

## **SECOND SEDERUNT**

### **WORSHIP**

The Assembly was led in worship by the Rev. Amanda Henderson-Bolton, who preached the sermon, with Susannah Hamilton and the Rev. Mark Chiang.

### **LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

M. Koslowski read the following Land Acknowledgement to the Assembly.

We come from a tradition steeped in an understanding of holy ground but we know that we are still learning how to walk humbly on that ground. Part of our learning to walk humbly is learning the history of the land and the history of the peoples first in relationship with it; who first cared for this land and what that relationship means to the people who were the first caretakers and who continue in that role today.

Those of us gathered here have come from many places that are the traditional lands and territories of many different First peoples. But today we acknowledge that the land we are gathered on here for our General Assembly is the traditional territory of the Mi'kmaq Nation; that they have cared for it and lived in relationship with it and with the plants, animals and waters around and within the land for thousands of years.

We acknowledge the importance and sacredness of this land to the Mi'kmaq people. We acknowledge the significance the land holds within Mi'kmaq cultural and spiritual practices and the rootedness of Mi'kmaq families and communities within the land we are gathered on today. We acknowledge the care of Mi'kmaq people who have protected the land and waters for millennia and who still care for and remain in relationship with the land today.

We acknowledge too that this territory is covered by the "Treaties of Peace and Friendship", which Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik peoples first signed with the British Crown in 1725, renewed in 1752. These treaties did not deal with surrender of lands or resources but rather recognized Mi'kmaq and Wolastoqiyik title. The treaties established the rules for an ongoing relationship; we acknowledge the treaties still stand.

Lastly, and only first having acknowledged the traditional peoples, the Mi'kmaq nation and the treaties that cover this land, we acknowledge our own identity and relationship with the land and the First Peoples as The Presbyterian Church in Canada, a church that participated in colonization. We acknowledge the harm we have done as well as the commitments we have made to redress that harm and in doing so, we lift up the ongoing work needed for healing and reconciliation.

### **ASSEMBLY CONSTITUTED**

At St. Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, on Monday, June 5, 2023, at 9:30 a.m., the Assembly met pursuant to adjournment. The Moderator constituted the Assembly with prayer.

### **A SERVICE FOR COMMISSIONERS**

The Moderator conducted a service for commissioners during which she called upon them to depend on God's strength and guidance, claim their vocation as servants of Christ, the living Word, rely upon the wisdom and inspiration of the Holy Spirit and maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace as they seek the mind of Christ for the church today.

### **YOUNG ADULT AND STUDENT REPRESENTATIVES**

The Moderator welcomed the Young Adult Representatives from across the country and Student Representatives from two of our seminaries and noted that the Assembly looks forward to their participation in the proceedings.

### **COMMITTEE TO ADVISE WITH THE MODERATOR**

The Assembly called for the report of the Committee to Advise with the Moderator which, as printed on p. XXX–XXX. The report was presented by S. Senior, convener.

### **Receive and Consider**

C.T. Grant moved, duly seconded, that the report be received and considered. Adopted.

**Recommendation ADV-001** (p. XXX) was moved by C.T. Grant, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation ADV-002** (p. XXX) was moved by C.T. Grant, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation ADV-003** (p. XXX) was moved by C.T. Grant, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation ADV-004** (p. XXX) was moved by C.T. Grant, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation ADV-005** (p. XXX) was moved by C.T. Grant, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Report as a Whole**

C.T. Grant, moved, duly seconded, that the report as a whole be adopted. Adopted.

**COMMITTEE ON BUSINESS**

The Assembly called for the report of the Committee on Business which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by J.I.F. Barrett, convener.

At the request of the Moderator, the Principal Clerk explained the consent recommendation process.

**Receive and Consider**

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

**Consent Recommendation**

D.R. Kendall moved, duly seconded, that the following recommendations be adopted by consent. Adopted.

|                  |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|------------------|
| BUS-001 (p. XXX) | BUS-002 (p. XXX) | BUS-003 (p. XXX) |
| BUS-004 (p. XXX) | BUS-005 (p. XXX) | BUS-006 (p. XXX) |
| BUS-007 (p. XXX) | BUS-008 (p. XXX) | BUS-009 (p. XXX) |
| BUS-010 (p. XXX) |                  |                  |

The convener drew attention to the report of the Committee on Education and Reception of the Life and Mission Agency and invited commissioners to address inquiries or discussion to the Ministry and Church Vocations Associate Secretary, T.R. Purvis.

**Notice of Motion**

The following notice of motion was placed before the Assembly by the convener.

I give notice that as a future sederunt, I will cause to be moved, that the Constitution of the Pension Plan be reconsidered. (Pension and Benefits Board, Recommendation PAB-004, p. XXX)

(cont'd on p. XXX)

**COMMITTEE TO NOMINATE STANDING COMMITTEES – INTRODUCTION**

The Moderator called upon C.E. Wilson, convener of the Committee to Nominate Standing Committees to introduce that report.

C.E. Wilson announced that proposed changes to the names in the report of the Committee to Nominate Standing Committees must be submitted for the committee's consideration through the General Assembly Office Senior Administrator, T. Hamilton, by Monday, June 5 at 5:00 p.m.

C.E. Wilson also announced that with the recent resignation of a member of the Pension Board and a member of the Trustee Board, there are two vacancies to be filled. She encouraged commissioners to make recommendations to the committee. The original report of the Committee to Nominate that was posted on PC-Biz had been revised to show these vacancies.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

## **RECORDS OF ASSEMBLY, SYNODS AND ASSEMBLY COUNCIL**

The Assembly called for the minutes of the 2022 General Assembly, the several synods and the Assembly Council, that they might be placed in the hands of the committee appointed to examine them. The Principal Clerk announced that the minutes and records were present for examination by the Committee to Examine Records and will be considered by the General Assembly following examination.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

### **COMMISSIONER ORIENTATION**

The Principal Clerk reviewed some of the common General Assembly procedures and explained how aspects of PC-Biz will be employed at this Assembly.

### **ATLANTIC MISSION SOCIETY**

The Assembly called for the report of the Atlantic Mission Society which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by R. Griffiths, president.

This report contained no recommendations.

R. Griffiths noted the purpose of the Atlantic Mission Society and highlighted some of the ministries carried out in the past year.

#### **Report as a Whole**

M.G. Sampson moved, duly seconded, that the report as a whole be adopted. Adopted.

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

The Assembly called for the report of the Women's Missionary Society which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by C. Reid, president. C. Reid addressed the Assembly via Zoom video conference.

This report contained no recommendations.

C. Reid highlighted some of the local and world ministries of the Women's Missionary Society, including the 125th anniversary of ministry and service in the Bhil Field in India.

#### **Report as a Whole**

L.A. Blane moved, duly seconded, that the report as a whole be adopted. Adopted.

### **TRUSTEE BOARD**

The Assembly called for the report of the Trustee Board which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by P.G. Bush, convener.

#### **Consent Recommendation**

K.E. O'Brien moved, duly seconded, that the following recommendation be adopted by consent. Adopted.

TRB-001 (p. XXX) TRB-002 (p. XXX)

#### **Additional Motion**

J.M. Miller moved, duly seconded, that on the basis of the past three years, the Trustee Board create a demographic projection of the next three years and report to the next Assembly. Adopted.

#### **Report as a Whole**

K.E. O'Brien moved, duly seconded, that the report as a whole be adopted. Adopted.

### **PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH BUILDING CORPORATION**

The Assembly called for the report of the Presbyterian Church Building Corporation which, as printed on p. XXX, was presented by D. Phillips, chair of the corporation.

This report contained no recommendations.

D. Phillips explained the background of the corporation, highlighted some of the current work and noted the board's availability to congregations. He expressed thanks for the board of directors and for the leadership and expertise of Betty Kupeian, the Chief Operating Officer.

**Report as a Whole**

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

**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 J.M. Murray, convener.

**Consent Recommendation**

J.M. Murray moved, duly seconded, that the following recommendations be adopted by consent. Adopted.

BOV-001 (p. XXX)    BOV-002 (p. XXX)    BOV-003 (p. XXX)  
BOV-004 (p. XXX)    BOV-005 (p. XXX)    BOV-006 (p. XXX)  
BOV-007 (p. XXX)

**Report as a Whole**

J.M. Murry moved, duly seconded, that the report as a whole be adopted. Adopted.

**INTERNATIONAL ECUMENICAL GUESTS**

The Moderator invited Life and Mission Agency General Secretary, Ian Ross-McDonald, to introduce the Rev. Nakae Yoichi, Moderator of the 56th General Assembly of the Korean Christian Church in Japan and wife Mihwa Hwang, as well as the Rev. Byungho Kim, General Secretary of the Korean Christian Church in Japan. David McIntosh, the Coordinator for the Centre for Minority Issues and Mission in Japan, served as translator. The Moderator welcomed them.

The Rev Nakae Yoichi said, "Although I am Japanese, I was elected by the Korean Christian Church in Japan to serve as Moderator. I would like to believe that this may be one small indication of God's intention for the Church to be a place that transcends divisions of nation and ethnicity." He reminded the Assembly that at a time when the Korean Peninsula was overtaken by Japan, many Koreans were forced or enticed to move to Japan where they faced much discrimination. Starting with the first missionary to arrive in 1927, L.L. Young, The Presbyterian Church in Canada has sent 34 missionaries to serve with us. We are grateful for these missionaries who walk with us through difficult times." Mr. Yoichi acknowledged the recent passing of three of those missionaries. Joyce Davidson, Clara-Beth McIntosh, and Roger Talbot.

The Rev. Nakae Yoichi presented the Moderator with two stoles that bear the crest of the Korean Christian Church in Japan. David McIntosh revealed that his father, Jack McIntosh, designed the symbolic features of the crest.

**CLERKS OF ASSEMBLY**

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

**Consent Recommendation**

N.A. Ellis moved, duly seconded, that the following recommendations be adopted by consent. Adopted.

CLK-003 (p. XXX)    CLK-004 (p. XXX)    CLK-006 (p. XXX)  
CLK-008 (p. XXX)

**Recommendation CLK-001** (p. XXX) was moved by N.A. Ellis, duly seconded.

**Motion to Refer**

D.P. Allen-Macartney moved, duly seconded, that Overture No. 8, 2019, be referred to the Committee on Church Doctrine to report back to a future General Assembly. Adopted.

**Recommendation CLK-002** (p. XXX) was moved by N.A. Ellis, duly seconded. Adopted.

**Recommendation CLK-005** (p. XXX) was moved by L.V. Hargrove, duly seconded.

(cont'd on p. XXX)

**Moderator Gift**

The Principal Clerk presented a painting of the Halifax harbour by a local artist to the Moderator to mark the occasion of her election to the office.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Announcements having been made, the Moderator adjourned the Assembly with prayer, to meet at St. Mary's University, Halifax, Nova Scotia, on Monday, June 5, 2023, at 2:00 p.m., of which public intimation was given.