

With a deep sense of gratitude for heritage received and an excitement about the possibility of new ministries in the future, the Executive of the Maritime Conference agreed to pursue a letter of intent to sell the properties at 28, 30 and 32 York Street, Sackville NB. The decision took place at a special meeting held on June 29, 2010 in Sackville New Brunswick. These properties are currently held in trust by the Conference through the Financial Services of Maritime Conference and include the Conference Offices and Archives, a storage building and a building currently rented to two businesses and upstairs apartments. At this point in time, and due to the nature of a real estate transaction of this type, the Conference Executive cannot share the terms nor the details regarding the purchaser or the purchase price being offered, but feels it essential that the Conference be aware of this significant event.

On June 10, 2010 an individual approached the Conference expressing interest in purchasing the property. The offer was significant and it was determined by the Sub-Executive that the matter needed to be taken to the full Executive. A written offer to purchase was received on June 14, 2010. A revised offer was received June 21, 2010. The Executive received full details at the June 29th meeting. At the June 29th meeting, the Executive agreed to accept the letter of intent, and a deposit was received. The terms will be finalized by September 30, 2010. Upon the successful completion of the terms of sale, the Conference Office will be moved out of 32 York Street Sackville, NB, no later than June 30, 2011.

For many years (at least since 1982) the Maritime Conference has been considering the best means of honouring and protecting its archival history. Several short term resolutions have been enacted. In recent years (2007), the Conference Executive formed an Archives Planning Group to recommend a course of action. Building on the initial assessment of this Planning Group, a second group was established (2009) with representatives from the Archives Planning Group and the Finance and Property Committee to explore the larger possibility of combining a plan for adequate archives space with one to revitalize space needed for the Conference to function in the future. This second committee has been working over the last several months exploring options to acquire appropriate space. As part of that work, up- to- date assessment of the properties was authorized by the Executive. This assessment was received on June 7, 2010. This committee continued to work on several different fronts including possible partnerships. On July 9, 2010, the Sub-Executive renamed this group the Conference Accommodations Committee. The current members of the Conference Accommodations Committee are Dean Lawrence, Kevin Dingwell, Bob Jones, Frank Chisholm, Judith Colwell and Catherine Gaw. That committee will bring recommendations to the Executive for additional members as the mandate is finalized and lived out.

On June 29, 2010 the Executive voted overwhelmingly in favour of setting this new direction while fully aware of the significant work now before them. The action is seen as an opportunity to explore ways of moving so that we can honour the past, sustain the present, and invest wisely and faithfully in new directions for supporting all ministry throughout our Conference for many years in to the future.

On behalf of the Executive of Maritime Conference,

Ruth Gamble, President, Maritime Conference
July 21, 2010

Catherine Gaw, Executive Secretary