

## MANITOU CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE MEETING

Via Adobe Connect  
February 17, 2017

### FRIDAY, February 17, 2017

<b>Attendance</b>	Will Kunder, Stewart Walker, Cindy Desilets, Rick Thorne, Dave Le Grand, Mary-Jo Tracy
Ministry Personnel	
Laity	Janice Brownlee, Marguerite Hayes, Kathie Smith
Staff support	Susan Whitehead, minute-taker
Regrets	Erin Todd, Maxine McVey, Barb Cunnington, Judy Biondi
Welcome and Prayer	The President welcomed Executive to the meeting, recognized Traditional Territories and led with a brief prayer.
Minutes of the Meeting of:	Executive reviewed the minutes of the December 16, 2016 Adobe Connect meeting.
• December 16, 2016 via Adobe Connect	
	<b>MOTION 15-17 #32: Will Kunder/Marguerite Hayes That the minutes of December 16, 2016 Adobe Connect meeting of Executive be approved as printed. CARRIED</b>
Conference Office space	Will informed Executive that the new office space is fully opened and functional. He shared pictures of the office on the screen.  North Bay Presbytery had their Presbytery meeting at Omond Memorial UC on Wednesday, February 15, 2017 and enjoyed a small open-house at the office for their coffee time in advance of the meeting.
Discussion re: conference future	Kathie Smith reported on the process North Bay Presbytery used in at their last meeting of Presbytery to discuss the future of the church.  Rick and Janice gave their input as participants of the process. It was noted that there are still many who don't fully realize the magnitude of the changes that may be coming. It continues to be important for congregations to think about what they might need from The United Church of Canada within a restructured denomination. The reality is that for many in our congregations, there is little awareness of the changes to come.

Sudbury and Spirit Dancing will follow a similar process at an upcoming presbytery gathering before the Conference General Meeting.

Conference will give priority to helping congregations think about what they might need in order to become better prepared when General Council decisions are clearer in June 2017.

Following the letter of invitation from London Conference's President, a gathering of central conference representatives is taking place from March 21-23, 2017 at Villa Loyola in Sudbury.

The Manitou contingent will be as follows:

- Will Kunder (CES)
- Stewart Walker (President and Sudbury Presbytery Rep)
- Kathie Smith (President Designate and North Bay Presbytery Rep)
- Cindy Desilets (Spirit Dancing Rep)
- Lillian Roberts (CPM)

#### General Meeting planning

- Affirming ministry
- Moderator's role: theological reflector and Sunday preacher
- Sunday congregational worship pak

Rick reported that at their meeting next week, the Affirm Steering Committee will be working on motions and their presentation to GM 2017.

The Steering Committee is requesting 20 minutes of agenda time on all upcoming meetings of presbytery.

The Moderator has agreed to be the Theological Reflector for the GM and to be the guest preacher at the Celebration of Ministry service on Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017.

It was suggested that time previously allocated to a conference theme speaker, be used at this General Meeting to consider in detail structural changes that may be coming.

It was pointed out that all will need a break from the business and governance portion of the meeting. It was suggested that something like a Dewitt Jones video would be positive and uplifting.

David Armour from the Philanthropy United will be the GCO rep to our GM. It was suggested that perhaps he could do a bit of theme speaking and positive talk.

There was discussion about the worship resource for Conference weekend. In the past, it has been put together by the Conference President or MPESI or someone from a local arrangements committee. It was suggested that for this meeting, the following services be offered for consideration:

- “Why We Recognize Traditional Territories” by Teresa Jones from our Living into Right Relations group
- “Salt and Light” resource sermon #3 (focusing on M & S)

Note: Sunday, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017 is Pentecost Sunday

Other Business

There was no other business reported.

Looking ahead:

- April 20-21, 2017 – Villa Loyola, Sudbury
- June 2-4, 2017 – General Meeting – Haileybury Pentecostal Assembly

Adjournment

Having completed the business before Executive, the President adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m.

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President, Stewart Walker

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Recording Secretary, Susan Whitehead

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Executive Secretary, Rev. Will Kunder