

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA  
TORONTO CONFERENCE**

**Excerpt of Minutes of a Meeting  
of the Executive of Toronto Conference  
Wednesday, June 10, 2009  
From Pages 655 to 657**

**Ministry Support Task Group**

See p. 08/09-206. The April 4, 2009 Executive meeting had requested the Ministry Support Task Group to return with strengthened recommendations, and the discussion was postponed from the May 13, 2009 meeting of the Executive. The members of the task group submitted new recommendations based on the Executive's discussion, along with a new document entitled "Clustering for Creativity".

MOTION by Linda Thompson/Marg Walker that the Executive receive the document "Clustering for Creativity" (Appendix D).

MOTION

CARRIED.

First recommendation – training and performance evaluations

MOTION by Linda Thompson/Ted Meyers that Toronto Conference encourage each of the Presbyteries within Toronto Conference to sponsor workshops on forming, developing, and sustaining healthy Ministry and Personnel Committees by June 30, 2011, and commit to making standardized resources for annual performance evaluations available to each of their Pastoral Charges and mission units.

MOTION

CARRIED.

Second recommendation – Employee Assistance Program information

MOTION by Svinda Heinrichs/Ken Inkster that Toronto Conference encourage each of the Presbyteries within Toronto Conference to prepare a memo outlining those services provided by Shepell-fgi, and identifying contact information, to be distributed to Ministry Personnel and Ministry and Personnel Committees by December 31, 2010.

MOTION

CARRIED.

Third recommendation – return from disability leave

MOTION by Linda Thompson/Linda Parsons that Toronto Conference encourage each of the Presbyteries within Toronto Conference to establish a policy regarding supervision and support of Ministry Personnel returning to work from any kind of disability leave, that takes into account the duration and nature of that leave.

MOTION

CARRIED.

Fourth recommendation – small group gatherings for Ministry Personnel

MOTION by Eleanor Scarlett/Marion Meyers that Toronto Conference encourage the new Presbyteries to encourage all Ministry Personnel to take time in every way for small group gatherings for mentoring, study and fellowship for mutual nurture and enrichment.

MOTION

CARRIED.

Fifth recommendation – Ministry Personnel clusters

MOTION by Ken Inkster/Pat Edmonds that Toronto Conference encourage the Presbyteries within Toronto Conference to actively consider, debate, and come to their own position on the merits of organizing their Ministry Personnel into clusters, as outlined in the document, “Clustering for Creativity,” by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011.

MOTION

DEFEATED.

Sixth recommendation – pastors to pastors

MOTION by Allan Parker/Rick McKinley that Toronto Conference encourage each of the Presbyteries within Toronto Conference to seek and identify those persons whose gifts, talents, and availability mark them as suited to a ministry of “pastoring pastors,” and explore with them various models of offering a ministry of presence to Ministry Personnel.

MOTION

CARRIED.

Seventh recommendation – housing allowances

MOTION by Rick McKinley/Linda Mitchell that Toronto Conference encourage each of the Presbyteries within Toronto Conference to work toward establishing a fixed, non-negotiable housing allowance for each Pastoral Charge or mission unit based on a reasonable daily commuting distance, and a policy for the regular review of these amounts.

There was considerable discussion, following which a vote was taken after which a new motion was presented.

MOTION

DEFEATED.

The substitute motion was:

MOTION by Maria Mindszenty/Svinda Heinrichs that Toronto Conference encourage each of the new Presbyteries to abide by Section 036(f)ii of *The Manual (2007)*.

MOTION

CARRIED.

Eighth recommendation – travel allowance

MOTION by Linda Parsons/Rick McKinley that Toronto Conference encourage each of the Presbyteries within Toronto Conference to fix a non-negotiable travel allowance rate for all its Pastoral Charges or mission units that honors or exceeds The United Church of Canada's minimum.

MOTION

CARRIED.

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