

Kincardine United Church Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 13th, 2023

Present: Rod Coates (Chairperson), Gord Dunbar (Minister of Word, Sacrament, and Pastoral Care), Judy Zarubick (Programme), Donna Mowry (Administration), Angela Hazlewood (Council Secretary)

Regrets: Jack Nancekivell (Trustee), Liz Dillman (Treasurer, Regional Council Representative), Mary Phillips (Ministry and Personnel)

The Council of Kincardine United Church was called to meet via the ZOOM platform on Tuesday, June 13th, 2023. Notice of this meeting was given nine days prior to the meeting via e-mail by the secretary and a second e-mail was sent to let Council members know that all documents had been added to the shared drive.

Rod Coates called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. and thanked everyone for being there.

1. Welcome and Constitution of Meeting (Rod Coates)

Rod Coates called this meeting of the governing body of Kincardine United Church to order and declared it duly constituted for the business set before it.

2. Call to Order and Acknowledgement of the Territory (Rod Coates)

Rod Coates shared these words with Council:

“Here we congregate on the traditional lands of the Saugeen Ojibway and the other Indigenous peoples who preceded them. Where we now gather, generations gathered long before Europeans landed on these shores. The original inhabitants of this land, known to some Indigenous peoples as Turtle Island, took seriously the Creator’s call to be stewards of air, land, water, and creature. This evening we give thanks for their conservancy; we exist in this place because of the lessons they continue to teach. And we acknowledge with gratitude and thanks this land upon which we work and play and live and worship”.

3. Lighting of the Candle (Rod Coates)

Rod Coates with his pun-making humour began: “Now that we are all here and reached quorum, we’ve reached wax-imum capacity, and we can now begin with the lighting of the Christ Candle. As we gather this evening, lighting this Christ candle reminds us of God’s presence & love, the Holy Spirit in our midst, and the presence of Christ of all of us. Amen”.

4. Devotion (Gord Dunbar)

Gord Dunbar read from a book called: *The Inconvenient Indian*, written by one of his favourite authors named Thomas King. Gord Dunbar stated that June is Indigenous History month. Thomas King writes about playing “cowboys and Indians” at a young age. This story makes Gord Dunbar think about the cultural and literal genocide of Indigenous Peoples, “the sixties scoop”, and residential schools and how Thomas King has such vivid memories of his past. This is very disappointing to Gord Dunbar. Gord Dunbar went on to show a photo of Joyce Johnson who graduated from the Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre, the theological school in the United Church for Indigenous ministers and hopes that Joyce Johnson will be ordained by the fall. Gord Dunbar also showed a photo of the Right Reverend Doctor Carmen Lansdowne Moderator of the United Church of Canada, who posted a caption about the election of Reverend Mary Fontaine who is the Moderator of the Presbyterian Church in Canada, who also happens to be an Indigenous woman. Carmen Lansdowne noted that the Moderators of the Presbyterian, Anglican, United, and Lutheran Churches are all headed by women and out of the four, two are Indigenous. Carmen Lansdowne feels that this is a great year, but it will take seven generations, a long, difficult journey, but this is an excellent dream. Gord Dunbar went on to read from Richard Wagamese’s *Embers*. Gord Dunbar’s prayer in regard to the Remit and the need for Reconciliation, but also the idea that we as a Council feel the joy as we bring ourselves home to the Risen Christ.

5. Consent Docket

A. Enabling Actions

1. That the Agenda be adopted as circulated.
2. That the minutes of the Council meeting from May 9th, 2023 be approved as distributed.
3. That motions and proposals be written and given to the Secretary.

B. Actions

1. KUC Invoice Payment Policy Update Proposal #1 (5.1.10 Payment of Kincardine United Church’s Invoices) (Rod Coates/Administration)
The Kincardine United Church Council approves the following changes to the Kincardine United Church Policy & Procedure Manual:
 - 1) Supersede the existing Payment of Kincardine United Church Invoices Policy 5.1.10 (Adopted March 2022) and replace with the proposed updated version.
 - 2) Supersede the existing Signing Authority Policy 5.1.6 (Adopted Nov 2018) and replace with the proposed updated version. Please see Attachment #1.
2. Voluntary Associate Minister (VAM) Designation Proposal #2 (Gord Dunbar)
The Kincardine United Church Council approves the designation of Judy Zarubick as a Voluntary Associate Minister. Please see Attachment #2.

Rod Coates declared this consent docket approved by consensus with the grammatical corrections.

6. Business Arising

i) **Remit from the United Church of Canada** (Gord Dunbar)

Gord Dunbar talked about the Remit from the United Church of Canada which is about establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization within the United Church of Canada. We, as a Council, have to vote for or against this Remit and if we do not vote, it will be considered a vote against this proposal. Indigenous peoples want to self-govern and make decisions as what seems best for them. Every time changes are wanting to be made an Act of Parliament needs to be passed which displays control and a very colonial way of being. An Indigenous way of making decisions within Indigenous circles, is to have everyone agree and make a true consensus (not just willing to “live” with an outcome). After a fulsome discussion, it was decided to ask for feedback from the congregation. Gord Dunbar and Judy Zarubick will take two worship services to let the congregation know what the Remit is all about. (September 24th and October 1st). Kincardine United Church Council needs to vote by March 2024.

Link to find more information about the Remit from the United Church of Canada:
[Home | United Church 44th General Council \(generalcouncil44.ca\)](https://www.generalcouncil44.ca)

7. Reports from Committees-Standing Items

i) **Administration** (Donna Mowry)

Donna Mowry spoke about three major repairs the church will need and that fundraising will need to be considered. The north-west corner of the roof will require new shingles, on the south-side of the building new window frames will need to be installed, and next year the north side of the roof will require replacement of shingles which could be approximately \$60000.00.

ii) **Programme** (Judy Zarubick)

Judy Zarubick mentioned a health and safety concern that was fixed by Ralph Knowles, Jim Zarubick, and herself. A piece of ripped carpet was removed from the front of the church as it caused a tripping hazard. The floor was cleaned where the carpet had been. Judy Zarubick also discussed the fact that Bervie Kinloss United Church’s worship service will be held at 11:00 a.m. on September 10th so as a result Kincardine United Church’s worship service would need to be held at 9:30 a.m. instead. September 10th is Bervie Kinloss United Church’s

anniversary service and they have invited a guest speaker.

iii) Membership and Mission (Gord Dunbar)

In Charles Ludlow's absence, Gord Dunbar reminded Council that there is a picnic after the worship service on Sunday, June 18th and the Kincardine United Church Instrumental Ensemble (KUCIE) will be performing. Gord Dunbar added that Dr. Art Wiebe and his wife, Janice McKean, are bringing a slab cake to celebrate their tenth wedding anniversary and Krista Ritchie had asked Debbie and Rad Michielson to help to set up tables. Gord Dunbar also mentioned that if there is rain, Fellowship Hall will be used.

8. Treasurer's Report

In Liz Dillman's absence, Donna Mowry shared that \$2725.00 was raised from the Memorial Hymn Sing. Donna Mowry went on to say that in order to pay the bills, money from the capital projects is being used and an appeal to the congregation will be going out soon to request support with finances.

9. New Business

i) Request to the Congregation From Mayor Ken Craig to Meet with him for a Chat and Prayer (June 27th) (Gord Dunbar)

Gord Dunbar shared that Mayor Ken Craig had approached him to request members of our congregation to be invited on June 27th at 11:00 a.m. to have a chat and a prayer. Gord Dunbar acknowledged that this invitation relates well to the vision of wanting a better, stronger, more cohesive community and what a collaborative way to work towards this by meeting with the mayor.

At this time, Gord Dunbar also gave his regrets for the September 12th Council meeting and asked if Judy Zarubick could attend on his behalf.

Closing/Prayer

The agenda having been completed and with no additional business to discuss, Rod Coates declared the meeting closed at 8:13 p.m.

Gord Dunbar let Council in prayer to end the meeting.

Next Council Meeting: September 12th, 2023

Signature of President

Signature of Secretary

Attachment #1

KUC Council – June 13, 2023

PROPOSAL #1

Title: Updates to the Kincardine United Church Invoice Payment & Signing Authority Policies
Originating Body: Council President (on behalf of Administration Committee)

What is the issue?

KUC Council approved in principle the concept of a single signature for cheques at its June 14, 2022 meeting. The Administration Committee subsequently approved a revised Payment of Kincardine United Church Invoices Policy 5.1.10 at its September 8, 2022 meeting, as follows:

5.1.10 Payment of Kincardine United Church Invoices Policy

All Payment of invoices /accounts must be authorized by any one of the signatories, to wit the Treasurer, Donation Steward, Chair of Administration or Chair of Council.

Procedure

When an invoice/account needs payment, the signatory will decide upon the best practice for payment.

At least once a month the bank statement will be inspected by both the Treasurer and the Donation Steward.

One of the Treasurer's monthly reports submitted to the Administration Committee will be a copy of the bank ledger account.

Why is this an issue?

While the Administration Committee has initiated this change, Council retains responsibility for policy decisions. The updated policy is also intertwined with the Signing Authority Policy 5.1.6. The extent to which policy and practice are aligned demonstrates Kincardine United Church's ability to be flexible and thoughtful in its implementation of best practices. Policy and practice misalignment undermines confidence in the integrity of institutional governance.

What might Council do?

The Kincardine United Church Council might approve the following changes to the Kincardine United Church Policy & Procedure Manual:

- 1) Supersede the existing Payment of Kincardine United Church Invoices Policy 5.1.10 (Adopted March 2022) and replace with the proposed updated version.
- 2) Supersede the existing Signing Authority Policy 5.1.6 (Adopted Nov 2018) and replace with the proposed updated version.

[Note: Proposed document updates are listed in Attachment #1]

Proposed Updates to Invoice Payment & Signing Authority Policies

5.1.10 Payment of Kincardine United Church Invoices Policy

All payments of invoices /accounts must be authorized by one of the designated signing authorities: the Treasurer, Donation Steward, Administration Committee Chair or Council President.

Procedure

When an invoice/account needs payment, the signatory will decide upon the best practice for payment.

At least once a month the bank statement will be inspected by both the Treasurer and the Donation Steward.

One of the Treasurer's monthly reports submitted to the Administration Committee will be a copy of the bank account ledger.

ADOPTED: March 2022 UPDATED: June 2023

5.1.6 Signing Authority Policy

PURPOSE: To designate the positions with signing authority on behalf of Kincardine United Church.

POLICY:

Those having signing authority for Kincardine United Church's bank account are the Treasurer, Donation Steward, Administration Committee Chair, or Council President.

ADOPTED: May 2011 UPDATED: June 2023

Attachment #2

KUC Council – June 13, 2023

PROPOSAL #2

Title: Voluntary Associate Minister Designation for Judy Zarubick

Originating Body: Minister of Word, Sacrament & Pastoral Care

What is the issue?

KUC Council approved the designation of Judy Zarubick as a Voluntary Associate Minister (VAM) at its meeting of January 27, 2019, which was denied by the Western Ontario Waterways Human Resource Commission. Until recently, in Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council, retired Designated Lay Ministers were not permitted to function in ministry as Voluntary Associate Ministers as they were not formally recognized as “ministry personnel”.

At the Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council meeting of May 27, 2023, Proposal #4 – Designated Lay Ministers as Voluntary Associate Ministers was approved. This proposal amended the definition of a Voluntary Associate Minister to: **a recognized ordered minister in The United Church of Canada who is retired or between appointments or a designated lay minister who retired while serving a community of faith in the Regional Council, who is a member of a community of faith in the Regional Council and therefore a member of the Regional Council or a designated lay minister who is between appointments but is actively searching for a new call or appointment.**

Why is this an issue?

Whereas

- KUC Council has previously approved the designation of Judy Zarubick as a Voluntary Associate Minister (VAM) that was denied by the Western Ontario Waterways Human Resources Commission, and
- the recent polity change approved by the Regional Council now permits this designation in Judy’s current status as a Retired Designated Lay Minister.

It behooves KUC Council to continue its support for Judy Zarubick by re-designating her as a Voluntary Associate Minister.

What might Council do?

The Kincardine United Church Council might approve the designation of Judy Zarubick as a Voluntary Associate Minister