

DIVISION OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION

HURON PERTH PRESBYTERY

DISPERSAL OF CONGREGATIONAL ASSETS AT THE DISBANDING OF A CONGREGATION

PREAMBLE: At the June 23, 2006 meeting of the Executive of Huron-Perth Presbytery, the Division of Finance and Administration was requested to research the various practices within the united Church for the disposition of congregational assets when a congregation disbands, and to prepare recommendations for review by the Executive. This research has now been completed and a proposed policy has been presented to the Executive. As a result, the following Notice of Motion is being presented. The Motion will be brought to the June 5, 2007 meeting of Huron-Perth Presbytery for consideration.

This policy is based on hope and possibility. While a congregation has now decided that the time has come to disband, the members can see that its past will live on in another part of the United Church, either locally or globally.

MOTION

“WHEREAS Huron-Perth Presbytery recognizes that the assets of a congregation choosing to disband should be used ‘for the benefit of the United Church’ (The Manual of the united Church of Canada, Section 270.d), and

WHEREAS Huron-Perth Presbytery and a pastoral charge or congregation work together for the disposition of funds upon the disbanding of congregations,

THEREFORE: it is moved that Huron-Perth Presbytery set up a Visionary Fund to support worthy endeavours within the bounds of the Presbytery. A minimum of 20% of proceeds from a disbanding congregation would go to the Visionary Fund. This fund would provide loans and/or grants for such things as renovating or building to ensure a church presence, supporting youth ministry and camps within Presbytery, support congregations who are daring to do something new, education and training of future personnel.

This fund would be administered by the Division of Finance and Administration of Huron-Perth Presbytery. The Division would receive requests for consideration. All requests would be subject to Presbytery approval.

It is further recommended that possible choices for the dispersal of the balance would be cemetery upkeep where appropriate, other United Church congregations, the Mission and Service Fund, Five Oaks Training Centre, The Hospital Visitation Program, Huron-Perth Resource Centre, Camp Bimini, and Camp Menesetung.

Motion carried at June 5 2007 meeting of Presbytery.