

**Executive**  
**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**  
**OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**  
*Supports, Connects, Empowers Communities of Faith*

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**Wednesday, June 17, 2020, 3:30 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, Win Czum, 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 (President), John Hurst (Treasurer), Deborah Laforet (Past Chair), Margaret Blewett, Robert Lawson, Lorna MacQueen, Lena Medeiros, Adrienne Robertson, Nancy Risto, Win Czum, Thea Sheridan-Jonah, Pat Tooley, Garry van Bruchem, Diane Viney

**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.*

Kate Young welcomed Win Czum, newly appointed acting president for the UCW, to the meeting.

**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.*

**Blessing for today** from “600 Blessings and Prayers from Around the World”, shared by President Kate.

**Consent Docket**

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

- A. Enabling Motions/Proposals
  - That the proposed Agenda be approved as presented.
  - 1. That the minutes of the May 20, 2020 zoom meeting be approved as distributed.
  - 2. That motions be written and given to the Secretary.
- B. To receive the correspondence and address it as it arises in the agenda
  - 1. Thank you for Global Appeal donation (for information)
  - 2. Regional Prayer Room – 2020 (for information)
- C. Actions
  - 1. Ker-Tapleypoint: Accept Margaret Bain’s resignation as a consultant re: Ker-Tapleypoint Pastoral Charge situation. Agree to reconvene to review the situation when Rev. Bain’s final report is received.
  - 2. United Church Outdoor Ministries (UCOM): To confirm Horseshoe Falls Regional Council’s agreement to be supervising regional council for UCOM.

**MOTION** Adrienne Robertson / Robert Lawson

That the Consent Docket for Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive meeting of June 17, 2020 be adopted. **CARRIED**

### **Business Arising**

1. November 2020 Meeting

a. Draft agenda

The Executive agreed to the times/dates as suggested. It was also suggested that the agenda needed to be made more interesting so that there would be continued participation in the online meetings over the three days scheduled. The Executive will think about possible approaches to bring forward to their next meeting.

b. Celebration of Ministries Service

**MOTION** Lorna MacQueen/ Margaret Blewett

That Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive confirm Sunday, November 15, 2020 as the date for the Celebration of Ministries Service. **CARRIED**

Cheryl-Ann suggested the service be held at Norval United Church in Georgetown. The Executive directed Cheryl-Ann to contact Norval. It was also agreed that the Moderator be invited to preach at the service.

2. Expression of Interest Form

Executive reviewed the current form on the website – no changes were made. Information/deadlines etc. re: submissions of expressions of interest, needs of the commissions, voting at the regional meeting, will be shared in a newsletter specifically focused on this process. The website will also be updated.

The Executive **agreed** by consensus to approve the expression of interest form as put forward.

There was some discussion regarding where the initiative comes from to fill the positions. People interested in serving have to self-nominate - could people be randomly nominated and then be contacted by executive and asked if they want to put their name forward.

Staff clarified that all those who submit their name for consideration to serve on a commission/executive will be added to the ballot. There is not a “nominating committee”. However, this does not preclude “tapping” folks on the shoulder and asking them to consider putting their names forward.

Adrienne Robertson noted that the Covenant Commission is already talking about who they know, who they can discern have the gifts to serve on the commission.

3. Supporting change: Cameron Trimble webinar

Update provided. Registration is open to HF, ARW and WOW regional councils. First come, first serve - there is a limit of 500. Two sessions: June 22 and June 25.

4. Commission reports

a. Covenant (Adrienne Robertson)

Our regular meeting was held on Tuesday June 16th. Throughout May and into June the CC has held several Zoom meetings with a variety of communities of faith around discerning future direction, property issues, and also to ask questions of clarification with regard to financial viability/faith story in order to be ready to call new ministry personnel. Lynne Allin, along with a couple representatives from the commission have been involved in each of these Zoom meetings.

We are consulting quite frequently with the folks at United Property Resource Corporation in several property matters that are ongoing. They are very helpful and a valued resource for our commission.

No more loan requests have come in since our last executive meeting. We approved the extension for communities of faith to use restricted funds in order to meet payroll until the end of August. We are not sure how many communities of faith are doing this as we have received reporting from only one Community of faith so far. The form is on the HF website and the commission requests notification each month restricted funds are used.

We spent some time at our last meeting reviewing and reflecting on our work from this past year including our relationship with communities of faith, structure and content of our meetings, the role of companions and commission members, and things we might like to change/develop/introduce in this next year. We felt that a check in with communities of faith, especially with lay members, would be a helpful next step. We are going to offer two zoom sessions for both ministry personnel and church leaders: Monday July 6th at 7pm and Tuesday July 7th at 2pm which will look at the following:

How your congregation is doing in a Covid 19 world

What has surprised you?

What is troubling you? What questions do you have?

What resources/support do you need?

This will be hosted by Lynne Allin and members of the Covenant Commission

b. Human Resources (Pat Tooley)

The commission met May 27<sup>th</sup> and its regular work continues.

c. Mission & Discipleship (Diane Viney)

The commission's next meeting is Tuesday, June 23 at which time they will be reviewing 15 applications submitted for the additional Mission & Service funds.

President Kate noted minutes are on the website.

## 5. Financial Update

John Hurst reported that the regional council is in good shape and not spending money as fast as if we were meeting in person. He has asked Bob Savaria, Manager Financial Support and Budgeting for a more summary type of report. Cheryl-Ann added that all assets have been consolidated in the name of regional council and there will likely be an audit at the end of June.

## New Business

### 1. Proposal #1 – Black Lives Matter

There was detailed and lengthy discussion, much of it concerning the use/understanding of the word "racialized" It was noted that the word comes from the community. Thea Sheridan-Jonah added that it comes from dividing according to race, as all of us here are white or pass as white, it is not up to us to decide what wording to use that doesn't affect us as it affects racialized people.

**MOTION** John Hurst / Adrienne Robertson

Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive makes the commitment to adopt and enact the following action plan for the next twelve months that the regional council staff have committed to follow:

- 1) Support racialized ministry personnel. Individual contact; providing resources for a mutual support gathering; asking racialized ministry personnel if they would like a facilitated event on racism for their Ministry and Personnel Committees.
- 2) Promote educational resources. Use the Facebook Group and other options to profile resources that invite people to explore racism and privilege more clearly.
- 3) Acknowledge our participation in racist systems. Make anti-racism the focus of our education through the use of guided conversations and literature.
- 4) Advocate for change by identifying racism when we witness it and by working against its influence.
- 5) Encourage our Commissions and communities of faith to do likewise.
- 6) Commit the executive and commissions to participate in a racial justice training update. **CARRIED**

2. Niagara Extension Council

**MOTION** Margaret Blewett / Gary van Bruchem

Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive approves the transfer of \$19,000 to Niagara Extension Council from funds held in trust, so that full payout of the \$20,000 loan due to General Council from the former United Church in Port Dalhousie, may be made. **CARRIED**

3. Receipt of funds: Gift from the Annie D. Bennett Trust

**MOTION** Lorna MacQueen / Deborah Laforet

That Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive receive the gift from the Annie D. Bennett Trust in the amount of \$6,588.67 and transfer the gift to Wesley Urban Ministries. **CARRIED**

To be noted in the newsletter to highlight the long term impact of planned giving.

4. Executive Minister's Accountability Report June 2020 (for information)

5. Correspondence (for information)

Motion to adjourn: Deborah Laforet

Next meeting: August 19, 2020 at 2 pm, via zoom

Worship: Garry van Bruchem