

**Minutes of the Presbytery of London**  
**Argyle Presbyterian Church, Crinan, Ontario, April 14, 2009, 7:00 p.m.**

In Crinan, and within Argyle Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of London met in Regular Session on Tuesday, the fourteenth day of April, two thousand and nine, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening.

- Constitution**           The Moderator, the Reverend Keith McKee, constituted the Court with Prayer.
- Worship**                The Worship Service was conducted by the Reverend Amanda Birchall and the Reverend Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen, Interim Moderators for the host church.
- Welcome, Courtesies**    The Moderator welcomed everyone to the meeting, making special note of the representatives in attendance from the London Arab Presbyterian Fellowship, and introduced the Reverend Ian Johnston, who is the new Interim Minister at Knox, St. Thomas, and also the Reverend Tom Godfrey, who will be inducted as Minister at St. Lawrence Presbyterian Church, on Sunday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, at 3:00 p.m.
- Attendance**            Amanda Birchall, Sabrina Caldwell, Deb Dolbear-VanBilsen, Kathy Fraser, Keith McKee, Johan Olivier, Kevin Steeper, Ian Johnston, Douglas Cameron, Ministers; Bob Baron, Ruth Ann Drozd, Chris Evans, Theresa Glithero, Mildred Greig, Tom Jeffery, Patrick Laurin, Jacqueline Leitch, Matt Marshall, Sharon Marshall, Margaret McCullough, Bill McMurchy, John McNeil, Nancy Newell, Wilma Reath, Linda Riddell, Nancy Springer, Gerald Stocking, Doris Tutt, Donna Jean Van Bilsen, Trudy Van Der Hoek, Peter VanderKooy, Elders; Carol Rayner, Treasurer; Gerald Stringer, Inge Stahl, St. Lawrence, London; Shirley Lunn, St. James, North Yarmouth, Rob Evans, Elmwood, London, Sherif Garas, William Khalil, Jonia Khalil, Andrew Khalil, Eric Khalil, Ghassan Neema, Tiodora Neema., Bashar Neema, Salma Safar, Christian Safar, Elsi Safar, Samir Barkho, Ashour Barkho, Mary Nashed, Mathew Anjos, Ayman Al-Khori, Kinda Al-Khori, Krestian Al-Khori, Giselle Al-Khori, Mary Jabriel, Nadera Abdulkareem, Faaiza Nissan, Marleen Sada, Vevean Sada, Feirouz Abouyousef, Elias Abouyousef, London Arab Presbyterian Fellowship.
- Regrets**                John Bannerman, Charlotte Brown, Mavis Currie, Terry Ingram, Andrew Reid, Robert Shaw, Mark Turner, Ministers; Terry Axford, Ruth Carey, Larry Gibbings, Ross MacKay, Gail McHardy-Leitch, Linda McKenna, Sheila McMurray, Barbara Nyitray, Don Speir, Elders.
- Absent**                 Lynn Nichol, Michael Stol, Ministers; Marg Chester, Joe Ruitenbeek, Elders.
- Announcements**    A number of announcements were made regarding upcoming events within the Presbytery, and attention was drawn to notices which had been inserted in the mail slots. The Clerk reminded everyone to check their mail slots and to take any documents for their congregation. She also suggested that use of these mail slots would be more effective than leaving stacked announcements beside the blue mail box.

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**Addition to Roll**                    **MOTION** (Evans / Fraser) THAT the name of the Reverend Ian K. Johnston be added to the Constituent Roll of the Presbytery of London. CARRIED.

**Docket**                    **MOTION** (Evans / Fraser) THAT the Docket as circulated be adopted for the meeting. CARRIED.

**Permission to Speak**                    **MOTION** (Jeffery / Laurin) THAT the Reverend Sherif Garas and Mr. William Khalil be given permission to address the Court. CARRIED.

**Stated Hour 7:30 p.m. Call to Douglas Cameron**                    The Stated Hour of 7:30 p.m. having arrived, the Moderator invited the Reverend Sabrina Caldwell to come forward to prosecute the Call to the Reverend Douglas Cameron from Knox Presbyterian Church, Wallaceburg.

On behalf of the Interim Moderator, the Reverend Michael Maroney, the Reverend Sabrina Caldwell read the Narration of the Steps Leading up to the Call.

**MOTION** (Evans / Fraser) THAT the Call to the Reverend Douglas Cameron be received and considered. CARRIED.

The Reverend Sabrina Caldwell read the terms of the call and the guarantee of stipend as follows:

*We the congregation of Knox Presbyterian Church, Wallaceburg, Ontario, hereby present to the Presbytery of Essex-Kent, of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, that the estimated annual revenue of the said congregation for the maintenance of religious ordinance among us is \$112,550.00.*

*We hereby agree to pay out of the said revenue, as it shall be collected and, as the first charge thereon, to Reverend Douglas Cameron the annual stipend of \$36,057, which amount is inclusive of annual car or travel allowance, and to provide a manse annually for housing allowance, plus cost of utilities. In addition to this shall be reported as stipend, and added to the foregoing amount, the amount expended under the study leave of clauses 1 and 2 below.*

*We agree to make payments of the above amounts monthly, and we undertake to review the stipend and allowances annually in consideration of any changes in the cost of living or in the needs of our minister. We further engage to use our utmost diligence to the end that Reverend Douglas Cameron may regularly receive the stipend and allowance herein named.*

*We agree further:*

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1. *To give two weeks study leave annually, and to provide at least the minimum allowance as set by the General Assembly.*
2. *That the benefits of number 1 above shall be cumulative up to five years.*
3. *To give five weeks holiday annually.*
4. *To pay supply during the periods of study leave and holidays.*
5. *In case of disability or extended illness, to continue to provide stipend, accommodation and allowances for a period not less than that set by the General Assembly, and to pay the cost of pulpit supply.*

*In addition, we will pay the necessary moving expenses to settle Reverend Douglas Cameron as minister of this congregation.*

**MOTION** (Evans / Fraser) THAT the call to the Reverend Douglas Cameron be sustained as a regular Gospel Call. CARRIED.

The Moderator, the Reverend Keith McKee, placed the Call in the hands of the Reverend Douglas Cameron, and indicated that he had ten days to make his decision as to whether or not he would accept the Call. Mr. Cameron responded that he accepted the Call.

**MOTION** (Evans / Fraser) THAT the Reverend Douglas Cameron be transferred to the care of the Presbytery of Essex-Kent, effective April 28, 2009. CARRIED.

**Administrative** **MOTION** (Evans / Fraser) THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of March 10,  
**Business** 2009 be adopted as circulated. CARRIED.

The Clerk, Mrs. Chris Evans, presented the Report of the Administrative Team.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**REC. #1** (Evans / Fraser) THAT the following correspondence be received for information: CARRIED.

<b>Number</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Regarding</b>
09-13	G. Haynes, Fund for Minist. Assistance	Applications for Ministerial Assistance
09-21	E. Bartlett, G. A. Office	Changes to the Roll
09-26	S. Kendall, G. A. Office	Receipt of Moderator Ballots (26)
09-27	S. Kendall, G. A. Office	Receipt of G. A. Commissioner names

**REC. #2** (Evans /Fraser ) THAT the following correspondence be referred as named: CARRIED.

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<b>Number</b>	<b>From</b>	<b>Regarding</b>	<b>Refer To</b>
09-14	S. Smith, United Church in Canada	Rev. Julia Morden	Clerk
09-15	Glencoe Presbyterian Church	Application to Ailsa Craig Fund	Admin Team
09-16	Evangelism Team, Pres. Of London	Application to Ailsa Craig Fund	Admin Team
09-17	C. Cornhill, Clerk, Elmwood	Request to access manse funds	Admin Team
09-18	C. Carmichael, PCC Communications	Request circulation	Admin. Team
09-19	D. Cassidy	Review of Financial Records	Admin. Team
09-20	London Arab Presbyterian Fellowship	Request to Become a Congregation	Admin. Team
09-22	S. McAndless, Pres. of Essex-Kent	Certificate - Tom Godfrey	Clerk
09-23	C. Campbell, Pres. Huron-Perth	Certificate - Ian Johnston	Clerk
09-24	R. Holt, Clerk of Session, Knox, St. Thom.	Request for Elder Interviews	Admin. Team
09-25	S. McAndless, Pres. of Essex-Kent	Call to Douglas Cameron	Admin. Team
09-28	Johan Olivier	Permission to serve as P-T Chaplain (Armed Forces, London)	Admin. Team

**COMMISSIONERS TO GENERAL ASSEMBLY** - We now have a full slate of Commissioners to General Assembly. The Minister Commissioners are: Keith McKee, Mavis Currie, Kevin Steeper, John Bannerman; the Elder Commissioners are: Bob Leatham (Oakridge), Tom Jeffery (Guthrie), Flora MacKellar Deller (Burns), John Cameron (Glencoe); and our Young Adult Representative is Christina Gillard (North Caradoc-St. Andrew's). The Moderator and Clerk will be holding the Orientation Session for these Commissioners on Sunday, May 31, 2009 at 3:00 p.m., at Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church. A letter has been sent to each Commissioner inviting them to attend this session.

**COMMITTEE ON PRESBYTERY BOUNDARIES WITHIN THE SYNOD OF SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO** - The Clerk and Moderator were appointed to sit on this Committee of Synod. The Moderator, the Reverend Keith McKee was elected Clerk of the Committee. This Committee has met on two occasions to discuss whether the boundaries of the Presbyteries within this Synod should be changed. Following the questionnaire which was discussed at each of the Presbyteries within the Synod, it was concluded that no recommendations to change Presbytery boundaries would be made at this time.

**MOTION** (Baron / Evans ) Further to a Notice of Motion made at the Regular Meeting of the Presbytery of London, on March 10, 2009, THAT the June, 2009 meeting of Presbytery be changed from June 16<sup>th</sup> to June 23<sup>rd</sup>, in order facilitate the reporting of the General Assembly Commissioners. CARRIED.

**RECOMMENDATION #3** ( Baron / Fraser ) THAT Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church be given permission to access their Manse Funds. CARRIED.

**RECOMMENDATION #4** (Evans / Fraser ) THAT the Clerk include the

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Communications Office in the distribution list for minutes of presbytery meetings and to notify the Communications Office of events of note taking place in the Presbytery. CARRIED.

**RECOMMENDATION #5** (Evans / Fraser ) THAT the Financial Reports for 2008, which were circulated with the Advance Reports be approved. CARRIED

**RECOMMENDATION #6** (Evans / Fraser ) THAT the moneys received from the Empey Bequest for 2008 in the amount of \$82.05, for which no direction has been given, be included with the 2009 amount of \$78.16 to be donated to the London Arab Presbyterian Fellowship. CARRIED.

**RECOMMENDATION #7** (Evans / Fraser) THAT in response to Correspondence #09-24, the Interim Moderator to Knox Presbyterian Church, St. Thomas, be invited to arrange a meeting with the Session of Knox, St. Thomas and the Interim Moderator's Advisory Team. CARRIED.

Members of the Interim Moderator's Advisory Team are: Ruth Ann Drozd, Rob Evans, John Bannerman and Mark Turner.

**RECOMMENDATION #8** (Evans / Fraser) THAT the Reverend Johan Olivier be given permission to pursue part-time Chaplaincy within the Canadian Armed Forces, London. CARRIED.

**AILS CRAIG FUNDS**

**RECOMMENDATION #9** (Evans / Fraser) THAT each application receive a pro-rated amount of their request, as follows: CARRIED.

Southdale Chaplaincy:	$\$5,000.00 \times 77\% = \$ 3,850.00$
Glencoe Presbyterian Church	$500.00 \times 77\% = 385.00$
Evangelism Team	$1,000.00 \times 77\% = \underline{770.00}$
Total	<u><u>\$ 5,005.00</u></u>

**LONDON ARAB PRESBYTERIAN FELLOWSHIP**

The Administrative Team met with the Reverend Gordon Haynes, Canada Ministries, and representatives of the London Arab Presbyterian Fellowship on March 17, 2009 to discuss the steps necessary to establish this new congregation. The report and recommendations follow:

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**RECOMMENDATION #10** (Evans / Fraser) THAT the Presbytery of London establish within its bounds a new congregation to be called the London Arab Presbyterian Fellowship. CARRIED.

**RECOMMENDATION #11** (Evans /Fraser) THAT the service of consecration of the congregation be held at St. George's Presbyterian Church, London, Ontario, on Sunday, May 24, 2009, at the hour of 4:00 p.m., with the Presbytery to constitute at 3:30 p.m. CARRIED.

This service will be followed by a celebratory meal prepared and served by the members of the London Arab Presbyterian Fellowship.

**RECOMMENDATION #12** (Evans /Fraser ) THAT arrangements for the service be left in the hands of the Moderator, the Clerk, and Mr. William Khalil. CARRIED.

The Moderator stepped out of the Chair and the former Moderator, Mr. Tom Jeffery assumed the Chair to hear the following motion:

**RECOMMENDATION #13** (Evans / Fraser) THAT the Interim Moderator for this new congregation be the Reverend Keith McKee for the first six months, effective the date of consecration, May 24, 2009. CARRIED.

The Moderator resumed the Chair.

**RECOMMENDATION #14** (Evans /Fraser) THAT the Moderator be given power to issue in appointing an Assessor Session of up to six people, effective May 24, 2009. CARRIED.

**RECOMMENDATION #15** (Evans /Fraser ) THAT the Assessor Elders be appointed for two years, starting May 24, 2009, with the option for the term to be extended as necessary. CARRIED.

**RECOMMENDATION #16** (Evans /Fraser) THAT within a timely manner, the Assessor Session elect its Clerk and appoint its Representative and Alternate Representative Elders to Presbytery. CARRIED.

**RECOMMENDATION #17** (Evans /Fraser) That the Clerk of Presbytery inform the appropriate offices of the National Church of these actions. CARRIED.

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**RECOMMENDATION #18** (Evans /Fraser) THAT the Administrative Team be given power to issue in applying to Canada Ministries for a Grant to help finance this new ministry. CARRIED.

**RECOMMENDATION #19** (Evans /Fraser ) THAT subject to the approval of a grant from Canada Ministries, Mr. William Khalil be appointed as Lay Missionary, with Special Training according to the Policy of the Committee on Ministry and Church Vocations. The question was asked whether Mr. Khalil intended to proceed to Ordination. The Moderator explained the process that would be followed to this end. The Motion CARRIED.

**RECOMMENDATION #20** (Evans / Fraser ) THAT the Presbytery of London encourage the congregations within its bounds to support this new ministry, with prayer, with attendance at the Consecration Service, and with any financial assistance they could render. CARRIED.

The Members of the London Arab Presbyterian Fellowship expressed their joy at the approval of all these motions, and following photographs of this event, were invited to remain for the balance of the meeting, but given permission to leave if they so desired. It was noted that the petition presented to the Presbytery contained the signatures forty-two of members, and twenty-four youth.

**Session Records** Mr. Rob Evans and Mr. Tom Jeffery had examined the Session Records of Knox Presbyterian Church, Komoka and North Caradoc-St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, North Caradoc.

**MOTION** (Jeffery / Evans) THAT the Session Records of Knox Presbyterian Church, Komoka be attested as being neatly and correctly kept. CARRIED.

**MOTION** (Jeffery / Evans) THAT the Session Records of North Caradoc-St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, North Caradoc, be attested as being neatly and correctly kept. CARRIED.

**Students and Education Team** **MOTION** (Caldwell / Birchall) THAT the Reverend Keith McKee be granted Study Leave from June 17 - 24, 2009, to attend "Rediscovering Calvin". CARRIED.

**Denominational Work Team** No Report

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<b>Vacancy and Visitation Team</b>	Mr. Tom Jeffery reported that both the Clerk and Treasurer had been interviewed and found that the work of both Mrs. Rayner and Mrs. Evans is satisfactory, and recommended they continue on these positions for the coming year.
<b>Leading with Care</b>	No Report
<b>Hospital Visitor Team</b>	<p>The report of the Hospital Visitor Team had been circulated with the Advance Reports. As the representatives of the Team were not in attendance, the following motions were made:</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDATION #1</b> (Evans / Jeffery) THAT the Presbytery agree to fund, in principle additional education opportunities as they arise for the Hospital Visitor. It was noted that a budget figure should be submitted. CARRIED.</p> <p><b>RECOMMENDATION #2</b> (Evans / Jeffery) THAT Presbytery fund the printing of business cards for the Hospital Visitor. CARRIED.</p>
<b>Youth and Campus Ministries</b>	No Report
<b>Website &amp; Communications Team</b>	No Report
<b>Small Church Ministries Fund</b>	No Report
<b>Evangelism Team</b>	The Clerk read a note from the Reverend John Bannerman, which indicated that the Evangelism Team is planning a fall evangelism event.
<b>Strategic Visioning Team</b>	No Report
<b>General Assembly 2011 LAC</b>	<p>The Moderator asked the former Moderator, Mr. Tom Jeffery to assume the Chair while he reported as Chair of the Local Arrangements Committee for the 2011 General Assembly. The report had been circulated with the Advance Reports, and the Reverend Keith McKee reported on the arrangements which have been made to this point, and expressed optimism that this will be a memorable General Assembly.</p> <p>The Moderator then resumed the Chair</p>

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**Knox-St. Thomas I.M. Advisory Team** No Report other than a new Convenor needs to be appointed as the previous Convenor is now the Interim Moderator.

**Trinity-West Elgin Dissolution Team** The Reverend Johan Olivier gave a verbal report on the progress with the dissolution of the Trinity-West Elgin Pastoral Charge. He reported that many inventory items were taken by congregations at the Open House held on March 28<sup>th</sup>. The remainder of the inventory will be auctioned off as soon as a date can be set. Notices of the auctions at Rodney and Kintyre will be circulated through the Clerk of Presbytery.

The **New Glasgow Church building** was not included in the Open House and will not be part of the auction as the National Church office received an offer to purchase the church property including contents. The National Church office did accept the offer. It was purchased in trust through a lawyer with the assurance that the property would be used as a place of worship. The closing date is April 30, 2009.

The team is working on developing a Mission Plan.

### Reports of Interim Moderators

DaySpring, London - No Report

St. John's, Port Stanley - No Report

St. Lawrence, London - The Interim Moderator, The Reverend Sabrina Caldwell reminded everyone of the Induction Service this Sunday, April 19, 2009 at St. Lawrence.

St. James, North Yarmouth - The Clerk had received a note from the Interim Moderator, which stated that St. James had celebrated Easter with a Sunrise service, an Easter breakfast, and worship at 9:30 led by John Goodfellow. Discussions continue concerning part-time ministry possibilities and other ministry options. The pulpit is being filled, and the Session will meet on April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Knox, St. Thomas - The Clerk had received a note from the Interim Moderator, which stated that he regrets that he is not present to welcome the Reverend Ian Johnston back to the Court; that the Session is looking forward to starting to address the issues that have been identified, that the Presbytery Christian Education Team has met with the Christian Education Committee, and was introduced at the March Session Meeting, and that he hopes that action on the Administrative Team Recommendation in response to the Session's letter will happen as soon as possible.

Burns, Mosa - The Reverend Kathy Fraser, Interim Moderator, reported that all is going well at Burns, and that this congregation will be celebrating their Anniversary this month. The Search Committee is receiving profiles, and is encouraged by this. The pulpit is being supplied and sacraments are being offered.

Argyle, Crinan / Duff, Largie - The Reverend Deb Dolbear-Van Bilsen, Co-Interim Moderator, reported that two profiles have been received, and the Search Committee

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will be reviewing them as soon as possible.

Knox, Fingal - The Interim Moderator, The Reverend Kevin Steeper, reported that the pulpit is being supplied, the Search Committee has been established, and Session will meet on April 21<sup>st</sup>.

**Other Business** Nil

**Adjournment** On a motion by Kathy Fraser, the Court stood adjourned at eight twenty-five in the evening (8:25 p.m.) to meet again in Special Session on Sunday, the nineteenth day of April, two thousand and nine, at the hour of two-thirty in the afternoon to be followed by the Induction of the Reverend Tom Godfrey, in London and within St. Lawrence Presbyterian Church; and in Regular Session on Tuesday, the twelfth day of May, two thousand and nine, at the hour of seven o'clock in the evening, in Wardsville and within St. John's Presbyterian Church.

The Moderator thanked everyone for their participation and closed the meeting with prayer.

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Moderator

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Clerk