

**Wesley United Church**  
Council Meeting by Zoom  
October 21, 2020 7:00 pm

*Wesley United Church, located on Treaty 4 land, is an Affirming Ministry of Jesus Christ, nurturing spiritual exploration and growth. We advocate for justice and social action. We love and care for ourselves and our neighbours throughout the world.*

Present:

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position on Council</b>
R	Dan Holbrow	President
	Stephanie Dove	Past President
	Laura Thomson	Vice-President
	Al Goudie	Secretary
	Jim Chernick	Treasurer
	June Blau	Admin & Finance Division Coordinator
	Frances Goudie	Christian Education Division Coordinator
	Linda Paul	Pastoral Care Division Coordinator
R	Valerie Stimpson	Pastoral Care Division Coordinator
	Tessa Whyte	Ministry & Personnel Division Coordinator
		Worship Division Coordinator
	Cindy Bourgeois	Minister
	Kent Stewart	UCAS Committee
	John Whyte	UCAS Committee
	Victor Saymoogohma	UCAS
	Christine Lwanga	UCAS

R = Regrets    P = Partial

1. Call to order. In Dan's absence, Laura chaired the meeting. Laura called the meeting to order at 7:15.

Joining the meeting were Victor Saymoogohma, President and Christine Lwanga, Executive Director of UCAS along with Kent Stewart and John Whyte from the Wesley UCAS Committee. Victor and Christine described UCAS and its activities. Christine has been in Canada for 31 years and Victor for 5 years. UCAS has existed for 30 years. It is province wide and has 100 families on its mailing list. It has 8 social workers among its membership. Its purpose is to help people of African descent to integrate and overcome barriers and to promote living together through multiculturalism. Drumming, dance theatre and dialogue are ways of interacting and building relationships. UCAS receives annual funding from Sask Culture. Besides having an office, UCAS would use our building for workshops for social workers and clientele. Workshops would be virtual at this time during Covid and later would be maybe once a week in small groups and once a month in larger groups. Why Wesley? Our vision and mission matches theirs - shared values. Also, location and parking is a good fit. When talking to Cindy they felt at home.

Christine and Victor then left the meeting.

Kent gave a report of their committee meetings and activities. This would be more than a rental agreement for space. It would be a partnership of sharing. A draft agreement was developed after many discussions. The mandate was to develop a framework. The agreement provides a mechanism to manage the details. John reviewed the agreement: Article 2 is important – this is more than a legal relationship; it is a social and spiritual relationship. The agreement cannot possibly predict every action. It is a new venture of partnership, cooperation and we hope, collegiality.

**Motion 2020-54: That Council recommends to the congregation that Wesley enter into a Partnership with UCAS in accordance with the draft Partnership Agreement as presented.** M/S Al Goudie/Tessa Whyte - carried unanimously.

Thank you to John and Kent for all their amazing hard work.

Kent and John then left the meeting.

2. Opening reflection - none
3. Approval of agenda

**Motion 2020-55: That the agenda be approved as circulated.** M/S June Blau/Frances Goudie – carried.

4. Approval of minutes from September 2020 council meeting: Al noted that there was a numbering error in the motions, which he has corrected.

**Motion 2020-56: That the minutes of the meeting of September 16, 2020 be adopted.** M/S Al Goudie/June Blau – carried.

5. Consent agenda

- 5.1. Vice President's Report
- 5.2. Past president's report
- 5.3. President's report
- 5.4. Christian Education – removed from consent agenda
- 5.5. Administration and Finance- removed from consent agenda
- 5.6. Ministry and Personnel
- 5.7. Treasurer
- 5.8. Pastoral Care
- 5.9. Social Justice
- 5.10. Worship

**Motion 2020-57: That the Consent Agenda be approved (with the Christian Education and Administration and Finance reports removed).** M/S Jim Chernick/Frances Goudie – carried.

Reports removed from the Consent Agenda:

Christian Education:

**Motion 2020-58: That there be a donation made of \$500 to Lumsden Beach Camp and \$500 to St Andrew's College.** M/S Frances Goudie/Linda Paul – carried.

Administration and Finance: A request came to Darwin from Kiera that a group of youth wish to have a movie night on Saturday in the auditorium. The policy during the Pandemic is not to use the building between Friday night and Sunday church service. Admin & Finance referred the matter to the Emergency Preparedness Committee. That Committee did not have consensus to permit the gathering so the request has come to Council. After discussion, the consensus was not allow a Saturday gathering. Such a gathering would be

acceptable Sunday to Thursday evenings, provided that all Public Health and Safety guidelines were adhered to and appropriate sanitizing was done. June will ask Darwin to communicate with Kiera.

6. Old Business

6.1 UCAS agreement (moved to the top of the agenda)

6.1a Presentation by UCAS (at 7.10 pm)

6.1b Presentation on the potential agreement by John Whyte and Kent Stewart

6.2 Congregational meeting on October 25. Cindy reported: The sole purpose of the meeting is to discuss the proposed partnership with UCAS. The meeting will be In person and by Zoom immediately after church. We can allow people to vote both by zoom and in person. Kiera is working to allow Zoom participants to speak and can put them up on the screens. United Church rules allow voting by Zoom but not by mail or proxy.

6.3 Deciding on electing a new Council. Laura stated that we are now a third through the church year. Should we continue the present Council or convene a congregational meeting to elect a new Council? No one is calling for a congregational meeting to elect a new council. We are having problems recruiting members to the committees. The pandemic changed much of the way we do business. The consensus was to carry on as we are this year. Stephanie suggested that perhaps this would be the year to combine the Financial and Program meetings into one.

7. October strategy and visioning (new business)

7.1 Early Learning Centre book sale. John Whyte reported that he will display books at the back of the church, not to be handled, and members will be invited to make donations to Wesley by cheque or online. This invitation will go into the weekly announcements.

8. Minister's report. "Thank all you folks for all the hard work you do."

9. Next meeting November 18, 7:00 pm by Zoom. Volunteer for reflection: June

10. Adjournment at 8:56 pm

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Laura Thomson, Vice President

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Al Goudie, Secretary