

Executive
Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council
OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
Connecting, Supporting, Transforming
Tuesday, November 10, 2020

Roster: Andrea Allan, Gary Clark (President), Rod Coates (Secretary), Brent Caslick (Treasurer), Heather Leffler, Jessica Cottrell, Heather Davies, Joyce Johnston, Mark Laird (President-Elect), Tim Reaburn, Terry Smith, Micol Cottrell (Human Resources Commission), Bruce Dickson (Mission & Discipleship Commission), Norm Eygenraam (Covenant Commission)

Staff Support: Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa (Executive Minister), Sue Duliban (Executive Assistant)

Present: Brent Caslick, Gary Clark, Rod Coates, Jessica Cottrell, Micol Cottrell, Heather Davies, Bruce Dickson, Mark Laird, Heather Leffler, Tim Reaburn, Terry Smith, Sue Duliban, Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa

The Joint Executives of the Antler River Watershed, Horseshoe Falls, and Western Ontario Waterways Regional Councils were called to meet via Zoom teleconference on Tuesday, November 10, 2020, for the purpose of receiving a recommendation from the Staff Support Committee.

Welcome and Constitution of the Meeting

Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa welcomed everyone and opened the joint meeting at 4:04 PM. Approximately 30 persons from the three regional council Executives were in attendance.

Acknowledging the Land

Gary Clark stated the United Church of Canada adopted United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples on March 31, 2016. Continuing, he said:

We acknowledge that we are gathered, live and worship on the traditional territory of many 1st Nations people like the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe, the Neutral Nation and the Mississaugas of New Credit. We acknowledge that we who are the newcomers to this land have gained so much and our gain has come at a great cost to these peoples. We also acknowledge that we have gain much by the racists systems that have benefited those who are white, Christian and heterosexual. Our acknowledgement of the land and of the sin of racism is just the beginning of our journey toward reconciliation with The First People of this land and all who have felt belittled in this culture. Our words must now be followed up with action.

We pray that the Holy Spirit breathe forgiveness, hope and love into all our relations and set us free from the ancient evil of bigotry.

Gary Clark finished this acknowledgement with a brief prayer.

Proposal - Minister, Right Relations and Social Justice

John Gregory Smith, on behalf of the Staff Support Committee, introduced the background to the meeting with respect to the two half-time positions for Minister, Right Relations, and

Minister, Social Justice. He said that once the job was posted and General Council Human Resources process began. Following the close of the application deadline, there were ten (10) credible applications received. The list was further short listed to three (3) candidates who were interviewed, followed by the completion of reference checks.

John said that the 50% Social Justice position will work in collaboration with Diane Matheson-Jimenez. He said that the interview team recommended the position be offered to the Rev Thérèse Samuel and presented some highlights of Thérèse's resume.

The joint Executive meeting then trifurcated into three separate regional council executive meetings at 4:20 PM.

[Break-out - Western Ontario Waterways Executive Meeting]

Welcome and Reconstitution of the Meeting

Gary Clark declared Western Ontario Waterways Executive meeting open for the business before it. In consideration of the new Executive membership arising from last month's regional council meeting, Gary Clark asked that the members of the executive introduce themselves to one other.

Adopting the Interview Team Recommendation

Moved by: Heather Davies

Seconded by: Mark Laird

That the Executive endorses the recommendation of the Interview Team and appoints Rev Thérèse Samuel to the role of Minister, Right Relations and Social Justice effective March 1, 2021.

CARRIED

It was requested that this matter be held confidential until the formal announcement is made next week to allow time to communicate with current ministry.

Meeting dates

Gary Clark said the suggested next meeting date was December 16th, which was agreeable to all. Gary Clark said one of the agenda items for that date will be deciding when to hold the regional council meeting in May, and what type of student support will be available from our funding. He asked that other agenda items be sent to him for inclusion on the agenda.

Closing

The Western Ontario Waterways Executive meeting finished at 4:38 PM and rejoined the three-Executive main meeting.

All three regional council Executives reported that the motion had been approved. Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa said a covenanting service would be planned for the near future.

The meeting ended at 4:48 PM

Upcoming Meetings:

- WOW Regional Council Executive, December 16th, via Zoom