



The Maritime Conference
The United Church of Canada
L'Eglise Unie du Canada

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Rev. Catherine Gaw
Executive Secretary

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November 1, 2010

To the Secretaries and Chairs
Presbyteries of Maritime Conference

Re: An Update on Proposal 5 from 2010 Annual Meeting

Greetings and peace to you in the name of the One whose ministry we share.

In order to assure that everyone is receiving accurate information regarding the on-going work being done in response to Proposal 5 from the 2010 annual meeting, I am writing on behalf of the Executive, the Hospital Chaplaincy Committee and the Property and Finance Committee of the Conference. At the Annual Meeting of the Maritime Conference in May 2010 a proposal was adopted which reads as follows:

“That the 85th Annual Meeting of the Maritime Conference
direct the Executive of the Maritime Conference, the Finance
and Property Unit, and the Hospital Chaplaincy Committee, to:

1. examine various options including ecumenical partnerships for funding two (2) Hospital Chaplaincies, one each in Halifax, Nova Scotia and Saint John, New Brunswick;
2. explore possibilities for ensuring spiritual care of United Church people at tertiary hospitals outside of their home communities.

The results of this examination will be reported back to the Executive of the Maritime Conference and circulated to the presbyteries for consideration and feedback. A final report with recommendations will be presented to the 86th Annual Meeting of the Maritime Conference for action.” (Section 2, Minutes of Conference, page 156)

The Hospital Chaplaincy Committee and the Property and Finance Committee are working to address the direction given by the annual meeting. At this point in time the intent is that there be a draft proposal forwarded to the Presbyteries by mid-January 2011. The Executive of Conference anticipates receiving feed back from the Presbyteries to this proposal at its meeting

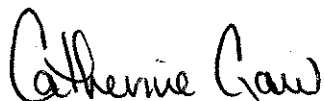
February 11-12, 2011. A proposal would then be prepared for presentation to the 2011 annual meeting.

It is important to reiterate that at this time no actions have been made which would reverse the Decision of the Executive to end the hospital chaplaincy programs in Saint John and Halifax at the end of December 2011. Any such action will be taken before the annual meeting in May 2011.

As the Hospital Chaplaincy Committee and the Finance and Property Committee continue to examine options, it is important that accurate information is shared. In this time of preparation it is important to remember that any communication needs to come directly to the Presbyteries under the name of the Chairs of Hospital Chaplaincy, Finance and Property or the Executive Secretary. This will assure accurate information is received by all.

This note will be posted on the Maritime Conference announcements once all Presbyteries have received it.

Blessings and peace to you all.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Catherine Gaw". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Catherine Gaw

c.c. Ruth Gamble, President, Maritime Conference
Ron Maund, Chair, Maritime Conference Hospital Chaplaincy Committee
Dean Lawrence, Chair, Maritime Conference Finance and Property Committee