

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London
Westmount Presbyterian Church, London, Ontario, September 9, 2008**

In London, and within Westmount Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of London met in Regular Session on Tuesday, the ninth day of September, two thousand and eight, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening.

Worship The Reverend Michael Stol and the Reverend Mavis Currie led the Worship Service and Sacrament of Holy Communion. Erica Cameron, a member of the Westmount Youth, sang a solo and shared some of her experiences of the Presbytery Youth Mission Trip to Cape Breton.

Installation of New Moderator The Clerk, Mrs. Chris Evans, presented the Reverend Keith McKee to the outgoing Moderator, Mr. Tom Jeffery, who proceeded with the service of Installation of the Reverend Keith McKee as Moderator of the Presbytery of London for the two-year term beginning September 9, 2008.

The newly installed Moderator, the Reverend Keith McKee, assumed the chair and resumed the business of the Court. He invited Mr. Jeffery to speak. Mr. Jeffery thanked the members of the Presbytery for their support and help during his two years as Moderator.

Constitution The Moderator, the Reverend Keith McKee, constituted the Court with Prayer.

Welcome, Courtesies and Announcements The Moderator, the Reverend Keith McKee, welcomed everyone to the meeting, and guests were welcomed. John van Fliet introduced members of Trinity-West Elgin who were in attendance. New representative elders were introduced and welcomed. Mildred Grieg was recognized as the WMS Representative.

Attendance John Bannerman, Amanda Birchall, Sabrina Caldwell, Mavis Currie, Deb. Dolbear-van Bilsen, Terry Ingram, Keith McKee, Douglas Miles, Lynn Nichol, Johan Olivier, Jim Redpath, Andrew Reid, Robert Robinson, Kevin Steeper, Michael Stol, John Van Vliet, Hugh Appel, Les Files, Andras Rameshwar, Ministers; Terry Axford, Bob Baron, Marg Chester, Carlton Dindial, Ruth Ann Drozd, Chris Evans, Theresa Glithero, Mildred Greig, Tom Jeffery, Jacqueline Leitch, Ross MacKay, Matt Marshall, Sharon Marshall, Gail McHardy-Leitch, Linda McKenna, Bill McMurchy, Sheila McMurray, John McNeil, Nancy Newell, Barbara Nyitray, Wilma Reath, Linda Riddell, Joe Ruitenbeek, Ron Sparling, Don Speir, Nancy Springer, Gerald Stocking, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Trudy Van der Hoek, Peter VanderKooy, Allan Woolner, Elders; Carol Rayner, Treasurer; Susan McIlveen, Alice Paterson, Anna Nagy, Betty King, Pam Bradshaw, Trinity-West Elgin; Wayne Hindmarsh, Brian Luscombe, former Ailsa Craig; Rob Evans, Elmwood,

Regrets Charlotte Brown, Kathy Fraser, Robert Shaw, Mark Turner, Ministers; John Cameron, Patrick Laurin, Margaret McCullough, Elders

Docket **MOTION** (Baron / McMurray) THAT the Docket as circulated be adopted for the meeting, with one change, that being the Rec. #10 of the Admin. Team Report to be brought forward to this time in the meeting. CARRIED.

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REC. #1 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT Mr. Joe Ruitenbeek of Knollwood Park be appointed as the third Equalizing Elder to the Presbytery of London. CARRIED.

Administrative Business **MOTION** (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the Minutes of the regular meeting of June 17, 2008 be adopted as circulated. CARRIED, with the following amendment:
MOTION (Ingram / Reid) THAT the following comment be removed from Page 5097 "Terry Axford and John van Vliet spoke against this amendment". CARRIED.

REC. #2 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the following correspondence be received for information: CARRIED.

Number	From	Regarding
08-26	S. Kendall, Commission on Assets	Approval of Ailsa Craig and Belmont Mission Plans
08-28	E. Bartlett, GA Office	Changes to the Roll, July, 2008
08-30	P. Hamilton, Presby. Of PEI	Letter of Standing - Gael I Matheson
08-31	E. Briard, Presby. Of Pickering	Rev. Victoria Murray (copy of letter)
08-33	Joseph Taylor, Evangel Hall Mission	Thank You letter - Ailsa Craig Money
08-34	Lisa Watson, Knox College	Thank You letter - Ailsa Craig Money
08-38	J. Olivier, IM - Trinity West Elgin	Forwarding concern re Citation

REC. #3 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the following correspondence be referred as named: CARRIED.

Number	From	Regarding	Refer To
08-27	Rev. Julia Morden	Request for Supply - UCC	Clerk
08-29	Rev. Linda Moffatt	Move to Huron-Perth	Admin. Team
08-32	Barbara Nawratil, Financial Office	Ailsa Craig Distribution	Admin. Team
08-35	Anamiewigummig Kenora Fellowship	Permission for Speaking Tour	Admin. Team
08-36	Stephen Kendall, Clerk of Assembly	Shipment of Acts and Proceedings	Distribution
08-39	Session of Trinity-West Elgin	Petition of R. Buchan re Amalgamation Committee	
08-40	Session of Trinity-West Elgin	Petition of R. Buchan re Amalgamation Committee	
08-41	Rev. Jim Redpath	Notice of Retirement	Admin. Team

REC. #4 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the two petitions (Correspondence #08-39, 08-40) be received as read. CARRIED.

REC. #5 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the Moderator appoint a committee to investigate the Pastoral Concerns expressed in these petitions. CARRIED.

REC. #6 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the Assessor Elders to the former Knox, New Glasgow Session, namely, Ruth Ann Drozd, Gerald Stocking and Ian Fleck, be dismissed with the thanks of the Court. CARRIED.

The Moderator expressed sincere thanks to the two Assessor Elders present in the Court, expressing his appreciation for the amount of time and effort they had given to this task.

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REC. #7 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the actions of the Clerk in sending the Certificate of Transfer for the Reverend Linda Moffatt to the Presbytery of Huron-Perth be homologated. CARRIED.

REC. #8 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the name of the Reverend Hugh Appel be placed on the Appendix to the Roll of the Presbytery of London. CARRIED.

REC. #9 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT as per the original Mission Plan of the former congregation of Ailsa Craig Presbyterian Church, the following distribution be made from the monies sent to the Presbytery of London:

- a) \$10,000 to Nairn Mennonite Church
- b) \$10,000 to Ailsa Craig United Church
- c) \$1,500 to the Ailsa Craig and District Food Bank
- d) \$1,500 to Craigweil Gardens
- e) \$10,000 to the Strathroy Hospital Foundation.

CARRIED.

REC. #10 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the balance of \$49,366.83 plus any accrued interest, as per the approved Mission Plan, be used for the following purposes:

1. Community Outreach Projects
2. Youth Ministry Resources, i.e. bursaries for youth to attend conferences such as the Canada Youth Conference and Youth in Mission sponsored by the Presbyterian Church in Canada, and/or other youth conferences and training opportunities within the Presbytery
3. Establish an Educational Fund for an Annual Educational Event / Workshop for the Presbytery of London to benefit lay and clergy, for example pay for a speaker and advertising
4. As needed, provide Resource Person to assist congregations facing change and transition
5. Provide timely workshops for the benefit of clergy and lay people within the Presbytery to provide conflict management
6. Provide resources to congregations and clergy within the Presbytery to provide pastoral care to clergy and lay church leaders.

CARRIED.

The question was raised as to how one can access these funds, and the Moderator responded that the procedure should be to approach the Administrative Team.

REC. #11 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the actions of the Administrative Team in instructing the Treasurer to issue a cheque in the amount of \$500 to Camp Geddie for hosting the Presbytery Youth Mission Trip be homologated. CARRIED.

REC. #12 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT Anamiewigummig Kenora Fellowship be given permission to enter the bounds of the Presbytery of London for their speaking and fundraising tour. CARRIED.

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REC. #13 (Evans / Jeffery) THAT in compliance with the Standing Orders, the Schedule of Regular meetings of the Presbytery of London for 2008/2009 be as follows:

September 9, 2008	Westmount, London
October 14, 2008	Burns, Mosa
November 11, 2008	St. John's, Port Stanley
January 13, 2009	Knox, St. Thomas
February 10, 2009	Guthrie, Melbourne
March 10, 2009	St. James, North Yarmouth
April 14, 2009	Argyle, Crinan
May 12, 2009	St. John's, Wardsville
June 16, 2009	Bethel, Ilderton

CARRIED.

PRESBYTERY RESTRUCTURING PROPOSAL

Until the proposed recommendations concerning the Presbytery Restructuring have been dealt with by the Court, the existing Ministry Teams of the Presbytery of London will remain in effect.

The Administrative Team and the Strategic Visioning Committee met on Thursday, July 3rd, 2008, to discuss and draft proposed changes to the Standing Orders.

NOTICE OF MOTION: On behalf of the Administrative Team and the Strategic Visioning Committee, I Chris Evans, make the following Notice of Motion: THAT at the next meeting of the Presbytery of London, the following changes be made to the Standing Orders:

4. MINISTRY TEAMS

(A) **BASIC GUIDELINES**

The following orders are without reference to the Presbytery of London Extension and Building Fund Committee.

- (a) "Ministry Teams" are permanent ministry teams whose mandates deal with the basic functions of the presbytery. They report or present regularly to the presbytery, and are listed in the Standing Orders.
- (b) Each Ministry Team will consist of no fewer than five (5) persons, including the convener, but the make-up of each Ministry Team will be defined separately.
- (c) The membership of Ministry Teams will be reviewed annually at the September meeting of the Presbytery. At this time Team members will be free to leave the team or commit to another year's service. The September meeting will be the time when Presbyters normally are invited to consider joining an established Team, although they may join at any time in the year.

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(d) Any changes to a team's membership shall be reported to the presbytery.

(e) Each team shall have a convener, and/or co-conveners elected by the ministry team.

(f) Each team shall schedule a regular monthly meeting, and report to the Presbytery at its next regular meeting.

(B) ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

The Administrative Team shall be composed of the Moderator, immediate Past-Moderator, Clerk, Treasurer, conveners of the four Ministry Teams, and other members of the Court at large. The responsibilities of the Administrative Team shall be:

- (a) Direction of correspondence to the appropriate Teams for action and information.
- (b) Setting a tentative agenda for the Court's next meeting.
- (c) Having the power to act provisionally on behalf of the Court for routine emergent business. Such acts are to be homologated at the next regular sederunt of Presbytery.
- (d) Finance (including budgeting).
- (e) To make recommendations to the Presbytery of London concerning the Discretionary Fund.
- (f) Procedures including the annual update of standing orders for all presbyters at the September meeting.
- (g) To maintain the roll of Presbytery.
- (h) To keep the values of the Presbytery before the Court.

(C) MISSION AND OUTREACH TEAM

The Mission and Outreach Team shall consist of the Convener plus 4 (four) members, but not limited to 5 (five) members.

The responsibilities of the Mission and Outreach Team shall be:

(a) Youth Ministry

Co-ordinate Presbytery-wide youth events such as Youth Volleyball, preparing Campus Packages, One-Day Wonder, coordinating participation of youth in "outside of Presbytery" events such as Canada Youth, and Triennium, etc.

(b) Evangelism

Assist, foster and aid discipleship in all existing churches within the Presbytery, through seminars, research, speakers, etc.

(c) Hospital Visitor

Supervise, support and administer the Hospital Visitor Programme

(d) Website and Communications

Responsible for the Presbytery Website, including Webmaster liaison, and exploring other communication options (such as television, print and radio media)

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(e) Mission

- i) Organize and support local, national and international mission projects, i.e. Canada Foodgrains, PWS&D, Presbyterians Sharing
- ii) Representation on the Synod Mission Committee (approximately 4 meetings per year)

(D) CONGREGATIONAL LIFE TEAM

The Congregational Life Team shall consist of the Convenor plus 4 (four) members, but not limited to 5 (five) members.

The responsibilities of the Congregational Life Team shall be:

(a) Vacancy and Visitation

- i) Coordinating and overseeing the Presbytery's Congregational Visitation programme, according to the established guidelines.
- ii) In the event of a vacancy in the position of Clerk or Treasurer, to ensure that search teams are appointed.

(b) Strategic Visioning

Research, envision, enhance and strengthen the stewardship of the resources for discipleship that currently exist in the Presbytery

(c) Small Church Ministries Fund

Administer the funds of the Small Church Ministries Fund

(d) Leading with Care

- i) Responsible for the oversight and continuing implementation of both the Leading with Care Policy and the Sexual Abuse and Harassment Policy of the Presbyterian Church in Canada
- ii) Shall be comprised of a sub-committee of at least four (4) members, plus the Clerk of Presbytery. There should be an equal number of teaching and ruling elders as well as a balance of male and female members, to deal with all complaints related to these two policies.

(E) MINISTRY AND DOCTRINE TEAM

The Ministry and Doctrine Team shall consist of the Convenor plus 4 (four) members, but not limited to 5 (five) members.

The responsibilities of the Ministry and Doctrine Team shall be:

- a) Planning at least one educational event per year for the Presbytery of London
- b) Oversight of students for the ministry
- c) Denominational Work
- d) Receive and consider study leave applications for Clergy, in accordance with the General Assembly guidelines

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2. REPRESENTATIVE ELDERS

(c) It is the responsibility of the Representative and/or Alternate Representative Elders to report to their respective Sessions on the activities of Presbytery at each Session meeting. (Addition)

(B) MINISTRY TEAM REPORTS

- (a) No team may report to Presbytery unless it has met, and presents a concise report.
(b) A concise typewritten report containing recommendations must be presented to the clerk no less than ten days prior to a regular meeting. The exception to this is that reports having good potential to be presented in camera may be withheld from advance distribution, at the discretion of the team convenor in consultation with the clerk. The clerk must distribute all reports by regular mail or email to all members of Presbytery on the Constituent Roll at least seven days prior to a regular meeting.
(c) ~~It is encouraged that written reports which are for information only be circulated in advance, but it is not required. (Delete)~~

**Records
Examination**

MOTION (Currie / Evans) THAT the Session Records of St. James Presbyterian Church, North Yarmouth, be attested as neatly and correctly kept, with the following notes: 27.2, 27.5. CARRIED.

MOTION (Currie / Evans) THAT the Session Records of Argyle Presbyterian Church, Crinan be attested as neatly and correctly kept, with the following notes: 27.2, 27.4, 27.5, 27.7. CARRIED.

MOTION (Currie / Evans) THAT the Session Records of Duff Presbyterian Church, Largie be attested as neatly and correctly kept, with the following note: 27.5. CARRIED.

MOTION (Currie / Evans) THAT the Session Records of St. John's Presbyterian Church, Port Stanley be attested as neatly and correctly kept, with the following notes: 27.2, 27.3, 27.5. CARRIED.

**Students and
Education Team**

REC. #1 (Caldwell / van Vliet) THAT Mr. John Hyunjoon Park be received as a candidate for ministry within The Presbyterian Church in Canada and that he be certified to Knox College for the 2008/2009 academic year. CARRIED.

**Denominational
Work Team**

No Report

**Vacancy and
Visitation Team**

Visitation Report - Bethel, Ilderton (A. Birchall)
There were no recommendations in relation to the visitation.
MOTION: (Birchall / Jeffery) THAT the Report of the Visitation Team to Bethel, Ilderton, be adopted. CARRIED.

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MOTION: (Baron / Dolbear-van Bilsen) THAT the Visitation Team to Bethel, Ilderton be dismissed with the thanks of the Court. CARRIED.

**Leading with
Care Team** No Report

**Hospital Visitor
Team** No Report

**Youth and
Campus
Ministries Team** Mavis Currie gave a verbal report on the Presbytery Youth Mission Trip to Cape Breton, and extended an offer to have members of this trip conduct worship services at any of the churches in the Presbytery. She also indicated that a full report, including a financial report would be forthcoming.

**Website and
Communications
Team** Mavis Currie reported that due to a server problem the Youth Mission Trip Blog had been dropped from the Presbytery Website. The WebMaster is working on this problem and hopes to have it resolved in the near future.

**Small Church
Ministries Fund** No Report

Evangelism Team The Report had been circulated with the Advance Reports, but the recommendation included with the report was not presented.

**Strategic
Visioning Team** No Report

**G.A. 2011 Local
Arrangements
Committee** No Report

**Knox, St. Thomas
Interim Mod.
Advisory Team** Andrew Reid indicated that the report as circulated would suffice as this report.

**Request for
Permission to
Sit and
Correspond** **MOTION** (Axford / Miles) THAT Robert Buchan be given permission to sit and correspond. DEFEATED.

**Adjournment
of First Sederunt** On a motion by Andrew Reid, the Court stood Adjourned for a five minute recess.

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SECOND SEDERUNT

Constitution The Moderator, the Reverend Keith McKee re-constituted the Court with prayer.

Before continuing with the business of the Court, the Moderator conveyed the thanks of the members of the former congregation of Ailsa Craig, Mr. Wayne Hindmarsh and Mr. Brian Luscombe, to the Court for their work in relation to bringing the Mission Plan of Ailsa Craig to a positive conclusion.

**Presbytery
Re-Structuring
Proposal** **MOTION** (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the changes to the Standing Orders as set out in the First Sederunt be adopted, effective immediately.
Following discussion regarding the implications of these changes, the motion was DEFEATED.

The Clerk indicated that she would have sign-up sheets for the various Ministry Teams available at the next meeting of the Presbytery.

**Reports of
Interim
Moderators** DaySpring - London (R. Shaw) No Report

St. John's, Port Stanley - Terry Ingram reported that the contract for Lay Ministry was scheduled for renewal for the period September 1, 2008 to August 31, 2009. He explained that the amounts that Mr. Jeffery will be paid are based on Category III for 2007/08 as set out in the 2008 Acts and Proceedings. This contract has been approved by the Session of St. John's.

MOTION: (Ingram / Birchall) THAT the contract between Mr. Tom Jeffery and St. John's Presbyterian Church, Port Stanley be approved. CARRIED.

Rodney / Kintyre / New Glasgow (Trinity-West Elgin) Johan Olivier came forward and spoke to the report which had been circulated with the Advance Reports. Following a period of questions and answers, Johan was commended for his work with this congregation.

John van Vliet came forward to speak to his report on behalf of the West Elgin Presbyterian Steering Committee.

MOTION: (van Vliet / Nichol) THAT the Presbytery of London and the Committee on Assets of the National Church allow the Steering Committee to place all remaining trust monies and proceeds from the sale of assets in a secure account, to be made available to the congregation for the purpose of acquiring a new facility, possibly jointly with the United Church. It should be stressed that we are proposing that this account would not be accessible for routine operating expenses, but that its future should be reviewed after three years. CARRIED.

St. Lawrence - London - Lynn Nichol reported that the Search Committee had examined some profiles, the Pulpit is being supplied and pastoral care is being provided.

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Belmont / North Yarmouth - John Bannerman and Kevin Steeper reported that Supply and pastoral care are being provided at St. James, and that the Search Committee has been meeting to discern the future for ministry at St. James. Kevin Steeper then noted that since the amount of work for an Interim Moderator can now be handled by one individual, he is resigning as Co-Interim Moderator at St. James.

MOTION: (Bannerman / Stol) THAT the resignation of Kevin Steeper as Co-Interim Moderator for St. James Presbyterian Church, North Yarmouth be accepted with the thanks of the Court. CARRIED.

Nancy Newell, Representative Elder and Clerk of Session for St. James expressed the thanks and appreciation for Kevin's help and guidance as Co-Interim Moderator.

Knox, St. Thomas (J. Elder) No Report

Burns, Mosa (K. Fraser) - Kathy Fraser had given the following verbal report to the Clerk: She will be Moderating her first meeting with the Session of Burns on Thursday, September 11, and steps will be taken to start to form a Search Committee. The Pulpit is being supplied, pastoral care is being provided, Sacraments are being administered.

Crinan / Largie - Amanda Birchall and Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen reported that they have met with the two sessions, who are charged with the task of examining the options for the future ministry within this pastoral charge.

Adjournment

On a motion by Ron Sparling, the Court stood adjourned at nine o'clock in the evening, (9:00 p.m.) to meet again in Special Session on Sunday, the twenty-first day of September, two thousand and eight, at the hour of two thirty in the afternoon, in Kintyre, and within Knox Presbyterian Church, for the closing service of the building, and in Special Session on Wednesday, the twenty-fourth day of September, two thousand and eight, at the hour of six thirty in the evening, in New Glasgow, and within Knox Presbyterian Church, for the closing service of the building, and in Special Session on Sunday, the twenty-eighth day of September, two thousand and eight, at the hour of two thirty in the afternoon, in Rodney, and within St. John's Presbyterian Church, for the closing service of the building, and in Regular Session on Tuesday, the fourteenth day of October, two thousand and eight at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening, in Mosa, and within Burns Presbyterian Church.

The Moderator closed the meeting with prayer.

Moderator

Clerk