**Congregational Support Commission**

**Horseshoe Falls Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

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

***Dec 10, 2024 – 10:00 am*** ***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:** Lynne Allin**,** Minister, Congregational Support Minister

Michele Petick, Administrative Assistant

**Present**: Adrianne Robertson, Jane Wyllie, Jane Capstick, Ross Gowan, Karen Tobey, Barb McGill, Steve Lowden, Shawn Bausch, Kate Young

**Regrets:** Doug Caldwell, Michele Petick, Administrative Assistant

**Welcome and Constitute Meeting:** I*constituted 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: Jane Capstick –** Settler acknowledgement by Rosemary Addison

**Opening Worship: Jane Capstick –** Rabbi Harold Kushner

**Opening Motions:**

**Approval of Agenda:**

MOTION by Karen Tobey / Jane Capstick that the agenda be accepted as circulated.  
  
**CARRIED**

**Consent Docket:**

## Approval of Previous Minutes: Nov. 12, 2024 as amended. [241112 HF CSC Minutes.docx](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/HFCSC/MeetingLibrary/241112%20HF%20CSC%20Minutes.docx?d=wac2f46d952b3410880376e9e319b1352&csf=1&web=1&e=GUBS16)

Approval of Previous Minutes November 21, 2024 as circulated. [241121 HF CSC Draft Minutes.docx](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/HFCSC/MeetingLibrary/241121%20HF%20CSC%20Draft%20Minutes.docx?d=we38aa6c1ca494276992cae73fda8df58&csf=1&web=1&e=jdsbPb)

Appointment of Pastoral Charge Supervisors:

Christine Hossack be appointed as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Mount Pleasant Pastoral Charge, effective immediately.

Charmain Sebestyen be appointed as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Nanticoke Pastoral Charge effective immediately.

**MOTION** by Barb McGill / Jane Wyllie that the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the consent docket.  
  
**CARRIED**

**Business Arising**

* Withdrawn Motion – Grace Dunnville (November 2024)

Dunnville, Grace – Loan from Niagara Extension Council

**Motion:** Jane Capstick/ Ross Gowan that the Congregational support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the loan application by Grace, Dunnville with the Niagara Extension council, in the amount of $67,890.40 with the requirement that the final loan agreement be submitted to this commission for final approval of the terms.

**CARRIED**

* Congregation has been asked to provide a trustee’s resolution and financial viability form and copy of the loan agreement When this has been received the commission can decide on this matter.

Steve Lowden joined the meeting

**Collaborative Agreements**

Oakville Churches (Munns, St. John’s, St. Paul’s, Trinity)

MOTION by Steve Lowden / Jane Wyllie That the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council recognize and support the work of Munn’s, St. John’s, St. Paul’s and Trinity United Churches in Oakville to work together and engage the Toronto United Church Council to facilitate their visioning process.   
  
**CARRIED**

**Community of Faith Profiles:**

Brantford, Fairview United Church

Motion: Ross Gowan/Karen Tobey that the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council having reviewed the community of faith profile for Fairview United Church, Brantford consent to the search for Ministry Personnel, half time up to category F.

**CARRIED**

Shawn Bausch has joined the meeting

**Governance:**

Mississauga, Sheridan United Church

MOTION by Jane Wyllie / Shawn Bausch That the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the constitution of Sheridan United Church, Mississauga dated November 3, 2024.  
  
**CARRIED**

**Transitions**

Milton, Faith United

Motion: Shawn Bausch/ Jane Capstick that with gratitude for their ministry the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council approve the distribution of assets for Faith United Church, Milton as follows:

Milton Transitional Housing 20% $5,043.00

Salvation Army Food Bank 20% $5,043.00

Doctors without Borders 20% $5,043.00

Water First 20% $5,043.00

Mission and Service Fund 20% $5,043.00

And set the disbandment date as Dec. 10, 2024.

**CARRIED**

**Property**

Adrianne Robertson relinquishes the Chair due to a conflict of interest on the next issue

Jane Capstick takes the Chair

**Burford United Church**

MOTION by Ross Gowan / Barb McGill That the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consent to the request from Burford United Church to undertake a major renovation to upgrade their kitchen at an estimated cost of $60,000.

**CARRIED**   
  
Abstentions: Karen Tobey, Adrianne Robertson

Adrianne Robertson resumes the Chair

**Brantford, Fairview United Church**

MOTION by Steve Lowden / Jane Capstick That the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consent to the request from Fairview United Church to negotiate a loan from the Erie Mission Council for 50,000 at 2% interest for the purpose of replacing their roof. The final loan agreement to be submitted to this commission for final approval.  
   
 **CARRIED**

**Note: We have not received a formal request or copy of the loan agreement.**

**Hamilton, New Vision**

Update: For information, an order to comply from City of Hamilton. COF is working with an engineer to put safety measures in place. Can currently use the front doors only. Also had a fire in the window well causing 40-50,000 damage.

Plan moving forward is to connect with the congregation and seek financial clarity

**Restricted Funds**

Kate Young joined the meeting

**Georgetown, Norval United Church**

MOTION by Barb McGill / Ross Gowan That the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council consent to the request from Norval United Church, Georgetown to draw $ 1.25 million from their restricted funds to pay off their mortgage, pending receipt of the minutes of their governing body approving this transaction.  
  
**CARRIED**

**Note: we have not received a formal request or documentation showing this was approved by the board/council.**

[**Other**](about:blank) **Business:**

**Effective Transitional Leadership Course**

MOTION by Shawn Bausch / Steve Lowden That the Congregational Support Commission of Horseshoe Falls Regional Council will cover 1/6th of the cost of the Effective Transitional Leadership Course held in November 2024.

**CARRIED**

In Person Commission Meeting: Discussion to set a date to meet in person in early 2025

Jane Capstick will ask Westdale UC about holding the meeting there at 10 on Jan 14th

**Executive Report:**

None

**Staff Report:**

- [Sabbatical Report](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/HFCSC/MeetingLibrary/Sabbatical%20Report%20Lynne%20Allin.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=0IQ24u) is available in the January meeting library. It contains recommendations related to assisting communities of faith through transition. It is hoped that commission members will read the report and hold a discussion on the findings and recommendations in early 2025

- Reminder of the importance of having complete documentation and minutes of approvals before items can be considered.

**Next Meeting:**  January 14th, 2025 at 10 am Hybrid at Westdale UC

**Territorial Acknowledgement:** Kate Young

**Worship by:** Kate Young

**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)