**Congregational Support Commission**

**Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

Minutes

January 11, 2024 9:30 am

Roster: (9)Ann Harbridge (DLM, Chair), Judy Chalmers (Lay), Rebekah Duncan (OM), Norm Eygenraam (Lay), Lesley Fox (OM), Bruce Gregersen (OM-R), Marg Krauter (Lay), Peter Kudelka (Lay), Peter Kupfer (Lay), Sharon Norton (Lay), Colin Snyder (OM), Roz Vincent-Haven (DM-R)

Staff Support: Rev. John Neff, Minister, Congregational Support

Sue Duliban, Executive Assistant

## Regrets: Rebekah Duncan

Chair Ann Harbridge welcomed new members. Welcome to new members. Self-introductions

Welcome and Constitute Meeting:Ann Harbridge welcomed all and constituted the meeting in the name of Jesus Christ for all business that comes before it.

Acknowledging the Land: Judy Chalmers

Opening Worship: Ann Harbridge: daily pathways Helen Steiner Rice, not inclusive language No problem too intricate poem Jeremiah 10:12

**prayer**

## Opening Agreements:

Approval of Agenda:

The Congregational Support Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council **agree** on the agenda.

Approval of Previous Minutes:

The Congregational Support Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council **agree t**o approve the minutes of Nov 9, 2023 with correction to typographical error. Under new business item 2 – Roz Vincent-Haven appointed to represent WOW CSC on tri regional committee.

## Business Arising:

1. Email votes (confirmation of)
2. 231115  Motion: Marg Krauter / Roz Vincent-Haven: That the Congregational Support Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approve the sale of the Manse of Brussels United, the legal description of which is LT 138 PL 192 BRUSSELS; LT 155 PL 192 BRUSSELS MUNICIPALITY OF HURON EAST, and the municipal address of which is 59 King Street, Brussels, ON, N0G1H0, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Brussels United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as seller David Zehr and Anita Zehr with the following terms

Buyer:  David Zehr & Anita Zehr

Selling Price:  465,000, Deposit $5,000

Closing Date:  January 5, 2024

Conditional of the buyer obtaining financing not later than 8:00 p.m. on the 5th business day (excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and Statutory Holidays) following acceptance of this offer.

Conditional on the Seller obtaining a release from a prior Agreement of Purchase and Sale.

If the previous buyer removes all conditions then this offer is null and void.

Proceeds to be held in trust by the Brussels United Church Trustees.

Note: The original buyers waived their conditions, so we will be going with their offer. The sale price is $469,000, and the closing date has been moved up to December 22nd. Thank you and the commission for your support throughout this process. Carried.

1. 231130 Motion: Roz Vincent-Haven / Judy Chalmers: That the Congregational Support Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approves the sale of Parkview United Church, Stratford, located at 74 Parkview Dr, Stratford, the legal description of which is LT 6 PT LOT IIS; LT 7 PT LOT 115; LOT 8 PT LOT 115; LOT 9 PT LOT 115; LOT 10 PL 115 EXCEPT PT 1 STRATFORD ONTARIO with the following terms:

Buyer: Anchor of Hope Anabaptist Fellowship

Purchase Price: $900,000

Closing Date March 28, 2024

Carried.

1. 231130 Motion: Roz Vincent-Haven / Judy Chalmers That the Congregational Support Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council agrees to the amalgamation of Trinity United Church, Shelburne and Primrose United Church, both of the Shelburne/Primrose Pastoral Charge effective December 31st, 2023. Terms of the amalgamation agreement to follow after acceptance by both congregations. Carried.
2. 231206 Motion: Bruce Gregersen/Rebekah Duncan: That the Congregational Support Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council agrees with the trustees of Oliphant United Church ) to the Listing of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is PT PARKLT 2 E/S BRYANT ST AND S/S DIVISION ST PL OLIPHANT AS IN AM52527 SOUTH BRUCE PENINSULA, and the municipal address of which is 3 Lakeview Avenue, South Bruce Peninsula, Ontario

Listing Agent: Cyntian Razum, Chestnut Park Reality, Owen Sound, List Price: $250,000, As Is condition. Carried.

1. 231229 MOTION: Roz Vincent-Haven / Leslie Fox That the Congregational Support Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council agrees to the amalgamation of Stratford, Avondale and Stratford, Parkview United Churches effective January 1, 2024, as per their amalgamation agreement. Carried.

A note will be sent to the congregation recommending that they review their governance structure and the number required for quorum, as the numbers seem to be unwieldy and may inhibit their ability to make decisions.

**Consent Docket:**

1. Correspondence: N/A
2. Pastoral Charge Supervisors (PCS)
   1. Tom Dunbar to Kirkton, Centralia, Hensall effective 231116
   2. Debbie Grant to Massie United Church effective 231117
   3. Christine Smaller to Markdale, Annesley United Church effective 231117
   4. Ann Harbridge to Shallow Lake for a board mtg 231204
   5. Kathy Underwood to St. John’s UC, Wiarton and Shallow Lake UC effective 240101
   6. Arthur Hills to St. Luke’s UC, Cambridge for meeting on 231212
   7. Marion Loree to Centre Wellington: Hope Springs UC eff 240101
   8. Ann Harbridge to Shelburne Primrose Pastoral Charge 231221 (minister left)
   9. Paul Vollick to Brucefield community UC effective 240107

PCS needed

Ann Harbridge will ask Jessica Cottrell if she could serve as PCS for Arthur.

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| Pastoral Charge | CoF | Notes 1 | Topic | PCS Start | | PCS End |
| Arthur Pastoral Charge | Arthur UC |  |  | 08-31-2023 |  | |
| Cambridge: Saint Luke's Pastoral Charge | Saint Luke's UC, Cambridge | Council meets 2nd Tues. of month. |  | 09-01-2023 |  | |
| Eramosa Pastoral Charge | Barrie Hill UC  Speedside UC |  | Change in PR | 0-01-2024 |  | |
| Listowel: Calvary-Zion Pastoral Charge | Calvary UC, Listowel | **Colin Snyder** |  | 02-01-2024  Following annual meeting |  | |
| Rockwood-Stone Church Pastoral Charge | Rockwood United Church |  | Sabbatical | 05-27-2024 | 08-25-2024 | |

1. Documents received for information

PCS reports received for

Grenfel from Ann Harbridge

Bayfield: St. Andrews from Ann Harbridge

Listowel: Calvary Zion from Gail Clarkson

[Annesley UC, Markdale from Kathy Underwood](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/WOWCSC/MeetingLibrary/Annesley%20UC%202023-12-13%20Pastoral%20Charge%20Supervisor%20report.docx?d=w017cef593d444812b65577bbe77f3b40&csf=1&web=1&e=09DNzi)

Belgrave, Knox from Betty Graber-Watson

Knox and Wingham have started conversations on a collaborative agreement. Very early stages yet.

Dungannon: Trinity from Betty Graber-Watson No concerns there, called minister for April, working with Lucknow

Annesley: Noted that in the report the presence of new families is mentioned. Access to resources – how might they be applied? Ann Harbridge will ask Greg Smith-Young, Growth Animator, if he could meet with them and offer support/resources. Peter Kupfer, having had experience in this type of situation, offered to talk about possible re-use/re-development, with Greg Smith-Young. John Neff will put Peter in contact with Greg. Ann will update Annesley’s pastoral charge supervisor on actions/conversation. Pastoral charge supervisor should be copied on any communications with Greg Smith-Young and Peter Kupfer.

Ann noted this reinforces the importance of getting pastoral charge supervisor reports. John Neff will send a reminder note to pastoral charge supervisors to send in reports and will also remind them of the new pastoral charge supervisor payment policy.

John Neff: Has offered WOWCSC as trial commission for transition to Microsoft changes coming May 1, 2024.

1. Report from Rep to the Executive: Not met since the last Congregational Support Commission meeting. Meeting of Tri-Regional council Executives on Saturday, January 13. Regular executive meeting on January 17.

The Covenant Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council **agrees** by consensus to accept the Consent Docket.

## New Business:

1. Discussion of collaborative agreements

From last minutes: It was agreed to postpone the discussion until John Neff is in attendance. Collaborative Ministry workshop leaders, Christine Smaller, Heather Davies and Kathy Underwood, to be included in that discussion.

To be moved to February agenda. Christine, Heather and Kathy to be invited.

1. PCS Payment Policy
   1. [email from SallyAnn Longfellow](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:u:/r/sites/WOWCSC/MeetingLibrary/SallyAnn%20Longfellow_01Dec23%2009.28.36_Supervising%20ministers.msg?csf=1&web=1&e=qEmPcW)
   2. [Email from Amanda Broderick](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:u:/r/sites/WOWCSC/MeetingLibrary/Amanda%20BRODERICK_01Dec23%2008.14.43_Pastoral%20Charge%20Supervisor.msg?csf=1&web=1&e=vRaMsG)
2. Some feedback received when communication went out in December. Ann will check on status of admissions program with Tanya Cameron, Office of Vocation Minister, as it relates to the payment policy.

Lesley Fox left the meeting.

1. Title Searches – Cost prohibitive

Follow-up from Ann. Raised question with Executive; should congregations be more pro-active in doing title searches. Spoke to lawyer and doing a title search is cost prohibitive. However, still need to encourage churches to look at their titles. Include in newsletter note encouraging congregations to look at their property titles and ensure the title is listed under United Church of Canada.

1. Dobbinton United Church – disbandment proposed for June 30, 2024

**MOTION**: Peter Kudelka / Norm Eygenraam

That the Congregational Support Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council agrees in principle to the disbandment of Dobbinton United Church. Disbandment date to be set when they finish their work.

1. Trinity UC, Elmira – Sale of [Sale of Property Request](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/WOWCSC/MeetingLibrary/WOW%20Sale%20of%20Property%20request.doc?d=w63f89f1840964323b67d93397734ae3e&csf=1&web=1&e=tmaYTY)

* [Comparative Market Analysis #1](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/WOWCSC/MeetingLibrary/Comparative%20Market%20Analysis%20-%204%20First%20St%20Elmira.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=ip7Is5), [Comparative Market Analysis #2](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/WOWCSC/MeetingLibrary/Comparative%20Market%20Analysis%20for%204%20First%20St.%20W.,%20Elmira.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=jtmdtg), [Evaluation](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/WOWCSC/MeetingLibrary/Evaluation%20-%204%20First%20St%20W.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=NiDgEI)

Brought forward for information as they are meeting this evening.

Peter Kupfer will let them know giving funds to Indigenous Ministries is not compulsory and can be taken out of the resolution.

In practice capital is used for new initiatives, capital. Ann asked is it something we would want to consider in the future and possibly amend our policy that allows for this kind of specific gift.

Ann take to the Executive as part of her report from the commission.

Ann will ask for clarification of email vote declaration in The Manual, which states that 48 hours be given before the result of the vote is declared. Will ask Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, Executive Minister, if everyone has responded prior to 48 hours, can the motion be declared carried/not carried.

1. St. Paul’s UC, Milverton – [Sale of Property](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:b:/r/sites/WOWCSC/MeetingLibrary/Agreement%20to%20Purchase%20SPUC%20Cemetery.pdf?csf=1&web=1&e=XjMkkR) [Explanation Email](https://unitedchurch.sharepoint.com/:w:/r/sites/WOWCSC/MeetingLibrary/St.%20Paul%27s%20United%20Church%20Milverton%20-%20Cemetery%20Sale.docx?d=w8b882242dbf9450580d0e11eda6e405f&csf=1&web=1&e=Vpuku8)

For information. Resolution of consent will be coming forward.

Next Meeting: **Change in time**

**Regular meeting 2nd Thursday of the month at 1 PM**

Worship by: Bruce Gregersen

Land Acknowledgement: Roz Vincent-Haven

## Check in/out & Adjournment

## For Follow-up

1. Collaborative agreements: Feb meeting and inviting team
2. St. John’s, Chesley: closing date