

The United Church of Canada
Shining Waters Regional Council

EXECUTIVE

MINUTES of Meeting held March 27, 2023, at 1:30 p.m.
via video teleconference.

PRESENT: Tina Conlon, Allan Holditch, Isaac Kamta, David Leyton-Brown, Moon Ja Park, Bri-anne Swan, Kirsty Hunter, Jingle Ayupan

Staff: Peter Hartmans (Executive Minister) Jody Maltby (Staff Lead), Susan Whitehead (Administrative Support); Rachael Howes (Admin) and Kathleen Wolfe (Admin); Kim Uyede-Kai (Community of Faith Support, Intercultural Diversity, Anti-Racism and Right Relations Minister)

REGRETS:

Absent: Allyce Mutungi, Daniel Reed, Lynn Mooney

GATHERING, OPENING PRAYER

David Leyton-Brown opened the meeting at 1:30 p.m. He gave an acknowledgement of the land, and acknowledged our commitment to being a safe place for all people to gather and participate in our Region.

Rachael Howes and Kathleen Wolfe joined the meeting where Peter welcomed Kathleen to the team and introduced her to Executive. He then thanked Rachael for all her years of service with not only the Shining Waters Regional Council but also with the Toronto Conference.

Peter Hartmans led a worship focussing on John 11:17, followed by a prayer.

There was a time of check-in.

AGENDA

MOTION by Isaac Kamta / Tina Conlon that the agenda for this meeting be approved as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED

MINUTES

MOTION by Allan Holditch / Moon Ja Park that the Minutes of the meeting of the Shining Waters Regional Council Executive held February 6, 2023 be approved as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED

Email Vote February 17, 2023
Beginning Again Richmond Hill

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- That pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the request of Beginning Again Richmond Hill to dissolve the corporation and begin the winding up of the charity per its decision February 11, 2023.3

The Massey Centre for Women

- That pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the Articles of the Corporation be amended to change the name of the Corporation from The Massey Centre for Women to Abiona Centre For Infant & Early Mental Health.

Email Vote February 27, 2023

Summer Program Coordinator

- That the Executive of Shining Waters Regional Council approve the hiring of a co-ordinator for the Canada Summer Jobs program students for 2023, with a budget of \$15,000.

Commission Minutes

The Executive received, for information, the Minutes of the Intercultural Diversity Commission (IDC) for March 2022 through January 2023. Kim Uyede-Kai joined Executive to be present to answer any questions members may have about the minutes. Bri-anne expressed her gratitude for all the work this Commission has been undertaking. David indicated that the IDC has taken responsibility for presenting one of the theme sessions at the RCM in May.

Isaac shared that the commission is working very hard and he appreciates their work but he does see a gap between people who have English as their second or third language and supports for them. We need to know who they are and what they need, indicating that there could be ways to encourage the commission to bring people together, supporting them but letting groups take the lead on doing that kind of gathering. Kim responded by sharing that there are two parts to the IDC; one deals with the “big picture” issues of the communities of faith and ministry personnel and the other is an intercultural diversity network that is similar to what used to happen within the Presbytery system. Kim indicated that the IDC was meeting tonight and she would add this conversation to the agenda.

MOTION by Bri-anne Swan / Kirsty Hunter that the Executive receive the Minutes of the Intercultural Diversity Commission for March 2023 through January 2023 for information.

MOTION

CARRIED

Incorporated Ministries

MOTION by Peter Hartmans / Moon Ja Park that the Shining Waters Regional Council Executive take the following actions:

- a) Church of the Master Homes Corporation

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.....pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the Church of the Master Homes Corporation 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Pauline Anderson
Jennifer Couthino
Robert Fletcher
Mathew Peltier

This is based on the draft Annual General Meeting Minutes of January 9, 2023, the 2023 board approval form, the board contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

b) Grace Place Community Resource Centre

... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the Grace Place Community Resource Centre 2022-2023 Board of Directors

Kathleen Armitage-Peddle
Daniel Clark
Linda Davis
C. Jean Jamieson
Chris Moon
Robert Reilly

This is based on the Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Members of November 24, 2022, the 2022 board member approval form, the board contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

c) The Massey Centre for Women

...based on the guidance received from General Council Staff, pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve By-Law Number 2022-1 of the incorporated ministry known as The Massey Centre for Women.

Massey Centre for Women is in the process of changing its name to the Abiona Centre for Infant & Early Mental Health. These are based on the Minutes of Annual General Meeting of the Members of September 20, 2022, and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

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... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve The Massey Centre for Women 2022-2023 Board of Directors

Edam Akan
Jessica Amey
Alana Buckley
Beth Dewitt
Justine Humphries
Breann Kirincich
Michael Kuske
Anika Mehta
Mitze Mourinho
Jalpa Patel
Elena Simonetta
Catherine Wang
Stephanie Wang

This is based on the Minutes of Annual General Meeting of the Members of September 20, 2022, 2022 board member approval form, the board contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

d) Sparrow Lake United Church Camp, Inc.

... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada, approve the Sparrow Lake United Church Camp, Inc. 2021-2022 Board of Directors

Michelle Black
Andrew Blair
Colin Campbell
Anne Forsey
Stephen Forsey
Janice Franklin
William Grove
Lee Holland
Eric McFarland
Janet McFarland
Kim Niece
Barry Rieder
Ellen Weir
Mark Winger

This is based on the minutes of Annual General Meeting of January 27, 2021, 2021 board member approval form, the board contact list provided and receipt of other

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required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada, approve the Sparrow Lake United Church Camp, Inc. 2022-2023 Board of Directors

Andrew Blair
Colin Campbell
Paul Foley
Janice Franklin
William Grove
Lee Holland
Samantha Misner
Katie Mutton
Ellen Weir
Mark Winger

This is based on the minutes of Annual General Meeting of January 23, 2022, 2022 board member approval form, the board contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

MOTION

CARRIED

Correspondence:

Community Ministries Working Group Email

An email was received from Jeffrey Dale on March 21, 2023 re: the 2 Community Ministries Working Group proposals asking for feedback.

2021 Draft Audit

Janet circulated the 2021 draft Audit and reviewed it with Executive. Since Executive only received the audit this morning, the decision was made to participate in an e-vote this week to give time for members to ask questions of Janet in the next few days with the e-vote ending on Friday.

Proposals from Community Ministries Working Group for Review

Executive has been invited by the Community Ministries Working Group to give feedback on the two proposals that are going to the 2023 Shining Waters Regional Council Meeting in May. David indicated he had questions about the two proposals and asked Kirsty Hunter to Chair the meeting while David participated in the question period; Kirsty took the chair. In addition, Tina Conlon declared a conflict of interest and left this discussion until it was complete.

After a extensive discussion, there was consensus that the Executive Minister submit feedback to the Community Ministries Working Group in writing.

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Remit 1 – Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization

Peter indicated that as part of our oversight of communities of faith is to ensure that the remit happens. The deadline for the remit is not until next year and it is the hope that there would be a more wholesome conversation about it. It would be beneficial to have an announcement at the RCM and then some support from the Community of Faith Commission (CoFC) to outline the process of the remit and what needs to be done and by when.

With regard to executing the remit as a regional council, we have two choices: to vote on it at the Regional Council Meeting (RCM) or to vote on it at Executive on behalf of the regional council.

After a discussion with Executive members, there was consensus that the remit be introduced at this RCM in May 2023 and decided on at a later meeting. Executive will ask the planning committee to find an appropriate place in the agenda for the remit introduction.

Recommendations from CFC (Feb. 15th, 2023) to Sell Sandhill UC

Executive reviewed the recommendation from the Communities of Faith Commission to sell the Sandhill United Church (located in Caledon).

MOTION by Allan Holditch / Isaac Kamta that the Shining Waters Regional Council Executive approve the recommendation from the Communities of Faith Commission to sell Sandhill United Church (Caledon, ON).

MOTION

CARRIED

MOTION by Peter Hartmans / Allan Holditch that the SWRC Executive expresses deep appreciation for the many years of service of the community and ministry of Sandhill United Church and that a letter will be sent to Sandhill UC expressing that sentiment.

MOTION

CARRIED

There was a suggestion that in the future, Executive could send a card/letter to a community of faith before the dissolution indicating the approval of the recommendation to sell/disband, etc. and of Executive's deep appreciation for them and their work.

Regional Council Meeting (RCM) and Celebration of Ministry Service (CoMS) Updates and Covid Protocols at Meeting/Service

Updates

David shared that the planning of the content of the meeting is in the advanced stages. The meeting will be hybrid where people can participate in-person and online via Zoom. The CoMS will take place on the afternoon of Sunday, May 28, 2023. Last year due to Covid, the in-person attendance for the CoMS was limited and Jeffrey Dale was wondering if those protocols would be put in place again this year. We also recognize with the RCM ending on Saturday night plus the decision to livestream the service, there may be the possibility that a lot of people will go home and choose to participate online. We don't have anyway of knowing those decisions from the registration form.

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Covid Protocols at Meeting/Service

Peter shared the protocols at the in-person Canadian Shield RCM last September where they had readily available testing as a free-will option and encouraged masking. It seemed that there were not many masks at the beginning of the meeting but when some people decided to test and were positive for Covid, a lot of participants started wearing masks for the remainder of the meeting.

MOTION by Moon Ja Park / Kirsty Hunter that Shining Waters Regional Council wants to create a safe environment for all people at the 2023 in-person Regional Council Meeting, therefore, the SWRC Executive encourages mask wearing and Covid testing.

MOTION

CARRIED

The question was asked what the capacity of the venue is and if there is room for social distancing. Jody thought the capacity was 400 with people sitting shoulder-to-shoulder. With regards to the Celebration of Ministry Service, Executive discussed having it opened for everyone in-person or to limit the number of people. Jody offered to inquire with the venue what social distancing would look like for the CoMS.

MOTION by Allan Holditch / Isaac Kamta that in order to limit the number of people at the Celebration of Ministry Service, Shining Waters Regional Council encourage members to join online for the service unless there is a direct relationship or connection with the candidate.

MOTION

PASSED

Nominations re: PRC Mandate

Jody shared that the Pastoral Relations Commission (PRC) had requested a slight change to their mandate to include in their membership a person who is a PR Liaison. This was referred to the Nominations Committee and they decided they were open to the request of the PRC and it did lead to interesting conversations and some recommendations that the Nominations Committee would like Executive think about. The first item is that currently Nominations only does recruiting for elected members of committees and commissions. Several of those groups also recruits resource people (i.e. in the PRC, they recruit PC Liaisons and Supervisors, etc.) and they wondered whether it made sense to have some consistency of process re: recruitment or have the various commissions and committees do that work themselves. The other piece was around succession planning; currently the Executive has a very clear mandate on succession and the PRC has now adopted that same mandate (someone serving as Chair-Elect for one year, then Chair for a 2-year term and then serve as Past Chair for the final year). The question is do we want consistency around all commissions and committees re: succession.

David asked if Nominations has any feedback about those questions or are they open questions that they are seeking guidance on from Executive. Due to the lateness of the meeting, David indicated those are both very interesting questions and will be moved to the agenda of the next meeting of Executive in order to give them a longer discussion time.

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Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between Shining Waters and Canadian Shield Regional Councils

To be moved to the agenda of the next meeting of Executive.

Kindred Works Update

Kindred Works has been renamed from the Property Development Corporation of The United Church of Canada and have been working with us on the development of our four properties. They are moving quickly to begin construction in the spring for one of our projects, Regent Park in Orillia, which was approved by Executive previously.

Those 4 properties are moving into a Trust and we will be signing the Trust Agreement soon. The Trust doesn't mean we are giving up the property, it just means that it will be separate legally from SWRC and that is all part of the development plan. One interesting note is that these properties can be used as collateral for the development of other SWRC properties. It is exciting that we can go to the Regional Council Meeting knowing that we can inform delegates that one of the projects is starting (Regent Park, Orillia).

Regional Trust Agreement Update

In regards to the projects spoken about in the Kindred Works update, the region has sought legal advice to review the agreements.

Executive Minister Update/Report – Peter Hartmans

Peter provided a written report that was circulated prior to the meeting (*Appendix A*). Peter shared that the new hire for the Community of Faith and Pastoral Relations Support Minister has happened a few minutes before this meeting and they signed the contract with the region.

MOTION by Peter Hartmans / Moon Ja Park that Shining Waters Regional Council reimburse our new Community of Faith and Pastoral Relations Support Minister, when hired, for basic moving expenses if applicable.

MOTION

CARRIED

New Business

There is no new business at this time.

Closing Prayer

Peter gave a closing prayer, and the meeting closed at 4:08 p.m.

Next Meeting: TBD

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Appendix A

Executive Minister Report March 2023:

Happy Spring!!! The planning team for the Regional meeting is well organized and has made progress through our President David, Jody and the planning team. The SWRC Staff visited the venue site. Shining Waters Regional Council has chatted with Canadian shield Regional Council through David this month around a learning event and CSRC would like to partner in 2025. Both Regional Councils seem very excited.

We posted the new full-time admin. Position (to be shared between the Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council); the position was posted in early October for two weeks. We also circulated it via the regional networks, hiring platforms, etc. The General Council supports hiring for Regional Councils through its HR office. They received many applicants and a three-person hiring team was created with myself, Jody Maltby and Joy Galloway. We did interviews in early February and we hired Kathleen Wolfe and she started mid March. You can reach Kathleen at: kwolfe@united-church.ca . Kathleen provides primary administrative support for Shining Waters Regional Council and also Canadian Shield Regional Council. Rachael retires May 2023 and we will be very sad to say goodbye. Susan will move in as the primary Executive Minister admin and will be support for both Regional Councils. Presently, Susan just supports Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive.

We are currently in the position of hiring a new Congregational Support Minister for SWRC, who's primary work will focus south of the 407 in Shining Waters Regional Council. Once the individual accepts, they may need to provide 90 days notice to their community of faith, so the likely start date will be August/September 2023.

We continue to face lots of challenges/blessings by our Communities of Faith as we transition into a new Covid reality. The Regional Council has increased its support to communities of faith seeking support by both Regional Commissions.

