

MINUTES OF HOME MISSIONS

COMMITTEE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE



The United Church of Canada

June 13 and 14, 2012

**BC CONFERENCE OFFICE
BURNABY, BRITISH COLUMBIA**

AUTHORITY	The regular meeting of the Home Missions Committee was convened at the call of the Chair at Best Western King's Inn in Burnaby, B.C. at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, June 13, 2012. David Martyn, Chair, presiding, Sandra Nixon, Secretary. A quorum was present.
PRESENT	David Martyn, Chair Sandra Nixon, Secretary & Convenor, Vancouver-South Presbytery Jim Martin, Convenor, Prince Rupert Presbytery Bob French, Convenor, Victoria Presbytery Bruce Comrie, Convenor, Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery Bill Walsh, Convenor, Fraser Presbytery Carole Finch, Convenor, Westminster Presbytery Simone Carrodus, Convenor, Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery Ted Giesbrecht, Convenor, Kootenay Presbytery Jane Harding, M&S Convenor & Financial Development Officer, UCC
STAFF PRESENT	Nellie Tang, Finance Minister, BC Conference Beth Wertz, Assistant to the Finance Minister George Meier, Conference Minister (Kootenay) Michael Hare, Conference Minister (Prince Rupert) Ivy Thomas, Conference Minister (Kamloops-Okanagan) Bill Laurie, Conference Minister (Comox-Nanaimo & Victoria) Paul Davis, Conference Minister (Cariboo)
GUESTS	Stephen Gray, Executive Director - First United Church Don Evans, Acting Executive Director - Our Place
REGRETS	Keith Pederson, Convenor, Cariboo Presbytery Dale Gillard, Convenor, Comox-Nanaimo Presbytery
ABSENT	Clare Hill, Conference Minister (Native Ministries)
12:00 LUNCH	The meeting began with lunch and fellowship.
WELCOME/INTRODUCTIONS WORSHIP	The Chair convened the meeting at 1:00 PM. Members introduced themselves. Sandra Nixon led opening worship.
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	M/S/C (Jim Martin, Bob French) that the agenda be adopted as presented.

- ADOPTION OF MINUTES** Proposed change to the minutes: under “Real Property”, that the last sentence be changed to read “The manse in Kispiox needs a lot of work, as well as the church in Gitsegukla.”
M/S/ (Sandra Nixon/Michael Hare) that the minutes of the November 9-10, 2011 meeting be adopted as amended. CARRIED.
- DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST** Michael Hare – works part-time for the Central Mainland Marine, which is funded by Home Missions.
- CIRCLE GROUPS - PART 1** Ivy gave an introduction to the “Peer Spirit” circle group format. We broke into two groups to discuss the question: “Where is God calling us to support and encourage ministries in BC Conference?”
Results of the circle group discussions were reported back to the larger group.
- OUTREACH MINISTRY PRESENTATIONS** Stephen Gray gave a presentation on First United Church, Vancouver. Don Evans gave a presentation on Our Place, Victoria.
- DINNER** Bill Laurie led us in grace.
- UPDATE ON REAL PROPERTY** Real Property updates were provided regarding maintenance work planned, performed and completed.
It was noted that since Mission Support Consultations have not taken place for two years, we need a mechanism to provide confirmation of approval of Real Property expenses.
- UNSPENT REQUESTS** Port Hardy - Part of the May salary was covered by the presbytery; however, \$2260 is remaining of his May salary that presbytery cannot cover.

M/S/C (Bill Laurie, Jim Martin) that Home Missions approve the request from St. Columba Anglican-United Church, Port Hardy, for \$2,260 from Conference “Unspents” to cover salary costs for the one month internship of the new minister, the Rev. Wade Alan.
- CIRCLE GROUPS – PART 2** Groups discussed the questions: “Have your thoughts about Home Mission’s priorities for funding shifted? How? What’s been confirmed?”
Groups reported back to the larger group.
- ADJOURNMENT** The meeting adjourned for the evening at 8:00 PM.
- 9:00 AM WORSHIP** Bruce Comrie led the committee in morning worship.

STEWARDSHIP – JANE HARDING	Jane Harding, UCC Financial Development Officer for (BC), spoke with the committee about the current state of the Mission & Service Fund, bequests and gift planning. UCC Foundation - several Mission Focus Funds, all detailed on the website.
TERMS OF REFERENCE – REVIEW	It was identified that we need to clarify the relationship between the funds we have to distribute and the Pro-Vision funds of BC Conference.
CIRCLE GROUPS – PART 3	Discussion in full circle regarding the idea of changing the structure to allocate funds to presbyteries who would then be tasked with the decisions regarding distribution to mission units. Proposal is that presbyteries would each get a base amount, with a portion of the funds retained by Home Missions for distribution.
LUNCH 12:30 PM	Jane Harding & Jim Martin led us in singing grace.
CIRCLE GROUP #3 CONT'D	Reflections from Ivy on group discussion: <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ fairly unanimous that something needs to change in way we do things○ majority in favour of experimenting with changing how funds are distributed, including perhaps handing a portion of the HM funds over to presbyteries.○ concern about small congregations and how to encourage them to accept the funding realities and find new ways of being church○ there appears to be consensus that we explore in greater detail how we might experiment with giving over some of the HM funds to presbyteries M/S/C (Sandra, Michael) That a task group consisting of David Martyn, Nellie Tang, Ivy Thomas and George Meier, put together a proposal or proposals to be forwarded by email to the rest of the HM committee for discussion in the fall, prior to the November HM meeting. *NOTE: Regardless of whether/when this experiment is implemented, presbyteries are still welcome to bring proposals for worthy projects to HM Committee.
REQUEST FOR UNSPENTS	M/S/C (Bill Laurie, Jim Martin) that HM support the request of Our Place Society for \$14,500 for 2012 and that HM contribute \$6,000 from BC Conference Unspents and apply to the National Common Fund for the remainder of the funds.
SHARED MINISTRY – UPDATE	Ivy Thomas gave an update on the latest Ecumenical Shared Ministry gathering.
2013 MSG REVISED ESTIMATES & STORYTELLING	Estimated requests for 2013 were reviewed.

- APPLICATION DEADLINE** Deadline for mission support grant applications to be received by Conference office is October 15. *Please ensure application forms are submitted to David and Nellie by the deadline, and have all the appropriate signatures (congregational and presbytery).
Application forms are available online at the Conference website.
- FALL MEETING DATE** Fall meeting is scheduled for **November 7 - 8, 2012**. Item for discussion: shared ministry.
- ENABLING MOTONS** **M/S/C** (Sandra Nixon, Michael Hare) that the Home Missions Executive be empowered to act on behalf of the Committee until its next meeting.
- ADJOURNMENT** The committee offers its sincere thanks to Ted Giesbrecht for his 10 years of service for Home Missions. The meeting adjourned at 2:00 PM, with thanks to everyone for their work.

David Martyn, Chair

Sandra Nixon, Secretary