

**Executive**  
**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**  
**OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**

*Supports, Connects, Empowers Communities of Faith*

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Wednesday, March 18, 2020, 5 pm, via zoom

**Roster:** Kate Young (President), John Hurst (Treasurer), Deborah Laforet (Past Chair), Margaret Blewett, Robert Lawson, Lorna MacQueen, Lena Medeiros, Adrienne Robertson, Nancy Risto, Thea Sheridan-Jonah Pat Tooley, Garry Van Bruchem, Diane Viney

**Staff Support:** Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, Executive Minister  
Sue Duliban, Executive Assistant

**Present:** Kate Young, John Hurst, Deborah Laforet, Margaret Blewett, Robert Lawson, Lorna MacQueen, Lena Medeiros, Adrienne Robertson, Nancy Risto, Pat Tooley, Garry Van Bruchem, Diane Viney

**Regrets:** Thea Sheridan-Jonah

**Welcome and Constitute Meeting (Kate Young)**

*I constitute this meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, the one true head of the Church and by the authority invested in me by this meeting of the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council for whatever business may properly come before it. The bounds of the meeting will be the Zoom call.*

**Acknowledging the Land (Kate Young)**

*The United Church of Canada acknowledges that its buildings and ministries from coast to coast to coast are on traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples.*

**Opening Check In**

Executive members shared how they are coping during the health crisis. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa led the group in prayer.

**Consent Docket**

Any of the following Pastoral Relations matters that require discussion can be lifted from the consent docket and voted upon separately:

**A. Enabling Motions/Proposals**

1. That the proposed Agenda be approved as presented. The review of Gary van Bruchem's Learning Fund application to be moved to the end of the agenda.
2. That the minutes of the February 19, 2020 zoom meeting be approved as distributed.
3. That motions be written and given to the Secretary.

**B. Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Commission appointments**

1. Appoints Agenda and Business Chair Robert Lawson, Worship Committee: Joanne Hedge, Lorna MacQueen, Parliamentarian Margaret Bain.

**C. Receive correspondence of**

1. HF Retirees Association (thank you for funding)

**D. Horseshoe Falls Regional Council (9) Omnibus motion March 19, 2020**

That the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council (9) Executive take the following action:

- a) Cave Springs Camp Inc.  
....approve Cave Springs Camp Inc. 2019-2020 Board of Directors  
Elizabeth Agnew  
Mary Beth Anger  
Christine Arsenault  
Margaret Blewett  
John Donald  
Caroline Duffus  
David Duffus  
Karen Francis  
Judith Fraser  
Evan Gillespie  
Heather Grundy  
Carol Halford  
Carolyn Hoxie  
Don Martindale  
David Pritchard  
Heather Pritchard  
David Reid  
Nancy Risto

*This is based on the draft Minutes of Annual General Meeting of April 6, 2019, Corporation minutes of June 22, 2019, the 2019 board member approval form, the board contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per The United Church of Canada incorporated ministries policy.*

- b) Niagara Presbytery United Church Extension Council  
....approve Niagara Presbytery United Church Extension Council 2019-2020 Board of Directors  
John Bowman  
Jim Bradley  
Bonnie Bryan  
Rick Chandler  
Jim Dohn  
Sheila Laundry  
Bill Leighfield  
Bruce Lilley  
Larry McRae  
Robbie Robertson  
Val Spear  
Diane Walker

*This is based on the draft Annual Meeting minutes of June 4, 2019, the 2019 board member approval form, the board contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per The United Church of Canada incorporated ministries policy.*

**MOTION** Adrienne Robertson / Diane Viney  
That the Consent Docket for Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive meeting of March 18, 2020 be adopted. **MOTION CARRIED**

**Business Arising**

1. Learning Fund Grants – administration of  
25 applications received and approved. Total: \$7,500 disbursed
2. Confirm terms of office: Commissioners (re: elections at May 2020 meeting)  
Mission & Discipleship Commission will forward  
Covenant Commission has forwarded  
Human Resources Commission will forward  
Executive's listing of terms in dropbox
3. Mission Support Unspent Funds – Proposal 3 (carried forward from February 19, 2020 meeting)  
The Mission & Discipleship Commission voted by email March 3, 2020 and were unanimous in favour of taking authority over remaining Mission & Support Grant funds.

**MOTION** Lorna MacQueen / John Hurst

The Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive grants the Mission and Discipleship Commission authority over the unspent balance made available for Mission Support Grants in 2020 for mission and ministry throughout the regional council.

**MOTION CARRIED**

4. Fall 2020 meeting location  
Staff will inquire if the Pelham Meridian Community Centre, Fonthill can accommodate the regional council for their fall meeting.
5. Spring 2021 meeting date and location  
Staff will investigate possible locations for the Spring 2021 meeting; including Niagara College and Brock University. It was recommended that the location be no more than hour to an hour 15 for driving. Accommodation provided with venue preferred.

It was suggested that conversation about the current governance model (prior to the vote at the spring 2021 meeting) begin at the fall gathering through discussion groups or via webinar, to give people a chance to think of implications of their choice.

**New Business**

1. Update on Covid19 actions, including online "Town Hall" March 26<sup>th</sup>, 1 pm  
Cheryl-Ann provided a quick update, noting that an extensive email newsletter was sent out to all three regional councils providing several links to helpful information, ways to stay connected, notice that the office is closed and staff are working from home, and that a new facebook group has been set up. The online Town Hall on March 27<sup>th</sup> will give people an opportunity to connect, raise any practical concerns, ask any questions regarding the current Covid19 situation.

Adrienne Robertson noted that the Covenant Commission met and passed a motion to allow communities of faith to access to restricted funds, as follows. The motion passed is as follows:

*The Covenant Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council authorizes communities of faith with funds restricted by either the previous Presbytery or the regional council, to access these restricted funds if needed, up to the amount of their February ADP payment, for the purpose of meeting ADP payroll in March and April of 2020. The governing body's decision to access these funds to be communicated to the Covenant Commission via the respective staff (Lynne Allin, Minister Congregational Support and Mission). Adrienne will post this information on the HF Facebook page.*

2. May meeting – update on considerations to date

Some preliminary planning has been done about what to do if we cannot gather as a large group in May. The UNIFOR site is closed to April 14. After Easter, we will consult with them and make a judgement call; it is anticipated a decision will be made before the end of April. Re: Celebration of Ministries, there are a variety of options to explore. Cheryl-Ann added that the service is not tied to the spring cycle; it could be celebrated at the fall meeting.

Kate noted that the Worship committee has met and more people, more diversity is needed. Contact Lorna MacQueen or Kate Young.

3. GC proposal submitted May, 2019 ( from WOW)

Cheryl-Ann provided some background on the proposal. The proposal came from Huron Shores United Church and went to Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council, who acted on it and affirmed it. It has gone on to the General Secretary. One of the things Huron Shores asked was that it be shared with all the regional councils.

Cheryl-Ann added that today the Executive is receiving a piece of correspondence; nothing has to be done with the proposal at this meeting. The Executive can choose to receive it for information and ponder if crafting a proposal of their own is something they would like to do.

**MOTION** Margaret Blewett / Lena Medeiros

The Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive agrees to receive the Huron Shores United Church proposal as correspondence for information, and for further study.

**MOTION CARRIED**

4. Financial updates

John Hurst (Treasurer) reported the regional council to be in good shape to the end of 2019 and that the budget was correctly cast.

5. United Church Camps Proposal CA

Cheryl-Ann provided background on the proposal as circulated. This proposal is an attempt to do two things: 1) provide a helpful analysis for each camp in their efforts toward long-term sustainability; and 2) provide a helpful analysis for the regional council to clarify its understanding of the purpose of a camping ministry and to enable it to be intentional in planning its support for camping.

**MOTION** Garry Van Bruchem / Lorna MacQueen

The Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive approves contributing \$3,000.00 from reserves towards the cost of preparing a proposal regarding the sustainability of the camps within the Horseshoe Falls geographic area.

**MOTION CARRIED**

Margaret Blewett and Robert Lawson offered to sit in on some the work of talking with the camps.

6. Five Oaks

a. Application for Technology Support Grant

Cheryl-Ann noted that she was not sure that Five Oaks is eligible for the grant.

**MOTION** Deborah Laforet / Adrienne Robertson

The Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive supports the Five Oaks Application for Technology Support Grant, for the balance of the cost in excess of \$8,000.00; provided that Five Oaks is eligible for the grant.

**MOTION CARRIED**

- b. Application for Loan and/or Grant for Educational Retreat Centres

**MOTION** Deborah Laforet / Pat Tooley

The Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive supports the Five Oaks Application for Loan and/or Grant for Educational Retreat Centres in the amount of \$4,000.

**MOTION CARRIED**

7. Staff updates

- a. Minister, Social Justice position

In-person interviews have been postponed. If necessary, should the Covid19 crisis continue for an extended period, zoom interviews will be held. The search committee has previously met all the candidates in person.

- b. Kim Uyede-Kai – resignation received. In terms of that position, it will remain vacant for at least until the fall. The party for Kim and Joan Tuchlinsky has been postponed.
- c. Administrative Assistant, Mission & Hospitality: No change to salary category.

The staff support committee has been meeting and they met with staff in person. Their role is becoming clearer for them and staff.

8. Commission Reports

- a. Covenant (Adrienne Robertson): Met and passed the motion regarding accessing restricted funds. The responsibility of finding pastoral charge supervisors for communities of faith remains with the Covenant Commission. The commission didn't have the authority to move that responsibility to the Human Resources Commission, as that is not the Covenant Commission's governance. Five pastoral charge supervisors were appointed at the last meeting of the commission. However, two volunteers are needed to assist in the appointment of them. Contact Adrienne or Lynne Allin.
- b. Human Resources (Pat Tooley): The commission has been managing the usual calls/appointments and renewals that come in. The commission reviewed terms of office and 7 individuals will be staying on: 4 whose term will end in 2021, 3 whose term will end in 2022. A new chair and two or three commission members will be needed.
- c. Mission & Discipleship (Diane Viney): Approved some grants and met online and passed the motion re: remaining Mission Support funds.

9. Learning Fund: Application received from Garry van Bruchem

Garry van Bruchem left the meeting so that discussion could proceed.

**MOTION** John Hurst / Pat Tooley

The Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive approve the Learning Fund application submitted by Garry van Bruchem to cover the tuition cost of an Interim Ministry Network course offered at Five Oaks in September and November 2020, in the amount of \$2,140 USD. The expense will be reimbursed when receipts are presented (Canadian exchange to be calculated at that time).

**MOTION CARRIED**

**MOTION to Adjourn** John Hurst

Next meeting: April 15, 2020