

# UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

## National AOTS Executive/Council Meeting

Minutes of the Conference Call Meeting - Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2014

The meeting of the 2013 - 2015 National Executive/Council was called to order at 7:22 pm EDT by Central Vice President John Cooke.

Executive Attendance (P = Present, R = Regrets)							
David Morris	P	Jim Upright	R	Jim McKibbin	P	David Adams	P
Mark Browning	P	Derek White	R	John Cooke	P	Bill Love	R
Terry Pond	R	Garry Ross	R				

**Guests:** none

**E13-15-01 Agenda** – Because of the low turnout of the meeting and some members needing to leave the meeting early it was agreed upon to not follow the agenda and discuss the Biennial with the Central Region Round-up.

**E13-15-02** Approval of the Conference Call Meeting minutes of Sunday, September 7th, 2014. (Sent out on November 5<sup>th</sup>) were postponed until the next meeting.

**E13-15-03 Financial/Treasurers report:**

Terry sent his regrets along with a copy of my financial report and letters I've received from camps Sparrow Lake and Mackenzie.

**E13-15-04 Presidents report sent by email:** We have been busy at our house since early October with all new flooring in the lower floor of the townhouse and replaced carpet with tile and laminate. That was followed by over a week of celebration of my 80th birthday at a Church tea on November 11 in the afternoon, and then a weekend at Camp Pringle with all my family. (HAPPY BIRTHDAY JIM) All thanks to coordination by my daughter Cheryl and my wife Ferne. I was born on the 11 hour, 11 day, 11 month, and 11 grandchild. The whistles blew, with my birth cry at the same time, my mother said.

**Business from Minutes:**

**E13-15-5 - Biennial and Central Region Round-up** – Jim McKibbin started off the conversation wanting to discuss the theme along with the guest speakers. Jim laid out a program with a couple different options on it and got very little feedback as to who they might have as a guest speaker. The three people that were brought forward to be the theme speakers were; Jim Sinclair, Alexa Gilmore and Michael Kooyman. With Jim Sinclair (the former General Secretary of the UCC) we would get more of a focus on climate change and our stewardship for the earth. Alexa Gilmore and Michael Kooyman are both ensconced in Toronto Conference and will most likely fill the definition of what Ted left us with last year in terms of people that are younger and present that perspective.

John Cooke suggested that they go forward with the speaker that they like best and they would not need the support of the National Executive. David Morris suggested choosing more than one speaker and alternate them on the two days.

There was a discussion on budget set out for the honorarium for the guest speaker. There was \$2000 set aside for extras and last year they were quite generous with honorariums and we don't need to go that far this year.

John Cooke sent out an email to discuss the program and more specifically how to work in the Biennial and the Ladies program. National Executive meet on Thursday night & Friday morning. The new Executive would meet on Sunday morning. The National Convention meeting (attended by

all AOTS attendees) be limited to a short agenda on Friday evening or Saturday afternoon and the traditional Biennial program includes a ladies program on Saturday. Concern was expressed at our last meeting that this might not be possible at Jacksons Point. John and Karen Cooke have put together some option to offer a ladies program with a variety of activities. There was a strong interest in trying to make the theme and the program at the convention to be appealing to the women as well but have an alternative option if necessary.

*There was a motion to combine the Biennial and the Central Region Round-up on the same weekend of the 16<sup>th</sup> to the 19<sup>th</sup> of April.*

**Motion: Morris/McKibbin**

**Carried**

**E13-15-06 National Church Camp Update: John Cooke** - Sent out a report and a PowerPoint presentation on the Camp Project that can be placed on the web or shared with other clubs and groups. Contacted camps to ensure all 2014 reports and receipts were submitted. Have prepared the 2015 application form and it is now posted on the AOTS website. Publicity submitted to Jordan Sullivan (Camping Ministries) for email distribution to all communication contacts at each camp and posting on the National Camping Network's Facebook Group.

**Round-Table:**

**E13-15-7 – Central Region:** John Cooke sent out an email giving a brief update on his activities this past fall: Visited Newmarket AOTS Dinner meeting to present an update on The National AOTS and the Camp Project. Work on the 2015 Ontario Round-Up, and leading the organizing committee, mostly through email. Progress is a bit slow to date. No Central Region Member-at-Large and no one has come forward to take over the Camp Committee.

**E13-15-8 – Jim McKibbin:** Will be a member of the General Council Executive of the United Church beginning the after the 2015 General Council. He is preparing for that and looking forward to it and really attuned to change in the Church and the necessity for that. Wants us to consider one notion moving forward that the United Church of Canada is currently undergoing a process of looking at how to run the Church with a budget of 30 million dollars going to 20 million dollars in an immediate kind of sense.

**John Cooke closed the meeting**

**Next meeting date:** Proposed Sunday January 18, 2015 by Google Hangout