

**Minutes of the
EXECUTIVE OF HAMILTON CONFERENCE**

February 13, 2014



"Trust God; Trust the Body"

Authority

The Executive of Hamilton Conference met at the call of the President on Thursday, February 13, 2014 at Hamilton Conference Office, 1552 Highway #6 North, Hamilton. A quorum was present for all sessions.

Attendance

Laity:

Bob Brunner, Phyllis Buchner, Greg Case, Steven Lowden, Ken Pettigrew.

Ministry Personnel:

Keith Reynolds (President), Ted Smith (President-designate), Christina Paradela (Past President), Thom Davies, Peter Hartmans, Stephen Huntley, Daniel MacLean, John Maich, Aaron Miller, Alison Nicholson, Timothy Reaburn, Adrienne Robertson, Bob Tschanz.

Regrets:

Gerry Hofstetter, Robin Wilkie

Corresponding Members:

Janet MacDonald, Lorna MacQueen, Jenny Stephens, Kim Uyede-Kai.

Recording Secretary:

Barbara Hampson

Constitution

The President constituted the Court in the name of Jesus Christ, Head of the Church, to deal with the business that might rightfully come before it.

Opening and Worship

Keith invited the executive to begin the meeting with gratitude and respect for the land and for the first nations whose territory we are on. Opening worship included the singing of the hymn “God of the Bible,” *More Voices* #28 followed by a time of silence and prayer.

Agenda

Motion: John Maich/Ted Smith

That the agenda be approve as printed:

CARRIED

Executive/Sub-Executive Minutes

Motion: Bob Tszantz/Aaron Miller

That the minutes of the September 12, 2013 meeting of the Executive of Hamilton Conference be approved as circulated:

CARRIED

Motion: Greg Case/Christian Paradela

That the minutes of the teleconference meetings of the Sub-Executive of Hamilton Conference on October 16, 2013; November 20, 2013; November 27, 2013; and January 9, 2014 be received for information.

CARRIED

Members of Executive

Motion: Adrienne Robertson/Stephen Huntley

That Janet MacDonald be made a corresponding member for this meeting of Hamilton Conference Executive:

CARRIED

Correspondence

Motion: Alison Nicholson/Bob Brunner

That the list of correspondence for the February 2014 meeting of Hamilton Conference Executive (Appendix A – E52) be received.

CARRIED

Finance Committee Chair Resignation

Peter Hartmans provided background information.

Motion: Christina Paradela/Aaron Miller

That Hamilton Conference Executive accept the resignation of Ron Coulson as Chair of Finance with regret:

CARRIED

A card for Ron expressing thanks from the Executive was circulated.

Motion: John Maich/Ted Smith

That Janet MacDonald be appointed Interim Chair of the Finance Committee:

CARRIED

Resignation of Lay Representative to General Council

Peter Hartmans provided background information.

Motion: Greg Case/Tim Reaburn

That Hamilton Conference receive the resignation of Steve Lowden as Lay Representative to General Council:

CARRIED

The soonest Hamilton Conference can elect a new representative is the 2014 Annual Meeting. In future years an Alternate will be elected when the Representative is elected.

Welcome of Sue Duliban and Ruthanna Mack

Keith Reynolds welcomed Sue Duliban and Ruthanna Mack to the Conference Staff Team.

Formal Hearings

Jenny Stephens provided updates on the Tombs Formal Hearing.

Motion: Greg Case/Adrienne Robertson

That the report of the Formal Hearing Committee in the matter of the Reverend Bruce Tombs be received..

CARRIED

One abstention - Tim Reaburn.

Motion: Bob Brunner/Greg Case

That the Formal Hearing Committee related to Bruce Tombs be disbanded with thanks.

CARRIED

One abstention - Tim Reaburn

John Maich offered prayer for the work of the Formal Hearing Committee and Bruce Tombs.

Jenny Stephens provided updates on the Tester Formal Hearing.

Motion: Tim Reaburn/Christina Paradela

That the report of the Formal Hearing Committee in the matter of the Reverend Ruth Tester be received.

CARRIED

Motion: Adrienne/Steve Huntley

That the Formal Hearing Committee related to Ruth Tester be disbanded with thanks.

CARRIED

John Maich offered prayer for the work of the Formal Hearing Committee and Ruth Tester.

Keith Reynolds expressed appreciation to Jenny Stephens on behalf of the Conference for her faithful work on these two formal hearing committees.

Commissioners to General Council

Peter Hartmans provided information about the election of Commissioners to General Council 2015:

- General Secretary Nora Sanders has requested those Conferences that are meeting in 2014 elect commissioners for General Council 2015 at that meeting
- Hamilton Conference can nominate two ordered and two lay commissioners from each Presbytery and others for a Conference total of 33 commissioners
- Peter proposes: that Hamilton Conference elect 24 at this coming Annual Meeting, and elect the remaining at the next AM in order not to exclude people who are new to the Conference in 2015. Furthermore, a few people are ex-officio members but we will not who will go in that capacity until 2015.
- Youth Forum delegates will be nominated at the 2015 Annual Meeting

Mission Strategy and Support Committee: Report regarding Guidelines on allocation of Proceeds of Sale of Property

Tim Reaburn provided background information. The report “Guidelines on the Allocation of Proceeds of Sale of Property of Congregations that Have Disbanded or Ceased To Exist” was received by Hamilton Conference Executive at the April 2013 meeting and further action was tabled until this meeting, affording presbyteries opportunity to discuss and report back to the Mission Strategy and Support Committee. The Guidelines were presented to each of the Hamilton Conference Presbyteries. Tim expressed thanks to chairs of Presbyteries who made time for this on their agendas and summarized the changes made to the revised report:

- The document is titled as Guidelines instead of Policy
- The allocations outlined in the document will be assumed to be accepted by Conference; if different allocations are proposed they would have to be accepted on a case by case basis by Hamilton Conference Executive
- A congregation ceases to exist when Presbytery designates it as such; the guidelines do not apply to amalgamations
- ‘Successor congregation’ is defined in the Guidelines as one to which most of the members of the disbanding congregation are expected to transfer their membership (but they do not apply in the case of amalgamations). There can be more than one successor congregation
- The amount allocated to general Presbytery funds is reduced from 50 percent to 40 percent
- The ten percent reduction from general Presbytery funds will go to the Mission & Service Endowment fund
- Suggestion for uses of proceeds allocated to Conference : that Outdoor Ministries be included within the list of suggested mission activities in Hamilton Conference

Tim expressed thanks to the Mission Strategy & Support Committee and to Kim Uyede-Kai for their work on these guidelines.

Discussion followed

Motion: Tim Reaburn/Aaron Miller

That Hamilton Conference accept the draft Guidelines on allocation of Proceeds of Sale of Property (Appendix B – E53-56), with the proposed amendments, effective immediately. **CARRIED**

Tim Reaburn proposed a silent auction at the Annual Meeting to support the Mission & Service Fund, with four or five donations from each Presbytery with the hope of raising approximately \$30 for each item. It was agreed the Executive would support such a project.

Keith Reynolds thanked Tim Reaburn and the Mission Strategy & Support Committee for their work and for the presentation.

Reports for Information:

Financial Reports

Janet MacDonald provided background information.

Motion: Janet MacDonald/John Maich

That the draft Balance Sheet and Income Statement (Appendix C – E57-59) be received for information:

CARRIED

Motion: Janet MacDonald/Bob Tschanz

That Peter Hartmans, Janet MacDonald, and Barbara Hampson be signing officers for the Hamilton Conference investment accounts. **CARRIED**

Presbytery Reports

Motion: Greg Case/Ken Pettigrew

That the Presbytery Reports be received as circulated for information: **CARRIED**

Halton Presbytery

Steven Huntley reported that the new Mission Development Officer, Rick Brown, officially began his duties in November and they are pleased the work has begun again.

UCW Report

Motion: Phyllis Buchner/Christina Paradela

That the UCW report be received for information:

CARRIED

Keith Reynolds extended congratulations to Phyllis for being elected as National UCW President.

Waterloo Presbytery Staff Update

Peter provided information about the process of hiring a Presbytery staff person in Waterloo Presbytery and the role of Hamilton Conference in this partnership.

Greenbelt Presentation:

Keith welcomed members of the delegation to Greenbelt: Jane Capstick, Barry King, Sheryl Spencer, Kellie McComb, Gary Patterson, Aaron Miller, Lorna MacQueen, who gave presentations about their experiences at the Greenbelt Festival.

Keith thanked the presenters.

Lunch

The Executive broke for lunch at 12:20.

Reconvene:

The Executive reconvened following lunch at 1:20

Staff Committee: Recommendation for Conference Minister for Social Justice

Bob Tschanz provided a report on the search for Conference Minister for Social Justice.

Motion: Bob Tschanz/Ted Smith

That Hamilton Conference Executive accept the recommendation of the Staff Committee to appoint Diane Matheson Conference Minister for Social Justice, effective February 18, 2014.

CARRIED

Conference Bill 168 Conference Office Policy

Peter provided background information about Bill 168 legislation.

Motion: Steve Huntley/Janet MacDonald

That the Hamilton Conference Executive approve the Occupational Health and Safety Act and the Ontario Human Rights Code Harassment policy for the Conference:

CARRIED

Motion: Bob Tschanz/Aaron Miller

That the Hamilton Conference Executive approve the change to the policy: that the Executive Secretary will inform Hamilton Conference Executive and the relevant Presbytery in writing when a complaint is received (Appendix E – E67):

CARRIED

Motion: Christina Paradela/Ted Smith

That the Executive Secretary will appoint an investigator rather than the Executive:

CARRIED

Nominations Committee

The Nominations Committee proposes that the following appointments be made to Hamilton Conference Committees:

- Leslie MacDonald – Chair-elect of the Agenda & Business Committee
- John Benham – Chair of the Coordinating Committee on Sexual Abuse Prevention & Response Committee
- Neville Smith & Jane Brushy-Martin – members, Pastoral Care Team, Halton Presbytery (pending confirmation of a Police Records Check)
- Peg Turner – Chair, Project Implementation Team
- Barbara Fullerton – member, Project Implementation Team

Motion: John Maich/Christina Paradela

That these people be appointed to the committees named:

CARRIED

Past Conference Presidents Update and Recommendations**Background:**

Peter Hartmans provided background information. The Past Presidents Committee met several times in the spring and summer 2013. The committee included Sybil Wilson, Christina Paradela, David Reid, Peter Hartmans, and Bob Tschanz. The last item on this committee's agenda was the question of the location of the Conference Office. The Committee sent the question to the Property Committee, who looked at the building from the point of view of accessibility, and researched and found an architect. The Past Presidents Committee looked at various possibilities for other locations considering costs of moving, direction of the move, and possible requirements of severance for staff. The architect has suggested ways to make the current building accessible with the possibility of most of the cost being covered by a federal grant.

Discussion followed.

Motion: Aaron Miller/John Maich

That the Past Presidents Committee be disbanded with thanks:

CARRIED

Motion: Bob Brunner/Phyllis Buchner

That the Executive Secretary be empowered to write a letter to Trinity, Guelph in response to their request that the Executive consider moving the Conference Office to their building, with thanks for their interest:

CARRIED

Division of Ministry Personnel and Education:

Interim Ministry Designations

Motion: Greg Case/Janet MacDonald

*That the Hamilton Conference Executive continue the designation of **Rose Ann Vita** (OM, Halton) as an Interim Minister in the United Church of Canada: **CARRIED***

Motion: Aaron Miller/Ted Smith

*That the Hamilton Conference Executive continue the designation of **Margaret Bain** (OM, Erie) as an Interim Minister in the United Church of Canada: **CARRIED***

Heather Davies joined the meeting by teleconference.

Division of Ministry Personnel and Education Report

Motion: Heather Davies/Tim Reaburn

*That the report of the Division of Ministry Personnel & Education be received for information: **CARRIED***

Waterloo Presbytery Recommendation for Re-Admission: Philip Ziegler:

Having received a request from Waterloo Presbytery (*Appendix F – E68*) and assuring ourselves that all the steps outlined in *The Manual 2013* p159 (H- 9) and the handbook *Entering Ministry* pp19-21 have been followed,

Motion: Heather Davies/Greg Case

*That Hamilton Conference Executive accept the recommendation of Waterloo Presbytery that the name of the **Dr. Philip Ziegler** be removed from the Discontinued Service List of the United Church of Canada effective today and he be re-admitted to the order of ministry: **CARRIED***

Halton Presbytery Recommendation regarding waiving testamur requirement: Charlie Hogg

Following consultation with General Council through Catherine O'Brien, by Harold DeVenne (Chair Halton E&S), Diane Walker (Chair Conference E&S) and Jenny Stephens (Personnel Minister), and subsequent receipt of approval from GCO, the Hamilton Conference Education and Students Committee support the request from Halton Presbytery (*Appendix G – E69*) to Hamilton Conference Executive that they waive the requirement for Charlie Hogg to complete the M.Div. degree and receive a Testamur from a United Church related theological school. Waiving this requirement means he has completed all the requirements for ordination and his name may be presented to the annual meeting May 2014.

Motion: Heather Davies/Steve Huntley

That Hamilton Conference Executive, having received the request from Halton Presbytery for waiver of M.Div. and testamur requirements for Halton candidate Charlie Hogg as well as the supporting documents from General Council Office and the Conference Education and Students Committee, accept the recommendations and waive these requirements recognizing the equivalency of experience and education of this candidate:

CARRIED

John Maich offered prayer for the work of the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education.

Comprehensive Review Update

Peter provided an update on the Comprehensive Review proposal document and reminded Presbytery Chairs that the committee would appreciate time on Presbytery agendas.

Adjournment

The President thanked everyone for their time and asked for reflection on what individuals received from the day. The meeting was adjourned at 2:40 p.m.

FUTURE MEETINGS

**Spring Meeting: Thursday, April 24, 2014, 9:30 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.
Hamilton Conference Office**

**Annual Meeting: May 24-25, 2014
UNIFOR-Canada Family Education Centre
115 Shipley Avenue
Port Elgin, Ontario**

Keith Reynolds, President

Peter Hartmans, Executive Secretary



LIST OF CORRESPONDENCE

HAMILTON CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE

February 2014

The following correspondence comes to the February 13, 2013 meeting of the Executive of Hamilton Conference:

FOR INFORMATION:

1.	November 4, 2013	Appeal of Rev. Ruth Tester (sent by fax)
2.	November 12, 2013	Confidential Arbitration Report
3.	November 20, 2013	Five Oaks Updated by-laws
4.	November 21, 2013	Ruling #13-002-R (Re: Fee for Conference Annual Meeting)
5.	December 4, 2013	Report to Executive of Halton Presbytery (Re: Guidelines on Dispersal of Assets)
6.	January 7, 2014	Name change for Ontario and Quebec Native Ministries
7.	January 7, 2014	Queens Bush by-law update
8.	January 26, 2014	Readmission of Philip Ziegler
9.	February 10, 2014	Comprehensive Review: Fishing on the Other Side: Seeking the Wisdom of Presbyteries
10.	February 10, 2014	Letter from Trinity, Guelph re. Hamilton Conference

FOR ACTION:

1.	October 1, 2013	Decision dated September 30 (Bruce Presbytery and Rev. Ruth Tester)
2.	October 1, 2013	Rev. Tombs Decision – fully executed
3.	January 6, 2014	Resignation from Ron Coulson
4.	January 7, 2014	Resignation from Steve Lowden
5.	January 9, 2014	Recommendation re. Philip Ziegler
6.	February 5, 2014	Request from Halton Presbytery for waiver of testamur for Charlie Hogg

**DRAFT GUIDELINES
ON ALLOCATION OF PROCEEDS OF SALE OF
PROPERTY OF CONGREGATIONS THAT HAVE
DISBANDED OR
CEASED TO EXIST**

**Approved by Hamilton Conference Executive
Effective February 13, 2014**

Summary of Guidelines

- 10% - Successor congregation (if applicable)
- 20% - Presbytery extension councils
- 40% - Presbytery
- 12% - Hamilton Conference*
- 10 % - Mission and Service Endowment Fund
- 5% - United Church of Canada Foundation
- 3% - Conference Archives

***Hamilton Conference 12% Allocation**

- 12.5% - the education and spiritual nurture of lay people such as Five Oaks
- 12.5% - Native Ministries and right relations
- 12.5% - campus ministries
- 12.5% - Wesley Urban Ministries
- 25% - the Investment in Mission and Ministry Fund
- 25% - the Mission Strategy and Support Fund

The Hamilton Conference of the United Church of Canada

GUIDELINES ON ALLOCATION OF PROCEEDS OF SALE OF PROPERTY OF CONGREGATIONS THAT HAVE DISBANDED OR CEASED TO EXIST

The United Church of Canada, as a church and an institution, is nested at both the smallest local level and the national breadth of the country. It affects local lives and the life of who we have been and who we might be. As some local congregations come to the end of their natural cycle of presence it is worth remember that the value of a congregation is present in many ways and some of that value is most helpful at levels beyond the immediate geography of a parish.

It is worth remembering that Title to property of Pastoral Charges is held ultimately for The United Church of Canada. That is to say, the UCC has what is known as a residual interest in the property. (*Reference United Church of Canada Act, Basis of Union 5.3, 5.13 and Manual Sections 267, 269, 270, 271, 334, 335, 428 plus Appendix 11 and 1V*). Resolution 30 passed by the 38th General Council in 2003, made changes to Sections 270, 334 and 428 to clarify that Conference has been assigned the responsibility for allocating the proceeds of sale of all the real and personal property, after having consulted with Presbytery. The overriding consideration is that the funds be used for the benefit of the United Church of Canada. When a congregation disbands or is deemed to have ceased to exist, the winding up procedure is generally overseen by Presbytery, whose representatives work closely with the Trustees of the disbanding congregation.

It is recognized that no two situations are exactly the same. While these guidelines are provided to give guidance to the Trustees of the disbanding congregation and those members of Presbytery working with them, a case can still be made for a different allocation of the proceeds. But it is expected that any changes from the guidelines would have to be even more strongly justified than would be usual case. If, for example, the affected congregations were agreed that the buildings of the successor congregation had to be expanded, and succeeded in convincing Presbytery and Conference, the successor might be allocated a much larger amount of the excess assets specified below, and all the others would be scaled back in some proportion to allow for this.

For these guidelines a congregation that disbands or ceases to exist is one that has been so designated by the appropriate Presbytery. These guidelines only come into applicability once this designation has been made. It does not apply to amalgamating congregations.

ALLOCATION OF PROCEEDS OF SALE OF PROPERTY

Debts

Debts are legally a first charge on the assets of the disbanding Congregation.

These debts will generally include the obligations arising from operating costs to the date of closing, responsibilities arising from employer/employee relationships, costs of holding and maintaining assets pending their sale, costs of moving physical assets,

costs of sale, such as real estate commissions and obligations to other Church bodies such as Presbytery, Presbytery United Church Extension Council (HUCEC) or the General Council office.

Assets to Be Transferred To The Successor Congregation

These will generally, but not necessarily, include trust funds for specific or general purposes, and specified physical assets other than real property, with the consent of the Trustees of the Successor Congregation. The terms of any trusts must be examined carefully. Tangible assets which are not wanted in the successor congregation (and which presumably have only a nominal market value) could be returned to the donor's family; donated to another congregation or disposed of, as deemed appropriate by the Trustees of the disbanding congregation.

The amount remaining after steps one and two above are hereinafter referred to as the “excess assets.”

Successor Congregation

A logical case can probably be made that the successor congregation will have some extra expenses due to the influx of a large number of new members. Some of these extra costs may be for physical changes to the building and property. There may well be a need for transitional ministerial assistance. To avoid the practical problems of Presbytery or Conference having to make the judgment of Solomon as to whether some expenditures are really expenses caused by the large number of new members, or are just maintenance costs that have been deferred, an arbitrary percentage of the excess assets will be available. The Trustees of the successor congregation would have to justify to Presbytery, their claim to reimbursement for such expenses. It is expected that the justification for expenditures in excess of the guideline will have to be more convincing than for amounts less than the guideline. By-Law 267 applies. It is recognized that the successor congregation will benefit, in the long run, from the influx of a significant number of new members. It is also recognized that the overriding priority is to reallocate the capital to where it will be most supportive to the mission of United Church of Canada. There is an intrinsic fairness in leaving some of the assets with the (relocated) members of the congregation that donated them. This process is intended to achieve that. Conversely, there is not much logic in calculating some sort of per capita “dowry” for members who go somewhere other than to the designated successor congregation. The increased givings would more than compensate for any incremental costs.

In these guidelines a Successor Congregation is one to which most of the members of the disbanding congregation are expected to transfer their membership. The guidelines are not intended to apply to an amalgamation of congregations.

Recommended Percentage of the Excess Assets - UP TO 10%

Presbytery Extension Councils or Equivalent

Presbytery is the court of the Church geographically closest to the problem of reallocating capital from areas of decline to areas of population growth. There should logically be an arbitrary allocation to the Presbytery Extension council or the equivalent that is charged with the responsibility (after appropriate consultation with Presbytery) of acquiring potential Church sites in areas that are expected to have population growth.

Recommended Percentage of the Excess Assets - UP TO 20%

Presbytery

Presbytery also has significant responsibilities in terms of its commitment to General Council office as the guarantor of debts of some congregations under the Mission Tithe Agreement, which is currently being re-negotiated. Presbytery also has its ongoing responsibility for the mission of the church within its geographic boundaries. It has significant responsibility for the redeployment of the capital in a timely way.

Recommended Percentage of the Excess Assets -**40%**

Hamilton Conference

*Conference has, among its other responsibilities, the oversight of church expansion within its wider geographic boundaries. While it makes some logical sense to redeploy the capital from disbanded congregations close to home there is a responsibility to recognize the wider responsibility of Conference. The Mission Strategy and Support Committee would be the Conference mechanism for these funds to be distributed and funding would be available for Conference Mission and Ministry projects – including but not limited to Five Oaks, Campus Ministries, Social Justice Ministries, **Outdoor Ministries** and the like.*

Recommended Percentage of the Excess Assets -12%

Mission and Service Endowment Fund

M&S Fund represents our collective way as the people of The United Church of Canada to love, serve, and minister in the world that God loves, and to participate in healing, justice, and hope in Canada and around the world.

Recommended Percentage of the Excess Assets – 10%

General Council

While it makes some logical sense to redeploy the capital from disbanded congregations close to home, there is a responsibility to recognize the wider mandate of the General Council through the legacy foundation.

Recommended Percentage of the Excess Assets-5%

Conference Archives

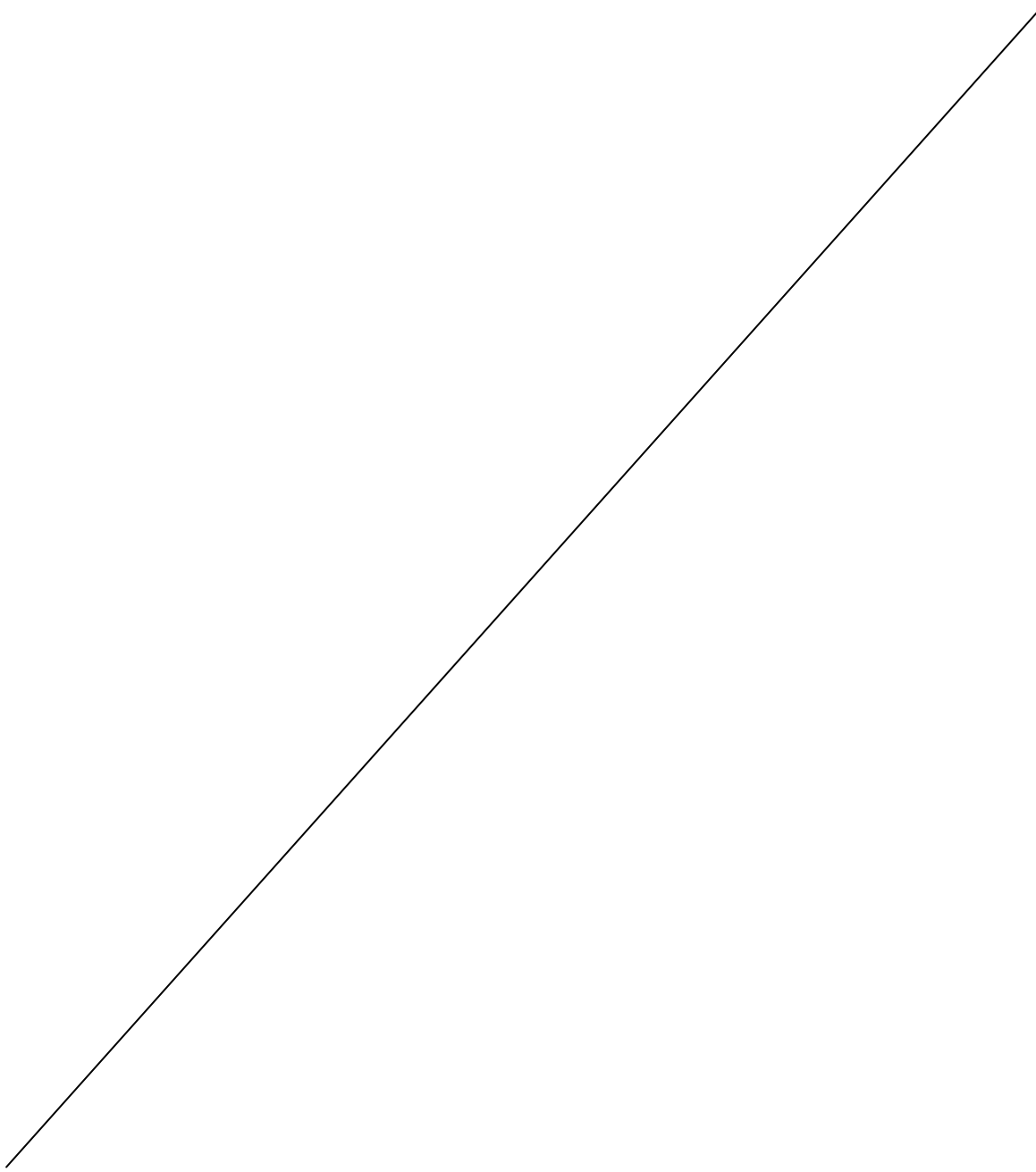
Recognizing that our past is integral to our future there is much benefit in ensuring our history continues to be available and made accessible to present and future generations. There we seek ways to ensure the viability of the Conference Archives.

Recommended Percentage of the Excess Assets-3%

Hamilton Conference Income Statement

	DRAFT year 2013	DRAFT to Feb 8th, 2014
INCOME		
Annual Meeting	33,804.39	
Assessments	643,459.51	
Government Rebates	19,038.82	
MP&E	2,992.39	
Networks	27,076.71	- 429.03
Other Income	73,308.47	- 247.26
Salary Grant	322,364.66	
TOTAL INCOME	1,122,044.95	- 676.29
EXPENSES		
Agenda and Business	1,450.89	396.47
Annual Meeting	79,920.87	2,600.00
Archives	42,657.02	
Archives Committee	129.31	
Avel/Bookstore Support	14,935.00	4,000.00
Capital Expenses	13,702.21	367.25
Conference Oversight	65,984.64	
Contingency	1,022.83	9.03
Corporation Overview	10,067.89	
Effective Leadership Project	3,960.96	431.24
Executive and Subexecutive	4,068.58	
Finance	12,365.51	1,282.25
General Council Commissioners	62.78	
MP&E	29,949.14	768.51
Mission Strategy and Support	2,487.66	123.62
Networks	38,715.32	550.28
Nominations	494.61	
Office Operating	63,222.83	5,699.66
Pastoral Care Team	665.06	
Presbytery and Congregational	220.46	
President	4,851.95	718.70
Program Partnership	2,975.00	
Property Committee	3,231.30	
Recovery and Healing	120.00	
Resource Development	1,842.55	3875.84
SAPR	3,856.37	
Staff	640,955.66	728.23

Staff Committee	4,102.58		131.28
Stewardship	<u>1,158.87</u>		<u> </u>
TOTAL EXPENSES	1,049,177.85		21,682.36
NET INCOME (LOSS)	72,867.10	-	22,358.65



Hamilton Conference Balance Sheet

	year 2013	to Feb 8th, 2014
ASSETS		
Cash on Hand	280.00	
Chequing Account	99,858.28	89,471.23
Mastercard GIC	20,000.00	20,000.00
BMO Nesbitt Burns - Investment	148,192.87	148,266.22
Meridian Credit Union	102,200.00	102,200.00
BMO Nesbitt Burns - Investment	695,535.00	695,214.39
BMO Nesbitt Burns - Rising Spirit	56,766.63	56,747.18
Oikocredit	50,000.00	50,000.00
Accounts Receivable	63,333.61	1,116.47
Prepays	2,947.45	2,947.45
Fixed Assets	44,413.53	44,413.53
	<u>1,283,527.37</u>	<u>1,210,376.47</u>
LIABILITIES		
Accounts Payable	43,991.69	20,617.87
Trust Accounts		
Archives	36,084.56	36,084.56
Cape Croker-Saugeen	26,371.04	26,371.04
Inv. In Miss. & Ministry	656,955.53	626,955.53
Learning Grants - Ministry	20,185.95	27,670.95
Lincoln Ave. Lay Learning	8,353.06	5,469.08
Rising Spirit	56,766.63	56,747.18
Wescott Rural Bursary	67,342.00	65,342.00
Youth Vision Fund	203.16	203.16
	872,261.93	844,843.50
Equities		
Retained Earnings	294,406.65	367,273.75
Net Income	72,867.10	-
	367,273.75	344,915.10
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITIES	<u>1,283,527.37</u>	<u>1,210,376.47</u>



Hamilton Presbytery Report Winter 2014

It was a pleasure at our June meeting to Recognize Bob Tschanz for 35 yrs. Service in the area of education and students in Hamilton Presbytery and Hamilton Conference. We were fortunate to have 2 Ministers who had experienced Bob's guidance on their path to Ministry to tell us the impact Bob had on them. Early in the fall we celebrated the success of our Presbytery wide Vacation Bible School which took place over the summer in 8 locations. This is a continuation of a program started two years ago and is growing each year.

We have the Blessing of having three members of our Presbytery who took part in the Conference Israel and Palestine Exposure tour. These people have made a presentation to our Court and also to many of our Congregations. Their experience and insight have helped our outlook on the situation in this troubled area of our World.

We were pleased to have Tim Reaburn present to us the Dispersal of Fund for Disbanding Congregations document, his background information allowed for much clarity. We later as a Presbytery discussed this document and provided feedback on this proposed document.

We were pleased to have our Conference President visit our Presbytery in Dec. and lead us in Worship.

We have also spent time discussing the use of Trillium Funds as there is a variety of opinions about the Church's use of such funds. The discussion was open, honest and clarified the position of many within Hamilton Presbytery.

We heard a report from the Mission Council of Hamilton Presbytery that they have granted in excess of \$79,000.00 in 2013. Grants were given in many areas such Pastoral Relations, Pastoral Oversight, Christian Development, Internship and technological initiatives to various Congregations and Corporations of the Presbytery.

We received a report from Rev. Thom Davies who is a member of the General Council Executive on the work they are doing.

At the request of the Comprehensive Review Task Group we will spend the bulk of our March meeting working on the materials they have requested we give feedback on. We are also in the planning stage of a Presbytery wide Good Friday Service with our Moderator who will be Leading Worship.

Respectfully
Bob Brunner, Chair

Appendix D – Reports for Information

**Niagara Presbytery Report
Winter 2014**

After a period of a few years when we were closing or amalgamating Pastoral Charges we seem now to be in a time of some consolidation in Niagara. It is giving us pause for some reflection and perhaps even introspection

We mourn the loss of a structural presence in the southern part of our Presbytery . Our Church Planting group have been meeting regularly to consider a variety of possibilities but success eludes us for the moment. Our Online Worship initiative (NOW) is showing signs of positive success however. This program comprises a group of individuals who gather weekly to record and live-stream worship services from churches throughout the Presbytery. These services are subsequently made available for viewing on UTube. This program grew out of our search for alternative ministries....we had hoped that the program would attract a group of like minded souls who would form a worshipping unit (a Geek Church we have called it). This has been a little slower to develop than we had hoped and we have set aside an honorarium for someone to "do" ministry with the group of people who do the filming. The services themselves are meeting with some success however and many of our congregations are taking part . Information about this program and links to the services can be found on our Presbytery website.

Following a two year experiment with our meetings format, we have returned to having a meal prior to our business meetings. We were feeling the loss of a gathering, social time together and hopefully this time of renewed fellowship will be beneficial. We have changed the format of our meetings as well. We begin our meetings now with a time of worship and enrichment followed by committee reports and other business. This is the reverse of our previous format and we are hoping that among its benefits will be a heightened sense of belonging and involvement on the part of our lay delegates.

Niagara Presbytery supports 4 Core Ministries: Brock Chaplaincy, Caribbean Workers Outreach Program, Cave Springs Camp, and Vacation Bible School. These Core Ministries receive basic funding from the Presbytery budget resulting in assessments to congregations that are larger than those in some other Presbyteries. Reduced memberships and tighter economic times are creating pressures on these assessments. We are hoping to have a conversation this spring to re-examine our commitment to these ministries.

We have been surprised recently to learn that we as a Presbytery do not have a formal Charitable Status designation. We have been exploring the options of making application ourselves versus hiring a consultant. Our recent loss to retirement of our Finance Chair, Ron Coulson, has set this process back a bit but it remains an item of some concern. I am wondering if any other Presbyteries would be interested in sharing the cost of a consultant with us.

Finally, we await with great anticipation, our Moderator's visit in the coming months and are looking forward to finalizing the arrangements for his time with us.

Ken Pettigrew, Chair



Waterloo Presbytery Report Winter 2014

Last June, Waterloo Presbytery agreed to a proposal that changed the way it was to be structured effective July 1, 2014. The preparation for this restructuring has been a major focus for most of the past year and has impacted on many of the actions and decisions we have taken.

Some of the highlights of the structure change are:

The main decision making body of the Presbytery will be the Council of Waterloo Presbytery. It will fulfill the functions of Presbytery Executive as outlined in the manual. There will be a new full-time, paid position of Presbytery Support Minister, which will be within the Hamilton Conference program staff team and deployed in Waterloo Presbytery, paid for by Waterloo Presbytery.

The Council itself shall consist of:

- The Presbytery Support Minister
- Chairperson of the Mission, Health and Vitality Committee,
- Chairperson of the Ministry Personnel and Staff Committee,
- Chairperson of the Finance Committee,
- Chairperson of the Education & Students Committee
- 5 Elders of Council (including the chair)

The full Presbytery will meet 4 times a year. Its main purpose is to support and encourage the vitality and mission of congregational and other ministries of the United Church of Canada in our region.

Presbytery members will also serve on the committees listed above as well as a volunteer management committee.

Over the course of the year, we have been setting aside a portion of our Presbytery meetings to discuss how we might best make this transition. Our goal is to build a culture in Presbytery that will allow us to be discerning, encouraging of one another, and working together to build healthy and vital congregations. We have also had a special meeting, on a Saturday morning in January to struggle with the questions we had about this shift, but also to take time to begin sharing and discerning our gifts, together, so that we might identify how we each might best use our gifts to serve God's mission in Waterloo Presbytery.

Moving forward we will be starting our search for our Pastoral Support Minister. As part of that process we are looking at what, if any, staff changes and reallocation of resources may be necessary/advisable within the Presbytery to support this position.

Of course, while we work through this time of transition there is still the ongoing work of the Presbytery. Some of the major items which we have dealt with over the past few months are:

- We ended the paid chaplaincy at Wild Laurier University and the University of Waterloo. We currently have a VAM serving as a part-time chaplain until the end of June. We currently have a task group exploring ways how we might best minister to the University and College communities in 2014 and beyond.
- As part of our Oversight Committees work we are again having a Pulpit Exchange in May, where most congregations will have a minister from a different congregation and following the services will have a chance to talk about their joys and concerns.
- Presbytery Executive ordered a review of one of its churches and ministers in December. We are in the middle of the process and I ask that you keep the ministers, staff and the congregation of Parkminster United Church in your prayers through a difficult time.

Aside from the work we also had abundant joy. In September President Keith Reynolds visited our Presbytery and provided an inspirational message to those assembled. It was very much enjoyed and I received a lot of very positive feedback about his time with us.

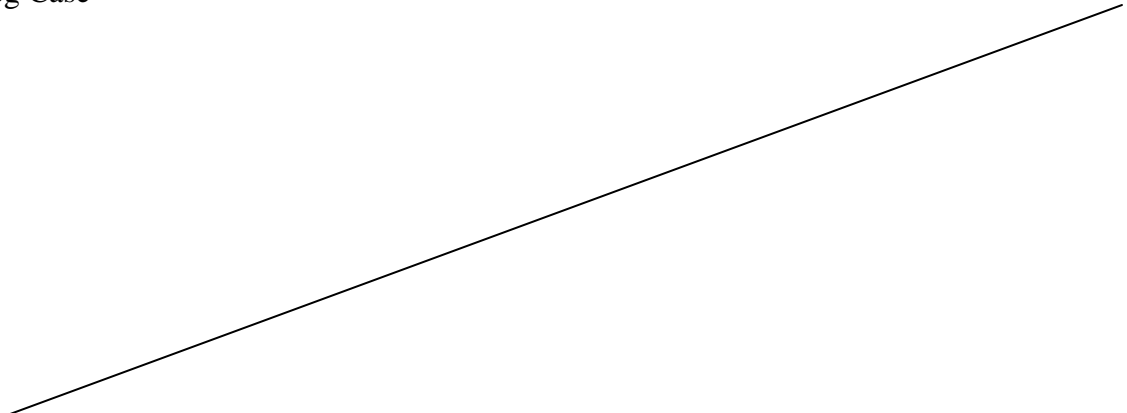
On December 1, we had a wonderful day as our Moderator, Gary Paterson, spent the day in Waterloo Presbytery. In the morning, all the churches of Guelph cancelled their regular services and gathered in a High School Gym. The room was full and the worship was fantastic as Gary delivered a wonderful sermon while accompanied by an improvisational jazz pianist. During that service the churches of Guelph pledged to continue working together to build their area ministry.

The evening service at First United, Waterloo while more traditional was nonetheless equally inspirational and, like the morning service, was very much a blessing to those who attended.

Later this month we will be looking at the Comprehensive Review as a Presbytery for the bulk of our meeting. I suspect that it will make for some very interesting discussion!

I would like to thank Conference Staff, in particular Lorna, Peter, Jenny and Kim for their support, advice and wisdom as we went about the work of Waterloo Presbytery.

In Christ's name,
Greg Case





UCW Executive Report Winter 2014

Greetings from your sisters in Christ.

National UCW president, Beverley Green of Albert NorthWest Conference, chaired our annual gathering in Toronto. First Vice President Joyce Osborne and myself attended the gathering September 18-22nd 2013.

At that meeting:

- a new UCW Life membership pin was chosen.
- Wendy Gichuru brought us an update on UCW funding to the Morogoro project.
- Beth Symes gave a presentation on the comprehensive review.
- David Armour updated us on Mission and Service givings.
- Erik Mathieson brought us financial information.
- We brought forward a recommendation to engage a secretary, clerical support for the NUCW at our AGM.
- Past NUCW President Betty Turcott offered to update her study guide, which is now available on the National church website as a resource for all to use.
- Cynthia Gunn, Legal council GCO joined us as we looked at updates to the UCW handbook. A committee was struck to work with Ms. Gunn,
- It was agreed that we as a national body would call attention to the issue of child poverty, recognizing there is no quick fix.

Rev. Michael Blair joined us Sunday morning and encouraged us to Choose Hope. Each day began with worship and each day ended with worship. Every day was full of information gathering and exchanging whether we were in open space, singing or lunching. We are diverse yet we are united.

Our annual Fall Retreat was held at Five Oaks in the fall of 2013. Our facilitator was Kelli McComb who led us through our 2013-2014 theme "Praise, Prayer, Purpose."

Lisa DiVeto, Financial Development Officer, United Church of Canada, joined us at our fall executive meeting and shared workshop opportunities and grant writing opportunities.

There is a worship resource on the Hamilton Conference website written by Phyllis Buchner for use by all.

Hamilton Conference UCW treasurer Amy Hill of Halton Presbyterial was one of the visitors to Korea with WICC.

British Columbia UCW conference has started plans to host the 55th anniversary of United Church Women.

Appendix D – Reports for Information

Our annual meeting - Praise, Prayer, Purpose - will be held on Sat. Apr. 26, 2014 from 8 30 to 3:30 at St. Paul's United in Dundas. Wendy Gichuru and Rev. Lorna MacQueen will be joining us.

As I complete my second year as Hamilton Conference UCW president, I lift up my thanksgiving for the continuing support of the members of the executive and the staff at the conference office. This working relationship may or may not be unique within the United Church of Canada, but, it is a blessing to us.

Blessings

Phyllis Buchner.

Hamilton Conference United Church Women.





Division of Ministry Personnel and Education Report Winter 2014

The Division of Ministry Personnel and Education have met twice in this conference year. Our work includes receiving reports from the Education and Students Committee, Interim Ministry Committee, Settlement Committee, Interview Board and Internship and Educational Supervision Committee, and Pensions and Group Insurance Committee.

One of our responsibilities is the granting of sacramental privileges and the Authorization to Solemnize Marriages to Ministry personnel serving in a pastoral charge.

Licences to Administer the Sacraments were approved for:

- Marilyn Shaw DM, Christ the King Pastoral Charge, Waterloo Presbytery
- Mary Elliot DM, Three Willows Pastoral Charge, Waterloo Presbytery
- Christina Paradela DM, Lynden and Rock Chapel Pastoral Charge, Hamilton Presbytery
- Doug Brown DLM, Teeswater Pastoral Charge, Bruce Presbytery

An application that we received and did not approved was from Dr. Marvin Anderson from Port Rowan Pastoral Charge, Erie Presbytery for the following reason:

In order to receive a License to Administer the Sacrament Marvin needs to be either Ministry Personnel or a DLM not yet recognized by conference. He is neither.

Application Authorization to Solemnize Marriages to:

- Lynn Wilson CS Lucknow Pastoral Charge, Bruce Presbytery

An application that we received and did not approve was from Derrick Herriott CDM Thorold South – Allanburg Pastoral Charge of Niagara Presbytery for the following reasons:

As a Congregational Designated Minister, Derrick is not under a presbytery appointment and is not considered Ministry Personnel. In order to meet the requirements of the Hamilton Conference Policy on the Authorization to Solemnize Marriages, and the Province of Ontario's Marriage Act, the applicant must be under appointment and accountable to presbytery.

Our next regular meeting is April 1

Please remember the 2014 Called to Leadership Event on Thursday March 27 at Three Willows United Church, Guelph. It is a wonderful opportunity to learn about Emotional Intelligence Leadership. More information in Hampak.

Heather Davies, Chair

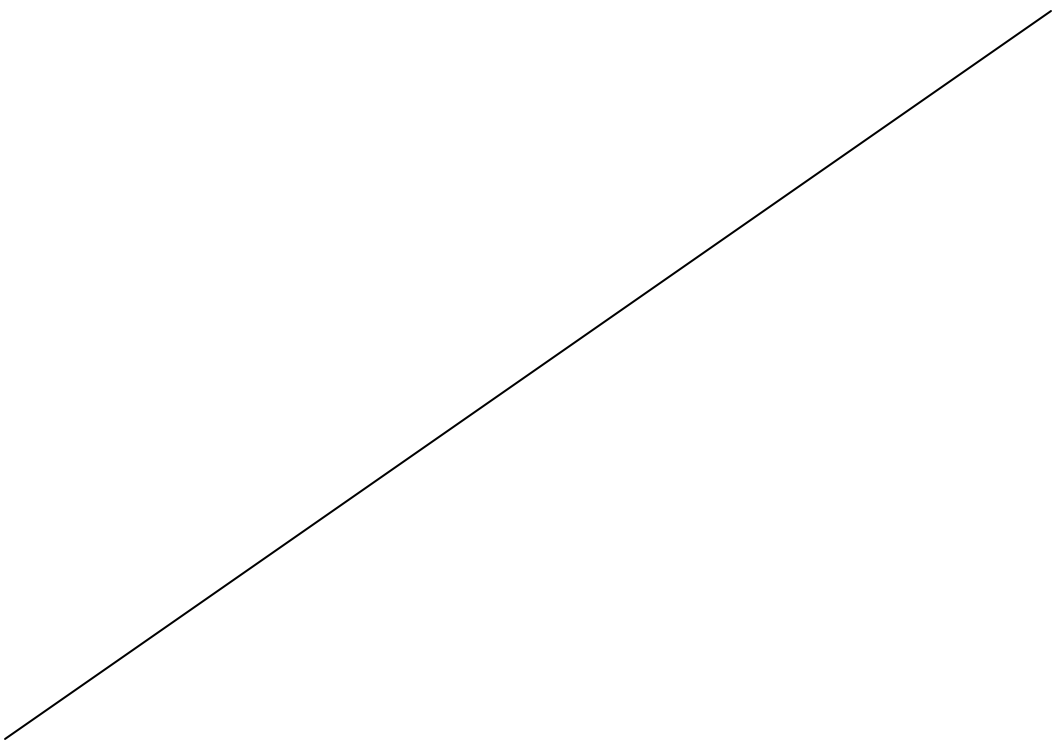
Appendix E – Proposed New Policy for handling complaint – Bill 168

How will a Complaint be handled by the Church?

The Executive of Hamilton Conference* has been designated as the body to deal with all complaints initiated under the Bill 168 violence and harassment legislation of the Occupational Health and Safety Act.

1. The Executive Secretary receives a formal complaint.
2. The Executive will be informed *in writing* by the Executive Secretary that a complaint has been received. The relevant presbytery will be informed *in writing* as necessary that a complaint has been received.
3. The Executive will appoint a person to conduct an investigation.
4. The investigator's report will be received by the Executive with recommendations, if any.
5. In its deliberations, the Executive will provide opportunity for the parties to be heard.
6. The Executive, through the Executive Secretary, will inform the parties of any decisions reached by the Executive. The relevant presbytery will also be informed as necessary of any decisions reached by the Executive.

*The Executive of Hamilton Conference consists of the President, the Past-President, the President-Elect, the Executive Secretary, the Chair and Chair-elect of each of the six presbyteries within Hamilton Conference, plus order of ministry and lay Conference representatives to General Council Executive, Committee Chairs of Finance, Agenda and Business, Ministry Personnel and Education, Mission Strategy and Support, Nominations, Staff Committee, and UCW President.





Waterloo Presbytery
of the United Church of Canada
376 Carson Drive, Kitchener, ON N2B 2W2
e-mail: watpres@rogers.com ph: (519) 578-4208

JAN 30 2014

January 26, 2014

Rev. Peter Hartmans
Hamilton Conference
P.O. Box 100
Carlisle On., L0R 1H0

Dear Rev. Hartmans,
Re: Re-admissions

Please be advised that at the January 9, 2014 meeting of Waterloo Presbytery Executive the following motion was passed:

Motion: Pegi Ridout/Heather Leffler

Whereas Waterloo Presbytery has received an application for readmission to the Order of Ministry of The United Church of Canada from Philip Ziegler, the applicant's reasons for seeking readmission have been found acceptable, and the Hamilton Conference Interview Board has met with the applicant and a satisfactory report has been received,

And whereas Waterloo Presbytery through its Education and Students Committee has satisfied itself that the steps outlined in the Entering Ministry resource (pp.19–21) have been completed,

Waterloo Presbytery recommends this applicant, Philip Ziegler, for readmission to the Conference at its next Executive meeting.

Carried

Yours Truly,
Marg Burgess
Secretary Waterloo Presbytery

Handwritten signature of Marg Burgess in cursive.



February 5, 2014

Peter Hartmans
Executive Secretary
Hamilton Conference
P.O. Box 100
Carlisle, ON L0R 1H0

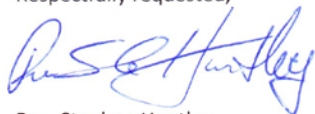
Dear Peter,

On February 4, 2014, Halton Presbytery Executive passed a motion presented by our Education and Students Committee to request a waiver of the requirement of a M.Div. and Testamur as a requirement for Ordination for Charlie Hogg.

Charlie has submitted his education and experience to the GCO Ministry Personnel Program Coordinator, Catherine O'Brien, who convened the Waiver of Testamur Review Committee. They have found Charlie's case to be exceptional and they unanimously support our recommendation that Charlie be ordained without the requirement for further studies and Testamur. A copy of their letter is attached for information.

We formally request that Hamilton Conference waive the requirement for Charlie Hogg to complete the M.Div. degree and receive a Testamur from a United Church related theological school so that he may be ordained in May. Charlie has completed all other requirements of the manual including the New Ministries Day interviews.

Respectfully requested,



Rev. Stephen Huntley
Chairperson, Halton Presbytery