

Regular Meeting of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington
 St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kitchener
 May 8th, 2018

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington met at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Kitchener on Tuesday, May 8th, 2018 for the regular meeting of Presbytery. Refreshments were served at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting was constituted following opening song and panel conversation at 7:00 p.m.

Worship

Song of praise was led by Mr. Mike Wasyluk, EGEF for the Presbytery. Afterwards he led a panel conversation with five young adults; Andrew Slejska, Hannah Erhardt, Jen Kuechler, Lisa Koenig and Matt Po Dudziak.

Rev. Linda Ashfield welcomed the Presbytery to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church and announced that the Business Committee had asked the Rev. Brooke Ashfield to serve as Moderator this evening as the Rev. Susan Clarke was sick with the flu. Linda then shared that she had been asked to act as Clerk for the evening, as the Rev. Darrell Clarke was in hospital. With apologies, printed agendas and name tags are not available.

Constitution of the Court and Welcome

The Rev. Brooke Ashfield constituted the assembly with prayer and prayed for our Moderator and Clerk. He then welcomed all visitors in attendance asking for them to be introduced.

ATTENDANCE:

Ministers: Rev. Brooke Ashfield (pro-tem Moderator), Rev. Linda Ashfield (pro-tem Clerk), Rev. John Borthwick, Rev. Kathy Morden, Rev. Glen Soderholm, Rev. Nick Pavel, Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst, Rev. Mark Gaskin, Rev. Ed Charlton, Rev. Greg Smith, Rev. Jane Swatridge, Rev. Alex MacLeod.

Representative Elders: Daewoon Lee, Lenora Arbuckle, Joan Knox, Gibson McIlwrath, Jim Zaryski, Bill Cassels, Marg Johnston, Frank Kivell, Marion Hunter, Margaret Johnston, George Forsyth, Janet de Groot, Rachel Fishback, Alan Israel, Walter MacNeil, Peggy Lennox, Vern Platt, Donna Henry, Ross Rowat, Doris Tubman.

Alternate Representative Elders: Peter Goudy, Gaston St. Louis, Doug McCaig, Helen Cleghorn, Eric Kabbes.

Graduated Students: Diane Boyd, Lisa Dolson

Appendix: Rev. Linda Paquette

Treasurer: Allan Stewart

EGEF: Mike Wasyluk

WMS: Jean Godin

REGRETS:

Ministers: Rev. Dr. Mark Richardson, Rev. Johan Olivier, Rev. Dr. Mark Lewis, Rev. Scott McAndless, Rev. Darrell Clarke, Rev. Susan Clarke, Michelle Yoon.

Representative Elders: Lydia Maitland, Carolyn Boyne, Andrew Foster, Janet MacDowell

Alternate Representative Elders: Peter Devries

Appendix: Rev. Dr. Walter McLean, Rev. Linda Bell

Welcome and Introductions

Moved by Ed Charlton/ Gib McIlwrath that Gordon Coyne be invited to sit and correspond. Carried

Moved by Ed Charlton/Jane Swatridge that Diane Boyd be invited to sit and correspond. Carried.

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AGENDA

Moved by Glen Soderholm/Greg Smith that the proposed agenda be adopted as presented. Carried

MINUTES

Moved by Mark Gaskin/Ed Charlton that the revised minutes of the regular meeting of Presbytery on March 13th, 2018 be adopted as presented. Carried

COMMISSIONING OF GENERAL ASSEMBLY COMMISSIONERS

Brooke invited the Presbytery's Commissioners to the 2018 General Assembly to come forward for prayer.

REPORTS:

BUSINESS COMMITTEE - See Appendix "A"

Move by Linda Ashfield/Margaret Johnston that the report of the business committee be received for consideration. Carried

A. CORRESPONDENCE

Move by Ed Charlton/Scott Sinclair that the actions of the Business Committee in assigning the correspondence be homologated. Carried

B. UPDATE ON GENERAL ASSEMBLY PREPARATION REQUIREMENTS The Clerk Pro Tem presented a summary from pages 4-7 of the Agenda on the General Assembly Local Volunteer Assistance needs as requested by Assembly Office. Peter Goudy offered to give assistance regarding transportation.

Moved by Greg Smith/Ed Charlton that the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington establish a General Assembly local coordination committee to support, where possible, the General Assembly Design Team in the hosting of the 144th General Assembly. Carried. The Rev. Angus Sutherland, the Rev. Jane Swatridge plus the Rev. Darrell Clarke (or replacement named by the Business Committee) will be the committee.

C. DISSENT TO MOTION from March 13th meeting "Moved by Kathy Morden/Pauline Hall that the report from the Committee on Church Doctrine entitled "The Historical Argument concerning Human Sexuality" not be approved. Carried.

The Clerk Pro Tem noted that Joan Knox, Karla Wubbenhorst, George Forsyth, Ed Charlton and Janet de Groot had their dissents recorded.

Joan Knox, Karla Wubbenhorst and George Forsyth had their dissent submitted.

D. HOMOLOGATE ST. ANDREW'S KITCHENER AND TWO RIVERS AVONDBLOEM FUND

APPLICATIONS

Moved by Gib McIlwrath/Kathy Morden that the Presbytery homologate the actions of the Business Committee to forward the St. Andrew's Kitchener application for television ministry, and the Two Rivers, Guelph application for a prayer formation project to the Avondbloem Fund. Carried.

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E. HOMOLOGATE OF EGEF FUNDING REQUEST KORTRIGHT, GUELPH

Moved by Greg Smith/Glen Soderholm that the decision of the Business Committee to provide \$500 to Allison Pinches to attend the 2018 Regent College Pastors and Leaders Conference, from the Next Generation Ministry Fund be homologated. Carried.

It was noted that we would like to see requests come in a timely fashion so that they can be handled by Standing Committees and Presbytery rather than the need to homologate the Business Committee's actions due to the time constraints and deadlines given.

F. NOMINATIONS FOR MODERATOR

The Business Committee will bring names forward at our next meeting.

TREASURER's REPORT - See Appendix "B"

Moved by Glen Soderholm/Kathy Morden that the report of the Treasurer be received and considered. Carried
The Treasurer, Allan Stewart, provided a brief update on the financial situation of the Presbytery as of April 30, 2018.

Moved by Marg Johnston/Nick Pavel that a Development Fund loan of \$25,000 be approved for Doon Presbyterian Church, Kitchener. This is to allow Doon to recover from a recent time of crisis. The loan is to be interest free and is to be repaid over ten years, with mandatory \$2,500 annual repayments. Carried

Moved by Peter Goudy/Janet de Groot that Doon Presbyterian Church, Kitchener be permitted to arrange a credit line of up to \$100,000 with an external financial institution, in order to be prepared for any emergency situations which may arise. Carried.

Moved by Glen Soderholm/Kathy Moarden that the report as a whole be accepted by Presbytery. Carried

MINISTRY COMMITTEE REPORT – See Appendix "C"

Moved by Scott Sinclair/Ed Charlton that the report of the Ministry Committee be received for information.

CONGREGATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE REPORT – No Report

E.I.F COMMITTEE REPORT – See Appendix "D"

Moved by Ed Charlton/Lenora Arbuckle that the report of the committee be received and considered. Carried.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Lenora Arbuckle that the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington homologate the Committee's actions to approve \$1000 from the Strategic Planning Fund to Gale, Elmira to assist with their visioning process. Carried

Moved by Ed Charlton/Lenora Arbuckle that the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington approve a grant of \$500 from the Strategic Planning Fund to Gale, Elmira to continue their visioning process with the Rev. Dana Benson. Carried.

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Moved by Ed Charlton/Lenora Arbuckle that the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington approve \$500 from the Strategic Planning Fund to Knox, Waterloo to cover the cost of the consultant (Marty Deacon) for a visioning process. Carried.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Lenora Arbuckle that the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington approve a grant of \$12000 from the Congregational Renewal Fund to Doon, Kitchener to assist with their congregational renewal plan that is already underway. Carried.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Lenora Arbuckle that the report as a whole be adopted. Carried.

MISSION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT – See Appendix “E”

Moved by Mark Gaskin/Ed Charlton that the report of the Mission and Outreach Committee be received for information. Carried

Diane Boyd provided an update on the missional training course program and a poster was handed out.

Moved by Mark Gaskin/Nick Pavel that the report as a whole be adopted by the Presbytery. Carried

COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY – KNOX's GALT REPORT – See Appendix “F”

Moved by Gordon Coyne/Jane Swatridge that the report of the Committee of Inquiry be received for information. Carried.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

The WMS has some funds available for children and youth to assist them to go to summer camp. If anyone is aware of young people needing funding, please contact Helen Cleghorn or Wilma Welsh (St. Andrew's, Kitchener) before May 25th, 2018.

NEXT MEETING:

Next regular meeting of the Business Committee is Tuesday, June 12th in Elora.

The next regular Presbytery Meeting will take place on Tuesday, June 19th at Knox, Palmerston. Dinner is at 5:30 p.m. for \$20. Please let the Rev. Nick Pavel know if you are coming for dinner by email. Meeting will commence with worship at 7:00PM.

ADJORNMENT:

Moved by Gib McIlwrath that the meeting be adjourned. Carried. The Moderator Pro Tem invited the court to stand and pray. Prayers were offered for Wilma Welsh (just home from hospital), Darrell Clarke and Susan Clarke and the upcoming General Assembly.

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Appendix "A" Business Committee

a. Correspondence

#	Received from	Topic	Forwarded to
18 - 48	Rev. Brooke Ashfield	Overture - Statistical Reports Def'n of Mission Acknowledgement - Waterloo Wellington	B. Committee
18 - 49	Frances Hogg	Commissioners	Clerk
18 - 50	John Scace	Request for Funding, Strategic Planning Fund	E.I.F. Committee
18 - 51	Wendy Williams	Congregational Profile	Clergy
18 - 52	Rev. Scott McAndless	Intermission Inquiry Questions presented to Presbytery Meeting (3 emails)	Ministry Committee Committee of Inquiry
18 - 53	David Durward	Request for Strategic Plan Funding	E.I.F. Committee
18 - 54	Rev. Scott Sinclair		
18 - 55	Rev. Stephen Kendall	Receipt of Overture, Statistical Reporting Change	Clerk
18 - 56	Margaret Moran	Thomas Long Workshop Acknowledgement - Waterloo Wellington	Presbytery
18 - 57	Frances Hogg	Commissioners	Clerk
18 - 58	Heather Chappel	Presbyterian Sharing, February Report	Presbytery
18 - 59	Joan Knox	Dissent to Motion	Clerk
18 - 60	George Forsyth	Dissent to Motion	Clerk
18 - 61	Michelle Ball	Refugee Sponsorship Conference, Waterloo	Presbytery
18 - 62	Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst	Dissent to Motion	Clerk Presbytery (Via Meeting Stated Hour)
18 - 63	Rev. John Vissers	Knox Video and Information for Presbytery	Presbytery
18 - 64	Horst Wohlgenut	Office Coordinator Position	Presbytery
18 - 65	Rev. Mark Lewis	Application for the Avondbloem Ex. Fund	Bus. Comm.
18 - 66	Presbyterian College	B. Theology Program Information	Presbytery
18 - 67	Rev. Don Muir	Change to Dissolution of Pastoral Ties Policy	Ministry Committee
18 - 68	Jackie Czegledi	E & R Information re General Assembly Students	Ministry Committee
18 - 69	Rev. Susan Clarke	Information re Butter Tart Festival	Presbytery
18 - 70	Terri-Lee Hamilton	Updated GA Local Coordination Requirments	Clerk. Bus. Comm
18 - 71	Rev. Brooke Ashfield	Request for Strategic Plan Funding	E.I.F. Committee
18 - 72	Laura VanderVleuten	Canada Youth Funding Request	Treasurer
18 - 73	Diana Veenstra	Insurance Invoice for D & O Coverage	Treasurer
18 - 74	Frances Hogg	Update of Ministers Academic Degrees	Clerk
18 - 75	Frances Hogg	Changes Affecting Professional Church Workers	Clerk
18 - 76	Frances Hogg	Memorial records for Acts and Proceedings Update of Clerks and Convenors of Standing Committees for Acts and Proceedings	Clerk
18 - 77	Frances Hogg	Acknowledgement of Receipt of Moderator Ballots	Clerk
18 - 78	Frances Hogg	Request for CY Funding for Winnipeg Inner City Mission	Clerk, Bus. Comm
18 - 79	Lorna Law	Supplemental Request for Strategic Plan Funding	E.I.F. Committee
18 - 80	Rev Scott Sinclair	Invitation to Crieff Bird Day	Presbytery
18 - 81	Bob Geddes	Acknowledgement of Receipt of Letter of Concern re GA Hosting from the Presbytery	Clerk, Bus. Comm
18 - 82	Terri-Lee Hamilton	Apology and Revised list of Tasks for Assembly Hosting	Presbytery
18 - 83	Terri-Lee Hamilton	Apology reagrding communication surrounding the 144th GA in Waterloo-Wellington	Presbytery
18 - 84	Rev. Stephen Kendall		Clerk of Session, Knox, Conn
18 - 85	Diana Veenstra	Title to land sold to West Luther Township June 1 Worship and Music Retreat poster and brochure	Presbytery
18 - 86	Chris Fischer	Invitation to Lawrence Pentelow Retirement Party	Presbytery
18 - 87	Rev. Mark Gaskin	Acknowledgement of Clerk's response to note of April 17	Presbytery
18 - 88	Rev. Stephen Kendall		Clerk, Bus. Comm
18 - 89	Diana Veenstra	Missing Statistical Reports	Clerk, Affected Congregations
18 - 90	Rev. Roland DeVries	Congregational Leaders Conference	Presbytery
18 - 91	Andy Morris	Invitation to Prayer in the Park, June 3	Presbytery
18 - 92	Jennifer DeCombe	Update on Canada Minsitries Renewal Programs	Clerk
18 - 93	Rev. Stephen Kendall	Update on General Assembly Readiness	Clerk

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b. Update on General Assembly Preparations

On behalf of the Presbytery, the Business Committee expressed its concern on the communication to the Presbytery regarding the general assembly:

Re: Response of the Business Committee of the Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington to the request for Local Arrangements for the 144th General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada to be held at Wilfrid Laurier University, June 3-6, 2018.

Dear Terri -Lee

.cc Stephen Kendall

Thank you for your time on March 27th to review the expectations of the Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington for local arrangements to support the 144th general assembly to be held in the bounds of our Presbytery. As our previous phone conversations (in February and March) had mentioned that Presbytery Support would only be required in the area of Set-up and transportation (to and from local stations and air ports), I was surprised to see the additional request for volunteers to support registration, on-site shuttles and opening worship (not in/with a local congregation). I presented the full request for support to the Business Committee of the Presbytery on April 10th at its regular monthly meeting. Upon review, and with the additional volunteer requests and the shorten time line to solicit volunteers in support of the requests, the business committee of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington regrets that the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington will not be able to support the requests made of it in support of the 144th General Assembly.

(redacted)

Nonetheless, the Presbytery, through the Business Committee was willing to provide support and in our communication of October 14, 2017, we requested clarification of what expectations there might be for the Presbytery in support of General Assembly but received no response. Additional follow -up by telephone eventually suggested that the expectations for Presbytery support were minimal (set-up and transportation). The business committee again requested clarification in an email of March 6, 2018. And on March 27th, we were provided with an expanded list of requirements.

Our Presbytery is frustrated by how the process has unfolded and with the lack of consultation with our Presbytery and consideration for how Presbytery might be involved. However, in recognition of our denominational responsibility to ensure that representatives of fellow Presbytery's are not inconvenienced by the lack of consultation, we provide our offer of providing local transportation via a local taxi company and to hire local students to help with the set up and take of Assembly, and to invoice the Assembly Office for such costs. The Presbytery will also make a call for volunteers to assist in worship if you are able to provide a contact point for them.

Respectfully,

Rev. Darrell Clarke, Clerk

.cc Rev Susan Clarke, Moderator; Rev. Brooke Ashfield, Rev. Ed Charlton, Rev. Scott Sinclair, Rev. Mark Gaskin, Rev. Johan Olivier, Allan Stewart, members of the business committee

The following letter was received from the General Assembly Design Team:

Linda Ashfield, Acting Clerk for the evening

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April 17, 2018

Thank you for both your phone call and the letter expressing the concern of the Business Committee of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington about local arrangements support for the 2018 General Assembly. First, let me apologize for the lack of communication about the changes to the format of seeking assistance from the local presbytery for support for the General Assembly. Also the possibility of seeking volunteers beyond transportation was not clearly expressed in our conversations. I can understand that when the Business Committee reviewed the list of ways in which the Presbytery could be of assistance it was much more than anticipated at this date and time.

(redacted)

I hope that there can still be opportunities to seek assistance from within the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington, for volunteers for the 2018 General Assembly and, secondly, to see how we can work together in future years. I am prepared to work directly with congregations this year, but would like to keep the Presbytery informed of this.

The Design Team and the General Assembly Office, (meeting this past weekend) reviewed and outlined more clearly and much more concisely the tasks and number of volunteers we hope will assist. An outline of that is attached for your information. In our listing of tasks we noted with thanks the Business Committee's suggestions of local transportation and set-up. In our discussion about worship, we would like ministers and other members to participate with the celebration of communion and to assist with worship on Sunday night. Kristine O'Brien and I will follow up on this aspect of participation.

We would like to work well together in the coming years. The Design Team, for example, agreed that it would like to recommend that a person from the area in which the General Assembly is meeting join as a member of this team. We will follow up on this after the 2018 General Assembly

May I suggest that Stephen Kendall, Don Muir, I and a member of the Design Team visit with you when convenient for the Presbytery to discuss what has happened, noting that we will not anticipate any new commitments.

I hope that we can renew our relationship with the Presbytery regarding the General Assembly. I, along with the General Assembly Office and the Design Team, respect the connection of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington with the General Assembly and value any contribution and support you may be able to offer.

Thank you for sharing these concerns and frustrations, and please accept my apology in relation to them.

With kind regards,

Terrie-Lee Hamilton

Senior Administrator, General Assembly Office

cc. Stephen Kendall,
Principal Clerk

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A revised list of requests for support from the Presbytery was received:

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY
 LOCAL VOLUNTEER ASSISTANCE**

RESPONSIBILITY	OUTLINE OF TASKS	NUMBERS
Registration	<p>General Assembly Office and Financial Services staff and university residence staff are part of registration, with local volunteers assisting with items below.</p> <p>Local Volunteers available Saturday afternoon and evening, Sunday afternoon</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - assist people to and from parking areas. - assist people to their rooms (with luggage). - directions (within the city or on campus). 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - about 10 people: - Saturday afternoon/evening 5 - Sunday afternoon 10
Set-up	<p>Local Volunteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - unload the truck in two locations (residence for registration and gym for Assembly Hall and Assembly Office) - set up signage on the university campus <p>Note: tear down will be done by national office staff</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 2 people (arranged locally and paid by General Assembly)
Sunday Evening Worship	<p>GA Design Team – Sunday Evening Worship</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - responsible for order of service, music, provision of communion elements. - the Moderator of the previous Assembly is to preach and assist with the sacrament. -- Communion is to be celebrated (use gluten free bread). - copyright permission for any material. - arrange the worship bulletin. <p>Local Volunteers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - assist with ushering - assist with serving of communion - assist with directions to Lazaridis Hall - assist with set up re Sunday worship - counting the offering (with O. Ng) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 6-12 people - 6 people to be determined with K. O'Brien and H. Donnelly - 4 people
Daily Worship	<p>GA Design Team</p> <p>Local Volunteers</p>	

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|--|---|-------------------------|
| Transportation | - arrange shuttle service for the week for those with difficulties walking to different sites on the campus
- also if someone needs a ride within Waterloo-Kitchener | - 2 people / 2 vehicles |
| Information Desk During Assembly Days | - maintain an information desk from Monday to Wednesday with two or three people.. | 2 people |

Working with Local Congregation to host Commissioners for Sunday morning worship – Assembly Office

- | | |
|---|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - arrange with local churches to host commissioners (about 70 people) for Sunday morning worship and lunch, and arrange transportation to/from services. - Saturday evening: confirm numbers with congregations. - Sunday morning: have a volunteer present to organise commissioners and congregational rides. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 1 person to coordinate and numbers based upon the congregations |
|---|---|

Recommendation

That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington establish a General Assembly local coordination committee to support, where possible, the General Assembly Design Team in the hosting of the 144th General Assembly.

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C. Reasons for Dissent

Dissent: Moved by Kathy Morden/Pauline Hall that the report from the Committee on Church Doctrine entitled "The Historical Argument concerning Human Sexuality" not be approved. Carried

Joan Knox: Reasons for my dissent of the motion by Cathy Morgan, seconded by Pauline Hall to not approve the report from the Committee on Church Doctrine entitled "The Historical Argument Concerning Human Sexuality.

Reason # 1 Book of Forms 447.2 and 449.2

The language used by the mover of this motion was to "reject" The Historical Argument Concerning Human Sexuality, this is problematic because:

1 The Historical Argument is the current position of the Presbyterian Church in Canada in our subordinate standards; The Westminster Confession of Faith (XXIV.I) and Living Faith (8.2.3) and thus to reject/not approve The Historical Argument is a rejection of our current confessional standards.

2 All Ministers of Word and Sacrament (Book of Forms 447.2) and Elder (Book of Forms 449.2) have accepted these subordinate standards as part of their ordination vows, therefore, to reject The Historical Argument is breaking this ordination vow to uphold these standards.

Reason # 2 Book of Forms 36.1

The mover of this motion is a member of the EIF Committee, which produced the original recommendation that was included in the agenda. Members of the committee may, according to the Book of Forms 36.1, write a report entitled "views of the minority." This was not done. The mover of this motion previously presented the same motion at the January 9, 2018 Presbytery meeting and it was deemed out of order. The "views of the minority report of 36.1 does not apply here since the EIF committee was "deadlocked". Thus the mover of this motion nullified the work of the EIF Committee and bypassed proper process by submitting this motion.

Reason # 3

When the standing vote was taken the descriptive words used 14 against and 16 apposed brought about confusion in the members of the court. Darrel Clarke corrected this wording in his correspondence to those who dissented. It was not corrected to the court at the time of the meeting.

Respectfully submitted.

Joan Knox

George Forsyth: Reason for Dissent: This particular motion was made at Jan. 2018 Presbytery –see minutes pg. 5659 and was withdrawn. Comments from Sessions and Presbyteries I believe were to be forwarded by Jan. 31, 2018. This motion of March 13th I feel was not warranted and really served no purpose beyond our Presbytery. Therefore my recorded dissent

Regards,

George Forsyth Rep. Elder WSP Guelph.

Karla Wubbenhorst: At its regular meeting on March 13, 2018, Waterloo Wellington Presbytery approved, by a vote of 16 to 14 (with 4 abstentions), an additional motion moved by the Rev. Kathy Morden, seconded by Pauline Hall "that the report from the Committee on Church Doctrine entitled 'The Historical Argument concerning Human Sexuality' not be approved." I have asked to have my dissent recorded to this action of the Presbytery and the following are my reasons:

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I am of the view that the Church's current teaching concerning human sexuality and the PCC's policies that are based on it (ie. that marriage is between a man and a woman, and that sexual activity for those ordained within the church should be within marital bounds) should not be revised to create an exception for those who identify as LGBTQI. I hold this view because, being unpersuaded of the revisionist biblical scholarship, I continue to regard it a matter of biblical obedience for Christian disciples in general, and ordained persons in particular, to abstain from same-sex sexual practice. I also hold this view because I believe for the Church to say anything else, does active harm to those seeking to navigate gender identity issues and same-sex attraction in their own lives, as well as damage to the unity of the Church and the Church's witness vis-a-vis the culture. However, I am aware that I minister within a Presbytery where the view just outlined is held by a minority (or at least this was the case in the Presbytery as constituted at the September 2014 meeting when the original, affirming overture passed). Furthermore, since the Church's conversation was re-opened around this topic since 2014, I have been involved with it deeply, broadly, earnestly, painfully and at many levels, which journey has given me respect for many who desire an affirming PCC -- their arguments and their heart. So in my reasons for dissent I shall pass quickly over the substantial issue with separates myself and the affirming, majority-view of Waterloo Wellington Presbyters -- for there are ways of registering disagreement that are responsible and respectful to Christ, the Church and the alternatively-minded neighbour -- and shall focus instead upon the nub of my dismay in the wake of the Presbytery's vote, which was its extreme irresponsibility and disrespect in passing comment on the work of a national Church Committee without having created a process whereby the thought contained in that work could be fairly examined. (Indeed, I doubt that by the majority who voted, the document of which the Presbytery voted to express its disapproval, was even read!)

The Committee on Church Doctrine (CCD) and the Life and Mission Agency, Justice Ministries (LMA (JM)), have held it as a matter of joint priority to ground whatever resolution the Church reaches (either for the maintenance of the traditional view, or for the move to an affirming view) upon the Bible and theology, and have created biblical and theological papers to engage the whole of the Church in a conversation at that level. National Church funds have been made available for Presbyteries wanting to organize a study day on human sexuality (I, myself, have been invited by three Presbyteries to such events where I have explicated the traditional view alongside colleagues who have explicated the affirming one), the LMA has been offering webinars, and the CCD prepared a survey tool which gave a means of standardized response for individuals, courts, and agencies of the church to feed back to the Committee. As a member of CCD I can share that 2240 responses were received, the majority from bodies of people as opposed to individuals, and 18 of them from Presbyteries. 72% of respondents had worked their way through all the remitted material, and 78% said they found it helpful. When Presbyteries alone were considered, 89% found the material helpful. Yet Waterloo Wellington felt no need to examine this material through any process of actual study or discussion, or to feed-back to the national Church in the responsible and painstaking manner that other Presbyteries have undertaken to do. Its mind was made up. Who needs knowledge, when there is opinion? Who needs first-hand knowledge when there is an impassioned Presbyter who can have her (mis)representation of the arguments in the paper named, affirmed by willing voters who only recognize or care that she is "on the right side?" Why bother with the hard work of grasping and dealing fairly (ie. respectfully) with ideas contrary to one's own (and, by extension, with the people who hold those ideas) when one can dispose of this matter with the easy belief that one has the monopoly on the Spirit of Christ, while imputing benighted minds and hateful hearts to one's ministry colleagues. These are very troubling departures from the rational and objective bases of thought and belief, which are our only hope for unity. Instead the Presbytery has given way to the toxic, polarized atmosphere of power-politics. How deeply dishonouring to Christ's church and to one another!

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I grieve over the state of biblical and theological illiteracy in our denomination as a whole, and over our dysfunctional attempts to live up to our stately, inherited procedures. We belie our heritage as a "thinking Church" when we exchange strongly held opinion and partisanship for careful theological thought and study of the Bible. We belie our identity as Presbyterians, when we operate as the Presbytery operated in its March 13th meeting -- dismissively of a remit of General Assembly and of the whole process of "study-and-report-back," from the lower courts to the higher, first by failing to meet the January 31st deadline, and then by allowing a private member's additional motion to supersede the non-committal but at least honest report of the EIF committee, which, having actually examined the remitted documents, confessed that it was (like our Presbytery) divided about the matter. When Presbyters (ie. church leaders) in one of the largest Presbyteries in the denomination cannot have better process than to take a rash vote (belatedly) on a rash motion, I cannot hold any hope that the Church-at-large will ever be encouraged toward a better state of biblical or theological literacy, or of better procedural functionality by this generation of its leaders.

I am, in the last place, grieved about the cost of division which has been incurred, to such a futile end. Our Presbytery, since the Fall of 2014, has suffered relational fall-out, which the Presbytery has tried to address by a "healing day" in April of 2015 and in times of pre-meeting togetherness in prayer throughout 2016. Arguably the lines which have been drawn over the human sexuality issue have been carried into every Presbytery debate and have affected personal interactions between Presbyters. There are actions that can be taken which extend gestures of grace and respect across this divide, and alternatively, actions which can be considered polarizing and exacerbating of the wound. I am not one of those who interprets the "divisive course" spoken of in the third vow of ordination as forbidding any spirited debate. I believe that when people care about truth as much as about love, there must be spirited debate. It is a sign of life and passion, and it is in this dialectic that the Spirit moves and discernment happens. But there is another reality which is properly termed the "spirit of divisiveness." It involves a delight in baiting others, or merely the kind of insensitivity which does not take another person's position seriously enough to realize or care that one's words or actions might be damaging to the relationship. A spirit of divisiveness presses for partisan victory when at no cost whatsoever to one's principled stance, it would have been possible to extend grace, or at least to refrain from inflicting gratuitous offense. A motion of the kind which was passed at the March 13th meeting, because it was belated, redundant, gratuitous and to no end (apart from all the other grounds upon which I have objected to it), was a divisive motion. It was not out of order, but it was manifestly unwise.

Respectfully submitted
by the Rev. Karla Wübbenhorst on the 23rd day of March, 2018.

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D. Homologate St. Andrew's Kitchener and Two Rivers Avondbloem Fund Applications

- St. Andrew's Kitchener Application for Television Ministry is attached as a PDF
- Two Rivers, Guelph, Application to the Avondbloem Fund - The Prayer Formation Project

In it's Town Hall meeting (of 2017) Two Rivers Church identified a common hunger to grow in prayer. We tried a few initiatives that were well received, but never really got the traction that we'd hoped for – finding the right leadership was part of the problem. A year later, we remain convinced that this will be a core strategy for our growth, and we want to take a more decisive initiative in this respect.

Very simply, our desire is to bring someone into a part-time position to facilitate growth in prayer. We have identified a person in our midst who is motivated, capable, highly regarded in our group, wise and experienced in the ways of prayer, and who feels called to this ministry. The project would include, but not be limited by, the following initiatives:

- Facilitating one on one appointments with all those in the church who want to be mentored in personal contemplative prayer and scheduling ongoing check-in appointments.
 - Creating monthly prayer events as a part of the Two Rivers Church Sunday meeting rhythm. These may include: group contemplative prayer walks in creation (previously done by Two Rivers at the Ignatian Centre in Guelph), listening prayer events, missional prayer walks in our neighbourhoods.
 - Creating a healing prayer ministry. Gathering with those who are wounded and broken, to seek healing through prayer. Also, training and equipping those in the church with these gifts.
 - Offering workshops on different traditions, styles, and methods of prayer.
 - Scheduling intercessory prayer events for the whole church around specific and strategic times in the life of the church.
 - Integrating Arts and Spirituality: creating a photography as a contemplative prayer initiative, icon making, etc.
- Working with worship planners in developing the prayer aspects of our Liturgies

The plan is to try this as a two-year project. We are aiming at starting at 10 hours a week, looking at \$10,400 for the year.

The Leadership Team Two Rivers Church

Recommendation

That the Business committee's approval of applications of St. Andrew's, Kitchener and Two Rivers, Guelph; to the Avondbloem Experimental Ministry Fund be homologated.

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E. Homologation of EGEF Funding

Request for Funding from the Emerging Generations Fund. I am submitting this request for \$500 in funding to support Allison Taylor Pinches, Director of Discipleship (half-time position) at Kortright Presbyterian Church, as she attends the 2018 Regent College Pastors and Leaders Conference. (Details and description below.) Allison focuses on discipleship and leadership development in the Kortright congregation. Emerging generation ministry is a big part of her job description. This conference will equip her to minister to young adults as they discern their vocations.

- 2018 Regent College Pastors and Leaders Conference: "Ambassadors: Christ in the Public Square; May 9 – 11, 2018; Regent College, Vancouver, BC
- Costs: \$360 Early Bird Registration Fee, \$200 - \$575 flights, (all accommodation, meals and transportation I will look after while in Vancouver.)

Respectfully submitted,

Mike Wasyluk, Emerging Generations Engagement Facilitator for the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington

Recommendation:

That the decision of the Business Committee's decision to provide \$500 to Allison Pinches to attend the 2018 Regent College Pastors and Leaders Conference, from the Next Generation Ministry Fund be homologated.

TREASURER's REPORT - Appendix "B"

Over the past several months the business committee had been kept aware of a deteriorating situation at Doon Presbyterian Church, Kitchener resulting in financial instability and some worrisome personal relationships. Under section 3.8 of the Standing Orders (Presbytery Finances) Development Fund (Appendix 'A') for the purpose of supplementing operating expenses of a congregation in crisis; the session and the congregation, decided to approach presbytery with a request for a presbytery development fund loan in the amount of \$25,000 and permission to access external funding opportunities.

The two requests from Doon were fully discussed by the business committee at its April and May meetings, and all present agreed the following recommendations should be brought to presbytery for approval. These recommendations are made knowing that most recently there have been some hopeful signs of recovery.

Recommendation

1. That a Development Fund loan of \$25,000 be approved for Doon Presbyterian Church, Kitchener. This is to allow Doon to recover from a recent time of crisis. The loan is to be interest free and is to be repaid over ten years, with mandatory \$2,500 annual repayments.

Recommendation

2. That Doon Presbyterian Church, Kitchener be permitted to arrange a credit line of up to \$100,000 with an external financial institution, in order to be prepared for any emergency situations which may arise.

On the following pages you will find the regular report dealing with the current year general fund performance to April 30, 2017 as compared to the budget for the current year. Following that are consolidated balance sheet and income statements, pre audit, for the year ended December 31, 2017. The full 2017 audited statements with departmental breakdowns will be available at the June meeting of presbytery.

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FINANCIAL REPORT TO WATERLOO-WELLINGTON PRESBYTERY AS AT APRIL 30, 2018

	<u>to Apr 2018</u>	<u>Budget 2018</u>	<u>Amount remaining</u>
INCOME			
Assessment Income	69,291	138,581	69,290
Income from induction services	-	1,000	1,000
Other income - interest	883	5,312	4,429
Total Income	70,174	144,893	74,720
EXPENSES			
Synod Assessment	13,073	52,290	39,218
Special project - Gen. Assem. 2014	-	-	-
Special project - Two Rivers Church	12,000	12,000	-
Special project - Post Sec. student grants	-	16,400	16,400
Special project - Bunun Exchange	-	4,000	4,000
Special project - Canada Youth 2018	-	2,500	2,500
Special projects - total	12,000	34,900	22,900
Clerk's honorarium	4,377	13,130	8,753
Treasurer's honorarium	2,310	6,930	4,620
CPP/EI	314	943	629
Liability Insurance	-	3,000	3,000
General and office supplies	800	2,000	1,200
Telecommunications	337	1,500	1,163
Audit and legal fees	-	500	500
Bank interest and service charges	13	300	287
Office expenses - total	8,151	28,303	20,152
Travel and mileage	-	6,000	6,000
Meals and hospitality	-	500	500
Travel - total	-	6,500	6,500
Grants - U of G chaplaincy	9,000	9,000	-
Grants - Students for Ministry	-	3,000	3,000
Grants - New Life Counselling	1,500	1,500	-
Grants - total	10,500	13,500	3,000
Commissioner's Expenses	-	2,500	2,500
Conference Funds	900	2,500	1,600
Student Psych. assessments/counselling	-	1,000	1,000
Pulpit supply for visitation	-	1,000	1,000
Visitors and Gifts	-	1,000	1,000
Christian education	100	500	400
Clerk's consultation April 2018	550	600	50
Student certification	-	300	300
General expense - Total	1,550	9,400	7,850
Total All Expenses	45,274	144,893	99,619
Surplus/(Deficit)	24,900	0	(24,900)

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Comparative Balance Sheet

	<u>As at 2017-12-31</u>	<u>As at 2016-12-31</u>	<u>Percent</u>
ASSET			
Current Assets			
Royal Bank #100-648-5	132,875.63	23,711.01	460.40
Manulife #1275860 general	339,541.85	80,594.12	321.30
Manulife #1275944 trust	18,374.05	18,230.20	0.79
Manulife #1275951 development	<u>15,425.75</u>	<u>15,305.01</u>	0.79
Subtotal: Bank deposits	506,217.28	137,840.34	267.25
Broker Cash #11A1Q9-A	<u>67.20</u>	<u>0.62</u>	10,738.71
Subtotal: Brokerage cash accounts	67.20	0.62	10,738.71
Accounts receivable	<u>924.41</u>	<u>82.69</u>	1,017.92
Subtotal: Accounts receivable	<u>924.41</u>	<u>82.69</u>	1,017.92
TOTAL: Current Assets	<u><u>507,208.89</u></u>	<u><u>137,923.65</u></u>	267.75
Investment & other assets			
PCC Consolidated Portfolio	700,000.00	0.00	0.00
National Bank #11A1Q9-A	298,986.03	296,463.48	0.85
Adjust to Market Value	<u>39,263.21</u>	<u>13,430.26</u>	192.35
Subtotal: Investment Accounts	1,038,249.24	309,893.74	235.03
Term deposits	<u>105,003.11</u>	<u>104,480.71</u>	0.50
Subtotal: Term deposits	105,003.11	104,480.71	0.50
Due from congregations	<u>389,280.00</u>	<u>518,500.00</u>	(24.92)
Subtotal: Due from congregations	389,280.00	518,500.00	(24.92)
Computer and programs	2,827.37	1,911.69	47.90
Depreciation: Computer and programs	<u>(710.86)</u>	<u>0.00</u>	0.00
Net: Computer and programs	<u>2,116.51</u>	<u>1,911.69</u>	10.71
TOTAL: Fixed & Other Assets	<u><u>1,534,648.86</u></u>	<u><u>934,786.14</u></u>	64.17
TOTAL ASSET	<u><u><u>2,041,857.75</u></u></u>	<u><u><u>1,072,709.79</u></u></u>	90.35
LIABILITY			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts payable	0.00	421.68	(100.00)
Income tax	0.00	0.00	0.00
Canada pension premiums	0.00	0.00	0.00
Employment insurance	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	0.00
Subtotal: Statutory deductions	<u>0.00</u>	<u>0.00</u>	0.00
TOTAL: Current Liabilities	<u><u>0.00</u></u>	<u><u>421.68</u></u>	(100.00)

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Comparative Balance Sheet page2

	<u>As at 2017-12-31</u>	<u>As at 2016-12-31</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Long Term Liabilities			
Held in trust - Westside	<u>48,323.62</u>	<u>51,323.62</u>	(5.85)
TOTAL: Long Term Liabilities	<u>48,323.62</u>	<u>51,323.62</u>	(5.85)
TOTAL LIABILITY	<u>48,323.62</u>	<u>51,745.30</u>	(6.61)
EQUITY			
Member's Equity			
Opening fund balance	791,120.25	791,120.25	0.00
Prior undistributed surplus (defici	229,844.24	277,559.80	(17.19)
Current undistributed earnings	<u>972,569.64</u>	<u>(47,715.56)</u>	(2,138.27)
TOTAL: Members' Equity	<u>1,993,534.13</u>	<u>1,020,964.49</u>	95.26
TOTAL EQUITY	<u>1,993,534.13</u>	<u>1,020,964.49</u>	95.26
LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	<u><u>2,041,857.75</u></u>	<u><u>1,072,709.79</u></u>	90.35

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Comparative Income Statement
page 2

	Actual 2017-01-01 to 2017-12-31	Actual 2016-01-01 to 2016-12-31	Percent
EGEF contract	9,094.77	0.00	0.00
Canada pension plan	194.55	0.00	0.00
Employment insurance	<u>475.56</u>	<u>512.88</u>	(7.28)
Subtotal: Statutory items	670.11	512.88	30.66
Continuing education	<u>0.00</u>	<u>400.00</u>	(100.00)
Subtotal: Other employee benefits	<u>0.00</u>	<u>400.00</u>	(100.00)
TOTAL: Payroll & Related Costs	<u>30,603.56</u>	<u>20,401.36</u>	50.01
General & administration			
Business liability	<u>2,631.48</u>	<u>2,694.72</u>	(2.35)
Subtotal: Insurance	2,631.48	2,694.72	(2.35)
Office & general	4,152.81	1,638.71	153.42
Depreciation of office equipment	710.86	0.00	0.00
Telecommunications	954.66	1,231.10	(22.45)
Meal & hospitality	0.00	163.30	(100.00)
Travel & mileage	3,491.52	5,163.04	(32.37)
Interest & service charges	<u>135.86</u>	<u>140.48</u>	(3.29)
TOTAL: General & administration	<u>12,077.19</u>	<u>11,031.35</u>	9.48
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>379,579.48</u>	<u>197,370.25</u>	92.32
NET INCOME	<u>972,569.64</u>	<u>(47,715.56)</u>	(2,138.27)

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MINISTRY COMMITTEE REPORT – Appendix “C”

The Committee on Ministry (CoM) has not met since the last meeting of the Presbytery. We are scheduled to meet again on June 12th, 2018. This may change.

Pulpit Exchange

The Presbytery wide pulpit exchange has set for April 15th. Our area experienced a serious weather event on that weekend and all churches scheduled for the exchange cancelled their services. Some have made arrangements to hold their exchange at a future date.

Pastoral Care

The Pastoral Care group of the CoM continues to provide pastoral encouragement to several ministers of the Presbytery.

Subcommittee on Students

There is nothing to report at this time.

Submitted with aplomb

Rev. Scott Sinclair, convener.

E.I.F COMMITTEE REPORT – Appendix “D”

It is encouraging to see that congregations are taking advantage of the funds that have been set up for congregational renewal. In the past few months we have been fielding requests for the Strategic Planning Fund. We have been blessed with resources to help us all work together and to bring in wise counsel to help us be good stewards and ministers of the Gospel and the many blessings that Jesus has given us. The following recommendations will all relate to monies coming from the Strategic Planning Fund. This fund was set up from funds realized from Waterloo North Presbyterian church. Each Pastoral charge may request funds up to \$3000. We also have a request from the Congregational Renewal Fund. This fund has a requirement that shows how the funds will be used, in other words a clear plan of renewal. This fund has a maximum grant of \$12000/congregation.

From these we have four recommendations:

Gale Presbyterian Church is in the process of visioning for the future to continue movement forward. To assist with this process, they have invited Rev. Dana Benson to come and help them.

Recommendation 1

That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington homologate approval of \$1000 to Gale Presbyterian Church to assist with their visioning process to be taken from the Strategic Planning Fund.

Recommendation 2

That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington approve a grant of \$500 to Gale Presbyterian Church to continue their visioning process, again inviting Rev. Dana Benson to assist them.

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Knox Waterloo is also in a Visioning process and they have enlisted the aid of Marty Deacon to assist them.

Recommendation 3

That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington approve \$500 be granted to Knox Waterloo from the Strategic Planning Fund to cover the cost of the consultant.

Doon Presbyterian Church has already initiated a renewal process. They are requesting a grant from the Congregational renewal Fund to continue their work of worship renewal.

Recommendation 4

That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington approve a grant of \$12000 from the Congregational Renewal Fund to Doon Presbyterian Church to assist with their congregational renewal plan that is already underway.

Respectfully submitted by:

Rev. Edward Charlton

Chairperson for the EIF Committee

MISSION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE REPORT

Appendix "E"

Recommendation 1: That the Mission and Outreach Committee report be received for information.

Items

1. Update on The Missional Training Course

Course Dates: Course Location:

September 21st and 22nd Knox, Waterloo

November 23rd and 24th Kortright, Guelph

March 22nd and 23rd St. Andrew's Fergus

Class Hours: Friday: 6:00 – 9:00 pm.

 Saturday: 9:00 am – 5:00 pm.

Class Size: 30 students would be the upper limit.

2. 2019 Applications for Ministry to Post-Secondary Grants are due on October 1st.

3. Refugee Sponsorship Update: In 2017, 105 congregations and 6 presbyteries were involved in refugee sponsorship, at some point in the process. (As reported to the Spring Committee Meeting of PWS&D, April 20, 2018). A Refugee Sponsors Gathering is planned for June 10 & 11 in Toronto.

Notice has gone out through the refugee sponsorship Facebook Group and an e-blast is imminent.

Participation of resource persons will come from Amnesty International–Israel and the Reformed Church in Hungary. The Refugee Sponsorship Training Program has promised a trainer to work on capacity building for sponsors.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark B. Gaskin

Linda Ashfield, Acting Clerk for the evening

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COMMITTEE OF INQUIRY – KNOX's GALT REPORT
Appendix "F"

The interim report of the committee presented on March 13, 2018 reviewed the research and actions of the Committee of Inquiry since its formation on January 9, 2018. Since our March report, the committee has contacted the minister and Session of Central Presbyterian Church in Cambridge. This was in response to the letter the Presbytery referred to the committee on March 13th. The letter expressed concern about parking in the Galt core, and the potential impact of a large congregation occupying the Knox's facility. We had a lengthy face-to-face meeting with the whole Session on May 2nd.

Two members of the Committee had a congenial exploratory conversation with representatives of Grace Baptist Church.

Our offer to meet with Knox's is currently outstanding. We would like to do a presentation as part of our meeting. We wish to have a meeting that adheres to the mandate of the Committee of Inquiry. The committee members, two clergy, and four business people, feel that an extensive review of past matters would not be helpful, yet we continue to hear that this is a requirement of a meeting. We will await developments. Following initial conversations in February of 2018, the committee interviewed two Nationally prominent commercial Realtors, and one Development Lawyer in early April. After reviewing the interviews, the committee has retained John Whitney, of Whitney and Company, a prominent and long standing commercial realtor on Waterloo Region, and the planner, Paul Britton, who was recommended by multiple sources. A review is underway as to the possibilities for the property and facility of Knox's Galt. This is information that the Presbytery needs as we seek positive solutions.

GBC is one possibility on the table as we look for optima solutions. Because of our conversations with Central Cambridge, we may expand the research. We feel that the time and energy of the Committee would be best utilized by limiting inquiries to the three congregations in Galt, with special attention to the two congregations on the Square.

The Book of Forms of the Presbyterian Church indicates that Presbyteries exercise the highest level of diligence in property matters. We seek to be prudent, respectful and careful throughout this process. A pastoral concern from every member of the committee is for the viability and care of each congregation, while the business people on the committee keep us task oriented.

Respectfully submitted,
Brooke Ashfield for the Committee of Inquiry