

## Minutes of the SUB-EXECUTIVE OF HAMILTON CONFERENCE

October 31, 2017



### *"Changing Seasons"*

#### Authority

The Sub-executive of Hamilton Conference met by teleconference call on Tuesday, October 31, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. A quorum was present.

#### Calling of the Roll

Peter Hartmans called the roll:

|                 |                    |                                 |
|-----------------|--------------------|---------------------------------|
| <b>Present:</b> | Peter Hartmans     | Executive Secretary             |
|                 | Heather Leffler    | President                       |
|                 | Deborah Laforet    | President Elect                 |
|                 |                    | Co-Chair, Halton Presbytery     |
|                 | Rod Coates         | Chair, Bruce Presbytery         |
|                 | Cathy Dilts        | Chair, Erie Presbytery          |
|                 | Christina Paradela | Chair, Hamilton Presbytery      |
|                 | Bill Thomas        | Chair, Niagara Presbytery       |
|                 | Debra McGill       | Chair, Waterloo Presbytery      |
|                 | Beth Symes         | Counsel for Hamilton Conference |

**Recording Secretary:** Barbara Hampson

#### Constitution

Heather welcomed everyone to Sub-Executive and constituted the Court in the name of Jesus Christ to deal with the business that might properly come before it.

#### Corresponding Member

*Motion: Peter Hartmans/Debra McGill*

*That Beth Symes be a corresponding member of Hamilton Conference Sub-Executive for this meeting:*

**CARRIED**

---

## Worship

President Heather Leffler opened the meeting with a reading from the *Song of Faith* and prayer.

## Agenda

*Motion: Christina Paradela/Rod Coates*

*That the agenda be approved as circulated and amended:*

**CARRIED**

## Executive Minutes

*Motion: Debra McGill/Deborah Laforet*

*That the Hamilton Conference Sub-Executive approve the minutes of the **September 26, 2017** meeting of the Sub-Executive of Hamilton Conference as distributed and amended:*

**CARRIED**

## Recommendations for Action

Peter Hartmans and Beth Symes provided background information. Discussion followed.

**Whereas** on August 31, 2014 and on June 29, 2015 Barry Pridham was charged with various sexual misconduct offences under the *Criminal Code of Canada*;

**And Whereas** on September 10, 2014 Erie Presbytery suspended Barry Pridham from functioning as ministry personnel pursuant to section J.10.3 c. of *The Manual 2013*;

**And Whereas** Barry Pridham retired from ministry in the United Church and ended his pastoral relationship with Sydenham United Church on December 31, 2014;

**And Whereas** Barry Pridham plead guilty to possession of child pornography and to being in a position of trust or authority towards a young person in his congregation, did for a sexual purpose, counsel her to engage in sexual activities with him contrary to sections 163.1(4) and 153(b) of the *Criminal Code*;

**And Whereas** on May 30, 2016 Barry Pridham was found guilty and sentenced to prison for two years less a day and placed on probation for three years after he is released;

**And Whereas** pursuant to section J.10.5(c) on October 12, 2016 Erie Presbytery requested that Hamilton Conference hold a formal hearing to determine Barry Pridham's fitness for ministry and whether he should be placed on the Discontinued Service List (Disciplinary);

**And Whereas** on October 27, 2016, the Executive of the Hamilton Conference decided to convene a Formal Hearing before a Panel into the fitness for ministry of Barry Pridham and consider whether the name of Barry Pridham be placed on the Discontinued Service List (Disciplinary);

**And Whereas** a Notice of Hearing dated January 18, 2017 was received by Barry Pridham on January 20, 2017;

**And Whereas** The United Church of Canada, Hamilton Conference and Barry Pridham entered into a Memorandum of Agreement which Dr. Pridham signed on April 12, 2017, waiving his right to a Formal Hearing (attached);

**And Whereas** Barry Pridham was given notice of the October 31, 2017 meeting of the Sub Executive of Hamilton Conference and chose not to attend;

***Motion: Bill Thomas/Christina Paradela***

*that pursuant to sections D. 2.8(c) and I.3.3.3(c) of The Manual 2016, the name of Barry Pridham be placed on the Discontinued Service List (Disciplinary). The consequences of this decision are that Dr. Pridham is not recognized as ministry personnel of the United Church and his name will be removed from the rolls of Erie Presbytery and of Hamilton Conference. Henceforth, pursuant to section I 3.3.5 of The Manual 2016, Dr. Pridham may not perform any of the functions of ministry in the United Church: **CARRIED***

President Heather Leffler extended gratitude to Erie Presbytery for the pastoral care that they have offered to Dr. Barry Pridham and his family.

**Formal Hearing Committee**

***Motion: Peter Hartmans/Cathy Dilts***

*That the Formal Hearing Committee in the matter of Dr. Barry Pridham be dismissed with thanks: **CARRIED***

**Adjournment**

Heather Leffler closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 a.m.

---

Heather Leffler, President

---

Peter Hartmans, Executive Secretary