

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
MEETING OF THE SUB-EXECUTIVE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL
MINUTES
Monday July 27, 2009
(Teleconference Call)

The Sub-Executive of the General Council of The United Church of Canada met from 11:30 a.m. EST until 12:00 noon on Monday, July 27, 2009, by teleconference call. The Moderator, The Right Reverend David Giuliano, presided.

ATTENDANCE

Voting Members: Anne -Marie Carmoy, Dwaine Dornan, David Giuliano, Fannie Hudson, Amber Ing, Heather Leffler, Nora Sanders.

Regrets: Cindy Désilets, Paul Reed, Chuck Scott, Peter Short, Allan Sinclair.

CONSTITUTING THE MEETING

The Moderator led prayer and constituted the meeting with the following words:

"Au nom de Notre Seigneur, Jésus-Christ, seul chef souverain de l'Église, et par l'autorité qui m'a été conférée par le 39ième Conseil général, je déclare ouvert, par la présente, le sous-exécutif du Conseil général et ses travaux dans l'intérêt du Royaume de Dieu."

"In the Name of Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, and by the authority vested in me by the 39th General Council, 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: Nora Sanders/Anne-Marie Carmoy **2009-07-27-448**

That Bill Kennedy and Harry Oussoren be the corresponding member for this meeting, and that Joan MacGillivray be the recording secretary for this meeting of the Sub-Executive.

Carried

Minutes of the Sub-Executive of the General Council

Motion: Nora Sanders/Heather Leffler **2009-07-27-449**

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council approve the minutes of the Sub-Executive of the General Council meeting held on June 22, 2009.

Carried

“Sharing Bread”: A Response to the Economic Crisis (Appendix A)

Motion: Anne-Marie Carmoy/Amber Ing **2009-07-27-450**

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council approve the allocation of an additional \$150,000 from the Emergent Work budget line to the “Sharing Bread” project (Canadian proposals).

Carried

The Moderator thanked the Sub-Executive for their work and gave his gratitude for the work and opportunity shared to those whom this is their last meeting.

Motion: Fannie Hudson

2009-07-27-451

Motion to adjourn.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 12 noon.

Moderator, David Giuliano

General Secretary, Nora Sanders

Appendix A

July 20, 2009

Title: Extension of “Sharing Bread”: Enhancing Our Response to the Economic Crisis

Origin: General Secretary, General Council

Background

At its March meeting, the Executive of the General Council approved a proposal to make available \$500,000 from the Emergent Work budget line as a crisis response fund to address the economic crisis gripping Canada and the world. The proposal was approved in principle, with direction to the General Secretary to take into account the discussion in Sessional Committee in reworking the process and including a component for global work.

The “Sharing Bread” program that is being implemented makes available

- \$210,000 for distribution in Canada
- \$210,000 for distribution through global partners of the United Church
- \$80,000 to provide ministry staff educational opportunities related to responding to this crisis

Since the news of the establishment of this fund was released on May 26, the response has been overwhelming. In just a few weeks, funds earmarked for projects in Canada have been exhausted, reflecting both the depth of the economic crisis and the abundance of worthy ministries that are seeking to promote justice during this difficult time. More than 30 programs are already benefiting, including summer camps, rent and food banks, and a micro credit program.

Approved Motion 2009-09-08-002

Currently, there are about 25 applications in our hands that cannot be funded unless additional money is allocated. The website now indicates that no further applications can be considered. It would cost about \$150,000 to cover those applications already received. The alternative is to write to the proponents of these worthy projects and tell them there is no more funding available.

The funding for the other elements of “Sharing Bread” is still in the process of being implemented. By their nature, these will take a little longer, but the funds allocated for the global component and the ministry personnel training are expected to be fully expended. On the international side, staff members in the Justice, Global and Ecumenical Relations unit are inviting global partners to submit applications that will be considered by Nov. 30. Plans are underway for the formation of “facilitated learning communities” for ministry personnel who are facing new demands because of the economic crisis.

The funding for “Sharing Bread” comes from the \$1 million allocated in the 2009 budget for emergent work. So far, \$750,000 has been allocated: \$500,000 to “Sharing Bread,” and \$250,000 to the Aboriginal Circle and Council. That leaves \$250,000, and it is recommended that the \$150,000 requested for additional funding for “Sharing Bread” come from this pot of money. This would support significant and worthwhile work in congregations and community ministries struggling to respond to the economic downturn.