**Congregational Support Commission**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

***APPROVED Minutes***  
***Via Zoom***

***Tuesday, January 23, 2024***

***1pm***

**Roster:** (8) Adrianne Robertson, Jane Wyllie, Mary Anderson, Steven Lowden, Judy Chartrand, Shawn Bausch, Jane Capstick, Ross Gowan, Karen Tobey

**Staff Support:** Rev. Lynne Allin, Minister, Congregational Support and Mission

Elizabeth Marshall, Administrative Assistant

Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer Sampa, Executive Minister

**Present**: Adrianne Robertson, Mary Anderson, Steven Lowden, Judy Chartrand, Shawn Bausch, Jane Capstick, Ross Gowan, Karen Tobey, Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa

**Regrets:** Jane Wyllie

**Absent:**

**Welcome and Constitute Meeting:** *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.*

The meeting was constituted and opened by Adrianne Robertson

**Acknowledging the Land: Adrianne Robertson**

**Opening Worship: Adrianne Robertson**

**Approval of Agenda:**

**MOTION** by Jane Capstick / Judy Chartrand that the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the agenda.   
CARRIED

Adrianne Robertson explained that the purpose of this meeting is to discuss the request from St. Paul’s United Church, Oakville, to enter into mediation to discuss the CSC decision to not allow the Sale of the St. Paul’s property as proposed in order to ‘find a resolution in a less confrontational manner’ rather than pursue the appeal process (St. Paul’s has already filed the notice of appeal on January 12, 2024) Receive some background information on the appeal process and mediation options/process/what it is and what it is not/costs involved and who covers them

Cheryl-Ann thanked the commission for their work. She explained the process for an appeal, including the grounds for an appeal. St. Paul’s has 30 days to submit their material then the commission will have 30 days to respond.

St. Paul’s has also expressed interest in mediation

A mediator would need to be chosen

Consider what the commission might be able to take to mediation

Ground rules would be established before mediation begins

Mediation would not jeopardize what would happen with the appeal process

Commission could pay for the costs of mediator

Decision would be made regarding how many people from St. Paul’s UC and how many from the CSC would participate

Would be best to hold the mediation session as soon as possible

The commission discussed the options as presented.

**MOTION** by Shawn Bausch / Mary Anderson that the Horseshoe Falls Congregational Support Commission is willing to enter into the mediation process with St. Paul’s United Church, Oakville and will notify the Executive Minister of this decision. The cost for the mediator to be paid by the Congregational Support Commission.

CARRIED

**Next Regular Meeting:**  is Tuesday February 13th at 10am

Territorial Acknowledgement: Mary Anderson

Worship by: Mary Anderson

The meeting was adjourned at 2:24 pm

**Affirm Initiatives**

Section A Encourage communities of faith to make use of available resources, including the Affirm Network, to discuss issues of inclusion and diversity

Section B Encourage conversations with ecumenical and interfaith groups and community partners, especially with our full-communion partners regarding best practices

Section E Encourage communities of faith to engage in conversations about making safer spaces within the church and community for people of any sexual orientation or gender identity.