
A meeting of the Pastoral Relations (PR) Commission was held via Zoom Conference call on Tuesday, March 18, 2025.

PRESENT:

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

REGRETS/ABSENT: Patsy Henry, Charlotte Hoy, Blair Paterson, Don Stiles, Linda Suddaby (5)

CALL TO ORDER, OPENING PRAYER:

Chair, Wayne Harris, called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. Following a quick check-in with members, Micheline led us in an opening prayer.

CORRESPONDING MEMBER(S): None

INTERIM MOTIONS:

Carleton Place: Zion-Memorial P.C.

MOTION 2025-16 (M. Montreuil/C. Hoy) “That the EOORC PR Commission approves the Carleton Place: Zion-Memorial Pastoral Charge profile for posting on ChurchHub.”

CARRIED

[Note: Enough votes to carry the motion on Feb. 21/25]

Woodroffe P.C.

MOTION 2025-17 (M. Montreuil/J. Allen) “That the EOORC PR Commission approves the Woodroffe Pastoral Charge profile for posting on ChurchHub.”

CARRIED

[Note: Enough votes to carry the motion on Feb. 26/25]

Riverside P.C.

MOTION 2025-18 (P. Henry/M. Montreuil) “That the EOORC PR Commission approves the Riverside Pastoral Charge profile for posting on ChurchHub.”

CARRIED

[Note: Enough votes to carry the motion on March 5/25]

ADDITIONS/CORRECTIONS TO THE AGENDA: None

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES:

MOTION 2025-19 (S. MacDonald/E. McIntyre) “that the minutes of February 18, 2025 be accepted as circulated.”

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Central Lanark P.C. – Wayne will report on this later in the meeting.

REMEMBRANCES:

- Sheila Anthony, one of our LLWLs, on March 7, 2025

MEDICAL LEAVE:

- LTD: Rev. Carolyn Insley (North Gower-Carsonby P.C.) – effective November 7, 2024.
- Lynne Gardiner as of Jan. 9, 2025.

ACKNOWLEDGED SABBATICALS:

- Kevin Moratz (OM), Beachburg P.C., February 1 to March 31, 2025 and July 2025.
- Stephanie Bates (OM), Cumberland P.C., June 1 – August 31, 2025
- Lorrie Lowes (DM), Bells Corners P.C., July 1 – Sept. 30, 2025

SABBATICALS/COVERAGE: None**SUPERVISED MINISTRY EDUCATION (SME) site:** None**CHANGE IN PASTORAL RELATIONS:** None**PASTORAL CHARGE CONSTITUTIONS:** None**SHARED MINISTRY AGREEMENTS:** None**PROFILES:****Carp-Dunrobin**

MOTION 2025-20 (M. Montreuil/I. Bromley) “That the EOORC PR Commission approves the Carp-Dunrobin Pastoral Charge profile for posting on ChurchHub.” **CARRIED**

Riverside P.C.

MOTION 2025-21 (J. Allen/S. MacDonald) “That the EOORC PR Commission approves the Riverside Pastoral Charge profile for posting on ChurchHub.” **CARRIED**

CALLS/(RE)-APPOINTMENTS**Riverside P.C.**

MOTION 2025-22 (I. Bromley/M. Montreuil) “that the EOORC PR Commission approves the appointment of Brian Copeland (OM-R) to the Riverside Pastoral Charge, 20 hours per week as Congregational Minister, effective September 1, 2025 – June 28, 2026.” **CARRIED**

Trinity P.C. (Ottawa)

MOTION 2025-23 (J. Allen/S. MacDonald) “that the EOORC PR Commission approves the appointment of Wayne Menard (OM-OD*) to the Trinity Pastoral Charge (Ottawa), 40 hours per week as Congregational Minister, effective January 1, 2025 – September 14, 2026.” **CARRIED**

* denotes “Other Denomination”

CHANGE OF TERMS: None

SACRAMENTS/ELDERS: None

CONGREGATIONAL DESIGNATED MINISTER (CDM): None

PASTORAL CHARGE SUPERVISORS:

PCS needed for Salem: Locksley; Gananoque: Grace P.C.; Glasgow-Castleford; Metcalfe; Rockland

Rockland P.C.

MOTION 2025-24 (I. Bromley/E. McIntyre) “That the EOORC PR Commission, in the absence of called/appointed ministry personnel, names Robert and Hilary Merritt, EOORC members, as Pastoral Charge Supervisors to the Rockland Pastoral Charge.” **CARRIED**

Gananoque: Grace P.C.

MOTION 2025-25 (M. Montreuil/E. McIntyre) “That the EOORC PR Commission, in the absence of called/appointed ministry personnel, names Lynne Gardiner, EOORC member, as Pastoral Charge Supervisor to the Gananoque: Grace Pastoral Charge.” **CARRIED**

Pastoral Charges without called/appointed Ministry Personnel: (44) (02)

(Pastoral Charge Supervisor in place as noted)

Addison – Lynne Gardiner

Admaston – Paul McLenaghan

Ashton-Munster – Jim Allen

Augusta – Linda Suddaby

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

Aylwin – Natalie Matkovsky

Bathurst – Shelley Roberts

Beachburg – Ina Bromley (covering sabbatical Feb. 1-Mar. 31, 2025 and July 2025)

Bethel-St. Andrew's – Jan Loughheed

Cardinal – Myra Garvin

Carleton-Memorial – Jim Allen

Carp-Dunrobin – Beth Sweetnam

Central Lanark – Wayne Harris

Charge pastorale Grâce Pastoral Charge – Jim Allen

Charge pastorale Namur – Jim Kenney

Chinese (Ottawa) – Barbara Reynolds (only on call)

Clyde Forks-Tatlock – Carla Van Delen

Delta-Toledo – Charlotte Hoy

Denbigh, Matawatchan, Schutt – Jon Williams

Elgin-Portland – JoAnne Fletcher

Gananoque: Grace – Lynne Gardiner

Glasgow-Castleford –

Golden Lake -
Greenwood – Ina Bromley
Harrowsmith-Verona – Sharon MacDonald
Kenmore (selling building – NOT disbanding) - Ed Gratton
Lansdowne – Donald Wachenschwanz
Lyn: Christ Church – Shelley Roberts
Mallorytown – Charlotte Hoy
Metcalf – Ed Gratton
Morrisburg: Lakeshore Dr. – Blair Paterson
North Gower-Carsonby – Sandra Yule
Perth Road – Heather McLurg Murphy
Pittston – Myra Garvin
Rideau – Sharon MacDonald
Rockland – Robert and Hilary Merritt
Rothwell – Nancy Best
Russell – Ed Gratton
South Mountain-Hallville – Christine Lowson
Southminster – Brian Copeland
St. Andrew's (Westmeath) – Gary McKay
St. John's (Brockville) – Linda Suddaby
White Lake – Sheryl McLeod
Zion, Douglas – Ingrid Condie- Bennett

LIAISONS

Liaisons are still needed for Rideau Park.

Pastoral Charges in search mode: (29) (03)

(Liaisons in place as noted)
Almonte – Wayne Harris
Ashton-Munster – Jim Allen
Aylwin – Natalie Matkovsky
Bethel-St. Andrew's – Beth Sweetnam
Carleton-Memorial – Jim Allen
Carleton Place: Zion-Memorial – Ed Gratton
Carp-Dunrobin – Beth Sweetnam
Denbigh, Matawatchan, Schutt – Jon Williams
First United (Ottawa) – Janet Nield
Grâce (Chelsea) – Jim Allen
Harrowsmith-Verona – Sharon MacDonald
Kemptonville: St. John's – Jim Allen
Knox (Nepean) – Barbara Reynolds
Lansdowne – Phyllis Dietrich
Morrisburg: Lakeshore Dr. – Blair Paterson

Namur – Jim Kenney
Parkdale – Jim Allen
Perth Road – Heather McLurg Murphy
Quyon – Cathy Stewart
Renfrew: Trinity St. Andrew's -
Rideau Park –
Riverside (Ottawa) – Barbara Reynolds
Rockland – Jim Kenney
Rothwell – Beth Sweetnam
Russell – Ed Gratton
Salem: Locksley – Ina Bromley
Shawville – Charles Barrett
St. Andrew's (Westmeath) – Gary McKay
Trinity-St. Andrew's (Renfrew) – Gary McKay

Pastoral Charges not searching: (23)

Addison	Augusta	Aylmer-Eardley
Cardinal	Centenary	Central Lanark
Clyde Forks-Tatlock	Delta-Toledo	Elgin-Portland
Glasgow-Castleford	Golden Lake	Greenwood
Lower Gatineau Valley	Lyn: Christ	Mallorytown
Metcalf	Pittston	Rideau
South Mountain-Hallville	St. John's (Brockville)	Templeton
Vernon	Westmeath	

FOLLOW-UPS FROM LIAISONS AND PCSs

Liaisons in attendance updated the Commission regarding the Pastoral Charges they are assisting.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Part-time Positions to Full-time:

Regional Councils have the authority to exercise oversight to limit creation of **part-time positions** so that the onus is on the church to, where possible, provide full-time equivalent employment opportunities rather than ministry personnel having to “cobble together” full-time equivalencies.

Questions:

Could the PR Commission recommend that EOORC look at a policy that requires any part-time position not be approved unless there has been demonstrated conversation with neighbouring congregations/pastoral charges about shared ministry?

Other suggestions?

Whit reported he, Erin McIntyre, Éric Hébert-Daly, Brian Cornelius, and Mary Royal-Duczek had met and had good conversation about this concern. Other questions from the PR

Commission:

- How would this work with rural churches who are some distance apart?
- There might be someone retired nearby but is a group of part-time ministers actually growing the church?
- Could ask retired clergy or the Ministry Support group – are they interested?
- What is the priority – full-time or providing a church with an opportunity to have a minister of some kind?

Change to the Manual: (For Information)

The General Council Executive, at its meeting on March 9th, has approved **a change to the Manual** that restricts the ability of family members of staff and ministry personnel to serve on congregational or pastoral charge governing bodies. Any exceptions must be approved by the Regional Council. Section B.7.1.3 (regarding serving on a governing body of a congregation or pastoral charge) Persons who have familial relationships with employees, or ministry personnel who have been called or appointed to the pastoral charge, may be elected in special circumstances with prior approval of the Regional Council.

Financial Support for IIM Training:

This has been an on-going conversation at PR meetings for several months now. There is no indication of much interest for the training and little money to support the program.

CoF not talking to PRC:

Whit reported two cases where a CoF had made arrangements for ministers and then told the PR Commission after the fact. All PCs must be reminded there is a process to follow when they have a vacancy – private decisions are not part of the process.

LAST WORD:

Next meeting – **Tuesday, April 15, 2025 1:00-3:00 p.m.** via Zoom.

<https://united-church.zoom.us/j/83941506797>

Meeting ID: 839 4150 6797
1 855 703 8985 Canada Toll-free

CLOSING: Jim led us in a closing prayer. The business listed on the agenda being completed, Whit declared the meeting closed at 2:10 p.m.