

## **FOURTH SEDERUNT**

### **ASSEMBLY CONSTITUTED**

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

#### **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. M.R. McLennan moved, duly seconded, that the agenda for the fourth sederunt be approved as presented. Adopted.

M.R. McLennan moved, duly seconded, that the Stewardship and Planned Giving department be granted permission to distribute *Presbyterians Sharing* bookmarks to commissioner tables. Adopted.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

#### **COMMITTEE ON THE ROLL AND LEAVE TO WITHDRAW** (cont'd from p. XXX)

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

D.R. Clarke moved, duly seconded, that the following commissioners be granted leave to withdraw: J. Dorland (Presbytery of Paris) from the fourth sederunt and E. Agbanou (Presbytery of Montreal) from the sixth to eighth sederunts. Adopted.

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### **BRIEFING PANEL 3**

B. Bertrand, Committee on Church Doctrine Convener; W. Adams, International Affairs Committee Convener; A. Currie, Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations Committee Convener, were invited to provide briefings and answer questions for clarification related to reports that would be presented later in the Assembly.

#### **INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**

The Assembly called for the report of the International Affairs Committee which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by W. Adams, convener.

##### **Receive and Consider**

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

**Recommendation No. 1** (p. XXX) was moved by H.D.R. Horst, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation No. 2** (p. XXX) was moved by H.D.R. Horst, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation No. 3** (p. XXX) was moved by H.D.R. Horst, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation No. 4** (p. XXX) was moved by H.D.R. Horst, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation No. 5** (p. XXX) was moved by H.D.R. Horst, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation No. 6** (p. XXX) was moved by H.D.R. Horst, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation No. 7** (p. XXX) was moved by H.D.R. Horst, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation No. 8** (p. XXX) was moved by H.D.R. Horst, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation No. 9** (p. XXX) was moved by H.D.R. Horst, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Report as a Whole**

H.D.R. Horst moved, duly seconded, that the report as a whole be adopted. Adopted.

**LIFE AND MISSION AGENCY COMMITTEE** (cont'd from p. XXX)

**Ministry and Church Vocations** (p. XXX)

**Recommendation No. 9** (p. XXX) was moved by J.R. Lackie, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation No. 10** (p. XXX) was moved by J.R. Lackie, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation No. 11** (p. XXX) was moved by J.R. Lackie, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation No. 12** (p. XXX) was moved by J.R. Lackie, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation No. 13** (p. XXX) was moved by J.R. Lackie, duly seconded. Adopted.

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**THEOLOGICAL COLLEGES**

**Knox College**

The Assembly called for the report of Knox College which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by the Rev. Dr. J.D. Gordon, Principal. Dr. Gordon was accompanied by Dr. Peter Ross, Convener of the Board of Governors.

**Receive and Consider**

A.J. Van Nest moved, duly seconded, that the report be received and considered. Adopted.

Dr. Gordon spoke enthusiastically about the college, the recent graduates and two new members of the faculty: The Rev. Dr. Esther Acolatse, Associate Professor of Pastoral Theology and the Rev. Dr. Angela Schmidt, Director of Experiential and Innovative Learning and Assistant Professor of Leadership.

**Minute of Appreciation: The Rev. Dr. J. Dorcas Gordon**

A minute of appreciation, recognizing Dr. Gordon's service as Principal of Knox College, was presented to the General Assembly by Dr. Ross.

Dr. Gordon was invited to address the Assembly. She expressed thanks for the privilege of serving the church at Knox College. She said, "I have known your encouragement over these 18 years. This is a time for gratitude to God for calling me to this position and to all of you for support offered. I have run this race with perseverance and endurance. I have run it with hope and joy."

**Recommendation No. 2** (p. XXX) was moved by A.J. Van Nest, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation No. 1** (p. XXX) was moved by W.J.C. Ervine, duly seconded. Adopted.

Dr. J.A. Vissers, appointed Principal of Knox College effective July 1, 2017, was invited to address the Assembly. He said, "I am indeed honoured and humbled by the privilege that has been bestowed upon me once again. I am passionate about Reformed theology and theological education. These are challenging times for our church, but with challenging times come the need for thoughtful theological education. I believe God has a plan for us going forward. What we need is strong leadership under the leadership of Jesus Christ, the only King and Head of the Church. I am so grateful for the trust you have placed in me tonight."

**Report as a Whole**

A.J. Van Nest moved, duly seconded, that the report as a whole be adopted. Adopted.

(Theological Colleges, cont'd on p. XXX)

**MACLEAN ESTATE COMMITTEE**

The Moderator invited Mr. David Phillips, convener, to speak to the Maclean Estate Committee report which, as printed on p. XXX, had previously been received and adopted by the Assembly (p. XXX).

Backed by a slide show illustrating the beauty of Crieff Hills Community and samples of some of the gatherings, Mr. Phillips spoke on the history, ministries, partnerships and plans of the community and the ecological stewardship of the land. Mr. Phillips announced that Managing Director, Mr. Lawrence Pentelow, is retiring effective the end of June 2018, after 15 years of leadership. A search for his successor has commenced.

#### **MODERATOR OF THE 142ND ASSEMBLY ADDRESSES ASSEMBLY**

The Moderator invited the Rev. Douglas H. Rollwage, Moderator of the 142nd General Assembly, to address the court.

Mr. Rollwage brought greetings from synods, presbyteries, congregations and colleges that he has visited from across Canada. He noted that it has been his privilege to bring the greetings of the Assembly in all the places he visited. With great enthusiasm he spoke of his visit to Korea where there are some 9 million Presbyterians including one congregation that has a membership of 100,000. He spoke of the missionary presence in Korea that brought the Bible and compassion for the lot of the struggling and the impoverished. Christians developed schools, hospitals and orphanages and over a period of a century Korea society transformed by the Christian faith. He also acknowledged the challenges facing the Presbyterian Church of Korea, such as materialism, relativism and declining birthrate. He said, "We have a mission, a purpose, a job to do. We don't have to settle for decline. Decline is not inevitable. Renewal and growth will come from a core within the heart of each and every congregation."

#### **WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY**

The Moderator invited Ms. Janet Brewer, President of the Women's Missionary Society, and the Rev. Sarah Kim, Executive Director, to speak to the report which, as printed on pages XXX–XXX, had previously been received and adopted by the Assembly (p. XXX).

Ms. Brewer told stories about the Presbyterian Women's Gathering that drew together women, and a few men, from across Canada and around the world. She stated the women are looking forward to the next gathering in 2020.

#### **ATLANTIC MISSION SOCIETY**

The Moderator invited Ms. Linda MacKinnon, President of the Atlantic Mission Society, to speak to the report which, as printed on p. XXX, had previously been received and adopted by the Assembly (p. XXX).

Ms. MacKinnon mentioned celebrations surrounding the 140th anniversary and spoke of the faithful mission service of the Atlantic Mission Society in Canada.

#### **PRESENTATION OF MINUTES (cont'd from p. XXX)**

The Principal Clerk announced that the minutes of the second sederunt have been posted on The Presbyterian Church in Canada website and a number of printed copies would be available in the Assembly Hall.

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#### **ADJOURNMENT**

Announcements having been made, the Moderator invited E. Agbanou to offer prayer in French. The Moderator adjourned the Assembly to meet at Queen's University, Kingston, Ontario, on Tuesday, June sixth, two thousand and seventeen, at nine-thirty o'clock in the morning, of which public intimation was given.