
A meeting of the Pastoral Relations (PR) Commission was held via Zoom Conference call on Tuesday, April 11, 2023 at 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Jim Allen, Ina Bromley, Wayne Harris (Chair), Patsy Henry, Sharon MacDonald, Erin McIntyre, Karen McLean (Scribe), Whit Strong (8)

REGRETS: Charlotte Hoy, Linda Suddaby (2)

CALL TO ORDER, OPENING PRAYER:

Chair, Wayne Harris, called the meeting to order at 1:05 p.m. and Wayne led us in an opening prayer.

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

MOTION 2023-42 (I. Bromley/J. Allen) “that the minutes of March 14, 2023 be accepted as circulated.” **CARRIED**

RESTORATIVE CARE:

For information:

- David Illman-White returned to work March 30, 2023.
- Peter Dahlin is on restorative care effective March 23, 2023.

ACKNOWLEDGED SABBATICALS:

Christopher Ryan – Smiths Falls: Trinity P.C. – April 10 – Sept. 5, 2023; PCS – Don McLean
Carla Van Delen – Barrhaven P.C. – April 17 – July 9, 2023; PCS – Jim Baldwin
Blair Paterson – South Mountain-Hallville P.C. – April 24 – July 23, 2023; PCS – Janet Evans
Tiina Côté – Pembroke: Calvin P.C. – May 1 – September 2, 2023 PCS – Margie Patterson
Kim Vidal – Bells Corners P.C. – May 15 – August 31, 2023 PCS – not required since there is another minister on staff

LIAISONS

Liaisons are needed for Rothwell P.C., Glengarry East P.C., Aylwin P.C. and Quyon P.C.

PASTORAL CHARGE SUPERVISORS:

Pastoral Charge Supervisor is required for Rothwell Pastoral Charge.

MOTION 2023-43 (S. MacDonald/E. McIntyre) “that the EOORC PR Commission, in the absence of called/appointed ministry personnel, names John Noordhof, EOORC member, as Pastoral Charge Supervisor to the Glengarry East Pastoral Charge effective July 1, 2023.”

CARRIED

MOTION 2023-44 (P. Henry/I. Bromley) “that the EOORC PR Commission, in the absence of called/appointed ministry personnel, names Erin McIntyre, EOORC member, as Pastoral Charge Supervisor to the South Stormont Pastoral Charge effective July 1, 2023.” **CARRIED**

Pastoral Charges without called/appointed Ministry Personnel:

(Pastoral Charge Supervisor in place as noted)

Addison – Lynne Gardiner

Admaston – Paul McLenaghan

Arnprior – Sheryl McLeod (until the minister completes Admissions)

Ashton-Munster – Jim Allen

Augusta – Linda Suddaby (while the minister is on LTD)

Aylmer-Eardley – Jim Allen (Aylmer closing, Eardley open for a couple of services per year.)

Aylwin – (PRC is searching)

Bristol – Jon Williams

Central Lanark – Wayne Harris

Clyde Forks-Tatlock – Carla Van Delen

Delta-Toledo – Charlotte Hoy

Denbigh, Matawatchan, Schutt – Jon Williams/Ina Bromley

Elgin-Portland – JoAnne Fletcher

Genesis Co-operative - (after July 1st)

Glasgow-Castleford – James Murray

Glengarry East – John Noordhof as of July 1st

Golden Lake – Jon Williams

Greenwood – Ina Bromley

Kenmore (in process to close) - Ed Gratton

Knox Edwards – (closing in early 2023) - Ed Gratton

Lanark-Balderson – Sharon MacDonald

Lansdowne – Donald Wachenschwanz

Lyn: Christ Church – Shelley Roberts

Mallorytown – Charlotte Hoy

Manotick – Provisional Call

Melville-Eganville – Jon Williams/Ina Bromley

Merrickville – (closing early 2023) - Christopher Ryan

Metcalf – Ed Gratton

Namur – Jim Kenney

Ottawa Chinese – Barbara Reynolds

Pembroke: Mt. Zion – Kevin Moratz

Pembroke: Zion Evangelical – Zacharia Mandara (meetings);
Ingrid Condie-Bennett (Pastoral Care)

Perth Road – Heather McLurg Murphy

Pittston – Myra Garvin

Quyon – (PRC is searching)

Rideau – Sharon MacDonald

Rockland – Jim Kenney

Rothwell – (PRC is searching)

Russell – Ed Gratton

South Stormont – John Noordhof (Erin McIntyre as of July 1st)

Southminster – Brian Copeland

St. John's (Brockville) – Linda Suddaby
Stittsville – Cindy Casey
Vernon – ministry is supplied by the Baptist Church

Pastoral Charges in search mode:

(Liaisons in place as noted)

Ashton-Munster – Jim Allen

Aylwin – (PRC is searching)

Bathurst – Shelley Roberts

Central Lanark - Wayne Harris

Denbigh, Matawatchan, Schutt – Jon Williams/Ina Bromley

Genesis Co-operative – (Jim Allen after July 1st)

Glasgow-Castleford – James Murray

Glengarry East – (after July 1st)

Knox Edwards – Ed Gratton

Lanark-Balderson – Sharon MacDonald

Lansdowne – Patsy Henry

Manotick – Dianne Cardin

Metcalf – Ed Gratton

Namur – Jim Kenney

Ottawa Chinese – Charles Barrett

Parkdale (Ottawa) – Jim Allen

Perth Road – Heather McLurg Murphy

Quyon – candidate

Rideau – Sharon MacDonald

Rockland – Jim Kenney

Rothwell – (after May 1st)

Russell – Ed Gratton

Shawville – Charles Barrett

South Stormont – Erin McIntyre

St. John's (Brockville) – Linda Suddaby

Stittsville – Caroline Penhale

Pastoral Charges not searching:

Addison

Clyde Forks-Tatlock

Elgin-Portland

Lower Gatineau Valley

Mallorytown

Southminster (Ottawa)

Centenary

Delta-Toledo

Greenwood

Lyn: Christ

Pittston

Templeton

(RE)-APPOINTMENTS

Centenary P.C. (Sharbot Lake) – Shelley Roberts (OM-R):

MOTION 2023-45 (J. Allen/I. Bromley) “that the EOORC PR Commission approves the re-

appointment of the Rev. Shelley Roberts (OM-R) to the Centenary Pastoral Charge as Congregational Minister, 20 hours per week, effective September 1, 2023 – June 30, 2025.”

CARRIED

Stittsville P.C. – Anne Montgomery (OM-R)

MOTION 2023-46 (S. MacDonald/E. McIntyre) “that the EOORC PR Commission approves the re-appointment of the Rev. Anne Montgomery (OM-R) to the Stittsville Pastoral Charge as Congregational Minister, 20 hours per week, effective May 29, 2023 – June 30, 2023.”

CARRIED

Glebe-St. James P.C. – Junior Smith (Candidate)

MOTION 2023-47 (P. Henry/E. McIntyre) “that the EOORC PR Commission approves the appointment of Junior Smith (Candidate) to the Glebe-St. James Pastoral Charge as Congregational Minister, 20 hours per week, effective May 16, 2023 – August 20, 2023.”

CARRIED

CALLS:

Manotick P.C. – Paul Whynacht (Candidate)

MOTION 2023-48 (I. Bromley/J. Allen) “that the EOORC PR Commission approves the provisional call of Paul Whynacht (Candidate) to the Manotick Pastoral Charge as Congregational Minister, 30 hours per week, effective May 1, 2023.”

CARRIED

Bristol P.C. – Catherine Stewart (Candidate)

MOTION 2023-49 (E. McIntyre/S. MacDonald) “that the EOORC PR Commission approves the provisional call of Catherine Stewart (Candidate) to the Bristol Pastoral Charge as Congregational Minister, 20 hours per week, effective July 1, 2023.”

CARRIED

FOLLOW-UPS FROM LIAISONS AND PCSs:

1) Lansdowne

Patsy has not heard from the folks at Lansdowne for some time due to illness and family commitments. She will call to check in and touch base with them.

2) Central Lanark and Lanark-Balderson P.C.s

Sharon - both pastoral charges continue their shared search for a full-time minister.

3) Rideau P.C. Sharon also reported Rideau P.C. has an upcoming meeting to consider a request for an appointment.

4) Schutt

Ina - Schutt is looking for pulpit supply and would appreciate any leads. Sharon is one of the closest LLWLs and is still 1.5 hours away.

5) Eardley

Jim - Eardley is now only holding possibly one service per year. No decisions have been made re closure.

OTHER BUSINESS:

1) PRC Members' Terms of Office:

Wayne reported on the terms of office for current members of the Commission.

2023 – Wayne, Karen, Erin (end of 1 term)

2024 – Jim (1), Patsy (1), Sharon (2)

2025 – Charlotte (2), Ina (2), Linda (2)

Wayne and Karen will stay on for a second term. Erin has applied for a spot on the Executive. It will be subject to the next available opening for ministry personnel. She indicated she would stay on Pastoral Relations until a spot opened up on Executive.

It is clear the Commission will soon need a number of new members. Of particular note – only Erin and Patsy are ministry personnel so this should be a priority.

2) Time line for Executive Meetings

The Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly sent a letter to all teams, commissions, clusters, and networks regarding the timelines for submitting documents, reports, motions, and requests to the Executive for inclusion on its next meeting agenda. All such items should be submitted no later than 7 days in advance of the meeting. There are provisions for an urgent request to be added to New Business but the hope is that most will be able to adhere to the suggested time lines.

The PRC has met the second Tuesday of the month since the establishment of the Region. It was suggested we might move to the fourth Tuesday which would give the scribe ample time to write the minutes and send any submissions within the allotted time. However, there may be a different meeting schedule following the Annual Meeting on May 27th so it was decided not to make any change until we receive the new schedule.

3) LLWLs

Online declaration, Police Record Checks – update

Whit noted the Executive minister had been advised by the GC that online declarations are not acceptable. However, ministry personnel have been doing it for several years. He will follow up to try to determine why it is acceptable for one group but not another.

May an LLWL who is a Sacraments Elder do both at their home CoF?

Some of the regions have established a policy that allows an LLWL, who has been licensed as both an LLWL and a Sacraments Elder, to lead the worship service in his/her/their own Community of Faith *or* preside over the Sacraments but not to do both at the same service.

This generated considerable discussion – Whit will ask for input from the Executive.

4) Proposed Ordination Policy- update

Prior to the restructuring, there were specific rules in place to govern length of time, number of hours etc. but this did not carry over to the regional setup. The PRC recommended some minimum standards. Whit will ask if this has been addressed at the Executive level yet.

5) EOORC'S response to CoFs who refuse to consider Admission applicants

A number of pastoral charges continue to search for a minister with little success yet there are many overseas ministers available to accept a call.

Whit would like to discuss the matter with search committees to try to determine whether or not they have seriously considered these applicants. A pilot project is in place to work with Admission candidates but it has been difficult convincing pastoral charges to participate.

Commission members suggested some concerns might include:-

- A reluctance to call when the backlog for immigration clearance might be a year or more. Whit noted there are some countries that can process the paperwork in as little as 12 weeks.
- Moving costs may be prohibitive. The pastoral charge actually pays only from the point of entry. In our region this might be no further than Toronto, Montreal or Ottawa.
- Worries about scams. All admission candidates must register on ChurchHub so a search committee can verify they are legitimate by checking the site.

6) PR Liaisons' travel payment

FYI

"The Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council adopts the policy that Pastoral Relations Liaisons be reimbursed at the rate set by General Council Office for travel directly related to their pastoral relations work, and that the reimbursement be paid by the Community of Faith directly to the Pastoral Relations Liaison" (Governance, page 37)

Whit will ask Anita to send a reminder in the next newsletter regarding payments to both Liaisons and Pastoral Charge Supervisors.

LAST WORD: Next meeting – **Tuesday, May 9, 2023** 1:00-3:00 p.m. via Zoom.

CLOSING: Whit led us in a closing prayer. The business listed on the agenda being completed, Wayne declared the meeting closed at 2:06 p.m.