new dancers	1,000	
Ribbon shirts & skirts fabrics and supplies	500	
Textile Artist honorarium	1,000	1,500
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HEALING PATH PROGRAM - 2 Projects		
Anti-Bullying Workshop Project, (Healing Path Project #1)		
Honoraria, Emile, Anti-bullying Workshops via Zoom (5)	750	
Honoraria, Elder assistant, Anti-bullying workshops via Zoom	200	
Honoraria, Elder consultant	300	
Online streaming and recording technicians	250	
Pre-prepared food and packaged items	500	
Closing Ceremony, Awards Day, meal or take-out	500	2,500
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Walk Humbly Project, (Healing Path Project #2)		
Honoraria, Walking Guides, garden tours, admission	300	
Nature Walk, Richmond Nature Park (Bog), Tour guide	200	
Honoraria, Elder consultants/teachers	300	
Honoraria, videographers, photographers	200	
Reconciliation Day, Sept 30/22 walking together, food, elder honoraria	300	

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Transportation, car rentals & fuel for volunteers	200	
Food, bag lunches	500	
A Rocha Environmental Stewardship farm, group rate	400	
Van Dusen Botanical Gardens Christmas Light Show	400	2,800
INDIGENOUS WISDOM PROGRAM - 2 Projects		
Walk in Beauty Workshop - Indigenous Wisdom Project #1		
Honorarium, Navajo elder	2,000	
Travel, Accommodation, Meals	2,500	
Circle Food	200	
Elder's honoraria, mileage	300	5,000
Starblanket Teachings Project - Indigenous Wisdom Project #2		
Elder Instructor Honorarium	2,200	
Guest Travel, Accommodation, Meals	1,200	
Circle Food	400	
Photographer/Videographer/Editor	500	
Technical equipment & tech support, honorarium, zoom	500	
Venue	200	5,000
FUNDRAISING EVENTS		
Benefit Concerts, virtual or in person		
Auction Items	400	
Online streaming and recording technician	100	
Food & Refreshments, transportation for arts performers	500	
Gifts, volunteers, Silent auction prep, sales reps	400	1,400
PASTORAL CARE		
Pastoral Care	4,584	4,584
ANNUAL EVENTS - 3 Events		
Peace through the Arts Festival, Friday eve, Saturday all day		
Honoraria, Fundraising artists, Friday evening	2,000	
Honoraria, Festival artists, Saturday	3,000	
Honoraria/gifts, Hummingbird admin, auction, sales assistants	300	
Honoraria, MC's	300	
Honoraria, stagehands, front desk, kitchen, cooks, security	500	
Dinner (Sat.), bagged lunches, refreshments	2,000	
Online streaming technology, recording zoom, editing technicians honorarium	300	
Sound and video system and technicians	350	
Salish Welcome honoraria	250	
Honoraria, Photographer, videographer, editing video	350	
Child care program	200	
Administrative costs, masks, hand sanitizer, pandemic cleaners	200	
Transportation	250	10,000
Annual Christmas Circle		
Honoraria, Cooks & kitchen helpers, if no gathering, apply to take-out	400	
Gifts, children and grocery gift cards	1,200	
Honoraria, Santa, if no gathering, apply to gifts	200	
Dinner, potluck	300	
Honorarium, Coast Salish welcome, if no gathering, apply to gifts	250	2,350
National Indigenous Peoples Day Festival, Virtual or in-person		
Honoraria, HM Dancers, dance videos, speakers	2,000	
Honoraria/gifts, Videographers, photographers, recorders, editors	500	2,500
GENERAL EXPENSES:		
Bank & PAR Fees	300	
Bookkeeping & Review	3,900	
Council & Elders mtgs mileage	700	
Council other	200	
Equipment - assistant's laptop	1,000	
Equipment maintenance	290	
Insurance	1,500	
Website master	600	
Office - Supplies & Postage	800	
Media, tech assistant, livestreaming, zoom, sound tech	500	
Office - staff	28,000	
Ministry Assistant	7,000	44,790
STIPEND & BENEFITS		
Salary	52,909	
EI expense	1,500	
Minister's PCC Medical & Dental	4,600	
Continuing Education	600	
Minister's Car Allowance	4,500	
Minister's Housing Allowance	38,400	
Minister's Utilities	2,100	
Minister's Cell Phone	1,500	
WorkSafe BC	300	106,409
TOTAL EXPENSE		209,833
Balance Check:	Revenue minus expenses	0

Victor Kim

Carol J. Garvin

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FINANCIAL REVIEW FOR 2021

I have reviewed the Hummingbird Ministries' financial records for the period of January 1, 2021 - December 31, 2021. This review included examination of the general ledger, deposits, bank statements and reconciliations, along with supporting documentation for all revenue and expenditures. Payroll matters, deductions, grants, special funds and required remittances all appeared to be properly dealt with and commitments met in a timely manner.

After completing this review, it is my opinion that these financial records represent an accurate accounting of the financial status of Hummingbird Ministries as of this date.

Respectfully submitted,



February 4, 2022

REPORTS

VISITATION COMMITTEE REPORT

The report was presented by Bev Feick, Visitation Committee Convener.

All motions, unless otherwise noted, were moved by Bev Feick, seconded by Gordon Shields.

Westminster Presbytery Visitation Committee Report for March 2022

Visitation committee Elders are Gordon Shields (Haney), Emily Wilson (St John's), Pam Wong (Brentwood), Bev Feick (Langley). Rev. Dennis Howard and Rev. Woldy Sosnowsky have agreed to be Ministers of the team. The committee will continue to recruit ministers. Gordon Shields (lead) and Rev. Sosnowsky have submitted the exit report for St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Mission.

In 2020, during the early stages of the pandemic, the scheduled visits to Chinese, Fairview, Gordon, Haney, Richmond (regular) were not carried out. 2021 regular visits would have been Cooke's, First Hungarian, St Paul's, and Vancouver Taiwanese. The Visitation team, in consultation with the Ministry committee, will consider the schedule for 2022.

Respectfully submitted

Bev Feick

Convener Visitation Committee

Exit Visit with Rev. Rebecca Simpson and Session

St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Mission

January 24, 2022 by Zoom (6pm with Rev. Rebecca Simpson/ 6:45pm with Session of St. Paul's)

Presbytery Visitation Team: Gordon Shields (lead), Rev. Woldy Sosnowsky

Meeting with Rev. Rebecca Simpson

Rev. Rebecca Simpson has enjoyed a productive ten-year ministry to St. Paul's Mission, and during this time she developed a deep affection for the congregation. In her own words "It's been a pleasure to serve alongside this deeply faithful, compassionate and supportive congregation. There is peace, harmony, willingness to pull together and a sense that God's provision is always at work for the good of God's people. They are very good to their minister! The elders, although not always of one mind, function as a team, with wisdom and grace. The board is populated with skilled and smart members. The congregation has a good reputation in the community for being generous and contributors to the fabric of Mission. All in all, things are in good shape at St. Paul's. Of course, the pandemic has been hard on everyone, but there is still a solid foundation of capability, order, good practice, generous and kind people to make this a good place for a new minister!"

Rebecca acknowledges that the challenges of the pandemic have hastened her departure from St. Paul's. She has found the past two years to be exhausting and this has led her to seek some changes in her life. On Rebecca's arrival at St. Paul's ten years ago, she found a congregation with many pillars of strength, but with some tensions that needed to heal. Rebecca has invested time and energy to mend any divisions within the congregation that had arisen prior to her arrival, and to build a solid footing for future growth of the congregation. A key aspect of this was finding a match up between people in the congregation and the jobs that needed to be filled, and putting people into jobs where they could best use their gifts in building God's kingdom.

St. Paul's has been working on increasing its commitment to Presbyterians Sharing. It continues to support a local missionary to youth, a variety of smaller community / PCC ministries and camperships to Camp Douglas in significant ways. In Rebecca's own words "St. Paul's is small but mighty and has always had enough". The congregation has been responsive to messages around stewardship, tithing, planned giving etc. Rebecca would have liked to have seen more progress in the establishment of a Legacy Fund.

During her ministry Rebecca began to recognize that she was spreading herself too thinly, trying to do on her own many of the tasks necessary to maintaining and growing the congregation. In the past year, steps have been taken to remedy this situation, with the hiring of a part-time church administrator. Preparation of weekly bulletins, newsletters and other media required in worship is now the responsibility of the church administrator, and this freed Rebecca to focus on other ministerial tasks. During the past several months, as a result of Rebecca's part-time status at St. Paul's, combined with her new part-time role at St. Andrew's Hall as Director of Denominational Formation, a pastoral care worker has been hired to ensure that key pastoral care needs of the congregation are being met. One key success was the session's use of a survey to ask congregants how and under what circumstances they would most like to receive pastoral care. The elders received confirmation that they were meeting people pastorally where they most needed it. Pre-pandemic pastoral care was structured according to elder districts established with survey results in mind. For instance, elders who were still working and comfortable with texting and email took charge of a larger number of congregants who desired more interaction via text and email.

The congregation also has an active prayer chain, along with a variety of congregants who have agreed to help with pastoral support such as providing food, checking in on people etc. The congregation itself is quite engaged in pastoral care for each other, it is never left to just the elders or the minister.

One challenge with pastoral care continues to be getting new congregants connected into groups of mutual care. This is particularly difficult during the pandemic with the loss of many programs and activities that allow people to get to know each other. Pre-pandemic, some ongoing pastoral care came through groups such as a Mother's Prayer Group, the Men's Group, Ladies Group, Youth Group, Book study groups and Bible study groups. During the worst of the pandemic St. Paul's held zoom meetings for prayer and mutual support, not only worship.

Rebecca sees deep faith, tolerance for theological differences, and financial generosity as the congregation's greatest strengths. The greatest need for improvement lies in the revitalization of the music ministry. Rebecca considers the hiring of a paid director of music to be an important step in this process. Although the core of the congregation is satisfied with music as is, a goal Rebecca feels she fell short of meeting is that of improving the consistency and excellence of the music ministry. Many in the church miss the loss of leadership for contemporary music during the pandemic. Rebecca believes this will be key to revitalizing worship at St. Paul's.

The relaunch of the Youth Group following the COVID pandemic is also something the Session and next minister will need to pay particular attention to.

Rebecca feels the next minister at St. Paul's will need to be a strong people person, getting to know the members of the congregation as individuals, and helping each person to recognize where they are best suited to work in the congregation, and then to encourage the development of leadership capabilities from within.

In conclusion, Rebecca summarized the congregation as being strong and deeply caring to each other, although the same precarious situation exists at St. Paul's as can be found in any one of our other congregations in the Presbytery. The effects of COVID have resulted in the disruption of congregational life and spiritual growth that will need to be overcome through rebuilding.

Meeting with Session

The following elders were present for a discussion with the Visitation Team: Chris Bucholz (Clerk), Shaikh Ibraheem, Loraine Johnson, Doug McKellan, Don Mowat, Cathie Nielsen, June Thoms, Lois Warren.

The love and respect of the elders for Rev. Rebecca Simpson was evident to the Visitation Team, and elders clearly will miss her presence with them. One of the elders noted that Rebecca's arrival ten years ago was a "spirit-filled breath of fresh air". Rebecca brought stability to the congregation and a renewed sense of outward focus on the community around the church.

Elders reflected on the highlights of Rebecca's ministry with them, and the VBS program, with upwards of 35 children was mentioned as an outreach that had a big impact on the community. The Camp Douglas ministry was also a focus of the congregation, with support offered to send children to Camp each summer. Prior to COVID, there had been an active youth ministry, but that has suffered over the past two years. Elders expressed the hope that the group could restart with renewed vitality once the pandemic is over.

The church is located in a rapidly developing area of Mission, with many young families, particularly Indo-Canadian. A non-profit Christian daycare is expected to open at St. Paul's in the next few months, catering to the need for services that support families. Some elders noted an interest on the part of members of the Indo-Canadian community in knowing more about the mission of St. Paul's. Prior to COVID, several elderly Indo-Canadian men would stop by the church on their daily walks, and enjoy a chat or a chance to warm up. Elders noted that Rebecca was also reaching out to local Punjabi-speaking women, with the hopes of starting an ESL group that would also explore basic Christianity.

The Men's Group had been meeting for monthly breakfasts at the church, but this activity has been interrupted by the pandemic. There is an ongoing plan to construct a Community Workshop (sometimes also referred to as a "Men's Shed", or "Community Haven"), where people in the community can come together to work on various hands-on projects. The City of Mission does not have sufficient community facilities of this type and the congregation sees a local need that could be addressed by St. Paul's. Funding for the Workshop project would need to come from sale of a portion of the (relatively large) property owned by the church, or possible from the sale of the manse, which is currently rented out.

Rebecca has done a very good job of connecting St. Paul's to the community, including working closely with other churches in Mission. St. Paul's has been working with other local churches in reaching out to help the homeless in

Mission, and has supported the settling of two refugee families in collaboration with other local congregations. St. Paul's also supports MY (Mission Youth) House, an outreach to local youth.

The addition of an office administrator and a pastoral care worker were seen as important steps in the growth of ministry at St. Paul's. With Rebecca's decision to accept a position at St. Andrew's Hall and her consequent move to part time ministry at St. Paul's, these two positions have been critical in maintaining ministry to the congregation and the surrounding community. Nonetheless, some elders voiced concerns over the demands placed on a small number of people to maintain the ministries of the church, especially during this current pandemic. The congregation was described by the elders as being in good shape, with a strong sensing of supporting each other and working together in the church's mission. The session itself reflects this same unity of spirit. Overall, the congregation seems satisfied with the style of Sunday worship, including the mix of traditional and contemporary music.

Financially, elders feel that the congregation is in good shape, with adequate funding available to meet emergency needs as well as ongoing obligations. Rebecca was mindful of budgetary issues during her ministry, ensuring the ministry initiatives were able to operate within the bounds of the budget passed by the congregation.

To conclude, the elders voiced their desire to see the next minister at St. Paul's carry forward with the work started by Rebecca. This person should embody the characteristics that elders described Rebecca as having: patient, and good listener, with strong teaching and preaching skills, and also finding the balance between friendship and leadership in their relationship to the congregation.

Recommendation: To commend Rev. Rebecca Simpson, the Session, and the congregation for their faithful stewardship of and dedication to the work of Christ at St. Paul's Church during the time of Rev. Simpson's ministry.

CARRIED

In His service,

Gordon Shields
Rev. Woldy Sosnowsky
Presbytery Visitation Team

MINISTRY COMMITTEE REPORT

The report was presented Paddy Eastwood, Ministry Committee Convener.

All motions, unless otherwise noted, were moved by Paddy Eastwood, seconded by Mike Zaine.

Ministry Committee Report to Presbytery

March 1, 2022

Resignation of the Rev. Gabriel Snyman as Interim Moderator for First Presbyterian Church, New Westminster

We received the resignation of the Rev. Gabriel Snyman as Interim Moderator for First Presbyterian Church, New Westminster, effective February 28, 2022. We thank Mr. Snyman for his ministry at First and wish him God's

Victor Kim

blessing as he prepares to serve as a military chaplain. The Ministry Committee is in the process of consulting with the session and approaching candidates to serve as the next Interim Moderator of the congregation.

Resignation of the Rev. Bradley Childs as Interim Moderator for Knox, Presbyterian Church, New Westminster
We received the resignation of the Rev. Bradley Childs as Interim Moderator for Knox, Presbyterian Church, New Westminster, effective March 1, 2022. We thank Mr. Childs for his work with Knox and wish him God's blessing as he takes up a new ministry in Edmonton. We have appointed the Rev. Dr. Patricia Dutcher-Walls as the Interim Moderator for Knox.

(To be continued after the 8pm Stated Hour for the Consideration of the Amalgamation Plan for the Growing Together Churches.)

CONSIDERATION OF AMALGAMATION PLAN FOR KNOX, GORDON AND ST. AIDAN'S PRESBYTERIAN CHURCHES - Stated Hour 8:00pm

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

*The report was presented by Victor Kim, Administrative Committee Convener.
All motions, unless otherwise noted, moved by Victor Kim, seconded by Paddy Eastwood.*

Proposed Amalgamation of the Growing Together Churches (Gordon, Knox, St. Aidan's)

Presbytery has received the amalgamation plan from the Growing Together Churches, which has been approved by the Commission on Assets at the national church level. This leaves only the presbytery to consider the plan and to determine whether to support it or not. The congregations of the Growing Together Churches have been cited to appear and they have chosen representatives to speak to the presbytery, as well as their ministers and the Interim Moderator for the Growing Together Churches, Bruce Cairnie.

Interim Moderator, Bruce Cairnie spoke about the process of how the three churches have grown together to commit to this Amalgamation plan. A short video was presented. Three members: Meilene Chia-Bois from Gordon PC, Judy Sinclair from Knox PC and Sandra Osborne from St. Aidan's shared their experiences of the process and support on the plan to move forward into one body – the Growing Together Church. Ministers, Cal MacLeod from Gordon and Laurie McKay from St. Aidan's, shared their perspective on how the process came together. Both commended each of the congregations for their unending efforts which brought a new vision on how church can work and gave thanks to God for the gifts of the people and for blessing their work. The positivity and excitement that has come from this endeavour has created deep engagement not only with each other but also within the communities they serve. It was noted a high number of members from these three congregations were in attendance for this meeting.

Recommendation 1: That the Presbytery of Westminster approve the Amalgamation Plan of the Growing Together Churches (Gordon, Knox and St. Aidan's). **CARRIED**

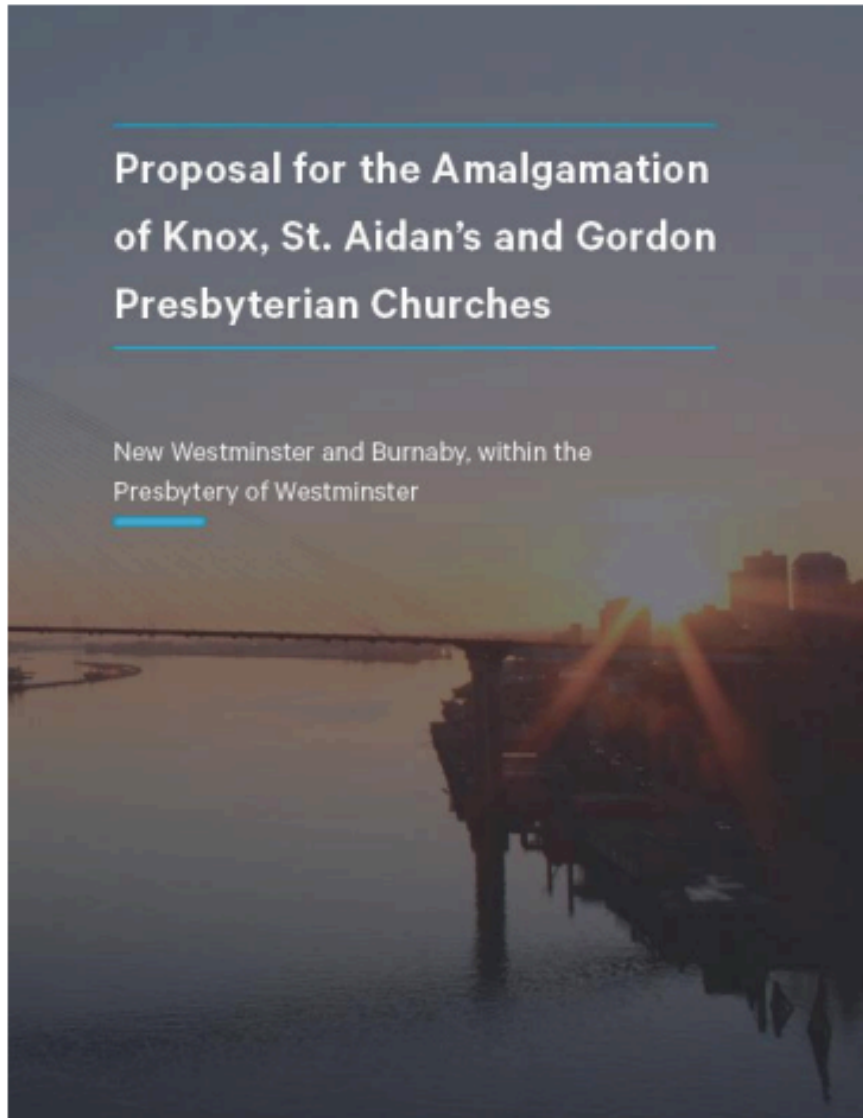
Recommendation 2: That the timing of the official Amalgamation Day for the Growing Together Churches be left in the hands of the joint session and the Moderator and Clerk of Presbytery. **CARRIED**

Victor Kim

Several presbyters made note of the service and capability of Rev. Bruce Cairnie to the amalgamation effort and expressed thanks to Bruce for his leadership.

(To be continued after the 8:40 Stated Hour of the Resignation of the Rev. Heinrich Botha from WVPC.)

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Proposal for the Amalgamation of Knox, St. Aidan's and Gordon Presbyterian Churches
New Westminster and Burnaby, within the Presbytery of Westminister

Proposal for the Amalgamation of Knox, St. Aidan's and Gordon Presbyterian Churches

New Westminster and Burnaby, within the Presbytery of Westminster

Proposal for the Amalgamation of Knox, St. Aidan's and Gordon Presbyterian Churches
New Westminster and Burnaby, within the Presbytery of Westminster

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1 The Growing Together Conversation

Since 2018, the Sessions and others from the congregations of Gordon, Knox, St. Aidan's and Brentwood have been gathering to discuss their current contexts and ways to collaborate in order to support and increase the vitality of their ministries. These congregations have distinct and faithful ministries in which God's people experience community, vitality and meaning. It is also true that the congregations are declining, sometimes struggle for sufficient resources of energy and ability, recognize finances are a concern and that all the facilities are aging in such a way as to demand very costly maintenance and repair. Without responding to these factors in a significantly different way than we have done, we might have about five years before facing the closure of some or all the congregations. Believing we are guided by vision and hope to take hold of a new future and that we are not operating out of a sense of fear, we affirm the urgency of this moment. In May 2019, we agreed "We see a short-term growing together of getting acquainted while we also work together on a more substantial and organic growing together." By February 2020, thinking had gelled more fully, and we refined that agreement to say, "In this short-term period of discussing growing together and getting acquainted, we wish to work together on becoming one new congregation." Since September 2020, the Sessions have taken on a monthly pattern of meeting together for the purpose of preparing for a request to amalgamate and a new life as God's people together. This plan for amalgamation has been born from the Growing Together conversation. Brentwood Presbyterian Church remains a ready partner for collaboration. The current proposal is one for the amalgamation of Gordon, Knox, and St. Aidan's Presbyterian Churches.

These conversations began in early 2018. In the second quarter of 2021, it is hoped that the congregations will be given this report for their consideration and prayer and then, later, they will be asked to decide if they wish to request amalgamation. This will take place through conversations in each congregation along with a congregational meeting in which there will be a vote. That request will be forwarded by the Sessions to the Presbytery of Westminster, hopefully before the summer of 2021. The Presbytery will diligently review the request and must forward it to an agency of the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada for its study. That agency, called The Commission on Assets, will direct the Presbytery on how to proceed. We are hoping that the answer will be given by the end of 2021 so that, in the first quarter of 2022, the amalgamation can proceed. This is a description of the earliest way in which this process could unfold; it might take longer than that and not happen until a later date. In the meantime, the plan is to continue to worship together via Zoom and, when permissible, via worshipers being physically present together.

Recognizing that amalgamation is not an instant transformation, a recommendation will be included that the Sessions, meeting together before the amalgamation, create a Transition Team to work under the oversight of the Joint Sessions and the New Session. This team will work in many of the details of the transition from three congregations into one New Congregation.

2 The Vision for a New Congregation

Throughout the Growing Together Conversation we have been aware of a desire to amalgamate for the sake of being in mission rather than using this process as an attempted means to fend off decline and closure. A part of our awareness of our current situation is that we have three congregations each doing the basic tasks of being a congregation; they consume a lot of the energy. If, on the other hand, there

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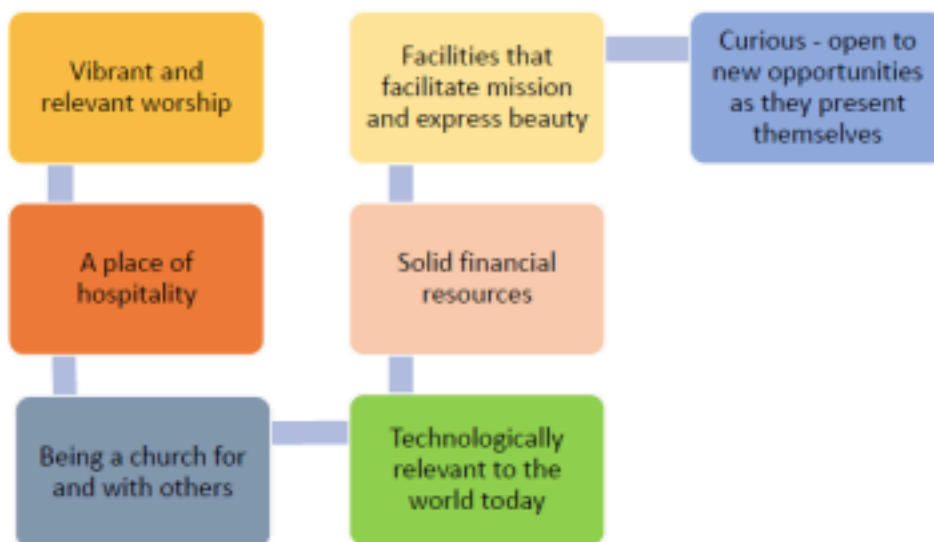
was one larger group of people who only had to complete the basic tasks once, there would be more people, gifts, energy and time available for mission.

Beginning in the early part of 2021, 35-45 participants from the Growing Together Congregations met for five, two-hour sessions to discuss the possibility of a new beginning. We began the visioning process by asking the question: How might we best steward the gifts and resources we have been given to share in God's mission of grace and blessing in our communities of New Westminster and Burnaby?

We began with prayer—those of others and our own. "Lord we sense your presence with us as we meet together to consider the future vision of our congregations. Please guide our thoughts and discussions to keep us centered on your will for us." "Help us Lord to not be afraid to live larger and wider lives so that we can reflect your glory. Amen!"

We reflected on Scripture and asked how Scripture might guide us in our work. We looked at the challenge presented in Acts 15 and noted their dependence on Scripture, reflection on their own experience, and how they saw God at work in their midst. They trusted in the Holy Spirit and their communal discernment.

We gave ourselves permission to imagine new possibilities. What kind of faith community would be a sign and source of joy? There was a lot of conversation, but most of it found a home in seven desires:



We reviewed what mattered most to us and we identified nine values:



We looked at our present experience and asked: Did we have any of those gifts already? We were confident that God had gifted us as a community, and we could see God's work in our congregations through several lenses. We have sought to show God love in our communities. We have been places of fellowship and belonging. We have seen courageous and diverse leadership. Our worship is centered on God's grace in Christ. There have been numerous acts of generosity. And we have been places of learning and sharing the gospel.



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Putting together who we have been and what matters to us, we imagined a revitalized faith community marked by six building blocks that would be grounded in God's grace in Jesus Christ and our love of our neighbour:



We then asked, what would be the signs of vitality in a new or renewed faith community? We named four.

1. Spiritual vitality that would be lived out in four main ways.

**Understanding Deepened
Through Learning and
Honest Conversation**

**Worship that Engages and
Enriches**

**Opportunities to Serve and
Use Our Gifts**

**Friendships and Fellowship
that Support and
Encourage**

2. Relational vitality experienced through:

Valuing Friendship and Fun

Connecting Through
Common Interests

Sharing gifts and goals

Showing care, concern,
compassion

3. Organizational Vitality

Here we focused on inspirational and transparent leadership that would be exercised with the following characteristics:



4. Missional vitality:

We were committed to being a faith community that was incarnational and that would be committed to discerning God at work in our communities and joining in that work. We would work from our present strengths of the Don't Go Hungry program and rejoice that we could make a difference. We would not try to be 'all things to all people' but rather use our resources wisely and effectively so that we could make a real difference in the lives of the people in our community. We would be open to partnering with others and focus on mission rather than buildings and we would become learners about the longings and losses of those in our neighbourhood.

Worship would lead to mission that would be at the heart of a new or renewed faith community.

- We already have strengths to work from.
- We are not gifted to do everything, but we are gifted to do some things well.
- Mission effectiveness requires the openness to partner with others.
- Mission, not buildings, must determine our future direction.

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- We must be learners if we want to connect meaningfully with our communities.
- Mission is essential to growing in faith.

We recognized that vitality and resources are connected, so we looked at our own histories and our present situation regarding finances and membership. We recognized that our finances are not as strong as they were once were. We also recognized that over the last 15 years all our congregations have gotten smaller and older. Our buildings have become more expensive to maintain. So, we asked What new possibilities might exist if we combined our resources?

Our answer was that we think there are many and we have already experienced some of these new possibilities through our joint worship services and our sharing in the Don't Go Hungry program. We believe this is only a start of what is possible.

It is said that if you want to live a meaningful life, start at the end, and then work backwards. We ended where we began by asking the question, "How might we best steward the gifts and resources we have been given to share in God's mission of grace and blessing in our communities of New Westminster and Burnaby?" It has also been said that if you are willing to pay the price you can keep the change. We know there is a price to be paid, we can't make a new way without leaving something of the old way. But we also know this teaching is at the core of our faith because we are called to be a people who are willing to take up our cross and follow where Christ leads. And ultimately that is the real question that matters: What is the right pathway for us that will lead us into being faithful followers of Christ? And so we come back to our prayer expressed by one of our participants: "Help us Lord, not to be afraid to live larger and wider lives so that we can reflect your glory."

Arising from these considerations of vitality in different forms, people were asked to write an imaginary scenario of what a new faith community might look like in the year 2028 if we were to combine our resources, our commitment and energy to serve God in the communities in which God has placed us. There were four scenarios and what follows is a combination of the key elements of each scenario. We know that the exact details of such a community are beyond us at this point, but we believe that major descriptors used in this scenario are an accurate summary of our hopes and dreams of working together.

**Growing Together' Churches
Vision of Our Church in 2028**

**The New Church Times
Special Edition – June 2028**

Vibrant Church Ministers to Community

This vibrant church is a powerhouse, ministering to the spiritual needs of a large and diverse group of people eager to engage with one another and with a world in need of God's love. Brought about by the amalgamation of three congregations in the community, New Presbyterian Church is a welcoming, multi-ethnic, multi-cultural, multi-generational group, whose intention is to let the love they have received through Christ's new life shape who they are in the world. The leadership and congregation describe the vision that inspires their ministry as one of spiritual and relational vitality and a missional sense that the church is not about them but about being a church for others.

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During the COVID pandemic of 2020, this group discovered that their worship and relationships found vitality in new formats and connections and these have continued to this day. Recognizing their own spiritual health must be rooted in praise of the God who has graced them with blessings, their worship services send the congregation on their way with a renewed, uplifted, and joyous spirit. This is a congregation that knows music in many forms can express and nurture faith. Their amazing music program, including worship and community concerts, is a combination of modern, uplifting, inspiring praise music, and traditional music that stirs the soul.

Remembering that Christ created a new community among his disciples, folks at New Presbyterian Church are committed to knowing each other and enjoying the connections they are developing together. The group maintains lively memories of the history of the three legacy congregations.

Throughout the building, there are items of spiritual, artistic and historical significance that were brought from the original three churches, so that the congregation is honouring their Christian traditions while creating a new web of relationships and connections, relying on the fellowship created by the Holy Spirit.

However, these intrepid innovators also have a vision where a church is not simply a group based in a building. While their new building is a comfortable, peaceful, spiritual space, they have extended that community well past the bounds of the building. Many different people of all ages and many different backgrounds from the diverse neighbourhood around the church enter the building every week to take part in worship, volunteer work, and in the many programs, events, and groups that the church offers.

And their members also include people from as far away as Nova Scotia and Alberta, and from local distances such as Chilliwack and White Rock. An even wider online community participates by watching web-based worship services, by enjoying podcasts, and by engaging in online programs.

As a group of Christians who extend God's love beyond the church, these folks know that they need to be connected and active within the broader community. This is one of the legacy values of this congregation, which it draws from the roots of relationships they discovered when these folks first started working together on community projects back during the time of COVID19, establishing a food bank distribution hub that serves the community to this day. Their focus was and will always be on the caring, love and redemption represented by the life and teachings of Christ presented in a way that speaks to the culture of the day.

The belief that discipleship means living their faith in the church and on the streets of their neighbourhood has shaped the life and ministry of this congregation. A variety of programs and services, either run by the church itself or in cooperation with other faith and secular groups, meet the needs of the diverse neighbourhood that includes many low-income families, new immigrants, single parent families, but also some young professional families. Even the location of the church in a central and very diverse neighbourhood speaks to their identity. This is especially true because the building itself includes housing for low-income families and seniors, many of whom join the church's activities. Through simple interactions folks are reminded that God cares about them, that they matter, and are loved.

One of the often-used communion services for this congregation includes these beautiful and appropriate prayers: "Make us instruments of your graciousness in the world. And may these gifts of bread and wine become for us new life, healing, forgiving and making us whole, so that we may become for you, your body, loving and caring in the world." For a church that senses its boundaries are very porous – the community is a part of the church and the congregation is

always a part of the community, these prayers speak to their life and ministry rooted in Jesus Christ. They are a community which welcomes others to join them on their journey in being God's people, seeking to extend the blessings they have received to be a blessing for the world God loves.

A short video describing this work is available (Note: There is a 7 ½ minute video which summarizes our work, and it can be found [here](https://vimeo.com/557032575/26654440cc). (<https://vimeo.com/557032575/26654440cc>).

The congregations are grateful to the Rev. Dale Woods for his invaluable assistance in this work.

3 The Amalgamation Plan

3.1 GENERAL INFORMATION

The structure of this plan is guided by the suggested template in The Presbyterian Church in Canada's Policy on Amalgamation and Dissolution of Congregations.

Gordon Presbyterian Church, Knox Presbyterian Church, and St. Aidan's Presbyterian Church are three historic churches in the Burnaby/New Westminster cities of British Columbia. Gordon Presbyterian Church was founded in 1912, Knox Presbyterian Church in 1891, and St. Aidan's Presbyterian Church in 1910. The churches are located at between 2.5 and 5 kilometers of each other, in diverse urban neighbourhoods.

The average 2019 Sunday attendance figures reported by these congregations is 39 (Gordon – 45; St. Aidan's - 35; Knox – 37). These are small congregations. On their own they each must expend a great deal of energy on the basic tasks of ministry. As they come together, so much more will be possible.

Throughout their histories, the churches have offered to their congregations the experiences of Christian community, the vitality of an encounter with God in Jesus Christ and a deeper sense of meaning in the midst of life. However, in recent years, our congregations have declined, our members along with our buildings are aging. It is proposed that a joint response from our three churches to these circumstances is the best way to move forward into the future in a positive and proactive way.

3.2 PEOPLE: CARING FOR GOD'S SERVANTS

There will be sensitivity to all staff throughout the process of amalgamation - clergy, caretakers, musicians, and administrative staff. Reflecting the love of Christ for those who serve the church in transition is important.

3.2.1 Pastoral Leadership

We have one vacant congregation, Knox, and 2 congregations with called and full-time clergy. The options for any amalgamated congregation include:

- 1) accepting both clergy as leaders
- 2) accepting one clergy as leader or
- 3) accepting neither of the current clergy.

Whatever decision is made, it will be important to consider first the vision of the amalgamated congregation, and the gifts of leadership that are required. This is part of our discernment process.

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Likewise, our present clergy have committed to a process of discerning their own gifts and ability to lead and whether they are "called" to the new vision of the amalgamated congregation.

If the new congregation votes to maintain one or both clergy people, a new call process is required with a new "Call" document presented to the Presbytery. If the pastoral tie is severed with one or more clergy, the "Dissolution of Pastoral Ties" policy will be followed. Together we are the body of Christ, and we trust the Spirit to guide us.

The Joint Session will determine how to proceed in relation to the New Congregation's needs for pastoral leadership. This determination will begin with a careful study of the Vision and recognition of the gifts of the clergy people serving amongst us. There will be consultation with the congregations, and, after congregational decisions, appropriate processes will be begun.

In a parallel process, the pastors will carefully study their "fit" for ministry in the New Congregation in light of the Vision to determine how well suited they are to serving its needs.

3.2.2 Support Staff

The required staff support for the new congregation will reflect the Vision. The skills and time needed to ensure each role is filled, as well as clear job descriptions, will govern the appropriate hiring of staff. Current staff will be made aware of the process we are undertaking, and decisions communicated with sensitivity, and thankfulness for their service to the previous congregations. Transparency of the process will be the goal. The process for filling necessary positions may include reapplying for the new position(s).

At a minimum, we will comply with Provincial Employments Standards giving appropriate notice and severance. Plans will be in place to issue T4s and T4As as needed, and Record of Employment forms to employees whose positions are terminated by the dissolution. All properties will have custodial services to ensure property is kept to a high standard in the event of redevelopment, sale, or reuse by the amalgamated congregation. These procedures will be guided by the Transition Team, and ultimately by the Session who has oversight over all staff under our employ.

Job descriptions for each support staff position will be prepared by the New Session and current staff will be invited to apply. Further applications will also be welcome.

3.3 GOVERNANCE — CARING FOR THE PEOPLE AND THE BUILDING

3.3.1 Session Structure and Membership

At the present time the governance model that Gordon, Knox and St Aidan's use to care for the members of their congregation and the actual building where worship occurs are all slightly different. This includes whether term or life service for eldership, whether there is a separate Board of Managers or a Property & Finance Committee of Session. Session Committees will be different as well. Highlights of the present situations are summarized below:

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	Gordon	St. Aidan's	Knox
Eldership	6 year term	In 2020 reverted from term service to life service.	Life
Present Number of Elders	7	8	10 including 2 to be ordained
Separate Board of Managers?	Yes	No	No - disbanded in 2016
Session Committees	Ministry & Personnel, George Philps Memorial Scholarship Fund, Christian Education Team, Emmaus Team, Worship Team, Roll Clerk	Property & Finance; Worship & Music; Outreach, Website, & Mission; Stewardship & Planned Giving; PWS&D Ambassador; Family Ministries and Pastoral Care; Property Development; Personnel	Property & Administration, Finance, Personnel, Connections & Outreach, Worship & Education, COVID Compliance
Frequency of Meetings	Monthly	Monthly	Monthly
Process for Identifying New Elders	Congregational Nomination & Election	Congregational Nomination & Election	Congregational Nomination and Election

The New Congregation will function with Property and Finance subcommittees of Session rather than having a Board of Managers.

The three Sessions will amalgamate into one New Session with all ruling elders invited to join it. The New Session will determine its preference for using terms of service or life practise for ruling elders and shall make the appropriate request to the Presbytery. In addition, the New Session will determine the subcommittee that it needs to have, including matters of property and finance in place of having a Board of Managers.

3.3.2 The Membership Rolls of the Three Congregations

The regular maintenance of the Membership Roll is a pastoral responsibility of the Session. Each Session will conduct a thorough review of its roll before the amalgamation of the three congregations so that the New Congregation is founded with a membership roll of people who are engaged with the life and witness of one of the three congregations.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, when the congregations have been worshipping together using ZOOM, it has been a blessing to have been joined by people from many different parts of Canada and the world. We acknowledge that this new experience, in which we are, no doubt, joined by many other congregations, does not easily fit with the traditional understanding of membership and physical attendance. We are bodies of people who are seeking God together, even when we are not physically in the same place.

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Prior to amalgamation, each Session shall complete a thorough revision of its membership roll. There is no action required for a member of one of the congregations who wishes to be a member of the New Congregation. The standing of people who are members or adherents of a congregation which is amalgamating shall all be transmitted into the New Congregation. If a member or adherent does not wish to be part of the New Congregation, they may simply notify their Session of that preference, as is always the case.

3.3.3 Infrastructure

The appointment of new Trustees and a new Trust deed for the current buildings will be created in the appropriate form with the trustees of the new congregation.

The New Session will have committees for Property and Finance rather than having a Board of Managers. Gordon currently has a Board of Managers. The other congregations presently have Session subcommittees rather than Boards of Managers. Just as all ruling elders are being invited to transition to serving in the Joint Session, all members of the current Boards and Committees will be invited to continue to serve but under the oversight of the New Session.

While growing together, there will come a time when there needs to be a shared bookkeeping system and one Treasurer.

Current members of the various Committees on Property and Finance or a Board of Managers will be invited to serve on the New Session's subcommittee dealing with these areas of congregational life.

3.3.4 Other Congregational Groups

There are a variety of other groups in each congregation working to advance the work of the church in numerous domains. A summary of these is provided below:

	Gordon	St. Aidan's	Knox	Comment
Mission/Outreach	Emmaus Team, Food Bank	Food Bank	Food Bank	Don't Go Hungry is a joint initiative in response to COVID...propose to merge
Christian Urban Camp				Propose to merge
Musical Groups	Choir, Joy Bells	Former choir members and other musicians occasionally participate in worship	Knox Band, Knox Choir, Kids Choir	See description of combined music plan (below)
Musical Leaders/Ministers	Organist/choir Director	Pianist	Organist/ Pianist/ choir director/ Children' choir director	
Women's Fellowship/	Margaret Hall Circle; Girls Night Out	None	KPWA	Margaret Hall Circle and KPWA

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Missionary Groups				hold their own funds
Men's Group	Monthly Breakfast Meeting	None	None now	Propose to combine comparable groups
Sunday School	None at present	Not at present	Active but children approaching youth group age	Propose to merge
Youth Group	None at present	None at present	In development?	Propose to merge
Other Christian Education	Periodic book and Bible Studies led by Minister	Occasional short-term book studies	Bible study	Continue/merge
Congregational Fellowship	Coffee Hour roster	Kara Fellowship Coffee hour	Coffee and Conversation	Kara Fellowship has its own funds and its own CRA number.
Congregational Committees and Appointments	Envelope Secretary, Trustees, Endowment Board, Treasurer, Board of Managers	Treasurer, Trustees, User Group Liaison, Prayer Chain, Gardeners, Manse Committee, Envelope Secretary, Financial Reviewer	Treasurer, Trustees, Envelope Secretary	Board of Managers become Property and Finance committee of Session; Appoint common Treasurer

3.3.5 Plan for Integrating Congregational Groups for New Congregation:

The following principles will be observed with regards to congregational groups for the New Congregation:

Where similar groups with compatible purposes exist, these groups shall be encouraged to consider amalgamating within the New Congregation for greater effect. Where these groups decide that remaining separate is a preferred course of action, they will request approval from the New Session, stating the specifics of purpose or program which in their view would best be sustained by two or more separate groups.

Where a group in one congregation does not have a comparable program in the other congregations, that group will be encouraged to continue and to actively recruit interested potential members from within the New Congregation.

Musical groups are to be asked to assess the interest and scope of their continuing musical participation in the life of the New Congregation as well as the potential for combining groups with a similar musical expression. They are then asked to prepare a proposed scope and format for their group's intended membership, program and leadership in the New Congregation (post-COVID). The New Session will review these and seek to facilitate the continuity of these groups wherever possible, on a sustainable

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scale, consistent with the Vision of the New Congregation and the available opportunities for musical expression in worship.

The New Session shall define a proposed congregational music plan based upon the interest expressed by the various groups (above). This will then be reviewed with Musical Leaders to refine and confirm an overall music program.

Musical Leaders will be asked to confirm their willingness to continue in the role implicit in the congregational music plan. The New Session will endeavour to support continuity of leadership by musical leaders where possible. Where this cannot be achieved, the New Session commits to seek shared leadership arrangements or other means to resolve any resultant issues, and will undertake to observe principles of fairness, equity, and care in addressing these.

The New Session will rely on these principles in bringing the various groups of the different congregations into a new form in the New Congregation.

3.4 STEWARDSHIP OF PROPERTY: *OUR BUILDINGS AND PLACES OF WORSHIP*

3.4.1 Background

The congregations of Gordon, Knox, and St. Aidan's all own their own buildings, with St. Aidan's congregation also owning a manse on the site adjoining the church. Together, as we move towards amalgamation of the congregations, we seek wisdom to discern where God is leading us in the effective redeployment of these important assets, in support of our new ministry together. While our buildings are aging, taken together they are larger than is needed to support our joint worship and ministry life. At the same time, each site offers the potential for redevelopment that could replace our aging buildings while at the same time incorporate other uses that, according to our new Vision, could enable new and different ministries.

The convergence of the potential redevelopment of our sites and the proposed amalgamation of our congregations presents us with a situation that is simultaneously complex and replete with promise. It will present us plenty of challenges but at the same time will allow us the opportunity to write an exciting chapter in our Church and community. Clarifying the specifics of the retention, redevelopment, and/or disposition of our properties will take several years and extend well beyond the date of amalgamation.

These congregations have historic presence in their communities. Some of the families within them have worshipped there for generations. Within these buildings, some of our members were baptized and married. It was in these sanctuaries that they commended to God their family members who had died in hope of the resurrection. Here they raised their children in the faith. Here they encountered God in community with the others who made up their congregation. It is not easy to contemplate leaving such places. We will undertake this journey with reverence and humility, granting as much time for storytelling and leave-taking as is possible. In this still strange situation of COVID restrictions on gatherings, and not knowing the timeline in which they will be released relative to the unfolding timeline of amalgamation, we recognize and affirm the desires people have for a season of being able to worship once again in these familiar and comforting settings. Without being able to recreate the three

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historic facilities in a future one, we desire, as we can, to incorporate artifacts from them as reminders of the road along which God's people have travelled in New Westminster and Burnaby.

3.4.2 Redevelopment Studies

In late 2020, our congregations jointly entered into an agreement with the Presbyterian Senior Citizens Housing Society (Dunwood), owners of Dunwood Place, to study the potential for joint redevelopment of one or more of the sites of our congregations. Our agreement with Dunwood is based on the condition that any development must remain true to the objectives of Dunwood (Appendix A) and to those expressed by the Churches. This exercise is exploratory in nature: at its conclusion it may become clear that joint redevelopment with Dunwood is not mutually beneficial, which would not preclude the New Congregation considering other forms of redevelopment for one or more of its properties.

The initial phase of the study helped us understand the possibilities and constraints that would inform any development opportunity. It also included an assessment of real estate value that could underpin future decisions by the Church. Insights from the early work include:

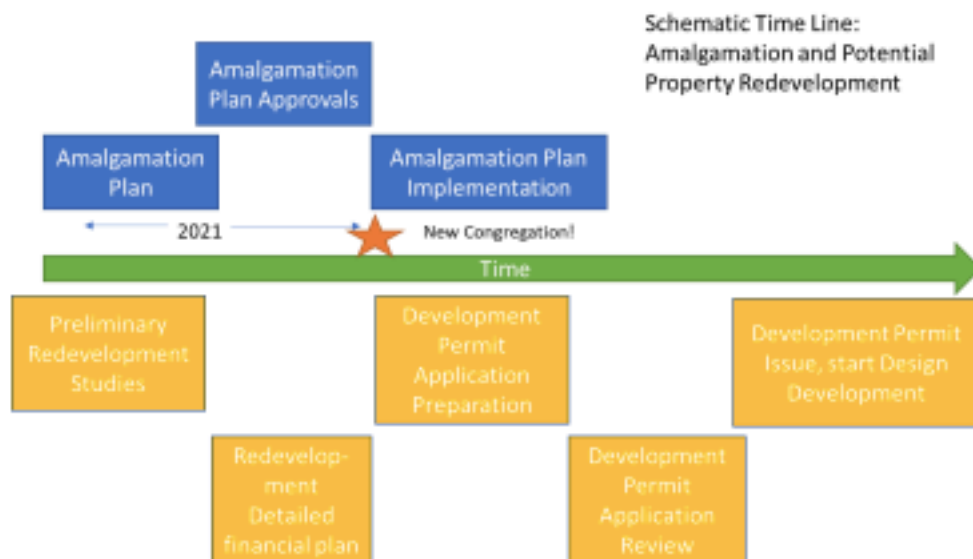
- The City of Burnaby is prepared to support redevelopment at the Gordon site. Initial enquiries suggest that redevelopment of this site will be possible and could include a church within a new mixed-use complex. Further work is required to confirm specific configuration and the financial feasibility for this site. A redevelopment project could be complete within 3-4 years following a decision to proceed.
- There is a strong desire on the part of New Westminster to prioritize Heritage preservation in any potential redevelopment. Since both of our New Westminster buildings are more than 100 years old, it is not clear whether, or under what conditions, redevelopment of these sites will be permitted. We anticipate it will take a number of years to obtain clear answers to this question, and that, redevelopment of these sites, if possible, would not happen until a later date—potentially in a five to ten year time frame.

The work before us now is being advanced through the next series of planning studies by Dunwood with the congregations. The next stage of this work will identify and test redevelopment possibilities for the Gordon site in keeping with mutual objectives, while the ongoing visioning process will help us understand what God has in store for us on the Knox and St Aidan's properties. Dunwood recently initiated this next phase of the analyses and has requested the establishment of a Joint Steering Committee (Dunwood and congregational representatives) to guide this work, anticipated to be completed later in 2021.

The potential redevelopment of our church sites will be revealed incrementally with guidance from the Joint Steering Committee. Clarity for all sites will take a period of years, extending beyond our potential congregational amalgamation date. Accordingly, definitive plans for restructuring and redeploying our real estate assets will not be known at the time of amalgamation. The final location of the permanent place of worship for the New Congregation will not be known for several years after amalgamation and may very well change during that time. The following graphic provides a schematic overview of the relative time frames for potential redevelopment relative to that for the amalgamation of our congregations. It should be noted that while the amalgamation process may take somewhat longer than indicated, the building redevelopment initiatives could also similarly take substantially longer. It is

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proposed that no final decision be taken regarding property redevelopment prior to establishment of the New Congregation.



Regarding our property, we seek to be obedient and commit to work together to discern God's wisdom as we seek to harvest the rich promise of this aspect of our life together.

A full range of possibilities for the future use or disposition of all the current properties will be considered by the Session(s) and congregation(s) and the New Session and New Congregation. The congregations will work with the Presbyterian Senior Citizens; Housing Society (Dunwood) to identify possibilities for each site but shall also explore other possible strategies before making any agreement for redevelopment. This is a dynamic process, with final answers still unknown. We anticipate that the future of each facility will not necessarily be known at the time of the New Congregation coming into being.

3.5 BEQUESTS: *THE SUSTAINING GIFTS OF OUR FOREBEARS*

The congregations have bequests and designated funds given by members over the years for specific purposes. The specifics of those funds are contained in Appendix B. As part of our amalgamation into a New Congregation, it is desirable to harmonize the terms of reference for these, and to ensure that the benefits intended by the originators are broadly available to the comparable individuals and groups in the New Congregation and/or our two municipalities to advance our Ministry. It is recognized, however, that in some cases the intentions of the originators of the bequests may preclude this, so these changes must be approached with care. The recommendations have been framed to facilitate this

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harmonization and broadening of bequest terms of reference, subject to legal confirmation that this is permissible.

Within the New Congregation, the New Session will follow these principles for the use of the various bequests:

1. So much as is possible, the terms and ongoing administration of each bequest will be preserved according to the original intent of the bequest.
 - a) Where a bequest stipulates a gift, bursary, or scholarship available to members or adherents of a particular congregation, municipality or neighbourhood, this shall be revised such that eligibility for such gift, bursary, scholarship, or similar shall be extended to members and adherents of the new amalgamated congregation or corresponding municipalities.
 - b) Where bequests or designated funds for similar purposes (e.g., Camp Douglas scholarships) exist within two or more of the amalgamating congregations, these may be combined under harmonized terms of reference upon approval by a meeting of the New Congregation.
 - c) Proposed revisions to the use of a bequest will be subject to legal review prior to being adopted by the New Session.

3.6 ASSETS: TOOLS TO FACILITATE MINISTRY

3.6.1 Financial Assets

All three congregations proposing amalgamation possess significant assets. As part of our amalgamation into a New Congregation, it is desirable to integrate this resource pool to facilitate maximum benefits to advance the Ministry of the New Congregation. It is recognized that amalgamation may present opportunity for their restructuring for greater effect or efficiency (e.g., opportunities to invest combined reserves in higher-yielding investments). Achieving these objectives will require systematic review, assessment, and likely reconfiguration of the combined asset pool. The recommendations have been framed to facilitate this process during the transition period. For the purposes of this document, assets are defined as those liquid and illiquid financial instruments, exclusive of bequests held by the amalgamating congregations.

As three congregations come together with their various assets and liabilities, there needs to be an agreed upon process for dealing with them:

- a) All assets and liabilities, as defined above, whether superfluous or not, will become the property in common of the New Congregation.
- b) That the New Session prepare a plan covering the redevelopment, potential sale, and/or refurbishment of the church properties.
- c) That the New Session consider all congregational assets and determine which of these categories they fit into:
 - i) Real Property: necessary to the Ministry Plan of the New Congregation,
 - ii) Real Property: surplus to the Ministry Plan of the New Congregation
 - iii) Retained surplus, undesignated reserves, and other liquid assets (including marketable securities).
 - iv) Other

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- d) That the New Session prepare and execute a plan for disposing of surplus Real Property and of consolidating and allocating resulting proceeds together with other financial assets in accordance with the principles articulated herein.

The Presbyterian Church in Canada's Policy on Amalgamation and Dissolution reminds us that congregations do not exist in a vacuum but within the shared life of the denomination, even in the process of amalgamation. Accordingly, the three congregations have each agreed, in a duly called congregational meeting, that in the event of a sale of real estate related to amalgamation, a minimum amount of 5% following the discharge of liabilities will be divided equally between Presbyterian World Service and Development, Presbyterians Sharing and National Indigenous Ministries.

All financial assets and liabilities will be managed by the appropriate subcommittee of the New Session.

3.6.2 Building Contents and Furnishings

For physical assets of the New Congregation from legacy congregations not covered by the above policy, the following guidelines are recommended for adoption regarding their disposition. Physical assets will be assessed and where they meet most of the following criteria, will be considered as priority for retention by the New Congregation:

1. Suitable for purpose and consistent with the Vision of the New Congregation
2. Memorial to a previous member
3. In good condition
4. The best condition where there is more than the number needed (e.g., pianos, baptismal fonts)
5. Compatibility with the building architecture

Where items do not meet any of these criteria, they may be offered to other churches in the Presbytery and community for sale or donation and offered to local community groups or historical archives. Failing all of these, they may be disposed of.

As with matters of finance, there must be an agreed upon manner of recognizing which contents and furnishings from the several congregations will be kept or disposed of, which might be used in one place or another, and so on. The New Session will rely upon the principles outlined here in its decisions around the assets of the several congregations.

3.7 COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS & TENANTS: *THE GROUPS THAT USE OUR FACILITIES*

The amalgamating churches have relationships with community organizations and tenants that use church space and/or other individual assets at different times of the day and on different days of the week. Some of these contractual relationships are both long-standing and an important source of revenue.

As part of the amalgamation process, these groups and arrangements will be evaluated and reviewed in the context of the needs and alignments of our New Congregation. The needs and alignments of the community organizations and tenants will also be considered as part of the process. The mission and vision of the New Congregation will guide the formation of relationships with new community organizations or tenants.

This work will be undertaken in accordance with the following principles:

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- 1) Priority given to the needs (mission and vision) of the New Congregation;
- 2) Proactive, compassionate stewardship of the relationships with existing community organizations and tenants;
- 3) Communication that is timely and that clearly describes the process and the vision of the amalgamation plan;
- 4) Opportunity given for community organizations and tenants to vision/adjust their programs in the context of our vision for the New Congregation.

In the interest of respecting the relationships the congregations have with each community organization or tenant/renter affiliated with them, each congregation shall advise those partners of be advised of the intended amalgamation and all details pertinent to that relationship. This notice should be given promptly after the congregation's decision to amalgamate but does not need to be given before that.

Upon amalgamation, the Transition Team shall meet with each community organization or tenant/renter to gain an understanding of their objectives, and any issues regarding their use of church facilities. The Transition Team will seek to determine the benefits to the New Congregation of that relationship in terms of ministry of the church within the community, care and custody of the building, income generated, risk management, etc. In the absence of concerns resulting from that review, tenancies/rentals will be continued wherever possible. If the review does point to concerns and/or conflicts with other uses of the building, the continuity of the tenancy/rental will be reviewed and adjusted as necessary in accordance with the principles articulated above.

3.8 ADMINISTRATION: OUR HISTORICAL DOCUMENTS AND TAX MATTERS

3.8.1 Archival Records:

The Clerks or their designates have gathered and identified their archival or official records. A detailed list has been compiled, including Session Minutes, Baptism and Marriage Registers, Professing Members and Communion Rolls, Annual Reports, Congregational Meeting Minutes, Board of Managers Minutes. Other important items such as history books and photo albums, minutes of other organizations within the congregations, have also been listed. These lists are in Appendix D. The records of each of the amalgamating congregations will be gathered and maintained by the newly amalgamated congregation.

Before amalgamation occurs, the Sessions will complete the depositing of their official records (Session minutes, Baptismal Registers, Marriage Registers, Burial Registers and Communion Rolls) with the Presbyterian Church in Canada Archives and Records Office, in microfilm format where this has not previously been done. Direction is available within the Book of Forms.

3.8.2 Canada Revenue Agency (CRA)

The present Charitable Registration Numbers for each of our amalgamating congregations are as follows:

Gordon	Knox	St. Aidan's
118941962RR0001	107575789RR0001	119161768RR0001

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Grants, donations, bill payments and tax receipts for “Don’t Go Hungry” food program are being handled through the St. Aidan’s number. However, it is prudent to seek legal advice as to whether the New Congregation should use that number or seek a new one.

It is noted that The Kara Fellowship, an adult group within St. Aidan’s, has its own Charitable Registration Number. The Joint Session will also seek legal advice on this situation.

4 A Transition Team: Getting from here to there

4.1.1 Transition Management:

Many of the practical aspects of the amalgamation can be addressed in a relatively finite time-span—perhaps over the first year following amalgamation—and can be defined prior to amalgamation. This includes issues such as the composition of the New Session and its committees, storing archival records, CRA registration, staffing, etc. Other matters will evolve over several years, particularly those matters related to our real property and buildings. For those matters where one-time decisions will need to be made over a period exceeding the first year following amalgamation, it is proposed that the New Congregation strike a special committee of Session, a Transition Team, responsible to monitor, oversee, and make specific recommendations on these decisions to the New Session as further developments allow and require. In their recommendations, they will be guided by the principles articulated in the various chapters of the Amalgamation Plan. The Transition Team will not have any jurisdiction in matters pertaining to ordained ministers of word and sacrament.

The Transition Team’s membership will be drawn equally from all three congregations and shall be as diverse as possible in relation to dimensions such as age, gender, ethnicity, length of connection to the congregations. As the New Session names the Team’s members, it will consciously use this desire for diversity as its primary principle.

The Transition Team will be disbanded after a period of up to five years and any remaining decisions and actions will be addressed as part of the New Session’s normal business.

5 Conclusion

In response to a vision for how these congregations could effectively serve in ministry together, a vision for that ministry has been created and approved by the congregations. This comprehensive Amalgamation Plan arises from that vision and is presented to the Presbytery of Westminster in a manner that we believe is consistent with the policies of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. It has been approved by the sessions and congregations after critical review and prayerful consideration. Those votes of approval were virtually unanimous. The congregations believe this provides a workable and viable plan to realize the promise of newness and renewal which we believe amalgamation offers.

6 APPENDICES

6.1 APPENDIX A – ORGANIZATIONAL OBJECTIVES OF DUNWOOD

The objectives of DUNWOOD are as follows:

To operate as a strictly non-profit Society

To assist in the construction of low rental housing units for seniors of low and moderate income, who are unable to purchase adequate accommodation according to their needs.

For such purposes, to hold and manage low rental housing and to maintain the low rental character thereof.

Operating as a low-cost housing corporation for the aged, to receive charitable donations toward such objects.

To apply for all lawful and necessary grants in aid.

To make grants towards the cost of construction

6.2 APPENDIX B – BEQUESTS AND SPECIFIED FUNDS BELONGING TO THE THREE CONGREGATIONS

Gordon Presbyterian Church

Gordon Church Memorial Fund: for memorial gifts designated as such, and for undesignated gifts under \$1000. This Fund is overseen by the Worship committee which periodically expends funds for improving and enhancing the worship experience. The balance on December 31, 2020 was \$14,460.91.

Gordon Church Endowment Fund: Larger undesignated gifts are directed to the Endowment Fund. To date the fund has not made any disbursements and is currently invested with Manulife Financial. It is eligible to, but not currently engaged in equity investments. Balance on December 31, 2020, is \$64,846.63.

George M. Philips Memorial Scholarship Fund: This fund was established in memory of the Rev. George M. Philips, former minister of Gordon Church, to provide educational funds to worthy recipients pursuing further education. At the end of 2020, the balance of this fund was \$20,386.91.

St. Aidan's Presbyterian Church

St. Aidan's has three Trustees, appointed by the congregation, who are responsible for administering and investing the bequest funds. Total bequests invested over the years totalled \$127,062. There are two funds:

Endowment Fund total \$44,000:

May Barclay bequest - \$40,000, which stipulates that the principal must remain intact, and only the interest may be used, for maintenance and upkeep of the church.

John Lawther bequest - \$4,000, which stipulates that the principal must remain intact, and only the interest may be used.

Investment Fund:

A portion of this fund has been used over the years, with approval of the congregation, including a \$30,000 withdrawal in 2020 mainly for improvements to the manse. The value on December 31, 2020, is \$17,941.

We have a Trust Deed, along with a Trust Agreement concerning the Endowment and Investment Funds. \$5,000 per year may be withdrawn for general use of the congregation. Congregational approval is required for withdrawals more than \$5,000.

Other bequests received with no stipulations have not been invested but have been used for church improvements.

There are also a Memorial Fund of \$11,600 (comprised of memorial donations with no stipulations); a Special Projects Fund with a \$10,000 balance on December 31,

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2020); and a Building Project Fund with a December 31, 2020 balance of \$11,907.

St. Aidan's has two financial liabilities. A \$40,000 CERB grant is to be repaid by December 31, 2022 and there is a loan from the Synod of BC for \$15,000.

St. Aidan's administers the funds for the Christian Urban Camps and Don't Go Hungry, joint ministries of the three congregations. The annual financial reports are included in the St. Aidan's Annual Report.

St. Aidan's owns a manse without debt.

Knox Presbyterian Church

Funds and bequests: Knox Presbyterian (amounts as of 2020 AGM)

Sunday School Mission Fund - designated for Sunday School mission - \$2,175.73

Benevolence Fund - a fund of Session to be used at the Session's discretion - \$888.06

Flower Fund - designated for flowers for church - \$7,847.64

KPWA Fund - to be used at KPWA's discretion and will go to general fund if KPWA no longer operating - \$1,015.84

Joe Dougal Fund - designated for Christian Education - \$2,151.07

Study Leave Fund - designated for minister's study leave - \$373.00

Building Fund - was from a bequest that was dissolved and placed into specific building fund. It cannot be put into the general fund - \$47,260.27

Manse Fund - designated for Minister's housing - \$654,653.00

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6.3 APPENDIX C – COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS AND TENANTS

Gordon Presbyterian Church

Korean Congregation – meeting Monday to Saturday at 6 am, Wednesday at 7 pm and Sundays from 1 to 5 pm (with daytime bible studies during Lent)
La Roca (Spanish speaking church) meeting Sunday from 5 to 9 pm and Mondays from 7 to 9
Tops weekly Thursday morning.
Best Discussion Group AA -Thursday night 7 to 9 pm
Reach – Thursday morning with the occasional Thursday after noon Friday morning
Afghan Seniors Thursday afternoon

St. Aidan's Presbyterian Church

Evergreen Korean Presbyterian Church – Sundays, 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. and Thursdays, 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Somewhere to Grow Montessori Preschool – Weekdays, 9:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Golden Sunshine Before & After School care – Weekdays, 7:00 to 8:30 a.m. and 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Fraser Valley Young People's AA Group – Sundays, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Centre Group AA – Wednesdays, 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
Informal agreement:
Kabok Music School – recitals, last Saturday of the month

Knox Presbyterian Church

Whitestone Church – Sunday
Restoration Church - Sunday
A&N Montessori – Monday to Friday
Scouts – Monday
Tops – Monday
Beavers – Tuesday
Clean Living – Wednesday
Andrew Voice Choir – Thursday
Sapperton Business Association – once or twice per year

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6.4 APPENDIX D – ARCHIVAL RECORDS

The list of Archival Records from each congregation is attached.

Gordon Presbyterian Church

Baptismal Records – 2 books from 1926 to the present
Board of Managers – October 1967 to 2011 and then from October 2016 to the present
Communion Roll – 6 books from 1923 to the present
Marriage Records – 6 books from 1936 to the present
1 book from Garden Village PC 1957 to 1968
Session Records – 9 books from June 1, 1912 to the present

St. Aidan's Presbyterian Church

*Session minutes – 9 books/binders - 1909 to present - Complete
*Baptism registers – 2 books - 1952 to present, 1928-1966 (Missing prior to 1928)
*Marriage registers – 3 books - 1928-1966, 1952-1963, 1972-present (Missing prior to 1928, 1967-71)
*Register of Deaths - 1929-1966, 1980-2001 (List of deaths in Memorial Book)
*Roll of pastors – 1909-present
*Roll of elders – 1911-present
*Membership rolls - 1910 to present - Complete
*Annual reports – 2 binders - 1958 to present
*Congregational Meeting minutes - 1910-1995 - Almost complete - 1998 to present Included with annual reports
*Board of Managers minutes - 1910-1927, 1983 to 2011 (Missing 1928 to 1982, 2012-2019?)
Copy of property title
Financial statements - Included with annual reports
Insurance/Liability policies - Treasurer/Broker have available
Other financial records - Past 7 years with Treasurer, as per CRA regulations
*Microfilmed and sent to PCC Archives, up to 2012

Other Records:

History book - Published in 2010 for 100th anniversary
Memorial Book - Deaths/obituaries and Memorial gifts with photos
News & Views newsletters - 1961 to present (up to 2012 scanned onto disk)
Evening Circle, Ladies' Aid, WMS, Coronation Circle, CGIT, Unity Club, Kara Fellowship - Minutes & financial reports
Congregational directories - 1982 pictorial, 1988 pictorial, 1998 to present printed

Knox Presbyterian Church

Baptismal Registry – September 1891 to January 2020
Marriage Registry – 1920 to 2016

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Annual Meeting Reports – 1912 to 1991, 1998 to 2017
Session Minutes – 7 books – 1891 to 2018
Board of Managers Minutes – 1891 to 2007
Membership Rolls – 1961 to 1965
Communion Record Book – 1909 to 1918, 1934 to 1949, 1961 to 2013
Knox 125th Anniversary Booklet

Other:

Treasurer and Sunday School Records
KPWA, WMS, Young People's, Young Ladies Guild, Ladies Aid, Mission Band Records
Photo Albums (16)
Photos, Newspaper Clippings
VHS Tape of Knox Church Inventory – 1993
Guest Books
Cash Books (1974 to 1977)
Offering Record Books (1971 to 1978)
General Journal (1968 to 1979)
Collections Records (1916 to 1928)
Metal Box containing slides of Sunday School Music

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**CONSIDERATION OF THE RESIGNATION OF THE REV. HEINRICH BOTHA FROM WEST VANCOUVER
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH – State Hour 8:40pm**

(Ministry Committee Report continues as part of the Stated Hour)

Resignation of the Rev. Heinrich Botha from West Vancouver Presbyterian Church

We received the resignation of the Rev. Heinrich Botha from West Vancouver Presbyterian Church effective May 1, 2022. He believes that his gifts, talents, experience and passion will come to fuller fruition in a different ministerial context. Mr. Botha has not made this decision lightly. We thank Mr. Botha for his ministry in that congregation and pray that God will continue to guide him in his discernment of his future ministry.

Neil Abramson, Elder from West Vancouver spoke to the work and dedication Heinrich put forth to the church and to the people of the congregation over the last four years. The congregation wishes him well.

Recommendation 1: that the Presbytery accept the resignation of the Rev. Heinrich Botha from West Vancouver Presbyterian Church with thanksgiving for his faithfulness. **CARRIED**

We are in the process of consulting with the session as to the next Interim Moderator.

The moderator prayed for Heinrich and for the congregation at West Vancouver Presbyterian Church.

Reports

This month we have reports from First, Knox, Langley and St. Columba Presbyterian Churches.

Interim Moderator Report: First Presbyterian Church Rev. Gabriel J Snyman

First Presbyterian Church has moved forward in the past year. Recently new members were added to session and they seem to have adapted to their new roles well. Pulpit supply has been filled consistently throughout Christmas. The reports I get from ministers who filled the pulpit supply often contain phrases such as: “Warm and Lively” and “pleasant experience”. There is also a slight improvement in finances.

First Presbyterian is not without its challenges, however. Recently Rick Roorda and his wife Louise have retired and moved to Vancouver Island. Rick provided strong leadership along with Louisa who helped greatly with the budget and bookkeeping. Their departure will leave a void that needs to be attended to.

One gets the sense that First is still in a survival or maintenance mode of going about church. I do not see a theology of place or missional sense growing and this definitely makes the church miss out on precious opportunities for growth and service. I think the time is right for a good and thorough strategic planning session facilitated by someone knowledgeable in this field to give direction.

As I am entering part-time chaplaincy positions in both the Canadian Military and the RCMP locally, and will spend quite some time away for training, I have decided to resign from my position as Interim Moderator after almost two years. It was a good and pleasant experience working with them. I learned valuable things about churches

and how they operate. I wish them all the best for the future and hope that my successor will continue on the path of progress we manage to lay on.

In Christ
Gabriel J Snyman
February 15th 2022

Interim Moderator's Report from Knox Presbyterian Church

The Rev. Bradley Childs

Knox has had a busy and complex year, as have most. Outside of worship services, conversations and planning have been at the top of the list for Knox. The Session is lovely as always; friendly and devoted. They have dealt with a lot. They negotiated with flooding, damaged property, waste, loss from rentals, loss of income, divisive issues like human sexuality (lovingly), mission and vision, and the addition of new elders, as well as much more.

It is worth noting that the congregation was blessed to receive a significant donation last year, whose gift provided Knox with a perfectly timed boost of funds and helped considerably in keeping our minds on the central tasks ahead, instead of continually concerning ourselves with finances. Conversations with and generally engaging with the other two congregations (and others) have been time-consuming and yet also wholly delightful. A special thanks are due to Cal, Laurie, Bruce, and also to Pat, whose sober thinking and organization have been an absolute blessing to all involved. With those names stated, it is probably also good to note that the Clerks of these congregations, Sessions and Boards have done far more than the ministers. The Bride of Christ is amazing to watch rise to challenges when adequately empowered enough to do so. They have been irreplaceable.

Together Knox has been continually engaged in discussions on a shared mission presence in New Westminster. The mission is at the heart of Knox's involvement. A shared mission is why Knox is involved. Knox believes that together we will create one primary mission with laser focus.

Additionally, this year, Knox Session has voted in favour of amalgamation. The Session has also recently approved the use of the sanctuary for all people and under both of the parallel definitions of marriage provided to us by the General Assembly. The Session has recently expanded its contracts with several renters, including the childcare program (which allowed for us to receive upgraded flooring in much of the building) as well as two congregations who worship at Knox. For me, it is rather unprecedented. The Knox building is the most inquired-about facility I have ever encountered. There is a strange appreciation and reliance on its availability. Frankly, the building is a community member of sorts. It is a constant source of interest for rentals of all kinds, social groups, action groups, kids, clubs, scouts and seemingly just about everyone else. Three popular television programs have recently contacted us. We have been used as a film site. Knox also had a country music video filmed on the premises. We are finding endless ways to invite people in our neighbourhood into a space devoted to Jesus Christ. Our art fair was a blast! Guests came to sing, play music, see, listen, snoop around, sell and buy art. Knox also engaged with two local musicians, not of any religious background. Later they volunteered to work with another Presbyterian Church for several weeks. Despite the lack of interest in non-in-person worship from much of the congregation, Knox is still characterized best as a faithful group. With God's blessing, soon they will be able to see and hug one another. That is when the amalgamation will really shine bright.

One item of particular note to the Presbytery is parking at Knox. Many years ago, a deal was struck with the City of New Westminster whereby we exchanged a portion of the property. A few years ago, this became a problem

when the agreement ended. As a result, the City claimed all of the Knox parking and created paid parking spaces. Previously this had not been a concern due to the parking lot, which resided on the east side of the building (now a small community area). Countless meetings have taken place. I have spoken with the mayor, we have had meetings with and visits from city officials and endless correspondence. It is likely now that we will come to some agreement. This may be due to creating a new parking lot (which forces the City to make revisions) or in an essentially "permanent" arrangement to return parking spaces. If not, we may bring a project to this court for further investigation.

More than anything, Knox is happy to attend the March 1, 2022 meeting of the Presbytery of Westminster to represent our wishes for the future mission of Jesus Christ and His Bride in Burnaby and New Westminster BC, on the unceded territorial lands of Qayqayt First Nation, and all Coast Salish peoples.

Interim Moderator's Report – Langley Presbyterian Church

March 1, 2022

Langley Presbyterian Church continues to be a faithful family of God in every aspect of their ministries and outreach in their community. They address challenges they face in good faith and with responsibility. The reality of a world pandemic has affected the congregation like any other church, but the calling of a new minister has been slowed down considerably. It's difficult for some people in the congregation that this process takes longer than in normal circumstances.

There are some areas I would like to report on:

- Session – The elders have shown strong leadership since the vacancy began in October of 2020. They continue to address issues which occur in the congregation with clarity and good guidance. All the committees of Session are functioning well and reports are made to Session with diligence. Session Minutes are well kept by the Clerk of Session.
- Pastoral Care – It's with sadness to report that a few people associated with Langley Presbyterian Church have passed on in the last few months. The Pastoral Care Committee has given wonderful care to those who were in palliative care up to the point of their passing, as well to family members. The communication between the committee and Session of all those in need of care is well in place.
- Worship – The Session of Langley Presbyterian Church chose to cancel in-person Worship services as they strictly enforced the protocols of Covid-19. It was just recently that the church was opened for in-person services again. The congregation has been blessed with good pulpit supply during the vacancy and appreciates the messages of all the clergy who leads worship on Sundays.
- Search Committee – The Search Committee comprising of elders and 2 people from the congregation has worked diligently on the Congregational Profile. It was completed some time ago, but financial figures are still to be determined. The Congregational Profile will then be presented to the congregation for the next step of the search.
- Church Administrator – The position of Church Administrator has been filled a few months ago and appreciation was expressed from the Session and the congregation to a former Administrator who filled the position during the vacancy
- Rentals and Maintenance – Session has received requests from different organizations and decisions have been made with the right Covid-19 protocols in place. The maintenance of the building and property is done with the necessary care.

The congregation of Langley Presbyterian Church is to be commended for the diligence in which they fulfill their calling as a people of God. The prayers of Presbytery for Langley Presbyterian Church are appreciated as they go forward in God's grace.

Respectfully submitted,
Rev. Willem van de Wall

February 2022 Congregational Report for St. Columba Presbyterian Church

1. What ministries have taken place since your last report?

We have had weekly (in-person) Sunday morning worship services. Also, we have bi-weekly bible studies via Zoom. Finally, we have a weekly gathering of members for prayer via Zoom.

2. Are you facing any key challenges and if so, what are they?

Presently, we do not have any key challenges. Church attendance is at pre-COVID numbers, finances have not declined but instead slightly have increased, and our ministry for shut in and members living out of the region continues regularly.

3. Do you require any support from Presbytery at this point?

None to date. We appreciate the Presbytery asking and value the support.

4. Is there anything for your congregation for which you would like the Presbytery to pray in particular?

Prayers are always our front line request. Prayers for continued unity, prayers for healing and well-being of members and finally prayers for clarity as to how we can help our congregation, our local community, and, if needed, the Presbytery.

Many thanks and blessings,
Rev. Calvin Crichton
Interim Moderator
St. Columba

*Respectfully submitted,
The Rev. Paddy Eastwood
Ministry Committee Convener*

A 10 minute Break out Groups for Fellowship and Prayer time was recognized and greatly appreciated.

STRATEGY AND LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE REPORT

*The report was presented by Pat Dutcher-Walls, Strategy and Leadership Committee Convener.
All motions, unless otherwise noted, moved by Victor Kim, seconded by Susan Stacey.*

**Strategy and Leadership Committee – Report to Presbytery
Feb 28, 2022**

Victor Kim

The Committee met on February 17, 2022 to consider several items and to receive and discuss reports from the Presbyter for Mission and Vision and the Property and Finance Committee.

Report of Presbytery of Mission and Vision – items arising

1. **Activities of PMV:** Dale reported on several ongoing activities and initiatives, including working with congregations regarding visioning, the recent workshop on thinking styles involving 30 participants, creating a useful summary of the Perry Atwal video on planning that could be helpful for congregations, meeting with ministers on a one to one basis to find out more about their congregations, considering aspects of the Presbytery's priority to assess the strengths and weaknesses of the congregations, and working on several aspects of online ministry within the presbytery. He reports his work largely centres on the short-term goals set by Presbytery:

Short-term Goals

- start at least 3 new worshipping communities within our bounds
 - examine the health and vitality of every ministry within our bounds to assist it achieve healthier, more vital outcomes
 - commit to greater financial assistance of Hummingbird Ministries and Camp Douglas to achieve healthier and more vital outcomes
 - provide a number of immersive learning opportunities annually for all presbyters and congregational leadership and members
2. **Planning for use of available funds:** The SLC has begun discussions to consider recommendations regarding the use of funds that might be incoming to the Presbytery, such as the PIM monies. SLC noted that it would be wise and prudent to allocate such funds in line with the Presbytery's Strategic Priorities and Short-term Goals, though any specific percentages for allocations are still under discussion. For example, there could be five areas of ministry within the strategic directions of the Presbytery that could be named as allocation priorities: Transforming Congregations, New Witnessing Communities, Hummingbird, Camp Douglas, and Learning initiatives, plus leaving some monies in a contingency fund. SLC invites feedback from Presbyters about funding priorities and possible allocations. As well, SLC is considering the committee structures needed for evaluation of proposals.
 3. **Funding documents:** Updating and revising the 'New Witnessing Communities: Template and Evaluation Process' and the 'Seeking Transformation: Building Healthy, Flourishing, and Vibrant Congregations and Leaders' documents in preparation for receiving and funding proposals once monies are available. In particular, SLC hopes to focus the educational and evaluative aspects of these documents on how missional sustainability, financial sustainability, and leadership sustainability can be helpful and necessary considerations for new and transforming communities. As well, insights from the workshop held with Perry Atwal from the Sauder School of Business on forming a ministry plan are being incorporated.
 4. **Conversation with Brentwood:** At the request of the Session of Brentwood, two members of SLC have been preparing for a discussion with the leadership of the congregation about ways the Presbytery can be helpful in supporting their vision and mission.

Report from Property & Finance Subcommittee

1. **Trust Deeds (again!):** All congregations are asked to renew their trust deed using the 2015 sample provided by Presbytery and provide to Victor Kim for approval by Presbytery. This will address concerns coming out of the BC Land Transparency Act. Clerks of session need to be made aware of the need to confirm currency of the trust deed with the template and that a minimum of three current trustees are confirmed by the congregation. The Admin Committee will establish a firm deadline for trust deeds to be completed.

2. **Central Commission update:** through P & F, SLC received a report of recent activities of the Commission to Central PC; progress is being made on clarifying and resolving the GST situation. Dale Woods has been working with the congregation to form a Finance Committee and frame a 2022 budget that begins to meet ongoing operational obligations. Further work is needed to explore expanded revenue opportunities for the building.

West Point Grey and Kerrisdale Amalgamation Exploration

In the past several months, there has been a renewed interest between West Point Grey and Kerrisdale to reengage in conversations around potential amalgamation. SLC has encouraged such conversations so that this possibility might be explored. A request from the Session of Kerrisdale has been received seeking approval from Presbytery to proceed toward amalgamation with West Point Grey Presbyterian Church and noting that two of their elders are prepared to be the Kerrisdale representatives on a committee to continue developing a vision that leads to such amalgamation.

Recommendations:

1. That Presbytery approve, in principle, the exploration by West Point Grey and Kerrisdale Presbyterian churches of steps proceeding toward amalgamation. **CARRIED**
2. That a small committee be developed with two elders from Kerrisdale, the minister of Kerrisdale, elder(s) and the interim moderator of West Point Grey, and leadership from the Presbytery, namely Pat Dutcher Walls from SLC, Rev. Dr. Dale Woods and Rev. Bruce Cairnie. **CARRIED**
3. That the Session and congregation of Kerrisdale be encouraged to work toward clarifying its own vision and how that vision might align with the vision of West Point Grey and the Presbytery of Westminster, and that facilitation in this be provided through D. Woods and B. Cairnie. **CARRIED**

*With respect,
Pat Dutcher-Walls for SLC*

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT

*The moderator stepped down to present the Community Engagement Committee report.
Past moderator, Pat Dutcher-Walls, assume the chair for the presentation of the report.*

*The report was presented by Isabel Evans.
All motions, unless otherwise noted, moved by Isabel Evans, seconded by Laurie McKay.*

Community Engagement Committee Report to Presbytery, March 1, 2022

Grant Application

The application from Christian Urban Music Camp, a joint program of Knox, Gordon, St. Aidan's and Brentwood churches for a Regional Resourcing Grant of \$2,500 was reviewed by the CEC. We noted the positive changes in format from last year and we agreed to recommend it to Presbytery.

Victor Kim

Recommendation 1

That Presbytery approve the CUMC application for a \$2,500 Regional Resourcing Grant for 2022 and forward it to Life and Mission Agency for consideration.

CARRIED

For Information

1. The CEC encourages all sessions and congregations to take advantage of the **Guaranteed Livable Income Webinar to be held via Zoom on Saturday, March 12** from 11:00 AM to 12:30 PM. Registration information is included with this report. This will be an opportunity for us all to consider this question: **“How shall we deal with the poor in our midst?”** It will include thoughtful and informative videos and discussion of the major questions that arise from the proposal for a Guaranteed Livable Income. It will be hosted through the video setup at West Vancouver PC and facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Allen Aicken.
2. We have received correspondence with a proposal for developing a ministry with Generation Z. We hope to explore this suggestion through conversation with SLC and our PMV.
3. We noted in the news that the federal government has announced that it will not be investing any further funds in the Trans Mountain Expansion Pipeline. We hope to have a response to this decision for consideration at the April meeting of presbytery.

*Respectfully submitted,
Glen Davis, Co-convener*

The Moderator resumed the chair.

Registration for Poverty Webinar (March 12, 11:00 AM)

You are asked to register for this event as soon as possible.

E-mail jeanocean@shaw.ca using the subject line Webinar.

Give your intention to participate in the webinar

Include your name and e-mail address

Include the name of your congregation, if you are part of one. If not, indicate how you heard about the webinar.

You should receive a confirmation of having done so, within 24 hours.

Preparation

If you would like to see the prepared 52-minute video material for this webinar in advance, the video material is available on YouTube here. <https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLng4-ReYdurJa6kfZHk98syYU4vkAuf2D>

You will see the video material again in the course of the webinar but twice-seeing it could set you up for more prepared participation.

Before the Webinar

The webinar will be held over Zoom. All registered participants will receive an e-mail with the necessary details in advance of the webinar.

You will be able to join the webinar about 15 minutes before start time 11 a.m. PST on Saturday, March 12, 2022.

Victor Kim



You are invited to gather with Presbyterians across our region at a webinar, helping us wrestle with this question on

Saturday • March 12, 2022 • 11 a.m.

Facilitated by the Rev. Dr. Allen Aicken · Hosted by West Vancouver Presbyterian Church
Supported by the Community Engagement Committee of Presbytery

Guaranteed Livable Income

Go to the website livableincome.ca and click on "Webinar" to

- watch the video material—*The link will be here*
- register for the webinar—*Registration details will be available mid-February. Please register no later than 48 hours before the webinar begins.*
- get the latest updates

To prepare for this webinar, please take a look at the video material (52 minutes in total length), available on the website:

1. Introduction—*a faith or a political concern?*
2. Welfare—*is welfare an answer?*
3. Exploitation—*will people take advantage and exploit?*
4. Inequality—*how will it deal with inequality in our world?*
5. Affordability—*is it affordable?*

Plan to watch the video material on your own time to prepare your questions and comments for discussion. The webinar will contain the video material for a second viewing with questions and shared insights between each segment. The goal is that it might point us in a new and common direction. The Presbytery of Westminster has approved this goal and this presentation.

Application for a Regional Resourcing Grant for 2022
Christian Urban Music Camp
A Joint Program of St. Aidan's, Gordon, Knox, and Brentwood

Presbyterian Churches
Request = \$2,500

Narrative Description of the Project

This is a new iteration of a program these collaborating churches has been running in the summers for the past 5 years. Previously, we did four weeks of full days. As we have reviewed the dynamics in those camps, we decided that the actually learning time was limited and that we'd be more effective with half-day camps that focus more specifically on faith formation. We have reviewed the project Brentwood has launched to compose 52 songs based on Scripture passages that reflect the reconciling orthodoxy that forms the core of Canadian Presbyterianism. Brentwood is funding the first 11 songs. They will be used in this project. Approaches have been made to a number of other funding sources. The details of the project are outlines in Appendix #1.

So, we've decided to do 2 weeks this summer, one at Knox and the other at Gordon. The camps will run from 9-12 from Mon-Fri. One week will be for children 6-8 and the other week for children 9-11. The fees budget item assumes 15 children in each week's camp. The curriculum will be built around songs from Brentwood's 'Singing the Salvation Story' project. The key directors of the camps will be the composers of the songs, Dan Reynolds and Ben MacRae. They have served as music directors in a previous CUC and been very well received by the children.

Budget for the Project for 2021

Revenues

Opening Balance 459.17
Regional Resourcing Grant 2,500.00
Fees received 1,500.00
Total Income 4, 459.17

Expenses

Activity Materials 400.00
Musical Directors (2) 2,000.00
Camp Coordinator (1) 1,000.00
Camp Registrar/Volunteer Coordinator (1) 1,000.00
Total Expenses 4,400.00

The Contribution of this New Format to the Presbytery's Strategic Priorities

We believe the all of the strategic priorities of the Presbytery of Westminster will well-served by this revised version of Christian Urban Camp, now to be knows as Christian Urban Music Camp. Those priorities are:

- to engage in biblical and theological reflection and education that deepens our understanding of and commitment to God, the church, and its place in Christ's ministry and mission
- to engage in evangelism, outreach and discipleship
- to embrace a missional culture that nurtures initiative and risk taking
- to discern, prepare, and support leaders – lay, youth, young adults and clergy – for faithful and fruitful ministry
- to create, encourage, and support communities of faith
- to engage in healing and reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples

The curriculum for the new format is based on biblical passages that have been chosen to align with the standards of missioning through The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

These camps have reached out to and formed nourishing relationships with a wide variety of children with the New West/Burnaby neighbourhoods, many of whom want to come back this year. This is an innovative project for developing a unique body of songs that hold out great promise as a resource for forming ambassadors of our triune Creator's forgiving and reconciling love manifest most clearly in Jesus Christ.

The staffing for the camps will engage in ongoing conversations with the clergy of the congregations on best practices in exercising a collaborative for of leadership reflective of Presbyterian theology. Volunteers from all the congregations will be recruited and coordinated to become part of this communal process of faith formation.

In composing the songs, Dan and Ben will be attentive to ways of encouraging the singers to learn more about ways of engaging in healing and reconciliation with our Indigenous kin. The Sessions of all the collaborating churches in this project have endorsed this project. Thanks to the presbytery for its consideration. We would be happy to answer any questions that our application might generate.

Brian Fraser
Christian Urban Music Camps, The Collaborating Churches of New West & Burnaby
Feb 16, 2022 3

Appendix #1
Singing the Story of Salvation:
52 Songs that Form Christian Faith among Children,
their Families, and their Communities
A Project Imagined and Being Implemented
By Brentwood Presbyterian Church, Burnaby, BC

The Intent of the Project

This is an experiment in Christian faith formation for children, their families, and their communities. We assume the primary locale for the use of these songs will be in Christian churches, but imagine that they will expand their influence into homes and communities beyond that locale.

We have looked for programs of Christian faith formation that use songs as their primary source of formation and have not found any. Songs are normally used to support other resources, like stories, readings, etc. We think the power of music to form attitudes and behaviours make this approach worth a try. We have chosen 52 passages from Genesis to Revelation (Appendix 1) that we think capture the essence of the gospel as identified by our Canadian Presbyterian statement of Christian belief, Living Faith (p3), i.e., that God was in Christ forgiving and reconciling the world to himself and making us ambassadors of that message (2 Cor 5:19-21). We want to turn each of these passages into a song that can be sung by children and all those who are involved in the formation of their faith.

A Description of the Project

The 52 passages have been tested in a series of sermons at Brentwood and we want to experiment with putting them into songs that will draw the generations together in their growth in the faith. We imagine the recordings and resources that we will produce through the project being used in churches, neighbourhoods, schools, and family gatherings in-person and online. We also anticipate that we will imagine other uses as the project unfolds.

The songs will be composed by a team of experienced musicians, music teachers, and theologians who work with children's resources. They will be tested with children's programs in congregations, camps, and families. They will be recorded and distributed through social media. A resource package with the songs and commentaries will be produced and distributed.

The songs will be composed by Dan Reynolds and Ben MacRae, our music directors at Brentwood and experienced composers. In particular, they have both worked with and arranged many of the songs composed by Fred Rogers for 'Mr Rogers' Neighbourhood.' 4

Advising us on composing for children is one of our ruling elders, Rita Long, who has been teaching, arranging, and composing for children for over 20 years. Advising us on the messages of the songs is the Rev Dr Laura Alary, a New Testament scholar and respected author of children's literature and the Rev Dr Brian Fraser, the minister with Brentwood and a recognized scholar in the traditions of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. The recording will be done professionally by Burkeville Productions with whom Brentwood has been working for several years now.

The uniqueness of this experiment

As mentioned above, we have not been able to find such a resource that covers this breadth of the Bible's witness to the living Word of God in Jesus Christ. Further, these will be original songs composed from within the tradition of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. In many ways, we see this as an experiment in traditioned innovation, a favourite phrase of missional theologians and practitioners today. There is also an experimental dimension to the primary audience we imagine, i.e., multigenerational families with grandparents, parents, and children (probably great-grandparents as well). All of the songs will be original compositions by the seasoned team being convened by this project.

The Anticipated Impact of the Project

There is a growing literature detailing the influence of good music in the formation of Christian faith. These are some of the people upon whom we are drawing - Jeremy Begbie, Don Saliers, Mark Porter, Oliver Sacks, Daniel J. Levitin, and Christopher Small. A collection of songs like this, designed for multigenerational family and community use, holds out the promise of a coherent singing of the faith in ways that nourish souls to flourish well in the mercy and grace of Jesus, the Christ.

The primary impact we anticipate is on faith formation, acknowledged by the missional literature as a key function of the church's missioning that needs to be strengthened in a rapidly-secularizing culture. Further, this project will provide a new focus for multi-generational learning. Further still, it will generate 52 original songs to enjoy.

Anticipated Achievements

We anticipate that the project will achieve the following results:

- a new collection of Scriptural songs appropriate to the Christian education of multiple generations;
- engagement from the folks at Brentwood and other congregations and camps that want to be part of this experiment as it develops that will strengthen their practices in faith formation; and
- a broadly-available musical resource for faith formation in whatever families and communities the Spirit draws into our circles of inspiration and influence.

Strategies for Making the Songs Available to the Wider Church

We will be involving other congregations and camps in the project. As the project develops, we will record and make the songs available through social media and print. We anticipate that the creativity and quality of the project will generate interest from well-beyond our current networks. Brentwood has established a reputation for making its innovations known widely and we will continue that practice with this project.

Project Evaluation

We will recruit a team of evaluators with experience in family faith formation to provide suggestions for improvements as the project unfolds when the funding is confirmed. What will be evaluated is the impact of the songs in transforming the life and work of all those singing and learning their significance related to the central message of gospel as Canadian Presbyterians understand it, as noted above.

Budget

This is a costing for each of the 52 songs:

Composer (words & music) \$ 500*

Children's Music Advisor \$ 100**

Children's Christian Education Advisor \$ 100

Musicians for Recording Each Song \$ 120****

Producer for Recording Each Song \$ 100****

Project Coordinator for Each Song \$ 80

Total \$1,000

Brentwood is investing the first \$11,000 into this project in the spring of 2022 using legacy gifts from Terry Wells and Winston Reckord, both keen students of the bible. We intend to apply to various other funding agencies and appeal for patrons to complete the funding over the next couple of years.

* The composers will be Brentwood's music directors, Dan Reynolds and Ben MacRae.

** Rita Long, a ruling elder at Brentwood and a teacher, composer, and arranger of children's music for over 20 years, will contribute this service.

*** The Rev Dr Laura Alary, a biblical scholar and author of children's books, will team with our minister, the Rev Dr Brian Fraser, to provide biblical and theological mentoring for the project.

**** Several songs will be recorded at the same session, but we have broken the musician's and producer's fees down according to each song. 6

The congregation of Brentwood Presbyterian Church in Burnaby, BC, has selected 52 passages from the Bible, Genesis through Revelation, to follow the story of how God's love keeps reaching out to us and invites us into a forgiven, reconciled relationship with the Trinity to care for God's beloved creation. We're going to compose, record, post, and publish 52 original children's songs that will nourish children, their families, and their churches in the flourishing that flows from God's mercy and grace.

*I turn to the Bible ... trying to see it whole,
not using it for my own purposes,
but letting its ongoing message of love direct me.*
(Madeleine L'Engle, Glimpses of Grace, 317) 7

ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE REPORT

*The report was presented by Victor Kim, Administrative Committee Convener.
All motions, unless otherwise noted, moved by Victor Kim, seconded by Paddy Eastwood.*

(Continuation of the report after the Stated Hour to deal with the Amalgamation Plans for the Growing Together Churches)

Administrative Committee Report – March 1, 2022

Presbytery Meetings

With the relaxation of some of the health guidelines, the Admin Committee feels that our regular meetings revert to a hybrid model beginning with the April 5 meeting.

Recommendation 3: That the presbytery hold its regular meetings via an in-person/zoom hybrid model beginning with the April 5, 2022 meeting.

CARRIED

Presbytery Flood Relief Funds

The presbytery has collected funds for flood relief and the Admin Committee proposes the following guidelines for the distribution of the presbytery flood relief funds.

Recommendation 4: That the guidelines for the distribution of presbytery flood relief funds for congregations be as follows:

- Congregations may apply for flood relief assistance on behalf of members of their congregations or wider community.
- Congregations must publicize the availability of the funds beyond their congregations.
- Congregations can seek a maximum of \$500 per family until the funds are depleted.
- Congregations must keep a record of each application, with details as to how the funds will be used by the recipient.
- If possible, congregations will ask for and keep a record of receipts by the recipient.

Victor Kim

- The Presbytery, through the Treasurer, upon approval by the Admin Committee, will forward the funds to the Treasurer of the congregation. **CARRIED**

The Admin Committee will contact the leadership of the congregations in the Fraser Valley to invite them to join in thinking through a proposal for PWS&D denominational flood relief funds to be distributed to our presbytery.

Correspondence from Rev. Emmanuel Cheema

The Admin Committee received correspondence from Rev. Emmanuel Cheema regarding a recent traumatic incident inflicted upon him while he was in Pakistan. The Revs. Emmanuel and Bushra Cheema met with Rev. Dr. Brian Fraser and the Clerk via zoom and expressed their wish for presbytery support in a number of ways. The Admin Committee, having heard back from Dr. Fraser and the Clerk, agreed to hold the Cheemas in prayer and to contact International Ministries for further context and guidance. We also have encouraged the Cheemas to continue pursuing a meeting with their local MP and to work with local denominational officials in the Presbyterian Church in Pakistan for a resolution to their concerns.

Transfer of Rev. Murat Kuntel to Presbytery of Kamloops

Correspondence was received from Rev. Murat Kuntel advising of his move to Prince George and requesting that he be transferred into the care of the Presbytery of Kamloops effective February 25, 2022. The transfer request was sent and received by the Presbytery of Kamloops.

Overture from Coquitlam Presbyterian Church

An overture was received from the Session of Coquitlam Presbyterian Church. The Admin Committee finds that the overture is in proper order and recommends the following:

Recommendation 5: That the Presbytery of Westminster transmit the overture from the Session of Coquitlam Presbyterian Church to the General Assembly without comment. **CARRIED**

Related to the above issue, congregations are encouraged to review the insurance policies and to consider adding Directors and Officers insurance coverage if it is not already included in their policies.

Overture to the Presbytery of Westminster, to be forwarded to the 147th General Assembly 2022:

To the Venerable the General Assembly:

Whereas, the 2021 General Assembly adopted Remits B & C (2019) in which two parallel definitions of marriage were established and a basis was provided for the recognition of same-sex marriages and the ordination of LGBTQI persons (married or single) as Ministers or Ruling Elders, but with the provision that congregations, ruling elders and ministers be granted liberty of conscience and action to adhere to the traditional definition of marriage and to decline participation in the ordination of LGBTQI Ministers or Ruling Elders;

Whereas, acting on the January 2021 recommendation of the Assembly Council, the Principal Clerk deemed it prudent to obtain opinion from Eugene Meehan, Q.C. of Supreme Advocacy L.L.P. on the

potential legal risks to ministers, ruling elders and congregations in the exercising of liberty of conscience as applicable to these Remits B & C (2019), specifically within the province of Ontario; Whereas, the conclusion of the opinion obtained by the Principal Clerk is that the adoption of Remits B & C (2019) present a range of practical legal risks and potential legal challenges, and that mitigating factors greatly minimize, but do not fully remove, the potential legal risks posed by the adoption of these Remits;

Whereas, while the likely outcome of legal dispute has been evaluated as having minimal risk, the risk of any such legal dispute being initiated and the associated costs that would then be incurred have not been evaluated;

Whereas, the legal costs associated with any dispute arising from the exercising of liberty of conscience and action that has been approved and supported by General Assembly is likely to place an undue burden on a minister and / or a session, thereby inhibiting the exercising of liberty of conscience and potentially threatening the ongoing financial viability of a congregation;

Whereas, General Assembly's approval of the right to exercise liberty of conscience and action becomes little more than a hollow gesture and contradicts the principle of meaningful unity and support of those of different viewpoints within our fellowship unless it is accompanied by support for the potential legal and financial consequences of exercising such liberty of conscience and action;

Therefore, the Session of Coquitlam Presbyterian Church humbly overtures the Venerable, the 147th General Assembly, to commit to providing full financial support for all legal costs incurred by a minister or a session arising from their exercising of liberty of conscience and action with respect to the definition of marriage and rules for ordination, or to do otherwise as the General Assembly, in its wisdom, deems best.

Commissioners to General Assembly

The Clerk is contacting ministers and representative elders to serve as Commissioners to the General Assembly for 2022. This year's General Assembly will be online from June 5-9.

Back up for Presbytery Documents

The Admin Committee will work on making sure that the records of the presbytery are backed up electronically using a cloud account. Since ultimately it will be the minutes of presbytery that would be sought in any formal situation of review or oversight, a priority will be to ensure that presbytery minutes be backed up electronically through a secure cloud based account. Currently the Clerk is saving the minutes on a cloud based account, but it is a personal account.

Leading with Care in Korean

For anyone interested, there are copies of the Leading with Care policy available in Korean. Please let the Clerk know if you wish a copy.

Presbytery Retreat

The Admin Committee will work with our PMV Dale Woods to plan a presbytery retreat this year. Details to follow.

Congregational Trust Deeds

As stated in the SLC report and as referred to in numerous emails to the presbytery, congregations are requested to complete a new Trust Deed and verify the names of Trustees and send the document to the Clerk for presbytery attestation.

Once your congregation has adopted the Trust Deed with at least three Trustees, please send the document to the Clerk by no later than March 31, 2022 so that they may be adopted at our April 5, 2022 meeting.

*Respectfully submitted,
Victor Kim
Convener*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADJOURNMENT

The Moderator offered a closing prayer.

Moved by Brian Fraser, seconded by Laurie McKay, to adjourn the meeting.

CARRIED

- The next **regular scheduled meeting of presbytery** is **April 5, 2022** in-person with a Zoom option at Gordon Presbyterian Church, 7457 Edmonds Street, Burnaby.

The Moderator closed the court with a benediction at 9:43pm.