

**MARITIME CONFERENCE
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

TIME AND PLACE: The Sub-Executive of Maritime Conference met, at the call of the President, on February 13, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. at the Maritime Conference Centre, Sackville, NB, with the Past-President Rev. Mathew Fillier, officiating.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT: “I constitute this court in the name of Jesus Christ, who is our Light and our Hope. By the authority vested in me by the Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada, I hereby declare this meeting of the Sub-Executive of Maritime Conference to be in session to deal with all matters that come before it as we seek to live in the Light of Christ.”

OPENING PRAYER: The Past-President opened the meeting with prayer.

ATTENDANCE AND REGRETS:

Present: Past-President Matthew Fillier, Executive Secretary Mr. David Hewitt, President-Elect Rev. Richard Bowley, Treasurer Mr. Alan Gray, Ms. Marion Green, Rev. Sean Handcock, Rev. Scott Hillier, Mr. Lance Howard, and Rev. Sarah Reburn. Also in attendance was Ms. Jennifer Whittemore to record minutes.

Regrets: President Rev. Catherine Stuart and Ms. Allison Wornell.

AGENDA: Marion Green / Sarah Reburn moved that the agenda be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES: David Hewitt / Richard Bowley moved that the Sub-Executive minutes from December 6, 2016 [74(16)-76(16)] be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

David Hewitt / Sean Handcock moved that Elizabeth Stevenson be named as Chair on the Affirming Committee until 2017; Jennifer Robarts be named as Member at Large to the Affirming Committee until 2020; Alicia Walls be named as Chair to the Christian Life & Growth Committee until 2020; Frank Oulton and Sheila Gallant be named as Members at Large to the Financial Support Committee until 2020; and Matthew Fillier be named as Chair to the Staff Committee until 2020.

MOTION CARRIED

David Hewitt / Lance Howard moved that the Clusters Task Group members be Carol Smith, Gary Carey, Kent Gibbons and Don Lockhart.

MOTION CARRIED

David Hewitt / Sarah Reburn moved that the Annual Meeting Location Task Group members be Meggin King, Kyle Grant and Mike Henderson.

MOTION CARRIED

David Hewitt / Scott Hillier moved that the Bermuda Conference Annual Meeting Task Group members be Gary Clark, Sheila Gallant, Barbara Prowse and David Atwood.

MOTION CARRIED

ORANGEDALE UNITED CHURCH, INVERNESS-GUYSBOROUGH PRESBYTERY:

David Hewitt / Richard Bowley moved that Maritime Conference approve the Orangedale United Church, Orangedale, Nova Scotia, distribution of proceeds of the sale as follows:

Proceeds of sale of approximately \$22,835.10:

- 10% (approximately \$2,283.51) to the Mission and Service Endowment Fund.
- 25% (approximately \$5,708.78) to Maritime Conference Financial Campaign.
- 65% (approximately \$14,842.81) to River and Lakeside Pastoral Charge.

MOTION CARRIED

TRINITY UNITED CHURCH, CHIGNECTO PRESBYTERY:

David Hewitt / Sean Handcock moved that Maritime Conference approve the Trinity United Church, Cape Tormentine, New Brunswick, distribution of proceeds of the sale as follows:

Proceeds of sale of approximately \$31,688.25:

1. \$17,680.78 to the Bayfield Little Shemogue Central Treasurer to cover that amount owing by the Trinity United Church.
2. The remaining balance of \$14,007.47:
 - 20% (approximately \$2,801.49) to the Mission and Service Endowment Fund.
 - 25% (approximately \$3,501.87) to Maritime Conference Financial Campaign.
 - 35% (approximately \$4,902.62) to Bayfield Little Shemogue Pastoral Charge.
 - 20% (approximately \$2,801.49) to Camp Ta Wa Si.

MOTION CARRIED

WESLEY UNITED CHURCH, CHIGNECTO PRESBYTERY:

David Hewitt / Marion Green moved that Maritime Conference approve the Wesley United Church, Bayfield, New Brunswick, distribution of proceeds of the sale as follows:

Proceeds of sale of approximately \$16,952.05:

- 20% (approximately \$3,536.16) to the Mission and Service Endowment Fund.
- 25% (approximately \$4,420.19) to Maritime Conference Financial Campaign.
- 20% (approximately \$3,536.16) to United Church Legacy Fund.
- 35% (approximately \$6,188.27) to Bayfield Little Shemogue Pastoral Charge.

MOTION CARRIED

FINANCE & PROPERTY, POLICY ON MANAGEMENT OF SURPLUS FUNDS OF MARITIME CONFERENCE:

Sarah Reaburn / Richard Bowley moved that Maritime Conference adopt the “Policy on Management of Surplus Funds of Maritime Conference” as follows (appendix B):

Policy on Management of Surplus Funds of Maritime Conference

At its Jan 30, 2017, the Finance & Property Committee of Maritime Conference approved the following policy for recommendation to the Maritime Conference Executive for approval:

Maritime Conference Policy on Management of Operating Surplus within the Conference
General Fund

The intent of this policy is

- a. To ensure that financial resources are available to support the mission and work of Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada, and
- b. That these resources are managed and utilized appropriately, and
- c. That surplus funds are used in a way that enables the annual operating budget to be applied to the ongoing work of the Conference and not set aside for contingency, emergency situations and /or unforeseen opportunities.

To those ends, it shall be the policy of Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada that any General Fund operating surplus as of the December 31st closing of accounts of any year be transferred to and retained in a Contingency Reserve Fund with designated purposes.

1. The purpose of the Contingency Reserve Fund is to provide a source of funds;
 - A. To cover unforeseen expenses and so reduce or remove that requirement from the annual operating budget.
 - B. For reserve, to allow
 - a. unbudgeted equipment purchases as may be required from time to time,
 - b. a ~~short term~~ annual operating deficit, or
 - c. funding of an unexpected opportunity.
 - d. To replace or supplement sources of funding that are no longer available.
2. The Contingency Reserve Fund should be maintained at a minimum of 10% of the current year total operating budget. On initial adoption of this policy, amounts may be transferred into the **Contingency Reserve Fund** as recommended by the Finance & Property Committee representing past General Fund operating surpluses. At such time as the fund reaches a balance of \$500,000 consideration will be given that any excess over this amount be used to maintain or reduce future allocations of the Conference to Presbyteries.
3. Requests to utilize this fund will be presented through the Finance and Property Committee for approval to the Maritime Conference Executive.

It was agreed to remove “short term” from 1. B. b.

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MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: The President moved the meeting close.

Matthew Fillier, Past-President

David Hewitt, Executive Secretary

Appendix A

#	Received From	Date Rec.	Regarding	Recommended Action
A1	Maritime Conference Nominating Committee	9-Feb-17	Motions for Committee appointments	to Sub-Exec for Action

A2	Kathleen MacDonald	1-Dec-16	Sale of Orangedale United Church, Inverness-Guysborough Presbytery	to Sub-Exec for Action
A2	Heather Manuel, Secretary, Inverness-Guysborough	8-Dec-16	Recommendation on distribution of funds from the sale of Orangedale United Church	to Sub-Exec for Action
A3	Maritime Conference Finance & Property Committee	9-Feb-17	Policy on Management of Surplus Funds of Maritime Conference	to Sub-Exec for Action
A2	Evans MacIsaac MacMillan	15-Dec-16	Orangedale United Church sale financial statement	to Sub-Exec for Action
A4	Terry Olsen	1-Dec-16	Disposition of the proceeds of sale of Trinity United Church, Cape Tormentine, Chignecto Presbytery	to Sub-Exec for Action
A5	Terry Olsen	6-Dec-16	Statement of sale of fixtures for Trinity United Church, Cape Tormentine, Chignecto Presbytery	to Sub-Exec for Action
A6	Terry Olsen	2-Dec-16	Statement of Adjustments for the sale of Trinity United Church, Cape Tormentine, Chignecto Presbytery	to Sub-Exec for Action
A7	Paul Wood, Chignecto Presbytery	9-Mar-16	Wesley United Church, Bayfield, NB	to Sub-Exec for Action
I1	Chignecto Presbytery	12-Feb-17	January 18, 2017 minutes	To Sub-Exec for Info

Appendix B

Policy on Management of Surplus Funds of Maritime Conference

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3. Requests to utilize this fund will be presented through the Finance and Property Committee for approval to the Maritime Conference Executive.

**MARITIME CONFERENCE
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

TIME AND PLACE: The Executive of Maritime Conference met, at the call of the President, on April 28, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Maritime Conference Centre, Sackville, NB, with the President, Rev. Catherine Stuart, officiating.

TABLE GROUPS: The Christ candle was lit. Table groups were invited to discuss their favorite hymn or scripture passage.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT: "I constitute this court in the name of Jesus Christ, who is our Light and our Hope. By the authority vested in me by the Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada, I hereby declare this meeting of the Executive of Maritime Conference to be in session to deal with all matters that come before it as we seek to live in the Light of Christ. As we gather to share the work that rightly comes before this court, let us pause to remember that in this region we live and work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territories of the

Wabanaki peoples—predominantly the lands of the Mi'kmaq, Maliseet, and Passamaquoddy. May we live with respect on this land, and live in peace and friendship with its people.”

OPENING WORSHIP: Catherine Stuart lead the Executive in opening worship. The reading of Gospel of John 20, 19-31 was shared. *More Voices* #1 “Let Us Build a House was sung.

ATTENDANCE AND REGRETS: Present: President Rev. Catherine Stuart, Executive Secretary Mr. David Hewitt, President-Elect Rev. Richard Bowley, Past-President Rev. Matthew Fillier, Treasurer Mr. Alan Gray, Ms. Julielynn Anderson, Mr. Ross Cameron, Mr. Roland Easter, Rev. Alison Etter, Rev. Catherine Gaw, Ms. Sarah Goodfellow, Mr. Lance Howard, Rev. David LeBlanc, Rev. Sharon Lohnes, Rev. Steven Longmoore, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Rev. Connie McNamara, Rev. Stephen Mills, Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Stevenson, Ms. Pauline Walker, Rev. Tom Woods, and Ms. Allison Wornell. Also in attendance were Conference Ministers Rev. Kendall Harrison, Ms. Laura Hunter, and Ms. Jennifer Whittemore attended to record minutes.

Regrets: Rev. Heather Fraser, Ms. Marion Green, Rev. Sean Handcock, Rev. Jane Johnson, Mr. Layton Peck, Ms. Roberta Philips, Rev. Sarah Reaburn, Rev. John Roy, Ms. Annika Sangster, and Rev. Cyril Simmons.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS: David Hewitt / Catherine Gaw moved Kent Gibbons, representing Miramichi Presbytery; and Jim Wicks, representing Church in Action Committee, be granted full member status at this meeting of Maritime Conference Executive; and Roger Janes, Stewardship and Gifts Officer, General Council; and Maritime Conference staff Laura Hunter and Kendall Harrison be granted corresponding privileges for this meeting of Maritime Conference Executive.

MOTION CARRIED

AGENDA: David Hewitt / Richard Bowley moved that the agenda be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES: David Hewitt / Stephen Mills moved that the Executive minutes from October 28-29, 2016 [46(16)-73(16)], be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

David Hewitt / Matthew Fillier moved that the Sub-Executive minutes from October 28, 2016 [73(16)-74(16)], December 6, 2016 [74(16)-76(16)], and February 13, 2017 [01(17)-06(17)] be received for information.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE: David Hewitt / Elizabeth Stevenson moved that the list of correspondence (appendix A) with those items marked for information be received and those items marked for action be minuted separately.

STAFF COMMITTEE: Matthew Fillier, chair, reported on the work of the committee.

Matthew Fillier / Richard Bowley moved that Maritime Conference eliminate the position of Conference Minister for Christian Nurture and Enrichment. (This position has been held vacant for 2 years.)

MOTION CARRIED

Matthew Fillier / Malcolm MacLeod moved that upon the anticipated date of retirement for Lorraine Horyl, December 31, 2017, Maritime Conference eliminate the position of Administrative Support for the Conference Personnel Minister and the Conference Minister for Christian Nurture and Enrichment.

MOTION CARRIED

Matthew Fillier / Julielyne Anderson moved that Maritime Conference offer to Sarah Wallace the remainder of hours up to full time (12-14 hours/week) of administrative work at category 2-6.

MOTION CARRIED

Matthew Fillier / Richard Bowley moved that the administrative work of the Maritime Conference Office be reviewed and redistributed between the (2 full-time and 1 part-time) administrative personnel.

MOTION CARRIED

Matthew Fillier / Allison Wornell moved that upon Maritime Conference approval of the 2018 budget, Maritime Conference extend the half-time Program Assistant to Youth and Young Adult Ministries, to December 31, 2018.

MOTION CARRIED

Matthew Fillier / Malcolm MacLeod and be it further moved that upon Maritime Conference approval of the 2018 budget, Maritime Conference offer Lauren King right of first refusal of the 2018 contract position of Program Assistant to Youth and Young Adult Ministries contract.

MOTION CARRIED

MINISTRY PERSONNEL & EDUCATION: Steven Longmoore, chair, reported on the work of the committee.

The Executive Secretary reported that permission was given as follows:

- Truro Presbytery, Mr. Keith Selwyn-Smith, Designated Lay Minister (Recognized), to administer the sacraments and officiate at weddings.

Steven Longmoore / Elizabeth Stevenson moved that on the recommendation of the Ministry Personnel and Education Committee and at the request of Miramichi Presbytery, that David Allan, Candidate Supply, be licensed to administer the sacraments and officiate at weddings within the bounds of Loggieville-Black River Pastoral Charge, Miramichi Presbytery, for the duration of his appointment, June 1, 2017 to May 31, 2018.

MOTION CARRIED

ADMISSION:

Steven Longmoore / Pauline Walker moved that the Maritime Conference, having considered the report and recommendation of the Conference Interview Board, confirms the Reverend Heather Wilson of the United Methodist Church Great Britain as suitable for appointment and the admissions process within The United Church of Canada.

MOTION CARRIED

DISCONTINUED SERVICE LIST (VOLUNTARY): Steven Longmoore, Chair, Ministry, Personnel and Education presented the following motion regarding a request to place a name on the Discontinued Service List (Voluntary) of The United Church of Canada.

Steven Longmoore / David LeBlanc moved to waive written ballot in order to deal with a request to have a name placed on the Discontinued Service List (Voluntary) of The United Church of Canada.

MOTION CARRIED

Steven Longmoore / David LeBlanc moved that the Executive of Maritime Conference concur with the recommendation of South Shore Presbytery to approve the request of Beverley Burlock to have her named placed on the Discontinued Service List (Voluntary) of The United Church of Canada effective April 28, 2017.

MOTION CARRIED

Steven Longmoore / Richard Bowley moved that Maritime Conference, under Manual Section I.3.3.5, stipulate that Beverley Burlock not be granted permission to exercise any of the functions of an ordained minister while her name is on the Discontinued Service List (Voluntary).

MOTION CARRIED

STEWARDSHIP NETWORK:

Roger Janes, Stewardship and Gifts Officer, General Council, updated the Executive on his recent work.

RECESS: The meeting recessed for lunch.

STAFF INPUT: Kendall Harrison offered a brief snapshot of the recent priorities of his work.

FINANCE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE:**2016 Audited Statements**

Alan Gray, Treasurer, reported on the audited statements.

Contingency Reserve Transfer

Alan Gray / Malcolm MacLeod moved that Maritime Conference transfer \$157,783 of the 2016 operational surplus to the Contingency Reserve Fund.

MOTION CARRIED

Financial Campaign Funds Raised

Alan Gray, Treasurer, reported on the financial campaign finances (appendix b).

Contingency Reserve Transfer

Alan Gray / Malcolm MacLeod moved that Maritime Conference transfer \$105,000 of operational surplus from prior to 2016 to the Contingency Reserve Fund.

MOTION CARRIED

Budget Comparison

Alan Gray, Treasurer, reported on the financial analysis (appendix c).

First Quarter Financials

Alan Gray, Treasurer, reported on the first quarter financial statements (appendix d).

2016 Audited Statements

Malcolm MacLeod / Steven Longmoore moved that the Maritime Conference Executive approve the 2016 audited statements to be reported to the 2017 Conference Annual Meeting.

MOTION CARRIED

First Quarter Financials

Mac MacLeod/ Lance Howard moved that the first quarter financials be received as reported.

MOTION CARRIED

2018 Budget

Malcolm MacLeod, Chair, presented the 2018 proposed budget and discussed the process of coming to the recommendation of a 0% allocation increase for 2018.

Mac MacLeod / Stephen Mills moved that the Executive of Maritime Conference recommend to the Annual Meeting of Maritime Conference a deficit budget for 2018 with expenses totaling \$1,145,850.30 including a 0% assessment increase for a total assessment of \$934,365.99, and a draw from reserves if necessary of up to \$61,934.31.

MOTION CARRIED

Conference Annual Meeting Travel

Mac MacLeod / Pauline Walker moved that Maritime Conference committee travel rate of \$0.30/km, meal rates of \$30/day, and annual meeting travel rate of \$0.10/km remain the same for 2018.

MOTION CARRIED

Capital Budget

For the information of the Executive the following motion will be presented to the Conference Annual Meeting:

That Maritime Conference approve a capital budget of \$3,000 for 2018, which is a 0% increase over the approved 2017 capital budget.

PRESBYTERY REPORTS:

Heather Fraser, chair, Halifax Presbytery submitted a report on behalf of the Presbytery (appendix E).

Roland Easter, chair, Prince Edward Island Presbytery reported on behalf of the Presbytery (appendix F).

Steven Longmoore, Saint John Presbytery reported on behalf of the Presbytery (appendix G).

STAFF INPUT: Laura Hunter offered a brief snapshot of the recent priorities of her work.

GENERAL COUNCIL:

Commissioners

The Executive Secretary reported on the request from General Council that, if possible, Commissioners to the 43rd General Council should be elected in 2017. Presbyteries are requested to nominate one Lay and one Ministry Personnel along with alternates and submit those names to Conference as soon as possible.

Plan for Business

Laura Hunter reviewed the proposed plan for business and Proposals coming to the 43rd General Council. This plan will include some prior engagement in this work beginning as early as this October.

Remits

An update report has been received from General Council on those Presbyteries and Pastoral Charges that have not yet submitted their Remit results. It is reported that 20% of Pastoral Charges have responded to date.

General Council Office

In response to a request from the landlord the General Council reviewed the need for office space in the General Council office and has agreed to reduce the space requirement from two and half floors to one floor. The transition is expected to be completed by June 2017 and will result in a savings of \$1,000,000 per year in rent.

RECESS: The meeting recessed for a brief break.

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH, SAINT JOHN PRESBYTERY:

David Hewitt / Elizabeth Stevenson moved that the proceeds of the sale (\$22,670.25) of Waterford United Church, NB, be as follows:

10% (\$2,267.03) Mission and Service Endowment Fund

90% (20,403.22) Newtown/Waterford Pastoral Charge

MOTION CARRIED

MILLTOWN UNITED CHURCH LAND, ST. CROIX PRESBYTERY:

David Hewitt / Richard Bowley moved that Maritime Conference authorize the trustees of Milltown United Church to sell the land on Centre Street (PID #15202005), St. Stephen, NB, to Knights of Pythias for \$500 plus legal fees and any other associated costs.

MOTION CARRIED

ROUND ISLAND LAND, CAPE BRETON, NS: The Executive Secretary reported that the registration of the Round Island properties, Cape Breton, NS (PID #15831795 and PID #15367626) has been completed and the property will be promptly listed for sale.

PRESBYTERY REPORTS:

Lance Howard, chair, St. Croix Presbytery reported on behalf of the Presbytery (appendix H).

Sharon Lohes, chair, South Shore Presbytery reported on behalf of the Presbytery (appendix I).

David LeBlanc, chair, Truro Presbytery submitted a report on behalf of the Presbytery (appendix J).

ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING COMMITTEE: Annika Sangster, chair, submitted a report on behalf of the committee (appendix K).

Reports

To improve communications with respect to questions and feedback on reports to the Conference Annual Meeting, chair persons are requested to include contact information in their reports. Members of Conference will be encouraged to make contact before the Annual Meeting if they have questions or concerns.

Bermuda Conference Annual Meeting (CAM) Task Group

On behalf of the task group the Executive Secretary reported that the group has held several telephone meetings and continues to explore the feasibility of holding a Conference Annual Meeting associated with Bermuda Synod.

Proposals

No proposals have been received for the Conference Annual Meeting to date. The deadline has passed. If anyone is considering a proposal they are requested to submit it, even in draft form, as soon as possible.

Nominations for President:

There have been no nominations for President-Elect. We would appreciate receiving nominations as soon as possible.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE: Julielynn Anderson, chair, reported on the work of the committee.

PRESBYTERY REPORTS:

Tom Woods, chair, Valley Presbytery reported on behalf of the Presbytery (appendix L).

Jane Johnson, chair, Woolastook Presbytery reported on behalf of the Presbytery (appendix M).

STAFF INPUT: David Hewitt offered a brief snapshot of the recent priorities of his work and sabbatical.

RECESS: The meeting recessed for supper.

PRESIDENT UPDATE: The President shared experiences on her recent trip to Bermuda and the work being done there.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE: Catherine Gaw asked for a point of privilege that we celebrate the life of people like Dr. Anne Squire who passed away this week.

MEETING SCHEDULE: Reminder of the Executive meeting scheduled May 28, 2017 following worship at Conference Annual Meeting. The proposed date for the Fall meeting is October 27-28, 2017.

POWERS TO THE SUB-EXECUTIVE: David Hewitt / Richard Bowley moved that powers be granted to the Sub-Executive in the interim until Executive reconvenes and that permission be given for a telephone conference call to be used in decision making in the Sub-Executive's work, if necessary.

MOTION CARRIED

CLOSING WORSHIP: Richard Bowley led the Executive in closing worship, sharing the gospel of Luke. *More Voices* #216 "Wherever You May Go".

ADJOURNMENT: President declared the meeting adjourn.

Catherine Stuart, President

David Hewitt, Executive Secretary

Appendix A

#	Received From	Date Rec.	Regarding	Recommended Action
A1	Beverley Burlock	14-Oct-16	Request for DSL (voluntary)	To Exec for action
A2	Beverley Burlock	24-Nov-16	Request for DSL (voluntary)	To Exec for action
A3	Beverley Burlock	13-Apr-17	Forms for DSL (voluntary)	To Exec for action
A4	George Smith Professional Corporation	22-Nov-16	Statement of sale of Waterford United Church	To Exec for action
A5	Sharon Russell, Secretary, Saint John Presbytery	13-Feb-17	Sale of Waterford United Church	To Exec for action
A6	Jane Gourley-Davis, Patterson Law	28-Feb-17	Deed for Round Island (registered)	To Exec for action
A7	Phil Hartford	30-Mar-17	Sale of land on Centre St., St. Stephen	To Exec for action

Appendix B**Maritime Conference United Church of Canada
Analysis of Financial Campaign Contributions December 31, 2016****CHARGES TO THE FINANCIAL CAMPAIGN FUNDS RAISED**

Contributions received in 2010/2011	\$	7,589.15
Contributions received in 2012 before September 1		
Fincamp to 08/31/2012		28,145.78
"Archive" Contributions		4,809.39
Church Sales		25,619.79
	<u>\$</u>	<u>66,164.11</u>
Costs incurred after September 1, 2012		
2012		66,562.50
2013		19,015.31
	<u>\$</u>	<u>85,577.81</u>
Mortgage principal payments made to date:		
Pre-payments		455,548.18
Finserv loans repaid		251,000.00
	<u>\$</u>	<u>706,548.18</u>
Total of above	\$	858,290.10
Total balance of funds raised to date		1,141,803.90
"Balance" of campaign funds collected to date not used for building costs or mortgage and loan principal	<u>\$</u>	<u>283,513.80</u>

Year End Excess funds analysis

Funds Invested (not including paper gains)	\$ 750,822.00
Bank	697,940.00
	<u>1,448,762.00</u>
Total restricted funds	701,989.04
Balance of Campaign Funds (above)	283,513.80
	<u>985,502.84</u>
Net "excess" Funds	463,259.16
"Normal" working capital	<u>200,000.00</u>
Remainder	263,259.16
2016 deferred	<u>157,783.00</u>
Balance	<u>\$ 105,476.16</u>

Appendix C**Maritime Conference Fund
Comparison of Actual to Budget
Year Ended December 31, 2016**

	Actual	Budget	+/-	
Revenues				
Allocations	\$ 934,366	\$ 934,366	\$ -	
Grants from UC	194,097	194,097	-	
Event Receipts	74,140	62,135	12,005	Increased costs to offset
Other	114,480	17,740	96,740	\$6,000 Rent, \$77,000 program revenue offset by expenses, \$4,650
Amortization of FC Contributions	28,545	25,000	3,545	
	<u>\$ 1,345,628</u>	<u>\$ 1,233,338</u>	<u>\$ 112,290</u>	
Expenses				
Executive	\$ 24,913	\$ 25,800	\$ 887	
Administration	21,847	29,500	7,653	Audit, bank charges
Interest on LTD	88,269	90,164	1,895	
Office Operation	68,024	68,299	275	
Salaries & Benefits	539,289	597,400	58,111	Position not filled
Staff Travel	17,205	23,700	6,495	
Standing Committees	276,069	225,001	- 51,068	
Grants	50,000	50,000	-	
Amortization	102,229	104,000	1,771	
	<u>1,187,845</u>	<u>1,213,864</u>	<u>26,019</u>	
Subtotal	157,783	19,474	138,309	
Unrealized Gain	47,862	-	47,862	
Surplus	<u>\$ 205,645</u>	<u>\$ 19,474</u>	<u>\$ 186,171</u>	

Appendix D

MARITIME CONFERENCE FUND**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA****Interim Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - General Fund**

Unaudited - For internal purposes only

Period ended March 31, 2017

	3 months ended 03/31/2017	Annual Budget	Y/E 12/31/2016
Revenues			
Allocations	\$233,592	\$934,366	\$934,366
Salary & Equalization Grants	48,524	194,097	194,097
Event Receipts			
Youth Forum	2,557	40,750	43,700
Intermediates at Conference	-	30,250	30,440
Fees	2,557	-	68
Rental of Facility/Archives	3,230	15,750	20,295
Sundry	37,625	3,675	94,117
Amortization of Financial Campaign Cont.	7,314	29,000	28,545
	<u>335,399</u>	<u>1,247,888</u>	<u>1,345,628</u>
Expenditures			
Executive	79	23,500	24,913
Administration	5,992	21,250	21,847
Interest on LTD	19,972	78,107	88,269
Office			
Operation	17,992	64,375	68,024
Salaries & benefits	146,244	614,000	539,289
Staff Travel	1,310	22,125	17,205
Standing Committees	30,390	248,125	276,069
Grants to tatamagouche Centre	15,000	50,000	50,000
Amortization	25,085	102,000	102,229
	<u>262,064</u>	<u>1,223,482</u>	<u>1,187,845</u>
Sub-total	<u>\$ 73,335</u>	<u>\$ 24,406</u>	<u>\$ 157,783</u>
Unrealized Gain on Investments			47,862
Excess of (Expenditures over Revenues)	<u>\$ 73,335</u>	<u>\$ 24,406</u>	<u>\$ 205,645</u>

MARITIME CONFERENCE FUND**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA****Interim Balance sheet**

Unaudited - For internal purposes only

Period ended March 31, 2017

	General	Bequest	Special	Total	12/31/2016
ASSETS					
Current Assets:					
Cash and Investments					
Unrestricted	\$ 656,224			\$ 656,224	\$ 644,076
In Trust/Restricted	206,374	-	137,518	343,892	390,587
Restricted/Unearned	434,795			434,795	468,986
Accounts Receivable					
Allocations	145,517			145,517	67,905
United Church of Canada	-			-	-
GST/HST Recoverable	1,835			1,835	6,974
Other	-			-	3,995
Accrued Interest Receivable	4,035			4,035	1,748
Land held for resale	20,800			20,800	20,800
Prepays	5,580			5,580	11,159
	1,475,160		137,518	1,612,678	1,616,230
Investments	-	206,125		206,125	206,125
Property & Equipment	2,871,478			2,871,478	2,896,564
	\$ 4,346,639	\$ 206,125	\$ 137,518	\$ 4,690,282	\$ 4,718,919
Liabilities & Fund Balances					
Current Liabilities					
Accounts payable & accrued liabilities	\$ 46,363			\$ 46,363	\$ 83,856
Funds held in trust	61,980			61,980	97,479
Unearned Revenues	434,795			434,795	468,986
Current portion of LTD	75,816			75,816	74,613
	618,955			618,955	724,934
Long Term Liabilities					
Restricted Contributions	1,086,581			1,086,581	1,065,356
Mortgage Payable	1,157,594			1,157,594	1,177,005
	2,244,175	-		2,244,175	2,242,361
Fund Balances	1,483,509	206,125	137,518	1,827,151	1,751,624
	\$ 4,346,639	\$ 206,125	\$ 137,518	\$ 4,690,282	\$ 4,718,919

MARITIME CONFERENCE FUND**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA****Interim Statement of Changes in Fund Balances**

Unaudited - For internal purposes only

Period ended March 31, 2017

	General Fund Unrestricted	General Fund Contingency Fund	Total General Fund	Bequest	Special	Total	12/31/2016
Fund Balances, beginning of period	\$ 1,252,391	\$ 157,783	\$ 1,410,174	\$ 206,125	\$ 135,325	\$ 1,751,624	\$ 1,878,297
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure (Expenditure over revenue)	73,335		73,335	-	2,193	\$ 75,528	56,994
Transfers from (to) other funds	-			-	-	-	-
Fund Balances, end of period	\$ 1,325,726	\$ 157,783	\$ 1,483,509	\$ 206,125	\$ 137,518	\$ 1,827,151	\$ 1,935,291

MARITIME CONFERENCE FUND**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA****Interim Statement of Cash Flow - General Fund**

Unaudited - For internal purposes only

Period ended March 31, 2017

	3 months ended 03/31/2017	Y/E 12/31/2016
Increase(decrease) in cash & equivalents:		
OPERATING		
Excess of (expenses over revenue)	75,528	214,777
Amortization of financial campaign contributions	(7,314)	(28,545)
Amortization of property & equipment	25,085	102,229
Change in non-cash working capital		
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	(70,765)	13,464
(Increase) decrease in prepaids	5,579	(1,495)
(Decrease) increase in accounts payable	(37,492)	46,707
(Decrease) Increase in unearned revenue	(34,191)	177,817
	<u>(43,569)</u>	<u>524,954</u>
FINANCING		
Restricted contributions to project	28,539	298,067
Proceeds from funds held in trust	(35,499)	62,497
Repayment of Long Term Debt	(18,208)	(204,987)
	<u>(25,168)</u>	<u>155,577</u>
INVESTING		
Expenditures on capital assets	0	(2,307)
	<u>0</u>	<u>(2,307)</u>
Net (decrease) increase in cash and equivalents	(68,737)	678,224
Cash and Investments, beginning of period	1,503,649	825,425
Cash and Investments, end of period	<u>1,434,912</u>	<u>1,503,649</u>
Cash and equivalents consist of the following		
Unrestricted	656,224	644,076
In Trust/Restricted	343,892	390,587
Restricted/Unearned	434,795	468,986
	<u>1,434,912</u>	<u>1,503,649</u>

Appendix E

Maritime Conference Executive
Halifax Presbytery Report
28 April 2017

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

How has your Presbytery responded to this call?

This year, the work of Presbytery has been particularly poignant as we are all living under the shadow of not knowing if we will still exist in a year's time. We contact congregations to offer them assistance with Remit votes that may disband the very body offering the help. Along with that uncertainty, every meeting we hear calls for more people to do the work, especially the work of Pastoral Relations and Education and Students. We have three active processes from the J section of the Manual, and that too has required the best skills of some very good people. We are not sure how we are going to replace those on our Executive whose terms are up at the rise of Conference.

In the midst of all this uncertainty, this concern about not being enough, we have been struggling towards some new ways to live out our call to be the church we are instead of the church we used to be. For example, for years we have had a healthy amount of money available through the Church Extension Board and the New Church Development Fund, but that money had not been accessed in a while. Most people in the Presbytery didn't know these funds existed, or if they did, they didn't know what the funds were used for. Few congregations in our Presbytery are looking at building right now, and so we are working as a Presbytery to see how that money can better serve our people in a time of tearing down.

At the same time, we have given a number of grants from our newly minted Revitalization Fund, made possible by the generosity of two churches which sold their property and are now closed. Those grants have supported a Presbytery-wide learning event on church revitalization with the Rev. Dr. John Pentland, a series of community worship services rotating around the Conference, an innovative series on faith with the Dalhousie Chaplaincy, and a community choir. As old things end, new things begin, and that is our resurrection story.

What trends in celebration, service, justice seeking, and proclamation are filled with the Spirit in your Presbytery?

One trend in Halifax Presbytery is the number of new initiatives, tentative though they may be, to think more collaboratively. One sign of hope, strangely enough, comes from our work with the cemeteries located within our Presbytery. With many church points closing, the question of what to do with their cemeteries has become a major concern. Following a session with David Hewitt, the Property and Finance people have sprung into action, and are now in contact with the congregations which have cemeteries, with an eye towards helping them work

collaboratively and pool their resources to maintain and keep accurate documents for their plots. This work is in initial stages, but promises a new way out of an old problem.

For another example, our Pastoral Oversight Committee, which has been doing regular visits since forever, is working to get beyond just listening to the problems, towards raising awareness about new church resources that might help, resources like webinars, the new Stewardship programs, and the Fishing Tips workshop with John Pentland.

At our Executive meetings, we are concerned about the growing number of part time ministry positions in Halifax Presbytery. Also, two congregations that have closed this year, St John's in Beaverbank and St. Andrew's in Moser River, and we have a number of congregations whose financial positions are not stable, and do not at this time have ministry leadership in place. We intend to take time in the coming months to take a look at the bigger picture of ministry needs within our Presbytery, with the goal of being able to offer support to congregations that are struggling financially and to ministry personnel who are seeking full time employment. Who knows how the Spirit will speak into that work if we are ready to hear.

Where is the Spirit of Jesus, our judge and our hope, evident within the religious life of your Presbytery?

We begin every full Presbytery meeting, six times a year, with a meal together, and then worship together, Christian spiritual practices that are ever old and ever new. Being together continues to be a joy for us, even in the midst of uncertainty.

Sometimes our work feels like a burden, but at other times we are filled with gratitude at all the wonderful and diverse skills we have represented within our boundaries. We have a wealth of resources, and a willingness to discern and do the work that needs doing. Like the bewildered disciples on Easter morning, we are living into the change as it happens, not sure where we are going to end up in the end, but sure enough about the next part of the creed ("In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us, we are not alone") to keep moving forward. Thanks be to God.

Where is God calling your Presbytery?

God is calling our Presbytery to remember, in a time of change when it would be all too easy to retrench, that new things are ready to grow if only we get out of the way and let the Spirit do the job. As our Oversight Chair ended her report for the past year, "We continue our work in faith as we listen to the Spirit and trust in God."

Appendix F

Report to Maritime Conference
Prince Edward Island Presbytery
April, 2017

Snow covered with repose, budding with renewal, green with abundance, multi-coloured with change.

No matter the season, the wind blows and the Spirit flows across the Island. Small churches and large ones, the Spirit moves and inspires. Most of our pulpits are filled, although not all with

calls. There are new calls, though, new covenants made. But full time or supply, the Word is proclaimed. God is praised.

Furnaces fail, siding fails, rooves fail. The fabric wears. Challenges and worries for the churches. But we don't think just about our walls, but about concerns beyond our walls. Refugees are welcomed, food banks stocked, people are fed, body and soul. God be praised. Many things are going smoothly. But there are rough patches. A pastoral charge was reviewed. Many conversations, hard decisions, but plans have been made, a path to a better future. The Spirit renews. God be praised.

Our Church in Action Committee keeps before us the work of truth and reconciliation. A blanket exercise was shared. Land is recognized. We work at living with respect with all God's creation, all God's people. The Spirit encourages. God be praised.

Presbytery, and some charges, has discussed remits. There is debate and concern. There are many unknowns, but we are - some are - willing to take a leap of faith. The future, always, is unknown but there is potential for renewal.

The wind blows across the land, and the Spirit flows within and without. God will be praised.

Appendix G

Saint John Presbytery

As a Church, Saint John Presbytery has continued to find ways to celebrate God's presence in our witness locally and in our world. Since the last report to Conference, Saint John Presbytery hosted a Presbytery wide worship event (celebrating 90th Anniversary of the United Church) with a combined choir of 125 voices over one thousand in attendance. Beyond that significant celebration, ministry personnel and lay worship leaders have offered faithful proclamation of faith in Jesus, crucified and risen.

That said a number of churches are in various stages of transition in Saint John Presbytery. With retirements, congregational financial challenges, and numerous part time ministries, some pastoral charges are engaging in new and creative ways to continue to worship and be the United Church in their local context. These new ministries include a Presbyterian-United Ecumenical Shared Ministry, a situation where two independent United Church congregations are sharing a minister. Also, there are conversations within East Saint John of bringing four congregations together as ONE and in the Rothesay-Sussex corridor conversations to explore sharing ministry and resources amongst a number of congregations. It is exciting work, but it is challenging work for both the congregations and the Presbytery, but we hope the conversations will bear fruit such that these churches can continue to proclaim their faith in God and continue the ministries that are making a difference.

Surrounded by beauty of land and sea, there is much creation to celebrate. Yet, Saint John is a primary port in the Maritimes, and the largest industries within Saint John Presbytery are not always creation friendly. Led by the Spirit, we try to offer a voice of concern for creation and support for our neighbours who are employed by the industries. It is a challenging place for each congregation as we support each other and live with respect in God's world.

Congregations and the Presbytery are always seeking new opportunities to make a difference, and yet still committed to those projects that continue to make a difference in the community and in the world. We celebrate that two pastoral charges have taken significant leadership roles in

supporting refugee families, and other pastoral charges have offered their support to these families, through a variety of donations and fund raising activities. Locally, the Presbytery has a clothing depot in the downtown to distribute clothes to those in need, and this year there has been a noticeable increase in its use and in turn donations have also increased from the congregations. As mentioned earlier, congregational finances continue to be limited, yet donations to Mission and Service remain steady. Within these larger pieces of combined work, congregations are involved in a variety of other outreach activities feeding the hungry and visiting the sick and elderly. In the upcoming year, there will be ongoing conversations with regards to Mental Health Issues in our church as well as further conversations to encourage our Pastoral Charges to live out part of our response to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission by offering words of acknowledgement that we work and worship in traditional First Nations territory. There are likely other passions to emerge in the year ahead, and there is a commitment within the Presbytery to listen for the guidance of the Spirit.

Where we go in the next year is going to be an adventure on many levels. We are encouraged and reminded to listen for the Spirit in our midst and to find ways to respond to the needs around us. In faith, our commitment to make a difference will continue.

Rev'd Steve Longmoore

Saint John Presbytery (Rep to Maritime Conference Executive April 2017)

Appendix H

Saint Croix Presbytery Report to Maritime Conference April 2017

The congregations of Saint Croix Presbytery continue to offer the only liberal expression of Christianity throughout southwest New Brunswick. We are seven pastoral charges and ten congregations, only three of which are in towns. We have only two fulltime clergy. Our rural churches continue to struggle, mostly with no clergy other than semi-permanent Sunday supply, and with services attended by only a few faithful people.

We are very aware of the possibility that presbyteries may soon not exist, and we are trying to prepare for that time. We encourage presbytery-wide events, and hold 3 or 4 joint worship services each year. These help to diffuse any of the old animosities between congregations and provide opportunities for communion for those congregations who lack clergy. Presumably we'll eventually move toward a "cluster", whatever that might look like.

We also try to undertake joint outreach projects. Although our formal responsibilities with "our" refugee family ended in December, we find they still need help, and we want to give it. We now realise that it was unrealistic to assume that a family with no English, little education, and few employable skills could be expected to be completely independent within a year.

We are encouraging congregations to consider the findings of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, but it's a tough sell. Very few people in southwest NB could name even two indigenous people living in the area, and then would mutter that even they are less than half indigenous. So the TRC seems pretty foreign to most of us, and perhaps less "important" than several other social issues.

The Saint Croix Wellness and Renewal Centre is doing well, partially due to the financial assistance of the United Church. We have learned that serious projects require serious staff, and it was the hiring of an executive director that really got the ball rolling at the Centre. Perhaps we should have known this, having watched what happens when struggling congregations decide not to replace clergy, but rather choose to keep the building!

Two of our congregations received big bequests last year, and are struggling to determine how best to use the funds. We tried to count the money stashed away under various mattresses across Presbytery, and realised that there's lots of it. Some of it is formally or informally committed, but for most of it, there is no real plan, other than perhaps saving it for a rainy day. So, Presbytery is trying to encourage congregations to think of their ministry of money.

Roger Janes helped us sort out some of our financial and ministry priorities this spring by leading a three day presbytery wide stewardship weekend. Many of us learned a lot about M&S, the Foundation and other UCC initiatives.

Our problems are not really about money. They are about people. We're encouraging our congregations to ask themselves to think about their future, if they really want to grow, and what they're prepared to do to achieve that.

Although our congregations with active clergy occasionally attract new people, we also have many funerals, and we wonder about the future of a liberal Christianity in our area. On the one hand, we've been hearing for a while of the inevitable rural demographic doom. Many of our faithful are getting tired, and perhaps we need to be planning for fewer numbers.

On the other hand, we see that there actually are children in our local schools, and perhaps they and their families might have real spiritual needs. Given our limited vantage point from the pews, perhaps we shouldn't presume to know our wider community or its needs, without having first asked. Maybe if we actually left our buildings, and chose to offer something that is needed by families of the 21st Century, we might find that the message of Jesus isn't obsolete in Saint Croix Presbytery.

Submitted by

Lance S Howard, Chair
Saint Croix Presbytery

Appendix I

South Shore Presbytery Report (Pastoral Care and Oversight Report)

We are called to be the church – To celebrate God's presence

We are indeed called to be the church but exactly what that means and what it looks like are things that continue to change within our entire church. Perhaps one of the most tangible examples of responding to this changing call has been through dealing with the remits that came from GC42. Several events were organized across our presbytery to present and discuss these remits. Although most of the remits that required a vote from presbytery were dealt with in regular meetings, one additional meeting had to be scheduled. Despite less than ideal weather conditions this meeting was well attended demonstrating the deep commitment of South Shore Presbytery to this process.

With the departure of David Campbell from the Bridgewater Pastoral Charge we currently have one less full-time ministry as Bridgewater is currently being served by 2 part-time retired ministers while they plan and prepare for their future.

This year we celebrated 1 covenanting service as we welcomed Rev. Heather Ferrier to the Riverport Pastoral Charge.

As we struggle to continue to remain faithful to the call to be the church on the South Shore of Nova Scotia and to live into this call for the future, the Future Directions Committee for our Presbytery continues to work with all of the pastoral charges within our Presbytery to examine how we can work together to build a stronger and more sustainable future for The United Church of Canada in this part of our province.

To Live with Respect in Creation

One of the greatest ways in which South Shore Presbytery demonstrates its commitment to “Live with respect in creation” is through our ongoing support for Sherbrooke Lake Camp. In June of 2016, South Shore Presbytery held its regular Presbytery meeting at the camp. Rather than having a lunch provided, we asked people to bring Pot Luck, but we also suggested that people could make a donation to the camp in the amount they would normally have paid for their meal. This was a wonderful event because it not only provided a fairly sizable donation to the camp but it also gave the opportunity for many people who had never been there to explore the camp and share their experiences with their pastoral charges when they got home.

To Love and Serve Others

Love and service of others is at the very heart of the Christian message and it is one of the strongest motivating factors for all that we do. Reaching out to neighbours, both local and far away is one of the main ways in which we are “the Church” on the South Shore. At a Presbytery level much of this work is done through our Church In Action Committee which keeps Presbytery informed of local, national and world issues and encourages involvement and support for matters coming to it from The United Church as well as issues raised locally.

To Seek Justice and Resist Evil

Seeking justice and resisting evil are very much a part of loving and serving others. South Shore Presbytery continues to speak out on justice issues through our Church In Action Committee as well as through the efforts of individual Pastoral Charges, congregations and individual members. We continue to welcome refugee families and a number of events were held throughout South Shore to protest against and express support for our Muslim neighbours after the bombing in Quebec City.

To Proclaim Jesus

Throughout South Shore Presbytery we are striving to continue to Proclaim Jesus in both our words and our actions. Through providing worship services, Bible studies, discussion groups and many other services, we proclaim in words that we are a Christian Church. Through the actions we take to “live with respect in Creation”, to “love and serve others” and to “seek justice and resist evil”, we proclaim Christ in our actions.

The Call of God

God is calling us as a presbytery, as pastoral charges and as individual people, into a time of change and uncertainty. As we await the results of the General Council Remits, we are being called to trust God and to trust our wider church to listen to and follow God's guidance.

Although this can be difficult and frightening, it can also open us up to amazing and unimagined new possibilities. We are being called to embrace an unknown future trusting that "We are not alone ... We live in God's world ... Thanks be to God."

South Shore Presbytery April 2017 Annual Report as per Manual C3.4.5

Appendix J**Truro Presbytery July 1, 2016 - April 2017**

Pastoral Relationships Committee of Truro Presbytery covers the mandates of 2 committees -- Pastoral Relations and Oversight. As such, duties include Triennial Visits, Joint Needs Assessments, Joint Search Committees as well as Supervisors, visioning, governance, special services, working with Presbytery Finance & Property and Future Directions Committees, etc.

The structure for Triennial Visits has been enlarged to include: a "prior to visit" questionnaire, opportunity for individual responses, knee groups/plenary opportunity, and includes the "Manse" sheets. These are returned prior to the visit and any concerns are addressed. Due to the shortage of committee members and volunteers, this work has been on hold for 2017.

Two (2) pastoral charges are now under a "Cooperative Ministry Agreement" for one full time position. Two other (2) pastoral charges are exploring cooperative ministry for a full time ministry position. There is one Pastoral Charge "Cooperative Shared Ministry" with the Presbyterian Faith. Two (2) ministry personnel on LTD.

We hear, from most pastoral charges/congregations but not all, of dwindling numbers, volunteers, and finances. Remits have been voted on and submitted to GC.

Finance & Property committee work load:

- 1 pastoral charge disbanded, 1 pastoral charge in process of disbanding,
- a congregation ceasing to function as a worshipping community and towards disbanding,
- 2 congregations within a pastoral charge exploring amalgamation,
- 2 manses being rented, 1 manse was sold, 7 with ministry personnel
- cemeteries choosing to become independent as stand-alone charitable incorporations,
- Much encouragement to the securing of a deed for all properties, maintaining UCC polity, federal charity status regulations, provincial guidelines, placement of trustees where needed, etc.
- using line 40 of the national stats to determine the pastoral charge allocations based on 3 year average

We do hear of Anniversary services, enthusiastic youth groups, dedicated quilters, keen Bible studies and films, going Green/vegetable gardens, choir and music events, etc.

Truro Presbytery is an Affirming Presbytery and there are 2 Pastoral Charges that are an Affirming Pastoral Charge.

3 Refugee Groups have received \$10,000.00 each from Truro Presbytery towards sponsorship.

Supported Tatamagouche Centre financially.

In Ministry Together—

--Pastoral Relationships, Chair, Harvey Gullon

--Presbytery Chair/Finance & Property Chair, Rev David LeBlanc

April 2017 -- 28 pastoral charges:

--3 of 5 refugee sponsorship groups (UCC affiliated) have received \$10,000.00 each

--\$10,000.00 one time grant to Tatamagouche Centre

--Y (20) & I (10) attending 2017 with \$100.00 each from TP

--E&S: various programs and stages for students

--F&P: lack of DEEDS a big issue, legal bills high, cemeteries often forgotten

--Poor and insecure functions on M&P, Trustees, Treasurers....workshops poorly attended

--few willing to participate on “working” committees (PR, F&P)

--2016 M&S was \$276,246.00

--remits 5,7,8 submitted in Nov 2016 & remits 1,2,3,4 handled on May 11 TP meeting

PR:

Full time ministry personnel—13

1/2 to ¾ ministry positions—8 Less than ½ time positions—3

Supervisors—5 JS—1 JNA--4

Notice of retirements June 30 to Aug 31, 2017—3

Retirees holding an appointment--6

Pastoral charges needing pulpit supply for illness—3 (1RC, 2LTD)

Pastoral Charges needing pulpit supply coverage for sabbaticals--2

Congregations within 2 Pastoral Charges working towards amalgamation

1 Congregation & 1 Pastoral charge working towards closure/disbanding

cooperative agreements— 1 full time (2 pchges), 1 on LTD, 1 full time in process

***as of July 1, 2017 8 appointments/re-appointments in the making

Appendix K

Since the last executive meeting AMPC has met a number of times. Our guest speaker for the 2017 conference is Rev. Dr. John Pentland, Author of “Fishing Tips: How Curiosity Transformed a Congregation”. Our theme for this year’s conference is “Seeking Other Cs” and is intended to inspire congregations to move out of complacency and constantly focusing inwardly. Ivan Gregan, Mary White, and Kate Jones round out the Worship team. Dana Pardy & Kevin Parks are returning to lead our music, and Liz Farrar has agreed to take on the Newcomers Orientation. Roland Easter is heading up the tech table with a few new recruits and Melaney Matheson is heading up the tellers once again. Catherine MacDonald is managing the

guest speaker. This year is Heather Manuel's last year as local arrangements, Richard Bowley's last year as secretary and my last year as chair. Once again we will be using A/B table groups and workshops will take place on Saturday afternoon.

New this year will be Key Cards to the majority of the residences as well as a special Marconf only Pub set up on the main floor of Campbell and an updated menu at the meal hall. The Thursday evening schedule will also change, separating opening worship and the memorial service. We've incorporated gender pronoun choices into registration and are hoping that folks will choose to incorporate their choices on their nametags. We hope that this will help with the communal bathrooms and ensure feelings of safety for everyone.

Leadership for next year's annual meeting planning committee is currently being firmed up, but we expect a full and strong compliment. Once again, we are asking folks to carpool as much as possible and consider donating your mileage back to conference or not claim it in the first place to help us stay within our budget as best as possible.

Appendix L

Valley Presbytery report to Conference Executive

We continue to celebrate within the lush farmlands and on the shores of the highest tides the Bay of Fundy can offer. In some ways its like the movie "groundhog day" as I report this April. Not much new to report as the concerns remain somewhat the same. Declining and ageing membership, parttime ministry and its lack of interest for clergy, and financial pressures placed upon our Pastoral Charges. But always there is hope...

We continue to serve our communities through foodbanks and clothing banks. Support for Adult learners. Mentoring youth through 4H programs, supporting those who attend youth events, and of course the ongoing support through our many churches for Sherbrooke Lake Camp. Even though a Conference ministry, its continued growth and existence depends on the many local volunteers who put hours into it for its upkeep and place of Christian nurture. Because as we all know, Sunday School has been replaced as the gathering place for our children and youth to hear the stories of Jesus. It seems to be operating efficiently and hopefully with new initiatives will continue to do so.

Justice is on our minds as many churches jumped on the refugee sponsorship program. Presently we are waiting for two families from Iraq, now living in Lebanon. With the initial flood of refugees over, the process is now painfully slow. The Berwick area refugee committee comprising of church and community folk have raised over \$50,000 to date for sponsorship. Many United Churches in the valley have funnelled financial support this way.

We sought reconciliation with indigenous people through the "blanket ceremony" in June and through the support of Brad Firth "Caribou Legs" as he ran through our area for the support of murdered and missing indigenous women. Other opportunities for education include our relationship with the Muslim Faith to hydraulic fracturing in natural gas exploration. Future plans for outreach include partnering with Canadian Foodgrains Bank and their program whereby local farmers grow grain from seeds purchased by Presbytery on their unused land and the profit from the harvest goes to benefit the Third World.

We are always seeking new ways to do ministry, key of which is shared ministry. This is a topic of conversation whenever a congregation undergoes a “needs assessment” Most recently we covenanted with interim ministers in Kingston PC (Gayle MacDonald) and Windsor PC (Judith Perry). We celebrated with the folks at Rivers of Grace in Digby in July as we welcomed and covenanted with Alex Constable to called ministry.

We have been diligent in keeping the remit process of the United Church a part of our ongoing presbytery business and plan a vote at our next meeting. Hopefully we’ll see our shadows this groundhog day and thus “sunny days” ahead.

Sincerely,

Rev. Tom Woods (Chair, Valley Presbytery)

Appendix M

Woolastook Presbytery Report to Conference Exec., April 2017

In a sense, each community of faith is unique. Yet perhaps we are more notable for what we have in common. There is something about our shared experience as United Church that is familiar, no matter in what part of the conference we find ourselves.

There is comfort in that. There is strength in that. There is grieving, and there is grace in that ‘familiarity’.

As we have been dealing with the remits, as congregations, and as a presbytery, it has given us opportunity to have conversation about what is important to us, what we want to be in our foreseeable future at least.

For instance, in our conversation about what we thought would be merely a housekeeping detail, Remit 2: Elimination of Transfer and Settlement, we talked about our fears for ministry in multiple point rural pastoral charges. But we have seen an increase in the presence of students in those pastoral charges, filling the void left by ordinands seeking calls in larger urban congregations. This has meant an increased demand for educational supervisors across the presbytery. But that also means an increase in mentoring, and cross-pollination of theology and practice, bringing new life and energy in unexpected places, and unexpected ways.

Our decreasing population and resources have made us face the unsettling reality of reduced ministries and church closures. But it has also challenged us to reach beyond our historic boundaries, to work cooperatively with strangers, and in so doing, we have become friends.

One initiative that is currently in the works across our presbytery, is a group of folks committed to keeping us all in the theological conversation, with respect and love for those whose views are widely divergent from each other.

All of these things has me beginning to be a little more optimistic about our chances of actually continuing the fellowship of groups ‘formerly known as presbyteries’, when we become voluntary clusters of faith communities.

If a picture is worth a thousand words, then maybe the best way to report on Woolastook presbytery, is to let them report on themselves:

(SHOW POWERPOINT SLIDES sent in by congregations)

- 1: (picture of banner “Many Gifts, One Spirit” made with buttons)
Like this Sunday School Banner, made with buttons contributed by everyone in the congregation.
- 2: (picture of front door of Oromocto UC with sidewalk chalk drawing)
Or this Sunday School, who celebrated finally having outdoor weather last Sunday...
- 3: (“Have a Great Day” written on sidewalk)
and had a Great Day, decorating their sidewalk
- 4: (multi-generations making pies)
Like many of your churches, pie making is a time honoured tradition, passed down from generation to generation.
- 5: (Florenceville men’s group in the kitchen)
But the cooking is not left to the women, Florenceville’s men’s group looks pretty comfortable in the kitchen.
- 6: (Breakfast in New Maryland)
When one young father from New Maryland had to spend months away from his family in Toronto, waiting for a double lung transplant, his congregation back home helped support them, raising almost \$15,000 with events like this breakfast and auction
- 7: (UCW packing baby supplies for Food Bank)
UCW’s support many outreach efforts, including these baby packs for the Food Bank
- 8: and Minto folks packing fresh produce for Community Food Smart.
- 9: (Keswick Ridge Christmas Cantata choir)
And in the small village of Keswick Ridge, the whole community seems to come out of the woodwork to join in the Christmas Cantata
- 10: (Honouring Prince William retiring choir member)
It’s not just about the numbers, but honouring the individuals, here retiring choir members receive thanks and recognition.
- 11: (honouring our vets at Remembrance Day)
And in Chipman, our vets are honoured and remembered
- 12: (Boiestown choir dressed up for Holy Humour Sunday)
And although we may be small in number, we still have fun. Like Boiestown on Holy Humour Sunday.
- 13: (Hillcrest Church in old truck for Canada Day)
Or Hillcrest Church in Stanley, on Canada Day. Wally Ellis looks right at home on the back of that truck, with his cowboy hat and guitar.
14. A long-time Woolastook presbyter made the front page of the Gleaner this week. Lola Crawford can still run circles around the rest of us.
Like Lola, Woolastook Presbytery is Unique. Woolastook Presbytery is just like you.
15. Many Gifts. One Spirit.

**MARITIME CONFERENCE
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

TIME AND PLACE: The Executive of Maritime Conference met, at the call of the President, on May 28, 2017 at 11:30 a.m. at the Tantramar Civic Centre, Sackville, NB, with the President, Rev. Richard Bowley, officiating.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT: “I constitute this court in the name of Jesus Christ, the head of our church and the light on our path. By the authority vested in me by the Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada, I hereby declare this meeting of the Executive of Maritime Conference to be in session to deal with all business and matters that may be brought before it. May all that we do be inspired by the Holy Spirit as we discern our way forward together.”

ATTENDANCE AND REGRETS: Present President Rev. Richard Bowley, Executive Secretary Mr. David Hewitt, Past-President Rev. Catherine Stuart, President-Elect Rev. Catherine MacDonald, Ms. Julielynn Anderson, Ms. Bette Ashley, Mr. Ross Cameron, Rev. Brian DeLong, Rev. Alison Etter, Rev. Matthew Fillier, Rev. Heather Fraser, Rev. Catherine Gaw, Mr. Kent Gibbons, Ms. Sarah Goodfellow, Rev. Tara Ann Gourson, Rev. Sean Handcock, Rev. Jane Johnson, Mr. Max Martin, Ms. Jane McDonald, Rev. Connie McNamara, Rev. Stephen Mills, Mr. Layton Peck, Rev. Sarah Reaburn, Ms. Fay Smith, and Ms. Pauline Walker. Also in attendance were Conference Ministers Rev. Kendall Harrison, Ms. Laura Hunter, Ms. Lauren King and Ms. Jennifer Whitemore attended to record minutes.

Regrets: Treasurer Mr. Alan Gray, Mr. Lance Howard, Mr. Christopher Lane, Rev. Sharon Lohnes, Ms. Roberta Phillips, Ms. Susan Reid, Rev. Cyril Simmons, Ms. Alicia Walls, and Rev. Tom Woods.

MINUTES: David Hewitt / Kent Gibbons moved that the Executive minutes from April 28, 2017 [06(17)-29(17)], be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS: David Hewitt / Stephen Mills moved that Maritime Conference staff Laura Hunter, Kendall Harrison and Lauren King be granted corresponding privileges for this meeting of Maritime Conference Executive.

MOTION CARRIED

MEETING SCHEDULE:

David Hewitt / Heather Fraser moved that the Fall date of the Executive be October 27-28, 2017 at the Tatamagouche Centre, Tatamagouche, NS.

CARRIED

David Hewitt / Catherine Stuart moved that the Spring date of the Executive be April 20-21, 2018 at the Maritime Conference Centre, Sackville, NB, and April 27-28, 2018 as a storm date.

CARRIED

CONFERENCE SUB-EXECUTIVE: Noting that the President (Richard Bowley), President-Elect (Catherine MacDonald), Executive Secretary (David Hewitt), Treasurer (Alan Gray) and one of the GC Executive representatives are traditionally members of the Conference Sub-Executive, the Executive Secretary invited suggestions of four or five other persons.

It was agreed that Sean Handcock, Ordered representative, to the Executive of General Council be on the Maritime Conference Staff Committee of the Maritime Conference and that Pauline Walker, Lay representative, to the Executive of the General Council serve on the Sub-Executive.

The President declared nominations closed.

David Hewitt / Max Martin moved that President, President-Elect, Executive Secretary, Treasurer, one General Council Executive, Rev. Stephen Mills, Ms. Jane McDonald, Mr. Layton Peck, Rev. Brian DeLong, and Rev. Catherine Stuart sit on the Sub-Executive.

CARRIED

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE:

Alison Etter / Sean Handcock moved that Kathryn McIntosh be named as Secretary to the Christian Life & Growth Committee.

MOTION CARRIED

MINISTRY PERSONNEL AND EDUCATION:

The Executive Secretary reported that permission was given as follows:

- Sydney Presbytery, Ms. Marilyn Dale Crawford, Designated Lay Minister, to administer the sacraments and officiate at weddings; and
- Sydney Presbytery, Ms. Dianne Kempt, Designated Lay Minister, to administer the sacraments and officiate at weddings.

POWERS TO THE SUB-EXECUTIVE:

David Hewitt / Tara Ann Gourson moved that powers be granted to the Sub-Executive in the interim until Executive reconvenes and that permission be given for a telephone conference call to be used in decision making in the Sub-Executive's work, if necessary.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: President declared the meeting adjourn.

The President closed by offering a benediction.

Richard Bowley, President

David Hewitt, Executive Secretary

**MARITIME CONFERENCE
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

TIME AND PLACE: The Sub-Executive of Maritime Conference met, at the call of the President, on July 14, 2017 at 8:30 a.m. by telephone conference call, with the President Rev. Richard Bowley.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT: "I constitute this court in the name of Jesus Christ, the head of our church and the light on our path. By the authority vested in me by the Maritime conference of the United Church of Canada, I hereby declare this meeting of the Executive of Maritime Conference to be in session to deal with all business and matters that may be brought before it. May all that we do be inspired by the Holy Spirit as we discern our way forward together."

OPENING PRAYER: The President opened the meeting with prayer.

ATTENDANCE AND REGRETS:

Present., President Rev. Richard Bowley, Executive Secretary Mr. David Hewitt, Treasurer Mr. Alan Gray, President-Elect Catherine MacDonald, Catherine Stuart, Brian Delong, Layton Peck, and Pauline Walker.

Regrets: Jane MacDonald, and Stephen Mills.

AGENDA: Layton Peck/Catherine MacDonald moved that the agenda be approved as circulated.
MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES: David Hewitt / Layton Peck moved that the Sub-Executive minutes from February 13, 2017 [01(17)-06(17)] be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

FINANCE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

1. David Hewitt / Catherine Stuart moved that the Conference sub-Executive give approval to the Executive Secretary to communicate the response to General Council that Maritime Conference accept their offer of a mortgage of up to 1 million dollars after David Hewitt and Alan Gray calculate the actual value of our potential mortgage and subsequent monthly payments and that this amount be further calculated after a down payment of approximately \$265,000 from our fund raising fund be made. The interest rate of 4.5% would be set and the mortgage would be amortized over a period 10 years.

MOTION CARRIED

2. David Hewitt / Layton Peck moved that all monies in the Fundraising account be used to pay down our mortgage when the new mortgage agreement is successfully negotiated with General Council.

MOTION CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT: Catherine MacDonald / Pauline Walker moved the meeting close.

CARRIED

PRAYER: President Richard Bowley offered a closing prayer.

Richard Bowley, President

David Hewitt, Executive Secretary

**MARITIME CONFERENCE
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

TIME AND PLACE: The Sub-Executive of Maritime Conference met, at the call of the President, on September 5, 2017 at 1:30 p.m. by telephone conference call, with the President Rev. Richard Bowley.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT: "I constitute this court in the name of Jesus Christ, the head of our church and the light on our path. By the authority vested in me by the Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada, I hereby declare this meeting of the Sub-Executive of Maritime Conference to be in session to deal with all business and matters that may be brought before it. May all that we do be inspired by the Holy Spirit as we discern our way forward together."

OPENING PRAYER: The President opened the meeting with prayer.

ATTENDANCE AND REGRETS:

Present., President Rev. Richard Bowley, Executive Secretary Mr. David Hewitt, President-Elect Catherine MacDonald, Rev. Catherine Stuart, Brian Delong, Jane MacDonald, Stephen Mills, Layton Peck, and Pauline Walker. Also in attendance was Ms. Jennifer Whittemore to record minutes.

Regrets: Treasurer Mr. Alan Gray.

AGENDA: Pauline Walker / Layton Peck moved that the agenda be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES: Stephen Mills / Catherine Stuart moved that the Sub-Executive minutes from July 14, 2017 [32(17)-33(17)] be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

DISCONTINUED SERVICE LIST (VOLUNTARY):

David Hewitt / Jane MacDonald moved to waive written ballot in order to deal with a request to have a name placed on the Discontinued Service List (Voluntary) of The United Church of Canada.

MOTION CARRIED

David Hewitt / Catherine MacDonald moved that the Sub-Executive of Maritime Conference concur with the recommendation of Saint Croix Presbytery to approve the request of James Wallace Crighton to have his name placed on the Discontinued Service List (Voluntary) of The United Church of Canada effective September 5, 2017.

MOTION CARRIED

David Hewitt / Catherine Stuart moved that Maritime Conference, under Manual Section I.3.3.5, stipulate that James Wallace Crighton not be granted permission to exercise any of the functions of an ordained minister while his name is on the Discontinued Service List (Voluntary).

MOTION CARRIED

MINISTRY PERSONNEL & EDUCATION:

Brian DeLong / Layton Peck at the request of Prince Edward Island Presbytery, that Wallace Ellis, Designated Lay Minister (Recognized), be licensed to administer the sacraments and officiate at weddings within the bounds of Prince Edward Island Presbytery, for the duration of his appointment to the Cavendish Breadalbane Pastoral Charge.

MOTION CARRIED

Brian DeLong / Layton Peck at the request of Woolastook Presbytery, that Christine Marie Gladu, Student Intern, be licensed to administer the sacraments and officiate at weddings within the bounds of the Grand Falls-Plaster Rock and Perth Andover-Kincardine Pastoral Charges, Woolastook Presbytery, for the duration of her appointment.

MOTION CARRIED

MINISTRY PERSONNEL & EDUCATION:

Internship Funds

David Hewitt / Brian DeLong moved that Maritime Conference add the following wording to the background information for Maritime Conference Funding for Ministry Learning Sites:

MPE sees the Learning Grant Fund as an opportunity for both students and pastoral charges to grow in their faith journey. Each Learning Site will have its own needs for making application to this grant, but MPE has prioritized three broad categories for funding. First, for those Learning Site ministries that plan to use the funding to meet the learning goal needs of the student and/or the pastoral charge. This could be something practical like the purchase of new worship resources, or it could be something more creative with regards to the local ministry opportunities and learning goals. The second category would include Learning Sites that are experimenting with new models of ministry. Finally, for Learning Site ministries who show financial need to support the ministry (follow up information may be requested which could include but is not limited to: learning site application, budgets, financial statements, future direction plans). These categories are not exhaustive but are designed to give more clarity as it relates to the application for funding and MPE grant recommendations.

MOTION CARRIED

FINANCE & PROPERTY:

David Hewitt / Jane MacDonald moved that Maritime Conference accept the offer of Gerry and Linda Moore to continue to hold the Conference mortgage at a reduced rate of 4.5%.

MOTION CARRIED

PRAYER: President Richard Bowley offered a closing prayer

ADJOURNMENT: Jane MacDonald / David Hewitt moved the meeting close.

CARRIED

Richard Bowley, President

David Hewitt, Executive Secretary

**MARITIME CONFERENCE
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

TIME AND PLACE: The Executive of Maritime Conference met, at the call of the President, on October 27, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at the Tatamagouche Centre, Tatamagouche, NS, with the President, Rev. Richard Bowley, officiating.

TATAMAGOUCHE WELCOME: Josie Baker, Executive Director of Tatamagouche Centre welcomed the Executive and gave a brief update on the work of the Centre.

TABLE GROUPS: The Christ candle was lit. Table groups were invited to introduce themselves to each other.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT: “I constitute this court in the name of Jesus Christ, the head of our church and the light on our path. By the authority vested in me by the Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada, I hereby declare this meeting of the Executive of Maritime Conference to be in session to deal with all business and matters that may be brought before it. May all that we do be inspired by the Holy Spirit as we discern our way forward together.”

OPENING WORSHIP: The President led the Executive in opening worship.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT: President Richard Bowley offered a brief report on his activities as President. Recent events included the Affirm national Conference, the Atlantic Baptist Convention, the Maine Conference of the United Church of Christ, and Saint John, Valley and PEI Presbyteries.

ATTENDANCE AND REGRETS: Present President Rev. Richard Bowley, Executive Secretary Mr. David Hewitt, Past-President Rev. Catherine Stuart, President-Elect Rev. Catherine MacDonald, Treasurer Mr. Alan Gray, Ms. Julielynn Anderson, Ms. Bette Ashley, Mr. Ross Cameron, Rev. Brian DeLong, Mr. Kent Gibbons, Rev. Tara Ann Gourson, Mr. Lance Howard,

Rev. Jane Johnson, Mr. Christopher Lane, Mr. Malcolm MacLeod, Mr. Max Martin, Ms. Jane McDonald, Rev. Connie McNamara, Rev. Sarah Reaburn, Ms. Susan Reid, Ms. Fay Smith, and Ms. Pauline Walker. Also in attendance were Conference Ministers Rev. Kendall Harrison, and Ms. Laura Hunter.

Regrets: Rev. Alison Etter, Rev. Matthew Fillier, Rev. Catherine Gaw, Ms. Sarah Goodfellow, Rev. Sean Handcock, Rev. Sharon Lohnes, Rev. Stephen Mills, Mr. Layton Peck, Ms. Roberta Phillips, Rev. Cyril Simmons, Ms. Alicia Walls, and Rev. Tom Woods.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS: David Hewitt / Jane McDonald moved that Wally Ellis, representing the United Church Men; Rita Smith, representing Bermuda Synod; Aaron Billard, representing Chignecto Presbytery; Neil McEwen, representing South Shore Presbytery; Donald Mackay, representing Sydney Presbytery; and Anne Cameron, representing Valley Presbytery, be granted full member status at this meeting of Maritime Conference Executive; and Maritime Conference staff Laura Hunter and Kendall Harrison be granted corresponding privileges for this meeting of Maritime Conference Executive.

MOTION CARRIED

AGENDA: David Hewitt / Brian DeLong moved that the agenda be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

MINUTES: David Hewitt / Catherine Stuart moved that the Executive minutes from May 28, 2017 [30(17)-31(17)], be approved as circulated.

MOTION CARRIED

David Hewitt / Max Martin moved that the Sub-Executive minutes from July 14, 2017 [32(17)-33(17)], and September 5, 2017 [33(17)-35(17)] be received for information.

MOTION CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE: David Hewitt / Connie McNamara moved that the list of correspondence (appendix A) with those items marked for information be received and those items marked for action be minuted separately.

STAFF INPUT: Laura Hunter offered a brief snapshot of the recent priorities of her work.

MINISTRY PERSONNEL & EDUCATION: Brian DeLong, chair, reported on the work of the committee.

The Executive Secretary reported that permission was given as follows:

- Saint John Presbytery, Ms. Barbara (Joy) Cowan, Intern Supply, to administer the sacraments.

Brian DeLong / Jane Johnson moved that on the recommendation of the Ministry Personnel and Education Committee and at the request of St. Croix Presbytery, that Emma Seamone, Student Supply, be licensed to administer the sacraments within the bounds of Bocabec, Upper Mills and McAdam Pastoral Charges, St. Croix Presbytery, for the duration of her appointment.

MOTION CARRIED

Brian DeLong / Max Martin moved that on the recommendation of the Ministry Personnel and Education Committee and at the request of Truro Presbytery, that Marty Clark-Ettinger, Designated Lay Minister (Non-Recognized), be licensed to administer the sacraments and officiate at weddings within the bounds of the Stewiacke-Springside Pastoral Charge, Truro Presbytery, for the duration of his appointment.

MOTION CARRIED

Brian DeLong / Donald Mackay moved that on the recommendation of the Ministry Personnel and Education Committee and at the request of Sydney Presbytery, that Robert Costelo, Elder, be licensed to administer the sacraments within the bounds of the North Highlands Pastoral Charge, Sydney Presbytery, for a 12 month period beginning October 27, 2017.

MOTION CARRIED

Brian DeLong / Donald Mackay moved that on the recommendation of the Ministry Personnel and Education Committee and at the request of Sydney Presbytery, that Sandra Curtis, Elder, be licensed to administer the sacraments within the bounds of the North Highlands Pastoral Charge, Sydney Presbytery, for a 12 month period beginning October 27, 2017.

MOTION CARRIED

Brian DeLong / Jane McDonald moved that on the recommendation of the Ministry Personnel and Education Committee and at the request of Chignecto Presbytery, that Ruth Gamble, Retired former DLM, be licensed to administer the sacraments within the bounds of the Parrsborough Shores Pastoral Charge, Chignecto Presbytery, while serving as Pastoral Charge Supervisor.

MOTION CARRIED

Brian DeLong / Christopher Lane moved that on the recommendation of the Ministry Personnel and Education Committee and at the request of Saint John Presbytery, that Alicia Walls, Designated Lay Minister (not recognized), be licensed to administer the sacraments and officiate at weddings, pending approval of Saint John Presbytery (weddings), within the bounds of Rothesay Saint David's Pastoral Charge, Saint John Presbytery, for the duration of the appointment.

MOTION CARRIED

Brian DeLong / Jane McDonald moved that upon receipt of an application for Sacramental and/or Marriage Privileges that has the support of the Presbytery making the application and any other necessary parties, and following the MPE Chair's assessment that the request meets all the usual parameters for such application, the MPE Chair is directed to forward the application to the Executive Secretary for approval.

Tara-Ann Gourson/Jane Johnson moved an amendment that upon receipt of an application for Sacramental and/or Marriage Privileges that has the support of the Presbytery making the application and any other necessary parties, and following the assessment of the MPE Chair and any 2 other committee members ~~'s assessment~~ that the request meets all the usual parameters for such application, the MPE Chair is directed to forward the application to the Executive Secretary for approval.

AMENDMENT CARRIED

As amended, moved that upon receipt of an application for Sacramental and/or Marriage Privileges that has the support of the Presbytery making the application and any other necessary parties, and following the assessment of the MPE Chair and any 2 other committee members that the request meets all the usual parameters for such application, the MPE Chair is directed to forward the application to the Executive Secretary for approval.

MOTION CARRIED

STAFF INPUT: Kendall Harrison offered a brief snapshot of the recent priorities of his work.

RECESS: The meeting recessed for lunch.

FINANCE AND PROPERTY COMMITTEE:

Mortgage Update

The Executive Secretary provided an updated on the mortgage (appendix B).

Third Quarter Financials

Alan Gray, Treasurer, reported on the third quarter financial statements (appendix C).

Tatamagouche Centre request: Jane McDonald/Mac MacLeod moved that Maritime Conference approve the request of Tatamagouche Centre to communicate with Presbyteries for fund-raising purposes.

PRESBYTERY REPORTS:

Rita Smith, on behalf of Cyril Simmons, chair, Bermuda Synod submitted a report on behalf of the Synod (appendix D).

Aaron Billard, on behalf of Catherine Gaw, chair, Chignecto Presbytery submitted a report on behalf of the Presbytery (appendix E).

Roberta Phillips, Chair, Inverness-Guysborough Presbytery will report at April Executive (appendix F).

Donald MacKay, Sydney Presbytery reported on behalf of the Presbytery (appendix G).

GENERAL COUNCIL COMMISSION ON REGIONS: The Executive participated in a process led by Ryan McNally, a member of the Commission on Regions. A summary report of this discussion was prepared for submission to the Commission (appendix H).

ROUND ISLAND LAND, CAPE BRETON, NS: The Executive Secretary reported that the property is available for sale and there has been very little interest to date.

CHIGNECTO PRESBYTERY, COVERDALE UNITED CHURCH:

David Hewitt / Jane Johnson moved that Maritime Conference authorize the Trustees of Coverdale United Church to proceed with the sale of Coverdale United Church (PID # 00636951), Riverview, NB, to Stephanie Elizabeth Hunter-Ing for \$71,999 and authorize the Executive Secretary to act on behalf of the Conference in this matter.

MOTION CARRIED

INVERNESS-GUYSBOROUGH PRESBYTERY, ST. MATTHEW'S UNITED CHURCH: The Executive Secretary provided an update on the sale of St. Matthew's United Church, Marble Mountain, NS. An agreement of purchase and sale has been signed and deposit paid. The closing date is November 15, 2017.

RECESS: The meeting recessed for supper.

EXECUTIVE MEETING DATE: David Hewitt/Max Martin moved that the next meeting of the Conference Executive take place on April 27-28, 2018 in Sackville, NB.

REMIT IMPLEMENTATION AND TRANSITION WORK: The Executive Secretary provided an update on the transition work emerging following the passing of Remits 1-4. Discussion followed and questions were collected for submission to the Remit Implementation Task Group.

EVENING PRAYER: President Richard Bowley offered evening prayer.

OPENING WORSHIP: The meeting opened Saturday morning at 8:30 a.m. with the lighting of the Christ Candle. President Richard Bowley led the Executive in worship.

ANNUAL MEETING PLANNING COMMITTEE: Christopher Lane, chair, reported on the work of the committee. The theme for the 2018 Conference Annual Meeting is John 21:25 #TrueStory.

The Executive Secretary reviewed the requirements to complete the election of Commissioners to the 43rd General Council, to take place at the Conference Annual Meeting.

The Executive Secretary gave a brief report on the work of the Task Group working on plans to hold a Conference Annual Meeting in Bermuda. The logistical challenges are daunting, but work continues.

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE:

Pauline Walker / Brian DeLong moved that Norma Mills and Kimberley Douglass be named to the Conference Interview Board until 2019 (noting that they each have started their terms).

MOTION CARRIED

Pauline Walker/Rita Smith moved that Betty-Jean Friedman and Yvette Swan be named Maritime Conference representatives to the board of Camp Wegesegum until 2019 (noting that both have already started their terms, and that Betty Jean Friedman began her term as a member-at-large, then moved into the role of Conference representative).

MOTION CARRIED

CHURCH IN ACTION: Sarah Reaburn, chair, reported on the work of the committee (appendix I).

PRESBYTERY REPORTS:

Kent Gibbons, chair, Miramichi Presbytery reported on behalf of the Presbytery (appendix J).

Ross Cameron, chair, Pictou Presbytery reported on behalf of the Presbytery (appendix K).

AFFIRMING MINISTRY COMMITTEE:

Sue Reid / Neil McEwen moved that Maritime Conference, as part of our Affirming commitment, approve that the President and the Executive Secretary (or other program staff person) would typically attend the Affirm United Conference and AGM, and that travel and expense budgets, as appropriate, be adjusted to reflect this expectation.

Neil McEwen/Jane McDonald moved an amendment that Maritime Conference, as part of our Affirming commitment, approve that the President and the Executive Secretary (or other persons designated by the Affirming Committee ~~program staff person~~) would typically attend the Affirm United Conference and AGM, and that travel and expense budgets, as appropriate, be adjusted to reflect this expectation.

MOTION CARRIED

Christopher Lane/Bette Ashley moved an amendment that Maritime Conference, as part of our Affirming commitment, approve that the President and the Executive Secretary (or ~~other persons~~ alternates designated by the Affirming Committee) would typically attend the Affirm United Conference and AGM, and that travel and expense budgets, as appropriate, be adjusted to reflect this expectation.

MOTION CARRIED

As amended, moved that Maritime Conference, as part of our Affirming commitment, approve that the President and the Executive Secretary (or alternates designated by the Affirming Committee) would typically attend the Affirm United Conference and AGM, and that travel and expense budgets, as appropriate, be adjusted to reflect this expectation.

MOTION CARRIED

BREAK

STAFF COMMITTEE: The Executive Secretary offered a brief verbal report in support of the written report provided by the chair of the committee, Matt Fillier.

ARCHIVES COMMITTEE: Julielynn Anderson, chair, reported on the work of the committee.

Julielynn Anderson/Ross Cameron moved that the remaining Friends of the Archives funds be used for travel, supplies and software, etc. for ongoing artifacts projects and to hire an archival assistant for processing and cataloguing at a minimum rate of \$15.00 per hour.

MOTION CARRIED

Julielynn Anderson/Ross Cameron moved that should any Friends of the Archives funds be remaining as of 31 December 2018 that they be put to use for the day-to-day operations of Maritime Conference and Archives or its successor bodies.

MOTION CARRIED

FINANCIAL SUPPORT: Fay Smith, Chair, reported on the work of the committee.

- Received, reviewed and have used the allotted grant funds for Mission Support for the year 2018.

- 14 ministries applied, total requested was \$234,010. Total money available was \$174,542. All applicants received funds.
- Youth opportunities fund - about 50 youth and leaders were able to attend Rendez Vous (UCC national youth event) in Montreal this summer and 2 youth were able to participate in a Global Learning Event with young people from some of our global partners. Thanks to the Conference Executive who made the decision to set up this fund with the proceeds from the sale of Forest Hills United.
- Regular meetings addressed grants and funds: capital assistance for manses/churches/retreat centres/camps, technology grants, bequest funds, congregational learning, and youth opportunities. Averaging 6 meetings year with only a couple that are face to face, rest via conference call. One meeting (usually in the spring) is scheduled around a site visit to one of the mission support recipients.

Fay Smith / Catherine MacDonald moved that the name of the “Congregational Learning Grant” be changed to “Maritime Conference Learning Grant”.

MOTION CARRIED

MEETING SCHEDULE: Reminder of the Spring Executive meeting scheduled for April 27-28, 2018 at the Maritime Conference Centre, Sackville, NB.

POWERS TO THE SUB-EXECUTIVE: David Hewitt / Brian DeLong moved that powers be granted to the Sub-Executive in the interim until Executive reconvenes and that permission be given for a telephone conference call to be used in decision making in the Sub-Executive’s work, if necessary.

MOTION CARRIED

CLOSING WORSHIP: The President led the Executive in closing worship.

ADJOURNMENT: President declared the meeting adjourn.

Richard Bowley, President

David Hewitt, Executive Secretary

Appendix A

A1	Robert Johnson, Chair, Education and Students, St. Croix Presbytery	20-Sep-17	Request for Emma Simmon (Student Supply) to administer Sacraments while under appointment	to MP&E, to Exec for action
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A2	Valerie Kingsbury, Pastoral Charge Supervisor, Truro Presbytery	4-Oct-17	Request for Marty Clark-Ettinger (DLM Non-Recognized) to administer Sacraments and licensed to perform marriages while under appointment	to MP&E, to Exec for action
A3	Sheila Van Schaick, Secretary, Sydney Presbytery	20-Sep-17	Request for two elders, Robert Costelo and Sandra Curtis, to be granted Sacramental privileges	to MP&E, to Exec for action
A4	Jennifer Brown, Secretary, Chignecto Presbytery	12-Oct-17	Request for Ruth Gamble (Retired former DLM) to administer Sacraments	to MP&E, to Exec for action
A5	Martin Vogels	13-Sep-17	Certificate of Trustees asking consent of Presbytery for the sale of Coverdale land and church	to Exec for action
A6	Robert Johnson, Affirming Committee	12-May-17	Request policy to attend the Conference and AGM of Affirm United	to Sub-Exec for Action
I1	George White, Patterson Law	14-Sep-17	Amendment to the Construction Loan agreement	to Exec for information
I2	Sharron Russel, Secretary, Saint John Presbytery	15-Sep-17	Application to Administer the Sacraments for Barbara (Joy) Cowan	to Exec for info
I3	Larry Evans, EMM Law Inc.	13-Sep-17	Agreement to Purchase St. Matthew's United Church, Marble Mountain	to Exec for info

Appendix B
Maritime Conference Mortgage
October 2017

2012 - September

Mortgage Value	\$ 1,900,000.00
Principal Payment	-
Total # of Payments	300
Paid in Full	August 2037

2013 - September

Mortgage Value	\$ 1,865,475.25
Principal Payment	-
Total # of Payments	300
Paid in Full	August 2037

2014 - September

Mortgage Value	\$ 1,681,411.42
Principal Payment	\$ 150,000.00
Total # of Payments	255 (45 payments less than originally)
Paid in Full	November 2033

2015 - September

Mortgage Value	\$ 1,471,273.57
Principal Payment	\$ 163,915.48
Total # of Payments	218 (37 payments less than 2014, and 82 less than originally)
Paid in Full	October 2030

2016 - September

Mortgage Value	\$ 1,269,537.55
Principal Payment	\$ 141,632.70
Total # of Payments	192 (26 payments less than 2015, and 108 less than originally)
Paid in Full	August 2028

2017 - September

Mortgage Value	\$ 1,079,687.92
Principal Payment	\$ 119,961.27
Total # of Payments	174 (18 payments less than 2016, and 126 less than originally)
Paid in Full	February 2027

Summary: In the past five years we have made additional principal payments totalling \$575,509.42 which has reduced our mortgage by 10.5 years and has resulted in a savings of \$1,036,599.45 in interest.

September 2017 marks the fifth year anniversary of our mortgage agreement which provides the opportunity for the mortgage to be paid off in full. While we do not have the financial resources to pay the mortgage off in full, we were able to negotiate a new interest rate with our lenders. The new interest rate is 4.5% which represents an interest savings of more than \$100,000 over the next five years.

*Amounts estimated pending verification by lender.

Updated October 10, 2017

Appendix C

MARITIME CONFERENCE FUND**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA****Interim Statement of Cash Flow - General Fund**

Unaudited - For internal purposes only

Period ended September 30, 2017

	9 months	
	ended	Y/E
	09/30/2017	12/31/2016
Increase(decrease) in cash & equivalents:		
OPERATING		
Excess of (expenses over revenue)	112,923	214,777
Amortization of financial campaign contributions	(22,672)	(28,545)
Amortization of property & equipment	76,092	102,229
Change in non-cash working capital		
(Increase) decrease in accounts receivable	(51,793)	13,464
(Increase) decrease in prepaids	9,259	(1,495)
(Decrease) increase in accounts payable	(39,703)	46,707
(Decrease) Increase in unearned revenue	(31,922)	177,817
	<u>52,184</u>	<u>524,954</u>
FINANCING		
Restricted contributions to project	67,349	298,067
Proceeds from funds held in trust	(62,602)	62,497
Repayment of Long Term Debt	(178,923)	(204,987)
	<u>(174,175)</u>	<u>155,577</u>
INVESTING		
Expenditures on capital assets	0	(2,307)
	<u>0</u>	<u>(2,307)</u>
Net (decrease) increase in cash and equivalents	(121,992)	678,224
Cash and Investments, beginning of period	<u>1,503,649</u>	<u>825,425</u>
Cash and Investments, end of period	<u>1,381,657</u>	<u>1,503,649</u>
Cash and equivalents consist of the following		
Unrestricted	621,538	644,076
In Trust/Restricted	323,056	390,587
Restricted/Unearned	437,064	468,986
	<u>1,381,657</u>	<u>1,503,649</u>

MARITIME CONFERENCE FUND**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA****Interim Balance sheet**

Unaudited - For internal purposes only

Period ended September 30, 2017

	General	Bequest	Special	Total	12/31/2016
ASSETS					
Current Assets:					
Cash and Investments					
Unrestricted	\$ 621,538			\$ 621,538	\$ 644,076
In Trust/Restricted	183,469	-	139,587	323,056	390,587
Restricted/Unearned	437,064			437,064	468,986
Accounts Receivable					
Allocations	121,844			121,844	67,905
United Church of Canada	-			-	
GST/HST Recoverable	5,483			5,483	6,974
Other	-			-	3,995
Accrued Interest Receivable	5,087			5,087	1,748
Land held for resale	20,800			20,800	20,800
Prepays	1,900			1,900	11,159
	1,397,185		139,587	1,536,772	1,616,230
Investments	-	206,125		206,125	206,125
Property & Equipment	2,820,471			2,820,471	2,896,564
	\$ 4,217,657	\$ 206,125	\$ 139,587	\$ 4,563,368	\$ 4,718,919
Liabilities & Fund Balances					
Current Liabilities					
Accounts payable & accrued liabilities	\$ 44,153			\$ 44,153	\$ 83,856
Funds held in trust	34,877			34,877	97,479
Unearned Revenues	437,064			437,064	468,986
Current portion of LTD	93,374			93,374	74,613
	609,468			609,468	724,934
Long Term Liabilities					
Restricted Contributions	1,110,033			1,110,033	1,065,356
Mortgage Payable	979,321			979,321	1,177,005
	2,089,354			2,089,354	2,242,361
Fund Balances					
	1,518,835	206,125	139,587	1,864,546	1,751,624
	\$ 4,217,657	\$ 206,125	\$ 139,587	\$ 4,563,368	\$ 4,718,919

MARITIME CONFERENCE FUND**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA****Interim Statement of Revenue and Expenditures - General Fund**

Unaudited - For internal purposes only

Period ended September 30, 2017

	9 months ended 09/30/2017	Annual Budget	Y/E 12/31/2016
Revenues			
Allocations	\$700,775	\$934,366	\$934,366
Salary & Equalization Grants	145,032	194,097	194,097
Event Receipts			
Youth Forum	40,452	40,750	43,700
Intermediates at Conference	24,097	30,250	30,440
Program Revenue	96,378	1,500	89,385
Rental of Facility/Archives	11,849	15,750	20,295
Sundry	2,940	2,175	4,800
Amortization of Financial Campaign Cont.	22,672	29,000	28,545
	<u>1,044,194</u>	<u>1,247,888</u>	<u>1,345,628</u>
Expenditures			
Executive	8,573	23,500	24,913
Administration	21,628	21,250	21,847
Interest on LTD	51,780	78,107	88,269
Office			
Operation	45,388	64,375	68,024
Salaries & benefits	426,187	614,000	539,289
Staff Travel	7,747	22,125	17,205
Standing Committees	263,138	248,125	276,069
Grants to tatamagouche Centre	35,000	50,000	50,000
Amortization	76,092	102,000	102,229
	<u>935,532</u>	<u>1,223,482</u>	<u>1,187,845</u>
Sub-total	<u>\$ 108,662</u>	<u>\$ 24,406</u>	<u>\$ 157,783</u>
Unrealized Gain on Investments			47,862
Excess of (Expenditures over Revenues)	<u>\$ 108,662</u>	<u>\$ 24,406</u>	<u>\$ 205,645</u>

MARITIME CONFERENCE FUND

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

Interim Statement of Changes in Fund Balances

Unaudited - For internal purposes only

Period ended September 30, 2017

	General Fund Unrestricted	General Fund Contingency Fund	Total General Fund	Bequest	Special	Total	12/31/2016
Fund Balances, beginning of period	\$ 1,252,390	\$ 157,783	\$ 1,410,173	\$ 206,125	\$ 135,325	\$ 1,751,623	\$ 1,878,297
Excess of Revenue over Expenditure (Expenditure over revenue)	108,662		108,662	-	4,262	\$ 112,923	56,994
Transfers from (to) other funds	-			-		-	
Fund Balances, end of period	\$ 1,361,052	\$ 157,783	\$ 1,518,835	\$ 206,125	\$ 139,587	\$ 1,864,546	\$ 1,935,291

Appendix D

The Wesleyan Methodist Synod of Bermuda
Conference Executive Report
October 27-29, 2017
Rev. Cyril Simmons, Chair

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen
our judge and our hope.

How has your Presbytery/Synod responded to this call?

The three churches within the Methodist Synod of Bermuda continue to maintain a humble but meaningful presence within our island of 60,000. Each of the three churches have their own individual outreach niches with their respective communities.

The Synod has started a Senior Citizens Care outreach visited by each of the three churches as a collaboration to minister to some of our islands most vulnerable.

In March 2017, the Synod hosted a presentation by Gina Spence, a community activist, on Gang Violence in Bermuda. There were solutions presented on how we can effectively minister to the families of those affected by gang violence. The Synod also made a monetary donation to the outreach.

What trends in celebration, service, justice seeking and proclamation are filled with the Spirit in your Presbytery/Synod?

The Churches have made a concerted effort to join with more joint services and inter-church fellowship. On April 23, there was a joint service featuring Rev. Catherine Stuart as guest speaker.

Also at the end of April, we welcomed Sarah Wallace, the Conference Archivist to the Island to provide guidance to the island. She blessed us to help us to keep our records intact and perpetuate the legacy of the Church.

The subject of homosexuality in the community and church continues to be a 'hot topic' within the island. On May 5, 2017, there was a landmark ruling within the Court system which allowed a gay couple to marry largely on the grounds of human rights. Congregants within the Wesleyan Methodist Church continue to have a plethora of opinions and has hosted a series of discussions

around the subject of the affirming stance of the UCC and Maritime Conference. One church also had an affirming service to reinforce the welcoming approach to the LGBTQ community.

Where is the Spirit of Jesus, our judge and our hope, evident within the religious life of your Presbytery/Synod?

The churches within the Wesleyan Methodist Synod continue to proclaim the name of Christ in Bermuda. Each church has an element of contemporary worship blended with traditional. Whether it's through the use of a praise band or utilizing More Voices the churches are slowly striving to be more relevant to a generation which largely has not been involved in the church.

Where is God calling your Presbytery/Synod?

Two of the three churches have been actively seeking pastoral ministry – one is now filled with the other in the process of the Joint Search Committee. The churches have banded together to assist one another with filling the void during this time. The general direction God is calling our Synod is to focus on 3 areas: unity, youth and a celebration of Methodist heritage. A vision statement with specific goals have been put forth to the Synod and we are excited about where the Lord is leading us.

Vision:

Within our role of having oversight for the congregations of the Wesleyan Methodist Churches of Bermuda, our vision is to be a resource to aid with the spiritual and social enrichment of the three churches.

Goals:

- To bring greater awareness of the role of Synod and the Vision
- To bring a greater sense of togetherness amongst the three congregations
- To actively incorporate youth and young adults within the life of the church
- To recapture and rediscover our Methodist heritage and its modern application

Appendix E

Chignecto Presbytery

Report to the Executive of Maritime Conference

October 27-28, 2017

We are called to be the church:
To celebrate God's presence,
To live with respect in Creation,
To love and serve others,
To seek justice and resist evil,
To proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
Our judge and our hope.

As Chignecto Presbytery gathers, we hold before us the 'mission statement' outlined in our statement of faith. It remains the centre of our life together while it also remains elusive.

We do celebrate God's presence through regular worship and sharing in communion at our meetings. We have shifted our meeting times: by having the Executive meet the day prior and the full presbytery meeting 11:00-2:30. This meeting schedule continues to present challenges to those who cannot meet during the day. We meet most regularly in St. Paul's Riverview and at the Conference Centre on a rotational basis. The Conference staff have been both welcoming and helpful and we extend our thanks.

The Presbytery Executive has now developed a pattern for meeting via telephone conference call. This has reduced our travel time, and reflects care for creation.

It is with gratitude that we acknowledge the work of those within our Presbytery who have led us through the Affirming process. In the spring of 2016 Chignecto Presbytery celebrated being formally declared an Affirming presbytery.

The Church in Action Committee has focused on international events, especially Palestine and Israel. This complex situation requires deep patience and listening.

As with many (if not all) presbyteries, our Pastoral Relations/Pastoral Oversight work requires a large commitment from those most immediately involved. It was decided to separate the two functions and we continue to live into that new reality.

A major concern remains the number of pastoral charges which struggle with viability. For many this struggle has meant that they have identified themselves as part-time ministry. This heightens concern as ministry personnel are not always able to live on a part-time salary. Chignecto Presbytery has a large number of pastoral charges being served by retired ministry personnel. While we are deeply grateful, we acknowledge that these part-time ministries need to be examined for long-term viability.

In June 2017 a presbytery wide consultation was held to consider the reality of diminishing numbers of available ministry personnel. And how to equip the leaders in our congregations to share in the on-going pastoral needs.

Property issues seem to be requiring a greater amount of time for both the pastoral charges and the presbytery. Our finance and property folk are regular guests in the Conference Office meeting with the Executive Secretary for advice and guidance.

We know our ministry is geared toward the Gospel. We see signs of death, but also signs of resurrection. And we celebrate. Thanks be to God!

Blessings,
Catherine Gaw
Chair, Chignecto Presbytery

Appendix F

Inverness-Guysborough Presbytery Report

Report no received.

Appendix GSydney Presbytery Report to
Maritime Conference Executive
October 2017**We are not alone. We live in God's world**

The sixteen pastoral charges of Sydney Presbytery continue their work in God's world as they prepare for the tremendous changes in our denomination over the next two years.

The presbytery, covering the eastern half of Cape Breton Island, meets monthly with the exception of December, February, July, and August. The executive meets every month but July and August. All the committees are functioning effectively though we struggle with a shortage of ministry personnel for committee work.

Right now there are three charges without personnel, one charge with the minister on long term disability, and several charges with retired supply as searches continue. The presbytery does not have a long list of retired people to help out.

With the exception of two or three urban churches, the pastoral charges are struggling to survive with dwindling and aging membership and decreasing financial resources. Realistically half a dozen churches could be closed over the next decade.

The presbytery and pastoral charges reviewed and voted on the remits from General Council with the final remit to be dealt with by the end of the year.

Presbyters are uncertain as to their involvement in the church after the dissolution of the present structure at the end of 2018. Informal networking efforts with Inverness-Guysborough Presbytery and Pictou Presbytery are planned for the winter and spring as we attempt to have some people identified as willing and able to continue essential tasks around personnel and property in the new region.

We believe in God, who has created and is creating

Many members of Sydney Presbytery have been involved for many years and have experience of significant change in the church. We believe that God is indeed creating new ways to live out our faith on our island and that God's purposes will be established here and every where.

Stephen Mills, Chair

We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Appendix H**MARITIME CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE MEETING -- OCT 27-28, 2017**

--Ryan McNally from GC Boundaries Commission facilitated exercise

--4 questions for discussion:

1. How do boundaries/borders shape how you live out the mission of the church?

--boundaries keep one from interacting

--boundaries can overstep our resources

--define the ethos of the people

--urban/rural differences

--wider the boundary creates isolation and may get lost in the big picture

--physical & human geography

--Maritimes more highly “churched” than some areas of the country-secular

--social networks, transportation, travel contribute toward effective ministry and fellowship

--‘close’ is also a connection

--Who are people are, what we work with and what our needs are...

-- Boundaries give us an area to work with (geographically) and allow us to focus with regards to local mission

2. What is needed within the boundaries of an effective regional council?

--resources

--communication

--cultural life style & history

--technology, availability not equal in all regions, knowledge and resource people availability

--strong professional paid support

--trained volunteers

--“Be the church”, fellowship

--reasonable travel time, working folk attending meetings

--compatibility of culture, lifestyles, customs, traditions, language, use of technology

3. Are there any unique situations of which Boundaries Commission should be made aware of?

--geography....re: Gaspe Bay, Bermuda, Maritimes, Nfld.. time zones

--cultural and economic

--annual timing so youth & intermediates can attend meeting/forum

--language..Gaspe Bay/francophone and travel distance

--civil laws and legal systems

--low cost: culture, H2O, employment, time

--border proximity with USA Maine

--technology access not equal with all and folks not all equal with usage not ability to operate

--no indigenous congregations, no French congregations: have relationships but no churches

--mental health awareness

4. Are there any other criteria of which Boundaries Commission should be made aware of?

--Bermuda has stated a strong expectation to remain with Maritime area

--Y&I attending annually which focuses involvement in a ‘real way’, and on energy

--boundaries effect changes

- small enough (none geographic) to remain cohesive
- simple and understanding to those in the pews/feeling of closeness
- share resources
- demographics....change in living.. how church is happening...culture, language, etc, many small churches have low overhead, few folks and financial stress
- language may have same name but spoken differently ...(Acadian French vs Quebec)
- equity between regions??
- political & indigenous areas (NB more in common with Maine than Ontario)

Appendix I

Church in Action Report to Conference Executive October, 2017

Highlights of the justice work done on Maritime Conference's behalf:

The **Mental Health** Working Group has established the following priorities for its work:

- **Priority One** (*Action General Council and Maritime Conference*)

Propose to General Council that as a means of strengthening their ability to work with people with mental health problems, all clergy be required to attend a 4-5 day training session on mental health. Such a program could follow the model of the current Boundaries and Racial Justice training programs. In addition, mental health training to become a module in the curriculum for candidates for Ordered and Diaconal Ministry.

- **Priority Two** (*Action by Faith Communities and Maritime Conference*)

Train laid leadership to start, facilitate and support congregational mental health education and peer support groups;

- **Priority Three** (*Action by Faith Communities*)

Encourage and support mental health study and discussion in groups such as UCW, Men's and Youth groups;

- **Priority Four** (*Action by General Council and Maritime Conference*)

The United Church publically affirm the United Church's support for and acceptance of persons with mental health problems;

- **Priority Five** (*Action by Maritime Conference*)

Maritime Conference facilitate collection and distribution to congregations of mental health resource information;

- **Priority Six** (*Action by Maritime Conference*)

Create a mental health page on the MarCon website.

Mining the Connections has been working in several areas:

- Continuing to insist that the pension board follow the directive of GC 42 to divest from Goldcorp. This will be discussed at GC Executive on Nov 17-18.
- Advocating for an ombudsperson to be established for the extractive resources sector

Just Peace for Palestine and Israel is continuing to work on raising awareness.

- They organized and promoted 4 workshops, “Toward a Just Peace in Palestine/Israel: Exploring Strategies for Change” led by GC staff Beth Baskin and Wendy Gichuru at United in all 3 provinces.
- Began planning, promoting and supporting the campaign “No Way to Treat a Child” in local churches, presbyteries, and throughout the Conference.

Sarah Reaburn, Chair

Appendix J

Miramichi Presbytery Report by Kent Gibbons, Chair

Celebrations:

We would like to celebrate that there are youth groups in New Bandon and Campbellton. The New Bandon Pastoral Charge has at least 25 in their youth group. They meet regularly. The youth group in Campbellton hosts monthly Go Eat suppers. These are free to all in the community. Donations are welcome, however. Eleven Intermediates at Conference from our presbytery attended the Conference Annual Meeting this year. Ten were from New Bandon and one was from the Dalhousie-New Mills Pastoral Charge. Jason O'Hearn from Campbellton attended Youth Forum. The Sunday school in the Newcastle Pastoral Charge has grown to about 25 children.

To Love and Serve Others:

Pastoral care of people remains a high priority. There have been lots of funerals within the bounds of our presbytery. There are many elderly people in need of care and support. This takes a lot of energy, and as a result, there is less energy for some of the other important aspects of church work in the wider world. Many in our presbytery seem close to burning out.

We spend a lot of our time talking about churches closing and being demolished. We approved the demolition of the manse in Blackville to make room for more parking space, and we had a decommissioning service for Escuminac United Church in Escuminac, Quebec on October 22. We approved the amalgamation of Escuminac United Church with the congregation of St. Andrew's United Church in Tide Head, New Brunswick.

To Seek Justice and Resist Evil:

People in the Miramichi area are still giving support to a refugee family our presbytery sponsored. Even though our financial obligations have ended, we are still reaching out to this family, and would like to be able to sponsor another refugee family.

To Proclaim Resurrection and Hope:

- We are seeking a part-time minister to serve in Campbellton.
- We sent Jean Herman to the Conference Interview Board
- We are hoping for new life in the St. Andrew's United Church congregation in Tide Head.
- We are trusting in the process of having a new church structure.
- We are thankful for the support we receive from General Council and Maritime Conference staff.

Appendix K

Pictou Presbytery Report to the Maritime Conference Executive for the October 2017 meeting

As we are called to be the Church and celebrate God's present within the boundary of Pictou Presbytery comprised of 12 Pastoral Charges, 5 with a single congregation and 7 with more than one congregation. There are 6 full time ministers, 2 part-time consisting of 4 male and 4 female.

MPE, Pastoral Relations is working on the four vacancies, one has a Presbytery approved full time call beginning in January, one is in the search process for a full time ministry that will serve a cooperative ministry with two Pastoral Charges and the other is in the needs assessment process. Change will happen weather you want it or not.

We have eight regularly scheduled meeting that gather at 5:30 for supper with the business meeting at 7:00 hosted by the various Pastoral Charges throughout the Presbytery. Meetings are opened with worship and the executive meets as required.

We would like to see more and have more Congregational Representatives to Presbytery (lay members), but like other Presbyteries, this may be a sign of the times with an ageing and declining church attendance, less people are willing to volunteer their time and talent to serve the Church. The lay and clergy members are faithful to attend and dedicated to the life and work of Presbytery.

Presbytery strives to maintain a viable present as we address international and local issues like peace and justice in Palestine and Israel to the refugees crisis to community youth programs. This is accomplished by scheduling guests that speak to and present information on these issues.

A refugee family has arrived and Presbytery is working with others as we work with them as go through to immigration process. Another Pastoral Charge is ready and waiting for a refugee family to be approved.

The Church in Action committee is communicating with the Pictou Landing First Nation Community and has scheduled a blanket exercise event for our October meeting.

Presbytery encourages and budgets funds that support youth to attend Youth Form and Intermediates at Conference.

The remits have been an interesting process as we consider this new three court model. Some were straight forward while others created discussion about the unknown. But we will celebrate God's presence with love and hope and faith.

Ross Cameron
Chair

**MARITIME CONFERENCE
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

TIME AND PLACE: The Executive of Maritime Conference met, at the call of the President, on November 24, 2017 at 1:00 p.m. by telephone conference call, with the President, Rev. Richard Bowley, officiating.

CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT: “I constitute this court in the name of Jesus Christ, the head of our church and the light on our path. By the authority vested in me by the Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada, I hereby declare this meeting of the Executive of Maritime Conference to be in session to deal with all business and matters that may be brought before it. May all that we do be inspired by the Holy Spirit as we discern our way forward together.”

OPENING PRAYER: The President led the Executive in opening prayer.

ATTENDANCE AND REGRETS: Present President Rev. Richard Bowley, Executive Secretary Mr. David Hewitt, Past-President Rev. Catherine Stuart, President-Elect Rev. Catherine MacDonald, Ms. Julielynn Anderson, Ms. Bette Ashley, Rev. Alison Etter, Mr. Kent Gibbons, Ms. Sarah Goodfellow, Rev. Sean Handcock, Mr. Lance Howard, Rev. Stephen Mills, Mr. Layton Peck, and Ms. Pauline Walker, Rev. Tom Woods.

Regrets: Rev. Catherine Gaw, Rev. Tara Ann Gourson, Ms. Jane McDonald, Ms. Roberta Phillips, Rev. Cyril Simmons, Ms. Fay Smith.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS: David Hewitt / Stephen Mills moved that Jennifer Kearns, representing Bermuda Synod; Aaron Billard, representing Chignecto Presbytery; be granted full member status at this meeting of Maritime Conference Executive; and that John Roy be granted corresponding privileges for this meeting of Maritime Conference Executive.

MOTION CARRIED

AGENDA: It was agreed that the agenda for this meeting was to have a discussion about Regions for feedback to the Commission on Regions.

MINUTES: It was agreed that the minutes of the previous meeting will be carried over until the next regular meeting of the Executive.

Stephen Mills agreed to take notes of the discussion.

REGIONS: The Executive discussed ideas and considerations about the proposed Regions to be shared with the Commission on Regions. A report was drafted (Appendix A).

Catherine Stuart/Catherine MacDonald moved that Richard Bowley, Sean Handcock, David Hewitt and Pauline Walker review the notes with Stephen Mills before sending them on to the Commission on Regions.

MOTION CARRIED

MEETING SCHEDULE: Reminder of the Spring Executive meeting scheduled for April 27-28, 2018 at the Maritime Conference Centre, Sackville, NB.

POWERS TO THE SUB-EXECUTIVE: David Hewitt / Layton Peck moved that powers be granted to the Sub-Executive in the interim until Executive reconvenes and that permission be given for a telephone conference call to be used in decision making in the Sub-Executive's work, if necessary.

MOTION CARRIED

CLOSING PRAYER: The President led the Executive in closing worship.

ADJOURNMENT: President declared the meeting adjourned.

Richard Bowley, President

David Hewitt, Executive Secretary

Appendix A

Executive of Maritime Conference
Input on Regions Conversation
November 2017

The executive of Maritime Conference met by conference call at the call of the president Rev Richard Bowley on November 24, 2017 at 1 PM. A quorum was present.

The president moderated the discussion on the possible shape of a region that will include the current Maritime Conference and its presbyteries. Executive Secretary David Hewitt acted as a resource person.

There was a wide-ranging discussion about options that yielded several points of agreement among members as follows:

- a larger region than the current Maritime Conference is not viewed as desirable or particularly viable. It is acknowledged that an Atlantic region combining Maritime Conference and Newfoundland and Labrador Conference is a workable possibility.
- A number of smaller regions, perhaps defined by provincial boundaries, are also dismissed as not helpful in meeting the needs of United Church congregations on the east coast. In particular executive members are concerned that the genuine affection and support people have for the conference, especially the annual meeting, could be jeopardized by smaller groupings.
- Also of concern with smaller regions is a possible dilution of the spirit of camaraderie and mission celebrated and renewed annually among youth and intermediates attending the annual meeting. It is noted that reorganization of the church does not preclude cooperation in meeting the needs and desires of youth.

- Executive members offer total support to Bermuda Methodist Synod in its expressed desire to remain affiliated with The United Church of Canada in the Atlantic area in whatever form is adopted.
- Executive members express support for the Maritime Conference Archivist Sarah Wallace and the purpose-built archives facility at Sackville, NB. Both Ms. Wallace and the building are considered valuable assets that need to be respected when deciding on the regional make up.

Notes prepared by Rev Stephen Mills

