

Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington,  
 Regular Meeting, January 13, 2015,  
 Joonim Presbyterian Church, Kitchener-Waterloo (Church of the Lord)

**DATE AND PLACE:**

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington met in regular session at Joonim Presbyterian Church, Kitchener-Waterloo (Church of the Lord), on Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at 5:45 for dinner and 7:00 p.m. for the meeting of the Presbytery. The Moderator, Rev. Scott McAndless offered prayer for the dinner and expressed appreciation to the Joonim congregation for hosting the presbytery dinner.

**OPENING WORSHIP**

The opening worship was conducted by the Rev. Chris Ji Hoon Cho, minister of the host congregation assisted by the praise band from Joonim Church.

**ATTENDANCE:**

**Ministers:** Rev. Scott McAndless (Moderator), Rev. Brooke Ashfield, Rev. Linda Ashfield, Rev. John Borthwick, Rev. Calvin Brown, Rev. William Bynum, Rev. Ed Charlton, Rev. Chris Ji Hoon Cho, Rev. Darrell Clarke, Rev. Mark Gaskin, Rev. Janice Hamalainen, Rev. Dr. Mark Lewis, Rev. Dr. Herb Gale, Rev. Alex MacLeod, Rev. Marty Molengraaf, Rev. Kathy Morden, Rev. Johan Olivier, Rev. Dr. Mark Richardson, Rev. Scott Sinclair, Rev. Frank Szatmari, Rev. Amanda Wickenheiser, Rev. Karla Wübbenhorst

**Representative Elders:** Junghee Ahn, Allison Cann, Johan DeSchiffart, Andrew Foster, Judith Harrison, Isabel Howell, Marion Hunter, Gib McIlwrath, Bert Perriman, Bob Renton, Ross Rowat, Grant Scott, Robert Seim, Liz Samis, Gaston St. Louis, Earl Suggitt, Jim Zaryski, Vaughn Sauve.

**Alternate Representative Elders:** Janet deGroot, George Forsyth, Donna Harvey, Frank Kivell, Reg Samis

**Ministers on the Appendix to the Roll:** Rev. Dr. Linda Bell, Rev. Dr. Arnold Bethune, Rev. Dr. Brice Martin, Rev. Angus Sutherland, Rev. Mary Whitson

**Students:** Greg Smith

**W.M.S:** - Jean Godin, Donna Henry

**Treasurer:** Allan Stewart

**Clerk:** Dr. Wilma Welsh

**REGRETS:**

**Ministers:** Rev. Michael Burns, Rev. Glen Soderholm, Rev. John Paeng

**Representative Elders:** Maria Liston, Lydia Maitland, David Ogram, Neil Stewart, Don Vickers

**Alternate Representative Elders:** Anne Holman, Aileen Isaac

**Ministers on the Appendix to the Roll:** Rev. Robert Duncanson, Rev. Dr. Walter McLean, Rev. Linda Paquette, Rev. Dr. Robert Spencer

**WMS** – Phyllis Stewart

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### **CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT:**

The Rev. Scott McAndless, Moderator, opened the meeting with prayer and constituted the court.

### **WELCOME, INTRODUCTIONS**

The Moderator welcomed all in attendance and expressed appreciation to Joonim Church for their hospitality and especially the dinner they hosted that was enjoyed by all in attendance. The Rev. Amanda Wickenheiser was invited to her first Presbytery meeting. Other visitors were welcomed including later in the meeting, visitors from Knox, Crieff, and student James Foy.

### **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Moved by Ed Charlton/Mark Gaskin that the Proposed Agenda be adopted. CARRIED.

### **MINUTES**

Moved by Johan DeSchiffart/John Borthwick that the following minutes be adopted as circulated  
 September 9, 2014 – Regular Presbytery meeting  
 October 8, 2014 – Call to Amanda Wickenheiser  
 October 16, 2014 – Induction of the Rev. Amanda Wickenheiser to Rockwood and Eden Mills charge  
 November 11, 2014 – Regular Presbytery meeting  
 CARRIED

### **REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS TO SYNOD IN OCTOBER 2014**

The Rev. Dr. Herb Gale and Gib McIlwrath were invited to report briefly on the Synod meeting held on Saturday November 8 at Vaughan Presbyterian Church, Han Ca East Presbytery. They reported on the shortness of the meeting and the open session in the afternoon. The Moderator expressed appreciation to them for being commissioners from the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington. It was noted that at the last, the Rev. John Borthwick was unable to attend.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**BUSINESS COMMITTEE REPORT:** Clerk, Wilma Welsh reported.

Moved Mark Gaskin/John Borthwick that the Business Committee report be received and the recommendations considered. CARRIED

### **CORRESPONDENCE – November 9, 2014 – January 6, 2015**

14-151	Pres. of Huron-Perth – Certificate of Rev. A. Wickenheiser	to Clerk
14-152	Pres. of Hamilton – Death of Rev. Reay Duke	to all presbyters
14-153	Assembly Office – receipt of Moderator nomination	to Clerk
14-154	Assembly Office – 2015 Committee Nominations	to all presbyters
14-155	APCA – announcing 2015 annual event	to all presbyters
14-156	TL Hamilton – Dean Job Description, St. Andrew's Hall	to all presbyters

Wilma Welsh, Clerk ([clerkwatwell@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwatwell@gmail.com))

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14-157	J. McIntosh – Elders’ Institute re questionnaire	to all congregations
14-158	Alex Bisset – re PYPS Events Poster	to all congregations
14-159	Rev. Bill Bynum – Loan request, Knox Preston	to Presbytery Treasurer
14-160	Dr. Ross A. Lockhart – from St. Andrew’s Hall	to all presbyters
14-161	Barbara Nawratil – Stat Forms for 2014	to all congregations
14-162	Jennifer Bell, re Rural and Remote Summer Student	to all presbyters
14-163	H. Chappell, Presbyterians Sharing Report Nov. 30/14	to all presbyters
14-164	John Vissers – report on student	to Ministry Committee
14-165	John Henderson – On line lay education courses for 2015	to all presbyters
14-166	L. Pinnington (Central Cambridge) re Future of Synods	rec’d for inf.
14-167	Elders Institute – re on line questionnaire	to all presbyters

### **2015**

15-001	Karla Wübbenhorst – re overture from three congregations	to presbytery
15-002	Deb Coutts, Clerk, Kortright session supporting overture	to presbytery
15-003	Clerk, St. Andrew’s, Arthur session supporting overture	to presbytery
15-004	H. Chappell – advising of change in Allocation for Knox Guelph	to Knox Guelph
15-005	Assembly Council – require reporting by March 15, 2015	Business Committee
15-006	Session, Westminster-St. Paul’s, Guelph – supporting overture	to presbytery
15-007	Synod of CNOB – attesting presbytery minutes kept in order	to presbytery

### **Business Committee Recommendations:**

#### **1. Correspondence**

##### **Recommendation**

Moved by Ed Charlton/Kathy Morden that the actions of the Business Committee in assigning the correspondence be homologated. CARRIED

- 2. Ballots for Moderator of the 2015 General Assembly** – due March 15<sup>th</sup>. The Clerk announced that they were available for pickup and that those not in attendance would receive theirs by mail.

#### **3. General Assembly Commissioners – 2015**

To be held within the Presbytery of Westminster, British Columbia. Friday June 5 to Monday, June 8, 2015.

Presbytery of Westminster, British Columbia. Friday June 5 to Monday June 8, 2015

**Ministers** - Linda Ashfield (leader), Alex MacLeod, John Borthwick, William Bynum, Janice Hamalainen (clerk’s note – J. Hamalainen replaced by Scott McAndless due to her retirement as of June 1, 2015)

**Elders** - Knox Conn (Howard Widdis), Eden Mills (Jim Akerstream), St. Andrew’s Hespeler (David Krueger), Knox Guelph (Karen Duffield), Kortright Guelph (Joan Knox)

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**Recommendation**

Moved by Ed Charlton/Alex MacLeod that the above Commissioners be appointed to attend the General Assembly to be held within the Presbytery of Westminster, BC from Friday, June 5 to Monday, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 2015, representing the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington.

If any change is required, the replacements will be left with the Clerk and reported to the General Assembly Office. CARRIED

**4. Remits and Referrals –**

Remit C – referred to the Business Committee

Moved Mark Gaskin/Marty Molengraaf that Remit C be approved and that the General Assembly Office be notified. CARRIED

Remits A&B were referred to EIF and will be looked at when the EIF report is received.

**5. Presbytery Meetings – Correspondence 15-001**

**OVERTURE FROM THE CONGREGATIONS OF  
 Kortright Presbyterian Church, Guelph,  
 St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Arthur, and  
 Westminster-St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Guelph**

WHEREAS General Assembly has spoken thoughtfully, faithfully and pastorally on matters of human sexuality in its 1994 statement (hereinafter SHS (statement on human sexuality), see A&P 1994, 30, 48, 56-63 and 251-74), and

WHEREAS the Presbyterian Church in Canada adopted *Living Faith* as a subordinate standard in 1998, which defines marriage as a "union in Christ" between "a man and a woman" (in continuity with the Westminster Confession of Faith, adopted in 1875 and 1889 and in confirmation of the SHS) (see A&P 1998 pp. 42 and 471, WCF XXIV.1 and LF 8.2.3), and

WHEREAS the General Assembly in 2002 passed a recommendation “that, through the Clerks of Assembly, it be communicated to the Government of Canada and the provincial governments of Canada that The Presbyterian Church in Canada holds to the position that marriage is between one man and one woman and that this position is clearly stated in our church’s doctrinal standards” (see A&P 2002, pp. 21 and 237), and

WHEREAS the General Assemblies of 2003 and 2009 expressed their reservations about going in a direction affirmative of same-sex intimacy by (a.) declining to commend the resource: "Listening..." to congregations and sessions for study (2003), and (b.) declining to receive Overture 16 (2009) which sought to redefine marriage with respect to love and

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faithfulness rather than specifying its participants as "a man and a woman" (see A&P 2003, pp.43 and 545 and A&P 2009, p. 21 and 526-7), and

WHEREAS what *has not* changed in the past 20 years is the validity of the arguments advanced in the SHS, for example (a.) the theological significance of gender complementarity, (b.) the hermeneutical significance of the Bible's consistent negativity toward same-gender intimacy (despite ancient awareness of the complex origins of homosexual identity, the diverse kinds of homosexual relationships, and the gospel's mandate to include various previously excluded sin-neutral groups: gentiles, women, slaves etc.) and (c.) the pastoral significance of the testimonies to liberation and abundant life discovered through disciplined sexual faithfulness and participation in Christian community, and

WHEREAS each of these trajectories of argument anticipated by the SHS have been helpfully developed in the intervening 20 years, by, for example (a.) Christopher Roberts on the theology of gender complementary, answering the proposals of Eugene Rogers and James Brownson, (b.) Robert Gagnon, William Webb, and Bernadette Brooten on exegesis and hermeneutics of the relevant biblical texts, answering the proposals of Jack Rogers and William Stacy Johnson, and (c.) Richard Hays, Wesley Hill, and Rosaria Butterfield, answering the proposals of Chris Glaser and Jeffrey John, and

WHEREAS what *has* changed in the past 20 years is the intensification of cultural and political pressure to regard same-sex intimacy (and other diverse forms of sexual identity and expression) as part of a normalized diversity, and

WHEREAS what has also changed is the move by a particular kind of church/denomination (ie. northern hemisphere, wealthy, mainline, declining) toward acceptance of homosexual practice/relationships in regard to ordination and/or marriage, and

WHEREAS the Holy Spirit (tethered to the Word, in Reformed theology) rarely corresponds with the Zeitgeist (the spirit of the age) but most often empowers the church to be truly prophetic in a counter-cultural mode, and

WHEREAS the Holy Spirit is a Spirit of unity and is most surely grieved by such division as has occurred in the Anglican communion, the Church of Scotland, the PCUSA, and other denominations following the decision to extend ordination and marriage to practicing same sex partners, which has only weakened the Church in its witness and mission, and

WHEREAS the Holy Spirit creates a particular kind of multi-ethnic community which we cherish in the PCC, and which the present drive to normalize, and even to celebrate same

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sex relationships, risks destroying, since many Ghanaian, Korean, Cameroonian, Arabic, Taiwanese etc. Presbyterians find such discussion alien to their interests, exclusive of their voices, and a scandal to their understanding of the faith, and

WHEREAS the pneumatology of the SHS with respect to the above-mentioned matters of discernment, prophetic speaking and ecclesiastical unity is not particularly robust, and

WHEREAS language of "inclusion" and "justice" is often incendiary, offensive and aggressively divisive in its suggestion that those who affirm the church's teaching on human sexuality are somehow unjust, inhospitable, and ultimately complicit in "deep spiritual harm"/"persecution"/"oppression"/"...killings" (see, for example, the overture sent to this Assembly from the Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington and the open letter posted at [www.pccforinclusion.org](http://www.pccforinclusion.org)), when such a spirit is the furthest thing from the heart of most non-affirming congregations and pastors in the PCC, and from the welcome experienced by homosexual persons worshipping in these congregations, and

WHEREAS we admittedly have some ways to go in realizing the vision of the SHS for a church which repents of past antipathy to homosexuals, and offers an environment where unmarried persons (wherever they identify themselves on the straight to LGBTQ spectrum) may be transparent about their desires, and speak openly to the challenge of living sexually faithful lives in a generation where sexual gratification is idolatrously pursued as if it were the holy grail, and

WHEREAS any change in the doctrine and practice of our church around the ordination and marriage of practicing homosexuals (as a political/justice issue simply), without close study of questions of exegesis, theology, polity and possible practical and pastoral fallout, would be a grave disservice to the church, and an unwarranted usurpation of the role of the committees of Assembly under whose aegis these matters naturally fall, and

WHEREAS any change in the doctrine and practice of our church around the ordination and marriage of practicing homosexuals, which would deem Presbyteries competent to adjudicate in the matter, and lead to a diversity of practice across the PCC, would fail to recognize the role of a General Assembly in "declaring truth" on an issue which relates directly to our understanding of the authority of Scripture in the life of the church, and our understanding of the very God, who in Scripture is revealed as both architect of this created order, and powerful redeemer of those ensnared in all manner of sin, and

WHEREAS any change in the doctrine and practice of our church around the ordination and marriage of practicing homosexuals by way of a declaratory act of one General Assembly is contrary to the law and practice of the church (which requires church-wide

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consultation through the Barrier Act), and would be a violation of the democratic impulse and virtue of balance enshrined in our Presbyterian polity,

THEREFORE, the sessions of Kortright Presbyterian Church, Guelph, St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Arthur, and Westminster-St. Paul's Presbyterian Church, Guelph humbly overture the Venerable, the 141st General Assembly, to prepare, through the committee on church doctrine, an appendix to the Statement on Human Sexuality (1994) which affirms the original content/intent of that report, and which addresses current literature on the subject of same-sex intimacy and relationships, with particular attention to (a.) what it means to be faithful to the Word, the Holy Spirit and the Church's prophetic vocation, in this particular cultural moment (b.) what it means concretely to form gospel communities which are truth-telling and love-embodying, and where women and men, of whatever orientation or sex-history, may find that "fullness of life" which is promised as much to the unmarried, as to the married (Living Faith 8.2.2), (c.) what it means for a Presbyterian polity to navigate disunity in ways that are responsible to Scripture, as our supreme standard, and to our vows at ordination; or to do otherwise as the General Assembly, in its wisdom, deems best.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Alex MacLeod that the Overture from the three congregations be forwarded to the Church Doctrine Committee without comment. CARRIED

#### **6. Future Presbytery Meetings**

March 10, 2015 – Knox, Waterloo  
 May 12, 2015 – Knox-Calvin, Harriston  
 June 16, 2015 - Duff's, Puslinch  
 September 8, 2015 – New Moderator's Church

#### **7. Business Committee Meetings 12:30 p.m.**

St. Andrew's Hespeler, Cambridge  
 February 3  
 March 3  
 April 14<sup>th</sup>  
 May 5  
 Jun 2<sup>nd</sup>  
 September 1

Moved Brooke Ashfield/Mark Lewis that the report of the Business Committee along with its recommendations be accepted. CARRIED

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**TREASURER'S REPORT** - see Appendix "A" for report and statements

Moved by Mark Lewis/Frank Szatmari that the Treasurer's Report be received and considered.  
 CARRIED

**Knox Preston Loan Recommendation**

Moved by Mark Lewis/Frank Szatmari that an interest free loan be extended to Knox Preston Presbyterian Church in the amount of \$30,000, repayable in 10 years or less and that Knox Preston will make an annual repayment of principle around each anniversary of the loan given.  
 CARRIED

Moved by Mark Lewis/Frank Szatmari that the report of the Treasurer be received as a Whole.  
 CARRIED

**MINISTRY COMMITTEE REPORT** –report presented by Andrew Foster.

Moved by Andrew Foster/Marion Hunter that the report of the Ministry Committee be received and considered. CARRIED

Moved by Andrew Foster/Marion Hunter that the report as a whole of the Ministry Committee be considered. CARRIED

**Re: Cheryl D'Angelo,**

Moved by Andrew Foster/Ross Rowat that the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington request the Committee on Education and Reception to reconsider the case of Cheryl D'Angelo on the following terms:

Cheryl has completed four courses at Knox College. I was recently asked by Dr. John Vissers to meet with him and some representatives of Knox College Faculty to discuss Cheryl's situation. Dr. Aubrey Botha and Rev. Bill Bynum came along. After the discussion, we present the following motion. Knox College, we expect, will be making a similar request of the Committee on Education and Reception.

**Motion 1: That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington request the Committee on Education and Reception to reconsider the case of Cheryl D'Angelo in the following terms:**

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington, having confidence in our candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, Cheryl D'Angelo, and being satisfied with her progress in counselling and spiritual guidance over the past year, requests that the Committee on Education and Reception reconsider her case. For one thing, it is highly unusual, if not unprecedented, to demand that a candidate who has an M. Div. be asked to take another equivalent degree before being received into ministry within the Presbyterian Church in Canada. We stand pastorally with Cheryl and put forward a further concern that, given her age and means, the current decision of the Committee places undue hardship on a candidate we believe is suitable for ministry. We request that the Committee consider lessening the course-load, perhaps to such courses that enable her to obtain the Certificate of the College without repetition of courses she has already taken, but including



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such courses that would normally be required for candidates from other communions being received into The Presbyterian Church in Canada. The Presbytery backs Cheryl fully in her call and desire to be received as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.

CARRIED

### **Cambridge Sports Camp**

Moved by Andrew Foster/Calvin Brown that the Galt Cambridge Sports Camp be granted fund in the amount of \$3,100 for 2015 from the funds set aside for “supporting outreach ministries in the area of East Galt.” CARRIED

### **Overture 2015 re: disapproved by members on the appendix**

The overture was not received in order. It should have been sent to the Clerk and considered by the Business Committee with its recommendation received by the Presbytery. Overtures are not received through a Committee report. The Committee agreed to withdraw the recommendation and present it at a later meeting.

### **Requesting EIF consider organizing a day of prayer**

This request was already approved on recommendation of the EIF Committee at the previous meeting of presbytery so withdrawn.

Moved by Andrew Foster/Mark Lewis that the report as a whole of the Ministry Committee be approved. CARRIED

**CONGREGATIONAL AFFAIRS REPORT** – see Appendix “C” – report presented by Rev. Ed Charlton, Co-Convener

Moved by Ed Charlton/Calvin Brown that the report of the Congregational Affairs Committee be received and considered. CARRIED

### **Recommendations**

#### Crieff

1. The Presbytery Waterloo Wellington appoint the Rev. Cathy Kay as  $\frac{3}{4}$  time stated supply of Knox PC, Crieff, one year renewable. (see job description in minutes of November 11, 2014), to begin February 16, 2015.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Calvin Brown that recommendation #1 be approved. CARRIED.

2. A service of recognition to be held, details to be left in the hands of Interim Moderator, the Moderator, and the Clerk of Presbytery.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Calvin Brown that recommendation #2 be approved. CARRIED.

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Alma & Elora

3. That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington give permission to the Sessions of St. Andrew's, Alma and Knox, Elora to form a search committee and begin the search process.

Moved by Ed Charlton/Calvin Brown that recommendation #3 be approved. CARRIED.

Report as a Whole adopted on motion of Ed Charlton/Calvin Brown.

**EIF COMMITTEE** – See Appendix “D”, report presented by Rev. Janice Hamalainen

Moved by Janice Hamalainen/Mark Lewis that the Report of the EIF Committee be received for consideration. CARRIED

**Recommendations**

**1. Young Adult Representation to General Assembly 2015**

That Holly Boyne, Gale Presbyterian Church, Elmira be named the YAR representing the Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington to the 141<sup>st</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. That Matt Honsberger, Knox Presbyterian Church, Waterloo be named the first Alternate and Carragh Erhardt, Doon Presbyterian Church Kitchener the named the second Alternate.

Moved by Janice Hamalainen/Mark Lewis that recommendation #1 be approved. CARRIED

**2. Remit A**

That Remit A re: Book of Forms 201.4 be approved.

Moved by Janice Hamalainen/Mark Lewis that recommendation #2 be approved.

CARRIED

**3. Remit B**

That Remit B re: Korean translation of Living Faith be approved.

Moved by Janice Hamalainen/Mark Lewis that recommendation #3 be approved. CARRIED

Moved by Janice Hamalainen/Mark Lewis that the Report of the EIF Committee be approved as a whole. CARRIED

**MISSION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE** – report presented by Alex MacLeod.

The Committee met on December 10<sup>th</sup>.

We have no report other than an update to let presbytery know that the Rev. Marty Molengraaf is stepping down from his role as campus minister with the Ecumenical Campus Ministry (ECM) at the University of Guelph.

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The following **notice of motion** will be presented at the March regular meeting  
 That we will move or cause to be moved at our next meeting a change in the funding already  
 approved to be funded in 2014 by the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington to the ECM.

### **Presbyterian World Service and Development**

The Rev. Mark Gaskin reported on Presbyterian World Service and Development as he serves as  
 a Committee member. He shared the slogan – 1 mission – 2 funds. In concluding he expressed  
 appreciation for the great support the congregations within the Presbytery of Waterloo-  
 Wellington give to PWS&D. The Moderator thanked Mark for his informative presentation.

It was noted that the date of February 12<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. has been set aside at Kortright Guelph for  
 the Outreach Round Table event with Dr. John Bowen.

Alex MacLeod & Glen Soderholm, co-conveners.

**VISIONING COMMITTEE** – see Appendix “E”

### **Recommendations**

1. “That the Visioning Team be granted permission to survey the Sessions/Congregations  
 within the bounds of the Presbytery.”
2. “That the Visioning Team be granted a preliminary budget of \$10,000 – which is  
 inclusive of the \$5,000 approved at the November, 2014 presbytery meeting.”
3. That the Visioning Day described in the Proposal for a Visioning Process (Step 5 –  
 page 4) be held on Saturday, May 2, 2015.

### **8. Business Committee recommendation re funding from Waterloo North**

Business Committee recommends that the recommendation presented at the September  
 meeting re funding distribution re Waterloo North and all the data, be referred to the  
 Visioning Committee

Moved by Brooke Ashfield/Mark Lewis that the recommendation presented at the  
 September meeting be referred to the Visioning Committee. **CARRIED**

The following is the recommendation referred

### **Waterloo North –Proposal for retaining 70% of funds**

Process for proposal for retaining 70% of Waterloo North funds

The Business Committee did not receive additional recommendations for the use of the  
 funds from Presbyters. A suggestion for the process was received from the Rev. Dr. Herb  
 Gale and considered. The Business Committee discussed the recommendation further and  
 now makes the following recommendation,

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**Recommendation to Presbytery with respect to the use of funds from the sale of Waterloo North:**

Moved by Gib McIlwrath/Bob Renton, that funds from the sale of Waterloo North, after the National Church has received its 30% portion and the Presbytery has been repaid the amount owed to it by Waterloo North, be returned to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington and designated for the building of Christ's Kingdom in the following ways: That funds from the sale of Waterloo North, after the National Church has received its 30% portion and the Presbytery has been repaid the amount owed to it by Waterloo North, be returned to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington and designated for the building of Christ's Kingdom in the following ways:

- 1) A gift to Crieff Hills ..... 100,000.00
- 2) A gift to Camp Cairn..... 10,000.00
- 3) A gift to Presbyterian Sharing.....25,000.00
- 4) A reduction of 25% on all loans owed by congregations to the Presbytery  
100,000.00
- 5) Funding for the Bunun partnership..... 20,000.00
- 6) And that the remainder of the proceeds from the sale be invested in the Presbytery's Development fund to be used for, but not limited to, the following ministries and missions:
  - o Congregational Renewal and Development
  - o Presbytery Health and Vitality including, but not limited to,
  - o the consideration of an Executive Presbyter
  - o Youth Ministry and Ministry to Young People
  - o Leadership Development for Key Congregational Leaders, including, but not limited to, the use of mentors and coaches
  - o Other priorities as the Presbytery sees fit in the future
- 7) The Presbytery will invest the funds relevant to item 6 above with the intent that, to the extent possible, only interest from the Development Fund will be used
- 8) Whereas the funds in question are derived from dissolution of a ministry in Waterloo, priority will be given to proposals for future ministry in Waterloo.

Moved Alex MacLeod/Ed Charlton that the report as a whole of the Business Committee be adopted.  
 CARRIED

**Response of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington re the Elimination of Synods** – see Appendix “F” – report presented by the Moderator, the Rev. S. McAndless

Moved by Alex MacLeod/Ed Charlton that this be the response sent to the Assembly Office from the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington. CARRIED

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington will meet in regular session on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at Knox Presbyterian Church Waterloo at 7:00 p.m. – refreshments will be served at 6:30 p.m.

Wilma Welsh, Clerk ([clerkwatwell@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwatwell@gmail.com))

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**ADJOURNMENT**

The business being completed, the Presbytery adjourned on motion of John Borthwick.  
The Moderator, the Rev. Scott McAndless pronounced the Benediction and announced that the  
Presbytery will meet again on Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at Knox Church Waterloo.  
Refreshments will be served at 6:30 and the Presbytery will be constituted at 7:00 p.m.

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Moderator

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Clerk

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Appendix “A”

**Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington  
Treasurer’s Report to Presbytery at January 13, 2015**

**Loan request from Knox Preston Presbyterian Church**

A request was received from the Minister, Session and Board of Managers of Knox Preston Presbyterian Church for a loan from Presbytery in the amount of \$30,000.

Knox Preston was faced with a situation whereby both the sanctuary and auditorium roofs have to be replaced by this spring at an estimated cost of \$50,000 to \$60,000. The congregation is able to handle the church roof work through fundraising. The Presbytery loan is requested to deal with the auditorium, a space which handles both internal ministry needs, and many important external missions including seniors, nutrition for learning and community groups.

The request was fully discussed by the Business Committee at both its December 2014 and January 2015 meetings. All present were agreed, given the circumstances, that this request was appropriate and should be approved.

Accordingly the Treasurer will request at the January 2015 Presbytery meeting that it be moved **“that an interest free loan be extended to Knox Preston Presbyterian Church in the amount of \$30,000, repayable in 10 years or less and that Knox Preston will make an annual repayment of principle around each anniversary of the loan given.”**

**Draft Financial Report to December 31, 2014**

The financial report to December 31, 2014 is on the following pages. It shows there was a deficit of **\$13,530 in 2014** against a budgeted deficit for the year of **\$33,000**. The reduced deficit is mainly a result of less than anticipated hosting costs for General Assembly in Kitchener-Waterloo, and an accumulation of savings in other expense categories. In addition interest income was elevated due to the investment of funds realized from the sale of the Winterbourne property, together with recoveries of both a loan and various expenses related to the closing and sale of the Waterloo North property.

The remaining funds from the Waterloo North sale are currently being held by the Trustee Board, but invested to the benefit of Waterloo-Wellington Presbytery.

A balanced budget for 2015 was approved at the Presbytery meeting at Knox Conn in November 2014 and it follows the 2014 financial report.

Allan Stewart,  
Treasurer

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**FINANCIAL REPORT TO WATERLOO-WELLINGTON PRESBYTERY AS AT DECEMBER 31, 2014**

	<u>to Dec. 2014</u>	<u>Budget 2014</u>	<u>Amount remaining</u>
<b>INCOME</b>			
Assessment Income	151,709	151,710	1
Income from services	1,617	1,000	(617)
Other income - interest	4,249	2,000	(2,249)
<b>Total Income</b>	<b><u>157,575</u></b>	<b><u>154,710</u></b>	<b><u>(2,865)</u></b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Synod Assessment	51,900	51,900	-
Special project - Gen. Assem. 2014	20,950	25,000	4,050
Special project - Two Rivers Church	25,000	25,000	-
Special project - Post Sec. student grants	12,500	10,000	(2,500)
Special project - Bunun Exchange	5,954	6,000	46
Special project - Canada Youth 2014	2,120	5,000	2,880
Special project - Burst Forth 2014	2,100	4,000	1,900
<b>Special projects - total</b>	<b>68,624</b>	<b>75,000</b>	<b>6,376</b>
Clerk's honorarium	11,990	11,990	-
Treasurer's honorarium	6,540	6,540	-
CPP/EI	488	680	192
Liability Insurance	2,849	3,500	651
General and office supplies	1,786	2,500	714
Telecommunications	1,800	1,600	(200)

Wilma Welsh, Clerk ([clerkwatwell@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwatwell@gmail.com))

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Audit and legal fees	400	1,000	600
Bank interest and service charges	135	200	65
<b>Office expenses - total</b>	<b>25,989</b>	<b>28,010</b>	<b>2,021</b>



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	to Dec. 2014	Budget 2014	Amount remaining	<i>% change</i>
Travel and mileage	6,578	7,000	422	<i>0.0%</i>
Meals and hospitality	625	500	(125)	<i>0.0%</i>
<b>Travel - total</b>	<b>7,203</b>	<b>7,500</b>	<b>297</b>	<b><i>0.0%</i></b>
Grants - U of G chaplaincy	9,000	6,000	(3,000)	<i>50.0%</i>
Grants - Students for Ministry	500	5,000	4,500	<i>-20.0%</i>
Grants - New Life Counselling	1,500	1,500	-	<i>0.0%</i>
Grants - donations	-	500	500	<i>-100.0%</i>
<b>Grants - total</b>	<b>11,000</b>	<b>13,000</b>	<b>2,000</b>	<b><i>11.5%</i></b>
Commissioner's Expenses	1,475	2,500	1,025	<i>-20.0%</i>
Conference Funds	1,885	2,500	615	<i>0.0%</i>
Student Psych. assessments/counselling	2,275	2,400	125	<i>-16.7%</i>
Pulpit supply for visitation	-	1,500	1,500	<i>-33.3%</i>
Visitors and Gifts	204	1,300	1,096	<i>-23.1%</i>
Christian education	-	1,000	1,000	<i>0.0%</i>
Clerk's consultation April 2014	550	600	50	<i>-100.0%</i>
Student certification	-	500	500	<i>0.0%</i>
<b>General expense - Total</b>	<b>6,389</b>	<b>12,300</b>	<b>5,911</b>	<b><i>-18.7%</i></b>
<b>Total All Expenses</b>	<b>171,104</b>	<b>187,710</b>	<b>16,606</b>	<b><i>-17.9%</i></b>
<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>	<b>(13,530)</b>	<b>(33,000)</b>	<b>(19,470)</b>	<b><i>-100.0%</i></b>

Wilma Welsh, Clerk ([clerkwatwell@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwatwell@gmail.com))

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Appendix "B"

**Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington: Ministry Committee Report  
 January 13, 2015  
 Report**

**Student Reports**

**D'Angelo, Cheryl**

Cheryl has completed four courses at Knox College. I was recently asked by Dr. John Vissers to meet with him and some representatives of Knox College Faculty to discuss Cheryl's situation. Dr. Aubrey Botha and Rev. Bill Bynum came along. After the discussion, we present the following motion. Knox College, we expect, will be making a similar request of the Committee on Education and Reception.

**Motion 1: That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington request the Committee on Education and Reception to reconsider the case of Cheryl D'Angelo in the following terms:**

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington, having confidence in our candidate for the Ministry of Word and Sacrament, Cheryl D'Angelo, and being satisfied with her progress in counselling and spiritual guidance over the past year, requests that the Committee on Education and Reception reconsider her case. For one thing, it is highly unusual, if not unprecedented, to demand that a candidate who has an M. Div. be asked to take another equivalent degree before being received into ministry within the Presbyterian Church in Canada. We stand pastorally with Cheryl and put forward a further concern that, given her age and means, the current decision of the Committee places undue hardship on a candidate we believe is suitable for ministry. We request that the Committee consider lessening the course-load, perhaps to such courses that enable her to obtain the Certificate of the College without repetition of courses she has already taken, but including such courses that would normally be required for candidates from other communions being received into The Presbyterian Church in Canada. The Presbytery backs Cheryl fully in her call and desire to be received as a Minister of Word and Sacrament.

**Brimblecombe, Lisa** Lisa is at Knox College

**Evans, Margaret**

Margaret has graduated from VST and is contemplating post-graduate studies.

**Lauwers, Nick**

Several attempts to contact Nick Lauwers have been unsuccessful. A recent email has asked him to be in contact if he wishes to be certified by our Presbytery.

**Smith, Greg**

Greg is no longer a student, having been certified for ordination. However, he remains in our care until such time as he receives a call.

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**Sturtevant, David**                      David continues studies at Presbyterian College in Montreal.

It is expected that we will certify all students this spring.

**Motion 2: That Cambridge Sports Camp be granted funding of \$3100 for 2015 from the fund set aside for “supporting outreach ministries in the area of East Galt.”**

(See attached financial report below)

**Overture 2015 re: disapproval by members on the appendix**

Whereas voting members of Presbytery have the ability to express their dissent relating to a motion with which they cannot agree, and

Whereas dissent is understood as relating to the voting at the Presbytery meeting, and

Whereas those not present and not voting are normally understood to be tacitly agreeing with the wording and intent of the motion, and

Whereas those who are on the appendix to the roll of Presbytery do not have votes, but may have disapproving opinions they wish to express to the Church, and

Whereas it is often expressed that the courts of the church treasure the wisdom gained from age and experience by those who are on the appendix, and particularly those who have retired from the active ministry of Word and Sacrament,

Therefore the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington humbly overtures the Venerable, the General Assembly, to instruct the Clerks of Assembly to find some means by which those on the appendix to the roll of the several Presbyteries may have the opportunity to record disapproval of a motion once it has been passed by Presbytery; or to do otherwise as the Assembly in its wisdom may deem best.

**Motion 3: That the Presbytery approve this overture and forward it to the 2015 General Assembly.**

**Motion 4: That the EIF consider organizing a day of prayer and discussion dealing with the recent Overture that was submitted by Rev. Mark Lewis.**

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Cambridge Sports Camp Financial Statement August 2014

**Income:**

Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington	\$3,100.00
Registrants	\$1,840.00
<b>Total Income:</b>	<b>\$4,940.00</b>

**Expenses:**

Postage and DVD's	\$44.75
Volunteer Police Checks	\$55.00
Advertising - Flyers and Posters	\$1,225.82
Advertising - Mobile sign	\$498.53
Program Fees/Tshirts	\$3,780.00
Snacks and Gloves	\$61.36
<b>Total Expenses:</b>	<b>\$5,665.46</b>
<b>Total Expenses over Income</b>	<b>-\$725.46</b>



**Cambridge Sports Camp 2015 Projected Budget**

Income:

Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington	\$ 3,100.00	
Registrants	\$ 3,135.00	
<b>Total Income:</b>		<b>\$ 6,235.00</b>

Expenses

Postage & DVD's	\$ 70.00	
Volunteer Police Checks	\$ 88.00	
Advertising - Flyers & Posters	\$ 1,200.00	
Advertising - Mobile Sign	\$ 500.00	
Program Fees - Scripture Union	\$ 4,200.00	
Snacks - Supplies	\$ 100.00	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>\$ 6,158.00</b>

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<b>Surplus/Deficit</b>	<b>\$ 77.00</b>
------------------------	-----------------

This budget makes the following assumptions:

1. The number of campers will increase 33
2. Scripture Union Costs will remain as posted on their web-site
3. Other associated costs, except fixed advertising costs, will increase 50% in accordance with growth in # of campers.
4. The grant from Presbytery will be extended to this year.

**For information:**

**Elder Training Seminar:**

-to be organized for Cambridge Area Sessions of Preston, Hespeler, Central, Knox's and Westside.

-speaker will be JP Smit our Synod rep.

-Jan. 31 @ Knox's Galt PC 10am-2pm

**Pulpit Exchange: April 12, 2015**

The initial pulpit exchange was very well received by the participating congregations as well as ministers preaching. We would like to once again encourage all congregations to seriously consider the benefits of having pulpit exchange for 2015 and to plan accordingly. Email Rev. John Paeng to participate [pastor@knoxgalt.org](mailto:pastor@knoxgalt.org)

**Motion:** That the Ministry Committee report be accepted as a whole.

Respectfully submitted by Andrew Foster

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Appendix "C"

**Congregational Affairs Report**  
**For January 13th 2015 Presbytery Meeting**

The Congregational Affairs Committee has two recommendations to put forward. The first one is in regards to Knox, Crieff. Upon further consideration and discussion over email, and with insight from the Moderator and Clerk of Presbytery along with information supplied to us by the Interim Moderator's report.

The second recommendation is in regards to St. Andrew's Alma and Knox, Elora beginning the search process for a new minister. This again was done over email to receive the needed input and direction from the committee, and to try and act in a timely manner.

**Recommendations**

**Crieff**

1. *The Presbytery Waterloo Wellington appoint Rev. Cathy Kay as ¾ time stated supply of Knox PC, Crieff, one year renewable.*
2. *A service of recognition to be held, details to be left in the hands of Interim Moderator and the Moderator and Clerk of Presbytery.*

**Alma & Elora**

3. *That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington give permission to the Sessions of St. Andrew's, Alma and Knox, Elora to form a search committee and begin the search process.*

Respectfully submitted by:  
 Rev. Edward Charlton  
 co-chair of the Congregational Affairs Committee

Rev. Calvin Brown, chair  
 Congregational Affairs Committee of the Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington

Dear Calvin:

I write to you in my capacity as Interim Moderator for Knox PC, Crieff, with a request for the Congregational Affairs Committee of our Presbytery to consider. If your committee is supportive then perhaps it might be able to bring our request to the January meeting of Presbytery for the court's consideration.

As you know the previous minister of Knox, Crieff left there in the summer of 2014 because he was called to Grace United Church in Port Dover. I became their IM and started working with them in July. Over the course of their previous 4.5 years of ministry with Rev. Jeff L. Smith the congregation experienced a significant loss of families with children to the point that there were no children attending. With the loss of families came the loss of some financial support. Currently there are now a few children attending, and the congregation is barely holding

Wilma Welsh, Clerk ([clerkwatwell@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwatwell@gmail.com))

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its' own financially. After working with Knox people for the past 5 months, I believe that they are not a conflicted congregation, but rather a people who have been wounded, and are now responding to the message of the Good News that in Christ they are beloved children of God, precious, and with a future.

Knox, Crieff is most grateful for the Presbytery's support and permission to seek a stated supply minister to be appointed by the Presbytery and to potentially begin working among them early in the New Year. Also as you know, the Session and congregation have been in communication with Rev. Cathy Kay in light of the possibility of a stated supply position there. Before Cathy's name was ever mentioned, the elders and congregation were very doubtful that they would have much more time as a congregation. But as soon as they heard Cathy Kay is interested in the potential stated supply there, the people of Knox were filled with hope, thankfulness, and a deep joy, because they know Cathy, she knows them, and we believe that she is the answer to prayers for the short term of their future ministry. The congregation has unanimously expressed their desire to proceed with Cathy Kay as stated supply if our Presbytery approves. The people of Knox, Crieff need someone who will love them, remind them of who they are, whose they are, and who will joyfully and in down to earth ways work with them in striving forward to discover what sort of future God has planned for them. While I have a roster of 3 persons leading the weekly worship services at Knox, Crieff, till the end of the summer of 2015, there is also great joy in the prospect of having someone like Cathy serving them regularly and throughout the weeks of the next year.

I believe that this is a great solution for them. They would be able to start running together in ministry, as they already know, respect, and love each other well. The congregation as well as Cathy realize that they are different than they were several years ago, but are excited to potentially work together again, for a year of stated supply, and if after one year the congregation, Cathy, and the Presbytery agree, perhaps for a second year. We believe that Cathy Kay has the gifts they need to lovingly lead them into discerning their future in a very positive way, whether that future is one of further decline or one of renewal and growth in the Kingdom. We also understand from Don Muir, a clerk of General Assembly, that church law would support this proposal.

Therefore as Interim Moderator and on behalf of the Session and congregation of Knox PC, Crieff, I humbly ask for the support and approval of the Congregational Affairs Committee of our Presbytery to bring before the Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington a recommendation that the Presbytery appoint Rev. Cathy Kay as  $\frac{3}{4}$  time stated supply of Knox PC, Crieff.

Sincerely,  
Rev. Dr. Mark S. Richardson

Wilma Welsh, Clerk ([clerkwatwell@gmail.com](mailto:clerkwatwell@gmail.com))

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**Interim Moderator Report for St. Andrew's, Alma and Knox, Elora**  
January 3, 2015

In Mid September, an outline of the next steps for the congregations during the vacancy was printed and distributed through the weekly bulletin and placed on their website.

In October, both congregations were invited to a workshop led by Synod Consultant John Peter Smit, with a focus on congregational planning, going forward, including things that could begin and/or be accomplished during the vacancy. This was well attended by Elora, but unfortunately, the date available in our Consultant's schedule conflicted with a congregational supper in Alma, so information was shared with their Session through the IM.

December saw the congregations busy with Advent-Christmas programs, including an evening musical concert at both congregations; a children's program during worship on Dec. 21st at Alma; a joint Christmas Eve service with Alma United, at St. Andrew's; and a Christmas Eve service at Knox, Elora. All were well prepared, presented and attended.

The pulpit is being supplied each week by one of four worship leaders and the congregations are carrying on with mid week programs as before. Conversations are taking place through the session, concerning if any programs have completed their purpose and if others are needed at this time. Both faith communities are keenly interested in serving the wider communities in which they are located, and in reaching out beyond their walls.

There is a "Planning for the Future" afternoon planned for January 18th, for both congregations and led by the IM. The topics to be covered are: discussing and determining the characteristics desired in members of our search committee; establishing congregational goals and setting priorities, going forward, that we can share with those who may be interested in being our minister; what one or two changes do we need to make in order to grow in our faith and as congregations?; and what might we consider "leaving behind" as we move forward?

Session meetings occur monthly in Elora and every other month in Alma. During October, November and December, the sessions and their profile committees worked diligently on getting the congregational profiles prepared and approved. We are delighted to share that these are now finished and approved and thus we are requesting of the Presbytery, permission to name a search committee and to begin the search process.

Respectfully submitted by  
Linda J. Bell, interim moderator.



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Appendix "D"

**E.I.F.COMMITTEE REPORT - PRESBYTERY OF WATERLOO-WELLINGTON  
 January 13, 2015**

**Item 1 – YAR for 2015 General Assembly**

The Committee received eight applications for the YAR position for General Assembly. All eight candidates were extremely qualified to represent the Presbytery at General Assembly. The Committee was very impressed with the quality of all the young adults who made application. A sub-committee was struck to make the final choice, none of whom had put forward candidates. After much deliberation the sub-committee made the following recommendations

YAR Representative – Holly Boyne, Gale Presbyterian Church, Elmira  
 Alternate 1 – Matt Honsberger, Knox Presbyterian Church, Waterloo  
 Alternate 2 – Carragh Erhardt, Doon Presbyterian Church, Kitchener.

It was decided that two alternates would be named in case unexpected circumstances make it impossible for the named Young Adult Representative to attend.

The Committee would like to thank all of the candidates who allowed their names to stand.

**Item 2 – Remits A and B**

The remits from General Assembly request the court of Presbytery to either approve or disapprove.

Remit A, 2014 re Book of Forms 201.4 – elders administering sacraments.

That the Book of Forms section 201.4 be amended by removing the words ‘Holy Communion’ and replacing with the word ‘Sacraments’ in two places. (Committee on Church Doctrine Rec. No3, p 247, 28).

The Committee agrees with this change.

Remit B. 2014 re: Korean translation of Living Faith

That the Korean translation of Living Faith be adopted as a subordinate standard of The Presbyterian Church in Canada and this be remitted to presbyteries under the Barrier Act. (Committee on Church Doctrine. Rec 5, p. 250, 28)

The Committee agrees that the Korean translation of Living Faith should be adopted as a subordinate standard by the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

**Item 3**

Motion from the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington meeting held on November 11, 2014. (That the EIF Committee hold a day of reflection and dialogue on the September 9 Overture passed by Presbytery)

Since this Overture has been passed by the Presbytery, there was some discussion as to the purpose of this request. In discussion it was agreed that this day would be a day for information,

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healing and sharing our ideas and concerns. This would best be done in small table groups, so that all who are participating will be able to voice their views. A sub-committee was struck and includes one member who voted against the motion. The sub-committee is currently looking into the best way to organize this event. The process and possible presenters are still being investigated and we will have more detailed information at the next Presbytery meeting.

It was agreed that it would be best to hold this event on a Saturday. It will begin in the morning and a lunch will be included. At the present time we think 2.5 - 3 hours would give us the time we need for thorough reflection and dialogue, but if need be it can continue into the afternoon. The tentative date of April 11 has been considered. This would give the committee time to organize and advertise the event.

#### **Item 4**

A request was made for the Rev. Dr. Peter Coutts to be invited to the Presbytery for a workshop day. Rev. Dr. Coutts would speak to us on the changes we need to make to prepare the church for the future and how to prepare congregations to make positive change. Rev. Dr. Coutts presented a workshop at Knox, Waterdown and was a presenter for the Knox College Re-newal Continuing Education week in November 2014.

Since the committee is organizing a day of reflection and dialogue in April, it was agreed to consider a date in the fall for this workshop. Further information will be made available in the fall. However, the committee is aware that this year the quadrants are changing. We recommend the new EIF quadrant be given this task in the fall.

#### **Recommendations**

4. That Holly Boyne, Gale Presbyterian Church, Elmira be named the YAR representing the Presbytery of Waterloo Wellington to the 141<sup>st</sup> General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. That Matt Honsberger, Knox Presbyterian Church, Waterloo be named the first Alternate and Carragh Erhardt, Doon Presbyterian Church Kitchener the named the second Alternate.
5. That Remit A re: Book of Forms 201.4 be approved.
6. That Remit B re: Korean translation of Living Faith be approved.

Respectfully submitted

Rev. Janice Hamalainen, Convener – Education, Issues and Fellowship Committee

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Appendix “E”

**Visioning Team Report to Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington  
 Tuesday, January 13, 2015**

The Team members are Darrell Clarke, Herb Gale, Liz Samis, Robert Seim and Mark Gaskin.

The Team's first meeting was on December 4, 2014. The Team reviewed the eight steps of the Visioning Process as outlined in the “Proposal for a Visioning Process” approved by Presbytery at its November 11, 2014, meeting. The Team has had a second meeting on January 8, 2015.

It was noted that on Page 3 the following direction is offered: “The first task of the [team] will be to take this process and refine it and set out the practical steps that they will follow. They will then present this refined plan to the Presbytery and seek the approval of the Presbytery at the February 2015 meeting.” (It is assumed the approval will be sought at the March 10 Presbytery meeting – as the Presbytery is not currently scheduled to meet in February)

By way of taking this process, refining it and setting out the practical steps to follow the Team agreed that

1. A demography of the Presbytery would be compiled;
2. A process of cultural mapping<sup>1</sup> of the Presbytery would be considered;
3. Visioning processes used by other Presbyteries would be ascertained.

Also on page 3 was the “goal of collecting data and receiving input from the presbytery.” The Team intends to use a variety of methods in collecting data. One of the methods being planned is a survey of sessions/congregations within the bounds of the presbytery. We've included a recommendation below, concerning this survey.

On page 2 of the Proposal it was agreed “the team would be granted the authority to hire an outside consultant to guide the process (up to \$5,000).” The team acknowledges the financial support the presbytery has granted thus far; but, is cognizant there will be other costs. Though we are early in the process and have not yet developed a budget we feel it is prudent to ask for additional funds. (See recommendation #2)

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**1.1 Cultural mapping is a process to systematically identify, document and analyze the cultural resources or assets of a community. Cultural mapping is seen as an important aspect of understanding a region or community..**

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The team reviewed the following statement on page 2 of the Proposal: “This visioning process has been prompted by the recent closing of congregations within the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington, but this process is bigger than any specific set of assets coming from specific sources.”

It is apparent that while the Process should not be “asset driven” - nevertheless, it is important for the Presbytery to be aware of all the resources available to the presbytery, including its financial assets.

The Team reviewed the financial assets of the Presbytery – as of Sept 30:

Outstanding loans to ten congregations:	\$357,775
Amount in Development Fund:	\$310,000
Amount in PCC Consolidated Portfolio for Waterloo Wellington from sale of Waterloo North:	
\$846,256	

**Recommendation #1:**

**“That the Visioning Team be granted permission to survey the Sessions/Congregations within the bounds of the Presbytery.”**

**Recommendation #2:**

**“That the Visioning Team be granted a preliminary budget of \$10,000 – which is inclusive of the \$5,000 approved at the November, 2014 presbytery meeting.”**

**Recommendation #3:**

**That the Visioning Day described in the Proposal for a Visioning Process (Step 5 – page 4) be held on Saturday, May 2, 2015.**

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## Appendix “F”

### **SPECIAL COMMITTEE RE THE OPTIONAL ELIMINATION OF SYNODS**

To the Venerable, the 140th General Assembly:

The 2013 General Assembly approved a recommendation appointing the Special Committee re The Optional Elimination of Synods, made up of representatives appointed by the various synods (A&P 2013, p. 254, 15). The committee held its first meeting on February 14, 2014, by conference call with the following representatives in attendance: Charles McPherson, Synod of the Atlantic Provinces; David Christiani, the Synod of Quebec and Eastern Ontario; Jim Biggs, the Synod of Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda; John Bannerman, the Synod of Southwestern Ontario; Peter Bush, the Synod of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario; George Malcolm, the Synod of Alberta and The Northwest; and Reid Chudley, the Synod of British Columbia. Bob Wilson, the Synod of Saskatchewan, sent his regrets but provided the committee with comments from his synod regarding this issue. Principal Clerk Stephen Kendall and Deputy Clerk Don Muir helped facilitate the meeting.

The committee reviewed the concerns and positions of each synod, noting that not all synods have yet had the opportunity to come to a particular view on the matter. The committee considered a number of options in its discussions including: maintaining the status quo, providing for the elimination of all synods, providing for the amalgamation of synods, and providing for the elimination of only those synods that wish to do so. The committee, while not reaching full consensus, agreed that it would prepare the materials necessary to facilitate the optional elimination of synods, with a view to sending them to the church for study and report. What follows are suggested study questions, proposed procedures, and the necessary legislation to facilitate this possibility.

#### **SUGGESTED STUDY QUESTIONS**

1. How would your session, presbytery or the church at large benefit from the optional elimination of synods?
2. How would your session, presbytery or the church at large be diminished by the optional eliminations of synods?
3. Please comment on the proposed procedures for the dissolution of a synod. For example, do the steps involve all the necessary parties? Do they ensure that all necessary synod responsibilities could be handled by other courts if the synod were dissolved?
4. Considering the synod’s role in the church’s current governance, what possible pastoral oversight responsibilities might be missed in a region without a synod.

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Regular Meeting, January 13, 2015,  
Joonim Presbyterian Church, Kitchener-Waterloo (Church of the Lord)

## **NEW BOOK OF FORMS APPENDIX K**

### **Procedures for the dissolution of a synod**

1. Synod prepares a dissolution plan including but not limited to:

- Preamble summarizing the process followed by the synod leading to the decision to seek dissolution.
- Transfer of all assets or liabilities under its control to a presbytery or presbyteries within its bounds.
- Transfer of responsibility for staff, property and collaboration on any current or proposed programs to a presbytery or presbyteries within its bounds.
- Transfer of all necessary synod budget items to a presbytery or presbyteries within its bounds.
- A plan for the annual inter-presbytery attestation of minutes (Book of Forms section 32).
- A formula for redistributing synod appointments to Assembly Council from among the presbyteries within its bounds.
- A formula for redistributing synod appointments to the Committee to Nominate Standing Committees (Book of Forms section 288.1)
- Consultation with the Life and Mission Agency on funding for the synod's regional staff or other synod grants.
- A formula for collaboration among the presbyteries on future requests for amendment to the plan by General Assembly.
- Any other matters deemed necessary.

2. Synod forwards the plan to the presbyteries within its bounds for consideration.

Presbyteries will report back to the synod indicating approval, requested amendments, or disapproval after consulting with the congregations within their bounds.

3. Synod forwards the presbytery approved dissolution plan to General Assembly for final approval.

4. General Assembly considers the dissolution plan and may grant dissolution with a specific date to become effective or refer the plan back to the synod.

5. Following the approval by the General Assembly, the synod shall, through signing officers, effect the necessary transfers and proceed with closing bank accounts, removing signing officers, revoking charitable status (if in place) and any other legal matters that need to be brought to conclusion.

6. Synod minutes and official reports shall be transferred to the Archives of The Presbyterian Church in Canada and any legal documents transferred to the body accepting responsibility.

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## LEGISLATION

### Section 32 re attestation of minutes

**Current section 32:** By various acts, every book enjoined to be kept by any court is expressly ordered to be reviewed and attested yearly by the next higher court, save that a presbytery if it is desired may call for the session records once every two years for attestation. (Declaratory Act: A&P 1991, p. 254, 37)

**Proposed section 32:** Every book enjoined to be kept by any court is ordered to be reviewed and attested yearly by the next higher court, save that a presbytery if it is desired may call for the session records once every two years for attestation, and in the case of a presbytery where its synod has been dissolved, another presbytery is empowered to attest its records according to the dissolution plan approved by General Assembly at the time of dissolution. (see Appendix K, Declaratory Act: A&P 1991, p. 254, 37.)

### New Section 259.2

**Proposed section 259.2:** The General Assembly may dissolve any synod upon its request provided it is satisfied with the synod's plan to apportion the various responsibilities and assets among the presbyteries within its bounds. The plan for dissolution shall be approved by the General Assembly and included in the Acts and Proceedings.

### Recommendation No. 1 (amended, p. 28)

That the above report be sent to synods, presbyteries and sessions for study and report to the Special Committee re the Optional Elimination of Synods by January 31, 2015.

George Malcolm

Convener

*All numbers are rounded to the nearest thousand using 2014 figures:*

*Annual income is \$420K - \$285K from presbytery allocations and \$135K in Head Office grants*

*Annual expenses total \$419K - \$249K salary and related costs, \$135K Camp Cairn and \$35K other misc. expenses*

*Of the above \$285K presbytery allocations \$52K (or 18.25%) is from Waterloo-Wellington presbytery.*

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### **Response of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington**

The first thing that we must say in response to this report is that the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington is not of one mind concerning what ought to be done with our local Synod or with the concept of the Synod in general. Some Presbyters have been deeply blessed by the work of Synods and some have been barely affected by their work at all and we don't all agree on what should be done with them.

Some of the ministries that have traditionally fallen under the administration of Synods have been deeply meaningful and have brought great blessings to our congregations. Most important have been the camps run by the Synod. The support work carried out by regional workers and resource people have also been important, though perhaps to a lesser extent. These ministries may change going into the future but there is a great need to maintain them for the blessing and building up of the church.

But we ought not to assume that, just because these ministries have been administrated by the Synod, that is the only way that that can be administrated nor even the best way.

The reality is that the Synod as a body or court (apart from the camping ministries and, to a lesser extent, regional ministries) has little to no impact on congregations except in what it takes from congregation in terms of funding and the time and talents of our clergy, staff and volunteers. Would our churches miss the Synod if it were gone? How do you miss something that you were barely aware even existed?

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington would probably find some financial relief for its congregations if the Synod were eliminated. The Presbytery presently pays 18.25% of the costs of the Synod which amounted to \$52,000 in 2014. We would also find some lessening of the demands of volunteer work from the Synod. We foresee little diminishment for the Presbytery if the Synod were eliminated and perhaps some possibilities for growth and new ministries.

We do not know how the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington would vote if given the opportunity to eliminate the Synod of CNOB but we do not fear facing such a choice. If the majority of the Presbyteries that make up this Synod desire to eliminate this Synod, we see no good reason why the laws of our church should prevent them from doing so. Our present system is not working so well that alternatives ought not to be considered. Perhaps from the detritus of our Synod might arise some wonderful new possibilities for ministry.

### **The procedure**

The proposed legislation for dissolving a Synod seems very well thought out. Most every potential problem seems to have been anticipated and dealt with. The only thing that we would add is that it would be welcome if the dissolution of Synods could take place in such a way as to create new possibilities to be explored.

For example, according to present legislation it is not permitted for one court to communicate with another court at the same level. Presbyteries may not communicate or coordinate with one



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another but only through the Synod or a higher court. Once the Synod was eliminated it would be a good thing if Presbyteries could communicate and strategize together. Perhaps two or more Presbyteries would want to cooperate with each other to engage in some shared ministry or hire for some shared position. We may find in the long run that Presbyteries working together can better responds to regional challenges and opportunities that Synods presently can.