

**MANITOU CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE MEETING**  
held at Villa Loyola Retreat Centre, Sudbury, ON  
April 20-21, 2017

**THURSDAY, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2017 – 1:00 p.m.**

<b>Attendance</b> Ministry Personnel	Maxine McVey, Will Kunder, Mary-Jo Eckert Tracy, Stewart Walker, Cindy Desilets, Rick Thorne, David Le Grand, Erin Todd
Laity	Marguerite Hayes, Janice Brownlee, Kathie Smith, Judy Biondi, Bill Rowe
Regrets	Barb Cunnington, Rick Thorne (Friday only), Dave Le Grand (Thursday Afternoon and Friday)
Staff support	Susan Whitehead, minute-taker
Constitution of the Court	President Stewart Walker welcomed the Executive members, lit the Christ candle and constituted the court with these words:  <i>We have been called to this Court to bring our gifts of passion as we seek to make fair judgments, our gifts of conviction as we seek to make a difference, our gifts of vision as we look for new shapes, our gifts of hope as we see possibilities and promises. We are thankful for the faith within us that allows us to be part of this gathering. In the name of Jesus, the Christ, Sovereign Head of the church, this court of Manitou Conference is open for any or all business that shall come before it.</i>
Recognition of Traditional Territory	The President recognized the traditional territory of Atikameksheng Anishinabek (Whitefish Lake First Nation).
Welcome and Opening Worship	Stewart led Executive in Worship.
Minutes of the Meeting of: • February 17, 2017 Adobe Connect meeting	Executive reviewed the minutes of the February 17, 2017 Adobe Connect meeting.  <b>MOTION 15-17 #33: Will Kunder/Kathie Smith That the minutes of February 17, 2017 Adobe Connect meeting of Executive be approved as printed. CARRIED</b>
Business Arising	None that isn't included in this agenda.
Issues Arising from Review of Conference Committee Minutes	The Chair of the MPESI committee asked for agenda time. The UCW Chair asked for agenda time to give a verbal report.
Correspondence Log	Executive reviewed the Correspondence Log ( <i>Attached as Appendix A</i> ).

Approval of Agenda

**MOTION 15-17 #34: Marguerite Hayes/Janice Brownlee  
That the agenda be accepted, as amended.  
CARRIED**

Holy Manners and Open  
Space Check-In

The President reviewed the RESPECT holy manners cards and then asked how does Executive hold itself accountable?

**R**espect others  
**E**conomy of time  
**S**peaking directly (your own truth)  
**P**oliteness & prayer  
**E**ncourage each other  
**C**aring for all  
**T**ruthful & trusting in the spirit

Executive members did a check-in.

### **Monitoring**

Accountability Reports

Executive Secretary

The Conference Executive Secretary (CES) shared his Accountability Report (*Appendix B*).

**MOTION 15-17 #35: Cindy Desilets/Maxine McVey  
That the accountability report for the Executive Secretary be  
received, for information.  
CARRIED**

President

The President shared his Accountability Report (*Appendix C*).

**MOTION 15-17 #36: Erin Todd/Judy Biondi  
That the accountability report for the President be received, for  
information.  
CARRIED**

*Items for Reporting or  
Decision*

Living Into Right Relations

Maxine McVey gave a verbal report on the LIRR.

Planning is underway for a presentation at the 2017 General Meeting. They are hopeful that Hoi Cheu's "Memory Project" will be completed for the meeting.

The Right Relations Home Group is now the Living Into Right Relations committee.

Maxine informed Executive that the committee will be seeking a new Chairperson. Appreciation for Elizabeth Frazer's leadership was noted.

The LIRR's Committee has made a comprehensive list of educational materials for congregations to use. They are hopeful that congregations that have not yet used the two-person dialogue that Teresa Jones created will use it on the Conference weekend.

Worship resource for  
Conference General  
Meeting weekend

The following resources will be made available to congregations for worship on GM weekend:

- The "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)

Kathie Smith offered to prepare a Pentecost-themed worship and which will also be distributed to the Conference.

Staffing considerations

Will discussed the staff sharing with London Conference (*Appendix D*).

The CES explained that Manitou would relinquish Lillian to London Conference for 25% time to support their Ministry Vocations work. This will include their Conference Assessment Team, Candidacy Pathways, and admissions of Ministry Personnel from other denominations.

Lillian would be in London Conference for a week at a time and keep Wednesday mornings open to be a support to London Conference's staff and constituents.

This partnership may realize a cost savings in salary and benefits to Manitou Conference in the amount of \$33,000.

This pilot project will commence on July 1, 2017 and continue into December of 2017, when all three parties will meet to discuss the trial and see if it will continue on a permanent basis until restructuring.

MPESI has discussed a plan to help cover the 25% of our CPM's time when Lillian is not available.

**MOTION 15-17 #37: Mary-Jo Tracy/Kathie Smith**  
**That the Manitou Conference Executive approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Manitou Conference, London Conference, and the Rev. Lillian Roberts for a secondment of 25% of the Conference Personnel Minister's time in support of the "Ministry Vocations" work of London Conference.**  
**CARRIED**

Break

3:15 p.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Affirming Ministries  
working group update

Rick Thorne reported that plans are underway for their General Meeting presentation. Packages have been distributed to Presbyteries with questions and storytelling items, in hope that feedback will be given to the committee prior to the GM and further inform the committee's presentation at the meeting.

There are plans to have a presentation and a play at the General Meeting, with discussions and voting on whether Manitou will become an Affirming Conference.

Conference camping  
ministry (correspondence)

Correspondence was distributed to Executive from Rev. Ted Harrison regarding the funds from the sale of Camp Lorrain (*Appendix E*).

Funds from the sale of Camp Lorrain have been put in a Restricted Fund for camping ministry.

These funds are not frozen but do need a means by which they can be accessed.

**MOTION 15-17 #38: Erin Todd/Maxine McVey**

**That access to the Conference “Camp Lorrain Restricted Fund” be made available on the following basis:**

- **Individual bursaries for up to 50% of the cost of registration and travel to attend a United Church of Canada camping program (to a maximum of \$400)**
- **Bursaries for up to \$2,500 (annually) in support of congregational camping initiatives**

**Applications will be received by the Conference Office, then reviewed and approved by a conference “Camp Lorrain Bursary Committee”.**

**CARRIED**

Applicants need to be United Church members.

Executive empowered the Executive Secretary to establish the bursary committee.

MPESI

Mary-Jo Tracy advised Executive of MPESI’s recommendation for Bill Steadman to be recognized an Interim Minister.

**MOTION 15-17 #39: Mary-Jo Tracy/Marguerite Hayes**

**That Executive accept the recommendation from MPESI that in accordance with Section I.1.7.2 of The Manual (2016), the Rev. Dr. William Steadman be designated as an interim minister, pending completion of the course.**

**CARRIED**

The Celebration of Ministry Service being prepared and President Stewart will send it to the Conference Office when it is complete.

MPESI recommends that the Executive of Manitou Conference arrange a special admission celebration for Joshua Kang’s admission, following a successful CAT interview.

After discussion, Executive decided that MPESI should send their

recommendation to the GM and would then not need to wait until the next general meeting to celebrate Rev. Kang's admission.

**MOTION 15-17 #40: Mary-Jo Tracy/Marguerite Hayes**  
**That Executive receives the recommendation from MPESI regarding Joshua Kang's admission to The United Church of Canada.**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION 15-17 #41: Rick Thorne/Kathie Smith**  
**That Executive seek approval of Manitou Conference to admit the Rev. Joshua Kang to the order of ministry of The United Church of Canada, in accordance with Section H.8.3 of The Manual (2016), following a successful CAT interview and upon completion of his supervised ministry and then arrange an appropriate Rite of Admission celebration.**

**CARRIED**

MPESI is seeking funding of \$1,000.00 for a ministry retreat in the fall. The Chair inquired as to how much money is left in the MPESI budget line item. The CES will provide that update but assured MPESI that funds will be available.

UCW report

Judy Biondi shared her report for UCW with Executive (*Appendix F*).

Judy thanked Executive for her time on the committee and gave out UCW Poverty dolls to the President, President Designate, and the CES.

The President joined Executive in thanking Judy for her time on the committee.

Remits

Executive discussed a possible proposal regarding a change to remit voting (*Appendix D, page 2*):

**Executive Proposal 2017-3**

**The Conference Executive Secretary proposes that: Manitou Conference request that GC43 initiate a process to change our current polity which requires 50% + 1 of all pastoral charges or presbyteries to vote in favour of a remit in order for it to be approved. We advocate a new formula by which 50% + 1 of the pastoral charges that vote would be used to determine whether a remit passes or fails**

The CES informed Executive that in order to change the remit voting process, there must be a change with parliament to The United Church of Canada Act.

Dinner Break

5:33 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

Remits cont'd...

Executive agreed in-principle and will bring a proposal to the GM.

The Executive Secretary was directed to do more work on this proposal.

Presbytery Round-up	The Chairs of each presbytery gave a verbal “round-up” of what is happening in their presbytery ( <i>Sudbury Presbytery, Marguerite Hayes – Appendix G; Sudbury Presbytery, David Le Grand – Appendix H; North Bay Presbytery, Kathie Smith – Appendix I</i> ).
“Central Conferences Boundaries Workshop” report	<p>Executive viewed slides of the Conference reports to the Boundaries Workshop.</p> <p>The CES shared that there was a desire for sharing with one another between conferences and it was a very hopeful time together. It was a great opportunity to hear many views, opinions, and options.</p> <p>Will indicated that confidentiality must be maintained as we do not want to influence voting that may still be forthcoming on Remit 1.</p> <p>Executive agreed to discuss activities for the GM theme time on Friday morning.</p>
Recess of the Meeting	The President recessed the meeting at 8:15 p.m. until Friday morning.

### FRIDAY, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 2017 – 9:00 a.m.

General Meeting 2017	The Local Arrangements committee are working their way through the list of items that need attending to for the GM.
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Local Arrangements update</li><li>• Agenda</li><li>• Table group leadership</li><li>• Planning for “Oh, The Places We’ll Go” activity on Saturday afternoon</li><li>• Input for Conference Executive Report</li><li>• Proposed 2018 budget</li></ul>	<p>Executive looked at the GM Agenda while the CES walked them through it. Will informed Executive that he will not be present at the beginning of the Conference meeting on Friday.</p> <p>Bill Steadman has agreed to take Will’s place for the time he is absent.</p> <p>The Mission Fair planning is well underway.</p> <p>Executive members will be responsible for table group leadership at the General Meeting. There will be an activity for each table at the first table group time together.</p> <p>The CES proposed that there be a one-day GM in 2018 to wrap-up and business and to have a celebration of who we’ve been together as Manitou Conference.</p> <p><b>After discussion, there was consensus that Manitou will plan a two-day GM in October of 2018, after GC43. Commissioners to GC43 will be elected at this 2017 GM.</b></p> <p>In reviewing the agenda, there was suggestion to move the elections process to Saturday before the banquet. The scrutineers, could then, report back on Saturday evening.</p>

Executive discussed plans for the two theme time slots on Saturday afternoon.

Presentations from the recent boundaries workshop will be shared during this time. This will include information about our neighbouring conferences, the current boundaries and the concept of regions.

This could be a perfect opportunity to provide feedback to the yet-to-be-appointed Boundaries Commission.

It was also suggested that we provide a summary of how Manitou Conference came to be in existence.

Executive brainstorming about planning for theme time:

1<sup>st</sup> Block

**Goal:** Who are our neighbours?

- Show current conference map
- Who are the closest neighbours?
- Show Conference Boundaries Workshop information
- Similarities – what do people say?

2<sup>nd</sup> Block

**Goal:** Where next in partnership when we *cannot* stay as we are?

- Play around with boundaries
- Maps
- Tables together!

\*report back to the meeting with maps – 2 mins MAX

\*then complete the dot test (choose two you like the most, choose one you don't prefer)

Break 10:30 a.m. – 10:45 a.m.

General Meeting 2017  
Cont'd... Ideas were brainstormed for the Executive report to Conference.

Will shared the proposed 2018 budget that is going to the GM with Executive (*Appendix J*).

He also informed Executive that the bookkeeper, Jim Butti, has resigned due to medical reasons. This has left the Conference Office and the Finance Committee in the position of being unable to produce the documents needed to complete the Review Engagement on time for the General Meeting.

Other Business There was no other business before Executive.

Looking ahead:

- General Meeting 2017 – June 2-4 – Temiskaming Shores
- Friday, August 18, 2017 – Adobe Connect
- September 28-29, 2017 – Villa Loyola

- Friday, November 24, 2017 – Adobe Connect
- Friday, January 19, 2018 – Adobe Connect
- April 19-20, 2018 – Villa Loyola
- September 27-28, 2018 – Villa Loyola
- General Meeting 2018 – Saturday, October 20, 2018 – North Bay

Theological Reflection      Out-going Executive members Maxine McVey and Judy Biondi thanked Executive this shared experience. President Stewart likewise thanked Executive for their hard work during these past two years.

Adjournment                      Having completed the business before Executive, the President adjourned the meeting at 11:35 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



## Appendix A

### Correspondence Log – Manitou Conference Executive – April 20-21, 2017

	<i>To/From</i>	<i>Dated</i>	<i>Regarding</i>	<i>Recom'd Action</i>
1	The Mission & Service Fund, UCC/Will Kunder, CES Manitou Conference	October 4, 2016	Offering from Sunday, August 21/16 – St. Peter's UC, SUD	For Information
2	Will Kunder/Susan Fortner, Executive Assistant to the Moderator, UCC	October 19, 2016	Manitou Clergy Gathering with Jordan	For Information
3	Manitou Network/Will Kunder, CES Manitou Conference	November 29, 2016	United Church of Canada Opposition to anti-BDS Legislation	For Information
4	Members of Provincial Parliament of Ontario/Will Kunder, CES Manitou Conference	December 5, 2016	Alarm over Ontario Legislature's Passage of Anti-BDS Motion	For Information
5	Conference Executive Secretaries/Diane Bosman, Member Engagement Program Coordinator, UCC	December 20, 2016	Number of GC43 Commissioners	On Agenda
6	Will Kunder, CES Manitou Conference/Organizers of Nord 500 North Reformation Conference	January 27, 2017	Sponsorship of Nord 500 North Conference	For Information
7	Will Kunder, CES Manitou Conference/Glenn Black, Black's Bay Farm	February 24, 2017	Re-voting on Remits	For Information
8	Ted Harrison, Trinity UC-NB/Will Kunder, CES Manitou Conference	February 24, 2017	Camping Inquiry	On Agenda
9	Will Kunder, CES Manitou Conference/Chris Grose, Chair-Five Oaks Board	February 24, 2017	Five Oaks Touching Base with Conference Executive Secretaries	For Information
10	Will Kunder & Steward Walker/Ted Harrison, Trinity UC-NB	February 27, 2017	Enabling Camping Ministries	On Agenda
11	Manitou Conference/Cheryl Curtis, Manager – Mission & Service Giving	April 2017	Manitou Conference's M & S Givings in 2016	For Information
12	Lillian Roberts, CPM – Manitou Conference/Will Kunder, CES – Manitou Conference & Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, CES – London Conference	April 10, 2017	Sharing Work in Manitou & London Conference	On Agenda
13	Will Kunder, CES – Manitou Conference and Lillian Roberts, CPM – Manitou Conference/Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa	April 12, 2017	Sharing Work in Manitou & London Conference	On Agenda
14	Manitou Conference/North Bay Presbytery	April 19, 2017	Pulpit Supply Rate for Non-UCC Ministry Personnel	For Information

**Appendix B**  
**Conference Executive Secretary**  
**Accountability Report to Conference Executive**  
**April 20-21, 2017**

**Facility**

After reporting on the frustrations of our office “exile” for so many meetings, it seems only right to give a final report and let Conference know that staff are continuing to enjoy our lovely renovated space. We’ve had a few visitors and are happy to show off our new home. Omond Memorial United Church is planning a rededication of the space as part of Sunday worship on May 14<sup>th</sup>.

**Technology**

Conference is steadily making more use of the “Adobe Connect” to enable videoconferencing of meetings. Most of our committees and each of the Presbyteries has used the technology. With increased practice, we are having smoother access and better success.

**General Meeting Planning**

Plans are being finalized for the upcoming (June 2-4) Conference General Meeting. The weekend will begin with a Mission Fair, giving opportunity for congregations to share something of mission projects that they are excited about.

We look forward to having Moderator Jordan with us for the event.

Each of the Presbyteries has dedicated some time for looking at “life after remits.” We hope this will have given conference reps something to think about before the GM discussions about “Oh the Places We’ll Go.”

**Youth**

Youth and their supervisors had another wonderful experience at this winter’s “Worshiplude” event in Ottawa, in February. This was our 7<sup>th</sup> year!

Programming for MYF is coming together nicely, with Ruth Noble (Mission & Service Engagement Coordinator) and the Moderator as featured leaders.

Registrations are beginning to come in for this summer’s Rendezvous 2017. We will have a bus travelling to Montreal.

**Remits**

The next update on congregational return of Remit ballots will be on April 30<sup>th</sup>. It seems that these are being well-attended to across the conference. There will be a push to try for 100% participation for the June 30<sup>th</sup> deadline on Remits 1,2,3, and 4.

A proposal is coming to this meeting which would call on the General Council to amend the remit process and move from 50% + 1 of all pastoral charges required for a remit to pass, to 50% + 1 of all pastoral charges who actually vote. A “scenario planning group” of staff leaders is working to determine initial steps that would need to be taken in the event that remits pass.

**Central Conferences Gathering**

There is time scheduled on this agenda for a report on the Central Conferences Boundaries Workshop, which was held at Villa Loyola and included reps from each of the 8 conferences that have constituent groups in the province of Ontario. With no decision-making authority, the group was able to learn a lot about one another and to begin thinking about what might be offered should Remit 1 pass and a Boundaries Commission established.

Joining me were President Stewart, Kathie Smith, Cindy Desilets and our CPM, Lillian.

### **Staffing**

Coming to this meeting for decision is a proposal to share 25% of our Conference Personnel Minister's time with London Conference. This matter has received the approval of London Conference at a recent meeting of their Executive.

This will be an opportunity to begin to experience the reality of fewer staff, regardless of the remit decisions. The General Secretary has signaled that there will be fewer deployed staff, who will likely serve more than one conference/region.

With this sharing, Susan, Melody, and Lillian will all have had significant staff experiences outside of our conference.

A staff priority for the year ahead will be assisting congregations transition to a new structure.

### **Finance**

For medical reasons our long-time bookkeeper, Jim Butti, has had to resign. This situation has been a major challenge for the Conference Finance Committee as it worked to create a draft 2018 budget for the General Meeting. We have found a very capable replacement for Jim, but are unsure if year-end reports can be prepared in time for our auditor to provide the 2016 Review Engagement in time for June. Executive will have opportunity to review the proposed 2018 budget, at this meeting.

No longer able to carry out his duties, the Conference Finance Committee proposes that Bud Thompson be honoured as our "Treasurer Emeritus." Bud is irreplaceable.

Confirmation was received this week that we will receive a 2018 Operating Grant – in spite of the previous GCE decision to eliminate these grants in 2018. Funding is available as a result of the generosity of Toronto and BC Conferences who turned back their grants for 2016 and 2017 in order that other conferences could continue to function until the results of the remits make clearer our future.

### **Five Oaks/Grand River Books**

Both the Five Oaks and Grand River Bookstore boards will decide on plans which would enable both enterprises to continue. A "Minute for Mission" correction has been circulated for this coming Sunday, replacing the published minute for April 22 which laments the closing of Five Oaks.

Respectfully,

Rev. Will Kunder  
Executive Secretary

## **Appendix C**

### **President's Accountability Report**

#### President' Report April 2017

1. I attended several meetings involving the planning of the 2017 General Meeting.
2. I visited North Bay Presbytery where I lead worship and participated in their meeting.
3. I attended a meeting of the eight central conferences at Villa Loyola to discuss the “post-remit” United Church of Canada.
4. I took the opportunity when travelling through North Bay to visit the new Conference Office and chatted with Sue.

## **Appendix D Executive Proposals to GM 2017**

Executive Proposal 2017-01

Title: **Shared CPM for Manitou & London Conference**  
Originating Body: Conference Executive Secretary  
Financial Implications: Significant savings to 2017 budget  
Staffing Implications: this proposal will result in less CPM face-to-face contact time within Manitou Conference

### **The Conference Executive Secretary proposes that**

**The Manitou Conference Executive approve the Memorandum of Understanding between Manitou Conference, London Conference, and Rev. Lillian Roberts for a secondment of 25% of our CPM's time to support the "Ministry Vocations" work of London Conference.**

Terms of the Agreement:

Between July 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017 London Conference would purchase 25% of the Manitou Conference Personnel Minister's time, with the understanding that there is no obligation beyond this trial period should any party (London Conference, Manitou Conference or Rev. Roberts) reach the conclusion that the sharing is not sustainable, or meeting the needs of the Conferences.

General Supervision would be by the Executive Secretary of Manitou Conference, with the London Conference Executive Secretary providing direction and supervision of the tasks related to the Position Description of Minister of Vocations and Training.

The 25% time will be managed as blocks of time in London Conference, currently identified as:

1. **September** Sept 14 travel day, Sept 15 & 16 meetings, Sept 18 Conference office, Sept 19 SME training, Sept 20 office, ( Sept 21 & 22 taken as holiday days, 23 & 24 as weekend) and Sept 25 as London travel day
2. **November** Nov 15 travel day, Nov 16 & 17 London office admin/prep days, Nov 18 CIB, Nov 20 London office CIB admin follow up, Nov 21 travel day
3. **Resourcing & Support at a distance** – ½ day per week, designated as Wednesday mornings

### **Expenses**

1. Travel time when going to and from London Conference will be understood to be London Conference staff time
2. Travel to London Conference and within London Conference as needed to perform the tasks of the work, will be reimbursed by London Conference.

3. Accommodation during the time in London Conference will be reimbursed by London Conference. (in consultation about best practises with the Executive Secretary.

Intermediate Action:

- transmitted with concurrence by Manitou Staff Committee (April 12, 2017)

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Executive Proposal 2017-02

Title: **Camping Ministry Bursary Program**  
Originating Body: Conference Executive Secretary  
Financial Implications: Draw from existing proceeds of the sale of Camp Lorrain  
Staffing Implications: Nil

**The Conference Executive Secretary proposes that**

**Access to the Conference's "Camp Lorrain Restricted Fund" be made available on the following basis:**

- **Individual bursaries for up to 50% of the cost of registration and travel to attend a United Church of Canada camping program (to a maximum of \$400)**
- **Bursaries for up to \$2,500 (annually) in support of congregational camping initiatives**

**Applications will be received by the Conference Office, then reviewed and approved by a "Conference Camp Lorrain Bursary Committee."**

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Executive Proposal 2017-03

Title: **Change to Remit Voting**  
Originating Body: Conference Executive Secretary  
Financial Implications: Nil  
Staffing Implications: Minimal time to craft proposal for GM2017

**The Conference Executive Secretary proposes that**

**Manitou Conference request that GC43 initiate a process to change our current polity which requires 50%+1 of all pastoral charges or presbyteries to vote in favour of a remit in order for it to be approved. We advocate a new formula by which 50%+1 of the pastoral charges that vote would be used to determine whether a remit passes or fails.**

**Appendix E**  
**Correspondence to Manitou Conference Executive**  
**Ted Harrison**

----- Forwarded Message -----

**Subject:** Correspondence for Manitou Conference Executive: Enabling Camping Ministries

**Date:** Mon, 27 Feb 2017 16:52:08 +0000

**From:** Ted Harrison <[tedharrison@hotmail.com](mailto:tedharrison@hotmail.com)>

**To:** Office Manitou <[office@manitouconference.ca](mailto:office@manitouconference.ca)>, William Kunder  
<[wkunder@manitouconference.ca](mailto:wkunder@manitouconference.ca)>, Stewart Walker <[webminister@eastlink.ca](mailto:webminister@eastlink.ca)>

February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017

To: Manitou Conference Executive, c/o Reverends Stewart Walker and Will Kunder

Re: Enabling Camping Ministries

Dear Conference Colleagues:

As you may be aware, the church I serve recently hosted another very successful Family Day Weekend retreat at the Spirit Point ecolodge facility. It is the second year of our effectively filling that facility with young families and providing faith-based outdoor activities for children and families. As a participant, I can say that *it was tremendous!*

Something of our particular context: Our weekend involved hosting *mostly* Trinity families—but also some others—some for whom such an experience would otherwise be an unlikely extravagance. In fact, we will continue our regular fundraising to pay for this weekend after the fact, and have considered making the event bi-annual (i.e. every second year) to facilitate a longer fund-raising season. However, many of us are so convinced of the value of an annual experience that we are investigating funding avenues that will make such experiences more readily available and affordable for families. Hence this letter to you.

Trinity is not the only church group seeking to facilitate faith-based camping experiences. The Saint Peter's-Sudbury experience at Camp Lorrain comes to mind, as does the recent North Bay Presbytery Youth Retreat which had a First Nations emphasis. We have churches and ministries that want to make wilderness learning experiences happen. Manitou Conference can encourage such efforts by making them more financially viable. Our communities all have nearby facilities and eager community partners available!

I understand that the proceeds from the sale of Camp Lorrain are available, and have been specifically ear-marked for outreach that reflects the Lorrain legacy: *youth and family initiatives, Christian camping, wilderness-based faith-engagement*. I would like to encourage the Manitou Conference Executive to create a mechanism for accessing the Lorrain funds for the very purpose for which they're intended. I'm picturing some kind of a '*living with respect in creation* fund' that helps make creative camping endeavours possible. It is by no means my intention to squander those funds, or to make accessing them overly restrictive—I simply suggest that the sooner we free these monies to serve such a purpose, the more effectively we honour Camp Lorrain, and meet a present day ministry need.

My thanks to you for your discernment and your hard work,

*~ted*

## **Appendix F**

### **Report to Manitou Conference Executive from UCW**

Since we last gathered together in Sudbury, it has been quiet. Fall Presbyterials were held. The ladies quite enjoy getting together, as we don't see each other often. North Bay Presbyterial has co-chairs -- Christine Gutmann and Lori Hubert both of Sundridge. Unfortunately, the South River UCW found it necessary to fold. Our prayers go out to these dedicated ladies, and hope they are able to continue to support their church in its Christian endeavours.

Our focus has been on how to get to Vancouver for the 55<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebrations. "Celebrating Spirit" promises to be a great way to honour our organization. Elsie Christian (of Manitoulin Island) has been asked to create a special banner for the Parade of Banners from Conferences across Canada.

As I am in North Myrtle Beach, South Carolina, for 3 months, I attended the United Methodist Women's Circle. I thought it could be interesting to share ideas etc. between the two groups. This concept was well received, and I have sent the first piece of communication to them. The idea of supporting each other will be played out at our Annual General Meeting in Powassan. Angela Schwarz, and Eleanor Firth (President and Vice President of Toronto Conference UCW) will attend our meeting. Reciprocally, Wendy Whalen (Spirit Dancing Presbyterial) and I will attend the Toronto Conference UCW's AGM in May.

This meeting will be my last as President of Manitou Conference UCW. At our AGM in April, Dawn Monroe of Cochrane will be installed as President. It has been both an honour and a privilege to be associated with this group. As I have said to the ladies, being President of Conference UCW is NOT a thankless job, but a joyful opportunity.

Blessings to all.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Judy Biondi  
UCW President, Manitou Conference



## **Appendix G Sudbury Presbytery Report April 18, 2017**

On Sunday May 7<sup>th</sup> a 4 p.m. Sudbury Presbytery will be holding a covenanting service for Rev. Laurie Howard at Lyons Memorial, Gore Bay. This is the second attempt to have this service the previous one had to be cancelled due to Laurie being ill.

Within Sudbury Presbytery the Collegiality and Congregational Life Team are currently ensuring that all churches within the Sudbury Presbytery have received a triennial visit. I believe that St. Andrews Coniston may be the only one still outstanding. At our April meeting this committee broke into teams and started reviewing the various churches, annual reports – this process will be completed at our May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting.

The Sprout Group are collecting all the good news stories on how the money from St. Paul's United has been spent and what new and innovative mission work people are doing with those funds.

Faith Formation will be conducting their annual LLWL interviews and having a workshop for all who are licensed on Saturday April 29<sup>th</sup>.

The two-point charge consisting of Garson and St. Luke's are in the process of amalgamation. They will become one worshipping community and hold their services at St. Luke's building.

This winter Mindemoya Pastoral Charge worshipped together in the Mindemoya church building. Come July and August Providence Bay's congregation will go back to their building until the end of August at which time they will again attend worship at Mindemoya United for the fall and winter months.

On April 7<sup>th</sup>, Mindemoya and Providence Bay United Churches, voted to amalgamate into a new central Manitoulin United Church faith community, serving Central Manitoulin, brought their recommendations to the Official Board for consideration. The motions at the Official Board were unanimously approved.

St. Paul's Kagawong's congregation had previously decided to close their doors permanently allowing their members to attend church wherever they wish.

Rev. Melody Duncanson Hales and will be drafting a letter to Sudbury Presbytery to get approval to proceed with the amalgamation process. In the mean time, we will hopefully come up with a potential new name for our new faith community.

If amalgamation is approved our plan is that our new faith community will have a unify Board of Stewards and a unified budget. Session has been a unified body for the last few years and is very active and functioning well as one body. The previous trustees will remain in place until such time as there is a decision made re – disposing of property and a determination of where will be the new place of worship for this new faith community.

Little Current Pastoral Charge is still currently in Search Mode and have been filling their pulpit for the most part with retired ministerial personnel and LLWL's persons.

Respectfully submitted by Marguerite Hayes  
Sudbury Presbytery Lay Rep.

**Appendix H**  
**Sudbury Presbytery Chair's Report**  
**April 18, 2017**

Undergoing regular and intense changes within Presbytery: Sad to lose Ministry Personnel in retirement – ex. well known to Conference, the Rev Robert Gardner going back to the Maritimes.

Churches looking at amalgamations and seeking shared ministry possibilities

Applications continue to come in for Mission projects, inspired by the Fund set up when St Paul's United in Sudbury which closed its doors a few years ago.  
We are tracking the stories of Mission that were started thanks to the St Paul's Fund. The sprOUT team are going to create a multi media presentation that could be used at the Conference General Meeting Mission Fair.

Greening Sacred Spaces collaboration with 3 of our congregations. Exciting projects, and an opportunity to engage all our congregations in the question of how be better stewards of our spaces.

We have begun to assess Pastoral Charges who are under supervision, reimbursing their supervisors for their time and expertise (above and beyond mileage) – this is along the same lines as we heard was the practice in North Bay Presbytery.  
Only one congregation, so far, responding negatively.

I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to help lead the church as “chair” in this challenging time of change.

Humbly submitted,  
Dave Le Grand, Chair

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**Appendix I**  
**North Bay Presbytery Chair's Report**  
**April 20, 2017**

NB Presbytery Roundup

- Mission Committee continues to work on their priorities; youth ministry, greening, right relations – a major part of their energy has been in opposing a Casino proposal with in the city of North Bay working together with other denominations and support organizations; as well as engaged in Energy East pipeline;
- some of our congregations have participated in an ecumenical workshop series (3 sessions) called “Faith Speaks Out” which is an initiative to education and stop “Domestic Violence”.
- Youth Coordinator has resigned and the committee is revisiting the job description prior to seeking a replacement.
  
- MPE – continue to support congregations through seeking out supervision personnel, both educational and Pastoral charge; assisting congregations in search and JNAC; Emmanuel has completed the call process and pending ordination through Hamilton Conference the new minister will be starting the first of August (Roni Beharry).
  
- Property & Finance – offer of \$95,000 has been received for the Knox Callander church property with a closing date of May 12, 2017; throughout the sale process it was learned that a portion of the property, which was to be severed and sold separately, was not able to be severed as it has a creek running through it. The Mattawa-Conservation Authority requires that nothing be built within 60 feet on either side of the waterway. This meant it would be next to impossible to build any kind of structure. So, the parcel would remain with the original property.
  
- Executive will be revisiting our Pulpit Supply rate for non – UCC leaders as a result of a letter received from a small congregation (without Ministry personnel) in an effort to be supportive of one another; Questions might include what model might work? What would be fair?

Respectively submitted,  
Kathie Smith on behalf of North Bay Presbytery

**Appendix J  
 Draft 2018 Budget  
 Manitou Conference**

March 28, 2017

**MANITOU CONFERENCE – DRAFT BUDGET: 2018**

<b>SUMMARY</b>	<b>BUDGET 2016</b>	<b>BUDGET 2017</b>	<b>PROPOSED 2018</b>
Operating Revenue	437,250.00	437,250.00	385,238.00
minus Expenses	437,250.00	473,828.00	454,950.00
Surplus / Deficit	0.00	-36,578.00	-69,712.00
<b>OPERATING REVENUE</b>	<b>BUDGET 2016</b>	<b>BUDGET 2017</b>	<b>PROPOSED 2018</b>
Presbytery Assessments	96,228.00	96,228.00	146,228.00
Draw from Reserves	50,000.00	50,000.00	0.00
General Council Operating Grants	289,512.00	289,512.00	237,500.00
Other Revenue			
- Interest (Investments)	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
- Internet charges recovery (Omond)	360.00	360.00	360.00
- Interview Board Contribution Recovery	150.00	150.00	150.00
- Orientation Tour Contribution Recovery			
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>437,250.00</b>	<b>437,250.00</b>	<b>385,238.00</b>

**Appendix J Cont'd...  
 Draft 2018 Budget  
 Manitou Conference**

March 28, 2017

**MANITOU CONFERENCE – DRAFT BUDGET: 2018 Cont'd...**

<b>EXPENSES</b>	<b>BUDGET 2016</b>	<b>BUDGET 2017</b>	<b>PROPOSED 2018</b>
<b>Executive Committee</b>			
- Executive Committee Meetings (2)	6,000.00	6,000.00	6,000.00
- Archives Storage Fee (Manitou Contribution)	8,000.00	9,000.00	10,500.00
- AVEL Fee (Manitou Contribution)	850.00	850.00	850.00
- General Council Commissioners (Orientation)			1,000.00
- General Meeting Expenses	7,500.00	7,500.00	5,000.00
- Neighbours Praising God (Net)	1,000.00		
- President's Expenses	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
- Youth Forum	1,000.00		
<b>Partnerships</b>			
- Camp Lorrain	2,500.00		
- Five Oaks Accountability Meeting			
- Huntington University	500.00	500.00	500.00
- Social Justice Network of Ontario Conferences (SJNOC)	1,200.00	1,200.00	1,200.00
- Apology Cairn Maintenance			
<b>Honorariums</b>			
- Treasurer	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>30,550.00</b>	<b>27,050.00</b>	<b>27,050.00</b>

<b>Expenses - Other Committees:</b>	<b>BUDGET 2016</b>	<b>BUDGET 2017</b>	<b>PROPOSED 2018</b>
<b>Finance Committee</b>	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
<b>Ministry Personnel &amp; Education/Settlement/Internship</b>	10,000.00	10,000.00	10,000.00
- Meeting Expenses			
- Interview Board			
- Intern/Supervisor Event			
- Committee on Sexual Abuse Policy			
- Sexual Abuse Consultants			
- Ministry Personnel Orientation Tour			
- Ministry of Supervision Course			
- Ministry retreat registration			
- Ministry retreat expenses			
- College visits			
- Retirement seminar			
- Supervisor refresher			
- Licensed Lay Worship Leadership			
- Recognitions			
- Interim Ministry Course			
- Courage to Lead			
<b>Faithful Public Witness</b>			
- Meeting Expenses	5,000.00	1,500.00	
- Leadership Development (Local Initiatives)		3,500.00	2,500.00
- Right Relations		1,000.00	1,000.00
Communications			
- Web Site	3,000.00	1,000.00	500.00
<b>Mission Support Grant Committee</b>	500.00	100.00	100.00
Archives	500.00	100.00	100.00
<b>Nominating Committee</b>			
Business & Agenda	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
<b>Staff Committee</b>	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23,000.00</b>	<b>21,200.00</b>	<b>18,200.00</b>

**Appendix J Cont'd...**  
**Draft 2018 Budget**

March 28, 2017

**MANITOU CONFERENCE – DRAFT BUDGET: 2018 Cont'd...**

<b>Expenses - Administration</b>	<b>BUDGET 2016</b>	<b>BUDGET 2017</b>	<b>PROPOSED 2018</b>
<b>Presbytery Equalization</b>			
- Spirit Dancing Equalization	2,500.00	2,000.00	
<b>Office Operating</b>			
- Accounting/Bookkeeping	2,200.00	2,200.00	2,500.00
- Audit / Review Engagement	2,200.00	2,200.00	2,500.00
- Bank Service Charges	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
- Equipment Leases (Xerox, Pitney Bowes)	5,000.00	5,000.00	5,000.00
- Office Supplies	3,000.00	3,000.00	3,000.00
- Postage/Courier	2,500.00	2,000.00	2,500.00
- Telephone/Fax/Internet	6,500.00	7,000.00	7,000.00
- Appreciations/Memberships	500.00	500.00	500.00
- Resources	600.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
- Capital Improvements	1,000.00		1,000.00
- Computer hardware/programs/service	1,500.00	500.00	1,000.00
<b>Manitou Conference Office - Lease</b>			
- Rent (including gas & hydro)	19,200.00	19,200.00	19,200.00
- Custodial	2,000.00	1,500.00	1,500.00
<b>Personnel</b>			
- Salaries & Benefits	300,000.00	344,478.00	333,000.00
- Book Allowance & Continuing Education (\$1000/person)	4,000.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
- Event Registrations	500.00	500.00	500.00
- Travel:			
- Mileage (km)	25,000.00	25,000.00	20,000.00
- Meals	2,000.00	2,000.00	2,000.00
- Accommodation	2,500.00	2,500.00	2,500.00
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>383,700.00</b>	<b>425,578.00</b>	<b>409,700.00</b>