**Executive**

**Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

**Minutes**

**January 13, 2024**

President Jennifer called the meeting to order at 12:28 PM

Present: Beth Kerr, Past President Mark Laird, Pres Jennifer Irving, Heather Leffler, Jessica Cottrell, Terry Smith, Andrea Allen, Cathy Larmond, Treasurer Brent Caslick, Wonder Chimvinga, Ann Harbridge

Mark Laird will be taking notes.

**Proposal 1: Staff Sharing Agreement:**

The Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council (WOWRC) Executive agreed by consensus to:

1. Approve and adopt the updated Ministry Sharing Agreement (Appendix 1) to run from January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2029
2. Direct the Staff Support Committee to provide an updated draft Mandate, that includes a plan for the evaluation of staff sharing at least 6 months prior to this agreement, to the February meeting of each regional council Executive.

**Proposal 2: Updated to Governance Handbook**

The WOWRC Executive agreed by consensus to change the WOWRC Governance Handbook to the following:

President

During the two-year term as President, the home community of faith of a President who is in a pastoral relationship will receive an honorarium in the amount of $1,200 per year to assist with coverage for any absences of the President. Any President not in a pastoral relationship will be invited to designate to the UCC ministry of their choice a donation of 1,200 per year.

At the conclusion of the term, the former President, once no longer serving in that capacity, will receive an honorarium of $2,000.

Past President

If someone else, such as the Past President or President Elect needs to take on a significant role of President, it is up to the Executive to determine a reasonable honorarium in keeping with what is outlined above.

Treasurer

The Treasurer will have travel expenses associated with this role reimbursed. Each December, the Treasurer will be invited to name a United Church ministry to receive a donation of $1,000.00 in recognition of the Treasurer’s service.

All other sections of the Governance Handbook concerning Officers to remain the same.

**Proposal 3 Restorative Care Leave**

The WOWRC Executive agrees by consensus to the following:

1. To provide financial support for a community of faith whose ministry personnel goes on restorative care leave before a pastoral relationship can be fully formed, within the first 6 months after the start date or for the months after the date a pastoral relationship was to end (no more than 6 months) by:

Providing 100% of the costs of 15% top-up and employer expenses for congregations .

1. Authorize the Minister, Pastoral Relations, to offer this support when these situations arise;
2. Confirm payment of this support once details of expenses incurred by the pastoral charge are presented to the Executive for authorization of the amount of payment to be covered from the unrestricted reserve.

There was a check out question of how did we live into our goal to be an equitable church, everyone was given a chance to respond to that question.

**Meeting Adjourned at 1:19 PM**