

SYNODE MONTREAL & OTTAWA CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE

Thursday, November 3, 2011 10 a.m. – 9:00 p.m. Retreat
Villa Saint Martin, Gouin Blvd, Montreal, Quebec

Thursday Morning – Jeudi matin**IN ATTENDANCE:**

Pasteur David Fines	Past President
Rev. Cathy Hamilton	President-Elect
Rev. Rosemary Lambie	Conference Executive Secretary
Pasteur Thierry Delay	Président, Consistoire Laurentien
Rev. Phyllis Smyth	Chair, Montreal Presbytery
Rev. Helen Hliaras	Representative, Montreal Presbytery
Rev. Diane Cardin	Chair, Ottawa Presbytery
Rev. Ed Gratton	Representative, Ottawa Presbytery
Dave McCormack	Chair, Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery
Rev. James G. Potter	Representative, Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery
Rev. Daniel Hayward	Chair, Seaway Valley Presbytery
Eileen Lavigne	Chair, Stewardship Committee
June Millar	President, United Church Women
Rev. Angelika Piché	Chairperson, French Ministry Task Group
Rev. Doug Stewart	Conference Personnel Minister (East)
Rev. Whit Strong	Conference Personnel Minister (West)
Joel Miller	Recording Secretary

REGRETS/ABSENT

Debbie Poirier	President
Larry Richardson	Ottawa Office Administrator, M&O
Gordon Garlough	Representative Seaway Valley Presbytery
Emmanuel Pradeilhes	Représentant Consistoire Laurentien
Charlotte Griffith	Lay Representative to General Council Executive
Rev. Brian Cornelius	Clergy rep. to General Council Executive

GUESTS/INVITÉS

Rick Balson	Chair of the AGM Planning Committee
Tom Sherwood	Guest Speaker

9:30 Gathering- find pre-assigned rooms, have coffee

10:00 Welcome, Introductions woven together in Worship - led by Rev. Cathy Hamilton

Rev. David Fines, Past-President, called the meeting to order. He asked for our thoughts and prayers to be with the current President of Conference in her absence, and the Ottawa Administrator who is ill. He then invited people to introduce themselves.

Rev. Cathy Hamilton began the Call to Worship with the lighting of the Christ candle. Cathy, accompanied by her violin, sang Psalm 46 (last verse Voices United 770). Worship continued with the singing of “*C’est un rempart que notre Dieu*”, Voices United #261, followed by an opening prayer and Prayer of Confession (based on Deuteronomy 5:6-21 and Psalm 90 from “Before the Amen” p.200. Scripture readings were Jeremiah 31:31-34, Luke 4:16b-21, Matthew 28:18-20. The worship service was printed on different colored paper representing each of the Presbyteries and Conference. During the worship people were asked to convene in groups according to the colors of paper their worship was printed on to discuss the scripture passages. Presbyteries and Conference members were then asked to convene together and discuss what insights can be gained from the scripture passages. In between both groupings the prayer “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” was sung. The worship was closed in the reciting of the Lord’s Prayer and a Benediction.

11:00 LIVING our ‘Living Mission Statement’

2. Provide leadership in supporting Presbytery efforts to ensure that all Pastoral Charges have ongoing effective pastoral ministry and participate in the formation of new Ministry Personnel - Diriger et soutenir les efforts des consistoires pour que toutes les charges pastorales bénéficient d’un ministère pastoral efficace et sans interruption, et participent à la formation du nouveau personnel ministériel

➤ Introducing the “Sacramental Elder” facilitated by Rev. Doug Stewart

Doug introduced section 347 of The Manuel, which defines Sacramental Elders. He explained that there presently exists confusion surrounding the interpretation of 347, causing people to think ‘anyone’ can become a Sacramental Elder. The role of the Sacramental Elder is to provide the Sacraments for a particular congregation or pastoral charge until an incumbent becomes available. He referred to the Designated Lay Minister presently serving in Harrington Harbour and other remote areas in the Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery as examples for where and when the Conference has permitted the use of Sacramental Elders until an incumbent becomes available.

Using the new resource, Sacramental Elders Workbook, Doug explained the importance of understanding Baptism and the ecumenical agreement called the PLURA (1975) between Presbyterian, Lutheran, United, Roman Catholic, and Anglican churches. He referred to the fundamental importance of a covenant relationship between God and the baptizing community and referred to scripture, quoting “Go and baptize in the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit.” He reiterated that this covenant relationship needs to be taken very seriously. He exclaimed that Baptism, which is the recognition between God, child and community, cannot be done by those who have not themselves made a covenant relationship with God. Doug also explained how this book provided good theological background for both the Sacrament of Baptism and the Sacrament of Communion.

Discussion

Question: Knowing that the United Church recognizes two Sacraments, does the book explain the theology of these two recognized Sacraments within the Protestant Church?
Answer: Yes.

Doug explained that individual congregations/Sessions set policies to determine for themselves who can be baptized, and to provide introduction instruction session as required. Where a baptism takes place in a hospital for an infant in an emergency situation, it is not just the act of baptism which encompasses this sacrament, but also it is the recognition of a covenant relationship between God and a community of faith. It is the responsibility of this community to rear the child in the teachings of Christ. People need to think about what it means to be baptized, how a baptism is going to be lived out in family, in community, and in the world in general. The sacrament cannot be done without conviction and awareness of covenant between God and a community of faith. Doug went on and provided an example of witness, and explained how baptism was done at Saint-James United Church. Congregants are invited to pray over the water as they hold it in their hands, which is another visible way of incorporating and affirming the invisible grace of the covenant relationship between the congregation and God to raise the child to be baptized in the way of Christ.

Doug mentioned that up until 1994 in Quebec, the baptismal certificate was not only a religious document but a civic document as well.

Discussion

Question: Is the request for a Sacramental Elder done for each individual by their Presbytery? Answer: A request would have to come from the individual congregation, to the Presbytery Pastoral Relations Committee, and following Presbytery approval, the request be referred to the Conference for the final decision.

Doug reiterated the fact that this is not meant to be a blanketing of providing sacramental Elders, but it is to be specific, like Harrington Harbour (places of major isolation) and that a Supervising minister /mentor is designated to accompany individuals selected to be a Sacramental Elder.

Discussion

Regarding emergency baptisms, it could mean that the officiating person may be breaking a congregation's policy, i.e., some hospitals have a baptismal registry and they are not necessarily tied to any church congregation. In an emergency then, mechanisms are in place so that any Christian can perform a Christian baptism (as long as they have an understanding of the Trinitarian formula and the use of water).

Doug addressed the topic of Communion and continued to refer to the book of Sacramental Elders, outlining the theological and historical background. Doug reaffirmed that there is a unique presence of Christ within Holy Communion. Referring more specifically to an Order of Service for the Sacrament of Communion, Doug showed that the book emphasized that the table is an 'open table', that it is the Lord's Table. Romans called the wafer 'Host', remembering that Jesus is the host. The Workbook teaches about exchanging the Peace of Christ, the invitation to the Peace of Christ, the Great Thanksgiving, The Song of Creation - Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy,) the Institution narrative (what Christ has done and said in the upper room at supper) and demonstrates gestures used during Communion.

Questions: What is the United Church policy about using wine or juice, or wine and juice?
Answer: Each congregation/Session has the right to make that decision and being mindful of

the presence of children or individuals struggling with alcoholism, church may decide not to use alcohol.

What does it say about the words that Jesus used? Answer: "This is the cup of my new covenant...forgiveness." Question: Does it acknowledge flexibility of use of words? Answer: Yes.

Using Rice crackers, make sure there are sufficient for people needing gluten-free crackers.

Question: Does the book discuss emergency communion? Answer: No.

Doug referred further questions to the United Church of Canada Manual 2010 sec 427.1 *Licence to Administer Sacraments. It shall be the duty of the Conference:*

12:00 Lunch

Thursday Afternoon – Jeudi après midi

1:30 # 7. *Promote whole-life stewardship- Promouvoir le soutien de la vie dans ses diverses dimensions.*

➤ Facilitated by Denis Marcoux , Conference Stewardship consultant

Denis introduced himself and addressed the following keys points (as taken from his PowerPoint):

“Stewardship Accomplishments

The past two years have involved renaming the Stewardship network to be a working committee, doing a Pilot project involving doing a survey of perceived performing congregations and workshops for potential stewardship committees at the congregational level. There has been increased support of Consistoire Laurentien with workshops and materials in French, and on the committee there is now Presbytery representation from each of their respective committees. The Committee has been working to create an awareness of Stewardship with workshops and articles, events, a Newsletter published, participation at Camp Five Oaks, a strategic plan based upon a SWOT analysis, and an introduction to the Share, Save and Spend program.

Presentation Topics Available

Stewardship best practices:

- Understanding and getting to abundance,
- Narrative budgets
- The shift
- SWOT and strategic planning (Strength and Weaknesses, Opportunity and Threats)
- Currently working on Spend, Save and Share

Workshops Presentation

Event March 2010, Surveyed six congregations, Five Oaks Camp 2011, Consistoire 2 occasions, Toronto Stewardship Staff (3 occasions), workshops with Hatley / Waterville / Chateaugay / Ottawa / St-Jean / Mt-Bruno / Summerlea Event

General Observations

Workshops and events have been well received and appreciated although not well attended in some presbyteries, and we are preaching to the converted. The Stewardship Program requires Cost-Benefit Analysis and Stewardship programs in United Church are evolving. These may evolve into something else under the Philanthropy Unit direction. For Stewardship to succeed, it requires a budget and direction from Conference. Not many young people are involved, and should be targeted. Most congregations do not have a compelling case for support, leadership is often lacking and volunteer fatigue is common. Need for a long term plan (strategy)

Denis asked the question: What would you do with a gratuity? Would you keep it for operations of the church, would you put it towards your mission statement, do you have a Mission Statement?

Strategic Plan

The Stewardship Committee have identified 2 Priorities – 1. Spend Save and Share program and 2. Improved communication within Conference

Spend Save Share Program

Objective: Create a program to help families and youth with money matters by developing and maintaining healthy money habits / Target: Families and youth / Program outline, identify, recruit, and train trainers who can in turn provide training to congregations and community / Église St-Marc (Ottawa) – experience and reaction

Denis mentioned what he termed Silence and Financial Infidelity and provided explanations for both. He also mentioned his experience with giving his children an allowance (dollar per age) dividing up how money is to be spent (save, spend, share)

Communications Audit and Strategy

Objective to improve the communication with the Conference: The Committee feels it is a Stewardship issue. We are wrestling with too much information and unable to assimilate, the silo effect, the attitude of send to everyone just in case (shotgun approach), the concerns about wasting paper and printing and related costs, wasting of time spent sifting through information and thus useful resources are not being received

Important issues

General Council has changed its name to Philanthropy Unit / Integrated Revenue Generation Plan (GCE November 2011 agenda) / Redefining of role and future of stewardship

committee within new context / Will funding be present to support these efforts? / Will there be funds to support strategic plan of Stewardship Committee?

Integrated Revenue Generation Plan (GCE November 2011)

Objective: Maximize all donated revenue to UCC by increasing the active engagement in stewardship as a vital part of the faith journey / Strategy: (Simplify and clarify the call to action – Maximise annual giving to church – Maximize legacy and major gifts to church – Maximize emergency giving for church partners – Explore opportunities for the public to support the work of the church)

What is Conference Vision for Stewardship?

Currently the program is running on limited resources with one part time consultant and the enthusiasm and good works of volunteers. The present conference program is comparable with other conferences and in some ways better. Would the executive want a full blown program? What would you like to see for 2012? Does the executive have an objective?

Issues for Discussion

Cost-Benefit analysis (CBA) current structure and mandate / Contract and staff Provide resources for improved program (Share, Save and Spend – Communications Audit and strategy) /Support for new Integrated Revenue Generation Plan

Cost Benefit Analysis (CBA)

1. Is it a good investment?
 - a. Criteria
 - i. Mission
 - ii. Educational
 - iii. Organizational
 - iv. Financial
 - v. Comparable programs in other conferences
 - b. Costs
 - i. Travel
 - ii. Contract
 - iii. Speakers
 - c. Benefits
 - i. A program and committees
 - ii. Materials
 - iii. Organizational support for Presbytery and Congregations who seek understanding of stewardship
 - iv. Enthusiasm
2. Is there a better alternative use for resources?

Discussion

Question: Language, such as 'stewardship as money generating' and 'life stewardship' (money, gifts, talents and time) ... and now philanthropy; where did this idea come from that philanthropy should replace stewardship? Answer: Stewardship is the theology of philanthropy. Ultimately, the word was changed at the General Council level.

Question: The focus on stewardship is narrowing. We bring everything we have into God's service. But now it all seems to be narrowed down to money; is stewardship primarily focused on money? Answer: Mission and Service is dependent on using the money received and working towards mission. Denis also mentioned the term 'holistic stewardship', which is raising money and using it effectively.

Denis makes reference to the 6 T's

Question: Regarding new ministries and future ministries, what will funding the church look like in the Future? Where can we go to raise money? In Quebec there seems to be a trend to give less (However, more people are giving but they are giving less). Answer: Work has to be done at this level. Answering this question along with the question of what is the future of the United Church? How will the church play a role in the lives of people in the future?

Question: What other models (other than the business model exist for generating revenue?
Answer: Paying for expert help.

Question: Why doesn't the church engage professionals to help at a very local level as well as at the National level? Answer: In Ottawa, the Mission Strategy Group of the Presbytery hopes that people will come up with proposals for what redevelopment options can be exercised. For example, the restructuring of sales of buildings go directly to financing such proposals.

Question: Regarding the Mission and Service Fund, do we continue to pay for Stewardship advice when the Mission and Service Fund can no longer pay for it; does the Conference pay for it? Answer: In other Conferences, the stewardship component is factored into staffing (hence much larger staffs). M&O does not have a staff to incorporate the Stewardship component and it is part of the Executive Secretary position description to ensure that it happens.

The representative from Seaway Valley acknowledged that it was very helpful to have someone come from Stewardship

Denis quoted the expression: "Having skin in the game" If you have something to invest in, you will gain more out of it. He mentioned that experiences were positive during the pilot project.

Regarding models, lack of attendance, lack of interest, is it due to the fact that our models miss the mark? Is the business model lacking in what is necessary for authentic 'church stewardship model', i.e. calling it philanthropy. Is this view of money what is wrong and pointing the stewardship model in the wrong direction? What of whole life stewardship?

Let the record show that Denis involvement is crucial to stewardship within the Conference. Having Denis is a vital part of the Stewardship. He is also bilingual.

Denis explained that he understands that the Business model makes people nervous. However, all organization needs to plan and perhaps an organizational model does not necessarily means a business model. Denis drew are attention to the fact that today many businesses use the stewardship model.

2:30 Stretch break/coffee-tea

3:00 Angelika Piché, Chair of the French Ministries Committee provided an oral report. The National Ministries in French (MiF) is experiencing a time of crisis. Rev. Darla Sloan has resigned from the position of Responsable des MiF in September – Toronto has been unable to fill the position. Despite the approval of a fund for new Ministries in French at GC40, support for the realization and the financing of the new ministries from the national church has been difficult. M&O Conference is one of the few Conferences who have taken on leadership regarding French Ministries.

Darla has perceived a gap between the understanding of GC in regards to the Umif report and the understanding of the Francophone constituency

Discussion

It seems as though the committee is in a transitional time of waiting to see what General Council will do regarding the job position.

There needs to be more conversation regarding the position and its description, and the committee is not necessarily ready for action. Montreal & Ottawa Conference and its Presbyteries need to make it clear what it expects and needs from MiF on the National level.

Question: What caused this breakdown? Answer: We as an executive need to reiterate our need for the position and our need for the position be filled as quickly as possible.

Question: Is there a statement that we need to offer to the General Council Commissioners who are going to be going to General Council in the coming weeks? Answer: We need to show a strong sense that French Ministries is important to us. We need to write a letter of support for the French Ministries work; which can go out at any time.

The position in Toronto is very secluded. When you work in this position you don't feel part of General Council. The position is isolating because of the geographical disconnect.

Question: Is there a way that Montreal & Ottawa Conference can facilitate a dialogue to see what really went wrong? Answer: This will be looked into.

For now any action may be premature, but it is important to stay aware.

The jobs description needs to be redone.

The Ministries in French Task Group meeting is scheduled November 18, 2011.

3:25 # 6. *Provide an inspirational link between local United Church communities and the United Church of Canada as a whole community - Devenir un pont et une inspiration entre les communautés locales de l'Église Unie et l'Église Unie du Canada comme communauté d'ensemble.*

- General Council 41 update and process of Nominating of Commissioners

Rosemary introduced herself and presented using a Power Point presentation:

The GC planning committee had a 3 day meeting in Ottawa at Carlton University, for making connection and showing identity, for preparing proposals, to keep General Council 41 focused on the theme, etc. Proposals must be in by the middle of March 2012. The Conference Executive Secretary is very much involved in preparing and organizing music, and has approached Stephanie Coward-Yaskiw who is a local coordinator of local musician. Rosemary asked if you can think of local musicians to inform her. Carolyn Ruda requested needles, crochets hooks and wool, all which will be part of creating knitting for outreach missions.

Barbara Reynolds and David Stafford of Ottawa Presbytery are co-chairs of the Local Arrangements committee for the GC41. If anyone would be interested in volunteering they can visit the Ottawa Presbytery website for application forms. Ruth Richardson will be offering, for half the regular cost, an accredited program that is recognized by Saint John's Ambulance. Successful candidates will be qualified to offer first aid during General Council 41.

Discussion

Question: Would there be a half-day devoting time to explore Ottawa. Answer: Yes. Military Chaplains will be leading a tour amongst other things that are still in the process of being prepared.

It is disappointed that worship will be conducted exclusively at Carlton.

The bulk of Children's Program and Youth Programs will be facilitated.

Rosemary discussion on the Commissioner Selection Process:

2012 GENERAL COUNCIL COMMISSIONERS SELECTION PROCESS

Approved by Synode Montreal & Ottawa Conference Executive November 2011

The procedures for election of Synode Montreal & Ottawa Conference Commissioners to General Council are as follows:

MOTION (SCHEDULED FORM)

Whereas: the new convention of leadership adopted by the executive, involves the President, President-Elect and Past President integrally in the planning, visioning and operations of the conference; and whereas the conference needs to be *au fait* with the vision and plans of the General Council of the United Church of Canada: it is moved that the distribution of the 26 Commissioners to be nominated and elected for General Council at the AGM be as follows:

- 17 Commissioners - nominated by the presbyteries
- 5 Commissioners - (Intentional/Protected) to include
 - The President
 - The President-Elect
 - The Past President
 - Two General Council Executive Representatives
- 4 Elected at large at the AGM, with the understanding that normally at least one will be a youth Commissioner.
- 26 Total (13 clergy + 13 lay) with the aim of achieving an age and gender balance.

ried (one opposed)

GC RULING 97-001-R

Conference, not Presbytery/District, has duty to elect Commissioners; practice of allowing Presbytery/District preferential nominations is unacceptable (UCC 423)

At the **34th General Council**, a motion was passed encouraging conference to elect at least 10% of its General Council commissioners from persons up to age 30, and that at least one of these be 20 or under.

GC41 Synode Montreal & Ottawa Conference is entitled to send **23 commissioners** –

- Balance of lay and ministry personnel.
- **20** commissioner names are obtained from presbytery nominations – two lay and two order of ministry personnel from each presbytery.
- **Five persons are elected commissioner by office** (Past-President, President, President-Elect, 2 representatives to General Council Executive).
- **Three** are elected as **youth and young adult** commissioners (30 years of age or under).
- **Three** positions will be open for election on the floor of the Annual Meeting.
- 1. Each Presbytery is invited to nominate up to **four** persons, at least one of these 4 people would be 30 years of age or under and the 4 would include **two lay persons and**

two ministry personnel. (*Ordained, Diaconal & Designated Lay Ministers – The Manual 2007-423(a)*)

The Conference strives for a balance of experienced and new commissioners. Experience or inexperience are not considered as categories, but nonetheless, General Council experience is a valuable asset and is one consideration.

Note: “Experience” for purposes of the biographical sketch and selection process of the Conference Nominations Committee will mean having attended a previous meeting of the General Council or having served on General Council Executive, Divisions or Committees.

To be elected, Commissioners must attend the M&O Annual General Meeting and will be expected to attend a one-day orientation event held in Lachine (normally in late June, early July). They can also expect to make themselves available for reporting and discussion within the conference, especially in their home presbytery.

We encourage presbyteries to begin talking about nominations for commissioners in the fall of the year prior to the next General Council. Raising the issue on the floor of Presbytery would encourage folks to think about it ahead of time, for though it is a great privilege, it is a rather large commitment.

2. Each Presbytery will send its nominations to the Conference Nominations Committee by May 15, **along with a biographical sketch for each nominee.**
3. The Conference Nominations Committee will also ask the Conference Youth and Young Adult Committee to suggest some names for youth *and young adult* commissioners. The Conference Nominations Committee would choose a total of 3 nominees from YAYA and the Presbyteries' youth *and young adult* nominations.
4. The Conference Nominations Committee will select from the names submitted, six lay persons, six ministry persons, and three youth *and young adult* commissioners for election at the Annual Meeting of Conference. They will attempt to achieve balance (e.g. gender, urban/rural, age, experience, and varieties of ministry personnel) within the slate of twenty-three persons. Every effort will be made to send commissioners from within the boundaries of all Presbyteries; but Commissioners represent the Conference and are available to report to any Presbytery.
5. Three lists, in priority order, of alternate commissioners to General Council will be created by the Conference Nominations Committee – one ministry personnel, one lay and one youth *and young adult*. If alternates are needed, they will be taken in order from the appropriate list.
6. Nominations for the three remaining positions will be received through nominations at the Annual Meeting of Conference.

The Conference Nominations Committee will have done some work on those ahead of time, striving to maintain the balance of age, gender, status, language etc.

**# 8. Provide administrative effectiveness in the “art” of making Conference life happen –
Fournir l'efficacité nécessaire à la pratique de 'l'art de faire vivre' notre Synode**

- Church closing? Who knows/decides who gets what?

PROPERTY ISSUES UCC MANUAL

Rosemary made reference to correspondence regarding funds from assets sales.

Rosemary provided a copy of article 334 from The Manual:

“ 334 Amalgamate, Disband, Cease to Exist. The Presbytery shall have power to amalgamate, realign, reconstitute, relocate, or disband Pastoral Charges, Congregations, or Missions within its jurisdiction.

(a) Before amalgamating, realigning, reconstituting, relocating, or disbanding Pastoral Charges, Congregations, or Missions, the Presbytery shall hold separate meetings with the Pastoral Charge, Congregation, or Mission concerned, for the purpose of hearing and considering any proposals or representations that they or any of them may wish to make. Any Pastoral Charge or Congregation may empower the Official Board or Church Board or Church Council to represent it at any such meetings.

(b) Where two (2) or more Congregations are to be amalgamated by the Presbytery: (2010)

i. after consulting with the Congregations, and before any amalgamation takes place, the Presbytery must declare surplus the part or parts of the property of the amalgamating Congregations determined by the Presbytery no longer to be needed; and (2010)

ii. such surplus property shall be applied, either before or after the completion of the amalgamation, for such purpose for the benefit of the United Church as the Conference may determine.

(c) When amalgamating or realigning a Pastoral Charge, Congregation, or Mission with another Pastoral Charge, Congregation, or Mission, the Presbytery may attach conditions upon such amalgamation or realignment, including conditions respecting the assumption of liabilities and the disposition of assets.

(d) Where any amalgamation or realignment involves Pastoral Charges, Congregations, or Missions in separate Presbyteries, both Presbyteries shall consult and agree upon the conditions to be imposed, and obtain Conference approval.

(e) Where a Congregation has ceased to exist as of a specified date, either by the Presbytery approving a resolution passed by the Congregation to disband as of the specified date or by the Presbytery making a decision to disband the Congregation as of the specified date, all of its Property, Real and Personal, shall after that date be applied for such purpose for the benefit of the United Church as the Conference may determine after having consulted with the Presbytery. (2010)

(f) Where a Congregation has ceased to exist, the Presbytery shall take possession of the records of the Congregation and arrange through its Archives Committee to forward them to the Conference archives.”

Discussion

Regarding Calvary's records, they are at Northlea.

After the sale of a church building within the Montreal & Ottawa Conference, no monies are being allocated to go into a fund to help support Archives. Conversely, in other Conferences, 2, 5 and even 10 percent of the revenue generated from sales is set aside. The Montreal & Ottawa Conference has been fortunate with regards to Archives, as care for archival records is in large part paid for by the government. However, funding is still needed to support the work of the Conference Archivist and subcommittees within Archives, such as the Heritage fund. Therefore, Archives is making a motion which will ask that 10% of all funds generated from the sale of property within the Conference be set aside for them.

Rosemary provided examples of real properties (property belonging to the United Church of Canada), i.e., The United Church in Kanesatake, the manse in Harrington Harbour, Saint Columba House, and Église unie Pinguet.

When a church in a multiple point pastoral charge closes, the decision by the congregation is normally that the proceeds of the sale of the property will support the other churches within the pastoral charge. All decisions about dispersal of funds from the sale of the property must be made in consultation with the Presbytery, before the closing date of the congregation or the property reverts to the Conference.

The example of Seaway Valley Clusters was discussed, more specifically when a congregation continues to be serviced by a cluster but the cluster is not recognized as a congregational entity. i.e. Bethal. It has taken 5 years to figure out what to do.

With regards to the sale of a manse, the money generated from the sale is normally invested to help pay for housing allowances for minister.

If a congregation wants to buy a manse, permission must come from Presbytery.

There is a Handbook for Trustees which lists processes of buying or selling properties.

Question: Can Presbytery dictate percentages of where funds go? Answer: Only if the Pastoral Charge agrees to give a percentage to the Presbytery.

Question: Which part of the Presbytery negotiates with Pastoral Charge? Answer: It depends on the structure of the Presbytery.

Pastoral Charges consult Presbytery in the same way a Presbytery consults the Conference.

Rosemary makes reference to Toronto Conference Policy Governance Handbook.

Further discussion continued, and examples were provided to clarify issues surrounding the disposal of property, i.e, if a Church closes and gives its organ, and bell to Untied Church, The disposal of property must be voted upon by the congregation and recorded in the minutes.

The Chair of Montreal Presbytery informed the group of the Planning and Finance Committee's motion to be presented during tomorrow's meeting regarding receiving 40% of property sale.

5:30 Supper

Thursday Evening – Jeudi soir

6:45 Skype with Larry Richardson, Office Coordinator, Montreal & Ottawa Conference (Ottawa Office)

7:00 **# 5. *Ensure ways of providing a collective Conference voice on public Christian witness – S'assurer de faire entendre la voix collective du Synode comme témoignage chrétien sur la scène publique.***

- Tom Sherwood presents the AGM theme *“Listening is the Language of Love – Écouter, c'est aimer - Niakotahónsate ne Naron'khátshera ne Kanoron'kwátshera”.*

Tom Sherwood introduced himself: He had been working for the past 35 years within the Ottawa Presbytery as a United Church Minister. Now he works as the Ecumenical Chaplain at Carleton University. He is presently working on a McGeachy-funded project, researching the Echo generation.

Tom reiterated that the purpose of our spirituality is to grow in faith and love and to help others do the same. He says that this is a time to discuss ideas, knowledge and spirituality, as well as the AGM. Tom informed the group that his chosen theme will be “Listening is the Language of Love”. He drew the group's attention to the relationship between listening and discerning. He went on to say that discernment is the breath of a living spirituality. That it is the breathing of a living faith. That it is the breathing of a living church. Tom quotes Isaiah 43:18-19 “Do not cling to events of the past or dwell on what happened long ago. Watch for the new thing I am going to do Isaiah”

Tom mentioned his involvement in the McGeachy Research project of generation Echo (people born in the 80's) and provided snippets of what this generation is saying. In this project, Tom was commissioned to listen and learn. He draws on the metaphor of mothers who have been listening and loving us all of our lives as we have been growing.

Tom asked the group to identify biblical figures: “If _____ hadn't listened” After listing various figures Tom demonstrates that Listening is a biblical theme. He draws a parallel as he has been called to ‘listen to the Echo... echoes of generations’.

Tom spoke in further detail of his project, which is a funded United Church of Canada Research Project, lasting from 2009-2012. Its main focus is young adult spirituality, studying the particular demographics of the Echo generation (for which it has observed lower birthrates). The project is seen as listening ministry, one which is cultivating a listening church. Tom reminded the group that knowledge does not only flow downhill (elder to younger). Neither does wisdom and spirituality.

Tom explained to the group the phenomena of tides and magnetic hills, and used them to outline specific examples in the Bible and the following three main points:

- 1) Lines of deference
- 2) Paul in Athens
- 3) How shall we sing the Lord's song, in such a strange land.

Tom reminded us that Jesus challenges the lines of deference: "The first shall be last"

Tom reiterates that for the meeting of our Montreal and Ottawa Conference, he hopes mostly to listen. He says that many of us will speak, but we have an opportunity to be a community of servants listening to each.

Tom makes reference to Ethnography: a qualitative method aimed to learn and understand cultural phenomena which reflect the knowledge and system of meanings guiding the life of a cultural group.

Tom says that we need to exercise listening to the 'echo'. We need to prepare ourselves, in whatever ministry we may find ourselves, to receive many people with absolutely no Christian background. We need to reflect on the Biblical theology of listening versus proclamation.

Discussion

Question: Where is the love component in the presentation? How does the theme "listening is the language of love" evolve in the presentation?

Answer: Listening is vital, without it our sense of community is being lost.

Suggestions: Can time be allotted to demonstrate that there are other ministries? Can other models be looked at?

Perhaps some more reflection on the Theology of resurrection

9:00 Refreshments

Synode Montreal & Ottawa Conference
Meeting of the Executive

Friday, November 4, 2011 9:00 a.m.

Villa St. Martin. Gouin Blvd, Montreal, Quebec

1. ***Opening Worship – led by Rev. Cathy Hamilton***

Rev. Cathy Hamilton began the Call to Worship with the lighting of the Christ candle. Cathy, accompanied by her violin, sang Psalm 46 (last verse Voices United 770), followed by singing “When Morning Gilds the Skies – *Quand le soleil se lève*” (versus 1-2 in French and 3-4 in English), Voices United #339. There was an opening prayer, then a Prayer of Confession (based on Deuteronomy 5:6-21 and Psalm 90 from “Before the Amen” p.200. Scripture readings were read: Matthew 10:7-16, Mark 1:35-39, Ephesians 4:4-7, 11-13. The worship service was printed of different colored paper representing each of the Presbyteries and Conference. Participants convened in groups to discuss the scripture passages, based on the paper colors of their worships, reflecting on what groups had posted on the door the day before, then Presbyteries and Conference members were asked to convene together and discuss what insights can be gained from the scripture passages, and to consider ways in which the church may be called to reform. In between both groupings the prayer “Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” was sung. There was time offered up for silent prayer for God’s guidance. The worship closed with A New Creed – *Confession de foi* (in the language of choice) and singing “The Church’s One Foundation – *L’église universelle*” (versus 1-2 in English and 3-4 in French), Voices United #331, followed by a Benediction.

2. ***Constitution (9:30a.m.)***

«Au nom de Notre Seigneur, Jésus-Christ, chef souverain de l’Église, et par l’autorité qui m’a été conférée par l’Assemblée Annuelle 2010 du Synode Montréal et Ottawa, je déclare ouvert, par la présente, l’exécutif du Synode Montréal et Ottawa et ses travaux dans l’intérêt du Royaume de Dieu.»

“In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the only Sovereign head of the Church, and by the authority of the 2010 Annual General Meeting of the Montreal and Ottawa Conference, I hereby declare this meeting of the Conference Executive duly constituted and to be in session for conducting the business which will properly come before it.”

IN ATTENDANCE:

Pasteur David Fines	Past President
Rev. Cathy Hamilton	President-Elect
Rev. Brian Cornelius	Clergy rep. to General Council Executive
Charlotte Griffith	Lay Representative to General Council Executive
Rosemary Lambie	Conference Executive Secretary
Pasteur Thierry Delay	Président, Consistoire Laurentien
Rev. Phyllis Smyth	Chair, Montreal Presbytery
Rev. Helen Hliaras	Representative, Montreal Presbytery
Rev. Diane Cardin	Chair, Ottawa Presbytery
Rev. Ed Gratton	Representative, Ottawa Presbytery

Dave McCormack	Chair, Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery
Rev. James G. Potter	Representative, Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery
Rev. Daniel Hayward	Chair, Seaway Valley Presbytery
Eileen Lavigne	Chair, Stewardship Committee
June Millar	President, United Church Women
Rev. Doug Stewart	Conference Personnel Minister (East)
Rev. Whit Strong	Conference Personnel Minister (West)
Joel Miller	Recording Secretary

REGRETS/ABSENT

Debbie Poirier	President
Larry Richardson	Ottawa Office Administrator, M&O
Rev. Angelika Piché	Chairperson, French Ministry Task Group
Gordon Garlough	Representative Seaway Valley Presbytery
Emmanuel Pradeilhés	Représentant Consistoire Laurentien

GUESTS/INVITÉS

Rick Balson	Chair of the AGM Planning Committee
Rev. Ryk Allen	Chair of Conference Mission Support

3. *Approval of Agenda:*

MOTION: (Cardin/Smyth) that the agenda be adopted as circulated. **Carried**

MOTION: (Hliaras/Lavigne) that the following people be corresponding members for this meeting: Rev. Ryk Allen, Mr. Rick Balson, Dr. Rev. Tom Sherwood, Rev. Doug Stewart and Rev. Whit Strong. **Carried**

4. *Minutes - Executive Conference Call Meeting of September 13, 2011*

MOTION: (Griffith/Potter) that the minutes be approved as circulated. **Carried**

5. *Business Arising from the Regular Meeting:*6.1. *Promote the spiritual support, pastoral care, and professional development of Ministry Personnel - Promouvoir le soutien spirituel, les soins pastoraux et le développement professionnel nécessaires au personnel ministériel.*

- i) Correspondence
- ii) **President's Report** (See Appendix A)

The Conference Executive Secretary read the President's report in her absence, who apologized because her report was not in the regular format as she has been unable to be as active as hoped with attending events, due to illness.

- iii) **Executive Secretary's Report** (See Appendix B)

This report always gets forwarded to the staff committee.

A mention was made that 6.7 of this report, where the initials should be SV and not QS. Also, verbal mention was made of the fact that the Griffith McConnell sale has not yet been completed (real property, belongs to Church.)

iv) **Presbytery Reports**

Montreal Presbytery (See Appendix C)

There has been the appointing of two committees:

1. To evaluate the French Ministries in Saint Adele, costs evaluation, etc.
2. To find a new location for the Presbytery. The Presbytery can no longer finance the present space pay at \$40,000. It is there hope to find a place where \$15,000 can be saved.

There was mention of mission work by Sean Fryday (Philippians) and Cindy Casey (Haiti).

Consistoire Laurentien (See Appendix D)

The Consistoire will be benefiting from the help of Angelika Piché and UTC for documents to be rendered in French (i.e. Les mots de notre foi) in preparation on the remits. Angelika will be working closely with the Presbytery to provide support in this endeavor.

Quebec Sherbrooke Presbytery (See Appendix E)

Ottawa Presbytery (See Appendix F)

Mission Strategy Group, very exciting venture, hoping for money from the Conference to add to current funds (\$18,000)

Seaway Valley Presbytery (See Appendix G)

Discussion of transformation models (next meeting to be held in Morrisburg, Ontario). November 28th 2011 is the vote for whether or not to carry on conversation regarding models and clusters.

The presence and delegation from Congregation of Christ was well received as they sat in on meetings. There was a good exchange of ideas.

There has been discussion for the potential sale of Bethal Church. Services are 99% held in Maynard.

There was held recently a covenanting service for Augusta and Genesis Cooperative.

Rideau Hill Camp surpassed its target this year; thoughts now have turned to reparations to cabins and keeping camp in working order.

- 6.2. ***Provide leadership in supporting Presbytery efforts to ensure that all Pastoral Charges have ongoing effective pastoral ministry and participate in the formation of new Ministry Personnel - Diriger et soutenir les efforts des consistoires pour que toutes les charges pastorales bénéficient d'un ministère pastoral efficace et sans interruption, et participent à la formation du nouveau personnel ministériel.***

i) **Correspondence**

- a) September 23, 2011 Bill Steadman, Executive Secretary Bay of Quinte Conference re an opportunity of participate in Alternate Dispute Resolution dialogue (*for information*)

Any or all of Whit, Doug and Rosemary are to participate in this discussion, depending upon timing.

- b) October 11, 2011 Arlen Bonnar, secretary Montreal Presbytery re licensing of Johanne Gendron to preside over the sacraments (*for action*)

Clarification

Johanne is Designated Lay in Training and Johanne meets the requirements; having one year in the church, and having the appropriate training. Johanne is presently with the St-Adèle Protestant Church, on property owned by Hotel Chantecler. This church, transitioning from an English-speaking congregation to a French-speaking congregation, has been a project lead by Montreal Presbytery to provide ministry in this area. There is currently a demand for the Sacraments from the congregation.

MOTION: (Hliaras/Hamilton) that that Montreal and Ottawa Conference concur with the request from Montreal Presbytery that Johanne Gendron be licensed to administer the Sacraments for the duration of her course of studies and placement on the Ste. Adele Pastoral Charge. **Carried**

- c) October 11, 2011 Arlen Bonnar, secretary Montreal Presbytery re Sacramental Elders (*for action*)

Letter was read aloud

- d) October 13, 2011 Lillian Roberts, Ottawa Presbytery Minister re a policy on Sacramental Elders for lay hospital chaplains (*for action*)

Letter was read aloud

MOTION: (Hayward/McCormack) that in light of the correspondence from both Montreal and Ottawa Presbytery, a study of the Sacramental Elder workbook will be undertaken by the Conference Education and Students Committee, with the power to consult others, and a report and recommendation be prepared for the March 2012 Executive meeting. **Carried**

Discussion

A policy for the Conference will be part of future conversations, based upon this work.

- ii) President's Report
- iii) **Executive Secretary's Report**
- iv) Reports from Continuing Education Funds, Education and Students, Interim Ministry, Internship and Educational Supervision, Interview Board, Prevention of Sexual Misconduct, Settlement

MOTION: (Delay/Smyth) That in order to give a fair interview to each inquirer coming to the Conference Interview Board, all requested information must be received by the Office Coordinator at least three weeks before the meeting. Failure to provide this information by the deadline are grounds for the Conference Interview Board to withdraw the Inquirer from the current round of interviews. **Carried**

Motion was amended to add the words: "are grounds for the Conference Interview Board to withdraw"

Rosemary provided feedback on this year's October's Conference Interview Board, mentioning the fact that there have been difficulties in the process, in regards to costs, to logistics, etc. Part of the challenge is that people are not getting things in on time. Doug has had discussions with E&S Chairs, resulting in the Motion. Those with documents ready and who are prepared to go through the Conference Interview Board process will do so.

6.3. ***Promote the co-ordination of strategic use of resources through exploring regional co-operation - Favoriser la coordination et l'utilisation stratégique des ressources en explorant les possibilités de coopération régionale.***

- i) **Correspondence**
 - a) June 22, 2011 (arrived September) Michael Blair, Executive Minister Communities in Ministry re appreciation for the contribution of \$50,000.00 to the new French Ministry Fund (*for information*)
 - b) August 31, 2011 Shanna Bernier, YAYA Virtual Desk re report and testimonials from youth and young adults who attended Rendez-Vous (*for information*)
 - c) August 31, 2011 Lisa Byer, Youth Group Leader Ste. Genevieve UC (Montreal) re report Rendez-Vous (*for information*)

d) August 31, 2011 Hilary Merritt, Ottawa Presbytery Youth Worker re appreciation and photos of Ottawa youth and young adults who attended Rendez-Vous (*for information*)

e) October 25, 2011 Cathy Hamilton re report from Les Basses Laurentides. (*for information*)

ii) President's Report

iii) Executive Secretary's Report

iv) **French Ministry Task Group, YAYA**

6.4. ***Promote efforts/initiatives/support of development and redevelopment of Pastoral Charges and Mission Units - Favoriser les projets de développement et de revitalisation des charges pastorales et des unités de mission, et soutenir les efforts dans ce sens.***

i) **Correspondence**

a) September 28, 2011 Jocelyn Bell, Managing Editor of UC Observer re article on Growing Churches (*for information*)

b) October 25, 2011 David Lambie, Secretary, Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery re applications from the Simply Supper Committee of Richmond-Melbourne United Church and the Eastern Region UCW for funding from St. Andrew's-Trois Rivières Fund (*for action*)

ii) President's Report

iii) Executive Secretary's Report

iv) **Report from Mission Support (*for action*)**

Mission Support Spreadsheet (See Appendix H)

Ryk explained that the committee met on Monday and Tuesday. 21 applications were received. Ryk also explained how the binders are divided up (looking at individual mission units). This year \$419,485.00 has been granted. \$4000.00 is the remaining unallocated balance. Ryk says that there were good discussions about all individual mission units and further explained a spreadsheet - Appendix H.

Because of the logistics for sending files to Toronto, granted funding will not arrive until after January 2012.

MOTION: (Griffith/Lavigne) that the Executive receive the report from the Mission Support Committee, and approve the recommended grants for 2012 **Carried**

MOTION: (Gratton/Hamilton) that upon the recommendation of the Montreal and Ottawa Conference French Ministry Task Group (September 19, 2011), the St-Andrew's Trois-Rivières Fund Committee recommends to the Executive approval of the grant of \$3740 from the St-Andrew's Trois-Rivières (French Ministry portion) Fund for Music Ministry at Paroisse Camino de Emaus de Église Unie, payable to the church treasurer. **Carried**

MOTION: (Potter/Delay) that upon the recommendation of the Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery Executive (September 29, 2011), the St-Andrew's Trois-Rivières Fund Committee recommends to the Executive approval of the grant of \$500 from the St-Andrew's Trois-Rivières (Quebec Presbytery Eastern Region portion) Fund for the United Church Women's gathering, payable to QSP treasurer. **Carried**

MOTION: (Potter/Cardin) that upon the recommendation of the Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery (October 20, 2011) the St-Andrew's Trois-Rivières Fund Committee recommends to the Executive approval of the grant \$1200 from the St-Andrew's Trois-Rivières (Quebec Presbytery Outreach portion) Fund for the Simply Supper Outreach Project, payable to the Richmond Melbourne Pastoral Charge. **Carried**

MOTION: (Griffith/Gratton) that the Trois-Rivières Fund Committee requests that the Montreal and Ottawa Conference Executive grant them the authority to approve requests as they are received to expedite the process of distributing funds, and then report to the next Executive meeting, including a brief statement of how the project met the purpose and the criteria of the fund. **Carried**

Motion was amended to include: "including a brief statement of how the project met the purpose and the criteria of the fund"

MOTION: (McCormack/Potter) that the Montreal and Ottawa Conference Trois-Rivières Fund Committee recommends to the Montreal and Ottawa Conference Executive that the Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery Trois-Rivières Fund Committee have the authority to approve requests as they are received to expedite the process of distributing funds, and refer the requests directly to the Conference Trois-Rivières Fund Committee and then report to the next Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery Executive meeting, including a brief statement of how the project met the purpose and the criteria of the fund. **Carried**

Motion was amended to include: "including a brief statement of how the project met the purpose and the criteria of the fund."

6.5. ***Ensure ways of providing a collective Conference voice on public Christian witness – S'assurer de faire entendre la voix collective du Synode comme témoignage chrétien sur la scène publique.***

i) **Correspondence**

- a) September 13, 2011 Aboriginal Ministries Circle re Framework for Cluster Groups Phase I (*for information*)
- b) September 30, 2011 Jamie Scott, General Council Officer: Residential Schools, copied on letter re application for language training and granting of \$100,000.00 for the Kawennenhas Project. (*for information*)

ii) **Reports from AGM 2012 planning, JGER, Native Concerns**

Further to theme discussion, AGM will be held from the 25th to the 27th May 2012

6.6. ***Provide an inspirational link between local United Church communities and the United Church of Canada as a whole community - Devenir un pont et une inspiration entre les communautés locales de l'Église Unie et l'Église Unie du Canada comme communauté d'ensemble.***

i) **Correspondence**

- a) October 2011 General Council Youth Forum Design Team re GC Youth Forum Publicity and Process (*for information*)

The deadline for applications is January 15th 2012. There will be over 90 youth delegates for Youth Forum (1 per Presbytery), ages range from 15-20. The distinction was made between Youth Forum and youth Commissioners. The group was reminded to let Conference know who these youth delegates will be.

iii) Executive Secretary's Report

MOTION: (Potter/Gratton) that having reviewed the present policy for electing General Council commissioners, and in respect to the Ruling regarding elections, GC RULING 97-001-R and the decisions regarding youth representation passed at the 34th General Council, and receiving the new allowed number of Commissioners, that the Montreal and Ottawa Conference accept a newly developed policy for the election of General Council Commissioners as discussed. **CARRIED**

“POLICY ESTABLISHED November 4, 2011:

Effective GC41 (2012), Synode Montreal & Ottawa Conference is entitled to send 23 commissioners –

- Balance of Lay and Ordered Ministry.
 - 20 commissioner names are obtained from presbytery nominations – two Lay and two Order of Ministry personnel from each presbytery.
 - Five persons are elected commissioner by office (Past-President, President, President-Elect, 2 representatives to General Council Executive).
 - Three are elected as youth and young adult commissioners (30 years of age or under).
 - Three positions will be open for election on the floor of the Annual Meeting.
1. Each Presbytery is invited to nominate up to four persons, at least one of these 4 people would be 30 years of age or under and the 4 would include two lay persons and two ministry personnel. (Ordained, Diaconal & Designated Lay Ministers – The Manual 2007-423(a))

The Conference strives for a balance of experienced and new commissioners. Experience or inexperience are not considered as categories, but nonetheless, General Council experience is a valuable asset and is one consideration.

Note: “Experience” for purposes of the biographical sketch and selection process of the Conference Nominations Committee will mean having attended a previous meeting of the General Council or having served on General Council Executive, Divisions or Committees.

To be elected, Commissioners must attend the M&O Annual General Meeting and will be expected to attend a one-day orientation event held in Lachine (normally in late June, early July). They can also expect to make themselves available for reporting and discussion within the conference, especially in their home presbytery.

We encourage presbyteries to begin talking about nominations for commissioners in the fall of the year prior to the next General Council. Raising the issue on the floor of Presbytery would encourage folks to think about it ahead of time, for though it is a great privilege, it is a rather large commitment.

2. Each Presbytery will send its nominations to the Conference Nominations Committee by May 15, along with a biographical sketch for each nominee.
3. The Conference Nominations Committee will also ask the Conference Youth and Young Adult Committee to suggest some names for youth and young adult commissioners. The Conference Nominations Committee would choose a total of 3 nominees from YAYA and the Presbyteries' youth and young adult nominations.
4. The Conference Nominations Committee will select from the names submitted, six lay persons, six ministry persons, and three youth and young adult commissioners for election at the Annual Meeting of Conference. They will attempt to achieve balance (e.g. gender, urban/rural, age, experience, and varieties of ministry personnel) within the slate of twenty-three persons. Every effort will be made to send commissioners from within the boundaries of all Presbyteries; but Commissioners represent the Conference and are available to report to any Presbytery.
5. Three lists, in priority order, of alternate commissioners to General Council will be created by the Conference Nominations Committee – one ministry personnel, one lay and one youth and young adult. If alternates are needed, they will be taken in order from the appropriate list.
6. Nominations for the three remaining positions will be received through nominations at the Annual Meeting of Conference.

The Conference Nominations Committee will have done some work on those ahead of time, striving to maintain the balance of age, gender, status, language etc.”

- iii) **Report from General Council Executive Representatives (Order of Day at 1 pm)**
- iv) **Reports from Communications, UCW**

United Church Women's Report (See Appendix I)

We are coming up on the 50th anniversary of the United Church Women. A booklet is selling to inform people of this milestone. There is presently a banner at Church House

commemorating the 50th anniversary. Each Conference is preparing a banner as well.

Thanks and appreciation extended to the committee for this report

6.7 ***Promote whole-life stewardship - Promouvoir le soutien de la vie dans ses diverses dimensions.***

i) **Report from Stewardship Committee**

Stewardship Committee Report (See Appendix J)

Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery really appreciated the committee's presence and support.

MOTION: (Lavigne/Gratton) That in acknowledging that the General Council will no longer be funding the Revenue Generation grants, the Montreal and Ottawa Conference Executive request the Finance Committee to review the 2013 budget adding a line for Stewardship Coordinator and the Mission and Service Enthusiastic Honorariums in the amount of \$15,000 annually. **Carried**

6.8 ***Provide administrative effectiveness in the "art" of making our Conference life happen. – Fournir l'efficacité nécessaire à la pratique de 'l'art de faire vivre' notre Synode.***

i) **Correspondence**

- a) October 20, 2011 Ed Gratton re policy on redistributing funds from sales of assets (*for information*)
- b) October 25, 2011 David Lambie, Secretary, Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery re surplus money from the Kenogami pastoral charge (*for action*)

MOTION: (Griffith/Smyth) that the Montreal and Ottawa Conference Executive concurs with the request of the Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery passed in a motion on October 19-20, 2011 at Maison Rivier in Sherbrooke. **Carried**

"The rationale is that the money from Kenogami came originally from the sale of the church building and was transferred to a fund to maintain the cemetery. Upon dissolution of the cemetery, the remaining money was returned to the Anglican Church and later to the United Church. According to the United Church Manual sec.334(e), said money should therefore be returned to the Montreal and Ottawa Conference.

The Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery received \$13,788 from the now disbanded Kenogami Cemetery and whereas the Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery has exhausted the reserve funds set aside from the Trois Rivières Fund for Eastern Region travel, and that there are three pastoral charges yet to support which lie far beyond the City of Quebec: Harrington Harbour, Metis Beach, and Sept-Isles, that Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery request that the M&O Conference designate the

\$13,788 from the Kenogami Cemetery to be used for Quebec Sherbrooke Eastern Region Travel.”

- c) October 24, 2011 (rec'd October 26) Nichole Vonk, General Council Archivist, copy of letter from Bob Stevenson, Archives and History Chair re changes to the Manual (*for information*)

iii) **Reports from Archives**

MOTION: (McCormack/Millar) that the Montreal and Ottawa Conference Executive receives the request and forwards to those who will deal with the policy on property the request of the Conference Archives Committee to designate 2 % of all proceeds from property sales received by the Conference to be retained for Archival work which is increasing as ministry sites are closing, disbanding and amalgamating. **Carried**

There are many requests that do come in to Archives at the Montreal & Ottawa Office. Archival space is free but records still need to be maintained. Details were provided which represented some of the work of Beverley Levine, Conference Archivist.

iv) **Finance**

Financial Report (See Appendix K)

MOTION: (Cornelius/McCormack) to accept the financial statements as prepared. **Carried**

8. **Future Meetings**

- Tuesday, January 17, 2012 – Conference call / 10 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- Tuesday, March 13, 2012 – in Lachine / 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; 1:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m. GC with commissioners
- Tuesday, April 24, 2012 – Conference call / 10:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.
- Friday, May 25, 2012-Sunday, May 27, 2012 – AGM at John Abbott College
- Tuesday, June 19, 2012 – Expanded Executive in Lachine, 10:00 a.m.-3:30 p.m.

ORDERS OF THE DAY:

12:00 p.m. - 12:45 p.m. Lunch

1:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

EXEC joined by General Council 40 Commissioners, conversation animated by Brian Cornelius and Charlotte Griffith preparing for decisions at the General C. Executive

Things being identified on the Agenda at GCE:**1. Pastoral Relations**

There has been wide spread consultation, aimed at specifying policy and financial implications, which will continue between now and March 2012. The sense is that there could be a shifting of most of the responsibility of Pastoral Relations Committees from Presbytery to Conference.

There was mention of the Pastoral Charge Assessments, aimed as assessing the effectiveness of any given ministry.

There will be sufficient professional paid staff to assist congregations

'Joint' leaves the process

The assessment of the effectiveness of Ministry Personnel would now be done using paid professional, and the conflict resolution process would now be using paid professionals.

A lot would rest on the shoulders of these new paid professional.

There are 13 positions currently existing and 17 more new professional positions planned. Costs would be shifted to Conference.

The goal is to simplify and ease the workload for current Pastoral Relation Committees

This is a policy change. There is support for the idea of trained professionals.

It is important that time is used efficiently surrounding this matter and it is not rushed.

United Church Crest

At both the Presbytery and Conference levels, the proposed changes to the crest have surprised many people.

One of the proposed changes is that the Latin words "that all may be one" will become "all my relations" written in Mohawk, identified by the Aboriginal Ministry Council as the initial First Nations language to connect with the United Church.

A video will be sent out explaining the changes.

Colors within the crest will be changed to include the colors of the 4 directions.

This work was born out of two motions brought to GC from its commissioners:

1. To better tell our historical story

2. To look at our crest

YAYA report

There is a Proposal to increase the Vision fund to \$100,000 to support creative new Youth Ministries

Youth Ministry Programs occur at 3 levels:

1. GC
2. Regional
3. Local

Extensive Pensions report

Rates are increasing in order to offset the economic climate. Nonetheless, the United Church of Canada Pension Fund is one of the strongest funds in Canada as a pension.

Accommodations report (location of General Council head office)

On January 1, 2015 the lease is up.

Working groups have suggested staying in Toronto area, moreover, somewhere on the Subway system. A Call went out for proposal to come from across the country. 20 were received. The 20 received were divided according to four categories (example and were given in the explanation of the following four locations:

1. North Bay school
2. Winnipeg revamped Hudson building / or on University
3. Ottawa Anglican building
4. Industrial space near the airport

Also being considered are Toronto church projects which are revamping their space.

Makes reference to General Council Report Book, available on line at <http://gc40.united-church.ca/en/gce/meetings2011> (click on Tab 'Full Workbook')

The plan involves moving from 60,000 square feet to 40,000 square feet.

Transgender Identity Working Group

There is consideration for modifying forms to include identifying transgender.

The purpose is to advocate a support system for transgender.

Changing the size from 50 to 30 on GCE

Representation stays the same but would be reduced to have half the amount of people, saving up to \$50,000 per meeting.

The shrinking of the General Council Executive does not involve staff cuts.

9. *Closing prayer – David Fines, Past-President*

10. *Adjournment*

MOTION: (Lavigne) that the meeting be adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Reverend David Fines
Conference Past-President

Rev. Rosemary Lambie
Conference Executive Secretary

Appendices:

Appendix A –	President's Report	Pages 106-107
Appendix B –	Executive Secretary's Report	Pages 108-110
Appendix C –	Montreal Presbytery Report	Pages 111-114
Appendix D –	Rapport du Consistoire Laurentien Report	Pages 115
Appendix E –	Québec-Sherbrooke Presbytery Report	Pages 116-117
Appendix F –	Ottawa Presbytery Report	Pages 118-122
Appendix G –	Seaway Valley Presbytery Report	Pages 123-125
Appendix H –	Mission Support Spreadsheet	Pages 126-127
Appendix I –	UCW Report	Pages 128-129
Appendix J –	Stewardship Report	Pages 130
Appendix K –	Finance Report October 31, 2011	Pages 131-134

Appendix A

President's Report

As Advent approaches, our congregations, missions, chaplaincies and youth ministries will soon embark on a pilgrimage of sorts ... to Bethlehem. It is a time of waiting, and a time of wonder. It is also a busy time of church calendars filled to the brim, of excitement and good cheer, as we ponder and celebrate the miraculous – the celebration of the birth of Jesus in our world.

The question that bears asking is this: When he arrives, will there be room in the inns of our hearts for him, or will we over-schedule and over-extend ourselves to the point where there is no time or space left for us to recognize God with us?

As a child, I waited eagerly through Advent for the baby Jesus to be born. And then again through Lent, I waited anxiously for the resurrection of our Lord, Jesus Christ. It's only as an adult that I came to understand that new birth and resurrection can occur anytime – in the most unexpected and unusual of places and circumstances. And so it is no longer enough for me to sit in silent anticipation through Advent and Lent. I feel compelled to prepare my Bethlehem heart to be open and ready to welcome Jesus the Christ throughout the entire year.

I wonder what would happen if we were all more intentional about leaving room for Jesus in the inns of our hearts. Such effort would require a radical adjustment in our thinking. The preparation of annual church budgets would no longer be an exercise in increasing the same money allocations by a few cost of living percentage points in order to continue the status quo in our church life. The church budget would begin with the dream of resurrection and new life, and the line items would flow naturally as a consequence of renewed hope and new vision.

Church reports would no longer only reflect what has been, but would also entertain the thought of what could be. Church bulletins would leave room for a few surprises! Church meetings would become electrified with the anticipation of witnessing Spirit move in new and unexpected ways. And perhaps when encountering strangers, we would see in them the face of Christ looking back at us, and we would respond with unconditional hospitality.

Indeed, such effort would entail radical transformation. And is that not precisely what the season of Advent is all about – the intentional and prayerful willingness to be changed forever by the birth of the miraculous?

One of my favorite books for the season of Advent is entitled *Kneeling in Bethlehem*, by Ann Weems. I share with you one of her poems:

In Search of Our Kneeling Places

In each heart lies a Bethlehem,
an inn where we must ultimately answer
whether there is room or not.
When we are Bethlehem-bound

we experience our own advent in his.
When we are Bethlehem-bound
we can no longer look the other way
conveniently not seeing stars
not hearing angel voices.
We can no longer excuse ourselves by busily
tending our sheep or our kingdom.

This Advent let's go to Bethlehem
and see this thing that the Lord has made known to us.
In the midst of shopping sprees
let's ponder in our hearts the Gift of Gifts.
Through the tinsel
let's look for the gold of the Christmas Star.
In the excitement and confusion, in the merry chaos,
let's listen for the brush of angel's wings.
This Advent, let's go to Bethlehem
and find our kneeling places.

Blessings always,
Pastor Debbie Poirier
President
M+O Conference

Appendix B

Report of the Executive Secretary
Friday, November 4, 2011**Opening Remarks:**

“Abundance is not something we acquire. It is something we tune into.” Wayne Dyer

1. Promote the spiritual support, pastoral care, and professional development of Ministry Personnel - Promouvoir le soutien spirituel, les soins pastoraux et le développement professionnel nécessaires au personnel ministériel.

This work is being done quietly behind the scenes, supporting ministry personnel, sending notes, and meeting as deemed necessary by the staff. We have a number of ministry personnel on disability who get regular attention and others that need support on various personal issues. While the EAP system has proved helpful for some people, there are been discussion about creating pastoral care teams to assist in this important ministry of caring for each other.

2. Provide leadership in supporting Presbytery efforts to ensure that all Pastoral Charges have ongoing effective pastoral ministry and participate in the formation of new Ministry Personnel - Diriger et soutenir les efforts des consistoires pour que toutes les charges pastorales bénéficient d'un ministère pastoral efficace et sans interruption, et participent à la formation du nouveau personnel ministériel.

An Orientation Event was held October 17-18 with 12 participants, 6 male/6 female, 6 born into the UCC and 6 from other countries who have chosen the UCC, some much better actors than others, but all passionate about what they do.

The Conference Interview Board met with two candidates on October 25-26.

3. Promote the co-ordination of strategic use of resources through exploring regional co-operation - Favoriser la coordination et l'utilisation stratégique des ressources en explorant les possibilités de coopération régionale.

YAYA Virtual Desk has a weekly newsletter going to all presbyteries and is encouraging events through Twitter and Facebook with Shanna Bernier as the facilitator. There is a continued request that the presbyteries each have a committee to support the YAYA work and build connections locally. The November gathering in Lennoxville QC will be focusing on our theme of Living in Right Relationships with First Nations and various Elders will be providing leadership for the younger set.

The French Ministry Task Group met on September 16 to review the experience of “Église Unie des basses Laurentides” which held two Sunday afternoon regional services, in Cushing and at Belle-

Rivière, and to address the resignation of Rev. Darla Sloan from Ministries in French. There is great concern about the future of this work, and the need for other projects as we work to share our resources and build ministry opportunities.

4. *Promote efforts/initiatives/support of development and redevelopment of Pastoral Charges and Mission Units - Favoriser les projets de développement et de revitalisation des charges pastorales et des unités de mission, et soutenir les efforts dans ce sens.*

The Mission Support Committee met by conference call on September 21, and together on November 1-2 to bring recommendations for funding requests supported by Mission Support funds.

5. *Ensure ways of providing a collective Conference voice on public Christian witness – S'assurer de faire entendre la voix collective du Synode comme témoignage chrétien sur la scène publique.*

The Native Concerns Committee celebrates with Kanesatake United Church response to an application for funding to do Mohawk language training. The United Church has awarded us \$100,000.00 for this project which is a joint effort with two other Mohawk reservations, sharing the skills of the Elders.

The AGM planning committee is working toward AGM 2012, “Listening is the Language of Love – Écouter, c’est aimer - Niakotahónsate ne Naron'khátshera ne Kanoron'kwátshera” May 25-27 at John Abbott College and theme speaker Tom Sherwood will present ideas to the Executive as part of the retreat.

6. *Provide an inspirational link between local United Church communities and the United Church of Canada as a whole community - Devenir un pont et une inspiration entre les communautés locales de l'Église Unie et l'Église Unie du Canada comme communauté d'ensemble.*

The autumn has been a season of celebrations and I participated in several – the 50th anniversary for Northlea in Laval, the Union United concert for launching their financial campaign to rebuild, the dedication of the William Ridley Tower at Westmount Park and the launching of Le Passerelle, a new French ministry cooperative venture between Montreal Presbytery (Southwest and St. Andrew's, Delson) and le Consistoire Laurentien (Église St. Jean).

I also spent two weeks in Toronto attending the Staff Leaders meeting, a gathering for Conference Executive Secretaries, and a planning meeting for the General Council 41 to be held in Ottawa in 2012.

Following the November General Council Executive, I will travel to the Philippines for two weeks to represent the United Church at their general meeting, to meet with global partners, to visit with human rights workers and local people who work in the Canadian mines, and to visit projects supported by the UCC Mission and Service Fund.

7. *Promote whole-life stewardship - Promouvoir le soutien de la vie dans ses diverses dimensions.*

The Stewardship Committee held an event on October 29 in Lachine (MP & CL) with a Halloween theme,

featuring Barbara Fullerton and Jackie Harper as theme speakers. More events are scheduled for 2012-

February in Kemptonville (SV) and Waterville-Hatley-North Hatley (QSP) and in Ottawa in April (OP).

8. Provide administrative effectiveness in the “art” of making our Conference life happen. - Fournir l'efficacité nécessaire à la pratique de 'l'art de faire vivre' notre Synode.

Final sale of the Griffith-McConnell Seniors Home in Montreal is still pending.

Questions have arisen in four of the presbyteries recently about property sales, and distribution of resources. A discussion will be held as part of the retreat to address these concerns.

Staff has been meeting at regular intervals, had a day together on September 16 and a staff retreat on November 3 prior to the Executive.

The Archives Committee met in Ottawa on October 26 for a tour of the new archives and to see how well our documents are being maintained, and how accessible information can be. Concerns were raised about the need for increasing work from our contract staff as ministry sites are amalgamating, disbanding and closing. It requires many hours of sorting material above the regular. A motion was prepared to present at the Executive. They also expressed serious concerns about the proposed changes to the Manual specifically in the area of Archives and copies will be given to those representing the Conference at the General Council Executive meeting in November.

A Finance Committee meeting planned for October 25 was postponed but a conference call will be scheduled for December.

Respectfully submitted,

Rosemary Lambie (Rev.)
Executive Secretary

Appendix C

Report of the Montreal Presbytery

This report covers the September and October Presbytery meetings as well as September and October Executive meetings. The September Presbytery meeting was held in the Sanctuary at Westmount Park United Church. The October Presbytery meeting was held at St. Lambert United Church.

Special Guests

- Ms. Eileen Lavigne, Conference Stewardship was a guest speaker in September
- Carolyn Ruda, Mission and Service support person was a guest speaker in October
- Recipients of the Hugh Duncan bursaries received a scholarship of \$2,000 each and Institute Français Évangélique (IFE) recipients receive \$650 each. Eight recipients were able to attend the Presbytery meeting. Each Recipient introduced himself/herself.
- Ms. Lisa Byer and a number of youth reported on their experiences RENDEZ-VOUS (RDVS) 2012. Rev. Hummel requested that the Vision and Transformation Committee, in dialogue with the Executive, consider the possibility of setting up a process to keep the Youth connected to the Presbytery. The Presbytery is looking for 4 youth reps
- Rev. Shaun Fryday spoke about his experience as an observer for the national elections that took place in the Philippines in 2010. He was stationed in the northern part of Louzon in the Abra Province. Churches in the Philippines are asking supporters to give a voice to the voiceless and stand up to mining companies. Rev. Fryday reported that he had returned to the Philippines in the Summer of 2011 to lay the groundwork for an exposure trip to this area, slated for early 2012. A team of people across Canada, along with the Right Rev. Bill Phipps, will work alongside the United Church of Christ in the Philippines studying human rights and environmental issues. It is hoped that eight to ten people from the Montreal region will take part with the intension of establishing a church to church partnership program.
Motion: (Shaun Fryday/David Clinker) that the Montreal Presbytery endorse the objectives as set out in the October 4, 2010 letter from the Church of Christ in the Philippines Ilocos Sur - Abra Conference and be used as guiding principles in establishing covenant for life Partnerships for those congregations, ministry sites and individuals who may wish to participate. Carried

Another initiative set out for those participating in the exposure trip will be to write a report to be presented at the upcoming 41st General Council of the United Church of Canada. A second report will be prepared to go before the House of Commons asking the government to conduct its own study on the Canadian mining industry in the Philippines.

The Chair thanked Rev. Fryday for his initiative and dedication to these causes.

- Cindy Casey, Haiti Relief Group, reported that she and Claire Cameron (both members of the Haiti Relief Group) traveled to Haiti in August 2011. The purpose of the trip was to 1) meet with Methodist partners in Haiti 2) meet with the General Secretary of the YMCA in Haiti and 3) visit the Dominique Literacy Centre in St Roc founded by Claire Cameron. There was no water or electricity at the literacy centre. A water filtration unit was brought to the centre so the children, staff, and their families would receive clean water. The filtration units were bought with the financial support of congregations, UCW's, and individual members from the Montreal Presbytery. The Centre cost \$800 per month to operate. Each congregation was asked to provide \$180 per year toward the cost.

Budget Scenario and Priorities / Criteria

- The Presbytery and Finance and Extension Board face the challenge of aligning the fulfillment of its tasks with the responsible, sustainable and predictable management of its resources while remaining faithful to the mission of animating the ministry of Jesus Christ.
- The Finance and Extension Board presented the 2012 Budgets for information and it will be voted on at November Presbytery.
- Mr. Rod Young presented the Presbytery 2012 budget for information. To be voted on at the November Presbytery.
- Mr. Braman presented a motion regarding reducing rental costs, one of a number of expense reduction recommendations being put forward.
Motion: (Fred Braman/Roger Snelling) that the Executive recommend that Montreal Presbytery form a select committee of three persons to review viable alternatives for the Presbytery and the Finance and Extension Board office space on the basis that Presbytery requires space for 3 offices, accounting/storage and a small committee room and that the select committee make a recommendation to the Presbytery to conclude such arrangements on the basis of an overall cost of \$25,000 annually (a saving of approximately \$15,000 annually) and a starting date as early as March 31, 2012 and the select committee is authorized but not required to include existing United Church properties in its review, and that such a select committee be appointed by the Executive.

Chair's Report

- On September 7th the Chair, along with other members of the Presbytery, attended the Second Global Conference on World's Religions After 9/11. His Holiness the Dalai Lama spoke in the morning session.
- On September 10th the Chair was invited to attend the ordination of two auxiliary bishops at Mary Queen of the World Cathedral. Jean-Claude Cardinal Turcotte ordained Bishops Christian Lépine and Thomas Dowd.
- On September 11th the Chair presided at the covenanting service of Rev. Elisabeth Jones and the congregation of Cedar Park United Church.
- The chair reported that she had attended the memorial service for Rev. Ann Hall.
- The Chair and Secretary of the Presbytery met with Mr. Anthony Mansour, executive director of the Canadian Centre for Ecumenism and communicated the need for more involvement of the churches from the Reformed tradition in the activities sponsored by the Center.
- The Chair attended a meeting of the Finance and Extension Board and found it helpful to connect with this body.
- The results of the questionnaire distributed at the September meeting will be shared at the November Presbytery.
- The Chair noted the upcoming 25th anniversary gala for Rev. Steve Gillam at Dorval Strathmore United Church.
- Northlea United Church is celebrating its 50th anniversary and the Chair will be present at the Sunday service.
- The Chair will attend the upcoming concert launching the capital campaign for Union United Church.
- Wendy MacLean represented the Montreal Presbytery at the special service for La Passerelle
- Secretary Arlen Bonnar is being married

Secretary's Report

- The Secretary informed the court that Church of Canada Overseas Personnel Chris and Susan Ferguson have been reassigned and will depart for Colombia before the end of September 2011

Remits

- The Secretary introduced the following General Council remits that will be voted on at the November Presbytery meeting.
 - Remit No. 4 – Frequency and Timing of Conference Meetings
 - Remit No. 5A – Appointment of Designated Lay Ministers
 - Remit No. 5B – Presbytery Membership of Designated Lay Ministers
- The Faith Development Committee will co-ordinate a conversation at the Presbytery level on Remit 6 Declaration of Church Doctrine. The Committee will hold a one

hour discussion before the November presbytery meeting and use the study document *Our Words of Faith*.

Ad Hoc Committees

- The Executive request that the Chair of the Montreal Presbytery appoint a working committee to assess the future viability of the French ministry project at Ste-Adele Protestant Church and report to the Executive. Those named to the ad hoc committee are Marc Grenon (Vision & Transformation), Heather McClure (educational supervisor), Rick Sheffer (Administration & Finance), Helen Hliaras (Education & Students), Darryl Macdonald (Pastoral Relations), Doug Stewart (Conference Internship Committee)

Erskine and American Trust Fund

- The Committee recommended 2011 grants totalling \$18,785.00

Mission Support

- Mr. Roger Snelling presented the 2012 Mission Support recommendations. The Conference Mission Support will meet in November to discuss our recommendations. The Presbytery portion of Mission Support will be voted on at the November Presbytery.

Church Closure

- St. Andrew's United Church (Lachine) had requested to disband after 193 years of continuous worship. The church building was constructed in 1834 and constitutes the oldest church building on the Island of Montreal.

Special Events

- The Passion and Politics of Islam - A Discussion of Christian-Muslim Relations; Misconceptions and Issues with Raheel Raza. Ms. Raza is an author, award winning journalist, public speaker, documentary film-maker, playwright, intercultural and interfaith diversity consultant. The first event will take place Monday, November 7, 2011 at SouthWest United Mission. The second will take place Tuesday, November 8, 2011 at Cedar Park United Church.

Pastoral Relations

- that the Montreal Presbytery appoint Rev. Reg Jennings as Pastoral Charge supervisor for Richelieu Valley Pastoral Charge effective October 11, 2011. Carried

Other

The Executive is in the midst of discussing the Armenian Evangelical Church.
Appendix D

CONSISTOIRE LAURENTIEN
RAPPORT POUR L'EXÉCUTIF DU SYNODE M&O – LE 4 NOVEMBRE 2011
Présenté par le pasteur Thierry Delay

1. **Promouvoir le soutien spirituel, les soins pastoraux et le développement professionnel nécessaires au personnel ministériel.**
2. **Diriger et soutenir les efforts pour que toutes les charges pastorales bénéficient d'un ministère pastoral efficace et sans interruption, et participent à la formation du nouveau personnel ministériel.**
 Les postes pastoraux de Drummondville-Mauricie et de St-Pierre & Pinguet sont vacants et chaque paroisse a mis sur pied un comité de recherche. À St-Pierre & Pinguet, Denis Fortin a été nommé comme pasteur suppléant jusqu'à la repourvue du poste. À Drummondville-Mauricie, plusieurs personnes assurent les cultes mensuels et le comité CRPF du Consistoire assure la supervision de la paroisse.
 Le 2 octobre, un culte d'alliance a été célébré pour le pasteur Edouard Barbezat à l'Église Unie St-Marc à Ottawa.
3. **Favoriser la coordination et l'utilisation stratégique des ressources en explorant les possibilités de coopération régionale.**
 Le Consistoire Laurentien était représenté le 23 octobre à l'Église Unie Sud-Ouest au culte d'inauguration de La Passerelle, une nouvelle mission en français dans la région de Verdun et de Delson sur la rive-sud, sous la responsabilité de Marco Ste-Marie agent pastoral laïque en formation. Cette nouvelle mission en français est une collaboration entre le Consistoire de Montréal, le Consistoire Laurentien, le Synode M&O et les Ministère en Français.
4. **Favoriser les projets de développement et de revitalisation des charges pastorales et des unités de mission, et soutenir les efforts dans ce sens.**
 Le Consistoire Laurentien soutient le nouveau projet de communautés de bases lancé par l'Église Unie Camino de Emaus à Laval, NDG et sur la rive sud.
5. **S'assurer de faire entendre la voix collective du Consistoire comme témoignage chrétien sur la scène publique.**
6. **Devenir un pont et une inspiration entre les communautés locales de l'Église Unie du Canada et l'Église Unie du Canada comme communauté d'ensemble.**
 L'événement "Rendez-Vous" du mois d'août et le réseau YAYA du Synode là permis aux jeunes du Consistoire Laurentien de créer des nouveaux liens et des invitations et visites réciproques ont déjà eu lieu.
7. **Promouvoir le soutien de la vie dans ses diverses dimensions.**
 Grâce à la collaboration du Séminaire Uni, des réunions d'information seront proposées aux paroisses du Consistoire Laurentien pour les aider dans l'étude du document "Les mots de notre foi" en vue du renvoi modifiant les Bases de l'union.
8. **Fournir l'efficacité nécessaire à la pratique de "l'art de faire vivre" de notre Consistoire.**
 L'Exécutif du Consistoire Laurentien se réunira le samedi 28 janvier 2012 à Montréal.

Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery Report to M&O Conference Executive
for November 3rd and 4th, 2011

The Presbytery met on October 19th and 20th in Sherbrooke.
The next plenary will be February 7th in Cowansville.
The Presbytery Executive will meet on November 24th, 2011.

1. Promote the spiritual support, pastoral care, and professional development of Ministry Personnel.

- The theme of our presbytery meeting was “Seeking Right Relations”, and our facilitator in examining this topic was Ed Bianchi, from Kairos. He led us through the “blanket exercise”, where we learned about the history of our first nations people. Our worship throughout our presbytery also supported the theme.
- We have had three covenanting services in Granby, Magog and Cowansville respectively, and have been graciously welcomed in each community. The covenanting service for the Rev. James Wetherall and Chalmers-Wesley United Church in Quebec City will take place this next Sunday. The covenanting service for the Rev. Debra Kigar in Harrington Harbour and Chevier will take place, Nov. 13th, with Lynn Hamilton acting on behalf of presbytery.

2. Provide leadership in supporting efforts to ensure that all Pastoral Charges have ongoing effective pastoral ministry and participate in the formation of new Ministry Personnel.

- We feel very blessed to have ministry personnel in all of our pastoral charges that are able to support them, with the exception of United Steeples Pastoral Charge which is at present searching for a minister. The Rev. Mead Baldwin is helping them in that process.
- Our Presbytery Pastoral Oversight committee is making their triennial visits to the pastoral charges.

3. Promote the co-ordination of strategic use of resources through exploring regional co-operation.

- We do expect to have youth from other areas beyond our Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery, attending the Quebec-Sherbrooke youth forum in Lennoxville this coming weekend. This is due to the work of Shanna Bernier and we are very thankful for her efforts.

4. Promote efforts/initiatives/support of development and redevelopment of Pastoral Charges.

-
- In the United Eaton Valley Pastoral charge, the Birchton congregation had their closing service of the building. They are going to continue worshipping at Cookshire as they have been doing.
 - As mentioned previously, the Scotstown congregation is in the process of seeking out options for their two buildings as they will be closing formerly as a congregation no later than September 2012. The members will likely join the congregation in Cookshire.

5. Ensure ways of providing a collective Presbytery voice on public Christian witness.

- Nothing to add.

6. Provide an inspirational link between local United Church communities and the United Church of Canada as a whole community.

- The Presbytery Youth Forum will meet at Lennoxville United Church, November 4th to the 6th. The focus will be on native rights.

7. Promote whole-life Stewardship

- Eileen Lavigne spoke to our presbytery on stewardship and also had a workshop in the evening. Paul Sales also addressed the church as our special gift consultant and Carolyn Ruda spoke about the importance of the Mission and Service fund to our church mission, and she handed out certificates to the charges to recognize their support of the Mission and Service fund.
- As mentioned in the previous report to conference, a stewardship workshop is planned, to be hosted at Waterville next February.

8. Provide administrative effectiveness in the “art” of making Presbytery life happen.

- Administratively as part of our duty, our presbytery studied and then voted in agreement with the remits that came from General Council. We were helped in the explanation by the Rev. David Lambie. We will be dealing with the remits surrounding the faith statements in one of our future meetings.
- According to evaluations people indicated a good level of satisfaction with the business of presbytery over the two day meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Jim Potter

Appendix F

Ottawa Presbytery Report to M&O Conference

Promote the spiritual support, pastoral care, and professional development of Ministry personnel – Promouvoir le soutien spirituel, les soins pastoraux et le développement professionnel nécessaires au personnel ministériel (general overview of the status of presbyteries; includes JNACs, JSC etc)

- This fall Ottawa Presbytery has started a Prayer Cycle and a Prayer Circle. In the Prayer Cycle churches to be included in weekly congregational prayers are listed on the web site.
- Particular congregational prayers are offered weekly by a small group who gather for prayer. Reminders are included in each Sojourner, the Presbytery newsletter.
- Efforts are being made to incorporate worship throughout the Presbytery meeting, not just at the beginning and end.
- On October 1 a day long workshop was held to learn more about what it means to become an affirming presbytery. Dr. Allan Fielding and Rev. Dr. Phil Joudry were presenters in the morning and break out groups shared experiences in the afternoon.
- A support team has been working with Wesley United Church as they discern their future ministry.
- A supervision team has been working with the Ashton Munster pastoral charge for the past a nine months. Next steps are being discerned.
- Four JNACs are currently in place. (Barrhaven, Bell's Corners, City View and Parkdale).
- Four Joint Search committees are underway. (Centretown, Knox Edwards, Wakefield and Woodroffe)

Provide leadership in supporting Presbytery efforts to ensure that all Pastoral Charges have ongoing effective pastoral ministry and participate in the formation of new Ministry Personnel – Diriger et soutenir les efforts des consistoires pour que toutes les charges pastorales bénéficient d'un ministère pastoral efficace et sans interruption, et participant à la formation du nouveau ministériel (Continuing Education Funds, Education & Students, Interim Ministry, Internship and Supervised Education, Interview Board)

- We are pleased to announce the election of Rev. Elaine Beattie as the new Chair of E&S.
- On October 30 a covenanting service was held for Rev. Jenni Leslie, the first Called Minister at Kitchissippi United (an amalgamated congregation of Westboro, Kingsway and Northwestern churches).
- Glen Cairn United Church has been named as a Supervision Site, Rev. Brian Copeland as the Supervisor.
- A two day Resource fair was held October 21 and 22 with five workshops provided.
- We have nine Candidates in the ministry process, six Inquirers, seven in Discernment and have one DLM Applicant.
- A workshop was offered by Whit Strong for members of the Pastoral Relations committee.
- The Madawaska Institute for Religion and Culture have applied for \$1560 funding through the Stewart House Fund.
- Lillian Roberts is offering a gathering for clergy on Women in Ministry, Nov 17th – Self-Care Best Practices

Promote the co-operation of strategic use of resources through exploring regional co-operation – Favoriser la coordination et l'utilisation stratégique des ressources en explorant les possibilités de coopération régional. (Racial Justice Training, YAYA, French Ministries)

- At the covenanting service for Rev. Hilary Merritt (Youth and Young Adult minister) which was a part of the October Presbytery meeting, participants from Rendez-Vous 2011 gave a photo and oral presentation of their amazing experience.
- Covenanting for Life program will be presented at the November Presbytery meeting.
- Representatives from eight congregations are meeting with Garth Mundle to discern the future of their congregations in eastern part of west Quebec.
- The Presbytery has allocated \$5,000 for this purpose. A \$300 designated gift was also made.

Promote efforts/initiatives/support of development and redevelopment of Pastoral Charges and Mission Units – favoriser les projets de développement de revitalisation des charges pastorales et des unités de mission, et soutenir les efforts dans ce sens
(Mission Support, United Theological College, House of Lazarus, Rideau Hill Camp)

- The Mission Strategy working group has defined their Terms of Reference and these have been approved by the Presbytery.
- They are currently working on Guidelines for application of funds to support new ministries.
- We are aware of one initiative to develop a new congregation under with the focus of art and spirituality. The money from the M&O Reserve Fund (\$18,360) given to Ottawa Presbytery is being considered for use by this group.
- A task group is being established to look at camping in Ottawa Presbytery.

Mission Strategy Working Group Mandate
(Approved by Presbytery Sept. 13, 2011)

1. **Strategic Plans:** To encourage and resource the development and implementation of broad strategic plans and priorities for mission and ministry
 - a. in The Ottawa Presbytery as a whole, and
 - b. within groups of Pastoral Charges and United Church supported Ministries who share similar ministry and mission situations.
2. **Resource Inventory:** To develop an inventory of resources, organizations, networks, congregations and individuals which can be used by The Presbytery, groups of Pastoral Charges, Ministries, individual Pastoral Charges and Order of Ministry Personnel, to assist in the exploration, development and implementation of new ministry and mission initiatives.
3. **Opportunities and Challenges:** Through The Presbytery, to pro-actively encourage and inspire Pastoral Charges, Ministries and The Presbytery as a whole, to take seriously the opportunities and challenges for ministry and mission facing the church at this time, and into the future. (This would include, but not be limited to, issues of vitality, viability, amalgamation, worship experience, stewardship, closure, outreach to new constituencies, and spiritual growth and well-being for individuals and communities.)
4. **Changing Context:** To assist The Presbytery in pro-actively planning for changing ministry contexts and in developing guidelines for the use of assets which may become available at times of amalgamation or church closure.

5. Innovative Initiatives: To consider, in consultation with appropriate bodies within The Presbytery, proposals regarding new and innovative mission and ministry initiatives, and to assist in securing resources for these new initiatives, making recommendations to The Presbytery for approval, implementation, and oversight.

6. New Ministries Network: that the committee establish a formal relationship with the General Council New Ministries Network.

7. Reporting: that the Working Group report regularly to the Presbytery and the Executive and after two years, present a review of the mandate to determine any next steps.

Ensure ways of providing a collective Conference voice on public Christian witness – S'assurer de faire entendre la voix collective du Synode comme témoignage chrétien sur la scène publique (AGM Planning, Intercultural Ministries, JGER, Native Concerns)

- On Election Day Lillian Roberts and I attended an ecumenical prayer meeting.
- On October 23 Lillian represented the Presbytery at an interfaith service at the Synagogue.
- At the end of November, 10 members from the Presbytery will attend an Interfaith Breakfast on the Hill.
- At the November Presbytery meeting, Covenanting for Life will be introduced to the court in an hour long presentation. The Presbytery has voted to support this project.

Provide an inspirational link between local United Church communities and the United Church of Canada as a whole community – Devenir un pont et une inspiration entre les communautés locales de l'Église Unie du Canada comme communauté d'ensemble (General Council, Communications, UCW, green initiatives)

- The Local Arrangements Committee for GC41 continues to meet.
- All lead volunteers are in place at this time.
- The Presbytery web site has a form for all volunteers to fill out.
- At this time arrangements are being made to qualify interested persons to serve as First Aid personnel during GC41.

Promote whole-life stewardship - Promouvoir le soutien de la vie dans ses diverses dimensions (Stewardship Committee)

- Becoming mindful about Covenanting for Life is one way we are promoting whole life stewardship.

Provide administrative effectiveness in the « art » of making our Conference life happen – Fournir l'efficacité nécessaire à la pratique de « l'art de faire vivre » notre Synode (Finance, Baillie Fund, Staff Committee, Nominations Committee)

- We are working on naming a young adult to participate in the M&O YaYa Committee.
- Remits 4, 5A and 5B will be voted on at the Presbytery meeting November 8.

Appendix G

Seaway Valley Presbytery
Report to Montreal & Ottawa Conference Executive
November 3, 2011

- 1. Promote the spiritual support, pastoral care, and professional development of Ministry Personnel**
 - a. Rev. Andrea Harrison in the Williamstown-Martintown Pastoral Charge is has completed her sabbatical. Rev. Blair Paterson in South Mountain-Hallville will begin his sabbatical in the new year.
- 2. Provide leadership in supporting Presbytery efforts to ensure that all pastoral charges have ongoing effective pastoral ministry, and participate in the formation of new Ministry Personnel**
 - a. Presbytery Pastoral Relations is stretching to provide all pastoral charges with called/settled, appointed, supply, or supervision ministry.
 - b. Presbytery approved Joint Needs Assessment Committee reports for Ingleside-Newington (changing the terms of settlement for Rev. Daniel Hayward from three-quarter to full time) and Knox-St. Paul's Cornwall (leading to the formation of a Joint Search Committee for a new ordered minister to call).
 - c. Covenanting services were held on October 1 with Rev. Kathy Petrie on the Augusta Pastoral Charge, and October 16 with Rev. Phyllis Dietrich in the Genesis Cooperative. Both were great celebrations of these ministries.
 - d. Education & Students chair Rev. Janet Evans served as chaplain for the October meeting of Conference Interview Board.
- 3. Promote the coordination of strategic use of resources through exploring regional cooperation**
 - a. Two of three area gatherings have been held to provide congregations with concrete information on the 'what' and 'how' of the transformation process in the Presbytery. What are the possibilities and options for congregations organizing themselves into districts? How can we get there – how will a process work to arrive at a new district organization? The gatherings are being facilitated by Rev. Garth Mundle, consultant to the Presbytery. Meetings have been held on October 22 (Knox-St. Paul's, Cornwall), with about 70 people attending, and October 29 (St. John's, Kemptville) with about 120. The last one will be on November 5 (Lakeshore Drive, Morrisburg). The next step is a vote in each congregation by November 28 on whether to enter into conversations with neighbouring congregations, and which district model – cluster or regional church – is of most interest.

4. Promote efforts/initiatives/support of development and redevelopment of Pastoral Charges and Mission Units

- a. Rideau Hill Camp is pleased that, with a target of 300 campers, summer 2011 saw 344 campers attend. Cabin and pool renovations are now necessary. There will be a fundraiser for the camp on November 19 at St. John's United Church, Kemptville.
- b. A gala fundraising evening marked the 25th anniversary of House of Lazarus on October 1, at Matilda Hall in Dixons Corners, with guest speaker Rev. Allen Tysick, the founder of the ministry.

5. Ensure ways of providing a collective Conference voice on public Christian witness

- a. As part of the initiative to create an international witness for peace during the War of 1812 Bicentennial in 2012-14, a delegation from the United Church of Christ's Black River-St. Lawrence Association attended the September Presbytery meeting in Ingleside. Presbyters greatly appreciated United Church of Christ participation in committee meetings for Partners in Mission, Pastoral Relations, and Education & Students, and were inspired by this denomination's slogan 'God is still speaking.'
- b. House of Lazarus is the co-organizer of a sustainable community forum for Dundas County, to be held on November 18 in Williamsburg.

6. Provide an inspirational link between local United Church communities and the United Church of Canada as a whole community

- a. The chair presented with consultant Rev. Garth Mundle and Rev. Donald Wachenschwanz, former interim minister at Knox-St. Paul's Cornwall, on the Seaway Valley experiment with district models to the symposium on the Future of Ministry at Queen's School of Religion in October.
- b. UCW continues to hold Presbyterials every two months, most recently September 13 at Vankleek Hill. There has been discussion of marking the 50th anniversary of the national UCW in 2012.

7. Promote whole-life stewardship

- a. Conference Stewardship chair Eileen Lavigne will present at the November meeting of Presbytery in Iroquois.
- b. The Presbytery is publicizing the February 11 Stewardship event at St. John's, Kemptville.

8. Provide administrative effectiveness in the 'art' of making Conference life happen

- a. The Nominations Committee filled a key gap in the Presbytery Executive since the elections at the June Presbytery meeting. With Rev. Donald Wachenschwanz's

departure for Renfrew Presbytery, Rev. Wendy Wright-Mackenzie has taken over as chair of Vision & Transformation.

- b. Presbyters are studying Remits 4, 5A and 5B for voting at the November meeting, and will be briefed on the process for Remit 6.

Appendix H

**Montreal and Ottawa Conference
2012 Mission Support Grants**

	2011 Grant			Request	2012 Grant			Differ/2011 M&O	From Unallocated	2012 Total
	Total	PBY	M&O		PBY	RECON	PBY			
Laurentien										
Camino d'Emaus	0		0	65,715	65,700	0	65,700	65,700	0	63,125
St. Jean	0		0	14,000	14,000	0	14,000	14,000	0	13,800
St. Pierre	0		0	48,000	48,000	0	48,000	48,000	0	40,000
Laurentien Total	0	0	0	127,715	127,700	0	127,700	127,700	0	116,925
							Allocation->	\$	-	
Montreal										
Auberge Madeleine	1,000	1,000	0	1,000	1,000	1,000	0	0%	0	0
Children & Youth Initiatives	1,500	1,500	0	2,000	1,000	1,000	0	0%	0	0
CAR	24,000	12,000	12,000	25,000	24,000	12,000	12,000	48%	0	11,500
Christ Church	6,000	2,500	3,500	0	0	0	0	N/A	-3,500	0
Concordia	8,000	4,000	4,000	15,000	9,000	4,500	4,500	30%	500	4,000
Hemmingford	10,000	5,000	5,000	15,000	8,000	4,000	4,000	27%	-1,000	4,000
Japanese	0	0	0	14,000	10,000	5,000	5,000	36%	5,000	4,000
Kanesatake	33,000	16,000	17,000	32,500	30,000	15,000	15,000	46%	-2,000	15,000
Lacolle/Clareville	4,000	2,000	2,000	5,000	3,000	1,500	1,500	30%	-500	1,500
LGBTQ	0	0	0	20,000	8,000	8,000	0	0%	0	0
McGill University	6,000	3,000	3,000	20,000	15,000	7,500	7,500	38%	4,500	7,000
Montreal City Mission	142,000	112,000	30,000	150,000	133,000	99,000	34,000	23%	4,000	32,000
Northlea	5,000	2,000	3,000	7,000	5,000	2,500	2,500	36%	-500	2,500
COCLA	37,200	17,700	19,500	57,500	25,000	12,500	12,500	22%	-7,000	12,500
St. Columba House	210,500	166,500	44,000	210,500	200,000	149,500	50,500	24%	6,500	46,500
Union, Montreal	36,800	17,800	19,000	56,500	40,000	20,000	20,000	35%	1,000	19,500
United Theological College	7,000	7,000	0	12,000	7,000	7,000	0	0%	0	0
Montreal Total	532,000	370,000	162,000	643,000	519,000	350,000	169,000	26%	7,000	160,000
							Allocation->	\$	-	

Montreal and Ottawa Conference
2012 Mission Support Grants

	2011 Grant			Request	2012 Grant			Differ/2011 M&O	From Unallocated	2012 Total
	Total	PBY	M&O		PBY RECOB	PBY	M&O			
<u>Ottawa Presbytery</u>										
Algonquin College	4,200	700	3,440	4,250	4,250	810	3,440	0	0	3,440
Aylwin	12,000	-	12,000	14,350	12,000	0	12,000	0	0	11,500
Carleton University	20,000	5,000	15,000	18,000	18,000	4,000	14,000	-1,000	0	14,000
Carlington Com. Chaplaincy	13,000	3,060	10,000	20,000	13,060	3,060	10,000	0	0	10,000
Centre 507	25,080	4,080	21,000	30,000	25,849	5,349	20,500	-500	0	19,000
Ottawa Westend Chaplaincy	15,060	3,060	12,000	20,000	15,060	3,060	12,000	0	0	10,000
Ottawa Total	89,400	15,960	73,440	106,600	88,219	16,279	71,940	-1,500	0	67,940
					Allocation->		\$ -			
<u>Quebec Sherbrooke</u>										
Bishops University			4,250	4,250	4,250	0	4,250	0	0	4,250
Harrington Harbour			19,500	23,000	23,000	0	23,000	3,500	0	21,750
Kinnears Mills/Inverness			6,000	0	0	0	0	-6,000	0	0
Mountain Valley			12,000	0	0	0	0	-12,000	0	0
Quebec Sher. Total			41,750	27,250		0	27,250	-14,500	0	26,000
					Allocation->		\$ -			
<u>Seaway Valley</u>										
House of Lazarus	45,000		45,000	47,000	47,000	0	47,000	2,000	0	44,620
Seaway Valley Total	45,000	0	45,000	47,000	47,000	0	47,000	2,000	0	44,620
					Allocation->		\$ -			
Grant Total			322,190	951,565		366,279	442,890	120,700	0	415,485
Unallocated										4,000
Conference Total								419,485		419,485
					<i>Total Amount Available for 2012</i>			419,485		419,485
					<i>Total Recommended by Presbyteries</i>			442,890		
					<i>Total amount Unallocated</i>			4,000		
					<i>Balance Available - Requested</i>			-27,405		
					<i>Amount Recommended by Committee</i>			\$415,485		
					<i>Funds Remaining</i>			0		

Appendix I

NATIONAL MEETING OF UNITED CHURCH WOMEN SEPTEMBER 23-25, 2011

Eileen Lavigne and I gathered at the Quality Inn, Toronto for the National Meeting of Presidents and Vice-Presidents of United Church Women, representing each Conference from across Canada, was an exiting time for all. Meeting the ladies whom I had met before and being introduced as “first timers”.

Leaving from home on Thursday, September 22nd until September 25th we had a packed-filled weekend. Under the leadership of Betty Turcott, National UCW President, led us graciously into this meeting. “Called to Become Who Welcome Women” was Betty’s theme for the weekend.

Eileen and I started off each day with a good breakfast at the hotel and then driving down to Church House with Dorothy Amos, Communities Ministries Unit.

Our first worship service began with Bay of Quinte leading. “Affirmation Welcome” was the theme.

We were asked to keep Joan Martin in our prayers. Joan represents the All Native Circle. Joan has had more than her share of grief and we wish her continued God’s blessing in the future.

Betty introduced Nora Saunders, General Secretary, who brought greetings from Church House and from the Moderator, Mardi Tindal, who was unable to be with us.

After a Nutrition Break, Rev. Michael Blair, the Executive Minister for the Communities in Ministry spoke about the changes being made at General Council Office. He spoke about the new unit – “Community in Ministry” of which he is in charge of which encompasses many groups including the UCW. It is a time of transition – challenge. Memberships in decline. It is very important to check on line in keeping with the changes of The United Church of Canada.

Each grace was offered by the ladies representing Newfoundland & Labrador East and West Districts.

Following a delicious lunch at Church House, we welcomed Pat Gilmore. Pat told us of the new books at the Resource Centre. Pat asked if we would all write letters to Church House to keep the Book Room going.

Rob Dalglish, Executive Director Network for Ministry Development was welcomed. Rob is in charge of ‘EDGE’. Rob gave an excellent presentation of how we live on the edge of a new day for the Church, for the world. Do we retreat, freeze or leap?.

Betty Turcott introduced Alcris Limog, Staff Resource UCW, Gender Justice, Racial Justice, and Sexual Minorities Program Coordinator in Communities in Ministry. She works very closely with Dorothy Amos. We discriminate again and again. She read James 2:2-4. No one keeps their own identity. Alcris told us to go home and take a look at our congregation.

Many congregations use the UPPER ROOM. They can only now be obtained by their office in the United States. There is a booklet out called THESE DAYS and can be ordered through UCRD.

Rev. David Armour, Director of Philanthropy, was introduced. Philanthropy is the new word for “Love for Humankind”, replacing the word “Stewardship”. He expressed thanks for donations received for the Mission & Service Fund. Financial support for the Mission and Service is changing lives around the world. We are feeding the hungry, sheltering the homeless, and speaking out for justice and peace.

In Ancaster, ON., the United Church Women will be gathering July 23 – 27, 2012 at Redeemer University College to celebrate the 50th Anniversary of United Church Women. Much has been done to make this a very special event. Each Conference is asked to present a UCW banner at this gathering. The planning committee will be holding a large cheque in size during the ceremonies, from the donations received for the Christian Council of Tanzania Morogoro Women’s Training Centre. They are still urging each UCW member across Canada to donate \$1.00 to this cause.

Following dinner at Church House, we were entertained by Brian Stevens and Diana Chappell. We sang many of the old time favorites. An evening to remember. At the 50th Anniversary of UCW in Ancaster, ON the song of “A Tapestry of Love” will be played and sung. Music and Lyrics by Diana and Brian arranged the music.

We said “goodbye” to those who had been with us for two years as President. Communion was served by Betty Turcott followed by vespers. Social time followed at the General Council Office.

Sunday morning we all went to Downsview United Church, part of the Toronto Conference. I felt quite at home as it is much the same size as my home church. We were welcomed by the Rev. Susan Howard, minister, who conducted the service. This was followed by going downstairs to have a delicious lunch.

This is when we said goodbye to those who would not be back with us but did hope to see many of them at the 50th Anniversary Celebrations in Ancaster, ON. in July.

Even though it was a 4 day meeting being put into a two days, Betty Turcott did a great job in keeping things under control. Eileen and I enjoyed our stay at Church House.

Following the meeting at Church House, an e-mail was sent to House of Lazarus, congratulating them on their 25th. Anniversary.

On October 19th the Executive met at Dorval/Strathmore U.C. to bring everyone up-to-date on events that had been finalized and to mention the 50th Anniversary of United Church Women in Ancaster, Ontario, July 23-27, 2012 asking for continued support for the “Morogro Project”; AGM at Shalom House, May 15 – 16, 2012, with Guest Speaker, Betty Turcott, National President of UCW.; Summer Event to be held in Dorval July 14-15, 2012.

It will be a busy year for many of us. With God’s blessings we give thanks.

Respectfully submitted,
June Millar, President, M&O Conference UCW

Appendix J

REPORT FOR CONFERENCE EXECUTIVE MEETING
NOVEMBER 3RD AND 4TH, 2011
FROM THE
STEWARDSHIP CHAIR

In September I travelled to Montreal to attend the Montreal Presbytery Meeting and I addressed the Court about the Stewardship Event scheduled for October 29th, 2011.

We also held a meeting at the Conference office with the Stewardship Chairs from each Presbytery, Denis Marcoux and Rosemary Lambie.

October 19th and 20th I attended the Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery Meeting in Sherbrooke, Quebec and addressed the Court as well as giving a Stewardship Workshop on the Wednesday evening.

Our event on October 29th was well received by those who attended. We were privileged to have Barbara Fullerton and Jackie Harper with us for the event. There were several displays for people to look at and learn about the work of the Montreal City Mission, St. Columba House, The Green Project, M&S Fund and Legacy Giving. The Rev. Rosemary Lambie led us in the opening and closing worship – Barbara gave the theme address and led two workshops – Jackie did a workshop entitled “Stewardship for Children” – Denis Marcoux’s workshop was on Narrative Budgeting, Carolyn Ruda’s on the M&S Fund, Paul Sales on Legacy Giving and I gave two workshops – one entitled “Stewardship in Worship” and “Asset Mapping”

Our next event will be held at St. John’s United Church in Kemptville, Ontario on February 11th, 2012. More information will be on the Conference website very soon.

Eileen Lavigne

Appendix K

Financial Report - 10/31/2011

REVENUE	10/12 months reported 83%		Actual 2011	% Act of Bgt	Budget 2012
	Actual 2010	Budget 2011			
General Council Grant	314,838	317,937	211,958	67%	322,755
Equalization Grant	12,000	12,000	12,000	100%	12,000
Presbytery Assessments	275,503	278,300	212,689	78%	281,100
Annual Meeting	20,321	24,500	19,106	78%	20,000
Interview Board	8,391	3,500	3,483	100%	7,000
Interest	19,029	7,500	-2,497	-33%	10,000
Other Income	0	0	116,140	N/A	0
BUDGET REVENUE	650,083	643,737	572,859	89%	652,855
Continuing Education	6,380	0	6,629	N/A	0
Revenue Generation	15,000	0	12,000	N/A	0
Heritage Fund	1,021	0	790	N/A	0
Mission & Service	2,200	0	2,876	N/A	0
Margaret Foyston Fund	24,683	0	0	N/A	0
James Baillie Fund	255,400	0	11,416	N/A	0
Trois-Rivières M&O	8,721	0	-1,884	N/A	0
Trois-Rivières QS	10,553	0	-2,308	N/A	0
Grand-Mere Fund	945	0	-208	N/A	0
TOTAL REVENUE	974,986	643,737	602,170	94%	652,855
EXPENDITURES					
Administration					
Audit & Accounting	6,382	6,000	2,144	36%	6,000
Conference Offices	77,685	74,350	58,828	79%	80,100
Equalization Grant	12,000	12,000	12,000	100%	12,000
Executive	5,303	5,650	3,667	65%	5,650
Finance	456	500	428	86%	500
President's Expenses	739	1,000	443	44%	1,000
subtotal	102,564	99,500	77,510	78%	105,250
Annual Meeting					
Planning Committee	1,263	1,250	1,390	111%	1,250
Meetings & ROP	67,836	79,000	70,758	90%	79,000
subtotal	69,099	80,250	72,148	90%	80,250
Annual Meeting Net	48,778	60,250	53,042	88%	60,250
Committees/Networks					
Archives	12,226	13,400	7,267	54%	13,300
Bike Tour	5,000	0	0		5,000
Communications	1,113	2,000	1,071	54%	2,000
Clarion	2,775	3,500	4,881	139%	3,500
Faith Formation & Ed	4,047	5,000	2,104	42%	5,150
French Ministries	198	0	386		0
Interview Board	11,527	9,000	5,128	57%	11,250
Justice, Global & Ecu.	1,721	2,100	1,617	77%	2,100
MEPS	2,288	4,500	4,921	109%	3,500
Mission Support	1,567	1,000	54	5%	1,700
Nominating	0	200	59	29%	200
Search & Recommend	351	0	62	N/A	0
Staff	614	900	487	54%	900
Stewardship	1,270	500	603	121%	2,000
Supported Ministries	0	500	200	40%	500
Vital Ministries	0	1,500	102,590	6839%	1,000
subtotal	44,697	44,100	131,430	298%	52,100

	Actual 2010	Budget 2011	Actual 2011	% Act of Bgt	Budget 2012
Staff					
Salaries & Benefits	342,101	356,000	259,114	73%	405,300
Continuing Education	1,280	5,250	2,170	41%	6,500
Hospitality	927	1,000	399	40%	1,000
Resources/Retreat	948	2,250	907	40%	1,000
Telephones	1,978	2,300	2,279	99%	2,300
Travel	18,142	22,000	14,961	68%	22,000
subtotal	365,375	388,800	279,831	72%	438,100
Appropriations					
Capital Fund	3,000	2,000	3,000	150%	2,000
Contingency Fund	0	0	0	N/A	0
Events Fund	0	0	0	N/A	0
Language Training	0	500	0	0%	500
Personnel Emerg. Fund	0	1,000	0	0%	1,000
Per. Min. Discretion	0	2,000	0	0%	2,000
subtotal	3,000	5,500	3,000	55%	5,500
BUDGET EXPENDITURE	584,735	618,150	563,919	91%	681,200
Unbudgeted Expenses					
Capital Fund	2,961	0	1,355	N/A	0
Contingency Fund	2,869	0	0	N/A	0
Events Fund	1,066	0	0	N/A	0
Language Training	550	0	600	N/A	0
Per. Min. Discretion	250	0	0	N/A	0
Personnel Emerg. Fund	1,000	0	5,000	N/A	0
Revenue Gen. Fund	13,251	0	9,327	N/A	0
Mission & Service	2,200	0	2,876	N/A	0
Heritage Fund	1,021	0	305	N/A	0
Continuing Education	6,380	0	1,825	N/A	0
Empire Animation Fund	1,500	0	0	N/A	0
TR - QS Fund Activity	4,600	0	0	N/A	0
TR - M&O Fund Activity	10,000	0	1,000	N/A	0
TR - GM Fund Activity	0	0	0		0
Margaret Foysten	24,683	0	0		0
Baillie Fund Activity	0	0	5,500		0
Subtotal	72,332	0	27,787	N/A	0
TOTAL EXPENDITURE	657,068	618,150	591,707	96%	681,200.00
Budget Surplus (Deficit)	65,347	25,587	8,940	35%	-28,345.00
Total Surplus (Deficit)	320,918	31,087	13,463	43%	-16,345.00
Fund Balances					
Capital Fund			12,600.45		
Contingency Fund			50,050.79		
Events Fund			12,543.73		
Language Training			3,820.00		
Per. Min. Discretion			9,252.42		
Personnel Emerg. Fund			21,079.26		
Continuing Education			14,393.66		
Heritage Fund			5,418.17		
Mission & Service			0.00		
Revenue Gen. Fund			275.82		
St. Andrew's -TR (M&O)			154,838.02		
St. Andrew's -TR (QS)			189,757.72		
Grand Mere Fund			17,060.29		
James Baillie Fund			512,551.72		
General Fund			209,292.16		

Financial Report
October 31, 2011

This report highlights pertinent financial information in the Financial Statement for year to date October 31, 2011.

Budget Surplus / Deficit

YTD Budget surplus is \$ 8,940. Presbytery assessments are now at 76% of the yearly budget, almost at budget. At this point, it is anticipated that the year-end will see a modest surplus. General Council Grant is only at 67% of budget, as we are still waiting for correct salary information

Revenue

Presbytery Assessments at 76% (note above)

Other Income is at 115,125. This amount is shown on the operating statement as a result of a transfer of funds from the Retained Earnings (surplus) as directed by the Conference Executive and the 2011 AGM.

- \$ 40,000 to be returned to the presbyteries (assessments) in the proportion of the 2011 assessments
- \$ 50,000 to be contributed to the New Ministries in French Fund (National)
- \$ 25,000 to be available for support for persons attending Rendez-vous 2011 in the amount of \$ 200 per person approved

Interest / Growth on Investment is now negative for the year, with operations showing approximately \$ 2,500 and non-budgeted at \$ 4,500 below breakeven.

Expenditures

- Vital Ministries is where the costs are accounted for: the Assessment Return (\$40,000), the contribution to New Ministries (\$50,000), and the Rendez-Vous 2011 grants (\$12,200 – 61 persons)
- Baillie Fund –YTD grants paid for support of youth in the Ottawa Presbytery – \$5,500 from an annual budget of \$ 25,000

YAYA

Budget: As directed by the AGM of 2010, the 2011 budget includes the following amounts to be available if the Conference Youth Minister position was filled at a 50% basis (following the established protocols with the presbyteries)

- Salary & Benefits - \$ 39,550 (which is made up of \$ 35,000 salary, and \$ 4,550 for travel, phone, and expenses)

Actual: As approved by the Conference Executive, a YAYA “virtual desk” position has been staffed since October 2010. The total amount approved for this position was \$ 10,000 to be funded from “surplus funds”.

The actual expenses for this position are accounted for and summarized on three lines in the financial statement (Salaries and Benefits, Telephones, and Travel)

At the direction of the finance committee, these expenses will be offset by the current year’s surplus (if any) otherwise a year-end adjustment will be made