

Present: Deborah Laforet (Chair), Jean Bethune, Margaret Blewett, Rhonda Johns, Robert Lawson, Christina Paradela, Ted Smith, Sybil Wilson, Kate Young (via conference call), Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa (Executive Secretary), Sue Duliban (Executive Assistant)

Opening Worship : Cheryl-Ann opened with prayer and Acknowledgement of Territory.

Business

Review & Consideration of Mission Support Grant Requests

Cheryl-Ann outlined mission support grants, both the historical context and the Region 9 priorities identified as criteria to be considered when determining which grants should be awarded. Every application comes with an application form and financial data. Cheryl-Ann flagged that any of the transition commission members who are directors of any of the groups who submitted a grant application, should excuse themselves from the discussion of that particular application. She also noted that something uniquely different this year is that all Indigenous ministries have been funded through a central forum, The National Indigenous Circle.

All 2019 grant applications were reviewed and discussed, including the program details included in the applications and the financial statements.

Motion: Margaret Blewett/Christina Paradela

That the Mission Support Grant applications for 2019 be approved as reviewed. **Carried**

*Summary of the final grants approved to be attached to minutes (Attachment 1).

Discussion regarding grant monies remaining. Suggested and agreed that date(s) for receiving further applications be determined. It was agreed that a date in mid-March be circulated in the Region 9 newsletter. If any monies remain, a second call for applications could be sent out for mid-September, but that information will not be published yet. C-A noted that remaining monies can be carried over to another year. Also mission support grant money is guaranteed for 2019 and 2020.

C-A to revamp the current mission support grant application form and will bring to the gathering of Regions 7, 8,9 at the end of November.

Governance

Cheryl-Ann referred commission members to the draft documents circulated prior to the meeting. She asked the commission to review in preparation for the joint meeting of Region 7, 8, 9 transition commissions at the end of November. The documents circulated are jumping off points for discussion and fine-tuning when the commissions come together. C-A anticipates there will be a good governance outline to share in December, but it won't be finalized until January.

She suggested also that one of the things to think about for the joint meeting is the role of pastoral relations liaisons and that it would make sense to develop a pool of people for this work.

C-A spoke of two separate threads; the congregation's understanding of their mission, identity, service as community of faith, in contrast to who their minister is. She suggested looking at the new pastoral relations workbook as it contains some very practical documents (ie hard facts analysis, community of faith profiles). C-A will see about getting the pastoral relations workbook.

**Further documents to be sent for Nov. 29/30 meeting:

- Draft template and handbook containing policy on property across the church
- Some revisions on items already sent
- Marriage policy

There was some discussion about concerns regarding getting volunteers into place for the transition and how to deal with potential issues that may arise in the new year. C-A commented that the majority of times when the region will need to interact it will be a mechanical interaction and that the transition commissions are quite capable of covering things off for one to two months, can certainly carry off the basics. In terms of the immediate future, C-A has been meeting with presbytery executives and one thing she has asked is for current volunteers to consider continuing in similar roles for now. She added that when there is a major concern, that is what the regions pay staff for. Folks should call the office.

Suggestion made to design a series of Lenten worship services for congregations based on topics that are part of the community of faith living story.

Region 9 name

From submissions received from Region 9 constituents, the commission narrowed down the names suggested to two:

- Horseshoe Falls Region
- Carolinian Forest Region

Folks in Region 9 will be asked to vote for one of the two names. C-A will speak to Pretima regarding setting up an e-poll that can be circulated.

C-A noted that Region 7's chose Antler River Watershed Region for their name. Region 8 anticipates finalizing their name within a week; the current name suggested is Western Ontario Waterways.

Region 9 gathering

Christina mentioned that she asked Hamilton Presbytery if a gathering would be welcome. While it wasn't unanimous, the majority said they would appreciate a gathering before May.

C-A outlined the structure and program of the Region 8 gathering in October. Timing/possible dates were reviewed. Saturday, March 2nd was agreed upon.

C-A suggested St. Andrew's, Georgetown as a possible location for the gathering and offered to contact St. Andrew's. The commission agreed. A planning committee will be needed.

To circulate to the region: vote on name, save the date (for the gathering) and "would you like to help us plan the event".

Robert noted that the day should be designed to reflect Region 9's purpose - supports connect empowers.

Staff position update

A large pool of candidates applied for the position of Minister, Congregational Support & Mission Regions 7 & 9. The interview team interviewed 5 candidates. Currently in the process of checking references and standing of the preferred candidate.

Regional office renovation

The renovation is scheduled to start in December. Start date to be confirmed.

An additional cost of \$1,200 (\$400 from each region) has been added to the Regional office renovation budget to move Kim Uyede-Kai's office door so it is not directly across from the upstairs bathroom door. The budget is still well within the \$20,000 approved by Region 7, 8, 9 transition commissions.

Other Business

- C-A suggested that the commission meet on a set day of the week on a monthly basis starting January, 2019 up until the May AGM. The commission agreed to meet the fourth Wednesday of each month from 1-3 p.m. The first monthly meeting will be January 23, 2019 at 1 p.m. via conference call.