

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

MEETING OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL SUB-EXECUTIVE MINUTES

June 19, 2024 (video conference call)

The Sub-Executive of the General Council of The United Church of Canada held a meeting by video conference call on Wednesday, June 19, 2024, beginning at 11 a.m. (Eastern).

Attendance

Voting Members: Mitchell Anderson (alternate), Michael Blair, Richard Bott, M Chorney, Carmen Lansdowne

Resource: Diane Bosman, Alan Hall, Harry Li, Erik Mathiesen, Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa

Record of Decisions Between Meetings

That the votes conducted by email regarding proposals *GOV 03 Recommendations for Appointment – GCE Cascading*, and *NOM 12 Recommendations for Appointment* be noted for the minutes. These votes were conducted between April 16 and April 19, 2024.

GOV 03 Recommendations for Appointment – GCE Cascading

Motion: Michael Blair/Carmen Lansdowne

2024-04-19-108

That the General Council Sub-Executive appoint the following Executive members to these cascading roles:

Nominations Committee (General Council 45, 2025)

- Richard Bott

Group Benefits Plan Funding and Governance Working Group

- Mitchell Anderson
- Kit Loewen

Carried

NOM 12 Recommendations for Appointment

Motion: Michael Blair/Carmen Lansdowne

2024-04-19-109

That the General Council Sub-Executive

1. Appoint the following members with terms as noted:

General Council Executive (General Council 45, 2025)

- Katherine Brittain (Ordained, Pacific Mountain)

Anti-Racism Common Table (General Council 45, 2025)

On the Joint recommendation of the Nominations Committees of the General Council and La Table des Ministères en français

- Luc Noubissi (Lay Person, Shining Waters)

Pension Board (June 2027)

On the joint recommendation of the Pension Board and the Nominations Committee.

- Darwin Bozak, *specialist, 2nd term*

2. Receive for information the following appointments made by the General Secretary to support the work of the General Council Office:

Structural Change Evaluation Steering Group

- Wilson Gonese (Ordained Minister, Fundy-St. Lawrence Dawning Waters)

Working Groups of the Canadian Council of Churches (June 2027)

- Roberta Howey (Ordained Minister, Shining Waters) – *Week of Prayer for Christian Unity Writing and Animation Team*
- Stuart Lyster (Ordained Minister, Pacific Mountain) – *Working Group on Corrections and Restorative Justice (to December 204)*
- Sonya Wu-Winter (Lay Person, Western Ontario Waterways) – *The Christian Interfaith Reference Group*
- Emo Yango (General Council Office Staff) – *Forum for Intercultural Leadership and Learning Reference Group*
- Adele Halliday (General Council Office Staff) – *The Canadian Ecumenical Anti-Racism Network*

Project Ploughshares Management Committee (June 2027)

- Duncan Etches (Ordained Minister, Pacific Mountain)

Carried

Constituting the Meeting

The Moderator, Carmen Lansdowne, constituted the meeting of the General Council Sub-Executive: "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 Sub-Executive of the General Council to be in session for the work that may properly be brought before it, to the glory of God."

Procedural Motions

Motion: M Chorney/Richard Bott

2024-06-19-117

That Shirley Welch be appointed recording secretary, and that Diane Bosman, Alan Hall, Harry Li, Erik Mathiesen and Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa be resource staff for this meeting of the Sub-Executive of the General Council

Carried

Minutes of the Sub-Executive of the General Council

Motion: Richard Bott/M Chorney

2024-06-19-118

That the minutes of the last Sub-Executive meeting, held on April 10, 2024 be approved.

Carried

GS 91 Audited Financial Statements, 2023

Harry Li, Controller, Finance Unit, introduced this proposal. Harry briefly went over some highlights from the 2023 financial statements. He noted the total assets at the end of 2023 have increased by \$17 million: the transfer of Albright Gardens (valued at approximately \$13 million), and the Hope bequest (\$4 million retained by the United Church and \$4 million transferred to the United Church Foundation).

The audited financial statements are appended.

Motion: Mitchell Anderson/M Chorney**2024-06-19-119**

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council approve the 2023 audited financial statements of the National Accounts of The United Church of Canada, which include KAIROS results.

Carried

GS 92 Creating Safe and Respectful Environments

Alan Hall, Executive Minister, Ministry and Employment Services, began by introducing this proposal, noting that this was combining two existing policies:

There was considerable discussion regarding this proposal. In an email exchange prior to the meeting, Richard Bott had raised concerns he felt should be addressed prior to this item being brought forward for consideration. After further input it was agreed that *GS 92 Creating Safe and Respectful Environments* will come to the September meeting of the full Executive. The questions raised by Richard and the responses from Alan will be shared with the GCE with this proposal.

GS 93 Appointment, Executive Minister, Finance

Prior to this item, Harry Li and Erik Mathiesen left the meeting space. The General Secretary outlined the process used for the search for the Executive Minister, Finance.

Motion: Michael Blair/Mitchell Anderson**2024-06-19-120**

That the General Council Sub-Executive approve the appointment of Harry Li as the Executive Officer, Finance beginning July 1, 2024.

Carried

GS 94 Signing Officers Update

The General Secretary, Michael Blair, explained the need to update the list of signing officers for the United Church, due to various staff changes and the appointment of Harry Li as the Executive Officer, Finance.

Motion: Michael Blair/M Chorney**2024-06-19-121**

The General Secretary recommends that General Council Sub-Executive

- a) approve the update to D.4.4(b) with the name of the newly appointed Executive Officer, Finance, Harry Li; and

- b) approve the updates to the pool of up to six signing officers under section D.4.4(d) of *The Manual* to include all of the following (some of whom have been approved previously):
- Jennifer Henry, Executive Minister, Organizational Development and Strategy
 - Jennifer Janzen-Ball, Executive Minister, Theological and Ministry Leadership
 - Murray Pruden, Executive Minister, Indigenous Ministries and Justice
 - Leah Reesor-Keller, Transitional Executive Director, KAIROS [for documents signed by The United Church of Canada for the KAIROS program]
 - Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, Senior Governance Lead

Carried

Harry and Erik returned to the meeting, and Michael took the opportunity to congratulate Harry on his appointment. The General Secretary also extended heartfelt thanks to Erik for his years of service to the church.

GS 95 Appointment to Partner Council

The General Secretary outlined some of the recent changes to the Partner Council.

Motion: M Chorney/Richard Bott

2024-06-19-122

That the General Council Sub-Executive appoint the following new member to the current Partner Council (renewable once) from 2024 to the rise of General Council 45 in 2025, to complete the membership of the Council and provide a crucial Canadian ecumenical voice as the Council completes the triennium:

- Ms. Barbara Mangwende, Director of Programs, KAIROS-Canada, representing the Canadian Partnership Program.

Carried

NOM 13 Recommendations for Appointment

Diane Bosman introduced this proposal, briefly noting the various pieces of work undertaken by the committee at their recent meeting.

Motion: Richard Bott/M Chorney

2024-06-19-123

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council

1. Appoint the following members with terms as noted:

Theology and Inter-Church Inter-Faith Committee, interim co-chairs (GC45 2025)

- Michelle Owens – Diaconal Minister, Antler River Watershed
- Deborah Elliott – Lay Person, East Central Ontario

Treasury Investment Committee (June 2027)

On the joint recommendation of the Finance Committee and the Nominations Committee.

- Anthony Tang, *specialist*. 1st term

Pension Plan Advisory Committee (June 2027)

On the joint recommendation of the Pension Board and the Nominations Committee.

- Helen Redmond, *specialist*. 1st term
- Corbin MacGillivray, *specialist*. 1st term

2. Receive for information the following appointment made by the General Secretary to support the work of the General Council Office:**Structural Change Evaluation Steering Group**

- Joshua Bell – Lay Person, Living Skies

Carried

At the request of the Moderator, Mitchell Anderson closed the meeting with a prayer for the gifts of leadership and service.

Carmen Lansdowne, Moderator

Michael Blair, General Secretary