

PETITIONS – 2020

Interim Report, May 2020

NO. 1 – SESSION OF ST. ANDREW’S LAKESHORE

Re: Reassessment of pension contribution

WHEREAS, Lakeshore St. Andrew’s, a congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, in late 2018 suffered a serious decline in attendance and revenue due to a split in the congregation; and

WHEREAS, the congregation’s budget for 2019 was \$734,351, down from \$1.2 million in 2018, which forced the congregation to terminate three people from their positions and not renew two other employment contracts; and

WHEREAS, the calculated 2019 pension contribution of \$74,288.20 represented approximately 10 per cent of its total spending and was significantly out of proportion to reasonable budgeting; and

WHEREAS, the session of the congregation in 2019 temporarily reduced its annual contribution to \$12,000 rather than cut a staff position in order to pay the entire pension assessment; and

WHEREAS, the congregation has faithfully contributed to the pension fund for several decades and in the past 11 years alone has paid \$590,122.34;

THEREFORE, the Session of Lakeshore St. Andrew’s humbly petitions the Venerable, the 146th General Assembly to provide a special reassessment of its 2020 pension contribution to reflect the 2019 congregation dollar base rather than the 2018, and to provide complete forgiveness of past-due payments out of compassion and in light of the significant financial contributions the congregation has made to the pension plan, or do otherwise as the General Assembly, in its wisdom, deems best.

Transmitted with approval by the Presbytery of Essex-Kent.