**THE LIFE AND MISSION AGENCY COMMITTEE**

**February 2, 2021**

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|  | The Life and Mission Agency Committee met by Zoom on February 2, 2021. Cindy Stephenson welcomed everyone.  |
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| **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TRADITIONAL INDIGENOUS TERRITORY** | We acknowledge that the national office of The Presbyterian Church in Canada is on the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Petun, Seneca and the Mississaugas of the Credit Indigenous Peoples and is part of the dish with one spoon treaty. We acknowledge that each of us live, work and worship on the traditional territories of hundreds of Indigenous peoples across the lands that are now called Canada.  |
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| **ATTENDANCE** | Life and Mission Agency Committee: Sampson Afoakwah, Janet Brewer (Women’s Mission Society), Charles Cook, Amanda Currie (Moderator of the General Assembly), Aubrey Hawton, Robert Griffiths (Atlantic Mission Society), Vivian Ketchum, Jeffrey Lackie, Marion Lade, Cheryl MacFayden, Donna McIlveen, Cathy Reid (Women’s Misison Society), Cindy Stephenson (convenor), Carol Stymiest (Assembly Council), Jo Szostak |
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| **STAFF** | Allyson Carr, Jennifer de Combe, Carragh Erhardt, Grace McCreary, Ian Ross-McDonald, Karen Plater, Tim Purvis, Katharine Sisk, Barb Summers, Glynis Williams, Grace McCreary, Colleen McCue (recorder) |
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| **REGRETS** | Jinsook Khang (Assembly Council), Allyson MacLeod, Andrea Perrett (PWS&D), Guy Smagghe  |
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| **OPENING WORSHIP**  | Katharine Sisk led the Committee in opening worship. |
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| **CONSENT AGENDA** | Items received and adopted by consent. On **motion** of Marion Lade / Donna McIlveen it was **agreed** that the Committee affirm the Convenor’s call for the Committee to meet. On **motion** of Marion Lade / Donna McIlveen it was **agreed** that the agenda be adopted by consent. |
|  | On **motion** of Marion Lade / Donna McIlveen it was **agreed** that the following policies be received for information and enacted, as needed. Policy 2.1.4 – Conflict of Interest Guidelines Policy 2.1.7 – LMA Committee Covenant of Order |
|  | On **motion** of Marion Lade / Donna McIlveen it was **agreed** that the minutes of the November 2-3, 2020 LMA Committee meeting be approved.On **motion** of Marion Lade / Donna McIlveen it was **agreed** that the report on Human Resources be approved with the understanding that the facts of transition may be updated before submission. On **motion** of Marion Lade / Donna McIlveen it was **agreed** that the report on Leading with Care be approved.On **motion** of Marion Lade / Donna McIlveen it was **agreed** that the report on Canada Youth be approved.On **motion** of Marion Lade / Donna McIlveen it was **agreed** that the nomination of Rev. Matthew Lingard to the Project Ploughshares committee be approved. |
| **COVENANT FOR RECONCILIATION** | Katharine Sisk provided an overview on the Covenant for Reconciliation, a response to the TRC’s Call to Action 46. A working group of the All-Parties has drafted Covenant text (which is itself the result of an initial broad consultation which included Mary Fontaine and Carragh Erhardt from the PCC.) Each member of the All-Parties is now seeking in-house consultation about the text itself and is seeking input and thought about how groups can or will live into the Covenant.  Three guiding questions were discussed by the Committee:* Does the draft text of the Covenant accurately reflect what you believe to be the intent of TRC Call to Action 46?
* Are there changes you would suggest?
* How do you see the Covenant connecting to the LMA Committee’s mandate and work?

The Committee discussed:* What are the next steps to ensure that signing the Covenant will be lived out in the life and work of the PCC? How can the Life and Mission Agency Committee and Assembly Council work in tandem to ensure that this happens?
* Need to look at how the Covenant connects with the mandate and work of the LMA. Are there places where the mandate of the LMA might need to be adjusted?
* Katharine will be invited back to future LMA Committee meeting to explore how the LMA can ensure that the Covenant is lived out in spirit and action.
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| **OVERTURE NO 5: INVESTING IN THE INDIGENOUS ECONOMY** | Katharine Sisk and Cindy Stephenson briefed the Committee on the development of a response to Overture No 5: Investing in the Indigenous Economy. The overture response is being developed in cooperation with the Trustee Board and the Investment Committee. A suggestion was made that the wording for Recommendation No 2 could be clarified. The reference to 2017 General Assembly and the benchmark of funding from dissolved congregations is confusing.  |
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| **GENERAL ASSEMBLY UPDATE** | Ian Ross-McDonald updated the Committee on plans for an online General Assembly June 6-9, 2021. PCBiz is an online platform that will be used for presenting reports and facilitating business for GA commissioners. The wider church will have the opportunity to follow the Assembly through live-streaming. |
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| **GENERAL ASSEMBLY REPORTS** | Cindy Stephenson reviewed the objectives for small group meetings with Associate Secretaries to review the GA reports for Canadian Ministries, Communications, International Ministries. Jen deCombe (Canadian Ministries), Barb Summers (Communications) and Glynis Williams (International Ministries) met with Committee members in small groups to review their General Assembly reports. The objective of the small group meetings was to review the GA reports and offer suggestions to help develop reports that are as clear and compelling as possible.  |
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| **Canadian Ministries**  | Committee members met with Jen de Combe in small groups to review the GA report for Canadian Ministries.  |
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| **Communications** | Committee members met with Barb Summers in small groups to review the GA report for Communications.  |
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| **International Ministries**  | Committee members met with Glynis Williams in small groups to review the GA report for International Ministries.  |
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|  | On **motion** of Marion Lade / Donna McIlveen it was **agreed** that the General Assembly reports for Canadian Ministries, Communications and International Ministries be approved. |
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| **POLICY REVIEW: 2.2.18 Canadian Ministries Manse Policy**  | Jen de Combe reviewed updates to policy 2.2.18 Manse Policy. On **motion** of Marion Lade / Donna McIlveen it was **agreed** that the updates to 2.2.18 Canadian Ministries Manse Policy be approved |
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| **POLICY REVIEW: GENDER SEXUALITY ORIENTATION AND FAITH ADVISORY COMMITTEE**  | Ian Ross-McDonald and Carragh Erhardt reviewed the development of Terms of Reference and the role of the Advisory Committee on Gender, Sexuality, Orientation and Faith. They reviewed the nominations to the Advisory Committee. On **motion** of Marion Lade / Donna McIlveen it was **agreed** that the Gender, Sexuality, Orientation and Faith Advisory Committee Terms of Reference be approved.On **motion** of Marion Lade / Donna McIlveen it was **agreed** that the nominations to the Gender, Sexuality, Orientation and Faith Advisory Committee be approved, with revised terminology regarding ecumenical representation. |
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| **ANNOUNCEMENTS** | * Cheryl MacFadyen shared that the news that she is planning to retire in the Spring and will not let her name stand for second term on the LMA Committee.
* There will be three vacancies on the LMA Committee – Vivian Ketchum, Jo Szostak, Cheryl MacFadyen
* Looking for additional members to serve on the LMA Nominating Committee. Please let Cindy Stephenson know if you are willing to serve.
* An online meeting of the LMA Committee is planned for March 1-2, 2021. Agenda to follow.
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| **CLOSING PRAYER** | The closing prayer was led by Cindy Stephenson  |
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| **ADJOURNMENT** | On **motion** of Rob Griffiths / Carol Stymiest it was **agreed** to adjourn the meeting.  |