

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**MEETING OF THE SUB-EXECUTIVE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL****MINUTES****Thursday, February 11, 2010****(Teleconference Call)**

The Sub-Executive of the General Council of The United Church of Canada met from 12:00 p.m. EST until 1:05 p.m. on Thursday, February 11, 2010, by teleconference call. The Moderator, Mardi Tindal, presided.

Attendance

Voting Members: Heather Burton, Brian Cornelius, Bruce Hutchinson, Betty Kelly, Louise Rogers, Nora Sanders, Paul Stott, Mardi Tindal, Barbara White

Regrets: Shirley Cleave, David Giuliano, Amber Ing, Darla Sloan

Constitution of the Meeting

The Moderator welcomed all to the meeting and invited everyone to check in and share one example of God's radiance seen in the full spectrum of God's light followed by prayer. The Moderator 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 40^e Conseil général, je déclare ouvert, par la présente, le sous-exécutif du Conseil général et ses travaux pour chercher à bâtir le Royaume de Dieu."

"In the Name of Jesus Christ, the head of the Church, and by the authority vested in me by the 40th 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/Heather Burton

2010-02-11-033

That Bruce Gregersen, Kathy McDonald, Joe Ramsay, Karen Smart, and Joan MacGillivray be the corresponding members, and that Susan Sigal be the recording secretary for this meeting of the Sub-Executive.

Carried

Minutes of the Sub-Executive of the General Council

Motion: Nora Sanders/Paul Stott

2010-02-11-034

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council approve the minutes of the Sub-Executive of the General Council meeting held on December 10, 2009.

Carried

Executive of the General Council Working Group on Middle East policy

The General Secretary, General Council introduced the Terms of Reference (Appendix A) and updated the Sub-Executive on the direction from General Council.

Motion: Barbara White/Bruce Hutchinson

2010-02-11-035

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council approve the Terms of Reference of the Executive of the General Council Working Group on Middle East Policy and request the Nominations Committee to initiate a process to name the members of the working Group at the May meeting of the Executive of the General Council.

Carried

Use of Emergent Funds

The General Secretary, General Council gave an overview including the allocations proposed. She noted that these items were directions from the 40th General Council 2009 and are the most urgent.

Discussion on the Emergent Funds took place and it was agreed that a policy on the criteria, use, and minimum spending amounts of this Fund be brought forward. The Permanent Committee on Finance was suggested for this task.

Motion: Bruce Hutchinson/Heather Burton

2010-02-11-036

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council approve the allocation of funds totalling \$376,000 from the 2010 Emerging Initiatives Budget line for the following projects and initiatives:

1. **\$152,000** to implement General Council direction concerning the continuation of WonderCafé. Funds will support the transfer of WonderCafé and the Emerging Spirit website from the Emerging Spirit budget for the last six months of 2010. (GC40 ANW 02).
2. **\$50,000** to implement the 40th General Council 2009 direction concerning support for congregational refugee programs. The amount will support the appointment of a 0.5 full time equivalent position related to congregations working with refugee sponsorship under the refugee sponsorship agreement. (GC40 MAR 1)
3. **\$20,000** for Canadian International Development Agency and Canada Revenue Agency requirements related travel.
4. **\$10,000** to implement the 40th General Council 2009 direction for education and advocacy program work (Justice, Global and Ecumenical Relations Unit). (GC40 M&O 07; MAR 01)
5. **\$70,000** to implement the Executive of the General Council direction for the "Funding New Ministries" project. (GCE 2009-03-28-414)

6. **\$19,000** to implement the 40th General Council 2009 direction for a review of campus ministries as a Executive of the General Council youth priority and strengthening the national participation in this vital renewal ministry. (GC40 Arctic 02)
7. **\$20,000** to implement the 40th General Council 2009 directive for work on Transgender Identity issues and the church and to plan/set aside money for a national consultation focussing on the place, role, and ministries of "transgender" folks in the church. (GC40 HAM 04)
8. **\$15,000** to provide for the Executive of the General Council approved "Partnership Review - Phase 2 - Canadian Partnership" to complete the work begun in the phase 1 Global Partnership. This is a key policy area and will help to lay the base for renewing understanding that partnership and network building within and beyond the church is a key way ahead for the future. The amount is for the costs of the Task Group. (GCE 2009-11-13-014)
9. **\$20,000** to implement the 40th General Council 2009 Executive of the General Council direction to begin/ a French Language Continuing Education account for ministry-personnel placed in or intending to serve in French ministry contexts and communities. (GC40 GCE 17, GCE 2009-11-13-012)

Carried

Deletion of Section 29(g) of *The Manual*

Joe Ramsay gave the background on this proposal.

Motion: Betty Kelly/Louise Rogers

2010-02-11-037

That the Sub-Executive of the General Council approve the deletion of Section 29(g) of The Manual:

029(g) Candidates shall not normally be placed into Pastoral Charges or other ministry settings where they have served a Candidate Supply or Student Supply appointment, field placement, or internship. Placements shall not be arranged or assumed prior to the annual placement meeting.

Carried

Lease Renewal between Jasper United Church and Parks Canada

Kathy McDonald gave an update and noted that the Conference, presbytery, and congregation have approved the lease.

Motion: Brian Cornelius/Paul Stott

2010-02-11-038

That the Sub Executive of the General Council authorize

- (a) entry into a 42 year lease by The United Church of Canada with the Government of Canada represented by the Minister of the Environment for the Parks Canada Agency, effective January 1, 2010 and
- (b) execution of the lease by Nora Sanders, General Secretary and Kathy McDonald, Legal/Judicial Counsel.

Carried

The Moderator concluded the meeting with a prayer of gratitude.

Moderator, Mardi Tindal

General Secretary, Nora Sanders

Appendix A

Terms of Reference - GCE Working Group on Middle East Policy

Purpose

The GCE Working Group on Middle East Policy will develop a report and recommendations that will assist the General Secretary of General Council in reporting to the 41st General Council 2012 as directed by the 40th General Council 2009:

Direct the General Secretary, General Council to engage in consultation, dialogue and study (with relevant partners and other interested parties), concerning implications of past and future actions to end the illegal occupation of Palestinian territory and enter into conversation as to how to move the two peoples toward reconciliation (including, but not limited to economic boycott), and to report to the 41st General Council 2012 and to provide continuing guidance to the other United Church courts until GC41.

Tasks

The working Group will:

- Build on previous General Council and Executive of the General Council actions in respect to the Middle East and review their effectiveness in contributing to a resolution of the conflict.
- Include in their consideration the commitments and affirmations of “Bearing Faithful Witness” and the church’s partnership commitments and principles.
- Take into account the actions of ecumenical partners concerning the Middle East such as the Amman Call and in particular take note of the recent statement of Palestinian churches in the region.
- Listen to, consult and dialogue with broader ecumenical relationships including Palestinian, Muslim, Jewish and Israeli organizations.

- Study the current social, political and historical context of the region and various ongoing initiatives for peace.
- Advise the General Secretary, General Council and Executive of the General Council on the content and directions of the report to the 41st General Council 2012.

Membership

Three members of the Executive of the General Council selected through the GCE nominations process.

Members will include skills and experience that represent the following:

- willingness to work from the established positions and policies of The United Church of Canada.
- capacity and willingness to study and research the complex issues involved
- sensitivity to and experience in dialogue
- ability to undertake travel in the region (one trip of approximately 7-8 days.)

Staff Resources

General Council Officer, Programs

Program Coordinator, Middle East

Time Line

- May 2010 Working Group Approved by the Executive of the General Council
- June 2010 Two-day orientation to GCE/GC policy and history of United Church engagement in region. Setting meeting schedule and dates of visit to region.
- Fall 2010, Spring, Fall 2011, a series of two day meetings if possible coinciding with Executive of the General Council
- Winter (January, February) 2011 Visit to region (7-8 days.)
- January 2012 Final meeting to develop report and recommendations to General Secretary.
- March 2012 Report to Executive of the General Council