



MINUTES OF THE HOME MISSIONS COMMITTEE

OF BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE
The United Church of Canada

November 5 and 6, 2014

BC CONFERENCE OFFICE
BURNABY, BRITISH COLUMBIA

AUTHORITY	The regular meeting of the Home Missions Committee was convened at the call of the Chair at the BC Conference Office in Burnaby, B.C. at 1:00 PM on Wednesday, November 5, 2014, David Martyn, Chair, presiding, Jennifer Eastwood, Acting Recording Secretary. A quorum was present.
PRESENT	David Martyn – Chair Simone Carrodus, Convenor, Vancouver-Burrard Presbytery Bruce Comrie, Convenor, Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery Carole Finch, Convenor, Westminster Presbytery Larry Scott, Convenor, Victoria Presbytery Ray Jones, Member, Native Ministries Jim White, Member, Native Ministries Robin Pollock, Convenor, Cariboo Presbytery Mark Isaak, Convenor, Fraser Presbytery Frank Lewis, Convenor, Kootenay Presbytery Jim Martin, Convenor, Prince Rupert Presbytery Kris Jensen, Convenor, Comox-Nanimo Presbytery Jane Harding, M&S Convenor & Financial Development Officer, UCC
STAFF PRESENT	Nellie Tang, Finance Minister, BC Conference Debbie Bentham, Conference Minister (Northern Ministries) Jennifer Eastwood, Assistant to Conference Minister: Finance Patricia Vickers, Conference Minister (Native Ministries)
GUESTS	
REGRETS	George Meier, Conference Minister (Kootenay) Ivy Thomas, Conference Minister (Kamloops-Okanagan)
12:00 LUNCH	The meeting began with lunch and fellowship. Jane Harding led us in grace.
GATHERING/WELCOME	Jane Harding led us in Worship
BACKGROUND OF COMMITTEE MEMBERS	Committee members shared their backgrounds and church involvement.
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	M/S/C (<i>Carole Finch/Kris Jensen</i>) that the Minutes of June 4-5, 2014 be adopted as circulated.
BUSINESS ARISING	Items arising were place on the agenda.
ADOPTION OF AGENDA	M/S/C (<i>Bruce Comrie/Frank Lewis</i>) that the agenda be adopted as circulated.

PRO VISION FUNDS	Nellie Tang made a presentation about ProVision Funds. There are 6 ProVision Funds in the Conference(Vancouver Burrard, Fraser, Westminster, Comox-Nanaimo, Victoria and Conference). Since inception, the Presbytery ProVision Funds collectively have distributed over \$1.1m. After 10 years of operation, the remaining funds in Presbytery ProVision Funds will revert to the Conference ProVision Fund
DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST	No conflicts of interest were raised.
REVIEW OF PERPETUAL CALENDAR	The perpetual calendar was reviewed and discussed. No changes were proposed.
AVAILABLE UNSPENTS & REQUESTS	<p>Kispiox – \$10,000 - no application submitted for 2014</p> <p>Lax Kw’alaams - \$15,000 – application for 2014 just received</p> <p>CMMM - \$10,000 – no staff person since end of September.</p> <p>There was discussion about the challenges of getting applications filled in accurately in some of the Northern communities and some potential solutions.</p> <p>It was agreed that remaining unspent money as of December 1st will be returned to General Council.</p>
REAL PROPERTY REQUESTS FOR 2015	First United Church – Vancouver – up to the amount approved in previous years.
FIRST REVIEW – MISSION SUPPORT REQUESTS FOR 2015 – STORYTELLING	<p>Congregational Support – Native</p> <p>Anspayawx (Kispiox) – application has not yet been received, but is in process. Money received will go to support Gloria Stevens in her Ministry. She is enrolled in DLM program currently.</p> <p>Bella Coola – lost their minister in July and have not replaced her yet. They have found a Minister for Feb – June 2015 and are hoping to have pulpit supply in the interim.</p> <p>CCM – Wally Hargrave was in this position part-time until the end of September, but has resigned. Prince Rupert Presbytery is looking for someone to fill in.</p> <p>Haida Gwaii – Nancy O’Higgins is currently working .75FTE, but the pastoral charge could be looking at changing to .5FTE</p> <p>Hartley Bay – no request received.</p> <p>Hazelton – huge transition. Gitsegukla has been a part of Hazelton pastoral charge - .75 Hazelton & .25 Gitsegukla. Renovations of church in Gitsegukla and availability of a ministry candidate(Herb Russell) in Gitsegukla may mean changes in this relationship.</p> <p>Lax Kw’alaams – Lawrence Sankey is providing services – enrolled in DLM program. Things are starting to happen in Lax Kw’alaams. They are working on some renovations to the church building.</p> <p>Longhouse – Ministry is continuing as usual. Simone read from the application – A day or week in the life and included examples of the regular activities which take place.</p> <p>Rural</p> <p>Cumberland – has had some challenges and has recently come alive again. They have been holding joint services with other pastoral charges. They have had a half-time student minister since July.</p> <p>Lumby – mainly a retirement community with a large artistic community. Minister is on Presbytery appointment .275FTE. Average Sunday attendance is 12. They hold a film & discussion night twice/month. Their previously vibrant community outreach ministry is</p>

no longer thriving.

Long Beach – new rectory has been built with the proceeds of the sale of the property in Ucluelet. The Anglican church owns the church property and the rectory, but the congregation is made up of many different denominations. They now have a resident minister in the community which they haven't had for a long time. There are many visitors during tourist season. Attendance averages 30+ during the winter season.

North Thompson – Barriere has moved to a 3 way shared ministry with Anglicans and Lutherans. New church name – Church of St. Paul: Serving Together as a Parish of Anglicans, Uniteds, and Lutherans. Clearwater rents space from the Catholic church and would like to move to the same ecumenical shared ministry model as Barriere, and are working on a new church name. They currently have a Lutheran pastor. Barriere has a thrift shop. Average attendance – 30 in Barriere and 10 in Clearwater. Lutherans only give money for start-ups and not for ongoing ministry, so there is no grant from them for 2015.

St. John Gualbert (Port McNeill) – has received aid for many years. A lot of creative things are happening. Wade Allen is the minister here and in Port Hardy/Port Alice. Port Alice is a growing community and the church is showing signs of new life. They have had a youth choir which has been well attended.

Port Hardy/Port Alice - see above.

Robson Valley – Valemount & McBride shared ministry. Currently have an Anglican priest full time. Kim McNaughton has a vibrant youth program running. McBride has a thrift shop.

Outreach Ministries

First UC – Vancouver – 2013 – was incorporated as First United Church Community Ministry Society. Supports and works with individuals in Vancouver's Downtown Eastside. Have bin and cart storage for personal possessions. Is hosting an Aboriginal speakers series. Have strengthened support to the 3 housing facilities operated by First United Social Housing.

Our Place Society – Victoria – has expanded in the scope of its ministry, offering 3 meals a day, 7 days a week. This has had an impact on the number of people on the streets. Has been pro-active in approaching Presbytery and Conference for additional financial support. They value the connection with United Church congregations and have a vibrant network of volunteers. Julianne Kasmer is their part-time chaplain.

New Mission Work

Cariboo Initiative – Cariboo Presbytery has decided to apply for ProVision funding for their Festival of Faith.

Kootenay Initiative – they are looking at engaging and empowering people to do leadership work, working with transition and change in pastoral charges. They are wanting to investigate the potential for technology to assist with keeping different areas connected.

St. Andrew's – Lillooet – shared ministry – United/Anglican. The town has gone through many changes in industry etc. Sheila Dunbar is there half time. They have a weekly meal and monthly food bank. They have done some upgrades and maintenance on the church and manse. Looking at partnerships with Anglican church in Ashcroft.

NEW DISCUSSION

A concern was raised about Manual section 1.26.5.e – Mission Support Grant: If a pastoral charge will need a larger mission support grant to fund the settlement than it is already receiving, the Conference Settlement Committee may not settle a member of the order of ministry to the pastoral charge unless the Conference gives approval. Treena Duncan has advised that this will be added to the agenda for the next Conference Minister's meeting.

6:00 PM DINNER	Jane Harding led us in grace.
SECOND REVIEW OF 2015 MISSION SUPPORT REQUESTS	The proposed 2015 grants were reviewed for any suggested reductions and/or increases.
9:00 AM WORSHIP	Debbie Bentham led us in worship.
SECOND REVIEW CONT'D	Clarification was provided regarding the budget for Long Beach. The proposed 2015 grants were reviewed again. M/S/C (Robin Pollock/Kris Jensen) that the proposed grants be approved. In Appendix.
MISSION & SERVICE FUND PRESENTATION	Jane Harding, UCC Financial Development Officer for BC, spoke with the committee about Mission & Service givings, Stewardship resources, and Gifts with Vision. The average M&S giving in BC is about 20% higher than the rest of the country, and a greater percentage of total donors in BC also give to M&S. We watched 2 videos from the Stewardshiptoolkit.ca website.
REVIEW OF TERMS OF REFERENCE	The committee Terms of Reference were reviewed for any suggested changes. There was discussion about the diversity of applications and the need to be careful about putting things in the Terms of Reference which would make it more difficult for some to apply for a Mission Support Grant. There were no changes proposed at this time.
ESTIMATES FOR 2016 MSG REQUESTS	There was discussion about any anticipated changes to grant requests for 2016.
FUTURE DATES FOR SPRING & FALL MEETINGS	SPRING MEETING will take place June 10-11, 2015 FALL MEETING will take place November 4-5, 2015
MOTIONS	M/S/C (Ray Jones/Kris Jensen) that Larry Scott be named vice-chair. M/S/C (Bruce Comrie/Jim Martin) that the Home Missions Committee executive be empowered to make decisions between now and the next meeting.
ADJOURNMENT	The meeting adjourned at 12:02 PM, with thanks to everyone for their work.
12:00 PM LUNCH	Jane Harding led us in singing grace.

David Martyn, Chair

Appendix

BC Mission Support Units	2015	
	Final	
CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT NATIVE:		
Anspayawx (Kispiox)	8,000	
Waglisla (Bella Bella)		
Bella Coola	22,610	
CCM (Coastal Circuit Ministry)	43,000	
Haida Gwaii .75 FTE	15,000	
Hartley Bay		
Hazelton/Gitsegukla	25,000	
Lax-Kw'alaams (Port Simpson)	15,000	
LongHouse Council .6 FTE	27,000	
	155,610	41%
CONGREGATIONAL SUPPORT RURAL:		
Burns Lake/Houston		
Cumberland .5 FTE		
Lumby .25 FTE		
Long Beach (shared)	11,000	
North Thompson (shared)	14,000	
Port McNeil (shared) .54 FTE	4,000	
Port Hardy/Port Alice (shared) .46 FTE	4,000	
Robson Valley (shared)	3,600	
	36,600	10%
OUTREACH MINISTRIES:		
First - Vancouver	115,000	
Our Place - Victoria	50,000	
	165,000	44%
EMERGING MISSION MODELS:		
Cariboo Initiative		
Kootenay Initiative	12,500	
St. Andrew's - Lillooet (shared) .5 FTE	4,500	
	17,000	4%
MISSION SUPPORT TOTALS	374,210	
Grant from General Council	374,417	
Available Funds	207	
Moving & Precall	8,000	