**Congregational Support Commission**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

***November 21, 2024 at 7:00pm Via Zoom***

***Minutes***

**Roster:** (8) Adrianne Robertson, Jane Wyllie, Steven Lowden, Shawn Bausch, Jane Capstick, Ross Gowan, Karen Tobey, Kate Young, Barb McGill, Doug Caldwell

**Staff Support:** Rev. Lynne Allin, Minister, Congregational Support and Mission (on sabbatical)  
 Rev. Ann Harbridge, Acting Congregational Support Minister  
 Rev. John Neff, Congregational Support Minister  
 Michele Petick, Administrative Assistant

**Present**: Adrianne Robertson, Jane Wyllie, Steven Lowden, Shawn Bausch, Jane Capstick, Ross Gowan, Karen Tobey, Kate Young, Doug Caldwell

**Regrets:** Barb McGill

**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 Chair Adrianne Robertson

**Acknowledging the Land:** Adrianne Robertson

**Opening Worship:** Adrianne Robertson

**Opening Motions:**

**Approval of Agenda:**

MOTION by Doug Caldwell / Jane Capstick that the agenda of November 21, 2024 be accepted as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**Corresponding Members:** Beth Laidlaw, Norval United Church  
  
MOTION by Shawn Bausch / Steve Lowden to make Beth Laidlaw of Norval United Church a corresponding member to this commission for this meeting.

**CARRIED**

**Consent Docket:**

Appointment of Pastoral Charge Supervisors:

* Christine Hossack as PCS to Mount Pleasant UC – while their Minister on medical leave

MOTION by Kate Young / Karen Tobey to approve the consent docket as circulated.

**CARRIED**

**New Business:**

**Restricted Funds**

Norval United Church – use of restricted funds to pay mortgage  
  
Beth Laidlaw of Norval United Church gave a brief history and responded to questions from the commission members. Beth Laidlaw thanked the commission for their consideration.

* Commission members discussed the variables involved in this financial decision.
* Considerations need to be made in regards to historical total amount of restricted funds, total approval limit (50% of historical Restricted Funds), previously approved use of restricted funds, amount available to be approved.
* Concerns about financial viability and ongoing financial viability.
* A business plan could be developed to cover contingencies.
* The building was sold in November 2019 for $725,000
* Suggest setting aside X amount of dollars to put into the restricted funds over the next ten years interest free.
* The Cowan Fund seems to be generating income without being reflected on the income statement.

[Re\_ Norval United Church.msg](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:u:/r/sites/HFCSC/MeetingLibrary/Re_%20Norval%20United%20Church.msg?csf=1&web=1&e=Y6d6Zg&xsdata=MDV8MDJ8QUhhcmJyaWRnZUB1bml0ZWQtY2h1cmNoLmNhfDc3MmUzMmI5YzAzMzRlYTM0MTk4MDhkZDA1MDNmMWRmfGNmMThiNWE4MjY3ODQwMTE5MzEyMTVmMGY3MTU3NTc0fDB8MHw2Mzg2NzIyMzY4NDM5OTkxMTl8VW5rbm93bnxUV0ZwYkdac2IzZDhleUpGYlhCMGVVMWhjR2tpT25SeWRXVXNJbFlpT2lJd0xqQXVNREF3TUNJc0lsQWlPaUpYYVc0ek1pSXNJa0ZPSWpvaVRXRnBiQ0lzSWxkVUlqb3lmUT09fDB8fHw%3d&sdata=eEZlR0FVT0VMSTVya1N2djJ3bkhrUk1FRHJmZFJSM2hGT25rVjMzZnBYUT0%3d), [NUC AGM 2023 FS and 2024 Budget Package FINAL.pdf](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/HFCSC/MeetingLibrary/NUC%20AGM%202023%20FS%20and%202024%20Budget%20Package%20FINAL.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=TqNjD7&xsdata=MDV8MDJ8QUhhcmJyaWRnZUB1bml0ZWQtY2h1cmNoLmNhfDc3MmUzMmI5YzAzMzRlYTM0MTk4MDhkZDA1MDNmMWRmfGNmMThiNWE4MjY3ODQwMTE5MzEyMTVmMGY3MTU3NTc0fDB8MHw2Mzg2NzIyMzY4NDQwMTg1NTB8VW5rbm93bnxUV0ZwYkdac2IzZDhleUpGYlhCMGVVMWhjR2tpT25SeWRXVXNJbFlpT2lJd0xqQXVNREF3TUNJc0lsQWlPaUpYYVc0ek1pSXNJa0ZPSWpvaVRXRnBiQ0lzSWxkVUlqb3lmUT09fDB8fHw%3d&sdata=OGlHVm5lZk1ibkUxcU9HNmhqa0lyVXhUMHFHL2JlOWdsaXRTd2cyMFBQUT0%3d); [Annual-Report-2023-Final-With-Financials-Feb-22.pdf](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/HFCSC/MeetingLibrary/Annual-Report-2023-Final-With-Financials-Feb-22.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=YH0rvT&xsdata=MDV8MDJ8QUhhcmJyaWRnZUB1bml0ZWQtY2h1cmNoLmNhfDc3MmUzMmI5YzAzMzRlYTM0MTk4MDhkZDA1MDNmMWRmfGNmMThiNWE4MjY3ODQwMTE5MzEyMTVmMGY3MTU3NTc0fDB8MHw2Mzg2NzIyMzY4NDQwMjkzNjZ8VW5rbm93bnxUV0ZwYkdac2IzZDhleUpGYlhCMGVVMWhjR2tpT25SeWRXVXNJbFlpT2lJd0xqQXVNREF3TUNJc0lsQWlPaUpYYVc0ek1pSXNJa0ZPSWpvaVRXRnBiQ0lzSWxkVUlqb3lmUT09fDB8fHw%3d&sdata=NWhFRmZiaWw1d1F3OXkxYWJKWmhpckRjekgybmpCenFzRzVBd0szLzdSTT0%3d)

**MOTION** \_\_\_\_\_\_\_Kate Young\_\_\_\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_\_Ross Gowan\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ that the Congregational Support Commission approve the request of Norval United Church to use their restricted funds to pay off their current mortgage in the amount of 1.29 million upon its renewal on December 31, 2024

**TABLED**

* Require more financial information before this motion can be approved by the Horseshoe Falls Congregational Support Commission.

**Property**

York United Church – Property Sale [Amendment to York United Church.msg](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:u:/r/sites/HFCSC/MeetingLibrary/Amendment%20to%20York%20United%20Church.msg?csf=1&web=1&e=eHvKbV)

Motion: \_\_Steve Lowden\_\_/\_\_\_Kate Young\_\_\_\_ that the Congregational Support Commission agree to the request of the Trustees of York United Church to an abatement of $30,000 to offset rezoning costs and the cost of a problem with the wall discovered during inspection. This will be handled in the form of a refund cheque to the buyer upon closing, Jan. 31, 2025

**CARRIED**

York United will hold their final service On Dec. 29th at 10:30. They have invited a representative of the region to be present and take part. Can anyone attend? Let Ann Harbridge know if you are available. Ross Gowan and Karen Tobey are available to attend.

[**Other**](about:blank) **Business:**None

**Executive Report**

None

**Staff Report:**

None

**Next Meeting:**  December 10, 2024 at 10am via Zoom

Territorial Acknowledgement: Jane Capstick

Worship by: Jane Capstick

**Accessing Restricted Funds Resource:**

[Evaluating Access to Restricted Funds](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/HFCSC/MeetingLibrary/CSC.Evaluating%20Access%20to%20Restricted%20Funds.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=FzPXhh)

**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.

**Sample Motion:**

MOTION by Choose an item. / Choose an item. That the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council … .

Document for evaluating use of Restricted Funds

[CSC.Evaluating Access to Restricted Funds.pdf](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/HFCSC/Resources/CSC.Evaluating%20Access%20to%20Restricted%20Funds.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=80hr7G)