

## **Voluntary Associate Minister Policy / Retirees & Licences to Marry**

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At the Conference Executive meeting on April 30, the following motion was passed:

The Hamilton Conference Executive adopts the following policy as recommended by the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education.

1. Ministry personnel retired or retained be authorised to maintain their licence to marry in compliance with The Marriage Act of the Province of Ontario and The Manual.
2. The procedures associated with the Voluntary Associate Minister designation be dismantled effective July 1, 2015.
3. A communication and education document be prepared for all congregations, presbyteries and ministry personnel laying out the expectations of ministry personnel retained on the roll of presbytery or retired when performing weddings.

These expectations are:

- a. That all Christian marriages performed be visibly related to a congregation or Presbytery-recognised ministry and
- b. That all marriages shall be registered in record books that remain the property of an ongoing congregation or Presbytery-recognised ministry;
- c. That the Ministry and Personnel Committee or equivalent is responsible for ensuring the police record check is seen according to The Manual 2013 J-2, p190 confirmed through the Presbytery pastoral oversight process;
- d. That the presbytery ensure that retired ministers and those retained on the roll have fulfilled their mandatory training.

These are the same conditions that the VAM procedures were to assure.

4. Conference policies be amended to reflect these changes.