

MANITOU CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE MEETING

held by Conference Call
Tuesday November 13, 2013

TUESDAY November 13, 2013

Attendance	Maxine McVey, Will Kunder, Cindy Desilets, Mary-Jo Tracy
Ministry Personnel	
Laity	Janice Brownlee, Joy Galloway, Marguerite Hayes
Regrets	Ted Harrison, Stewart Walker, Erin Todd, Kathie Smith, Bill Rowe, Elsie Christian
Staff support	Susan Whitehead, minute-taker
Constitution of the Court	President Maxine McVey welcomed the Executive members, invited us to remember the traditional territories of the First Nations peoples across the Conference and called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m.
MPESI Correspondence	<p>The CES explained to Executive that the current Sunday Pulpit Supply rate is \$119.00, plus travel costs regardless of who prepared and presided at the service.</p> <p>The proposed changes to Pulpit Supply rates for 2014 now identify categories of ministry personnel (OM, DLM, Student) and pay according to category (with significant increases in all categories). Will pointed out that there is no mention of rates for lay members, including LLWLs.</p> <p>MPESI believes this significant increase will be a hardship to some pastoral charges. As a result of this concern, a letter was sent to the General Secretary (GS), Nora Sanders (attached as Appendix A).</p> <p>Will informed Executive that the GCE meeting is this weekend and the agenda is set but the MPESI letter could be brought forward as New Business and referred to the permanent committee that originally set the rate. There were similar letters of concern sent to the GS from Saskatchewan Conference and the Conference of MNWO.</p> <p>There was consensus from Executive that our GCE reps bring this topic forward, if possible, at the Executive of the General Council this weekend.</p> <p>MOTION 13/15 #15: Mary-Jo Tracy/Marguerite Hayes That Manitou Conference Executive direct our GCE Reps to request the matter of MPESI concern for the 2014 Pulpit Supply rates be considered under “New Business” at the November 2013 Meeting of the Executive of the General Council. CARRIED One No Vote - Cindy Desilets</p>

Executive discussed the impact of having such a significant increase in remuneration for the Ordained and Diaconal Ministers - that they would be called less since they were "more expensive".

Paintings from Manitou
Art Collection: St. Paul's
UC

The CES clarified that all the paintings in the Manitou Art Collection are the property of Manitou Conference and are held in trust by many churches across the conference. The issue of ownership has only come up when there is a church closure and the paintings become part of the congregation's dispersal of assets.

St. Paul's United Church in Sudbury is closing and they have two paintings on loan from the collection: "The Emotional Part of Life" and "Asking of Life for the People". The first one is going to St. Peter's UC in Sudbury but the larger one, "Asking of Life for the People" needs a home.

It is the recommendation from the St. Paul's United Church Trustees and the Manitou Conference Right Relations Home Group (RRHG) that it be relocated to the Western Manitoulin Pastoral Charge (Silverwater United Church) for safe-keeping.

MOTION 13-15 #16: Will Kunder/Cindy Desilets

**That on the recommendation of the Trustees of St. Paul's – Sudbury and the Manitou Conference Right Relations Home Group, the Manitou Art Collection painting known as "Asking of Life for the People" (Inventory #20) be relocated from St. Paul's United Church - Sudbury to Silverwater United Church - Manitoulin Island.
CARRIED**

Closing Prayer

The President closed with a short prayer.

Looking Ahead

December 12-13, 2013 – Executive Meeting – Villa Loyola, Sudbury
April 10-11, 2014 – Executive Meeting – Location to be determined
NPG June 6-8, 2014 – "Everyone Needs a Sabbatical: Reboot Your Life"
-Timmins, ON
Conference Calls as needed

Adjournment

Having completed the business before it, the President declared the meeting adjourned at 10:50 a.m.

President, Maxine McVey

Recording Secretary, Susan Whitehead

Executive Secretary, Rev. Will Kunder

Appendix A

73 Frobel Drive
Elliot Lake, ON
P5A 3A4
November 7, 2013

To Nora Sanders for the Executive of the General Council
(Sent by email)

Dear Nora,

At our Ministry, Personnel, Education, Settlement, Internship Committee (MPESI) of Manitou Conference meeting on November 5 - 6, 2013 in Sudbury, concerns were raised by the recent increase in the minimum rates for Sunday Supply.

Concerns were raised that these new rates will have a negative impact upon the whole church and since this has not been before the Executive of the General Council, there has been no input or consultation with the whole church.

Concerns raised included:

- This decision will affect the ethos of the United Church by denying small congregations the ability to pay for Ordered Ministry, Designated Lay Ministers, Students and Licensed Lay Worship Leaders thus leaving congregations more open to inviting others with no United Church ethos, whom they can pay at a privately arranged, lower rate.
- The optics of scale are not good when DLMs and Ordered Ministers are paid at differing rates for leading Sunday Service only. This is a justice issue as Sunday Supply has never been paid different rates.
- Since retired ministers are not paid housing allowances, to include housing allowance is incorrect.

The MPESI in their discussions agreed that there should be a raise in the pay scale for Sunday Supply but that it should increase on a yearly basis with the cost of living. To have this large increase at one time will have a very negative impact on worship services. It was also agreed that everyone, whether Ordered, DLM, student or LLWL, the pay rate should be the same.

As a result of these concerns the following motion was passed at our meeting.

Motion: Dale Young/Marguerite Hayes

That a letter outlining the concerns raised be sent to Nora Sanders and Manitou Conference's two Executive of the General Council representatives asking that our concerns be on the agenda of the November 2013 Executive of the General Council.

Carried

Blessing,

Joan

Joan MacGillivray
Secretary, MPESI
on behalf of Manitou Conference Ministry, Personnel, Education, Settlement, Internship Committee

CC: Erin Todd, Janice Brownlee, Will Kunder