**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council Fall 2022 Online Meeting**

**“Be Bold, Be Brave”**

Minutes of October 14 and October 15, 2022

The Horseshoe Falls Regional Council was called to meet virtually on Friday, October 14 and Saturday, October 15, 2022 with approximately 100 total participants in attendance each day.

***Meeting Session Friday October 14, 4:30 – 6:30 PM***

**Welcome**

President Robert Lawson welcomed all in attendance and invited those gathered to enter their name and community of faith and the number of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council meetings they have attended in the zoom chat.

President Robert shared a Land Acknowledgement.

**Constitution of Meeting**

President Robertopened the 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.

**BRAVE, Affirm Statement**

President Robert shared BRAVE: Commitments to Community Safety and raised up the Affirm Statement. He then introduced the meeting leadership team and shared an opening prayer

**Opening & Procedural Motion (Proposal 1)**

**MOTION:** Wendy Lowden / Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa

That the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council adopt the following as a consent docket:

1. Adopt the agenda as circulated and authorize the Agenda and Business Committee to make any changes as necessary;
2. Approve the minutes of the meeting of 2022-05-26;
3. Receive the minutes of the following meetings of the

i. Executive

 2022-06-22

 2022-04-27

ii. Covenant Commission

2022-07-12

2022-06-14

2022-05-10

iii. Human Resources Commission

 2022-05-25

 2022-04-20

iv. Mission and Discipleship Commission

2022-06-07

2022-04-19

 2022-02-15

for information.

Note: Minutes are posted on the website www.hfrcucc.ca “About” page

4. Confirm the appointment of Michael Veall to the Human Resources Commission;

5. Appoint Judith Gilliland as Parliamentarian;

6. Appoint Wendy Lowden as Chair, Agenda and Business Committee;

7. Name President Robert Lawson, Chair Agenda and Business Committee Wendy Lowden, Executive Minister Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, and Executive Assistant Sue Duliban, as the Agenda and Business Committee;

8. Name regional council staff members as scrutineers;

9. Set the bounds of the meeting as the zoom call and Fonthill United Church, Fonthill, Ontario;

10. Make the designated representative from any United Church ministry, other than a congregation, which has been invited to become a community of faith by entering into a covenant with the regional council, a member of the regional council for this meeting (Section C.1.2 c);

11. Make all guests corresponding members;

12. Set the deadline for new business to be submitted to the Agenda and Business Committee as 9:00 a.m. Saturday, October 15, 2022.

13. Adopt the following method for dealing with proposals for action by the regional council

Step One:

The Presenter will outline:

A) What is the issue? and

B) The suggested way in which the regional council might respond to the issue.

Step Two:

The President will inquire if there are questions for clarification. Please note this is for clarification only.

Step Three:

The President will then ask if there are changes or additions being suggested for the proposal. Using warm and cool signals, the regional council will seek to come closer to agreement on how to respond to the issue.

Step Four:

Once there is significant agreement, the President will invite the Presenter to move the motion at which point the regional council enters the formal debate process.

**CARRIED**

**Community Building**

*"Connecting" Who do you say that I am?*  Breakout rooms were assigned for a community building discussion.

**GC44 Reporting**

GC44 Commissioners Pat Tooley, Yvonne Wright and Wendy Lowden, offered a brief overview of the process, highlighted proposals and shared their learnings.

**Toronto United Church Council (TUCC)**

Ron Ewart, Executive Director of the Toronto United Church Council, ron@tucc.ca, provided information on TUCC [www.tucc.ca](http://www.tucc.ca) and its work.

Agenda & Business Chair, Wendy Lowden reminded those gathered of the deadline for new business: Saturday, October 15, 2022 at 9 AM.

The meeting session closed with evening vespers led by President Robert.

***Meeting Session Saturday, October 15,* 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM**

**Save the Dates**

The following dates were highlighted: June 9 & 10, 2023, HFRC Spring Meeting (Hybrid) at the Meridian Community Centre, Fonthill.

President Robert welcomed all back and invited those gathered to share their name and community of faith and answer the question, “Other than Jesus, who is your favourite Bible character”, in the zoom chat.

President Robert then shared the HFRC Covenant with Chapel of the Delaware and National Indigenous Council and spoke about the two row wampum belt.

**Worship**

 *A Time for Thanksgiving* led by Rev. Lennox Scarlett, President Elect.

**Remit**

Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa spoke about the remit, *Remit 1: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization* and referenced the link on the UCC website. <https://united-church.ca/community-and-faith/being-community/indigenous-ministries/calls-church>

Cheryl-Ann noted that a Remit package will be distributed to congregations the beginning of March, 2023

**Operating Budget (Proposal 2)**

Treasurer John Hurst presented the budget and Proposal 2 as outlined in the meeting workbook. Cheryl-Ann added that at the spring regional council meeting 2020 and 2021 financial statements will be available.

**MOTION:** John Hurst / Mike Wyatt

That the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council:

1. Receive the internal 2022 operating statement to date for information;
2. Direct the Executive to deal with the 2021 Auditors’ Report;
3. Direct the Executive to include the 2020 and 2021 final Financial Statements in the workbook for the spring 2023 meeting; and
4. Endorse the following principles for the 2023 budget:
5. To maintain existing Executive and Commission meeting budgets even with the increase in the reimbursement rate to promote a reduction in carbon with electronic meetings;
6. To reflect the changes in salaries and benefits authorized by the General Council Executive;
7. To base costs on the figures from the last three years and not the amount anticipated at formation of the regional council;
8. To fund expenses for matters involving *The Manual, Section J; Oversight and Discipline*, from the Unrestricted Operating Reserve as these fluctuate in number and cost; and
9. Adopt the proposed 2023 budget authorizing the Executive to adapt as necessary within the above guidelines.

**CARRIED**

**Stewardship**

A video on stewardship was shared. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa noted that Dave Jagger has moved into a new role, that of Community of Faith Stewardship Lead. His position for the regional council, Community of Faith Stewardship Support Team Member, will be filled by Rev. Brenna Baker starting October 17.

**Covenant Commission**

Chair Adrianne Robertson introduced a lively quiz, incorporating key elements of the Covenant Commission’s role and led by Adrianne, Steve Lowden, Russ Gowan, Mary Anderson and Jane Capstick. A written report was also provided in the meeting workbook.

**In Memoriam**

A video presentation honoured “friends, colleagues & leaders” who guided & served the church with their living: Rev. George Nelson Addison and Rev. W. Alan Dowber.

**Community of Faith Life Cycle Changes**

A video presentation honoured the following communities of faith:

Amalgamation of Freelton United Church and Strabane United Church. To be called Freelton-Strabane United Church (effective November 6, 2022)

Collaborative Ministry Agreements:

Delhi United Church, Delhi and Lynnville United Church, Lynnville

Fairview United Church, Brantford and Knox United Church, Ayr (WOW)

St. Mark’s United Church, Dundas and Binkley United Church, Hamilton

St. Paul’s United Church, Paris and Richwood United Church, Richwood (ARW)

Trinity United Church, Acton and Ebenezer United Church, Campbellville (WOW)

President Robert shared a prayer of thanks for all.

Before the break, President Robert demonstrated, over the zoom call, how to make chocolate cake in your microwave in a coffee mug.

A 10 minute break was taken.

Chaplain Eleanor Scarlett had to leave the meeting and Rev. Deb McGill then served as chaplain.

**Mission & Discipleship Commission**

The faces, passions and gifts that make up the Mission & Discipleship Commission was shared. Diane Viney, Sula Anne Kosacky, Irene Ty, Karen Orlandi, Michelle Hogman, and Ryk Brown introduced themselves and shared what they are passionate about in mission and discipleship. A written report was also provided in the meeting workbook.

**UCW 60th**

HFRC UCW President Marilyn Johnston shared her experience at and an overview of the national UCW gathering held in Sydney NS in July to celebrate their 60th Anniversary. Marilyn noted the UCW’s new mission project for the next five years: Healing Fund of the UCC, with emphasis on women and children.

**Human Resources Commission**

A written report was provided in the meeting workbook.

**Closing Motion (Proposal 3)**

**MOTION:** Wendy Lowden / Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa

That the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council

1. Entrust any unfinished business from its October 14-15, 2022 meeting to the Executive;
2. Authorize the Executive to fill any vacancies on the understanding that appointments will be confirmed at the next regional council meeting;
3. Direct the Executive to plan to convene a meeting of the regional council in the spring of 2023; and
4. Entrust the Executive and Commissions with the responsibilities and authority of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council in accordance with the Manual of The United Church of Canada and the Governance Handbook of the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council.
5. Close the October 14-15, 2022 meeting of the Horseshoe Falls Regional Council at the end of the Saturday, October 15, 2022 session.

**CARRIED**

**Courtesies**

President Robert thanked the regional council staff and those who continue to attend regional council meetings and participate in the regional council.

**Thanking President**

Executive member Yvonne Wright thanked President Robert for his leadership, deep and meaningful prayers, and staying on good timing, and his intentionality around inclusivity. Thanks were given to President Elect Lennox Scarlett for a very meaningful reminder of gratitude and thanksgiving and for learning on the job and doing a wonderful job of it

**Benediction:** President Robert Lawson shared Psalm 121.

**Meeting Adjourned**