



INFORMATION BULLETIN

For Immediate Release
October 26, 2010

THE UNITED CHURCH PROCEEDS WITH ITS DECISION TO SELL MOORECROFT CAMP

NANOOSE BAY, BC – The decision to sell the Moorecroft Camp property was confirmed at the most recent meeting of the Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery of The United Church of Canada. 62 representatives from Vancouver Island United Churches north of and including Chemainus were present at the October 16th meeting, together with six visitors who were granted corresponding privileges.

One of the criteria for the sale of the camp was the adoption of the [Guiding Principles](#) report, which outlines all the values that will guide the disposition of this property, including the conservation principles.

The Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) – the intended covenant holder – presented a [Report on Conservation Values](#) of that property, which verified that almost 90% of the property's 85 acres are imperiled ecosystems within the Coastal Douglas Fir biogeoclimate zone, and recommended a series of restrictions to protect this area. As in the past there was a consistent and unanimous concern, held at all levels of the United Church, to protect the ecosystems of the property. The Comox Nanaimo Presbytery was satisfied that the strong conservation principles will lead to: 1) the conservation covenant being placed on title at the time of sale; and 2) the creation of a significant endowment fund for monitoring the covenant in perpetuity.

Other criteria for the sale, including public access, were discussed thoroughly. Those gathered also reaffirmed their desire that, as the core values are being balanced, preference be given to a local community-based buyer.

BC Conference of the United Church (the provincial level) will proceed with the marketing and sale of the property, balancing the three values of conservation, public access and achieving fair market value.

Through regular communication with BC Conference, the Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery will remain well informed of events and developments in the sale process.

The sale of Moorecroft Camp is part of the church's Camp Future Project, a multi-year project to ensure that the United Church in BC has a high quality, sustainable regional camping ministry. For more information about the Camp Future Project, including the *Guiding Principles for the Moorecroft sale* and the *NCC Report on Conservation Values*, visit www.bc.united-church.ca/content/bc-conference-camps

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