



**MINUTES OF HOME MISSIONS COMMITTEE
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA CONFERENCE**

The United Church of Canada

November 5 and 6, 2009

B.C. CONFERENCE OFFICE

BURNABY, BRITISH COLUMBIA

Authority	The regular meeting of the Home Missions Committee was convened at the call of the Chair at BC Conference Office, Burnaby, B.C. at 1:00 pm on Wednesday, November 4, 2009, David Martyn, Chair, presiding, Sandra Nixon, Secretary. A quorum was present.
Present	David Martyn, Chair Sandra Nixon, Secretary & Convenor for Vancouver- South Presbytery Carole Finch, Convenor, Westminster Presbytery Bob French, Convenor, Victoria Presbytery Ted Giesbrecht, Convenor, Kootenay Presbytery Dale Gillard, Convenor, Comox-Nanimo Presbytery Nancy O'Higgins, Convenor, Prince Rupert Presbytery Bruce Comrie, Convenor, Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery Bill Walsh, Convenor, Fraser Presbytery Keith Pederson, Convenor, Cariboo presbytery
Staff Present	Nellie Tang, Finance Minister, BC Conference Beth Wertz, Assistant to Conference Minister: Finance Paul Davis, Conference Minister: Cariboo Michael Hare, Conference Minister: Prince Rupert Ivy Thomas, Conference Minister, Kamloops-Okanagan Bill Laurie, Conference Minister, Comox-Nanaimo George Maier, Conference Minister, Kootenay Clare Hill, Conference Minister, Native Ministries Bruce Cowburn, M&S Animator
Guests	Treena Duncan, Conference Personnel Minister (re: Campus Ministries) Sandra Severs, First United Church Mission
Regrets	Don Collette, Convenor, Vancouver-Burrard
12:00 LUNCH	The meeting began with lunch and fellowship.
GATHERING/WELCOME	The Chair convened the meeting at 1:00 PM. Bruce Comrie led Committee members in opening worship and prayer.
INTRODUCTIONS	Members introduced themselves around the table.
ADOPTION OF MINUTES	A change was requested to the wording of the motion regarding unspents – the phrase “in the common fund” will be removed. M/S (Sandra Nixon/Bruce Comrie) that the minutes of the June 3-4, 2009 meeting be adopted as amended. CARRIED.
REVIEW OF PERPETUAL CALENDAR	Nellie Tang led the group through a review of the Home Missions Perpetual Calendar.

All grant recipients must forward audited or reviewed financial statements to the Conference Finance Minister by the end of February; otherwise, 2nd quarter cheques are not mailed out until the statements are received.

Not many presbyteries have as yet made use of the new electronic form for applications.

Unspent funds need to be re-allocated prior to the June 15, Sept.15, Oct.31 and Nov.15 deadlines, after which unused portions of the grant must be returned to the Common Fund.

Note the change in restrictions for unspents that BC Conference retains – the restrictions previously in place were lifted at the last meeting.

TERMS OF REFERENCE

Policies & Procedures for Mission Support Grants and the Terms of Reference for the HM Committee were handed out to familiarize new members with their content.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

Conflict of Interest document from the Alban Institute (by Dan Hotchkiss) was circulated. The BC Conference Code of Conduct (adopted May 2001) was reviewed.

M/S (Carole Finch, Bill Walsh) that the HM Committee adopt the BC Conference “Code of Conduct” as its own Code of Conduct, with the following changes:

change of wording from “Conference Executive” to “Home Missions Committee” wherever applicable.

Second sentence under 2.c will be deleted.

CARRIED

It was agreed that at the beginning of each meeting of Home Missions, members will be asked to declare any conflicts of interest. For this meeting, the following conflicts were declared: Michael Hare – Central Marine Mission; Nancy O’Higgins – Haida Gwaii; Bill Laurie – Campus Ministry; Sandra Severs, First United Church.

CAMPUS MINISTRIES REPORT

Treana Duncan and Bill Laurie reported on the research that has been done (and is still in process) around campus ministry in BC Conference. GC resolution to support campus ministry as part of UCC commitment to Young Adults. Following up on this commitment will likely take 3-5 years in BC Conference. In past, UVic and UBC have been partially funded by Home Missions. UVic is an interfaith model, with strong support by presbytery. UBC has a long history, and is in the process of being “re-established”. Proposal to have staffing tied in with UHill staffing. SFU ministry is being spearheaded by Ellesmere UC, and is not currently funded by HM.

Some questions being examined:

What is/should be the relationship between Campus Ministry and YAYA ministry?

Are there issues around regionalism and entitlement?

What type of mission in Campus Ministry and how should it be funded?

What mechanism do we have for discussion around priorities for mission funding?

Committee members had an opportunity to ask questions and make comments. The research and reporting process is expected to be finished by June.

1ST REVIEW OF HOME MISSION REQUESTS 2010

The committee heard the stories behind each application for Mission Support funding.

DINNER

Grace was offered by Clare Hill.

UNSPENTS AVAILABLE & REQUESTS

Unspents at this time are: Gold River (4th quarter) - \$2250 and Burns Lake \$1250

Total unspents: \$3500

M/S (Bruce Comrie, Dale Gillard) that the total unspent amount of \$3500 be allocated to Bella Coola for ministry personnel moving costs. **CARRIED**

Note: Any further requests for unspents between now and December 31st need to go to the Common Fund (National office).

REAL PROPERTY DISCUSSION/REQUESTS FOR 2010

Real property budget requests were considered (per chart):

Haisla – church - \$1155 (potential request)

Hazelton – Manse - \$10,085

Texada Island/Gillies Bay – Manse - \$5000

Bella Bella – church - \$6500

Haida Gwaii (PR) - manse - \$700, church - \$500

Anspayoxw – church - \$2793

Bella Coola – manse - \$3150

Klemtu – church - \$20,000

Gitsegukla – church - \$15,000

First United – building (washrooms) - \$45,000

ISOLATION FUND - UPDATE

Nellie Tang reported that ongoing work on an Isolation Fund has been taken over by the Conference M&P committee.

THOMAS CROSBY FUND – REQUESTS

Two requests have been received.

M/S (Clare Hill, Carole Finch) that the request for \$3440 for Andrew for registration fees for the Winter Session at Naramata be approved. **CARRIED**

M/S (Paul Davis, Nancy O’Higgins) that Home Missions Committee approve the request for up to \$4000 for a “Real Property Site Visitation” in Prince Rupert Presbytery. **CARRIED**

FIRST REVIEW (CONT’D)

We continued the story-telling exercise.

Suggested that Conference personnel dealing with shared ministries engage in some proactive dialogue around funding process and policy, and possibly bring recommendations to the next HM meeting.

THURSDAY 9:00 AM

Nancy O’Higgins led us in morning worship.

MISSION & SERVICE PRESENTATION

Bruce Cowburn, M&S Animator for BC Conference, gave an update on the M&S Fund and its recent initiatives.

1ST REVIEW (CONT’D)

Sandra Severs gave us an update from Vancouver-Burrard presbytery.

2ND REVIEW OF HOME MISSION REQUESTS 2010

Total Mission Support Grant for BC Conference for 2010: \$527,487 (same as last year).

M/S (Bruce Comrie, Bill Walsh) that HM adopt the recommended allocations per the “Home Missions 2010” document circulated, with amendments. **CARRIED**

Point of Order: During the discussion, a Point of Order was raised regarding who at the table was entitled to vote. The Chair ruled that Conference Ministers are allowed to vote.

M/S (Paul Davies, Ted Giesbrecht) that the original motion be amended as follows:

Cariboo – reduce allocation \$5,000 to \$25,000

Open Door – reduce allocation \$4,000 to \$41,000

CARRIED

M/S (Bruce Comerie, Carole) that the amended motion be amended as follows:

UBC Campus ministry – increase allocation from \$0 to \$4,500

UVic Campus Ministry – increase allocation from \$0 to \$4,500

CARRIED

(One dissenting vote by Ted Giesbrecht)

**TOPICS FOR DISCUSSION AT
SPRING MEETING**

Suggestions for topics of discussion for Spring meeting:

Examine the opportunity for HM to be proactive in challenging the rest of the UCC to look at creative ways of funding mission in the future, to reduce dependence of our missions on MSG's. One possibility is to explore creating pools of funding for mission from property sales with the related issue of coordinating grant approval if HM does not administer the new source from property sales.

The assumptions we have behind funding for certain missions.

Possible review of HM priorities at each meeting, as well as the relationship of HM priorities with respect to BC Conference priorities.

Desire to develop a clearer and more complete picture regarding mission funding sources and strategies across the Conference. (If we had more information, it could help us dream!) What conversations can/need to happen between presbyteries with funds, the BC Conference Executive and HM?

Suggestion: That attendance figures be reported for past and current years on future allocation charts.

LUNCH 12-1PM

Bruce Comrie led us in singing grace.

**PRESENTATION ON
CONFERENCE FINANCIAL
STRUCTURE**

BC Conference Executive Secretary, Rev. Doug Goodwin, presented the committee with a detailed explanation of the financial structure of the Conference, as well as of various pools of funding available.

ESTIMATES FOR 2011

The Committee walked through estimates for next year.

**FUTURE DATES FOR
SPRING/FALL MEETINGS**

Spring meeting: May 26-27, 2010.

Fall meeting: November 3-4, 2010.

**REPRESENTATIVES TO
MISSION SUPPORT
CONSULTATION 2010**

M/S (Sandra Nixon, Bruce Comrie) that Nellie Tang and David Martyn be the HM representatives to the Mission Support Consultation (May 5-6, 2010). **CARRIED.**

M/S (Sandra Gillard, Ivy Thomas) that Bruce Comrie be the alternate representative to the Mission Support Consultation (May 5-6, 2010). **CARRIED.**

ENABLING MOTIONS

M/S (Sandra Nixon, Ivy) that the Home Missions Committee establish an Executive consisting of the Chair, Secretary, Conference Finance Minister, and two other members of the Home Missions Committee. **CARRIED.**

M/S (Sandra Nixon, Ivy Thomas) that Dale Gillard and Paul Davis be appointed to the Executive of the Home Missions Committee. **CARRIED.**

M/S (Sandra Nixon, Dale Gillard) that the powers of the HM committee be given to the Executive until its next meeting May 26-27, 2010. **CARRIED.**

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Ivy that the meeting be adjourned at 1:06 PM.