

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE MINUTES

February 10-11, 2023

The 44th General Council Executive of The United Church of Canada met by video-conference on Friday, February 10 and Saturday, February 11, 2023. The Moderator, Carmen Lansdowne, presided.

Attendance

Voting Members: Mitchell Anderson, Michael Blair, Richard Bott, Kathy Brett, Teresa Burnett Cole-, M Chorney, Samuel Vauvert Dansokho, Paul Douglas Walfall, Catherine Glover, Wilson Gonese, Carmen Lansdowne, Kit Loewen, Jane McDonald, Arlyce Schiebout, Thea Sheridan-Jonah

Corresponding: Diane Bosman, Marlene Britton, Sarah Charters, Alan Hall, Adele Halliday, Éric Hébert-Daly, Jennifer Henry, Jennifer Janzen-Ball, Harry Li, Lori-Ann Livingston, Faith March-MacCuish, Erik Mathiesen, Shannon McCarthy, Japhet Ndhlovu, Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa

Regrets: Michael Caveney, Marlene Lightning

Guests: Tim Blair, Don Hunter, Norm Seli

Friday, February 10, 2023

Welcome

The Moderator, Carmen Lansdowne, and General Secretary, Michael Blair, welcomed those gathered for this meeting of the Executive. The Moderator briefly reviewed the method of voting to be used for this meeting, and reminded members that the Executive would be using blue and orange cards to help determine whether the group had reached general consensus on a topic or whether more conversation was needed prior to decision-making.

The General Secretary introduced Lori-Ann Livingston, the new staff person responsible for public relations and media.

Constituting the Meeting

The Moderator constituted the meeting in French and English.

"Au nom de Notre Seigneur, Jésus-Christ, seul chef souverain de l'Église, et par l'autorité qui m'a été conférée par le quarante-quatrième Conseil général, I hereby declare this meeting of the Executive of the General Council to be in session for the work that may properly be brought before it to the glory of God."

Territory Acknowledgement

Past Moderator, Richard Bott, led the group in reflection on the territory acknowledgement and the relationship between settlers and Indigenous peoples on this land. He concluded by inviting the group to take a moment in silence to recognize their particular land or territory and the people of that territory.

Agenda Overview

The Business Planning Committee chairperson, Kit Loewen, named the members of the Business Planning Committee: M Chorney, Arlyce Schiebout, the Moderator and General Secretary and herself. She then briefly outlined the agenda which was structured to enable the Executive to engage in deep discussions while staying focused on their fiduciary, strategic and generative responsibilities (*Appendix I*). This was the second meeting using this format. Kit reminded those present to try to keep their cameras on as much as possible to signal engagement during the meeting. Kit also reported the regrets for the meeting, and welcomed Wilson Gonese, who serves as a military chaplain and had not been able to be present at the previous two GCE meetings.

Equity Commitments and Lenses

The equity support team for this meeting was introduced: M Chorney, Wilson Gonese, and Arlyce Schiebout, with staff support from Adele Halliday, Anti-Racism and Equity Lead. The Equity Aspirations were shared onscreen throughout the meeting. There were set times during the meeting for those gathered to consider how the group was attending to the equity commitments.

Gathering Worship

During opening worship, the Moderator focused on themes from Black History Month offering music, poetry, and prayers from historic and contemporary Black leadership, including Cynthia Erivo and Langston Hughes. The scripture passage grounding the meeting was Revelation 7:9. Worship included a litany written by the General Secretary incorporating the lens of Holy Manners. Prayers for the church were offered from submissions received from regional council presiding officers / presidents, as well as highlighting current issues in the world and within the United Church and GCE families.

GS 19 Procedural and Consent (*Appendix II*)

The Moderator invited the General Secretary to introduce the opening motion. The General Secretary briefly outlined the various items contained in *GS 19 Procedural and Consent*.

Motion: Michael Blair/Kit Loewen

2023-02-10-024

That the General Council Executive:

1. Approve the minutes of the General Council Executive meeting held November 18-19, 2022.

2. Receive for information any correspondence to the General Council Executive received since the last meeting of the Executive (sent to the Executive by email and found online).
3. Adopt the agenda for this meeting as circulated, with any changes which may be necessary as the meeting evolves, to be made on the recommendation of the Business Planning Committee.
4. Name as corresponding members to this meeting any General Council Officers, Executive Ministers, Executive Officers, and Regional Council Executive Ministers who are present; anyone else who may be named by the General Secretary to serve as resource persons to the General Council Executive.
5. Receive for information the following:
 - General Secretary's Accountability Report
 - Board of Vocation Accountability Report
 - Pension Board Strategic Plan
 - Business Planning Committee Report
 - Updated Memorandum of Agreement between The United Church of Canada and the United Property Development Resource Corporation (previously approved 09-2020)
6. Approve the following proposals:
 - GS 20 Remit Autonomous National Indigenous Organization - Approval of Form
 - GS 21 Moving Expenses for Ministry Personnel (GC43 MNWO 05 Proposal)
 - GS 22 Electronic Monitoring Policy
 - GS 24 Regionally Recognized Ministries
 - BP 01 Response to Regional Council Proposals regarding Development of Antisemitism Resources

Carried

Business Planning Committee

The Business Planning Committee had been introduced earlier in the meeting. Kit Loewen reported that all minutes of the committee meetings were available on the committee site for any Executive members who wished to see them. There were no questions for the committee at this time. The Moderator invited any who did have questions to email Kit as the chair of the committee.

Governance Education

The Moderator invited Mitchell Anderson to guide the next portion of the meeting, along with Teresa Burnett-Cole and Kit Loewen. Mitchell reminded the Executive that at the last GCE meeting in November they had approved in principle a governance renewal action plan. This time in the agenda was to reflect on the action plan, and then to work on prioritizing the ten recommendations.

Mitchell shared a story he had previously told about a raven and a hunter. The raven is able to help the hunter because it can see further from its high vantage point; the hunter is essential to the raven who does not have the ability to hunt. The work of the GCE is to see the big picture and enable others to carry out the work.

Small group discussions centred on the questions:

- As you consider the commitments we've made in approving this set of recommendations, what questions are arising for you?
- As you reflect on the recommendations, which feel more/less challenging for you?
- What are you eager to learn more about?
- What seem to rise up as priorities for you?

Notes were taken by Mitchell, Teresa and Kit in each of the groups.

This was the first of three governance education sessions for this meeting.

GS 23 2023 Operating Budget (Appendix III)

The General Secretary introduced this proposal. He noted that the 2023 operating budget was based on previously approved principles. Erik Mathiesen introduced Harry Li, Controller, Finance, who outlined the budget, which had been endorsed by the Finance Advisory Committee. Harry particularly noted that by accepting the recommended 2023 proposed \$4 million deficit budget, we are deferring difficult decisions for a short time and that the 2024 budget would require significant cost reduction. There was time for questions and comments. Jane McDonald, Chair of Finance Advisory Committee, noted that the committee would be monitoring the 2023 finances in order to be able to note concerns or make recommendations throughout the year. In response to a question about the bequest policy, Erik outlined the current and former policies. From 2014 to 2018, 50% of bequests were used by the church in support of the budget and 50% transferred to the United Church Foundation to support long term granting. Since 2019, when the church was reorganized into the three-council model, 100% of bequests have been applied to the United Church budget. A recommendation regarding the Hope bequest specifically will come to a future meeting

The Moderator invited the Executive to use their orange and blue cards to indicate whether they were ready move to the vote on the motion.

Motion: Jane McDonald/Kathy Brett

2023-02-10-025

That the General Council Executive approve the 2023 Operating Budget as attached. In summary, this budget reflects a significant deficit of \$4.0 million including a \$1.5 million initial investment in strategic plan implementation. It incorporates the previously approved principles, assumptions and targets for the 2023 budget:

- a) Total Operating Budget Deficit not to exceed \$4 million;

- b) Annual incremental investment in strategic plan of \$1.5 million as set out in separate exhibit;
- c) 2023 Mission and Service distributions held level with 2022;
- d) 2023 Assessment distributions to be shared consistent with General Council approved formula;
 - o A 5th year of assured level assessment income funding for regions in 2023. If income is higher than expected, 100% would flow to regions. If shortfall arises, reserves will be used to fund the deficit. It is important to note that this is not sustainable for future years.
- e) Maintenance of 2023 M&S funding for regions at 2022 level of \$3.84 million – shared equally across the 16 regions. This commitment is after a reduction of \$784,000 in M&S funding for regions in 2021 as part of an overall 2021 cut to grants of \$2.0 million;
- f) The COLA factor for 2023 will be 3.4% consistent with existing practice and policy;
- g) Continued decline in annual congregation M&S (\$1,000,000 per year) consistent with membership related metrics;
- h) Except for the Hope Bequest, bequest income will be used to support the operating budget for the coming triennium as has been the case for 2019-2022 (*this maintains on hold our 2014 policy of transferring 50% of bequests to the Foundation*);
- i) Embracing the Spirit funding to be directed towards the strategic plan growth initiative and not increased towards GC 42 directed target of 10% of annual M&S contributions;
- j) Work with the Indigenous church in continuing our right relations journey while identifying and implementing cost reduction possibilities in the event of ongoing revenue decline;
- k) No provision for interest costs in the event pandemic circumstances warrant use of the new, expanded line of credit facility; and
- l) Event expenses are no longer spread over multiple years for budget purposes but will be shown on a yearly cash basis to align with cashflows.

Carried

At his request, it is noted that Paul Douglas Walfall voted against the motion *GS 23 2023 Operating Budget*.

At the invitation of the Moderator, Mitchell Anderson prayed for the staff and committee that support the budget work. He also gave thanks for the gifts from the wider church that enable the work of The United Church of Canada to continue.

The General Secretary expressed his appreciation for the work of Erik, Harry and the whole finance team.

Reflections – Equity Aspirations

Arlyce Schiebout invited the Executive to silently reflect on the observance of the equity aspirations so far this day. Afterwards, Samuel Vauvert Dansokho and Teresa Burnett-Cole

noted their desire to have some silence added to the agenda after worship, prayer, or times of deep discernment.

General Secretary's Accountability Report

Thea Sheridan-Jonah joined the meeting after the break and the Moderator welcomed everyone back to the meeting. The General Secretary invited those present to work in small groups with specific questions relating to his accountability report and decisions that will need to be made in the future relating to declining church finances.

- What principles, processes and policies should we be attending to with regard to our finances?
- How should we be understanding the General Council's direction to "live within our means?"
- What should we commit to doing, no matter what?

The General Secretary noted that this is the first of a number of discussions with regard to future decisions needed due to finances.

Each of the three groups gave a brief report.

Erik Mathiesen reported regarding what the church should keep doing, no matter what. This centred on living into our responsibilities in relation to decolonization, anti racism activities, and apologies to different audiences. The need to continue funding the regional councils was also raised, as this is where support to congregations is situated. Erik suggested that sharing more information regarding congregational health could be beneficial to the Executive.

Sarah Charters noted that their group was discussing financial policies, principles, and processes with regard to finances. She indicated that discussion centred around balancing current needs with future needs, while leaving space for reparations and ensuring that the church is living into the commitments named by the previous group. They also talked about sharing of resources, and potential diversification of revenue sources. Sarah noted that clear communication about the current financial context, and that the future for the Church will be different from the past and the present. There is a lack of knowledge regarding current financial policies and procedures around finances which could benefit from some clear communication about where to find resources.

Jennifer Henry reported for the group discussing "living within our means." The group suggested a clear communication strategy to explain the financial strategy undergirding the new strategic direction. This could be a difficult message for local congregations where there is often a perception that the General Council office does not understand their situation.

The General Secretary thanked everyone for their contributions to the conversations.

In concluding, the General Secretary noted the need for three volunteers to serve with various committees: the Designated Lay Ministries Working Group; a group to develop terms of reference for the Total Compensation Task Group; and a chairperson for the group reviewing the roles of the Moderator and General Secretary. Interested members can be in touch with Diane Bosman, Program Coordinator, Member Engagement.

There was a question from Paul Douglas Walfall about when the Executive would be informing the church that there would be pieces of work that would not continue due to budget constraints. The General Secretary responded that there will be communication with the wider church, likely beginning in the Fall, about this.

General Secretary's Supervision Committee

Mitchell Anderson, chairperson, named the other members of the General Secretary's Supervision Committee, Thea Sheridan-Jonah, Wilson Gonese, and Michael Caveney, with staff support from Alan Hall, Executive Minister, Ministry and Employment. Mitchell gave a brief presentation about the work of the General Secretary's Supervision Committee. The committee has met with the General Secretary to hear about his goals for the year. This year a 360 review will be conducted with the General Secretary and all the senior staff.

Commitment to Decolonization

Kit Loewen and Adele Halliday, the Anti-Racism and Equity Lead, led the group in a presentation, which was followed by small group discussion time. Kit began by giving a brief outline of the time for the afternoon, and named Teresa Burnett-Cole, Mitchell Anderson, Adele, Murray Pruden and herself as members of the working group on decolonization. Adele provided context regarding work done at the previous two Executive meetings and the focus of conversations for this day. She noted that at the September 2022 meeting there had been an exploration of some definitions of colonization, as well as looking at United Church commitments to equity and self-determination. At the November 2022 meeting small groups spent time reflecting and looking more specifically at questions regarding land. Because the work will be on-going and lengthy, the working group agreed that it would be good to establish some short-term goals for the Executive. For the coming year the primary focus will be on indigenous/non-indigenous relationships. Those present then broke into groups of three to consider the land-based reflections which had been shared prior to the meeting (*Appendix IV*).

On the return to the whole group, Teresa reflected on moving the group's thinking from the individual to the collective. The small groups reconvened to consider how to tangibly decolonize the work of GCE. She asked that suggestions and notes be shared by email with Adele.

Final thoughts for this portion of the agenda were shared by Mitchell. He noted that though decolonization will take years, the working group hoped that the Executive would be able to take meaningful steps during this triennium. Mitchell also noted that members of the GCE

come from various places and have different experiences with colonialism; there is not a single Canadian narrative, there is not a single Indigenous narrative. We all are more complex than a single word or label could ever contain. He encouraged the Executive to continue self-reflection and to realize that one does not need to be in the wilderness to be connected to the land.

The Moderator thanked Mitchell, Teresa, Kit and Adele for leading the Executive through this work.

Communications

The General Secretary let the Executive know that talking points with regard to the budget and the decision made earlier in the day had been developed for their use. He also noted that the summary of this meeting would be available on the GC44 website and the GCE committee site within the next week.

Reflections on Governance

Kit Loewen invited the group to consider how they are experiencing the generative conversations and the expression of the governance modes throughout the day. She indicated that there would be time for feed back about this at the end of the next day.

Reflections on the Day

Wilson Gonese asked the Executive two questions to reflect on as they considered the Equity Aspirations and the observance of them through the day: who are we collectively? and, who am I in this collectiveness that is Canada?

The Moderator closed the day in prayer.

Saturday, February 11, 2023

Regathering Worship

After a short delay due to fire alarm testing at the General Council offices, the Moderator led worship to begin the second day of the meeting. She noted for the group that Murray Pruden, Executive Minister, Indigenous Ministries and Justice, was not present for this meeting of the Executive due to a death in his family and she asked that they be held in prayer. This regathering once again drew on contemporary and historic Black artists, including Langston Hughes and Kirk Franklin.

Offering and Thanks

The Moderator invited Sarah Charters, Executive Minister, Philanthropy and President UCC Foundation, to share the work of the Mission and Service Fund. Sarah shared videos created by Black youth in a project supported by the Foundation and Mission and Service, the [Young Black Scholarship Program](https://united-church.ca/blogs/round-table) which launched in 2021. More information can be found at <https://united-church.ca/blogs/round-table>.

The Moderator thanked Sarah and her team for the work done to encourage gifts to Mission and Service.

Time with the Moderator

The Immediate Past Moderator, Richard Bott, took the chair. The Moderator reminded the Executive of her three priorities for her term: engaging in change making conversations, reimagining what engagement could look like both within and outside the church, and mentoring a new generation of leaders in the church. She then verbally updated the Executive regarding her plans for the next few months, including attending the fourth national gathering on unmarked graves, several events with youth and young adults, starting a United Church book club, and building on the “human flourishing” concept she had shared in her November update to the Executive. The Moderator will be meeting with a small group of people at Five Oaks this week to plan a series of workshops on the “human flourishing” concept. These public and church-based events will be presented over the next two years, and seek to enhance innovation and resilience in individuals, churches, communities, and beyond.

The Moderator noted that she will work with regional councils to coordinate any visits. She is also seeking to engage the rural church, noting that the majority of the communities of faith in The United Church of Canada are not urban. She asked the Executive to share any ideas regarding rural engagement.

Richard thanked the Moderator for her report and offered a prayer for Moderator Carmen and her continuing work.

The Moderator resumed the chair.

Board of Vocation

The General Secretary introduced Norm Seli, Chair of the Board of Vocation, Marlene Britton, Team Lead Policy and Programs for Ministry Personnel, and Alan Hall, Executive Minister, Ministry Personnel and Employment, who joined the meeting to present the annual accountability report to the Executive regarding the work of the Board of Vocation.

Marlene noted that the Board of Vocation accountability report had been shared prior to the meeting. She outlined a number of trends which have come to the attention of the Board and its staff:

- Some candidacy boards are noting more retirees (with pensions from other sources) are becoming candidates for ministry. As more Communities of Faith move to part-time ministry, these are the people who can afford to work part-time.
- In Quebec and Eastern Ontario, the percentage of work being done in French has increased to 20 percent.
- There is increased diversity among candidates.
- The Indigenous Office of Vocation is continuing to evolve in a parallel way.

- Ministers in directed programs or those before the Remedial Committee have often served 20 years or more. Isolation in ministry is also a contributing factor in these cases.
- Issues around emotional intelligence, boundaries, and power dynamics have been noted.
- There is excitement around the matching program which engages staff at the regional level to help Admission ministers find suitable communities of faith appointments.

Alan Hall spoke about the efficiency in the new structure, and he noted that oversight is now more consistent, and timely, serving both the church and ministry personnel well. He also touched on the staffing complement dedicated to the Office of Vocation at the General Council office and across the regions. He believes that the first four years after the creation of the Board of Vocation were about getting procedures into place, and that staff and committees are now living into the intent of the new structure.

There was a question about how complaints or concerns about the system were dealt with. Alan noted that there had been some concerns raised in the last four years. Any complaints regarding staff went to their supervisor, and there have been learnings regarding conflicts. Concerns have also been raised around committees and processes, but Alan felt that these were similar to issues raised in the previous structure. Though always a risk, centralization of oversight processes seems to be positive. This will be part of the five-year review of the effectiveness of the changes.

Teresa Burnett-Cole noted that from the perspective of the National Indigenous Elders Council there was a disconnect between the Grandmother's Circle and the Elder's Council. She noted her excitement regarding the trauma-informed training and hoped that this could be shared further.

In closing, Norm explained that the extended triennium (2019-2023) was very much about getting practices and procedures in place and responding to concerns. The Board and Office of Vocation are now living into this new way of being and working.

At the invitation of the Moderator, Samuel Vauvert Dansokho offered a prayer for the work of the Board of Vocation and the staff that support this work.

The Moderator thanked Norm, Marlene and Alan for being present with the Executive and their efforts on behalf of the church.

Governance Education

Mitchell Anderson thanked the Executive for their work in small groups the previous day. The notes from those groups indicated consensus around moving forward on three items in particular: decolonization, and two inter-related items: GCE accountability to the wider church, and GCE communication with the wider church. These were recommendations 9 and 10 from

the governance renewal action plan. This was verified by a show of orange and blue cards, with only orange cards being shown.

In small groups the Executive worked on what it meant to be in an engaged relationship with the wider church; accountability relationships; and communication. Each group worked on one area, with notes again being taken by Mitchell, Teresa and Kit.

Reflections on the Day

M invited the Executive to silently reflect on the practice and adherence to the Equity Aspirations. While the group reflected M read the poem *Christianity for Heathens* by Jay Hulme.

In response to a question about what to do when it is noticed that a voice is missing from GCE conversations, there were various suggestions including inviting differences of opinion using the orange and blue cards, specific instances could be brought to the attention of the Nominations Committee or invitations could be extended to specific alternate voices. In the noticing steps can be taken to add other voices or viewpoints.

United Property Resource Corporation Accountability

On reconvening for the afternoon the General Secretary introduced Don Hunter, chair of the United Property Resource Corporation (UPRC) board, Tim Blair, Chief Executive Officer of UPRC/Kindred Works, and Erik Mathiesen, Executive Minister, Finance.

UPRC/Kindred Works is an arms-length property development company of The United Church of Canada. As well as developing housing, which often preserves worship space for a congregation, it is also exploring models that facilitate community use and hold church properties in trust for future possibilities.

UPRC has been implementing its strategy consistent with the memorandum of understanding, actively working with 75 communities of faith, with 20 in active pre-development. These are predominantly in southwestern Ontario, but work is also being done in the Maritimes and Newfoundland and Labrador, as well as with the property corporation created by the former BC Conference.

UPRC is cultivating strong relationships with regional councils, as well as Indigenous communities and national ecumenical partners, using a variety of models to redevelop properties, sharing the proceeds with communities of faith across the country, and also providing a revenue source for the national church. Efforts to decolonize their work include partnering with Indigenous architects and Indigenous-led construction firms, as well as prioritizing Indigenous hiring and highlighting the broader history of the land being developed. UPRC is also engaging in advocacy with the Canadian Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC) around changing requirements to make it easier to build in rural areas.

After the presentation by Don and Tim, the GCE authorized the General Secretary to sign an updated Memorandum of Understanding between The United Church of Canada and UPRC.

GS 25 Updating United Property Resource Corporation Memorandum of Understanding
(Appendix V)

The Memorandum of Understanding with the United Property Resource Corporation, which was mandated by the GCE in November, 2019 and brought to the Executive as an appendix to the General Secretary's Accountability Report in September, 2020, has been updated adding the following to 1. Context:

To this end, The United Church has created and funded UPRC, a for-profit purpose corporation with a mandate to deliver both financial and societal returns and positive impacts. The directors of UPRC have a fiduciary duty to achieve the ends and meet the objectives outlined in this MOU.

As a shareholder, the United Church is entitled to receive periodic reports of UPRC's progress, and it will not be involved in the daily decision-making and operations of UPRC.

Motion: Michael Blair/Kit Loewen

2023-02-10-026

That the General Secretary be authorized to sign the updated Memorandum of Understanding between the United Church of Canada and the United Property Resource Corporation.

Carried

The Moderator thanked Don, Tim and Erik for their leadership in this work and ministry.

Reconvening

On returning after a short break the Moderator shared a song by Mustafa, a Sudanese-Canadian poet, singer, songwriter and filmmaker, entitled Stay Alive.

Communications

The General Secretary noted that he and the Moderator had had conversations regarding communication with General Council Commissioners, and inclusion of Elders at meetings of the Executive. Out of these conversations the General Secretary is suggesting that with fuller communication with Commissioners and the wider church, and annual General Council meetings, their attendance is not required at Executive meetings.

Executive members stressed the importance of enhancing the relationship between the GCE and the wider church through communication.

The General Secretary explained that Kit Loewen, as chair of the Business Planning Committee, would be interviewed by *Broadview* regarding the decision to not invite media to meetings of

the Executive. After future meetings, the Moderator, the General Secretary or the chair of the business committee could be interviewed. There was agreement with this way forward.

Based on conversations held regarding Elders attendance at Executive meetings, it was suggested by the General Secretary that in order for this to be more of a relationship, and so that the gifts offered by the Elders be truly appreciated, it would be better that they be invited to attend the in-person meetings of the Executive, rather than the regular business meetings.

Governance Education

Mitchell Anderson, Teresa Burnett-Cole and Kit Loewen concluded the governance education portion of this meeting. Mitchell noted that there seemed to be clear consensus about which items the Executive wished to prioritize from the Governance Action Plan. Teresa affirmed that the small group would take the information provided from the discussion groups and come back to the Executive with an approach to moving forward.

A word cloud was created by participants contributing words to the question: as you reflect on the ways in which you have experienced working in this generative mode throughout these past two days what word captures that experience for you?

The Moderator thanked Kit, Mitchell and Theresa for leading the Executive through thoughtful conversation over the two days of this meeting.

Reflections – Equity Aspirations

Wilson Gonese, M Chorney and Arlyce Schiebout, supported by Adele Halliday, encouraged the Executive to continue their equity work and to be in touch with them if any thoughts or concerns arose after the meeting ended.

The Moderator expressed gratitude to Wilson , Arlyce, M, and Adele for their work at this meeting.

Final Reminders

The General Secretary thanked the Executive for their active participation over the last two days. He also thanked the staff team who assist with enabling the meeting to happen. He noted that Lori-Ann Livingston would be sharing the meeting summary in the next few days. This will also be available on the GC44 website. The talking points regarding the 2023 budget have already been shared with the Executive. The General Secretary noted that there is a chat function associated with the GCE committee site and he encouraged the group to use that for any questions they might have.

The next meeting of the Executive will be held May 12 and 13, 2023.

Closing Motion

The General Secretary introduced the members of the Sub-Executive: Richard Bott, Teresa Burnett-Cole, Catherine Glover, the Moderator and himself. He then introduced the closing motion.

Authorizing the General Council Sub-Executive**Motion: Michael Blair/Kit Loewen****2023-02-10-027**

That the General Council Executive authorize its Sub-Executive to deal with the business placed before it by this meeting of the Executive and any emergent business that may arise prior to the next meeting of the General Council Executive.

Carried

The Moderator offered a closing blessing.

Moderator, Carmen Lansdowne

General Secretary, Michael Blair