Agenda

October 22, 2024 at 7pm

Discipleship and Justice Commission

Western Ontario Waterways

Regional Council

of the United Church of Canada

Connecting, Supporting, Transforming

# Attendance:

Roster- Members: Andrew Hyde (Chair), Edith Coyle, Cathy Hird, Linda Peacock, Kate Ballagh-Steeper, John Adeyemi, Diane Dick, Kristal McGee, Ayla Mackie

Roster- Staff Support: Kathy Douglas, Thérèse Samuel, John Egger, Brenna Baker, Greg Smith-Young, Krista Ford

Present- Members: Andrew Hyde (Chair), Edith Coyle, Cathy Hird, Linda Peacock, John Adeyemi, Diane Dick

Present- Staff Support: Kathy Douglas, Thérèse Samuel, Krista Ford

# Agenda:

### Acknowledgement of the Land

Andrew offered an open check in during land acknowledgement, for commission members to acknowledge their own geographical area. He also asked everyone to share how they are connected to creation during this time of the season.

### Opening Prayer

Andrew led opening prayer.

### Appointment of Equity Monitor

Linda Peacock offered to serve as Equity Monitor for the meeting.

### Approval of Agenda for October 22, 2024 meeting

**MOTION** by Cathy Hird & John Adeyemi that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approve the agenda as distributed.

**CARRIED**

### Approval of Minutes from September 24, 2024 meeting

**MOTION** by Cathy Hird & Edith Coyle that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council approve the minutes of the September 24, 2024 meeting as distributed.

**CARRIED**

### Funds Available:

Remaining funds in the Events Budget $4120

| Description of Event/program | Date Approved | Amount approved | Remaining balance |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| UCC 360 Antiracism Program – Alcris Limongi    (deferred from June 20, 2023, anticipated program moved to 2024) | TBA | $500 | $9500 |
| Music Ministry Webinar – Honorarium, Rev. Jeffrey Dale | March 4th | $75 | $9425 |
| Regional youth event, Winter Fun at Highland Nordic Centre & Overnight Fun at Centennial UC | March 14th & 15th | $300 | $9125 |
| Mileage for panelist (Harcourt Memorial UC) ‘Listening to Voices for Peace and Justice in Palestine” | March 25th | $350 | $8775 |
| Duty of Care 101 Webinar – honorarium for Terri Sparling | April 23rd & 24th | $75 | $8700 |
| Blanket Exercise in the KW Area |  | $650 | $8050 |
| Basic Income Info Night – Harcourt Memorial UC | May 21st | $570 | $7480 |
| Music Ministry Gathering | May 21st | $75 | $7405 |
| UNJPPI Conference (Nov. 1 & 2, in Mississauga) | June 19th | $1500 | $5905 |
| Kids across the region |  | $1000 | $4905 |
| Fishbowl Workshop |  | $560 | $4345 |
| POSTPONED UCC 360 Antiracism Program – Alcris Limongi | Sept 24th | ($500) | $4845 |
| Honorarium to Michelle Owens for Boundaries Training at camps | Sept 24th | $225 | $4620 |
| Grassy Narrows River Run Bus transportation | Sept 24th | Up to $500 | $4120 |
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|  |  |  |  |

Remaining funds in the Meeting Budget $3000

| Description of Event/program | Date Approved | | Amount approved | Remaining balance |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | |  |  |  |
|  | |  |  |  |

### Record of email votes:

None

1. Correspondence:

Welcome to our newest commissioner, Ayla Mackie.

### Reports:

#### From Kathy’s Report

Kathy is running an upcoming event regarding advent and Christmas service planning. It is a chance to share ideas for worship planning during that time.   
As well it was noted that there will be a chance for each region to send up to 6 youth as special delegates to GC45.

#### From Thérèse’s Report

The next Fish Bowl event will be held the last Thurs in Nov. There is hope that 1 or 2 people from the commission would attend.  
The registration for the Anti Racism training will be opening soon, with the first part of the training being held in the New Year.

#### Executive – Andrew’s report

Andrew shared that at the most recent Executive meeting they reviewed the budget to be presenting at the Fall meeting coming up in Nov.   
He noted that if the budget it passed, there will be $135,000 available for M&S Grants.

#### United Church Women (UCW) – Edith’s Report

Edith shared that the UCW is struggling a little with declining membership. There is a zoom meeting that will be held in 2027 to celebrate the UCW’s 65th anniversary and anyone will be able to attend that.  
The UCW has been working on supporting the healing fund and has been busy making baby blankets.

### Business Arising

A report from the Commission to WOWRC will be needed for the Fall meeting on November 16. Andrew will be planting seeds at the Fall AGM to encourage the region to think about revising its priorities for the future of the commission.

### New Business

#### M&S Grant meeting date

It was decided that in order to facilitate all the work needed to process the M&S Grants before the end of the year, the next meeting should be moved up by 1 week. This means the Grant decision meeting will take place on Nov 19th at 7pm.  
Andrew suggested a poll in the New Year to see about moving the meetings permanently to the 3rd Tues of the month rather than the current, 4th Tuesday of the month.

#### Conflict of Interest regarding Mission Support Applications

Cathy talked about how conflict of interest could be perceived and thus the importance of a person declaring a conflict of interest if it applied to them. There was general discussion about this in theory, as the commission wasn’t aware of what groups had applied for M&S Grants at this point.

It was voiced that having first hand knowledge about a program didn’t pose a conflict of interest. But that if you were a member of an applying congregation, or sit on a board relating to an application, that was a conflict.

The question was posed, if you have a conflict of interest are you excused from just your application being determined or does it apply to the whole process.

It was also asked if a 3rd party can speak up if they feel there is a conflict present as it relates to an application. It was determined that it’s at the discretion of the individual person to declare if they have a conflict.

Andrew was worried about the number of members that may have a conflict and what would happen if the Commission didn’t have quorum for the meeting.

The process is that whatever Commission members are present at the meeting would have to discuss and make suggestions of amounts for the Grant applications but would not be able to officially approve any amounts. The recommendations would go to the Executive to officially vote and pass the amounts.

**MOTION** by Linda Peacock & John Adeyemi that Andrew Hyde, of the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Western Ontario Waterways, having declared an official conflict of interest in relation to the discussion of M&S Grant applications be excused from the rest of this meeting and the grant meeting on Nov 19th 2024. Cathy Hird will chair the rest of this meeting and the meeting on Nov 19th 2024 . **CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Linda Peacock & John Adeyemi that the Discipleship and Justice Commission of Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council understand that a conflict of interest is declared if you are a direct recipient or part of a decision board of an application. If there is a conflict of interest you are removed from the whole M&S Grant conversation.

**CARRIED**

Before Andrew left, he noted that the next meeting on Nov 19th 2024 is only an M&S Grant meeting and no other business will be discussed. If anything needs approval before that meeting or after that meeting before the Dec meeting, it will be done by email votes.

**Andrew left the meeting at 8:15. Cathy Hird took over as chair.**

The documents for the M&S Grant meeting will be posted to sharepoint prior to the meeting and Krista will let Cathy know when they have been uploaded for review.  
  
Cathy encouraged everyone to review the documents in detail and make sure the project makes sense, check that the financial documents make sense, does the staffing make sense, is there financial viability in the project.   
  
The priorities of the Region were read out with a reminder to keep them in mind when reviewing the grant applications.

The Priorities for Western Ontario Waterways are  
Right Relations  
Camps and Faith Formation  
Chaplaincy  
  
And it was also reminded of the commitment to be Affirming.  
  
After discussion on how to evaluate the applications, Krista shared what Brenna Baker, Community of Faith Stewardship Support, had shared with one of the other commissions. That the applicants spent a lot of time creating their applications and the Commission members should really treat the applications with the same kind of effort in reviewing them prior to the meeting, open all the applications read over them and pray about them. Look at the spreadsheet of figures and historical information in advance of the meeting.  
  
12. Next Meetings:

November 16, 2024 - WOWRC Fall Online Meeting

November 19, 2024 - Mission Support Grant decisions

December 17, 2024 at 7pm (Zoom)

### Report from Equity monitor

Linda reported that everyone tried to see both sides to all the discussion that was had around conflict of interest. People were respectful and inclusive. Everyone was great at taking turns speaking and overall were kind and efficient in the discussions.

### Closing

Chair declares meeting closed.