

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
SHINING WATERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a meeting of the
Pastoral Relations Commission
Tuesday, October 24 2023**

The Pastoral Relations Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council met for an in-person hybrid (in-person and online) joint meeting with the Community of Faith Commission, on Tuesday, October 24, 2023 at Burton Avenue United Church, 37 Burton Avenue, Barrie, ON. The meeting began at 9:30 a.m.

Present:

Donna Bowman-Woodall, Andrew Comar, Barbara Hendren, William Haughton, Sung-Ran Kim, Deirdre Lawrence, Elizabeth Mackenzie, Beth Moore, Lawrence Nyarko, Robin Pilkey, Paul Stott and Chris Bennett, Carolyn Harding, Calin Lau, Amy Lee, Kevin Logie, Tom MacNeil, Sandra Nottegar, Eric Nyarko, Harry Ramsaran, Patti Rodgers, Gloria Tozek

Regrets:

Staff: Jody Maltby, Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Todd McDonald, Eun-Joo Park, Donna Rutz, Kathleen Wolfe, Celio de Andrade Santos Jr.

Gathering (9:30 a.m.)

Welcome, constituting the meeting and prayer (9:45 a.m.)

Chris Bennett welcomed everyone to the meeting. Chris gave an acknowledgement of the land and led a time of worship. There was a time of introductions.

Joint Commission Conversation - leader, Donna Bowman-Woodall
(10 a.m.)

Transitions and Ministry

(Opening comments: Eun-Joo)

Collaborative Ministry/ Lay led Congregations

(Leader - Todd McDonald) (10:05 a.m.)

We will hear from First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council and Pastoral Units pilot project. (video presentation)

Break (10:45 a.m.)

The meeting took a 10-minute break.

Transitions and Ministry Continued.

Communities of Faith Self-Assessment (Leader: Chris Bennett and Jody Maltby) (10:55 a.m.)

Engaging Communities of Faith and discovering purpose as we emerge from pandemic

Flourish: Fostering Health Joy and Excellence for Ministry Personnel (Leaders: Donna Bowman-Woodall, and Todd McDonald) (11:15 a.m.)

Engaging ministry personnel to discern support for future ministry leadership

New Growth Animator (Leader: Jody Maltby) (11:30 a.m.)

Introduce the Growth Animator position and the focus for this person's work and ministry in Shining Waters

Supporting Communities of Faith as They Close- report (Jody Maltby) (11:45 a.m.)

This work was introduced at our last joint meeting. What has developed since then?

Intentional Interim Ministry- report (Diane Matheson-Jimenez) (12:00 p.m.)

The Intentional Interim Ministry Committee has been busy providing support to congregations in transition but also supporting and educating ministry personnel.

Report on Equity Project Goal and Plan

(Donna Bowman Woodall and Liz Mackenzie) (12:15 to 12:25 p.m.)

Chris Bennett offered a blessing prayer for lunch.

Lunch Break (12:30 p.m.)

The joint commission gathering broke for lunch at 12:30 p.m. p.m. and then reconvened separately.

Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting

Donna Bowman-Woodall, Chair, declared there was a quorum present and called the Pastoral Relations Commission meeting to order at 1:30 p.m.

Agenda

MOTION by /
that the agenda consisting of items that had been circulated to the commission in advance of this meeting be approved.

MOTION

CARRIED

Minutes

MOTION by /
that the minutes of the September 26, 2023 meeting of the commission be approved.

MOTION

CARRIED

Omnibus Motion

MOTION by /
that the Pastoral Relations Commission take the following actions:

a) **Request for Change in Relationship**

... in accordance with The Manual I.3.1.4(b) accepts the request for a change in pastoral relations of **John Kim**, ordained minister at **Richview Pastoral Charge (Toronto)** effective December 31, 2023 and gives thanks for his ministry.

... in accordance with The Manual I.3.1.4(b) accepts the request for a change in pastoral relations of **Karen Ptolemy-Stam**, ordained minister at **Midland: St. Paul's Pastoral Charge (Midland)** effective May 31, 2024 and gives thanks for her ministry.

b) **Appointments**

... concurs with the request of **St. James' Pastoral Charge (Toronto)** and approves the appointment of **Wonchan Hwang**, ordained minister, beginning September 15, 2023 to December 31, 2023, full time based on 40 hours per week with the following terms for Category F and Cost of Living Group Assignment 5: Salary \$75,787 per annum, salary in addition to the minimum at 5.24% which equals \$3,970, for a total salary of \$79,757 per annum, basic telephone \$1370 per annum, Continuing Education and Learning Amount \$1543 per annum and all other terms according to The Manual I.2., and that in accordance with The Manual I.1.9 this appointment does not require an act of covenant.

This appointment is to fill a gap while St. James waits for an Intentional Interim Minister to be available. St. James has been approved for Intentional Interim Ministry by the Communities of Faith Commission.

MOTION

CARRIED

End of Omnibus motion

Reconsider a Motion (The Manual 2023, page 195)

Todd explained the circumstances. Meriel Simpson has asked to change the date for her change in pastoral relationship with Scarborough Bluffs Pastoral Charge.

MOTION by /

that Shining Waters Regional Council reconsider the motion approved by the Pastoral Relations Commission on August 29, 2023 "... in accordance with The Manual I.3.1.4(b) accepts the request for a change in pastoral relations of **Meriel Simpson**, ordained minister at **Scarborough Bluffs Pastoral Charge (Toronto)** effective January 30, 2024 and gives thanks for her ministry."

MOTION

CARRIED

MOTION by /

that Shining Waters Regional Council, in accordance with The Manual I.3.1.4(b) accepts the request for a change in pastoral relations of **Meriel Simpson**, ordained minister at **Scarborough Bluffs Pastoral Charge (Toronto)** effective January 30, 2024 and gives thanks for her ministry”

MOTION

DEFEATED

MOTION by /

that Shining Waters Regional Council, in accordance with The Manual I.3.1.4(b) accepts the request for a change in pastoral relations of **Meriel Simpson**, ordained minister at **Scarborough Bluffs Pastoral Charge (Toronto)** effective April 15, 2024 and gives thanks for her ministry

MOTION

CARRIED

The Commission received correspondence from Meriel Simpson and the governing body of Scarborough Bluffs affirming the April 15, 2024 end date for pastoral relationship

Report from Staff

Staff reported in on work they are doing:

a) Liaisons

Dan Benson appointed to Richview Pastoral Charge (Toronto) for search for an appointed supply minister. The called minister, John Kim, is retiring and the community of faith is uncertain if they will be able to call a minister. Thus the search for an appointed minister.

b) Pastoral Charge Supervisors

No pastoral charge supervisors were appointed by staff.

c) Flourish Updates

Flourish updates were reported at the joint meeting of the Commission. The Flourish Advisory Group met on October 19, 2023. The Commission members were invited to make any further comments or questions.

Equity Project Goal and Plan Rubric updates

The Equity Task Group will meet next week and will report at the November 29, 2023 commission meeting.

Policy Review in light of General Council Executive Proposal 5 regarding retired DLMs at their meeting in September 20-22, 2023:

For People who Retired as Designated Lay Ministers

Proposal 5:

The General Council strongly encourages regional councils to review their practices under C.2.1 b) and I.2.4.1 b) of The Manual to consider, in light of the leadership roles and acquired experience of many lay members who retired as designated lay minister, granting both license to administer the sacraments and membership in the regional council to lay members who retired as designated lay ministers and are resident within the regional council. Further, that regional councils be encouraged to review their policies on voluntary associate ministry and eligibility to practice other functions of ministry as may apply to lay members who have retired as designated lay ministers.

Draft Voluntary Associate Minister Policy (Appendix A)

Draft Ministry Personnel Marriage Policy (Appendix B)

The Commission discussed draft policies and asked that they be forwarded to the SWRC Executive. The Commission recognized that revisions to the VAM and Ministry Personnel Marriage policies are part of a larger discussion about retired DLM's regional council membership.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Pastoral Relations Commission will be held by Zoom video conference on Tuesday, November 28, 2023, at 9:00 a.m.

End of Meeting

There being no further business, ??? closed the meeting with a prayer.

Donna Bowman-Woodall
Chair

Kathleen Wolfe and Donna Rutz
Note takers

Appendix A – Draft Voluntary Associate Minister Policy

Appendix B – Draft Ministry Personnel Marriage Policy