**Executive**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

***Supports, Connects, Empowers Communities of Faith***

March 22,2023, 4 PM via zoom

**Roster:** Robert Lawson (President), Lennox Scarlett (President Elect), John Hurst (Treasurer), Judith Gilliland, Marilyn Johnston, Sula Anne Kosacky, Deborah Laforet, Wendy Lowden, Adrianne Robertson, Pat Tooley, Yvonne Wright

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

**Present:** Robert Lawson (President), Lennox Scarlett (President Elect), John Hurst (Treasurer), Marilyn Johnston, Sula Anne Kosacky, Deborah Laforet, Wendy Lowden, Pat Tooley, Yvonne Wright

**Regrets:** Judith Gilliland, Adrianne Robertson

**Constitute Meeting:** President Robert

*I constitute this meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, the one true head of the Church and by the*

*authority vested 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/Welcome/Opening Worship:** President Robert

President Robert asked the executive to share if there any First Nation myths or stories that they have internalized, closing with prayer after a brief time of sharing.

# Opening Agreements

## *Consent Docket*

## **Motion:** Deborah Laforet / Lennox Scarlett

## That the Consent Docket for the HFRC Executive meeting of March 22, 2023 be adopted as circulated.

1. Enabling Motions/Proposals
2. That the proposed Agenda be approved as presented.
3. That the minutes of the February 22, 2023 Meeting be approved as distributed.
4. That motions be written and given to the Secretary.

B. Correspondence Received

1. Executive Minister’s Accountability Report March 2023: Received for information
2. New Vision United Church thank you letter: Received for information
3. Extension Councils Establish Legacy Funds with TUCC: Received for information
4. Horseshoe Falls Regional Council (9) Omnibus motion – March 22, 2023

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

a) Grand River Spiritual and Educational Resources Inc.

….pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve Grand River Spiritual and Educational Resources Inc. 2022-2023 Board of Directors

Julie Childerhose

Norma Cronkwright

Tom Hunt

William Jones

Mary Anne MacFarlane

Randy MacKenzie

Sheena Marini

Ngozi Nwokoro

Paul Shepherd

Ruth Sylvester

This is based on the draft minutes of Annual General Meeting of November 7, 2022, 2022 board member approval form, board contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

**CARRIED**

Questions arising from the Executive Minister’s Accountability Report were raised. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa noted that she does not have answers to the questions she outlined in her report regarding the regional council and building community. She added these are questions flagged for the Executive for consideration.

The Executive had a lengthy discussion about how to build community within the regional council. The question of encouraging evangelism was raised. It was agreed to make this discussion/reflection a priority at a future gathering of the Executive. An Executive retreat was suggested as a possibility. Executive was asked to think about this idea to discuss further (dates, etc.) at their next meeting.

Cheryl-Ann clarified that financial records from disbanded congregations are currently stored at an offsite storage facility near the Carlisle office.

Cheryl-Ann also noted, in response to a query about staff continuing to work primarily offsite, that it is important to realize that pre-pandemic, working at the office was not required. Staff communicate with each other regularly. The Teams app is used daily and is in essence, like going down the hall to someone’s office, albeit online.

**Business Arising**

1. Commission Reports
   1. Congregational Support Commission: No report.
   2. Human Resources Commission: No report as the Commission will be meeting next week.
   3. Discipleship and Justice Commission: Sula Anne Kosacky (Chair). Sula Anne held her first meeting as D&J chair in March. The commission discussed taking on some activity to support congregations re: the upcoming remit. Brainstorming about how the commission connects with congregations. Also, resulting from the discussion with Jenny Stephens and Bill Allen, the commission will be brainstorming creative leadership ideas to help connect to the grassroots.
   4. UCW

: No report.

1. UCOM update

It was agreed by those who attended the March 21st meeting with UCOM, that it was a good meeting overall. UCOM had done much of the work that they had been asked to do, and so had updates on some measures that were taken. There was some concern expressed that the same issues might arise again. However, it was agreed that the Executive has now shared their concerns about fulfilling corporate obligations, and should now step back and see what happens next (will required documentation be submitted, will they have meetings) and keep their finger on the pulse.

1. **Recruitment/Nominations**

A current list of Executive/Commission members was presented for information to the Executive and Commission chairs to follow-up and confirm who will be continuing for a second term. An expression of interest form for serving on executive/commissions will be included in the registration information that is going to be circulated on April 24. Those interested in serving in a resource pool will be given the opportunity to indicate interest, but not on the same form.

A request to fund another clergy lunch was received by President Robert from Kevin Steeper, Minister Pastoral Support. To be added to the next Executive meeting agenda.

**New Business**

1. Proposal 1: Making Staff Permanent

**MOTION:** Lennox Scarlett / Sula Kosacky

That Krista Ford and Michele Petick be moved from contract employment to permanent status as the regional councils have need of their specialized skills. This represents no additional expense beyond the approved budgets.

**CARRIED**

1. Proposal 2: Financial Statements

**MOTION:** Yvonne Wright / Lennox Scarlett

That the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Executive accept the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council of The United Church of Canada Financial Statements as at December 31, 2021 for the fiscal years 2020 and 2021 as prepared by PWC and direct the President and Executive Minister to sign the same.

**CARRIED**

1. Regional Council Evaluation

All three Executives will receive the report prepared by the Regional Council Evaluation team of Jenny Stephens and Bill Allen, on Monday, June 12.

A doodle poll will be circulated to select a date for Jenny and Bill to present their findings to the tri-executives at the regional council office. There will be a collective time to hear the findings and then some time in each executive to discuss. There will also be an hour for each executive to deal with June business.

Given this time frame, it was recommended by staff that the orientation for executive/commissions be held in the fall.

The HFRC spring meeting planning team will meet April 11, 4 PM via zoom.

Next Executive Meeting: April 26, 2023: 4 PM, zoom

**Adjournment**