**Executive**

**Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

***Connecting, Supporting, Transforming***

November 17, 2021 via Zoom, 9:15 a.m.

**Roster:** Mark Laird (President Elect), Gary Clark (Past President), Rod Coates (Secretary), Brent Caslick (Treasurer), Andrea Allan, Jessica Cottrell, Heather Davies, Bruce Dickson, Ann Harbridge, Joyce Johnston, Cathy Larmond, Heather Leffler, Terry Smith

**Staff Support:** Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, Sue Duliban, Executive Assistant

**Present:** Mark Laird (President Elect), Brent Caslick (Treasurer), Andrea Allan, Jessica Cottrell, Heather Davies, Bruce Dickson, Ann Harbridge, Joyce Johnston, Cathy Larmond, Heather Leffler, Terry Smith

**Regrets:** Rod Coates, Gary Clark

# Welcome and Constitution of Meeting (Mark Laird): I constitute this meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, the one true head of the Church and by the authority vested in me by Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council for whatever business may properly come before it. The bounds of this meeting will be the Zoom call.

# Acknowledging the Land

# Opening Worship

## **Consent Docket**

1. **Enabling Actions**
2. That the Agenda be adopted as circulated.
3. That motions and proposals be written and given to the Secretary.

**B. Confirmation of email vote October 30, 2021**

MOVED: Heather Leffler /SECONDED: Andrea Allan

That the Executive submits the name of Ian McGregor as a potential Commissioner under Section D.1.1.h) of the Manual. CARRIED

**C. Receive Correspondence**

1. PTCC Grant Application – Trinity Centennial, Rosemont
2. Equity Support Report for WOWRC November 2021 meeting
3. Recommendation to WOWRC Executive re: Primrose & Appeal Decision Primrose
4. Learning Fund Grant Applications approval : Heather Davies Ella Bolton (note: the event was Nov 11, but app submitted Nov. 2)

Agree by consensus to accept the consent docket

**Business Arising**

1. **Review of regional council meeting**

Overall good feedback. One comment was that hearing from the retirees would have been nice. Some struggled with the Covid protocols observed during the Celebration of Ministry service.

Thankful for President Mark’s good leadership and keeping the tone light. The meeting flowed smoothly and was quite engaging.

Suggestion that in the new year, there could be a monthly online lay reps zoom gathering, similar to the clergy online gatherings, to engage reps more.

1. **Equity Support Update: received.**

There will be a discussion at the Covenant Commission about the use in the covenanting service of the chain symbol. Equity Support Team member, Maggie Dieter, raised in her report that, for people of colour particularly, the chain causes great anxiety.

Suggestion to share the report with the regional council. As the understanding was that the report was to the Executive, alternative suggestion that the recommendations from the report be written up to share for the spring meeting (staff and Maggie), to go with a note from President Mark.

1. **Decision of Appeal Committee & Update to Executive received for information**

Ann Harbridge will share the outcome (not the documents) with the former Primrose chair.

**New Business**

1. **Proposal 1: PTCC Net Revenue Grant**

MOTION: Brent Caslick / Ann Harbridge

The regional council Executive agrees to

1) Apply to PTCC for $40,000 from its net revenue grant for 2021;

and

2) Direct PTCC to apply the balance to the WOWRC council capital account. CARRIED

1. **Proposal 2: PTCC Grant Application Form**

MOTION: Brent Caslick / Heather Leffler

The regional council

1) Authorizes the use of the regional council existing grant application form for PTCC grants;

2) will Advise PTCC of the same; and ask them to update their website to reflect this

3) Update the WOWRC website to reflect this. CARRIED

MOTION Brent Caslick / Cathy Larmond

That communities of faith include at minimum the Financial Viability form and previous year’s financial statement to WOWRC grant apps.

After some discussion about the necessity of the action included in the motion, the mover and the seconder agreed to withdraw. It will be revisited at the next WOW Executive meeting.

Brent Caslick, Ann Harbridge, Bruce Dickson will look at what has been received/administered.

1. **Proposal 3: Effective Date for New Funds**

MOTION Brent Caslick / Bruce Dickson

Declare that the effective date for the formation of new funds was January 1, 2021. CARRIED

1. **Proposal 4: Transfer of Howitt Cemetery**

MOTION: Ann Harbridge / Andrea Allan

The Executive of Western Ontario Waterways agrees:

a. That the cemetery land be conveyed to Puslinch Township for nominal consideration;

b. That the land to be conveyed to the Township is to be free and clear of any encumbrances; and,

c. That both the Township and the current owner of the cemetery lands shall each be responsible for its own costs for retaining its solicitors to enact the registration of the Transfer/Deed of Land in the Land Registry Office and any associated expenses with the finalization of the transfer of land. CARRIED

1. **BMO signing authorities: continue with Gary/change to Mark?**

Options to be revisited in May.

1. **PTCC Grant Application – Trinity Centennial, Rosemont**

MOTION: Bruce Dickson / Heather Davies

Agree to pass on application to PTCC. CARRIED

Cheryl-Ann will forward to PTCC as a formal request, with documentation

Ann: declare conflict of interest, available to answer questions for clarification. No questions.

$5000 requested.

Bruce helpful to remind people about funds available, give examples of what people can apply for.

Note: CA: looking at an evening in the new year for each regional council to review what funds/grants are available. To consider: having executive determine funds the application should be directed to.

1. **Learning Fund Grant Application**

MOTION: Joyce Johnston / Ann Harbridge

That the Learning Fund Grant Applications for Heather Davies and Ella Bolton be approved.

CARRIED. Abstention: Heather Davies.

1. **Tri-Executive meeting**

Discussion topic Friday evening: populating resource pools, and incorporate how to change regional council reps from spectators to participants

Recommend to other 2 regional councils, that recruiting congregational reps be discussed.

Intro of WOW Executive: name, where from/serving, what’s one thing to tell people about WOWRC something exciting you and/or a challenge, have one minute each. Andrea Allan will set up a google doc to keep track of what people will be sharing.

Joyce Johnston asked if there was anything on the agenda for the tri meeting relating to Truth and Reconciliation.

President Mark to raise with presidents, to review and include on the agenda.

Joyce emphasized the need to continue to discuss truth and reconciliation; saying that she is often asked by the community, what is the regional council doing, and she doesn’t have much to say to them. She invited the executive to come and see where she lives, what her church is like, to break bread together. She doesn’t want to feel like a beggar at the table, wants to feel table is open and she has a place at it, that she should not feel like she has to beg for a place.

Mark will arrange a time with Joyce to come and have a conversation, in person.

**Reminders**

1. Tri-Executive Nov. 26 & 27
2. Racial Justice training:

Jan. 5

Jan. 19

Feb. 2

Feb. 16

1. No meeting in December

Confirm Executive meetings: third Wednesday of the month, 9:15 a.m.

Next meeting: Wednesday, January 19, 2022, 9:15 a.m.

President Mark closed the meeting with prayer.

Adjourned.