

**OTTAWA PRESBYTERY MEETING, MARCH 14, 2017**

The Ottawa Presbytery was called by the Chair, Phyllis MacRae, to meet on Tuesday, March 14, 2017 at MacKay United Church, Ottawa.

**THE FOLLOWING REGISTERED THEIR ATTENDANCE:**

**Order of Ministry:** Elizabeth Bryce, Ted Colwell, Boyd Drake, Ed Gratton, Andrew Jensen, Eric Lukacs, Laurie McKnight, Grant McNeil, Steve Moore, Stan Parkhouse, Kathryn Peate, Caroline Penhale, Jamie Scott, Glen Stoudt, Whit Strong, Ruth Sword (16)

**Lay:** Margaret Armstrong, Eileen Ball, Rick Balson, John Benson, Alice Black, Cam Bowes, Janice Burroughs, Carolyn Clark, Molly Colwell, John Douglas, Alyce Dunnewold, Phil Fay, Jodi Fisher, Dietlind Gardell, Beth Gutsell, Caroline Harry, Trish Hassard, Marni Hunt Stephens, Brian Irvine, Peggy Kinsley, George Kitchen, Charles Knight, Kim Lavoie, Phyllis MacRae, Norma McCord, Wendy McCracken, Sue Morrison, George Neville, David Patterson, Janice Péron, Al Quirt, Barbara Reynolds, Doug Robinson, Joy Ruttan, Alison Sales, Paul Sales, Heather Smith, David Stafford, Maureen Stark, Cathy Stewart, Desna Sulway, Beth Sweetnam, Margaret Torrance, Keith Vodden (44)

**Candidate:** Patricia Power

**Guest:** Catherine Greenaway

**Regrets:** Rev. Anthony Bailey, Rev. Isabel Black, Rev. Karen Boivin, Rev. Susan Butler-Jones, Rev. Dianne Cardin, Derek Carlisle, Rev. Gail Christy, Rev. Steve Clifton, Rev. Grant Dillenbeck, Rev. Paul Dillman, Cindy Duncan-MacMillan, Elise Farrell, Rev. Daniel Gilroy, Rev. Catherine Gutjahr, Bryan Giffin, Rev. Louise Graves, Rev. Christine Gross, Rev. Manasse Habonimana, Rev. George Hermanson, Rev. Angela James, Marilyn Joseph, Jackie Kearns, Mary Laidlaw, Rev. Jack Lovering, Rev. Melodee Lovering, Rev. Donald Maclean, Rev. Hilary Merritt, Jeff Milan, Rev. Anne Montgomery, Rev. Stanley Ralph, Rev. Ken Robinson, Rev. David Sherwin, Rev. Tom Sherwood, Wendy Snelgrove, Sara Surjinadata, Rev. Suzanne Sykes, Rev. Sue Taylor, Joyce Williams, Ev. Zytveld

**Corresponding:** Rev. Edouard Barbezat, Wendy Mather

**CALL TO ORDER**

Phyllis MacRae, Chair of the Ottawa Presbytery, called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm. Charles Knight served as Parliamentarian.

**ADOPTION OF AGENDA**

**Motion:** (Andrew Jensen/Rick Balson) that the agenda be adopted as circulated.

**Carried**

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## **WELCOME TO MEMBERS OF THE COURT & GUESTS**

Chair Phyllis MacRae welcomed the court and guests to the Presbytery meeting.

The following new presbyters were introduced: John Benson from Knox United Church and Alyce Dunnewold from Rideau Park United Church. Rev. Ed Barbezat from Église Unie St-Marc; Carolyn Bowker, Chair of Council at MacKay United Church; Kristine Greenaway, Responsible for French Ministries, United Church of Canada; and Desna Sulway, returning presbyter from Bells Corners United Church were also introduced.

**Motion:** (David Lee/Norma McCord) that Carolyn Bowker and Kristine Greenaway, be made corresponding members for this meeting.

**Carried**

## **WORDS OF WELCOME FROM MACKAY UNITED CHURCH**

Carolyn Bowker, Chair of Council at MacKay United Church welcomed presbyters to MacKay. She highlighted the following:

- a piece of the church's history – the MacKay family bible which had been found in a Roman Catholic church in Chatham, Ontario and is now on display in the sanctuary of MacKay United Church;
- MacKay hosted a recent pot luck luncheon for various groups who have been welcoming refugees in the Ottawa area, and the refugees themselves. Many questions were asked during the discussion time, both information and recipes were shared, and the food was excellent. She noted Norma McCord's huge role in coordinating refugee settlement in Ottawa.
- MacKay is partnering with Conversations That Matter in a pilot project. The first meeting was held on February 12<sup>th</sup>, the next will be on March 26<sup>th</sup> and the third will be in the fall.
- The Evensong Ensemble is a 2017 recipient of "Embracing the Spirit" funding from the United Church of Canada.

## **WORSHIP**

Worship was led by Rev. Peter Woods of MacKay United Church and other members of Evensong Ensemble - James McGowan, who is Director of Music at Trinity United Church, pianist: Jamie Holmes on drums; and Leah Cogan, vocalist. Rev. Peter led in prayer at the beginning of and during the worship. The court sang *Open our Hearts* - MV 21; *There is Room for All* – MV 62 and *Over My Head* – MV 88. Evensong Ensemble sang a combination of Leonard Cohen's *Hallelujah* with Billie Holiday's *God Bless the Child*.

## **PRAYERS**

Rev. Glen Stoudt, Acting Presbytery Minister, led in prayer for: presbyters addressing the business of presbytery during the upcoming meeting; the Presbytery youth and leaders currently in the Northwest Territories; the congregation of Thurso, whose manse burned down within the past week; for Rev. Grant Dillenbeck, whose mother passed away; Verna Nuttall, whose son died; Rev. David Sherwin, who is recovering well from his knee surgery and who is expected to return to work on a part-time basis early in April; Rev. Nancy Best and the congregation of Queenswood United Church as they covenant together with the presbytery on March 19<sup>th</sup>; Rev. Eric Lukacs and the congregation of Carleton Memorial as they covenant together with the

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presbytery on March 26; Rev. Teresa Burnett-Cole and Rev. George Clifford from Glebe-St-James as they both recover from surgery.

Margaret Armstrong announced that, after two years of discernment, Emmanuel United Church voted to become an Affirming Ministry. She noted that former Moderator, Dr. Anne Squire moved the motion at Emmanuel.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Motion:** (Barbara Reynolds/David Lee) that in one action the Ottawa Presbytery receives and approves, each and every as appropriate, the following minutes: Presbytery meeting of February 14, 2017 for approval; and Executive meeting of January 26, 2017 for information.

**Carried**

**Motion:** (Charles Knight/David Lee) that Ottawa Presbytery affirm and approve all actions taken and motions passed at the duly called meeting of Ottawa Presbytery on January 10, 2017.

**Carried**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence that was not addressed elsewhere on the agenda.

### **PASTORAL RELATIONS REPORT**

On March 1, 2017, the following pastoral relations motions were passed:

***Quyón: Student placement of Éric Hébert-Daly***

***Motion*** (Dianne Cardin/Barbara Reynolds) that Ottawa Presbytery approve the placement of Éric Hébert-Daly (both field placement and in-ministry training) with Quyón Pastoral Charge.

***Approved***

***Glen Cairn: Appointee for quorum***

***Motion:*** (Bryan Giffin /Dave Bell) that the Ottawa Presbytery appoints the Rev. Maggie Melanson as an Appointee for the purpose of Quorum to the May 30 Council meeting of the Glen Cairn Pastoral Charge, the serving minister being absent.

***Carried***

*(Barbara Reynolds abstained)*

***Margie Anne MacDonald, DLM: Intention to take retirement in May 2017***

***Motion:*** (Barbara Reynolds/Dave Bell) that the Ottawa Presbytery take note of the intention of Margie Ann MacDonald to take retirement effective May 31, 2017.

***Carried***

***Burnett-Cole, the Rev. Teresa: Restorative Care***

***Motion:*** (Barbara Reynolds/Dianne Cardin) that the Ottawa Presbytery takes note that the Rev. Theresa Burnett-Cole will be on Restorative Care effective March 2, 2017 and expects to return to work on April 3rd. All worship and pastoral care is covered.

***Carried***

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***Glebe St. James: appointee for Quorum***

***Motion:*** (Bryan Giffin/Barbara Reynolds) that the Rev. Dianne Cardin be appointed as an Appointee for Quorum to the March 15, 2017 meeting of the Glebe-St. James Council.

***Carried***

***Graves, the Rev. Louise: Return to Work***

***Motion:*** (Barbara Reynolds/Dave Bell) that the Ottawa Presbytery take note the Rev. Louise Graves has returned to work effective February 27, 2017.

***Carried***

***Bristol: Appointment of Pastoral Relations representative for Joint Needs Assessment***

***Motion:*** (Robert Merritt/Bryan Giffin) that Ottawa Presbytery appoints Barbara Reynolds as representative for the Joint Needs Assessment with Bristol Pastoral Charge.

***Carried***

***Retained on the Roll in Other Work***

***Motion:*** (Barbara Reynolds/Dianne Cardin) that the Ottawa Presbytery transmits with approve the following requests to be retained in other work:

Rev. Whit Strong: Conference Personnel and Congregation Support Minister, M&O Conference

Rev. Alan Edwards: Policy Consultant

Rev. Kathryn Guthrie: Registered Family Therapist

***Carried***

***Volunteer Associate Ministers (Recognition)***

***Motion:*** (Bryan Giffin/Dianne Cardin) that the Ottawa Presbytery approves the following requests to be recognized as Voluntary Associate Ministers (VAMs) at the congregation or ministry unit indicated:

***Name:***

Rev. Angela Bailey

Rev. Alan Edwards

Rev. Hilary Merritt

Rev. Kathryn Guthrie

Rev. Whit Strong

Rev. Stewart Hewlett

***Pastoral Charge***

Bells Corner

Woodroffe

Cumberland

Riverside

Glen Cairn

Emmanuel

***Carried***

*(Barbara Reynolds abstained)*

***Motion:*** (Caroline Penhale/Barbara Reynolds) that Ottawa Presbytery receive the report of the Pastoral Relations Ministry Team working as a Commission from February 15, 2017 - March 14, 2017.

***Carried***

**PASTORAL RELATIONS MINISTRY TEAM**

David Stafford, Co-Chair, Pastoral Relations Ministry Team, reminded presbyters that at the February 14, 2017 meeting of Presbytery he had introduced the concept of reimbursing those who are appointed as Pastoral Charge Supervisors, and Appointees for Quorum (in cases where there is no settled minister or they are unavailable). A full information paper was made available by email to all presbyters and pastoral charges, included in the printed Presbytery package and posted on the Ottawa Presbytery website. The notice of motion was presented at the meeting.

The paper covered why Pastoral Charge Supervisors are appointed as described in the Manual 2016 and under what conditions they work, and justified why they should be reimbursed for their time, as well as travel, which they currently receive.

The proposed Ottawa policy is derived from the actual policy and practice of the Quebec-Sherbrooke and Seaway Valley Presbyteries; these policies and practices have been in effect since at least 2010. In answer to a question raised about how successful this has been, several members of the Quebec-Sherbrooke and Seaway Valley Presbyteries were contacted and the question asked. Replies were received from both Quebec-Sherbrooke (David Lambie, Secretary, and Charlotte Griffiths, Nominations), and Seaway Valley Presbyteries (Jim Allen), who indicated that the program had been in effect since 2008 and, while there have been occasional grumblings from congregations, it is still in effect.

**Motion:** (David Stafford/Barbara Reynolds) that Pastoral Charge Supervisors and Appointees for Quorum receive compensation for time and travel from the Pastoral Charges to which they are appointed.

**Carried**

### **PROCESS FOR NOMINATIONS OF GENERAL COUNCIL COMMISSIONERS**

Rev. Glen Stoudt outlined the timeline and process for the election of General Council Commissioners. The timeline for nominations is:

April 11, 2017	Approving and forwarding the names of those nominated from the Ottawa Presbytery
April 21, 2017	Nomination forms due at Montreal & Ottawa Conference Office
May 27, 2017	Election of General Council Commissioners at Montreal & Ottawa Conference AGM
July 21-27, 2018	General Council 43

Presbytery tasks before April 11<sup>th</sup> are to:

- Provide four Nominations as Commissioners
  - 2 Ordered 2 Lay (at least 1 under 30 years of age if possible)
- Provide Nominations for President-Elect of the M&O Conference
- Provide Nominations for General Council Executive Clergy Representative

Personal tasks between March 14<sup>th</sup> and April 11<sup>th</sup> are to:

- Prayerfully consider individuals from our Presbytery to serve as GC Commissioners, Conference President, and GC Clergy Representative.
- Speak with those people and work with them to complete the Nomination Form.
- Submit the form to the Presbytery Office by Monday, April 10.

The forms are included in the March Presbytery agenda package and are available on the Montreal & Ottawa Conference website.

### **UPDATE ON REMITS**

Rev. Jamie Scott provided an update and answered questions on the remit process. There will be a second workshop on Remits 3 and 4 on Saturday, March 18<sup>th</sup> at City View United Church. Presbytery will vote on Remit 3: Office of Vocation and Remit 4: Funding a New Model at its April 11, 2017 meeting. The importance of all pastoral charges voting on Remits 1, 2, 3 and #4 and submitting the results of the votes to the United Church of Canada by June 30, 2018 was stressed. Barbara Reynolds distributed a questionnaire asking:

- whether or not a pastoral charges had voted on each remit;
- whether the completed ballots had been sent to the General Council office;
- if the remit voting process had not been completed, when the pastoral charge planned to do so; and
- whether a pastoral charge required assistance from Presbytery to complete the voting process by June 30, 2017 deadline.

Barbara Reynolds and Rev. Jamie Scott will follow up with pastoral charges about this. They stressed that if a pastoral charge does not vote, it will be considered as a vote against the remit.

### **MINISTRIES IN FRENCH**

Kristine Greenaway, Responsable de l'équipe des Ministères en français, at The United Church of Canada (UCC), and Rev. Caroline Penhale, Chair of the Ministries in French Ministry Team for Ottawa Presbytery, presented resources from UCC, including the new hymnbook, *Nos Voix Unies*, the quarterly magazine, *Aujourd'hui Credo* and a special edition of *Aujourd'hui Credo* on the 500<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Reformation. Information about Ministries in French and many resources can be found at [www.egliseunie.ca](http://www.egliseunie.ca).

### **REFUGEES**

Norma McCord provided the following information about refugees, including submission of new applications.

- In 2016, not counting the Syrian Refugees sponsored during the first three months of the year, The United Church of Canada (UCC) sponsored 85 individuals using its allotted spaces and 200 more using spaces “borrowed” from the pool of spaces not used by other Sponsorship Agreement Holders. For 2017 UCC has been allotted 185 spaces. Most, if not all of the spaces have been taken by churches who have already submitted applications to the UCC. It is hoped, but there is no guarantee, that it will be to “borrow” spaces again in late August or early September.
- 2018 spaces will be allocated in February or March of that year.
- If constituent groups of congregations have refugee sponsorship applications ready to submit to the UCC please contact Norma McCord first. The cases will be put in a waiting list that will probably only be submitted to Immigration, Refugee and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) once the 2018 spaces have been allocated. Norma suggested that congregations do not plan to take on new sponsorships unless it is ensured that everyone, both the sponsors and the refugees know that there is no chance that the applications will be submitted to IRCC quickly and that it could be 2019 before the UCC has spaces.

Norma McCord thanked the congregations and individuals in Ottawa Presbytery for all their support for refugees; Norma in turn was thanked for her dedication to this work.

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**REGENERATION OF FAITH COMMUNITIES**

Rev. Ed Gratton reminded presbyters of the workshop on the Regeneration of Faith Communities to be held on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at Rideau Park United Church. Anyone interested in attending should contact the Presbytery office. There will be presentations by groups from St. Paul's Eastern United Church, Bells Corners United Church and Seaway Valley Presbytery.

**SANCTUARY CITY INITIATIVE**

Rev. Steve Moore reported that, as a representative from the Presbytery Church in Society Ministry Team, he had attended a meeting about Ottawa becoming a Sanctuary City. The number of asylum seekers coming to Canada has recently been increasing and some are likely to like-ethnic communities in Ottawa. Without proper documentation / identification they may be prohibited from accessing community services: public health care, enrolling children in schools, libraries, police services, etc. The fear that faces them daily is in requesting these services without the necessary identification; they may be reported to the authorities at which time deportation procedures could be initiated.

Ottawa City Council is considering the adoption of a Sanctuary City Policy, which would greatly decrease this fear. Those providing services would be instructed not to ask for personal information nor report it. Vancouver, Toronto, Hamilton, London and Montréal have all put this policy in place. Other cities are considering it as well. The Community and Protection Services (CPS) Committee will be deliberating this policy question on March 30, 2017. If the majority of the CPS Committee is in support, a motion will go to City Council on April 12, 2017 for approval. For more information about the Sanctuary City Ottawa initiative, the website is: <https://ottawasanctuarycity.ca/>.

**Motion:** (Andrew Jensen/David Stafford) that Ottawa Presbytery approve in principle that the City of Ottawa become a Sanctuary City and that the Chair of Presbytery write to the City Council expressing support for this initiative.

**Carried**

**UPDATE ON THE HAVEN CAMPAIGN**

Phyllis MacRae gave an update on The Haven Capital Campaign. The Annual General Meeting of Multifaith Housing Initiative will be held on Sunday, March 26<sup>th</sup> and Barrhaven United Church at 3:00 pm. One person from each member congregation may vote at this AGM. She reminded the court that Ottawa Presbytery will be hosting a Gala Evening fundraiser at The Haven on Saturday, May 13<sup>th</sup>.

**MONTREAL & OTTAWA CONFERENCE AGM**

Rev. Whit Strong stated that Montreal & Ottawa Conference 2017 AGM will be a one-day meeting taking place at Wyman Memorial United Church in Hudson, Quebec on May 27, 2017. There will be some remote sites, including City View United Church, where groups of delegates can gather and participate electronically. There will also be limited individual remote connections allowing delegates to participate from their homes. Delegates attending via remote meeting sites or from their homes will be able to participate fully in the meeting including asking questions and voting, however anyone who wishes to be nominated as a commissioner to General Council 43 must be either in Hudson, or at one of the officially designated remote sites

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gathering with others. Online registration is available on the Conference website at: <http://www.montrealandottawaconference.ca/node/353>. Any proposals from the presbyteries are due to the Conference by April 23, 2017.

### **ARCHIVES**

Marni Hunt Stephens, Chair of the Archives Ministry Team, reminded the court that in May 2016 Executive had approved holding a one-day review of the records of pastoral charges each year. The first was held on February 18, 2017. The records of several churches were reviewed. In future, notice about (i) the review day; (ii) which pastoral charges are due for review of their records; and (iii) what they need to submit will be sent out much earlier. A process for record review and the tools to do it have been developed; the basic manual will be held in the Ottawa Presbytery office and electronic versions will be available. She concluded by noting that continuing in the faithful review of the church records in Ottawa Presbytery is a way of honouring the legacy of Rev. Angus MacDonald.

Rev. Boyd Drake invited presbyters to closing services at St. Andrew's United Church, Gatineau on Saturday, March 25<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 pm and St. Andrew's United Church, Wakefield on Saturday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 3:00 pm.

**Motion:** (Andrew Jensen/Jamie Scott) that the meeting be extended until 9:10 pm.

**Carried**

### **MOTION TO GIVE FULL POWERS**

**Motion:** (Margaret Armstrong/Alyce Dunnewold) that the Presbytery Executive be given the full powers of the Presbytery in all matters including property between the end of this meeting and the next meeting of Presbytery.

**Carried**

### **CLOSING WORSHIP**

The court sang, *Spirit, Open my Heart* – MV 79, accompanied by Rev. Peter Woods and James McGovern.

### **CONCLUSION BY THE CHAIR**

Phyllis MacRae, Chair, closed the meeting at 9:10 pm.

*The next regular meeting of Ottawa Presbytery is called for Tuesday, April 11, 2017; the Executive next meets on Tuesday, March 30, 2017.*

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Phyllis MacRae  
Chair

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Rev. Glen Stoudt  
Acting Presbytery Minister

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Wendy Mather  
Recording Secretary

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