



Hamilton Conference

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DATE: February 20, 2014
TO: Presbytery Secretaries, Ministry Personnel and Pastoral Charges
FROM: Peter Hartmans, Executive Secretary
SUBJECT: **Change to Hamilton Conference Meeting Practice**

On April 25, 2013, Hamilton Conference Executive directed the Executive Secretary, Peter Hartmans, to form a Priority-Setting Commission. At that Executive meeting a motion passed to create a committee which would review the priorities of Hamilton Conference. The motion stated:

In view of projected declines in funding for Hamilton Conference the Staff Committee is recommending a review of its priorities.

MOTION: Bob Tschanz/Linda Clark

That, due to future financial realities and the Effective Leadership Study approved by Hamilton Conference Executive, the Executive Secretary form a commission of up to four past presidents and a member of the Staff Committee to conduct a review of the Conference, including the way in which Conference conducts its Annual Meetings and review the expectations and work to be done by the staff. The commission to make a preliminary report no later than the 2013 Fall Executive Meeting. *CARRIED*

At its fall meeting for the Hamilton Conference Executive on September 12, 2013 the commission present made a preliminary report that stated:

After review of all Conference Meeting Practices and considering the goals and purposes of our Annual meeting; and due to future budgetary concerns and following the existing model of British Columbia Conference:

MOTION: Bob Tschanz/Peter Hartmans

That Hamilton Conference not hold a General Meeting in the year following the 2015 General Council, and that be the pattern following future General Councils. In such years the Celebration of Ministries Service will take place in a central location. The Conference President will be elected for a two-year term before a non-Hamilton Conference meeting year. Budget savings will be shared over three years. *CARRIED*

As a result, the Conference President elected at our 91st Conference meeting will serve a two year term starting May, 2015. Our Conference will not have a Conference Meeting in May of 2016. The Celebration of Ministries service will take place in a central location in 2016. The 91st Hamilton Conference meeting will be held in May of 2015.