

**Saskatchewan Conference
Minutes of the Ninety First Annual Meeting
Of the Saskatchewan Conference of
The United Church of Canada**

Day One – Session One
(Thursday, May 24th – 2:00 pm)

Singing in the Main Meeting Area with Heather Macnab, Andrew Hecker, and Chelsea Cox, collectively known as West of the Third

Welcome and Lighting of the Christ Candle

President Krystal Sheremeta introduced herself, and personally welcomed all to the meeting. She formally opened the meeting and called the court of order at 2:01 pm, with the following words: *In the name of Jesus Christ, the head of the church, I declare the 91st Annual Meeting of Saskatchewan Conference to be open and call the court to order.*

The Christ Candle was lit by Eunkyuu Ji, admission nand.

Acknowledgment of Traditional Territory

Elder Edward Osecap from the Moosomin First Nation brought greetings to the court, honoured the traditional territories on which the court was meeting, and offered a prayer in Cree.

It was pointed out by President, Krystal Sheremeta, that at the 82nd annual meeting of Saskatchewan Conference in 2007, a motion was passed which read as follows:

“Therefore be it proposed that it be ensured that an acknowledgement of the First Peoples of the land be made at the opening of annual meetings of Conference each year;

And be it further proposed that the practice be recommended to each Presbytery of the United Church in Saskatchewan Conference.”

President Krystal Sheremeta also read the following statement:

We acknowledge that for thousands of years Indigenous people have walked in this land, on their own country. Their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives. As we open our meeting today, we acknowledge that we are gathered in the traditional territory of the Cree and the Assiniboia First Nations – in the area most recently defined as Treaty 6, and we acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

And so we also acknowledge that Saskatchewan Conference is an Affirming Ministry of The United Church of Canada as one that embraces diversity and strives to include and be a safe place for all people regardless of age, gender, race, culture, education, ability, economic status, marital status, sexual orientation, or gender identity.

2018 Theme and Banners

President Krystal Sheremeta noted that the presbyteries and other groups had been invited to bring their banners to display them in the Annual Meeting space for the duration of the meeting. These were to serve as a symbol of the Conference's arrival in the space and of the diversity in the life of Saskatchewan Conference,

Along with those banners, there were two other banners present in the meeting space:

1. The Saskatchewan Conference banner with the new United Church Crest, which had previously been quilted by Karen Mundt of St. Andrew's United Church, Moose Jaw
2. The banner for this annual meeting, also quilted by Karen Mundt, that had the logo for the Annual Meeting on it. The logo was designed by Keaton Mollberg.

Introduction of Dignitaries and Guests

As per tradition, guests from the community were invited to join the meeting to bring greeting from their offices.

Councillor Greg Lightfoot, brought greetings on behalf of the City of North Battleford and Mayor Ryan Bater.

Rosemarie Falk, Member of Parliament for the Riding of the Battlefords-Lloydminster, was unable to be present at the meeting but sent a letter which was read by Executive Secretary Bill Doyle.

Herb Cox, Member of Provincial Legislature for the Battlefords Constituency, was unable to be present at the meeting but sent a letter which was read by Executive Secretary Bill Doyle

Rev. Shawn Stanford Beck, Regional Dean of the Diocese of Saskatoon of the Anglican Church of Canada, brought greetings as one of the United Church's ecumenical partners, along with greetings from Bishop David Irving of the Diocese of Saskatoon.

President Krystal Sheremeta and Executive Secretary Bill Doyle welcomed the following people who would be present for the duration of the meeting:

- Our theme speaker, Dr. **Rodger Nishioka**, who would lead the court in three theme sessions over the duration of the meeting.
- The representative from the General Council Offices to this meeting, **Adele Halliday**, Team Leader for Discipleship and Witness in the Church in Mission Unit. She was also part of the Be Bold Intercultural Conversation which was one of the pre-Conference events.
- **Bernice Saulteaux of Carry the Kettle and Arlene Deiter of Regina** on behalf of the Plains Presbytery and the All Native Circle Conference (ANCC).
- **Lorne Calvert** who until June 30th was the Principal of St. Andrew's College.

President Krystal Sheremeta and Executive Secretary Bill Doyle also introduced the various people who had put in long hours preparing for the annual meeting:

- The Music Team– **West of the Third: Heather Macnab, Andrew Hecker, and Chelsea Cox**
- The Worship Team: **Jason Richards, Lindsay Mohn, Aurora Coulthard and Ron McConnell.**
- The Bookstore Team: **Suzette Mungal** of the United Church Resource Distribution Centre in Toronto and **Joan Tessier**, of Ft. Qu'Appelle, who would be working in the book room.
- The candidate for admission, **Eunkyū Ji** who was ministry personnel in Chinook Presbytery
- The retirees:
Lorne Calvert
Jeannine Cline
Lorraine Harkness
Lorna King
Frances Patterson
Doug Ponto

Introductions also included:

The Floor Managers: **Marion Tudor** and **Bryan Tudor**

Children at Conference Leaders: **Susan Paley** and **Gayle Wensley**

Common Tater (annual meeting newsletter) Team: **Roy Bortolotto** and **Bev Diebert**, Conference staff

President Elect - **Bonnie Morton**

Minute Secretary - **Tricia Gerhard**

The Projectionist/Technician - **Don Kindopp**

Introductions ended with President Krystal Sheremeta saying: "And now to each of them and to everyone else in this room who completes the circle of this Annual Meeting we say: 'We are glad that you are here – Welcome!!'"

Worship was led by the Worship Team of Jason Richards, Lindsay Mohn, Aurora Coulthard and Ron McConnell

There was a time for announcements by the convenor of the Annual Meeting Planning Committee, Linda Tomlinson-Seebach, and a member of the Local Arrangements Committee.

Enabling Motions

Executive Secretary Bill Doyle introduced the following enabling motions:

BOUNDS:

Motion 2017-18-36

Bill Doyle/Linda Tomlinson-Seebach:

That the bounds of Conference for voting purposes be the floor of the meeting room defined by the table groups.

Carried

QUORUM:

Motion 2017-18-37

Bill Doyle/Linda Tomlinson-Seebach:

That the quorum for the 91st Annual Meeting be 20% of those entitled to vote, of whom at least one-third shall be members of the Ministry Personnel and one-third lay persons.

Carried

AGENDA:

Motion 2017-18-38

Bill Doyle/Linda Tomlinson-Seebach:

That the agenda for the 91st Annual Meeting be as printed in the Docket and marked "Agenda" subject to such changes as may be recommended by the Flow Committee.

Carried

FLOW COMMITTEE:

Motion 2017-18-39

Bill Doyle/Linda Tomlinson-Seebach:

That the Flow Committee consists of the President, the Convenor of the Annual Meeting Planning Committee, the Floor Managers and the Executive Secretary.

Carried

ROLL OF CONFERENCE:

Motion 201-18-40

Bill Doyle/ Linda Tomlinson-Seebach:

That the Roll of Conference be those delegates regularly elected by the Presbyteries, including the Youth Delegates, and registered with the Presbytery Secretaries, the Conference Committee Convenors and such other members who are not delegates from the Presbyteries as appointed by the Conference Executive; all ministry personnel on the rolls of the Presbyteries; members of the Order of Ministry who are not members of Presbytery in the Saskatchewan Conference but who are serving within its bounds; and candidates for ordination, commission and admission in attendance at the Annual meeting.

Carried

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS:

Motion 2017-18-41

Bill Doyle/Linda Tomlinson-Seebach:

That the following persons be named corresponding members of the Court: General Council Office Representative, Adele Halliday; ecumenical guests; Kathryn Hofley, GC Financial Officer Mission and Service; and all registered visitors.

Carried

BUSINESS PROCEDURES:

Motion 2017-18-42

Bill Doyle/ Linda Tomlinson-Seebach:

That the business procedures for the Annual Meeting be those outlined in the Docket.

Carried

NOMINATIONS:

Motion 2017-18-43

Linda Gunningham/Bill Doyle:

The nominations for two (2) Commissioners to the 43rd General Council and the President-Elect be in the hands of the Floor Manager no later than 6:00 p.m., Friday, May 25th.

Carried

ELECTIONS:

Motion 2017-18-44

Linda Gunningham/Bill Doyle:

That, with regard to elections that require a ballot, these positions not be declared elected until the person has received a majority of all votes cast (a majority is defined as 50% of the votes cast plus one vote).

Carried

SCRUTINEERS:

Motion 2017-18-45

Tim Ellis/Bill Doyle:

That the scrutineers for the 91st Annual Meeting be the Convenor of Scrutineers and other persons named by the court as follows:

Sandra Watson – Convener

Charlene Orr

Linda Stumpf

Catherine Christie

Hazel Blake

Adele Dixon

Geri Ball

Sun Lee

Carried

MINUTES:

Motion 2017-18-46

Tricia Gerhard/Bill Doyle

That the minutes, including the minute Digest, of the Executive and Sub-Executive meetings of Saskatchewan Conference during the church year 2015-2016, pages B-243 to B-282 of the Record of Proceedings, and 2016 – 2017, pages B-269 to B-274 be approved with the amendment of the minutes of the annual meeting which was held in 2016 at page B-244 by changing the name in the first full paragraph from “Anne Van Bleak” to “Ann van Vliet”.

Carried

Executive Secretary Bill Doyle introduced the following people:

Sexual Misconduct Consultants: Bob Hayes and Fran Balls

Chaplains:

Darrell Reine

Annette Taylor

Barb MacNaughton

Laura Fohse

Table Group Time – Krystal

President Krystal Sheremeta facilitated table time with the questions:

What was the best part of your trip here?

Which of these photos is more brave? (Hilary Clinton or Captain America)

Which of these photos are more bold? (Malala or General of Kings guard in black panther)

Who stands out? (wonder woman or Queen Elizabeth?)

Which of the previous pictures do you most identify with?

Table Groups were reminded that no one had been given the task of facilitating the table group time so they were all responsible to ensure that everyone has an opportunity to speak.

The court was later drawn back to the plenary with music which led into singing.

Singing

Presbytery Video (1 of 7)

President Krystal Sheremeta introduced the presbytery videos and shared with the court that they were at Annual Meeting this year to acknowledge and honour the work, relationships, and witness each has offered to their communities, the Conference and the world and to honour the unique ministries the Presbyteries have been.

The video from Prairie Pine Presbytery was shared with the court.

Theme Presentation (1 of 3)

Krystal Sheremeta introduced Dr. Rodger Nishioka as the theme speaker. The first part of the theme presentation was entitled “**Called to be a Brave Church**”.

Prayer - Mathias Ross stood up at a microphone to led the court in prayer.

Thanking the Staff – Darrell Reine and Brenda Curtis

The first of 4 sessions set aside to thank the Conference staff was led by Darrell Reine and Brenda Curtis. This was modeled on the CTV network which has questions each day with answers being submitted on social media and then shared on screen. Those gathered were asked to write words of thanks to be collected and shared by projecting them during later sessions throughout the meeting.

Nominations Committee (1 of 3)

Linda Gunningham presented the report on behalf of Bev Kostichuk who was the convener of the Committee. She spoke to the written report as found in the

Docket at pages H1–H4 and which indicated the positions both filled and vacant. The committee first confirmed with the people listed that they were prepared to continue in their positions until the end of the Conference. It was noted as well that:

- since Calling Lakes Centre was not yet wound down, the Conference rep to its Board would be retained and filled by Sharon Hurd.
- the Conference still needed to elect a President-Elect and two commissioners to be added to list of commissioners from Saskatchewan Conference to go to the meeting of General Council. The second name would be to replace the name of President, Krystal Sheremeta, who would be leaving the Conference.
- the Region would still need volunteers for positions within its new structure and so an interest form was distributed for completion.

The report of the committee ended with a skit performed by Miles Russell, Linda Anderson, and Lesley Parkin.

Presbytery Video

The video from Good Spirit Presbytery was shared with the court.

Announcements

Linda Tomlinson-Seebach and a representative of the Local Arrangements Committee shared announcements with the court which included information about the displays, the bookstore, and claims for delegate expenses.

President, Krystal Sheremeta, declared that the meeting would be adjourned following grace.

Grace was led by Jason Richards

Supper Break

At 5:15 p.m. the meeting was adjourned until 7:00 p.m.

Day One – Session Two

(Thursday, May 24th – 7:00 pm)

Singing was led by the Music Team.

St. Andrew's College Report

Jennifer Janzen Ball, Director of Designated Lay Ministry program at St. Andrew's College presented the report from the College which appeared in the Docket including a goodbye to Lorne Calvert as retiring Principal and a welcome to Richard Manley-Tannis as incoming Principal.

Review of Audited Financial Statements for 2017 – Heather Dootoff

Heather Dootoff, Conference administrative staff person for finance reviewed the audited financial statements which had been approved by the Conference Sub-Executive on May 14th, 2018. This was followed by an opportunity for questions from the court.

Motion 2017-18-47

Bill Doyle/Bonnie Morton

That the Saskatchewan Conference receive the audited financial statements for 2017 for information.

Carried

Prayer – Jim Tenford led the court in prayer.

Conference Interview Board (CIB) –

Jim Tenford, Convenor of the Conference Interview Board, reported on the activities of the Board to supplement the written report which appeared in the Docket. He then introduced, **Eunkyu Ji**, who is a candidate for admission as an ordained minister to The United Church of Canada by Saskatchewan Conference.

Eunkyu Ji then responded to a question that had been given to him prior to the meeting.

The candidate's background information was available in the printed Docket.

It was then confirmed that voting would be ballot and Jim Tenford placed the following motion and ballots were distributed.

Motion 2017-18-48

Jim Tenford/Brad Wudrich

That *Eunkyu Ji*, a candidate for Admission from the Presbyterian Church of the Republic of Korea, having satisfied the educational requirements and having been recommended by the Conference Executive, be admitted to the Order of Ministry as an ordained minister of The United Church of Canada by Saskatchewan Conference of The United Church of Canada in North Battleford, Saskatchewan on May 27th, 2018.

Carried

Motion 2017-18-49

Jim Tenford/Brad Wudrich

That the ballots be destroyed.

Carried

Motion 2017-18-50

Jim Tenford/ Jen Dresser

**That the Saskatchewan Conference adopt the report of the
Conference Interview Board.**

Carried

Presbytery Video

The video from Twin Valleys Presbytery was shared with the court.

Fun Raising (1 of 4)

Kathryn Sarauer and Katie Curtis shared with the court what would be happening during the meeting to raise money for the Mission and Service Fund and at the same time result in a little fun for those present. Modeled after Carpool Karaoke the court would enjoy Church Pew Karaoke.

Thanking of Volunteers

President Krystal Sheremeta introduced the video. It was recognizing that this is the last Conference annual meeting if the Remits are passed at them meeting of General Council 43, the video was shown to recognize the work of the volunteers of the Conference. Words of thanks were also spoken.

Announcements

Linda Tomlinson-Seebach shared announcements with the court.

Adjournment

President Krystal Sheremeta declared the meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m. until Saturday May 26, at 9:00 am. Singing would start at 8:45 a.m.

Benediction led by President Krystal Sheremeta.

Day Two - Session One

(Friday, May 25th – 9:00 am)

Singing was led by the Music Team.

President-Elect, Bonnie Morton, assumed the chair of the meeting during the following report delivered by the President.

Conference Executive Report

President Krystal Sheremeta gave a verbal report to supplement the Digest of the Meetings of the Conference Executive and Sub-Executive which appeared in the Docket.

Motion 2017-18-51:

Krystal Sheremeta/Rob Reed

**That the Conference Executive report be received for
information.**

Carried

Presbytery Video

Tamarack Presbytery shared musically with the court instead of a video.

Point of Personal Privilege –

Brian Mitchell Walker and Nobuko Iwai of the Intercultural Ministries Network of the recent court decision giving all citizens of Saskatchewan the right to change the gender on their Birth Certificate or to remove it entirely.

Theme Presentation

Dr. Rodger Nishioka as theme speaker led the second part of the theme presentation was entitled “**Called to be a Bold Church**”.

Prayer - Bernice Saulteaux led the court in prayer.

Singing was led by the Music Team.

General Council Executive

Brenda Curtis (Order of Ministry Rep), Cathy Anderson (Lay Rep), and Adele Halliday (General Council staff person) presented the verbal report to supplement that was included in the printed Docket.

Motion 2017-18-52

Brenda Curtis/Kathy Anderson

That the report of the General Council Executive be received for information.

Carried

Presbytery Video

The video from Chinook Presbytery was shared with the court.

Orientation to the Proposals Process

President, Krystal Sheremeta, introduced the process that would be used for decision making at the meeting. A description of the process also appeared in the Docket for the meeting. It was also pointed out that if Saskatchewan Conference wants to send a proposal to the meeting of General Council, the issue to be decided was really whether the court thinks it is an issue that should be discussed at General Council.

Proposal No. 1 was dealt with at the February meeting of the Conference Executive. Proposals 2 to 5 were included in the Docket and distributed before the meeting. Proposals 6 and 7 were received by the court since the start of the meeting.

Proposals

Proposals Task Group members, Andrew Hecker and Daryl Woods, came to the stage. Also involved was Parliamentarian, Rob Reed.

PROPOSAL No. 2:

**Title: SEXUAL MISCONDUCT PREVENTION AND RESPONSE POLICY
AND PROCEDURES ACCESSIBILITY**

**Origin: Saskatchewan Conference Sexual Misconduct Prevention and
Response Committee**

1. What is the issue?

We believe that God is calling us to...

- Co-create a world where: the vulnerable are protected; those with power understand the parameters of their power and exercise it to the benefit of others; human sexuality becomes a reason to celebrate our Creator and not a reason for shame at our human selves; people of different languages and cultures from God's church in every part of this world come together to share and work towards this vision of the kingdom of God.
- Work together with ministers engaging in ministry with The United Church of Canada from our mutual recognition partner denominations in the US, Philippines, and Korea
- Prepare "Boundaries for Church Leaders" mandatory training that includes translations of the Sexual Misconduct Prevention and Response Policy and Procedures (SMPRPP) to meet the specific needs of ministers from our mutual recognition partner denominations and their communities in understanding the SMPRPP of the UCC

2. Why is this issue important?

This issue is important because

- We strive to be an intercultural church
- Ministers and members representing non-dominant cultures are often not accommodated or are neglected when it comes to education regarding important policies of the United Church
- The SMPRPP is one of the most important policy developments of the UCC in the past two decades that has the potential to prevent and minimize the damage of cases of sexual misconduct in the church.
- Special attention is required to make sure that ministers seeking admission from other denominations, particularly our mutual recognition partner denominations (PROK, UCCP and the UCC USA) and the congregations they serve, have access to and training in the SMPRPP policy that accommodates linguistic and cultural understanding
- Experience in Saskatchewan Conference where there has been a strong SMPRPP training program for many years suggests that racialized, linguistic and ethnic minorities are not adequately

represented in leadership and challenged to access the SMPRPP in a way that accommodates differences of language and culture.

3. How might the General Council respond to the issue?

General council might respond to this issue by....

1. Providing translation of the SMPRPP into the Korean language for PROK ministers entering into ministry with the UCC, as well as Korean congregants of the UCC.
2. Providing translation of the SMPRPP into the Filipino (Tagalog) language for UCCP ministers entering into ministry with the UCC, as well as congregants of the UCC who speak Filipino.
3. Provide special, culturally specific "Boundaries For Church Leaders" training webinars for significant ethnic and linguistic groups in the UCC, especially for those from our mutual recognition partner denominations.
4. Ensure that the UCC's pool of national consultants under the SMPRPP includes consultants from and familiar with the cultures and languages of mutual recognition partner denominations and other significant ethnic/linguistic minorities of the church.

4. For the body transmitting this proposal to the General Council:

Are there any comments, affirmations, suggestions that the Conference would like to make with respect to this proposal?

Motion 2017-18-52

Robert Hayes/Fran Balls

That Saskatchewan Conference concur with proposal no. 2

Carried

PROPOSAL 3: CHANGE OF WORDING TO QUESTIONS ASKED OF CANDIDATES FOR MINISTRY

Origin: Wascana Presbytery

1. What is the issue?

We believe it is critically important at this time in the life of The United Church of Canada that the Church address the questions that are asked of candidates for ordered ministry as these are worded in the Basis of Union 11.3, particularly question 1: Do you believe in God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit, and do you commit yourself anew to God?

2. Why is this issue important?

The current wording of Basis of Union 11.3 creates a crisis of conscience for many candidates, a crisis that is not solved for everyone by the "in essential agreement" clause. This issue also has relevance for the whole

Church in that many members and adherents of the United Church are unable in good conscience to affirm this particular concept of God.

- a) Candidates and others are aware that the traditional “Father, Son and Holy Spirit” language does not reflect the wide range of understandings of God that are held, and have been held for many years, within the United Church. Many are familiar with descriptions of God as “Mother” as well as “Father,” as “Holy Mystery,” “Holy Presence,” “Source of Life and Love,” “Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer,” “Eternal One,” “Holy One,” and others.
- b) Candidates for ministry know, as do the rest of us, that the United Church has committed itself to the acknowledgement and inclusion of Indigenous spirituality in which God is typically referred to as “Creator,” or by names from the various Indigenous languages.
- c) And some will be aware that the “Caretakers of our Indigenous Circle,” representing the Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre, the ANCC and the Native Ministries of BC, Ontario and Quebec, have developed “Nine Calls to the Church” that have been approved by the GC Executive and will be presented for adoption at GC43.

In the preamble to the Calls, the statement is made: *We, the Indigenous ministries and communities of faith of The United Church, declare that we will tell our own story of what ministry means for us. ... We will determine an Indigenous Testamur, a training program for ministry preparation, that will help our leaders be competent as the healers and helpers our communities are crying out for.*

It is reasonable to assume that the questions the Indigenous United Church asks of its candidates for ministry will conform to this declaration.

- d) Candidates within the United Church know, as do the rest of us, that our Church claims to be *inclusive* – inclusive of a wide variety of persons and inclusive of various theologies. In the statement “What We Believe” (2004), we say:

The Bible is the shared standard for our faith, but members are not required to adhere to any particular creed or formulation of doctrine. (Emphasis added.)

If this claim is valid, why is it that candidates for ministry within this Church are still required to embrace one very particular and dated formulation of doctrine?

e) We are all aware that this issue is very much on the minds of United Church people, as evidenced by the fact that a Proposal from Toronto Conference calling for a review of the wording of Basis of Union 11.3 was just marginally defeated by a commission at GC42. We are also aware that there are frequent letters to The Observer about what ministers and members of the United Church “must” believe.

f) And finally, many know that “A Song of Faith,” the most recent statement of belief adopted by the United Church and included in the Basis of Union begins with the words,

“God is Holy Mystery, beyond complete knowledge, above perfect description.”

This concept, we believe, reflects a degree of humility and openness that is absent from the wording of Basis of Union 11.3.

3. How might the General Council respond to the issue?

We propose that GC43 decide to replace the words of the first question of Basis of Union 11.3 with a formulation that allows for a broader understanding of God, for example, God who is “Holy Mystery”, followed by the words, “and do you commit yourself to God anew?”

We further propose that GC43 authorize a Remit on this matter to be circulated throughout the Church, with a view to presenting the results of the votes to GC44 for review and decision.

4. For the body transmitting this proposal to the General Council:

Are there comments, affirmations, suggestions you would like to make with respect to this proposal?

Motion 2017-18-53

Pam Thomas/Linda Anderson

That Saskatchewan Conference concur with proposal no. 3

Carried

By motion, the court also made comment in relation to the proposal.

Motion 2017-18-54

Jennifer Laverty/Brian Mee

That the proposal should not include the example “God who is Holy Mystery” as a part of the proposal.

Carried

Thanking the Staff (2 of 4) – Darrell Reine and Brenda Curtis

Darrell Reine and Brenda Curtis shared by projecting them some of the words of thanks to the staff which had been collected.

Announcements were shared by Linda Tomlinson-Seebach

Krystal Sheremeta declared the meeting adjourned until 2:00 p.m.

Grace was offered by the Music Team.

Day Two – Session Two

(Friday, May 25th – afternoon)

The meeting resumed with singing led by the Music Team.

Implementation – Shannon McCarthy

Provisional Executive Minister, Shannon McCarthy, joined the court via video-conferencing and shared information with the court about the progress that had been made about implementation of the Remits and other plans that are in place. This included a discussion about staffing and leadership and funding.

Prayer – Annette Taylor led the court in prayer.

YAYAC Video about bravery - a video was shown which had been created by the members of YAYAC reflecting on moments when they have been brave and how the church supported them.

Singing was led by the Music Team.

Presbytery Video - The video from Wascana Presbytery was shared with the court.

Fun Raising (2 of 4)

Kathryn Sarauer and Katie Curtis introduced the first segment of Church Pew Karaoke.

Report of the Financial Development Officer

Kathryn Hofley shared with the court high-lights of her written report and a video from the Philanthropy Office at the General Council Office in Toronto.

Motion 2017-18-55

Bonnie Morton/Nora Vedress

That the report of the Financial Development Officer be received for information.

Carried

Iridesce – Brian Mitchell-Walker Nobuko Iwai and Friends

Brian Mitchell-Walker, Nobuko Iwai, who are the convenors of the Intercultural Ministry Network, led a presentation in relation to Iridesce, the Living Apology Project. This included a video about the history which resulted in the project and concluded with worship.

Thanking the Staff (3 of 4) – Darrell Reine and Brenda Curtis

More notes of thanks to the staff were shared with the court.

Courageous Conversations (1 of 2)

Tracy Murton, River Bend Presbytery, Ministry Conversation Animator

As the Conference was immersed in transition, Tracy Murton led the court in a time of “courageous conversation”. Part One was intended to consider those things that were valued at the structure of church changed. In table groups people were asked to discuss the following questions:

- What do you value most about the opportunities to connect with one another?
- What has been inspiring and important over the years?
- What are the aspects from the current structure you want to keep?

Presbytery Video – The video from **River Bend Presbytery** was shared with the court.

Worship – Jason Richards, Lindsay Mohn, and Ron McConnell

Worship included a memorial for those Conference folks who had died in the past year, congregations that had closed and for presbyteries as they moved toward closure.

Announcements were shared by Linda Tomlinson-Seebach

Grace offered by the Music and Worship Teams.

Krystal Sheremeta declared the meeting adjourned until 9:00 a.m. with singing starting at 8:45 a.m.

Grace was offered by the Music Team.

Day Three – Session One

(Saturday, May 26th 8:59 a.m.)

The meeting resumed with singing led by the Music Team.

Theme Presentation

Dr. Rodger Nishioka as theme speaker opened the time with prayers and led the second part of the theme presentation was entitled “**Called to be the Stand Up Tall Church**”.

Nominations (2 of 3)

Linda Gunningham confirmed the following nominations which would be voted on later in the morning:

- Brian Mee as ministry personnel commissioner to General Council
- Kathryn Sarauer as lay commissioner to General Council (she was to be added to the alternate list).

Points of Personal Privilege:

Mary Mohn introduced special visitor, Elaine Gamarsh from Elrose who at 94 was attending the last Conference. Elaine was a Charter member of the UCW in 1962 and holds a life membership in the Women’s Missionary Society.

Catherine Christie noted that the relationship between North and South Korea has been changing over the last few years and that the conference between the United States and North Korea has been cancelled. She called upon Christians to pray for peace on the Korean peninsula and a prayer created by Korean folk for peaceful coexistence in Korea and in the world was offered.

Singing was led by the Music Team

Children at Conference

Susan Paley and Gayle Wensley, as leader, and the children who were part of the program talked about what they did during conference.

Motion 2017-18-56

Marilyn Leuty/Bonnie Morton:

That the report of the Children at Conference be received for information.

Carried

Courageous Conversations (2 of 2)

Tracy Murton, River Bend Presbytery, Ministry Conversation Animator continued with the courageous conversations from the previous afternoon. She asked table groups to have conversations about the following questions:

- How do you imagine clusters functioning in your area?
- What will feed your local communities of faith?
- What do communities of faith offer to the wider church?
- How might clusters specifically support rural communities of faith?

- How might clusters support collegiality of ministry personnel and lay leaders?
- What are the specific issues or projects that would benefit from a network?
- How might networks enhance the mission/ ministry of our church?
- What words of wisdom would you offer to the Regional Council as it begins its work?

Prayer was offered by Nobuko Iwai.

Nominations (3 of 3)

Linda Gunningham brought forward the names of 2 nominees who have let their name stand for President-Elect. Nominations forms had been distributed to table groups for information. Both nominees, Barb MacNaughton and Annette Taylor, came forward to address the court.

Ballots were distributed by the scrutineers and voting took place.

Thanking the Staff

Darrell Reine and Brenda Curtis called staff to the stage and they reluctantly came forward. The last thank yous that had been submitted by members of the court were read and gifts were presented. Former staff of the Conference were also ask to staff and were recognized.

Fun Raising (3 of 4)

Kathryn Sarauer and Katie Curtis introduced the next segment of Church Pew Karaoke.

Nominations

The name of **Annette Taylor** was announced as the next President-Elect of Saskatchewan Conference. This was met with thunderous applause.

Motion 2017-18-57

Rob Reed/Robert Hayes

That the ballots be destroyed.

Carried.

Pastoral Relations/Settlement Committee Report – Darrell Reine

Darrell Reine, Convenor of the Committee, presented the written Report which was in the Docket. The court was advised among other things that the detailed report had been previously approved with information effective to May 11th, 2018. That report had been distributed to each table group at the meeting and questions were to be directed to the reps that each Presbytery had on the committee.

The verbal report as touched upon the following:

- The implementation of the United Fresh Start program in Saskatchewan,
- The plan to implement a Conference/Region-wide Pastoral Care Committee to provide pastoral care to ministry personnel as may be required. The hope is that it will be implemented by the Region,
- Thanks to Liz Mackenzie and Bev Diebert for their important work, and,
- Thanks to the members of the Pastoral Relations/Settlement Committee.

Motion 2017-18-58:

Darrell Reine/Vic Wiebe

**That the report of the Pastoral Relations / Settlement
Committee be received for information.**

Carried

Announcements were shared by **Linda Tomlinson-Seebach** which included the first part of the thanks offered as part of the traditional courtesies.

President, Krystal Sheremeta declared the meeting adjourned following grace until 2:00 p.m.

Grace

Day Three – Session Two
(Saturday, May 26th, 2018 – Afternoon)

Singing was led by the Music Team

Meeting Racism with Restorative Justice

A time of information and sharing was led by Ray McKenzie, Leslee Whalley, and Dave Whalley

This was concluded with table group when people were asked to have conversation about the following questions;

What can I do as an individual? When will I implement it?

What can my congregation do? When will we start?

What can my United Church do? How do we facilitate this?

Prayer was led by Russell Mitchell-Walker

Singing was led by the Music Team

Proposals

Proposals Task Group members, Andrew Hecker and Daryl Woods, returned came to the stage and Rob Reed as Parliamentarian was close by to offer assistance to the President.

PROPOSAL 4: ELIMINATING APPOINTMENTS FOR DESIGNATED LAY MINISTERS

Origin: Pastoral Relations/Settlement Committee

1. What is the issue?

Designated Lay Ministers (DLMs) are appointed to communities of faith with terms of 1 to 3 years depending on where they are serving. In one conference it was 5 years. These ministry personnel and the congregations they serve are in a constant mode of re-appointments leaving both feeling the burden of paperwork. Uncertainty is always in the midst of the covenant relationship. There is inconsistency across the United Church in the terms of these appointments and in the length of the appointments.

2. Why is this issue important?

At the time when the ministry of Lay Pastoral Ministers (LPMs) and, prior to that, Lay Ministers were established, it was for a local, short term fill-in. Some were also appointed as youth ministers or in areas of social justice. In the past couple of decades in many areas of the church, the relationships between DLMs and the communities of faith they serve have been on-going longterm covenants. The reality today is that many DLMs now serve as the only minister in the congregation, offering worship, pastoral care, sacraments and all other functions of ministry offered by ordained and diaconal ministers. There are also more communities of faith than there are ministry personnel seeking a call in many parts of the country, and so the previous need to ensure that all Ordered Ministry Personnel would have a place is no longer relevant. DLMs move across conference and presbytery boundaries serving in not just rural and remote communities of faith but in urban settings.

In the Song of Faith, it states: "We offer worship as an outpouring of gratitude and awe and a practice of opening ourselves to God's still, small voice of comfort, to God's rushing whirlwind of challenge. Through word, music, art, and sacrament, in community and in solitude, God changes our lives, our relationships, and our world.

DLMs have felt like their gifts for ministry have not been upheld and at times undervalued by the Church, partly due to the Church allowing them only to have an appointment. DLMs are called to serve the church by God. That call is responded to through their appointments to paid accountable ministry where they perform the same work as their colleagues in the Order of Ministry streams. When responding to an invitation to serve a pastoral charge, both the DLM and the pastoral charge hope and expect to continue long term pastorates which

build community and relationship. The covenantal relationship between a DLM and the Pastoral Charge is not taken lightly; however short term appointments put into question the reality and seriousness of that covenantal relationship. The United Church of Canada has a long and proud history of supporting those who are otherwise disadvantaged. We strive to seek justice for all God's people. This is a justice issue. This is not about education, ordination or compensation. It is about both the ministry personnel and the congregation being treated fairly by the church and recognising that DLMs have been called by God to ministry in The United Church of Canada and therefore should be called and not appointed to a community of faith.

3. How might the General Council respond to the issue?

We propose that the General Council stop the use of appointments for DLMs and allow them to be called into a community of faith except in circumstances of retired supply, intentional interim ministry and where in the joint needs assessment committee (JNAC) report a community of faith is asking for a short term appointment for reasons described in the JNAC report.

4. For the body transmitting this proposal to the General Council:

Are there comments, affirmations, suggestions you would like to make with respect to this proposal?

Motion 2017-18-59

Darrell Reine/Joanne Hills

That Saskatchewan Conference concur with Proposal no. 4.

Carried

PROPOSAL 5: FAIR PENSION OUTCOMES

Origin: Pastoral Relations/Settlement Committee

1. What is the issue?

When calculating the annual pension payment to retirees who begin ministry calls/appointments in 2018 and accumulate thirty years of pensionable service in The United Church of Canada, there is a significant detriment to pension remuneration for those ministry personnel who have had calls/appointments for those 30 years in Cost of Living (COL) groups 1-3 as compared with the pension remuneration for those who have been in calls/appointments in COL groups 4-6 for those 30 years. Additionally, ministry personnel serving in ministries that provide a manse over those 30 years of service also accrue more pension than those in COL groups 1-3 under the new compensation system regardless of in which COL group region the manse is located. (see table below)

		<u>years of service</u>	<u>Pension Accrued/annual</u>
1	COL 1	30	\$25,621.40
2	COL 3	30	\$28,422.16
3	COL 6	30	\$34,991.03
4	Lives in a manse	30	\$29,026.17

(See appended full table of pension calculations on which the above summary is based.)

Prior to the new compensation model which set to come into full effect July 1, 2018, all ministry personnel pensions were calculated based on pensionable earnings of 140% of salary (without housing allowance included), which remains the calculation for those ministry personnel with manses under the new compensation model, resulting in pensions for ministry personnel which were more equitable than will be the case under the new compensation model.

2. Why is this issue Important?

In the Song of Faith it states that "The church has not always lived up to its vision. It requires the Spirit to reorient it, helping it to live an emerging faith while honouring tradition, challenging it to live by grace rather than entitlement, for we are called to be a blessing to the earth."

In a letter from the General Council's Ministry and Employment Unit dated March 5, 2015, a statement was made that "A regional cost of living is incorporated into the new minimum, eliminating a separately identifiable housing allowance (letter attached). Pensionable earnings will equal 100% of this new "comprehensive" salary.

Ministry personnel who have had relatively low housing allowances will notice that moving to this new way of determining pensionable earnings may result in a decrease in the pension contribution they and their pastoral charges make as well as in the amount of pension earned. On the other hand, ministry personnel who have had relatively high housing allowances may notice that the pension contribution they and their pastoral charge make will increase as well as the amount of pension earned. "

Urban pastoral charges and those pastoral charges in higher cost of living (COL) groups tend to have more success in attracting ministry personnel for calls or appointments than do rural/remote pastoral charges in lower COL groups.

The United Church of Canada has had a long history of being a church that strives for justice for all people and prior to the 2015 introduction of the new compensation model, pension accrual for ministry personnel was calculated more equitably.

Those ministry personnel who may feel called to rural/remote pastoral charges will now have to assess if they can afford to take calls/appointments based on the detrimental pension consequences and the probability that as they age they will likely need to relocate to a larger town/city where health care and other amenities for seniors are available but where housing will also be more expensive.

There is already a shortage of ministry personnel for the vacancies in rural/remote pastoral charges across The United Church of Canada, especially ANW, SK, MNWO, and NF/LAB Conferences, and this move to greater inequity in pensions for ministry personnel will likely cause fewer to consider calls/appointments to these rural/remote pastoral charges;

3. How might the General council respond to the issue?

We propose that the General Council direct the Pension Board and the Ministry and Employment Unit to find a way that pension accrued earnings for ministry personnel across all the COL groups under the new compensation model are made more equal.

4. For the body transmitting this proposal to the General Council:

Are there comments, affirmations, suggestions you would like to make with respect to this proposal?

Darrell Reine declared a conflict of interest.

Motion 2017-18-60

Darrell Reine/Joanne Hills

That Saskatchewan Conference concur with proposal no. 5.

Carried

PROPOSAL 6: LIVING INTO TRANSFORMATION: CONTINUING THE JOURNEY AS AN INTERCULTURAL CHURCH

Origin: 2018 Be Bold Intercultural Conversation Pre-Saskatchewan Conference Event

1. What is the issue?

We believe that God is calling us to...

- Rejoice in a diverse faith inspired by the promise of Pentecost,
- Know that diverse people are God's gifts,
- Know that God cherishes all people, and that all people are created in the image of God,
- Lament the loss of momentum created by national intercultural events such as Behold! and Sounding the Bamboo, and,
- Lament the current focus on church finances, and not on God's mission.

2. Why is this issue important?

This issue is important because

- The United Church of Canada is in the midst of structural changes, and,
- Wants all people to participate fully in the work of the church.

3. How might the General Council respond to the issue?

General Council might respond to this issue by....

- a. Ensuring that the admissions process for The United Church of Canada contain information sharing on issues such as Indigenous justice and LGBT2Q+ issues, and, at least one racialized member of the interviewing team in each region; and
- b. Request that each of the Regions consider including regular gatherings for racialized leaders' in is their structure and budget.
- c. Put a process in place to voluntarily request, receive, and share names of those who consider themselves racialized, to be administered by Conference/Regional and General Council Offices
- d. Require that all Regions hold newcomer's events with provision to invite at least one racialized resource person
- e. Strongly encourage intercultural ministries and racialized and minoritized ministers to submit articles for the Minute for Mission and other national church resources;
- f. Require that each Region, as part of its emerging identity, create their contextual vision for intercultural work. This requirement is because The United Church of Canada emphasizes living into being "a relational church [which] treasures the different contexts that God gives to different communities...valu[ing] diverse expressions of faith",⁽¹⁾ and because all parts of the church are invited to be "honouring and living into intercultural mission and ministry".

(1) The United Church of Canada, Vision for Becoming an InterCultural Church, adopted by General Council Executive October 2012 as part of the report "InterCultural Ministries: Living into Transformation"

4. For the body transmitting this proposal to the General Council:

Are there any comments, affirmations, suggestions that the Conference would like to make with respect to this proposal?

Motion 2017-18-61

Nobuko Iwai/Salesi Takau

That Saskatchewan Conference concur with proposal no. 6.

Carried

PROPOSAL 7: MINISTERIAL TRAINING IN RESPONSE TO TRC CALL TO ACTION 60

Origin: Racialized and Indigenous Leaders of Saskatchewan Conference - 2018 Be Bold Intercultural Conversation Pre-Conference Event

1. What is the issue?

On May 23rd, 2018, racialized and Indigenous leaders from United Churches in Saskatchewan gathered together at the *Be Bold! Pre-Conference Event* in Battleford, SK ahead of the Annual Meeting of Saskatchewan Conference. Delegates met to discuss shared experiences and to dream of the United Church embracing God's mission of struggle and resistance that seeks justice and inclusion of all peoples. Participants identified or re-iterated a number of tangible and concrete first steps towards confronting the United Church's legacy of complicity with structural racism and colonialism. The participants of *Be Bold!* recognized that the good work carried out through the national church and its arms, such as Intercultural ministry, the Aboriginal Ministries Circle and Theological Colleges, should be strengthened and their scope further expanded in the future as necessary. The participants agreed to bring a proposal to the Annual Meeting 2018 of Saskatchewan Conference to recommend to General Council options for training ministerial candidates and preparing candidates to serve in Aboriginal communities of faith by responding adequately to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Call to Action 60.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission has asserted the importance of persons training for ministry and those who will particularly work as ministers among Aboriginal communities should have adequate knowledge of aboriginal history, their spirituality and the violence done to them through residential schools. The Call to Action # 60 puts forward this requirement to all faith communities, including all churches, in Canada.

"We call upon leaders of the church parties to the Settlement Agreement and all other faiths, in collaboration with Indigenous spiritual leaders, survivors, schools of theology, seminaries, and other religious training centres, to develop and teach curriculum for all student clergy, and all clergy and staff who work in Aboriginal communities, on the need to respect Indigenous spirituality in its own right, the history and legacy of residential schools and

the roles of the church parties in that system, the history and legacy of religious conflict in Aboriginal families and communities, and the responsibility that churches have to mitigate such conflicts and prevent spiritual violence.”

2. Why is this issue important?

Our denomination has taken several steps in the past decades to partner in a positive way with the Aboriginal peoples of Canada aiming at reconciliation and living out the reality of “all my relations.” And now with the Aboriginal people reaching out to us to create opportunities for contextual learning, bridge building, reconciliation and achieving racial justice, we must just seize this overture as something that we have been waiting for and which is consistent with our calling as followers of Jesus, who reconciles and makes new our lives, our communities of faith and our church structures. Here is an openness and invitation from the side of Aboriginal people, with possibilities laid out for increased mutual sharing of theological perspectives and competence for ministering in Aboriginal contexts with sensitivity. Such an endeavour has the prospect of spurring concrete expressions of bridging racial divides and addressing various systemic injustices. This proposal stresses that theological competency in the Canadian context requires the knowledge of Indigenous spiritual traditions, of the disruptive effects of colonialism on their way of life, and the ability to work towards reconciliation. This entails the development of relevant components in the theological curricula which are to be compulsory, not optional.

3. How might the General Council respond to the issue?

The United Church of Canada encourage its testamur - granting Theological Colleges and other educational bodies to develop concerted, timely and coordinated efforts to respond to Call to Action # 60 in consultation with the Caretakers of the Indigenous Circle, the National Indigenous Organization and other appropriate bodies.

4. For the body transmitting this proposal to the General Council:

Are there any comments, affirmations, suggestions that the Conference would like to make with respect to this proposal?

Motion 2017-18-62

Mitchell Anderson/Tim Ellis

That Saskatchewan Conference concur with proposal no. 7.

Carried

PROPOSAL 8: ADMISSION PROCESS QUESTIONS BE REVIEWED FOR TODAY'S REALITY OF MORE INTERCULTUARL MINISTERS

Origin: 2018 Be Bold Intercultural Conversation Pre-Conference Event

1. What is the issue?

A number of ministers from other denominations are seeking admission to The United Church of Canada. Some of those who went through the admission process have expressed their concerns about the cultural sensitivity of the questions for the interviews as part of the process of admission.

2. Why is this issue important?

Admission interviews are one of the first steps for those coming from other cultural backgrounds and it is important to make the process inclusive and culturally sensitive as the denomination is trying to become truly intercultural.

3. How might the General Council respond to the issue?

We propose that GC43 direct the General Secretary to review the general process of admission from the intercultural perspective including the consist of the suggested questions for interview.

4. For the body transmitting this proposal to the General Council:

Are there any comments, affirmations, suggestions that the Conference would like to make with respect to this proposal?

Motion 2017-18-63

Sun Do Hyun/Brian Maitland

That Saskatchewan Conference concur with proposal no. 4.

Carried

Point of Personal Privilege - Brian Mitchell-Walker advised the court that London conference had just voted to be an Affirming Ministry and that both Hamilton and London Conferences would celebrate at their services of praise that weekend.

Nominations - Elections & Motions (3 of 3)

Linda Gunningham went on stage for the final report to include motions for the nominations report in its "final" form. (The red font refers to where the motion in the Nominations Report which is part of Section H in the Docket has been amended.)

Motion 2017-18-64

Linda Gunningham/Miles Russell

That Tricia Gerhard be elected Minute Secretary for Saskatchewan Conference and its Executive to December 31st, 2018, if the three-council re-structuring remit is enacted by the 43rd General Council 2018, and for 2018 – 2019 if the three-council re-structuring model is not so enacted.

Carried

Motion 2017-18-65:

Linda Gunningham/Miles Russell

That Ian Wallace be named as auditor for Saskatchewan Conference for 2018 and for the preparation of the audited financial statements for that year **if the three-council re-structuring remit is enacted by the 43rd General Council 2018, and for 2018 – 2019 if the three-council re-structuring model is not so enacted.**

Carried

Motion 2017-18-66

Linda Gunningham/Miles Russell

That the following persons, listed on pages H 1-4, be named to the positions listed for the Conference to December 31st, 2018, **if the three-council re-structuring remit is enacted by the 43rd General Council 2018, and for 2018 – 2019 if the three-council re-structuring model is not so enacted.**

Carried

Motion 2017-18-67

Linda Thomlinson Seebach/Lesley Parkin

That all names listed on pages H5 be approved as Commissioners for Saskatchewan Conference to the 43rd General Council.

Carried

Motion 2017-18-68

Linda Gunningham/Miles Russell

That the list for Lay Alternate Commissioners for Saskatchewan Conference to the 43rd General Council be: Joyce Sallie, Bill Pollock and Tracy Murton.

Carried

Motion 2017-18-69

Linda Gunningham/Miles Russell

That the list for Order of Ministry Alternate Commissioners for Saskatchewan Conference to the 43rd General Council be: Cindy Bourgeois, Piotr Strzelecki.

Carried

Motion 2017-18-70

Linda Gunningham/Lesley Parkin

That the report of the Nominations Committee be adopted.

Carried

**The elected Commissioners to General Council 43 were then
Commissioned by Saskatchewan Conference with the following liturgy:**

Commissioning of the Commissioners to the 43rd General Council

The following liturgy has been adapted from liturgy by
Gord Dunbar, Moorefield-Rothsay P.C., of Moorefield, Ontario,
which has appeared in the 2012, Summer / Autumn issue of Gathering.

President, Krystal: Do you believe that God is calling you to this ministry, to be a Commissioner to the 43rd General Council of The United Church of Canada this summer in Oshawa, Ontario? If you do, please respond, I do so believe, God being my helper.

Commissioners: I do so believe, God being my helper.

President, Krystal: Are you prepared to listen to the Spirit in which you may hear God's direction for our church? If you are, please respond, I am, God being my helper.

Commissioners: I am, God being my helper.

President, Krystal: Will you faithfully study the documents provided to you? Will you discern and vision with others and with the Spirit? Will you be true to yourself and the whispers of the Spirit? Will you serve as Commissioner for the next three years? If you will, please respond, I will, God being my helper.

Commissioners: I will, God being my helper.

(All of those gathered are invited to stand as they are able.)

President, Krystal: Will you prayerfully support these commissioners in their work and their call to the 43rd General Council this summer? If you will, please respond, we will, God being my helper.

All: We will, God being our helper.

President, Krystal: May the Holy Spirit bless you, that being born of water and of the Spirit, you may be a faithful witness to your faith at General Council this summer. Amen.

Prayer was then offered by the leaders of the Youth and Young Adult Community Network

Youth and Young Adult Ministry Community (YAYAC) Network Report

Aurora Coulthard and Sheldon Dugas presented a verbal report to the court to supplement the written report included in the Docket. It included the following:

- Thanks were given to everyone for participation in coffee house put on Friday night.
- Katie Curtis left the position as staff to YAYAC and it became filled by Amar Koshy.
- Program through the year included Three events:
A Youth Retreat in November
A Youth Rally in March
Camp YAYAC in May 2017
- Planning would happen for a youth retreat in November before structural changes happen.
- The VBS Caravan which was started two years ago and travels around the Conference to offer it at various locations was to happen again in 2018.
- They would also be encouraging youth to attend the GO Project in Saskatoon or elsewhere in the country..

Motion 2017-18-71:

Sheldon Dugas/Aurora Coulthard

That the report of the Youth and Young Adult Community Network be received for information.

Carried

Fun Raising (4 of 4)

Kathryn Sarauer and Katie Curtis introduced the final segment of Church Pew Karaoke. The total amount raised was for Mission and Service was **\$3,441.55**

Announcements were made by Linda Tomlinson-Seebach including the final list of the traditional courtesies.

Registration Report

The report was prepared by Heather Dootoff and made verbally by Bill Doyle.

Meeting Statistical Report by Presbytery

(Presbytery numbers also include youth and ministry staff members)

Presbytery	Laity	Ministry	Total
Chinook Presbytery	17	12	29
Good Spirit Presbytery	6	7	13
Prairie Pine Presbytery	12	14	26
River Bend Presbytery	19	23	42

Tamarack Presbytery	10	13	23
Twin Valleys Presbytery	18	14	32
Wascana Presbytery	11	17	28
Presbytery Total:	92	100	193
Registered Visitors/Others	16	0	16
Youth	4		4
Youth Leaders	5		5
Children	4		4
Guests	1	3	4
Staff	5	2	7
		Grand Total:	233

Motion 2017-18-72

Bill Doyle/Marilyn Leuty

That the registration report be received for information.

Carried

Closing Motions:

It had been decided by the Commission for Region 4 that there would be a general meeting of the Regional Council in 2019 to deal with things like ratifying the decisions of the Commission including decisions about priorities, the staffing model, staffing, the 2019 budget, the structure of the Regional Council, and that sort of thing. Of course, all of this would be subject to the General Council ratifying the decisions of the church on the Remits.

Steps were therefore already being taken for the first general meeting of the Regional Council to be held in Swift Current, Saskatchewan, from Thursday, May 30th, 2019, to Sunday, June 2nd, 2019. The meeting itself would be held at the Innovation Credit Union Iplex and the Sunday service would be held at First United Church.

If the General Council decided not to ratify the decisions on the Remits then this would be the 44th annual meeting of Saskatchewan Conference.

Motion 2017-18-73

Bill Doyle / Marjorie Kent

That Saskatchewan Conference authorize the Conference Executive to appoint a Commission to make decisions, if necessary, regarding the approval of candidates for admission in Saskatchewan Conference to December 31st, 2018, if the three-council re-structuring remit is enacted by the 43rd General Council 2018; and prepare a Service of Praise and Celebration of Ministries at which time any retirees will be honoured, candidates ordained, commissioned, and admitted and Designated Lay Ministers recognized.

Carried

2017-18-74

Bill Doyle / Darrell Reine

That Saskatchewan Conference approve Swift Current as the meeting place for the 92nd Annual Meeting of Saskatchewan Conference if the three-council re-structuring model is not enacted by the 43rd General Council 2018, at a place and time to be determined by the Conference Executive.

Carried

Moved 2017-18-75

Bill Doyle / Ron McConnell

That the Saskatchewan Conference Executive be empowered to do all routine and emergent business which the Conference itself may do, except those things which are, according to The Manual, beyond the power of the Executive.

Carried

Moved 2017-18-76

Bill Doyle / Andrew Hecker

That the minutes of the 91st Annual Meeting of Saskatchewan Conference be printed in the Record of Proceedings after being reviewed by the Executive Secretary.

Carried

Worship – Closing worship was led by Jason Richards, Lindsay Mohn, and Ron McConnell

Adjournment

President, Krystal Sheremeta, declared the meeting adjourned until the Service of Praise and Celebration which was to be held on the next day at 10:00 a.m. in the same space to be followed by a reception at 12:00 noon.

President, Krystal Sheremeta, then closed the business portion of the meeting with a Benediction.

Day Three – Session Three

(Saturday, May 26th, 2018 in the evening)

Celebration of Ministry Banquet

Krystal Sheremeta gave her President's Address and the Retiree's were honoured; significant anniversaries were acknowledged as was Eunkyoo Ji as he entered ministry in the United Church following admission.

Day Four – Session One

(Sunday, May 27th, 2018)

Service of Praise and Celebration of Ministries

The court, visitors, and guests gathered at the Western Development Museum in North Battleford

Retirees: During the service, retirees Lorne Calvert, Jeannine Cline, Lorraine Harkness, Frances Patterson, Lorna King, and Doug Ponto were presented with certificates and thanks for their years of service to the United Church of Canada.

Admissions: Eunky Ji was admitted into Ministry in The United Church of Canada from another denomination.

Preacher: Reverend HyeRan Kim-Cragg

Installation of President: Krystal Sheremeta installed Bonnie Morton as President of Conference, presenting her with the cane and stole, symbols of the office of President.

Past President's Pin: Gayle Wensley presented Krystal Sheremeta with the Past-President's pin.

Closing of the Conference

With the closing of the Service of Praise and Celebration, the 91st Annual Meeting of Saskatchewan Conference of The United Church of Canada was closed.



President, Krystal Sheremeta

Executive Secretary, Bill Doyle

Minute Secretary, Tricia Gerhard

