

Toronto Conference
Assets & Funding Implementation Task Group #3

Final Report
to
Toronto Conference Executive

***“Completion of the Activities to Implement the
Presbyteries of Toronto Conference Corporation”***

February 9, 2011

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1. Background

At the June 10, 2009 meeting of the Executive of Toronto Conference a motion was passed authorizing the establishment of a task group to be named by the Conference President and Executive Secretary. The mandate of the task group was to facilitate the set up of a “new corporation” utilizing the existing corporate structure of Toronto West Presbytery Corporation (TWPC). The new corporation would hold and invest assets for the benefit of the four Founding Presbyteries.

2. The Activities of Task Group #3

The Conference task group was established in late June 2009 and met three times to consider matters related to actions undertaken by the Board of the TWPC over the period October 2009 through March 2010.

Members of the task group continued to work closely with legal counsel and the TWPC Board over the period from April through November 2010.

The actions of the TWPC Board during that time included:

- Modifying the By Laws of TWPC and issuing By Law 1A,
- Changing the name of TWPC to the Presbyteries of Toronto Conference Corporation (PTCC),
- Receiving supplementary letters patent from the Ontario Government,
- Preparing an Operating Agreement between PTCC and the Presbyteries, circulating the Agreement for approval by the Presbyteries, making presentations to the Presbyteries, and receiving signed copies of the Operating Agreements from all four Founding Presbyteries.
- Convening meetings of the members of TWPC and the new Board of PTCC on November 25, 2010 to the conduct business of the Presbyteries of Toronto Conference Corporation at the inaugural Board Meeting.

Members of the task group were: David Allen & Allan Parker - Toronto Conference; Mary McKeen & Marg Krauter - Northern Waters Presbytery; Pat Edmonds – Living Waters Presbytery; Don MacInnes & Sue Cowan - South West Presbytery, and Penny Keel & Nick Walker (Chairperson of the task group) – Toronto Southeast Presbytery. Don MacInnes represented the TWPC and Nick Walker represented the Toronto Tri-Presbytery Corporation on the task group.

A “sub-group” of the task group – David Allen, Allan Parker, Don MacInnes, and Nick Walker worked closely with representatives of the Board of TWPC and its lawyer, David Macdonald to facilitate the process.

3. Completion of the Process to Form PTCC

The process towards a new corporation that was outlined in our April 14, 2010 report was completed with the inaugural meeting of the Board of Directors of PTCC on November 25, 2010.

Each Presbytery nominated three (3) members to serve on PTCC, for a total of twelve (12) Members; as well each Presbytery nominated two (2) Directors for a total of eight (8) Directors for the Corporation. These nominations were accepted by the members of TWPC and the new Board of PTCC at meetings held on November 25, 2010.

The twelve (12) Members of PTCC who will serve for three (3) years are as follows:

- **Northern Waters:** Julia Lobsinger, Beverly Parker, and Rev. David Sherman
- **Living Waters:** Ken Clarke, Charles Drury, and Maureen Huismans
- **Toronto Southeast:** Evelyn Hill, David Hughes, and Rev. Randy Naylor
- **South West:** Bonnie Greene, Lorice Haig, and Glen Keyes.

The eight (8) members of the Board of Directors of PTCC, their positions, and their terms of office are as follows:

- **Northern Waters:** Marg Krauter (1), Suzanne Abbott (2)
- **Living Waters:** John Ostime (1), Harry Ramsaran (2) – Treasurer
- **Toronto Southeast:** Nick Walker (1) – Secretary, Marni Whitaker (2) – Vice President
- **South West:** Don MacInnes (1) – President, Charles Donley (2).

Note: (1) indicates a one-year term & (2) indicates a two-year term.

The Board of Directors met to conduct business at its inaugural meeting on November 25, 2010 and will hold meetings approximately every three months.

There will be an Annual Meeting in fall 2011 where all Members and Board Members will meet to conduct business in accordance with By Law 1A and the laws of the Government of Ontario.

4. Opening Assets for Founding Presbyteries held by PTCC

With the execution of the Operating Agreement by the Founding Presbyteries and PTCC assets from various sources have flowed into the accounts of PTCC.

Toronto Conference has transferred Conference assets and Presbytery assets to PTCC for the four Presbytery accounts; TWPC has transferred its assets to PTCC for the South West

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Presbytery Community Ministries account and for the four Presbytery accounts, and the Toronto Tri-Presbytery Corporation has transferred its assets to PTCC for the four Presbytery accounts.

As of **January 2011**, the ***approximate*** account values in PTCC were:

- **Northern Waters Presbytery Account** **\$1,550,000**
- **Living Waters Presbytery Account** **\$1,550,000**
- **South West Presbytery Account** **\$1,550,000**
- **SW Presbytery Comm. Min. Account** **\$1,650,000**
- **Toronto Southeast Presbytery Account** **\$1,550,000**

5. Recommendation to Toronto Conference Executive: Future Presbytery Policies on Disposition of Property

The task group considered how the future flow of assets to PTCC might occur from the sale of surplus properties through amalgamations or the wind up of Congregations, and how these funds might flow through Toronto Conference to PTCC as contemplated under Sections 268 and 270 of *The Manual*.

There are increasing instances where substantial capital assets are being generated at the congregational level through the sale of properties and there have been situations where these congregational surplus assets are not being shared widely among the Presbyteries within Toronto Conference, for the wider use of the United Church of Canada.

This inequity might be overcome in the future through a process of designating funds for PTCC (where the funds would be shared equally among the four Founding Presbyteries) during Presbytery discussions with local Trustees and with Toronto Conference on the disposition of funds from sales through amalgamations and the wind up of Congregations under Sections 268 & 270 of *The Manual*.

The task group recommends again, as it did in April 2010 that:

Toronto Conference Executive request the four Presbyteries to establish property disposition policies in advance of further property sales, encouraging a spirit of generosity and sharing for the wider use of the United Church of Canada through the Presbyteries of Toronto Conference Corporation (PTCC).