

Report on the East District Board of Directors' Meeting of March 18/19, 2013

1) 2014 Mission and Ministry Presentation

The Board discussed the format for the 2014 Mission and Ministry Presentation. It was decided that a brochure would be prepared with one page for each department, one page for the administrative functions, one cover page explaining the purpose of the brochure and the desire for feedback, and one page for a questionnaire soliciting input. The one-page departmental information should include a summary of 2013 activities plus 2014 priorities and should be available for the Board's next meeting (May 26/27).

The goal is to have the brochure available for early fall of 2013.

2) Governance Committee

The Board of Directors approved the following documents (with some amendments) submitted by the Governance Committee of the Board

- Role of Department Liaison
- Confidentiality Policy for Departments and Confidentiality Policy for Board of Directors
- Recommendation for Basic Expectations of Department Chairs
- Transparency Guidelines

These will all be incorporated into the District's Policy and Procedures Manual.

3) Sale of Gatineau Property

The Business Manager reported that the sale has now been finalized. The sale price was \$2M and after disbursements for expenses associated with the sale, the net to the District is \$1,862,070.

The Board approved the following disbursement summary which has been recommended by the Department for Finance and approved by them.

Disbursement Summary

<i>1) Misc. Income (Quasi 2009-2012)</i>	<i>195,000.00</i>
<i>2) East District CEF Savings Account (existing)</i>	<i>484,799.77</i>
<i>3) East District CEF Savings Account (Legal)</i>	<i>25,000.00</i>
<i>4) CEF Operating Expenses</i>	<i>146,369.06</i>
<i>5) Net Quasi Endowment Fund (QIF)</i>	<i>1,010,901.34</i>

Item 1 is the amount spent on Francophone ministry to date (taken from the East District fund balance) that had been designated to be funded from the QIF. This amount is now being returned to the fund balance.

Items 2 and 3 represent the amount the District previously spent on establishing the Gatineau church and is now being returned to the district funds as indicated.

Item 4 is money spent from CEF operating funds for the upkeep of the Gatineau property and is now being returned to CEF operating funds.

(Note: The establishment of a Quasi-Endowment Fund for Francophone ministry from the proceeds of the sale of Gatineau was approved at the 2009 District Convention. A quasi-endowment fund is one where both the interest and the principal can be used.)

4) Church Worker's Legal Fund

The establishment of this fund was reported in the summary of the board meeting of January 2013. As identified in item 3 above, \$25,000 has been transferred from the proceeds of the sale of the Gatineau property to establish this fund, which will be set up as a special restricted fund outside of the normal budget. In addition, the Board by motion approved "That each year the total interest from the East District CEF Account be credited to the Church Workers Legal Fund." (Note that the funds in this CEF account are not funds from private CEF investors. They are East District funds.)

5) Synod Mission and Ministry Support

The Business Manager reported on a request by the synodical Treasurer to alter our method of transferring our financial commitments to Synod in order to assist their cash flow requirements. He has requested that our monthly payments be increased to 90% of our budgeted monthly unrestricted gifts and that we adjust budgeted transfers quarterly instead of annually. The Board approved this request.

6) Constitution of Grace Lutheran Church, Kitchener

The Board approved changes to the constitution of Grace Lutheran Church, Kitchener, as recommended by the Committee on Constitutions and Membership.

7) District Office Signage

The Board reviewed the new District Office signage proposals received from the Communications Committee. The Board adopted the following motion: "That the committee be asked to review their proposals and to consider the possibility of having an area for a changeable message and also consider having a cross that would stand out above the top of the sign."

8) Abuse Prevention Committee

The Abuse Prevention Committee advised that they need to determine the status of the abuse prevention policies of the district and its congregations. Accordingly letters are being sent out to Circuit Counselors and to Pastors and Chairmen of Congregations with a questionnaire to be completed and returned to the Abuse Prevention Committee. It is important that all congregations provide a response to the questionnaire.

9) Maritime Ministries

The Board spent considerable time discussing the future of Maritime Ministry and how the district can best assist. The following motion was approved: "That regarding the Maritime Ministries, Moncton receive \$51,000 for 2014 as well as for 2013, and further that a task force be established by the Board of Directors to review the direction and potential for ministry in the Maritimes, and that the task force report back to the BOD. "

The Board should act swiftly to establish the membership on this Task Force.

Regarding Dartmouth, which is currently a preaching station, and under the guidance of Rev. Teuscher and St. Peter's Stratford congregation, it was reported that the house/church property in Dartmouth is in the process of being sold and a new property in Halifax has been secured. The new church is to be known as St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Halifax. The Board approved that "the mission assistance provided by the district through St. Peter's Stratford to Dartmouth (now St. Andrew's - Halifax) be increased from \$7700 to \$12,000 for 2013."

Note that Board members Mrs. Doris Milette and Rev. Teuscher left the room and took no part in the discussion and vote on the above two motions.

10) Budget 2013/2014

The Board approved the budget for 2013/2014 at the total amount of \$1,480,394 which compares to a budget of \$1,425,107 last year, for an increase of 3.7%. To achieve this budget there has been a budgeted increase in congregational receipts of 3.7%. A summary of the 2013/2014 budget is being posted on the district web site, and a detailed copy of the budget is being mailed to each congregation.

For further information on any of these items, contact the Board Chair, Rev. Ron Mohr at: rmohr@execulink.com

The next regular meeting of the Board is on May26/27, 2013

-from Lois Griffin, Secretary
LCC - East District