

THE BOARD OF ST. ANDREW'S HALL

Interim Report, May 2020

St. Andrew's Hall is a college of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, located at the University of British Columbia in Vancouver. Established in 1955, St. Andrew's Hall exercises its provincial charter to teach theology through a partnership with the Vancouver School of Theology and an agreement with Regent College. The college is governed by a Board of Management comprised of individuals appointed by the General Assembly, with ex-officio members representing the Vancouver School of Theology. The Board of Management utilizes a shared governance approach, which recognizes that multiple groups within the institution participate in decision-making, such as faculty and staff. Specific groups are responsible for primary decision-making in clearly defined areas. Day to day operations of the institution is the responsibility of the Dean and executive staff. The board functions primarily at the policy level to provide vision and oversight to the management staff, assures that the terms of the college's partnership agreements are fulfilled and exercises legal fiduciary responsibility for the financial and real assets of the college.

The programs and activities of the college are strongly aligned with the fourteen major goals articulated in the strategic vision of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION

The primary mission of St. Andrew's Hall is to educate and form leaders for The Presbyterian Church in Canada and for the worldwide church. We fulfill this mission through a partnership with the Vancouver School of Theology, which is governed by a formal agreement between St. Andrew's Hall, the Vancouver School of Theology and The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Presbyterians constitute one-third of the regular faculty of the Vancouver School of Theology. The Rev. Dr. Robert Paul, Dean of St. Andrew's Hall, serves as Associate Professor of Mission Theology and chairs the pastoral theology committee of VST. The Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart serves as Director of Presbyterian Formation. The Rev. Dr. Richard Topping, Principal of the Vancouver School of Theology, is the St. Andrew's Hall Professor of Studies in the Reformed Tradition. The Rev. Dr. Pat Dutcher-Walls teaches Hebrew Bible and is Academic Dean of the Vancouver School of Theology. St. Andrew's Hall strongly supports the core mission of the Vancouver School of Theology, which is to prepare thoughtful, engaged and generous Christian leaders for effective service in churches and ministries in Canada and beyond.

Students may qualify for ordination in The Presbyterian Church in Canada by earning an M.Div. from the Vancouver School of Theology or with an M.Div. from Regent College that includes specified courses from Presbyterian faculty members of the Vancouver School of Theology. Other students transferring into The Presbyterian Church in Canada may qualify for ordination by taking courses stipulated by the Education and Reception Committee through St. Andrew's Hall and the Vancouver School of Theology.

Thirty-six Presbyterian students were registered with St. Andrew's Hall in the fall of 2019 for studies at the Vancouver School of Theology or through Regent College, up from 24 the previous year.

As determined by the vision statement developed by the board, St. Andrew's Hall focuses especially on developing missional leaders. Through the Centre for Missional Leadership, St. Andrew's Hall provides informal education and equipping to congregational leaders, church planters and missional practitioners in The Presbyterian Church in Canada and other denominations in and beyond Canada.

CENTRE FOR MISSIONAL LEADERSHIP

The Centre for Missional Leadership was established in 2015 to equip teaching and ruling elders to lead witnessing communities whose missionary disciples bless and mend God's world. The Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart serves as Director and Ms. Andrea Perrett serves as Associate in New Witnessing Communities. Dean Dr. Bob Paul and Dr. Darrell Guder, Senior Fellow, provide vision and guidance. Also supporting the work of the centre are the Rev. Sumarme Goble, St. Andrew's Hall Chaplain and Associate for Campus Ministries and Ms. Mavis Ho. Our aspiration is to enable the flourishing of Christian communities equipped for effective witness in the world.

The program of the Centre for Missional Leadership supports congregations through preaching and the resourcing of sessions, developing academic courses and hosting conferences and seminars focused on subjects such as church planting, new monasticism, creative methods of evangelistic outreach and forming missional leadership within

congregations. This year the Centre for Missional Leadership has supported the work of Cyclical PCC, a church-planting initiative within The Presbyterian Church in Canada, by providing leadership and hosting assessment sessions for candidates exploring church-planting. As a result of these programs, numerous congregations are exploring what it means to participate in the *Missio Dei* (mission of God) in the midst of our secular, post-Christendom culture. We are keen to share what God is revealing to us and we welcome guest-preaching and teaching opportunities.

QUALITY ACCOMMODATIONS AND HOSPITALITY

St. Andrew's Hall operates a residential facility for students studying full-time at one of the theological colleges or at the University of British Columbia. During the summer season, rooms are available on a short-term basis to all people. This facility is a vital source of revenue to the college and a venue for Christian witness and worship in the midst of the international, secular, multi-faith, youthful population that lives and works in the area of the university.

Our ministry of hospitality and witness is made possible by the efforts of a dedicated team. Dean Robert Paul serves as administrative head of the college and residential hall. He is ably supported by the Rev. Dr. Ross Lockhart, Ms. Mavis Ho as Executive Administrator and the Rev. Sumarne Goble as Chaplain. Residential hall operations are led by Ms. Mihye Park, Housing Manager, Ms. Valerie Kerekes, Finance Manager and Mr. Christopher Orr, Facilities Manager. They are assisted by Ms. Shiraz Dhillon in the housing office, Ms. Amy Lin in bookkeeping and Mr. Ram Kishore as Custodian. Ms. Silva Kraal, Ms. Yanfen An and Mr. Thomas Oldreive live in the residence hall and provide frontline services to fellow residents as Community Coordinators.

Weekly worship services in the Reformed tradition are held in the St. Andrew's Hall chapel throughout the academic year. The chapel also is home to a Korean language worship gathering for students on Thursday evenings, an Alcoholics Anonymous group and seminars and events sponsored by the Centre for Missional Leadership. In addition, special events are held throughout the year to foster community among our residents, to celebrate major Christian holidays and to share the gospel through small group discussions and Bible studies. We are committed to enacting the missional theology that we teach with all the resources at our disposal.

FINANCES

The Board of St. Andrew's Hall is grateful for the resources God has entrusted to us to prepare leaders for a church that serves the world God loves, including an annual grant from Presbyterians Sharing, which in 2019 represented 3.8% of our budget. We also received a significant estate gift of nearly \$4 million, dedicated to the education and preparation of Presbyterian ministers and leaders. This gift will support student bursaries and scholarships, the Centre for Missional Leadership, library resources and recruitment efforts.

Financial statements of the college are independently audited on an annual basis. An operating surplus was realized in 2019. The board is committed to utilizing our resources to enhance the sustainability and impact of our educational mission by ensuring the preservation of capital assets through strategic investments in program growth.

LEADERSHIP TRANSITION PLANNING

In November 2019, the Board of Management and the Dean began discussing and working together towards an orderly transition in leadership in light of the Rev. Dr. Robert Paul's pending retirement. A process began which involved preparing a position description, circulating the opening to Presbyteries, receiving nominations, updating the strategic plan of the college and appointing a search committee. The goal, if possible, is to present a nominee for appointment as Dean to the 146th General Assembly in June 2020.

MINUTE OF APPRECIATION

The Board of St. Andrew's Hall gives thanks for the ministry among us of the Rev. Dr. Robert (Bob) Paul at the conclusion of his service as Dean on June 30, 2020. Dr. Paul joined St. Andrew's Hall in 2015 after congregational service with PCUSA in Washington, Oregon and California. As Dean of St. Andrew's Hall, Dr. Paul has served as Professor of Mission Studies at the Vancouver School of Theology. The Board thanks Dr. Paul for his service to St. Andrew's Hall and wishes him well in retirement, including time with his new grandchild. The Board anticipates completion of the search process for a new Dean in May of this year.

Recommendation No. 1 (will be presented in final report to the General Assembly)