

**Minutes of the Eighty-second General Meeting
British Columbia Conference
The United Church of Canada
Vancouver, BC
May 31 – June 3, 2012**

First Session, 6:30 PM, Thursday, May 31, 2012

- Authority** Pursuant to the authority of the eighty-first General Meeting of BC Conference of The United Church of Canada, the eighty-second General Meeting convened at the War Memorial Gym at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, and was declared open to conduct the business properly before it, President Debra Bowman presiding. A quorum was present.
- Welcome** The President, the Rev. Debra Bowman, welcomed delegates to the meeting and introduced the theme “Tides of Change.”
- Welcome from UBC** The President of the University of British Columbia, Dr. Stephen J. Toope, welcomed delegates to UBC.
- Worship** Worship was led by Graham Brownmiller, Youth at Conference and Yoko Kihara. Table groups focused on two questions: (1) what part of heaven and earth do you represent? (2) where do you see the wind of God moving?
- Guest and Theme Speaker** The President introduced Alanna Mitchell as the theme speaker for the meeting. Alanna began by giving a brief outline of what she planned to address over the next three days, following Matthew Fox’s schema of *via positiva*, *via negativa*, *via transformativa*, and *via creativa*. She then told stories of her adventures around the world that revealed the delight, wonder and awe of creation.
- Business** The President began the time for business by introducing Doug Goodwin as the Executive Secretary, Karen Millard as the Chair of the Business Committee, and Bruce Gregersen as the General Council office representative. Graham Brownmiller introduced the worship team and Curt Allison, the music leader for the General Meeting.
- Business Motions** Karen Millard briefly outlined the business for the evening. She then highlighted several sections of the extensive Business Committee motion.
- M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard, Doug Goodwin) that*
1. *The Roll of the 82nd General Meeting of BC Conference shall consist of those members of BC Conference who register prior to 12:00 P.M. Friday, June 1, 2012. Those arriving after that time shall not be included on the Roll and shall not be entitled to payment of travel expenses.*
 2. *The Quorum of the General Meeting shall be one-fifth of those entitled to vote, with at least two Presbyteries represented.*
 3. *The Bar of the Court shall be the floor of the War Memorial Gym, the University of BC, Vancouver, BC.*
 4. *The Business Committee for this General Meeting shall be Debra Bowman, Graham Brownmiller, Allan Buckingham, Esmeralda Cabral, Doug Goodwin, Linda Gunn, Doris Kizinna, Karen Millard (Chair), Mary Nichol, Ruth Stebbing, and Nellie Tang.*

5. *In order to facilitate the formulation of motions and discussion of matters raised by Proposals, the President may, at her discretion, suspend the ordinary limitations of parliamentary debate and engage in a different process. All decisions of the court shall follow the rules of debate and order as summarized in Appendix III of the Manual.*
6. *At the discretion of the President, speakers can be limited to two minutes each during debate.*
7. *Subject to such changes as the Business Committee might make and announce, the agenda as printed shall be the working basis for the order of business.*
8. *Proposals directed to this General Meeting shall be dealt with by the meeting in the appropriate place in the General Meeting agenda. Proposals dealing with matters not noted on the agenda shall be dealt with in the order that they are received by the Conference office or Business Committee prior to 6:00 P.M. Friday, June 1, 2012. Like proposals may be grouped together at the discretion of the Business Committee.*
9. *All unfinished business at the close of the meeting shall be referred to the Conference Executive.*
10. *Voting shall be carried out by delegates raising designated voting cards, save those instances where voting by ballot is required or moved and duly passed, in which case written ballots shall be used.*
11. *All motions having budget implications for BC Conference of over \$500 shall not be put to an immediate vote but after initial discussion be referred to a committee consisting of all members present of the Finance Council for a statement of financial implications. The motion will be returned to the floor at the earliest opportunity.*
12. *Election of President-Elect*
 - a. *This meeting of Conference shall elect, from amongst those nominated for this position, a President-Elect to serve as Conference President at the rise of the Conference meeting in May 2014 until a successor is elected at a subsequent meeting of the Conference.*
 - b. *All nominations for the position of President-Elect shall be submitted to the Business Committee by 8:00 P.M. Friday, June 1, 2012, accompanied by:*
 - i. *the signature of five delegates;*
 - ii. *the written agreement of the nominee;*
 - iii. *a single page introduction or resume of the nominee.*
 - c. *The election for President-Elect shall take place by a series ballot system until there is a clear majority obtained by the person with the greatest number of votes.*
13. *In accordance with the Manual 035, action by the Conference regarding candidates to be ordained, commissioned, admitted, readmitted or recognized for ministry or persons to be placed on the Discontinued Service List shall be decided by vote by ballot.*
14. *Corresponding privileges be granted to Bruce Gregersen, representative of the General Council office.*
15. *Requests to withdraw from the meeting shall be submitted to, considered, and granted by the Business Committee. Delegates leaving before noon on Saturday, June 2, 2012 without the consent of the Business Committee shall not be entitled to have travel expenses paid.*

16. *Payment of delegate expenses shall be made as specified in the travel claim form. Claims shall be submitted to the Transportation Clerk at the time of registration but no later than 7:00 P.M. Friday, June 1, 2012. Late claims submitted after June 30, 2012 shall not be paid.*

Minutes 2011

M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard, Doug Goodwin) that the minutes of the 81st General Meeting of BC Conference held May 26-29, 2011 in Penticton, BC, be adopted.

Election of Conference President

Karen Millard noted that Jenny Carter had been elected as President-Elect at the 2011 General Meeting with the expectation that she would assume the role of President in 2012.

M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard, Doug Goodwin) that Jenny Carter be elected as Conference President to take office upon her installation on Sunday, June 3, 2012 to serve until the installation of her successor.

The President invited Jenny Carter to the stage and offered her words of encouragement. She then led in prayer.

Closing

Linda Gunn made some “housekeeping” announcements. The President acknowledged past Moderator, Marion Best, who was present as a member of the court.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned with the singing of “As We Follow” at 8:40 PM.

Second Session, 8:45 AM, Friday, June 1, 2012**Welcome**

The morning opened with singing led by Curt Allison.

Worship

Worship was led by Graham Brownmiller and the Children at Conference. Ruth Wright spoke on midrash and mystical insight in our lives based on Genesis 1:1.

Business Committee

Linda Gunn made announcements. Karen Millard introduced the agenda for the day.

President’s Address

President Debra Bowman spoke of her fear of the erosion of love in the world and particularly in its communal, shared life. She gave examples of love as exhibited in ordinary church life and suggested that living and speaking of love is the hard work, the “embarrassing cross,” of the church.

Conference Executive Accountability Report

Past President Dan Chambers took the Chair during the Conference Executive Accountability report.

Jacob Black-Lock introduced the Conference Executive Accountability report. The members of the Conference Executive were introduced.

The work of the Executive over the past year was highlighted by beneficiary groups who reported how they had benefited from the Conference work. Ed Searcy spoke about the “Sowing Promise” event which was designed to enhance ‘Effective Leadership’ among ministry personnel. Terry Harrison and Jeff Willis spoke on the benefits to camping at Camp Fircom due to the Camp Future Project.

Theme Address

Alanna Mitchell asked the table groups to share stories of the delight they find in the natural world. After discussion in groups she then introduced the theme of “what is going wrong” and asked the table groups to share stories of what they see going wrong with the local and world environment.

Prayer

Gaye Sharpe offered the grace before the meeting broke for lunch.

Lunch	During the lunch break most of the Presbyteries met. The President met with the Children at Conference.
Chair	Past President Dan Chambers took the Chair during the continuation of the Conference Executive Accountability report.
Conference Executive Accountability Report (continued)	Colleen Chambers and Valerie Zeigler spoke about the benefits of the Youth and Young Adult Ministry, focusing on the themes of community, connections and continuing. Jeff Seaton spoke about his experience of receiving assistance on several occasions from the Conference Personnel Team. Sue Kellis reported how the Property Resource Team was working with her congregation on the possibilities of property development.
Finances	<p>Mark Paetkau introduced the work of the Finance Council and gave a brief, visual overview of the finances of the Conference.</p> <p>Doug Goodwin presented the Ten-Year Financial Vision adopted by the Conference Executive. The goals of the Plan are Sustainability, Priority Focus, Flexibility-Responsiveness, and Transparency. Three financial “streams” were identified, each supported by investment funds: Core Work, Conference Camping and ProVision. Doug then explained how the ProVision funds worked, providing prime benefit for Presbyteries who had given up or sold properties but with increasing benefit for all of the Presbyteries over time.</p>
General Council Proposals	The President explained the process for dealing with Proposals to the General Council. She also reminded the court of how to use the orange and blue indicator cards to help the discernment process.
Comments on Proposals	<p>The President noted that the court has the right to add comments to any Proposals which are transmitted to the General Council. She suggested that after each Proposal had been dealt with that she would ask people to suggest comments to be added. She then asked the court to allow her the right to add comments to the Proposals based on what she heard before they are transmitted. The court verbally agreed with her suggestion.</p> <p>Karen Millard noted that three proposals to the General Council all deal with issues regarding Israel and Palestine. She recommended that they be dealt with one after the other.</p>
Corresponding Privileges	<i>M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard, Doug Goodwin) that corresponding privileges be given to Youth and Children leaders; to Eva Manly, Jan McIntyre, and Martha Roth for the proposals regarding Israel and Palestine; and to Judy MacPherson and Alix Dolson for the proposals regarding “Camp Grafton Present and Future Project.”</i>
General Council Proposal 2012-01: “Modifying The United Church of Canada’s Recognition of Israel as a Jewish State.”	<p>Karen Millard introduced General Council Proposal 2012-01, “Modifying The United Church of Canada’s Recognition of Israel as a Jewish State.”</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">That the 41st General Council recognizes the right of the state of Israel to exist and directs the General Secretary to remove from all future United Church of Canada policy statements and communications any wording that recognizes Israel as a “Jewish state.”</p> <p><i>M/S (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that we concur with General Council Proposal 2012-01, “Modifying The United Church of Canada’s Recognition of Israel as a Jewish State.”</i></p>

M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that we postpone definitely Proposal 2012-01 until the vote has been counted.

After the vote was counted it was declared that the motion was CARRIED.

M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that we transmit to the General Council Proposal 2012-01, "Modifying The United Church of Canada's Recognition of Israel as a Jewish State."

General Council Proposal 2012-03: "Expand the Structure and Scope of United Church Interfaith Partner Relations."

Karen Millard introduced General Council Proposal 2012-03, "Expand the Structure and Scope of United Church Interfaith Partner Relations."

That the General Council broaden and diversify both formal and informal interfaith partnerships and relationships to:

1. pursue strengthened dialogue and action with Islamic organizations willing to work in accord with the United Church's evolving policies in relation to Israel/Palestine, both in Canada and worldwide; and
2. pursue strengthened dialogue and action with Jewish organizations willing to work in accord with the United Church's evolving policies in relation to Israel/Palestine, both in Canada and worldwide.

M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that we concur with General Council Proposal 2012-03, "Expand the Structure and Scope of United Church Interfaith Partner Relations."

M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that we transmit to the General Council Proposal 2012-03, "Expand the Structure and Scope of United Church Interfaith Partner Relations."

General Council Proposal 2012-04: "Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions as Solidarity Action Toward a Just Peace in Israel/Palestine."

Karen Millard introduced General Council Proposal 2012-04, "Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions as Solidarity Action Toward a Just Peace in Israel/Palestine."

That General Council 41:

1. initiates and implements a boycott and divestment strategy and plan of action in regard to Israel's illegal occupation of Palestinian territories;
2. advocates for sanctions against Israeli and Canadian corporations and institutions complicit in the illegal occupation; and
3. encourages all courts, bodies and members of the United Church of Canada to apply such boycott and divestment strategies and to advocate for sanctions, until such time as the occupation of the Palestinian territories ends.

M/S/DEFEATED (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that we concur with General Council Proposal 2012-04, "Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions as Solidarity Action Toward a Just Peace in Israel/Palestine."

M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that we transmit to the General Council Proposal 2012-04, "Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions as Solidarity Action Toward a Just Peace in Israel/Palestine."

**General Council
Proposal 2012-02:
“Added
Compensation for
Ministry Personnel
for Spiritual
Direction”**

Karen Millard introduced General Council Proposal 2012-02, “Added Compensation for Ministry Personnel for Spiritual Direction.”

That the 41st General Council instruct the General Council Executive to direct congregations to add a minimum of \$400 to the compensation package for ministry personnel for the purpose of assisting ministry personnel to obtain regular spiritual direction (or some equivalent).

M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that we concur with General Council Proposal 2012-02, “Added Compensation for Ministry Personnel for Spiritual Direction.”

M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that we transmit to the General Council Proposal 2012-02, “Added Compensation for Ministry Personnel for Spiritual Direction.”

**General Council
Commissioners**

The Executive Secretary explained the process used to select General Council Commissioners. Persons nominated as Commissioners were invited to the stage.

Ballots were then distributed. Doug Goodwin clarified that this ballot was not a vote but a poll intended to help guide the Nominations Committee. Delegates marked their top choices for Commissioners. The Nomination Committee, made up of former Presidents Dan Chambers, Hilde Seal, Janice Young, and Tanis Van Drimmelen, received the marked ballots to aid in their discernment.

Dinner

The meeting adjourned for dinner at 5:40 PM. Mary Therese DesCamp offered a prayer of thanksgiving.

**General Council
Proposal 2012-05:
“Justice in
Environmental
Assessment
Hearings”**

Karen Millard introduced General Council Proposal 2012-05, “Justice in Environmental Assessment Hearings.”

That the 41st General Council issue a statement of concern that all current and future assessment hearings under both the National Energy Board and the Canadian Environmental Assessment Agency:

1. Exhibit a commitment to justice and compassion towards aboriginal neighbours affected by the proposed project;
2. Ensure that the terms of reference encompass understanding of aboriginal cultures including their spirituality and relation to the land;
3. Ensure that the protection of the environment be weighted and valued as much as financial gain.

M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that we concur with the General Council Proposal 2012-05 “Justice in Environmental Assessment Hearings.”

M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that we transmit to the General Council Proposal 2012-05 “Justice in Environmental Assessment Hearings.”

**General Council
Proposal 2012-06**

Karen Millard introduced General Council Proposal 2012-06, “BC Conference Affirmation of The Report of the Working Group on Israel/Palestine Policy.”

That BC Conference affirms The Report of the Working Group on Israel/Palestine Policy specifically calling for an economic boycott focussed exclusively on settlement products and therefore proposes that the Report be adopted.

“BC Conference Affirmation of The Report of the Working Group on Israel/Palestine Policy”	<i>M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that we concur with General Council Proposal 2012-06, “BC Conference Affirmation of The Report of the Working Group on Israel/Palestine Policy.”</i>
Worship	<i>M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that we transmit to the General Council Proposal 2012-06 “BC Conference Affirmation of The Report of the Working Group on Israel/Palestine Policy.”</i>
Worship	Youth at Conference led in worship.
Theme Presentation	In an address from the viewpoint of the <i>via negativa</i> , Alanna Mitchell spoke about the degradation of the earth’s environment and, particularly, of its oceans. Carbon overload, as well as the acidification and warming of the oceans, is resulting in a situation comparable to the “Great Killing” of 250 million years ago when a huge percentage of the earth’s species went extinct.
Memorials	Worship concluded with Dan Chambers leading Memorials for those who died during the year.
Adjournment	The meeting adjourned at 8:48 PM

Third Session, 8:45 AM, Saturday, June 2, 2012

Worship	Worship was led by Graham Brownmiller, Helen Ross, Children at Conference and Alanna Mitchell. Children at Conference told the story <i>Big Mamma Makes the World</i> by Phyllis Root.
Table Groups	Table groups were asked to answer the question “how are you doing at this moment?”
Personal Privilege	On a Point of Personal Privilege Richard Bott announced that he has withdrawn his nomination for Moderator.
Theme Presentation	Alanna Mitchell spoke from the perspective of the <i>via transformativa</i> (“Heal Me”) and <i>via creativa</i> (Act For Me). She encouraged the court to “clean up our own nest”, choose hope, listen for the signs and actions of change, and figure out which gifts each person could bring to help heal the environment. The court sang “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying.” The President then thanked Alanna for offering the court an “irrational hope.”
Election Results	It was announced that Graham Brownmiller was elected by acclamation as the Ordered Representative to the General Council Executive. It was also announced that Karen Medland was elected by acclamation as President-Elect of Conference.
Nomination for Moderator	<i>M/S/CARRIED (Debra Bowman/Dan Chambers) that BC Conference nominate Gary Paterson for Moderator of The United Church of Canada.</i>
Education and Students	Michelle Slater introduced the candidates for ordination, commissioning, recognition and admission. Each candidate reflected on what hymn, song, passage of scripture or story from scripture best summarized the gospel of Christ for them. Following the reflections, Blair Galston, on behalf of the Bob Stewart Archives, presented a book to each of the candidates and Helen Ross, on behalf of the Women of the United Church, presented certificates.

M/S/CARRIED (Michelle Slater, Hugh Creighton) that BC Conference:
ordain Lauren Hodgson to the Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care;
ordain Leenane Shiels to the Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care;
ordain Ruth McArthur to the Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care;
ordain Pamela Scott to the Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care;
readmit Jay Olson to the ordained Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care in The
United Church of Canada;
admit George Meier to the ordained Ministry of Word, Sacrament and Pastoral Care in The
United Church of Canada.

A ballot was distributed with the names of the candidates for ordination, commissioning, recognition and admission and the members of the court voted.

When the votes had been counted, the President announced that each candidate had been accepted.

Retirees

Linda Gunn introduced Lauren Hodgson who then introduced those who were to thank the retirees for their ministry. Michael Hare spoke about Ann Austin-Cardwell, David Martyn spoke about Wayne Atkinson, Leslie Stirling spoke about Steve Hershey, and Marion Carr spoke about Rod McKinnon. Linda then presented each retiree present with a plaque honouring their ministry. The President gave each retiree a prayer shawl.

Lunch

The meeting adjourned for lunch.

Interview

Ian Fraser interviewed Graham Brownmiller, the newly elected General Council Executive Representative (Ordered).

Anniversaries

Linda Gunn, with music by Curt Allison, noted key anniversaries of Ordered Ministers.

The President called special attention to the 20th anniversary of the ordination of Tim Stevenson, the first openly gay person to be ordained in the United Church.

A candle was lit in honour of the 50th Anniversary of the United Church Women.

Truth and Reconciliation

Alvin Dixon introduced the court to the work of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and, in particular, the work in BC preparing for a national gathering in Vancouver in September 2013.

Conference Proposals

The President noted that two Proposals to the Conference have been received. She explained the process to be used when dealing with Proposals to the Conference.

Conference Proposal 2012-01: "Camp Grafton Present and Future Project"

Karen Millard introduced General Council Proposal 2012-01, "Camp Grafton Present and Future Project."

M/S/ (Teri Meyer/Martha Ashbaugh) that BC Conference:

1. *honour its commitment during the Camp Future Project to redevelop Camp Grafton, as stated in documents dating from 2008;*
2. *ensure that Camp Grafton, like "Camp Pringle and Camp Fircom can live up to the future imagined for them by this project (CFP)" when it was initiated;*
3. *include Camp Grafton in the "new Conference Camping Ministry" by reinstating it as a "Regional Camp," (an intention held until late 2011);*

4. *extend the Camp Future Project funding, or provide 'Conference Camping Ministry' funding, until an agreeable redevelopment initiative is completed over a renegotiated period of time; and that*
5. *Camp Grafton have access to the endowment fund for on-going camping ministry.*

M/S/CARRIED (Gary Paterson/Ralph Johnston) that we refer the motion to the Conference Executive to be in full consultation with Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery, Kamloops United Church, and the Camp Grafton Society regarding the issues raised in this proposal and to do so in a timely and expeditious manner.

President-Elect

LeAnn Blackert and participants from Children at Conference interviewed Karen Medland, the newly elected President-Elect.

Conference Proposal 2012-02: "BC Conference Property Management and Development"

Karen Millard introduced General Council Proposal 2012-02, "BC Conference Property Management and Development." She explained that this is the first Proposal to be dealt with that uses the new possibility of requesting only a conversation by the court rather than a specific decision.

M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard/Doug Goodwin) that This meeting of BC Conference have a conversation about what services are most needed by congregations and ministries in the area of property management and development.

The court then engaged in conversation on the question asked by the motion. Table Groups were asked "For congregations and ministries seeking to manage or develop property, what are the main obstacles and issues arising."

After table group discussion, some responses were offered. Some of the obstacles noted were: poor history of relationships within a geographic area; limits of vision; fear of cost of bringing in a consultant; lack of expertise; Presbyteries need for resources, stories, successes; fear that action would take place before mission and vision were determined.

Election of Commissioners

The President reminded the court of the process being followed to elect General Council Commissioners.

Hilde Seal, on behalf of the Past-Presidents' Nominating Team, presented a slate of twenty-five Commissioners and four Alternate Commissioners for election.

M/S/CARRIED (Hilde Seal, Karen Millard) that BC Conference elect Jacob Black-Lock, Beth Bourke, Ruth Brady, Graham Brownmiller, Jenny Carter, Angela Curtis, Jean Daniels, Alvin Dixon, Alf Dumont, Jennifer Goddard-Sheppard, Robyn Green, Eric Hamlyn, Jake Highfield, Gerald Hobbs, Jean Macdonald, Robert Madziya, Linda McLaren, Joan McMurtry, Karen Medland, Jay Olson, Gary Paterson, Leenane Shiels, Keith Simmonds, Leslie Stirling, and Ruth Wright as Commissioners to the 41st General Council; and Carol Acton, Duncan Etches, Kevin Hegseth, and Erin Sterling as Alternates.

It was also reported that attending Youth Forum at General Council are Aidan Rice, Catherine Cameron, Finn Leahy, Victoria Jeffery, Paul Henderson, Colleen Chambers, Timothy Weaver-Graves, Vernon Smith and Tasha Ellis. Youth Forum Leaders attending are Kirsten Autio and Jake Autio.

General Council Report and Guest

Ray Jones, Aboriginal Ministries Council, gave a report and presented a video on the potential revised United Church crest that would include traditional aboriginal colours and wording. Gerald Hobbs, a member of the Task Force that proposed changes to the Basis of Union and the Crest, addressed the historical context of the proposal.

Dinner The meeting adjourned for dinner.

General Council Report and Guest Alvin Dixon, General Council Executive Representative (Lay), spoke about the work of the General Council Executive this past year. He also reported that the Musqueam Nation sent their regrets that a representative was not able to attend our opening evening to extend greetings.

Bruce Gregersen, guest from the General Council office, brought greetings from the General Council staff and spoke about the challenges for the church as it moves into the future.

Allan Buckingham was introduced as an elected member of the Executive of the World Communion of Reformed Churches. Allan brought greetings from the WCRC and introduced its work to the meeting.

M/S/CARRIED (Marianna Harris/Ann Pollock) that BC Conference express its thanks to the staff of the national Partners in Mission Unit for their work in organizing the February Networking Event which gathered together people of the United Church from across Canada who are working on issues of justice and peace for Palestine and Israel.

Settlement Committee Brenda Fawkes presented the Settlement Committee Report.

M/S/CARRIED (Brenda Fawkes, Doug Goodwin) that the Settlement Committee Report be received for information.

M/S/CARRIED (Brenda Fawkes, Doug Goodwin) that the Ministerial Standing Report be approved.

Archivist’s Report Blair Galston, Conference Archivist, advised the Court that the requisite audit of Presbytery minutes had been concluded and that all Presbyteries had submitted all the required documentation.

Registrar’s Report

Presbyteries:			
Cariboo	20	Prince Rupert	17
Comox-Nanaimo	43	Vancouver-Burrard	56
Fraser	49	Vancouver-South	35
Kamloops-Okanagan	53	Victoria	32
Kootenay	23	Westminster	33
Others (guests, resource, staff, visitors, volunteers, etc.)			108
			<hr/> 469
Child			28
First Time to Conference			62
Lay Presbyter-voting			157
Ordained Minister (including retired)			168
Voting Youth			21

Gratitude & Appreciation Linda Gunn offered words of gratitude to all of the teams and individuals who contributed in many and various ways to the 2012 General Meeting.

Enabling Motions

M/S/CARRIED (Karen Millard, David Martyn) that:

1. *the Executive Secretary be authorized to edit reports and minutes for the Record of Proceedings of this meeting;*
2. *the Executive be authorized to transact all business of the Conference until the next meeting of Conference, except those matters prohibited by the Constitution and Bylaws of The United Church of Canada;*
3. *the 83rd General Meeting of BC Conference take place in May 2014 at a location to be determined by the BC Conference Executive;*
4. *all remaining ballots be destroyed;*
5. *the meeting adjourn following the benediction at the Celebration of Ministry worship service.*

President’s Closing Words

Debra Bowman expressed appreciation for the experience of being Conference President and, in particular, gave thanks for the support she received from friends and colleagues and the hospitality she received at the Presbyteries she visited.

Worship

Evening worship was led by Graham Brownmiller and Trevor Angus.

Adjourn

The meeting adjourned for the night at 9:00 PM.

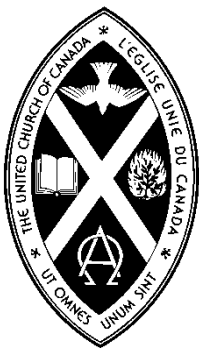
Fourth Session, 10:00 AM, Sunday, June 3, 2012

Celebration of Ministry

The court gathered at the War Memorial Gym at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC, in a Celebration of Ministry worship service, which included the ordination, commissioning, recognition and admission of six ministers and the installation of the President, Jenny Carter. Alanna Mitchell preached. Debra Bowman gave an address to those in new ministries in BC Conference.

Adjournment

The newly installed President, Jenny Carter, adjourned the meeting with a commission and benediction.



BC Conference

Rev. Debra Bowman, President

Rev. G. Douglas Goodwin, Executive Secretary