

4500

Emergent Meeting,
Knox Presbyterian Church,
Waterloo, Ontario
November 27, 2012

DATE AND PLACE:

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington met in a special emergent session at Knox Presbyterian Church, Waterloo, on Tuesday, November 27, 2012 at 7:00 p.m.

OPENING AND CONSTITUTION OF THE COURT

The Moderator, Rev. Linda Ashfield, opened the presbytery meeting with a reading from Ann Weems and constituted the court with prayer.

ATTENDANCE:

Ministers: Rev. Linda Ashfield (Moderator), Rev. Brooke Ashfield, Rev. John Borthwick, Rev. Rev. Calvin Brown, Rev. William Bynum, Rev. Chris Ji Hoon, Rev. Mark Gaskin, Rev. Mark Lewis, Rev. Dr. Herb Gale, Rev. Alex MacLeod, Rev. Scot McAndless, Rev. Kathy Morden, Rev. Johan Olivier, Rev. John Paeng, Rev. Robert Sinasac, Rev. Linda Paquette, Rev. Jeff L. Smith, Rev. Nan St. Louis, Rev. David Whitecross, Rev. Karla Wübbenhorst

Representative Elders: Jim Akerstream, Barb Bonner, Janet deGroot, Johan DeSchiffart, Andrew Foster, Pauline Hall, Judith Harrison, Hazel Hislop, Isabel Howell, Marion Hunter, Frank Kivell, Maria Liston, Dale McKee, David Ogram, Bert Perriman, Bob Renton, Ross Rowat, Liz Samis, Earl Suggitt, Wilma Welsh (Clerk) Jim Zaryski,

Alternate Representative Elders:- Helen Cleghorn, George Forsyth, Mary Ann Koeslag (Treasurer), Alex McNabb, Robert Seim, Donna Tebow

Ministers on the Appendix to the Roll: Rev. Dr. Walter McLean, Rev. Mary Whitson

Visitors:

Clare McKee, Shirley Koeslag, Gib McIlwrath

REGRETS:-

Ministers: Rev. Dr. Linda Bell, Rev. Dr. Aubrey Botha, Rev. Edward Charlton, Rev. Marty Molengraaf, Rev. Mark Richardson, Rev. Andrew Song

Representative Elders: Jean Godin, Jennifer McDougall
Appendix to the Roll: Rev. Robert Duncanson, Rev. Penny Garrison

WELCOME:

The Moderator thanks all the presbyters for their diligence in attending this special Emergent meeting. She also welcomed visitors in particular from Waterloo North Church.

Wilma Welsh, Clerk - watwell@rogers.com

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PURPOSE OF EMERGENT MEETING

The sole purpose of the emergent meeting was to consider the following emergent agenda items -
Congregational Affairs – Notices of Motion from November 13, 2011
Congregational Affairs – Naming Interim Moderator for Rockwood/Eden Mills pastoral charge
Mission and Outreach – Referred Motions re Two Rivers Mission, Guelph
Agenda approved on motion of Wilma Welsh/David Whitecross. CARRIED

CONGREGATIONAL AFFAIRS REPORT: -

presented by Co-conveners David Whitecross and Calvin Brown – see Appendix “A”

Recommendations (see Notices of Motion 14-17 presented November 13, 2012) –

Recommendation 14

Moved by David Whitecross/Calvin Brown that in response to the recommendations and Ministry plan forwarded from the congregation of Waterloo North, the congregation be dissolved effective December 31st, 2012. CARRIED

(Dissent – Rev. Robert Sinasac for the following reason

“I feel there are two ministries that are not being considered and overlooked

- a) the Sunday evening outreach ministry, and
- b) the ethnic small groups ministries)”

Recommendation 15

Moved by David Whitecross/Calvin Brown that the pastoral tie between the Rev. Robert Sinasac and Waterloo North Presbyterian Church be severed effective Monday, December 31st, 2012. This dissolution is based on Category 3, financial constraints, of the “Policy for the Dissolution of Pastoral Ties” of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. CARRIED

Recommendation 16

Moved by David Whitecross/Calvin Brown that the matter of transition allowance for the Rev Robert Sinasac be referred to the Ministry Committee. CARRIED

Recommendation 17

Whereas in the original agreement between the Anglican and Presbyterian Churches says:
“It is understood and agreed that any party hereto may, at any time upon notice but without the consent of the other parties hereto, assign or transfer its interest in the Church Campus site to a duly constituted congregation of the religious denomination represented by such party or to any duly constituted administrative or trustee body of the religious denomination represented by such party.” page 9 Section 11 (a)

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Therefore we recommend:

That the Clerk of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington communicate with the congregation of Waterloo North Trustees, requesting that at a duly constituted congregational meeting they write a letter to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington transferring the Waterloo North Presbyterian Church interest and investment in the Laurel Church Campus site to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington, effective December 31, 2012.

Moved by David Whitecross/Calvin Brown that the additional motion be approved. CARRIED

Dissolution of Waterloo North additional issues

Moved by Jeff L. Smith/Andrew Foster that the Business Committee be given the power to issue on behalf of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington regarding issues involved in the dissolution of Waterloo North Presbyterian Church and the relationship with the Laurel Church Centre. CARRIED

Interim Moderator – Rockwood/Eden Mills Pastoral charge

Moved by Calvin Brown/David Whitecross that the Rev. Alex MacLeod be named Interim-Moderator for the Rockwood/Eden Mills Pastoral Charge and that he be given permission to begin his work at a time agreeable to the incumbent minister.

Moved by David Whitecross/Calvin Brown that the Report as a Whole of the Congregational Affairs Committee be approved. CARRIED

MINISTRY COMMITTEE – presented by Andrew Foster, Convener – see Appendix “B”)

Recommendation

Moved by Andrew Foster/Mark Gaskin that the terms of the Transition Allowance for the Rev. Robert Sinasac be approved. CARRIED – see Appendix “C” for Transition Agreement

Moved by Andrew Foster/Mark Gaskin that the report as a whole be adopted. CARRIED

MISSION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE – report presented by Alex MacLeod, co-convener - see Appendix “D”

Recommendations

1. That the Presbytery approve the name “Two Rivers Guelph Mission” as a way of referring to the community currently worshipping in downtown Guelph under the

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leadership of Rev. Soderholm.

Moved Alex MacLeod/John Borthwick that recommendation 1 be approved. CARRIED

2. That the Presbytery approve a \$25,000 grant for each of the next three years to the Two Rivers Guelph Mission under the following terms of reference:
It comes from the Presbytery's development fund.
It is payable annually in January, starting January 2013.
Remittances for 2014 onwards are conditional upon the satisfaction of a steering committee, which represents the Presbytery's oversight and conforms to the fourth option for the governance of new congregations/missions as laid down by Canadian Ministries, the membership of the said steering committee being drawn primarily from the Presbytery's Mission and Outreach committee, and not including the Rev. Glen Soderholm.
The grant is not conditional upon the success of the Canadian Ministries application. .
Moved Alex MacLeod/John Borthwick that recommendation 2 be approved. CARRIED

3. That the Rev. Glen Soderholm be added to the constituent roll of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington. .
It was agreed that this recommendation not be presented until the Service of Recognition.
4. That a service of recognition be held for the Rev. Glen Soderholm and the Two Rivers Guelph Mission within the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington. Arrangements to be left to the Moderator, Rev. Soderholm, and the Clerk.
Moved Alex MacLeod/John Borthwick that recommendation 4 be approved. CARRIED
5. That Presbytery furnish an extract minute of support to accompany the Two Rivers Guelph Mission application to Canadian Ministries. .
Moved Alex MacLeod/John Borthwick that recommendation 5 be approved. CARRIED

Moved Alex MacLeod/John Borthwick that the report as a whole be adopted. CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

This being a special emergent meeting of the Presbytery no further business was considered.
The court adjourned at 9:10 on motion of John Borthwick.

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The Moderator the Rev. Linda Ashfield closed the meeting with Prayer praying for the family of the Rev. Penny Garrison, for the congregation of Waterloo North and the Rev. Robert Sinasac, and the Rev. Glen Soderholm and the new ministry in Guelph.

Moderator

Clerk

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Appendix "A"

CA Report November 27,2012

Motions will be moved by Calvin Brown and Seconded by David Whitecross.

1. Motion 1:: *Moved that in response to the recommendations and Ministry plan forwarded from the congregation of Waterloo North, the congregation be dissolved effective December 31st, 2012.*

Motion 2 that the pastoral tie between the Rev. Robert Sinasac and Waterloo North Presbyterian Church be severed effective December 31st, 2012.

Motion 3 Moved that the matter of transition allowance for the Rev Robert Sinasac be referred to the Ministry Committee.

Motion 4: Moved that the CA committee be directed to negotiate with the Commission on Assets of the Trustee Board regarding the future of the Presbyterian portion of Laurel Church Centre.

Naming of Interim Moderator for Rockwood/Eden Mills Pastoral Charge.

Moved that the Rev. Alex MacLeod be named Interim-Moderator for the Rockwood/Eden Mills Pastoral Charge. And that he be given permission to begin his work at a time agreeable to the incumbent minister.

Rev Calvin Brown
Rev. David Whitecross

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Appendix "B"

Ministry Committee Report
The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington
27th November 2012

At its meeting on 9th October 2012 the Ministry Committee appointed Rev Mark Gaskin and Mr. Bert Perriman to carry out preparatory work on a transition allowance for Rev Robert Sinasac in the event that the Court proceeded to dissolve the congregation of Waterloo North, and in order that there should be no delay in meeting our obligations to Robert.

Meetings were held within the Ministry Committee. Mark and Bert met Robert to discuss the transition allowance document in draft form.

A transition document has been prepared based on a template issued by the PCC and with reference to a similar document recently used by this court. It has been reviewed by a professional Human Resources specialist, Ms. Sara Nixon. Robert's lawyer has also reviewed it and asked for changes that were acceptable to the Ministry Committee. The original Call document from Waterloo North, accepted by Robert, was also reviewed during this process.

Robert has been offered continuing pastoral care as events move forward, and the Ministry Committee will work with him if he wishes to accept the offer.

Motion 1.

That the terms of the Transition Allowance for the Rev. Robert Sinasac be approved.

Andrew Foster
Convener

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Appendix "C"

Terms of the Transition Allowance for the Reverend Robert Sinasac

AGREEMENT BETWEEN:

The Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (hereinafter, the "Presbytery", which term includes officers, directors, agents, employees, members, successors and assigns and all related and affiliated organizations and their officers, directors, agents, employees members, successors and assigns)

OF THE FIRST PART

- and -

The Congregation of Waterloo North Presbyterian Church, Waterloo, Ontario, (hereinafter, the "Congregation", which term includes officers, directors, agents, employees, members, successors and assigns and all related and affiliated organizations and their officers, directors, agents, employees, members, successors, and assigns)

OF THE SECOND PART

- and -

The Reverend Robert Sinasac (hereinafter, the "Minister")

OF THE THIRD PART

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS the Minister was called by the congregation to serve as minister of the Congregation; and, an Induction Service was held by the Presbytery on 3rd December 2006, and

WHEREAS the Minister was and continues to be in good standing as a minister of Word and Sacraments within the government of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, and

WHEREAS at a regular meeting of the Presbytery held on 27th November, 2012, wherein representatives from the Congregation, representative elders and other ministers were present (the "Meeting"), a resolution was adopted which dissolved the pastoral tie between the Minister and Congregation effective December 31st, 2012, and

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WHEREAS the parties hereto wish to set out their obligations to each other as a result of the dissolution of the pastoral tie;

THEREFORE, in consideration of the obligations, covenants and agreements contained herein, and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt and sufficiency of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

1. The parties acknowledge, confirm and agree that the foregoing recitals are true.

GENERAL

2. The parties hereto confirm that sufficient notice of the Meeting was provided and that each person in attendance had sufficient opportunity to express his or her opinions and all procedures adopted at such Meeting were proper.
3. The parties further acknowledge and confirm that each party shall continue to be bound by the "Policy of the Dissolution of Pastoral Ties" published in the Acts and Proceedings of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, 1998, as may be amended from time to time.
4. The parties confirm that the minutes of the Meeting attached hereto as Schedule "A" are an accurate record of the decision of the Presbytery which confirmed the dissolution of the pastoral tie between the Congregation and the Minister.
5. The parties confirm that the Ministry Committee of the Presbytery was under authority to prepare this agreement in consultation with professional legal advisors.

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE MINISTER

6. The Minister shall receive the following benefits for the period commencing 1st January , 2013 and terminating not earlier than 31st July, 2013 (the "Transition Period"):
 - (a) Subject to the terms set out in this paragraph and in paragraph 8, the stipend which the Minister has received on a monthly basis during the 2012 calendar year shall continue until the end of the Transition Period.
 - (b) The Minister shall continue to be paid his stipend and benefits by the Presbytery on a monthly basis, on the first day of the month for that month.

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- (c) There shall be deducted from the Minister's stipend all standard deductions and remittances in the ordinary course.
- (d) The minister shall continue to be paid his housing allowance by the Presbytery.
- (e) The Minister and his dependents shall continue to be eligible to receive medical and dental insurance coverage issued through the Presbyterian Church in Canada, subject to any changes which may arise under such plan.
- (f) The Minister shall continue to receive long-term disability coverage, pension and life insurance issued through the Presbyterian Church in Canada, subject to the usual deduction from his stipend.
- (g) Pursuant to the regulations of the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada for the portability of continuing education allowances, the Minister shall be granted \$1,500.00 which represents 50 % of his unused, accumulated study leave.

To obtain this benefit, the Minister must provide a continuing education proposal for use of the funds to the Presbytery, through the Ministry committee convener, by March 1st, 2013. The proposal must also be approved by the Presbytery. If this condition is met, the benefit would be included in the April 1st, 2013 transition allowance cheque.

- (h) The Minister shall remove all personal effects from church premises and return any church property in the Minister's possession to the church by December 31st, 2012.
7. It is understood and agreed that during the Transition Period, the Minister will exercise all diligence in obtaining another Call within the Presbyterian Church in Canada, or such other ministerial calling as he may choose, or a non-ministerial position. The Minister agrees immediately to notify the Presbytery in the event that he secures another position, ministerial or non-ministerial.
 8. If during the Transition Period, the Minister secures another ministerial position or another job which is considered full time employment in which he receives remuneration or benefits in lieu of employment, or which remuneration is the same as or exceeds the

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remuneration set out in paragraph 6 herein, the Minister agrees to notify immediately the Presbytery and all remuneration and benefits hereunder shall cease at the end of the month in which such other position commences, but in no case shall the remuneration and benefits outlined in this agreement be provided for less than two (2) months. In no event shall the remuneration and benefits outlined in this agreement continue beyond the end of the Transition Period.

9. For greater certainty, it is understood and agreed that the Minister shall not be disentitled to receive the remuneration and benefits outlined in paragraph 6 unless, during the Transition Period, the Minister receives remuneration or compensation/benefits outlined in paragraph 8 herein.
10. Upon receipt of a written request by the Presbytery, the Minister agrees to provide to the Presbytery an accounting of all amounts or benefits received by the Minister from ministerial or non-ministerial functions during the Transition Period. Such written request shall be given to the Minister by personal delivery, or by registered mail. The Minister agrees to provide such accounting within five (5) days following notification by the Presbytery to the Minister.
11. During the Transition period, the Minister shall not be required to perform any ministerial functions within the Presbytery.
12. During the Transition Period, the Minister shall continue to be a member of the Presbytery and will be listed on the Appendix to the Roll of Presbytery.
13. The parties hereto agree to co-operate with each other in fulfilling their respective obligations herein.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND RELEASE BY THE MINISTER

13. The Minister acknowledges and confirms the following:
 - a. This agreement has been prepared in accordance with the decisions made at the Meeting;
 - b. He accepts the terms of this agreement and in consideration of the payments and benefits provided herein, he hereby releases and forever discharges the Presbytery and the Congregation jointly and severally from and against any and all manner of claims, demands, actions, causes of action, liabilities, complaints,

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- damages and otherwise which he had, now has, or hereafter may have, arising from, out of, or in connection with his ministry to the Congregation or the dissolution of the pastoral tie, including without limiting the generality of the foregoing, any remedies which may subsist in law, equity or under legislation, including *The Workplace Safety and Insurance Act, the Ontario Human Rights Code, the Employment Standards Act 2000* and in particular payments for “severance”, “notice” and “termination pay” under that Act’s sections 57 and 64;
- c. He understands that if he should make any further claim or demand or commence or threaten to commence any action, proceeding or make any claim against the Presbytery and/or the Congregation in respect of any matter contemplated by this agreement, this document may be raised as an estoppel and complete bar to any such claim, demand, action, proceeding or complaint;
 - d. He will not appeal to the Synod of Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda within the Presbyterian Church in Canada, nor to the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, nor to any branch of the Synod of Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda within the Presbyterian Church in Canada or the General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada;
 - e. He has been given an opportunity to obtain independent legal advice with respect to the contents of this agreement and has done so or failed to do so of his own volition; and
 - f. He acknowledges having read and understood the terms of this agreement, and he is signing this agreement freely, voluntarily, and without duress.

MISCELLANEOUS

- 14. Any notices or demands hereunder shall be deemed to be received on the date of personal delivery or facsimile transmission, or five (5) business days following the date of mailing.
- 15. This agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the Minister, the Presbytery and the Congregation with respect to the subject matter of this agreement.
- 16. This agreement may not be amended except by a written instrument signed by all parties hereto.

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17. This agreement shall be binding upon all parties hereto, and shall ensure to the benefit of each of the parties, and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, trustees, successors and assigns.

18. This agreement shall be construed in accordance with and governed by the laws of the Province of Ontario.

Signed and Witnessed by

Minister – Rev. Robert Sinasac

Signature

Date

Name of Witness

Signature

Date

I have authority to bind the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington, The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Moderator - Rev. Linda Ashfield

Signature

Date

Name of Witness

Signature

Date

Clerk - Dr. M. Wilma Welsh

Signature

Date

Name of Witness

Signature

Date

Congregational Representative

Signature

Date

Name of Witness

Signature

Date

(Saturday, November 24, 2012 version)

Wilma Welsh, Clerk - watwell@rogers.com

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Appendix "D"

Nov.27, 2012

Report of the Mission & Outreach Committee of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington:

Two Rivers Guelph Mission Narrative and Proposal

This is a narration of the steps towards the planting of a mission of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (PCC) in downtown Guelph in the hope that it will become a flourishing congregation of our church. The recommended name of the mission is Two Rivers Guelph Mission.

The Rev. Glen Soderholm is a minister in good standing within the PCC. He served in the Campbellville and Nassagaweya Pastoral Charge from 1991-2004. Under his leadership, this two-point charge emerged into two self-supporting congregations within the Presbytery of Brampton. From 2004 to the present, he launched and directed a cognate ministry of the church called Moveable Feast Resources, through which he sought to equip the church (both Presbyterian and other denominations) specifically in the area of worship and music.

In June 2011, Rev. Soderholm began to consider a return to congregational ministry, as he felt led by the Holy Spirit. He had recently moved to downtown Guelph and saw there an opportunity to develop a ministry to the unchurched people of the city. In particular, he envisioned reaching out to a post-Christian cultural constituency who have turned their back on organized religion and the institutional church. Such an enterprise requires a set of gifts which have been discerned in the Rev. Soderholm by other leaders in the area of church-planting and evangelism (vis. May 2012 PCC New Church Development conference below). In addition, this new ministry is envisaged from the outset as intentionally not competing with other traditional local congregations of the PCC.

This sense of call was confirmed within a circle of accountability, including PCC ministers and elders. Thereafter, as a minister within the PCC, he proceeded to seek support from the denomination. Having recently moved within the bounds of the Waterloo-Wellington (WW) Presbytery from the Brampton Presbytery, Rev. Soderholm was received into the WW Presbytery in good standing. Recognizing that there were two historic congregations in downtown Guelph, he approached the ministers of St. Andrew's and Knox to share his vision for a new ministry and to elicit their response to this idea. In both cases, the ministers were enthusiastic. Various ministry models were discussed, including incorporation within the ministry of one of the aforementioned congregations. However, the vision seemed to demand a novel approach apart from existing traditional congregations given the goal of reaching those

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people whom studies have shown are most responsive to fresh expressions of Christian community.

In the winter of 2011-12, this emerging vision was communicated to the Session of St. Andrew's Church and the Long Range Planning Committee of Knox Church. More recently, in November 2012, the clerk of Waterloo-Wellington Presbytery officially notified the sessions of all the Guelph churches. St. Andrew's and Knox have now given their formal support to the project.

In May 2012, Rev. Soderholm took the opportunity offered to the WW Presbytery to send a representative to the PCC's New Church Development Conference at Presbyterian College in Montreal. As mentioned above, his particular gifting for this kind of ministry was affirmed at the conference. At the same time, he and several interested individuals began to meet in his home for meals, study, and worship and a core group formed around the prospect of establishing a new expression of church in downtown Guelph. They planned to connect with the non-churched population of downtown Guelph through strategic initiatives and faithful presence. They hoped to use their unique gifts and non-traditional approach (ie. meeting in homes and "Third Spaces") to connect to people who would not be attracted to more long-established church structures. To illustrate briefly, the Two Rivers community focuses on six key practices: spiritual formation; storytelling; generosity; celebration; spiritual friendship; and culture making.

The Mission & Outreach Committee met with Rev. Soderholm on June 12, 2012. Following that meeting, the M&O Committee made the following recommendations to the Presbytery:

- 1) That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington recognize and encourage the Rev. Glen Soderholm's new ministry and embrace this ministry as a ministry of the Presbyterian Church in Canada as he starts and continues this ministry in the Missional Church model, in the downtown area of Guelph. CARRIED
- 2) That we the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington move to start a new congregation through this ministry that Rev. Glen Soderholm is beginning. CARRIED
- 3) That the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington provide seed money of \$7000, from the Development fund, to this new ministry to help with the cost that the Rev. Soderholm is incurring. Notice of Motion.
After discussion it was moved by Ed Charlton that he would move or cause to be moved at a future sederunt this recommendation as per standing orders; in the meantime, the Business Committee will review and be prepared to comment on this matter.
- 4) That the Rev. Glen Soderholm be accountable to the Mission and Outreach Committee. CARRIED

On July 7th, the group meeting with Rev. Soderholm regularly in his home considered the question of a name. They have proposed the name Two Rivers, in order to reflect the community in which they live (the downtown of Guelph is situated at the confluence of the Speed and Eramosa rivers). They also formally established a Leadership Team and began to take minutes of their meetings.

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On July 18th, Rev. Charlton, Rev. Soderholm, and the clerk of Presbytery, Wilma Welsh, met at PCC National Offices at 50 Wynford Dr. with two representatives of the Canadian Ministries staff to discuss the details of applying for grants for the mission. Here it was made clear that there are several different ways in which congregations are started, but that the Presbytery must first give its approval to the applicants. The following document was received from Canadian Ministries:

Question: When a presbytery forms a mission, what body is responsible for its care and oversight?

Answer: Presbytery Missions

Principles: the mission will function as a body within the PCC and according to PCC governance; the mission will ultimately be accountable to the presbytery; the presbytery shall promote and support the mission to fulfill its gospel ministry.

Governance Options:

1. Presbytery erects a congregation. The Book of Forms is clear that a group of people who reside within the bounds of a presbytery and declare adherence to the principles and standards of The Presbyterian Church in Canada may apply to that presbytery to be formed as a congregation. The presbytery would need to ascertain that appropriate ministry is being provided and funding is available.

Presbytery could appoint an assessor session to facilitate this discernment, oversee the administration of the sacraments and receive members. In due course elders would be elected from within the congregation and could gradually replace the assessor elders. The assessor session would report to the presbytery and could also appoint a Board of Managers or form a Finance and Maintenance Committee of the session to handle finances. If some day in the future finances (from whatever sources) are not able to sustain the ministry, the congregation would be dissolved.

2. Presbytery establishes a mission and appoints an assessor session to oversee the ministry. In this case, while a congregation is not yet formed, an assessor session could still provide the necessary governance link to the presbytery and authority to oversee the administration of sacraments, hold meetings, approve financial matters, etc. As a temporary measure, the assessor session could admit interested people to the fellowship of the mission and receive them members of the PCC once a congregation is established. At that point they are added to the congregational roll of membership.

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3. Presbytery establishes a mission and gives oversight responsibility to an existing committee of presbytery. Again, appropriate, clear and comprehensive terms of reference for the committee's oversight of the mission should be put into a document. (For example: The Missions committee shall have the authority to approve requests for baptism and the celebration of sacraments. The Missions committee shall appoint a treasurer for the congregation and oversee financial reviews on a quarterly basis.)

4. Presbytery establishes a mission and appoints a steering committee to oversee the ministry. Provided the presbytery gives clear authority to a steering committee (and this should be specified in a comprehensive document) this could work much the same way option 2 would work.

The motions carried at the June meeting of Presbytery are in line with option #3 as the governance model for this new ministry. However, at the Nov.21st meeting of the M&O committee, a decision was made to instead recommend option #4 as it avoids any conflict of interest or perception thereof.

After meeting with Canadian Ministries, Rev. Soderholm and his leadership team prepared the grant application, including a narrative of Rev. Soderholm's experience of call, the ministry's current status and activity, and their vision going forward. It was accompanied by a budget proposal based on projected costs of sustaining a full-time ministry which the core group felt would be ideal.

This grant proposal was unofficially forwarded to Canadian Ministries for feedback. Rev. Soderholm was left with the understanding that, contingent upon presbytery support, a grant would be forthcoming. This document, which also indicated that a request would be made for a grant from the presbytery's Church Development fund, was then brought to presbytery by the M&O Committee at its meeting on Sept.11th. Presbytery required a notice of motion because it involved an unbudgeted expenditure. On that occasion, Rev. Soderholm spoke. He thanked the presbytery for its support and also invited communication from members of presbytery over the following two months regarding any questions or concerns people might have about the proposal.

In the meantime, the fledgling Two Rivers community began to meet every Tuesday evening in the home of Rev. Soderholm for a meal and various activities which included worship, discussion, and community-building. The group grew to a dozen or so individuals who included core disciples, neighbours, seekers, and others looking for a fresh expression of church. The community also launched a monthly Sunday night coffeehouse at a downtown café where they

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have seen neighbours and friends attending out of curiosity. A contract was set up with Incarnation Ministries, a charitable organization in Vancouver (run by Presbyterian lawyer David Jennings, former convener of Assembly Council) to provide tax receipts for donations at this stage of the start-up. Also, an RBC community bank account was set up in order to begin proper bookkeeping, and an experienced bookkeeper/treasurer was appointed.

On Oct. 10th, the new M&O Committee met to deal with business which included Two Rivers Church. The Rev. Alex MacLeod chaired the meeting. In order to deal with any conflict of interest in having Rev. Soderholm present, the Committee decided that a "Jury of Peers" would interview Rev. Soderholm regarding the ongoing work of the mission, then ask him to leave as they cast an independent eye over the budget, and formulated their recommendations. This jury included the Rev. Arnold Bethune, the Rev. Karla Wubbenhorst, and the Rev. John Borthwick. On Wednesday, Oct. 24th, the jury met with Rev. Soderholm and prepared its report. The M&O Committee considered the report of the jury at its Nov. 21st meeting and moved to recommend that the budget be adopted by the presbytery, as revised.

At the Nov. 13th meeting of WW Presbytery a motion was adopted to refer the matter of the Two Rivers mission and budget back to the M&O Committee. This was to ensure that the committee's actions were transparent to the presbytery, including the steps taken to avoid conflict of interest (the principal of the new ministry being the co-convener of the committee charged with oversight), and the steps taken to satisfy the Book of Forms' counsel for the start-up of new congregations/missions within the bounds of existing ones. This is our report to the presbytery meeting of Tuesday Nov. 27th in answer to that referral.

Although all the Guelph congregations were aware of Rev. Soderholm's vision and activity, M&O co-convener, Rev. MacLeod, asked the clerk of the presbytery to formalize the notice by sending a letter to their sessions, inviting any concerns. At their meetings on Nov. 20th, the sessions of Knox Church and St. Andrew's Church responded by moving that assurances of their encouragement and prayerful support be conveyed to Rev. Soderholm through the clerk.

The M&O Committee met on Nov. 21st and prepared the recommendations which follow from this report. The recommendation that the presbytery oversee the Two Rivers Guelph mission by means of a steering committee (option 4 among those given for governance of new congregations/missions by Canadian Ministries) rather than by means of the M&O committee (option 3, and our practice up till now) is offered as a way of dealing with any potential conflict of interest or perception thereof. While the committee has Rev. Soderholm as its co-convener, he will not be part of the steering committee. Rev. Soderholm was asked to leave the meeting while these recommendations were proposed, discussed and voted on.

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The Guelph quadrant remains enthusiastic about this new and visionary ministry in its midst. It is pleased to recommend to the presbytery (now that its conformity to the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington's Standing Orders and the Book of Forms is hopefully evident, both in truth and in appearance), that Two Rivers' application to Canadian Ministries, including the financial undertaking by the presbytery, which forms part of that application's budget, be forwarded with our full support.

Recommendations:

1. That the Presbytery approve the name "Two Rivers Guelph Mission" as a way of referring to the community currently worshipping in downtown Guelph under the leadership of Rev. Soderholm.
2. That the Presbytery approve a \$25,000 grant for each of the next three years to the Two Rivers Guelph Mission under the following terms of reference:
It comes from the Presbytery's development fund.
It is payable annually in January, starting January 2013.
Remittances for 2014 onwards are conditional upon the satisfaction of a steering committee, which represents the Presbytery's oversight and conforms to the fourth option for the governance of new congregations/missions as laid down by Canadian Ministries, the membership of the said steering committee being drawn primarily from the Presbytery's Mission and Outreach committee, and not including the Rev. Glen Soderholm.
The grant is not conditional upon the success of the Canadian Ministries application.
3. That the Rev. Glen Soderholm be added to the constituent roll of the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington.
4. That a service of recognition be held for the Rev. Glen Soderholm and the Two Rivers Guelph Mission within the Presbytery of Waterloo-Wellington.
5. That Presbytery furnish an extract minute of support to accompany the Two Rivers Guelph Mission application to Canadian Ministries.

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Canadian Ministries - Grant Form

City: Guelph
Presbytery: Waterloo-Wellington
Synod: Central, Northeastern Ontario and Bermuda
Congregational Status: Mission/Plant

For full year 2013 (some of the capital costs may be purchased in 2012, reducing the final figure).

Some of these costs may be pro-rated according to need (office space may not actually happen until year 2, admin. assistant might be only be part of the year).

Stipend & car allowance	46,000
Housing Allowance & Utilities	21,500
Medical/Dental	4,300
EI	1,500
CPP	2,200
Church Pension	3,800
Study Leave & Travel	1,500
Ministry Resources	1,500
Hall Rental (& Incidentals)	3,000
Mission	1,000
Administrative Assistant	6,000

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Communications (internet/phone/web-hosting)	1,500
Office Supply/postage/photocopying	750
Marketing/Printing	1000
Chr. Ed materials	750
Capital Costs: Web-site - 2,700 Photocopier/printer- 500 Projector/screen - 1,200 Computer - 1,300 Liturgical Supplies - 1,000	7,700
Total	104,000
Congregational Share	24,000
Presbytery's Share	25,000 (2013) 25,000 (2014) 25,000 (2015)
Cdn. Ministry's Grant Request	55,000 (2013) 45,000 (2014) 35,000 (2015) 25,000 (2016) 15,000 (2017)