

**Mission and Discipleship Commission**  
**Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council**  
**OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**  
*Connecting, Supporting, Transforming*

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January 17, 2020

Knox United, Clifford

**Roster:** Deanne Dickson (Chair) Rosemary Benbow Mary Jeanne Carmichael  
Bruce Dickson, Rodger Filsinger, Lyle Haney Mary Hawthorne Patrick McDonough  
Joyce Osborne, Keith Reynolds

**Staff Support:** Kim Uyede-Kai (Minister, Right Relations and Indigenous Justice)

Kathy Douglas (Minister, Faith Formation)

**Present:** Pat McDonough, Joyce Osborne, Deanne Dickson (Chair), Kathy Douglas,  
Dave Jagger, Kim Uyede-Kai, Rodger Filsinger, Mary Hawthorne, Keith Reynolds,  
Rosemary Benbow

**Regrets:** Mary Jeanne Carmichael, Bruce Dickson

**Absent:**

**Welcome and Constitute Meeting:** Deanne opened the meeting with a welcome

**Acknowledging the Land:** Deanne also acknowledged the land we were meeting on.

**Opening Worship:** Deanne offered a reading from a book by Rachel Remen

**Opening Motions:**

Approval of Previous Minutes:

It was agreed by consensus that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approve the minutes of 11-01-2019 as circulated.

It was agreed by consensus that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approve the minutes from the Zoom call on December 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019 as circulated.

**Business Arising**

## 1. Correspondence:

- Letter from Pat Young regarding the Christian Resource Center in Mitchell was noted by Kathy.
- A letter from Gayle Coleman from the Christian Resource Centre in Mitchell thanking the Commission for the Mission Support Grant
- Both letters were accepted for information

## 2. 2021 Mission Support Grants: - It was noted that the group wishes to be better informed about those requesting grants from the Commission in the future. Kathy, Kim and Joan have set themselves the task of reviewing and expanding the MSG application for 2021.

Pat suggested that a liaison be assigned to each applicant/organization.

It was decided that two Commission members would be assigned to each applicant/organization as follows: See separate chart attachment

Folks are asked to contact their groups and request a face to face meeting.

Deanne will draft a letter to the agencies/camps to let them know who their contacts will be.

## 3. Staff Reports:

- Dave: Dave handed out 'Called to be the Church' Stewardship Resource (these will be available at the office).  
Dave noted that the deadline for submitting M&S donations for the 2019 calendar year is January 31.
- Kathy: Kathy will be the staff member taking the lead with WOW M&D to simplify communication and so folks don't have to wait until all three staff reply to an item/email.  
Joan will be handling the Affirm process.  
Kathy noted several program areas that need funding for 2020 and 2021. See attached document  
Mental Health in Rural communities: Kathy is thinking of the possibility of a workshop at the Regional Meetings in May
- Kim: Kim updated the group regarding Cape Croker and Saugeen's desire to be a part of WOW to maintain the relationships they have with the United Church. Kim noted that they will be asking for funding through the National Indigenous Ministry however the funding path is not clear as yet. Kim is also working on web resources for congregations wanting to live into Right Relations and along with it the Calls to Action from the Truth and

Reconciliation Commission. Kim noted that with Indigenous communities the overarching philosophy is “Anything about us, Nothing without us”

4. Identified Concerns of the Commission

Such concerns include – Mental Health and Grief support; Climate and the Environment; Youth and Youth events; UCW; Indigenous matters and Affirming Regions.

It was noted that we are in the information gathering phase. Dave suggested that we take advantage of the General Meeting in Port Elgin to gather information – via a booth/table with information and sign-up sheets etc. We could also see if we could get some time on the agenda to make announcements or even do up some slides for the tech team to display. A suggestion was made that like minded folks could sit together at lunch or dinner to network. Pat has volunteered to over see the what and the how of these ideas.

5. Membership: we are missing a Youth and an Indigenous presence on our Commission. Pat knows a young person and will approach him about joining the Commission.
6. Budget: The Commission has \$10,000 for the 2020 year. We need to ask C-A what this money is to be used for. Ruthanna to follow up to see what a meeting costs.
7. Social Justice Network of Ontario Region: Do we want to be members? The annual fee to be a member is \$1500. Kathy will gather information on the Network and will send it to the group
8. UCW: Joyce gave an update of the UCW in the Region. They are planning their 1<sup>st</sup> Annual General Meeting (sometime in May). The WOW UCW are still lobbying for a place at the table of the WOW Regional Council Executive.
9. NOTE: the March 3<sup>rd</sup> Grant writing workshop is happening – see attached poster

**Next Meeting:** 03-11-2020 via Zoom at 2pm – 4pm

Agenda items: Annual Meeting announcements and Grant Writing workshop review/summary

Following Meeting: Wednesday, May 6<sup>th</sup> 10 – 1pm Location to be determined