

SECOND SEDERUNT

ASSEMBLY CONSTITUTED

At Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, on Monday, June fifth, two thousand and seventeen at nine-thirty o'clock in the morning, the Assembly met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator constituted the Assembly with prayer.

A SERVICE FOR COMMISSIONERS TO THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The Moderator led the Assembly in a service for commissioners that included vows of faith and commitment. The service concluded with prayer.

THE MODERATOR'S CHAPLAIN

The Moderator announced that the Rev. Dr. H. Christine O'Reilly will serve as his chaplain during the General Assembly. It was noted that Dr. O'Reilly will be available to commissioners who would like to bring prayer requests to the attention of the Moderator. She is also present to pray with commissioners.

COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS (cont'd from p. XXX)

The Assembly called for the report of the Committee on Business which was presented by M.R. McLennan, convener. The convener noted the agenda remains the same as that adopted at the first sederunt.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

COMMITTEE ON THE ROLL AND LEAVE TO WITHDRAW

The Assembly called for the report of the Committee on the Roll and Leave to Withdraw which was presented by D.R. Clarke, convener.

Receive and Consider

D.R. Clarke moved, duly seconded, that the report be received and considered. Adopted.

D.R. Clarke moved, duly seconded, that the regrets from D.J. Heagle (Presbytery of Niagara) be received. Adopted.

D.R. Clarke moved, duly seconded, that B.W. Kemp (Presbytery of Seaway-Glengarry) be granted leave to withdraw from the fifth sederunt. Adopted.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

COMMISSIONER ORIENTATION

The Principal Clerk led a commissioner orientation presentation. The purpose of the presentation was to help commissioners gain a better understanding of common procedures that often emerge during sederunts. With a humorous slide presentation, S. Kendall affirmed that a very important task of commissioners at the Assembly is to discern, prayerfully, the mind of Christ for the church.

REPORT ON SEXUALITY OVERTURES

The Assembly called for the report on Sexuality Overtures which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by B.D. Bertrand, Committee on Church Doctrine Convener, I.A. Ross-McDonald, General Secretary of the Life and Mission Agency, and T.C. Billard, Life and Mission Agency Committee Convener.

Receive and Consider

J. Lackie moved, duly seconded, that the report and recommendations of the Committee on Church Doctrine, the Life and Mission Agency Committee and the joint report of the Life and Mission Agency Committee and Committee on Church Doctrine, re Sexuality Overtures, be received and considered. Adopted.

It was noted that the Rev. A Currie and the Rev. J. Cameron are available as chaplains to commissions who wish to speak with them about concerns related to this report.

B.D. Bertrand, I.A. Ross-McDonald and T.C. Billard reviewed the reports and reviewed the recommendations included in them.

Recommendation No. 6 (p. XXX) was moved by M.E. Ruttan, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 3 (p. XXX) was moved by D.S. Woods, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 10 (p. XXX) was moved by P. Dutcher-Walls, duly seconded. Adopted.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

COMMITTEE ON BILLS AND OVERTURES

The Assembly called for the report of the Committee on Bills and Overtures which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by M. Sams, convener.

Receive and Consider

M. Sams moved, duly seconded, that the report be received and considered. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 1 (p. XXX) was moved by M. Sams, duly seconded.

Amendment

C.W. Little moved, duly seconded, that all the words after “that” be removed and be replaced with, “A special committee named by the Moderator to review Overture Nos. 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20 and 22 through 29, 2017 inclusive, with a view to identifying and summarizing common concerns and suggesting a comprehensive approach for further study, and report to a future sederunt of this Assembly, no later than Tuesday evening; and that Petition Nos. 1, 2 and 3, 2017, also be referred initially to this committee for review.” Adopted.

Recommendation No. 1, as amended, was adopted as follows.

That a special committee named by the Moderator to review Overture Nos. 10, 11, 12, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20 and 22 through 29, 2017 inclusive, with a view to identifying and summarizing common concerns and suggesting a comprehensive approach for further study, and report to a future sederunt of this Assembly, no later than Tuesday evening; and that Petition Nos. 1, 2 and 3, 2017, also be referred initially to this committee for review.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

BRIEFING PANEL 1

R.H. Smith, Assembly Council Convener; D.G.A. Muir, General Assembly Deputy Clerk; M. Repchuck, Committee on History Convener, were called forward to provide briefings and answer questions for clarification related to reports that would be presented later in the Assembly.

ASSEMBLY COUNCIL

The Assembly called for the report of the Assembly Council which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by R.H. Smith, convener.

Receive and Consider

M.R. McLennan moved, duly seconded, that the report be received and considered. Adopted.

Consent Recommendation

M.R. McLennan moved, duly seconded, that **Recommendation No. 3** (p. XXX), **No. 4** (p. XXX), **No. 13** (p. XXX), **No. 14** (p. XXX) and **No. 15** (p. XXX) be adopted by consent. Adopted.

Memorial Minute: The Rev. Dr. Tony Plomp

A memorial minute for the Rev. Dr. Tony Plomp, a faithful pastor and long-time servant of the courts of the church was highlighted for the court.

Recommendation No. 1 (p. XXX) was moved by M.R. McLennan, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 2 (p. XXX) was moved by M.R. McLennan, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 7 (p. XXX) was moved by M.R. McLennan, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 8 (p. XXX) was moved by M.R. McLennan, duly seconded. Adopted.

Motion to Reconsider

M.R. McLennan moved, duly seconded, pursuant to notice of motion (p. XXX) that the formula for the assets of dissolved congregation be reconsidered. (Assembly Council, Rec. No. 10, see p. XXX). Adopted.

Recommendation No. 9 (p. XXX) was moved by M.R. McLennan, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 10 (p. XXX) was moved by M.R. McLennan, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 11 (p. XXX) was moved by M.R. McLennan, duly seconded. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 12 (p. XXX) was moved by M.R. McLennan, duly seconded. Adopted.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

CLERKS OF ASSEMBLY

The Assembly called for the report of the Clerks of Assembly which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by D.G.A. Muir.

Receive and Consider

B.J. Fotheringham moved, duly seconded, that the report be received and considered. Adopted.

Proposed consent recommendations were placed before the Assembly. A commissioner requested that Recommendation Nos. 3 and 4 be withdrawn from the consent recommendations.

Consent Recommendation

J.M. Zondag moved, duly seconded, that **Recommendation No. 1** (p. XXX), **No. 7** (p. XXX), **No. 8** (p. XXX), **No. 9** (p. XXX) and **No. 10** (p. XXX) be adopted by consent. Adopted.

Recommendation No. 2 (p. XXX) was moved by J.M. Zondag, duly seconded.

Motion to Refer

J.T. Hurd moved, duly seconded that Recommendation No. 2 be referred back to the Clerks of Assembly. Adopted.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

ADJOURNMENT

Announcements having been made, the Moderator invited Mr. M.H. Mui to offer prayer in Cantonese. The Moderator then adjourned the Assembly to meet at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, on Monday, June fifth, two thousand and seventeen, at two o'clock in the afternoon, of which public intimation was given.