

AUSTRALIA MISSION CENTRE SPECIAL MISSION CONFERENCE,
LEGISLATIVE MEETING

Sunday, 12th February 2023, 11.45 am AEDT

Online and in-person at Community of Christ West Pennant Hills

A) Conference Organisation and Opening Procedures

B) 2023 Credentials Report

The following have been elected or are ex officio delegates for the 2023 Mission Centre Conference.

Bendigo

Ray Kent
Des Woodward

Central Coast

Kerrie Heslop
Wayne Heslop

Drummoyne

Allan Law
Barbara Haworth
Eliza Brunsdon
Jan Haworth
Jane Henricks
Janine Wood
Joanne Godwin-Viglione
Mark Lillico-Thompson
Marshall Leaver
Mimi Brunsdon
Pam Law
Patricia Harrisson
Ray Haworth
Suzanne Tranter
Warren Simmons

Green Cathedral Ministries

Barbara Barker
Barry Ballard
Don Wright
Jill Smith

Kingsgrove

Ray Burdekin
Judy Burdekin
Moses Raju
Bruce Wooderson
Ronda Wooderson
Judith Ryan

Newcastle

Jean Anniwell
Lyn Burg
Jean & Garry Clifford
Audrey Dickinson
Greg Gildea
Marj Manning
Sue Milford
Patricia Moore
Margaret Parsons
Joycelyn Reid
Apologies: Terry Thompson

Perth

Glenn O'Dea
Ross O'Dea
Flora Dutton
Geoff Dutton
Sarah Duxbury
Cheryl Law
Pat Robinson
Ken Robinson
Apologies: Jill & Peter Lonsdale

Taree

Adie Chapman
Christine Bennett
Cynthia Ryan
Helen Taylor
Jack Kenewell
John Albury
Kim Shepherd
Sylvia Saville
Vivie Davis

The Open Door

Bill Gillard
Alex Foster

West Pennant Hills

Clinton Unger
June Stephenson

Wingham
Ruth Boyd
Garry Boyd
Kay Lygoe
Kristine Waugh
Cameron Waugh
Joan Blyth
Eileen Sheather
Gaye Leggett
Val Leggett

Aust Mission Centre General
Ben Smith

Aust Mission Centre Non Res

Ex officio
Adam Wade
Adrian O'Dea
Allan Walshe
Anne Bonnefin
Barbara Woodward
Candice Care-Unger

(Continued Ex officio)
Charmaine Unger
David Henricks
Dianne Kent
Emma Espinosa
Frances Breen
Janet Pratt
Jenny Robinson
Julie Crittenden
Kassandra Unger
Ken Archer
Kristie Woodward
Lisa Yen
Lyn Palmer Lander
Malcolm Stephenson
Robert Thompson
Robyn Rankin
Russell Wade
Ruth Walshe
Susan Palmer
Tim Prescott
Wendy Ballard
William Johnson
Apologies: Rick Sarre

C) **Previous Minutes, 2022 Special Mission Conference** – APPENDIX 1. Pages 3-8

D) **D1: Review & Approval of nominated delegates to the 2023 World Conference**

Whereas the Special Australian Mission Centre Conference held on 19th of June 2022 resolved:

1. That the Mission Centre Presidency be authorised to generate a list of individuals who plan to attend the 2023 World Conference as delegates or alternates and
2. That this list be periodically updated, and then reviewed and approved by a Special Mission Conference and submitted in time to comply with the 2023 World Conference credentials committee deadline to receive delegate/alternate lists.

And whereas the Australian Mission Centre Presidency has generated, periodically updated and circulated the list below of individuals who plan to attend the 2023 World Conference who have indicated their availability to be delegates or alternates for the Australian Mission Centre.

Resolved: the following individuals are elected as delegates for the Australian Mission Centre for the 2023 World Conference:

Anne Bonnefin
Adele Fielding
Craig Woodward
Gail Robinson

Harry Fielding
Julie Crittenden
Kristie Woodward
Leanne Moore

Wade Moore
Robert Thompson
Vera Entwistle

E) **Meeting Close**

APPENIX 1

2022 AUSTRALIA MISSION CENTRE SPECIAL MISSION CONFERENCE LEGISLATIVE MEETING MINUTES

Sunday 19th June 2022, Online and in-person at Newcastle Community of Christ

Opening Procedures:

The 2022 Australia Mission Centre Conference convened, online via Zoom and in-person at Newcastle Community of Christ church, Wallsend, NSW, at 1.45PM AEST on Sunday 19th of June 2022. Interim Mission Centre President Adam Wade assumed the Chair and extended a welcome to delegates, friends, members and guests followed by an Acknowledgement of Country.

The Chair gave greetings from the Field Team, including Field Bishop Mark Euritt and welcomed Apostle Mareva Arnaud to the conference.

The conference sang Hymn #96, *Now in this Moment*.

Bro. Wade offered the invocation before making an announcement that the meeting will be recorded for the purposes of minute taking only and will not be broadcast or shared. The Chair reminded the Conference that the credentials report would be read and that AMC General and Non-residential members or delegates *ex-officio* now had the chance to nominate themselves if they had not already done so.

The Chair introduced conference parliamentarian Rick Sarre.

The Chair outlined expectations relating to voting procedures. To expedite the voting online, those on Zoom were given time to indicate a vote in support ('for') or 'against'.

The Chair reminded those gathered that this is a delegate conference. The Chair further mentioned that during debates the procedure would follow the 'rule of alternates' and reminded online delegates, if they do wish to speak, to unmute themselves and turn their video on.

Selection of the Chair

Apostle Mareva Arnaud assumed the Chair

Moved, Julie Crittenden

That Acting Mission Centre President, Adam Wade, preside as Chair over the 2022 Mission Centre Conference.

A second was received. Carried.

The chair was handed to Adam Wade

Organising Procedures:

Conference/Credential Secretary

Moved, Cassandra Unger.

That Helen Taylor serves as the Conference/Credential Secretary for Australia Mission Centre Conference 2022.

A second was received. Carried.

Credential Secretary's Report C-1:

Helen Taylor, the Credential Secretary, read changes and apologies to the published delegate list into the minutes.

The Credentials Secretary read-

Additions of:

FRANKSTON CONGREGATION:

Brian Ayres
John Winterton
Eric Judd
Lindsay Hyde
Doug Winterton
Deanna Ayres
Ross McClelland
Tamara Slocomb
Anne Ruston

MISSION CENTRE NON-RESIDENTIAL:

Janine Lewis

MISSION CENTRE GENERAL:

Annette Francis
Sarah Crittenden
Shar Francis

EX OFFICIO:

Ben Smith

JOHNS RIVER

Rebecca Hazell

The Chair called for further changes to the delegate list, and seeing none, sought a motion:

Moved, Todd Houston

That the 2022 Mission Conference approve the Credential Report as corrected.

A second was received. Carried.

The Chair declared the 2022 Australia Special Mission Centre Conference organised

Approval of Previous Minutes:

The Chair stated that, without objection, the 2022 Mission Centre Conference would receive the minutes of 2021 Mission Centre Conference.

There was no objection raised and the minutes of the 2021 Mission Centre Conference were received as printed.

Receiving of Financial Reports:

Chair reminded the assembled conference that this is a Special Mission Centre Conference; and hence there will be no formal presentations from the Financial Officer, or of the Community of Christ Ltd Annual Reports or any Saints Care Ltd Annual Reports.

The Chair mentioned that Community of Christ Ltd and Saints Care Ltd Annual Reports are published publicly and lodged with the Australian Charities and Not-for-profits Commission (ACNC) every year, and anyone interested can ask the Mission Centre Administrative Assistant how those reports can be accessed.

Approval of the 2022-2023 Budget

The Chair advised the total budget projection for fiscal year 2022/23 was \$1.842 million. This proposed resolution allows for the Community of Christ Ltd Board of Directors, in consultation with the Mission Centre Council, to approve a detailed budget for fiscal year 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, and for that budget to be published to the wider church as soon as possible. (He advised that the Leadership Team had found itself unable to develop that detailed budget in time for publication due to the complications of seeking two new positions during the lead up to the Special Mission Centre Conference preparation. The Mission Centre Financial Officer advised that that would also take into account the operational changes to the completion and opening of the Tiona Chapel.

Moved, Adam Wade

That Community of Christ Ltd Board of Directors, in consultation with Mission Centre Council, will approve a revised detailed total budget for fiscal year 1 July 2022 to 30 June 2023, and that budget will be published to the wider church as soon as approved.

A second was received. Carried.

Boards and Committees:

Chair advised that at this point in a Mission Centre Conference it was usual for enabling legislation to be presented to Conference to fill the roles within the Boards and committees of the Australia Mission Centre. However, this being a Special Mission Centre Conference, all elected and sustained office bearers will continue until the 2023 Mission Centre Conference. The exception to this will be occasioned by a new Australia Mission Centre President. The *ex-officio* changes will automatically occur to the Community of Christ Ltd Board, Saints Care Ltd Board, Mission Centre President Counsellors and the Mission Centre Council.

Office bearers who will continue are -:

1. Kallara Conference Centre Management Committee, Tiona Management Committee, Australian Investment Committee which are authorised sub-committees of the Community of Christ Ltd. Board.
2. Australian Earth Stewardship Team
3. Mission Centre Historian
4. Mission Centre Recorder
5. Children and Youth Protection (CYP) Officer
6. Australia Mission Centre Field Ministers

G1: Selection of Delegates for the 2023 World Conference

Moved, Geoff Ivers

1. That the Mission Centre Presidency be authorised to generate a list of individuals who plan to attend the 2023 World Conference as delegates or alternates on a first come basis, and
2. That this list be periodically updated, and then reviewed and approved by the Mission Centre Council and submitted in time to comply with the 2023 World Conference credentials committee deadline to receive delegate/alternate lists.

A second was received.

Rick Collins moved an amendment that the words “on a first come basis” and “by the Mission Centre Council” be excised.

A second was received.

Br. Collins spoke to the amendment.

Discussion followed. Carried.

The Chair called for a vote on Item G1, as amended below:

Resolved, That the Mission Centre Presidency be authorised to generate a list of individuals who plan to attend the 2023 World Conference as delegates or alternates and

Resolved, That this list be periodically updated, and then reviewed and approved by a Special Mission Conference and submitted in time to comply with the 2023 World Conference credentials committee deadline to receive delegate/alternate lists. *Carried.*

Seeds of Hope

At this point, Bro Adam and Sr Mareva made a joint presentation on the Seeds of Hope plan for the Pacifikasia Field.

D2: Bridge of Hope Allocation

Moved *Julie Crittenden*

Whereas, The 2019 World Conference approved the Bridge of Hope plan whereby the World Church would move US\$124 million into reserves by 1st January 2024 to cover the anticipated costs of continuing to support World Church retirees internationally, and

Whereas, Under this plan, specific allocations were ascertained for each Field of the World Church, and

Whereas, The Pacifikasia Field has, through a collaborative process, resolved to develop a Seeds of Hope program based on the principles of generosity, that will, firstly, meet the Bridge of Hope obligations placed upon the Field, and, secondly, to gather further funds to support the mission of the church across the Field more generally, and

Whereas, The Australia Mission Centre in 2016 approved AMCC2016 – 9 Sustaining the Australia Mission Centre and Supporting the Church Beyond our Shores, and remains guided by it, and

Whereas, The Australia Mission Centre has been asked by the World Church to meet the cash operational shortfalls of the World Church within Australia from 1st July 2022 until 1 January 2024, and

Whereas, The Australia Mission Centre's financial assets continues to be well supported by the sale of properties, *then be it*

Resolved, *That the 2022 Special Mission Centre Conference approve an A\$500,000 allocation from its financial assets to be drawn upon as needed, and be it further*

Resolved, *That the Presiding Bishop of the World Church be advised that it is our understanding that this approved allocation will be considered a Seeds of Hope contribution, and recognised as part of the Pacifikasia Field's Bridge of Hope funding which may be required by the World Church, and be it further*

Resolved, *That the 2023 Mission Centre Conference revisit and review this action.*

A Second was received.

Sr Crittenden spoke to the motion.

There followed was discussion for and against.

Moved *Sarah Duxbury* that the motion be put,

A second was received. Carried

The main motion was then put. Carried

D3: World Church Budgeting and Audit Process

Moved Julie Crittenden

Whereas,

1. World Conference Resolution 1315: World Church Budgeting and Audit Process (Adopted April 8, 2019) included the clause, *Individuals elected by World Conference as members of the World Church Finance Board shall be church members in good standing, and shall not be current employees of Community of Christ in local or World Church jurisdictions, and may not serve more than two (2) consecutive full terms (six years) without a three-year break in service. A term completed by a person appointed to fill an inter-Conference vacancy is not a full term, and*
2. There will be times when the best representative of a multi-nations jurisdiction is indeed an employee of Community of Christ in that jurisdiction, then be it

Resolved, That the Australia Mission Centre Special Conference request the First Presidency to move to amend WCR 1315 such that it reads as follows:

World Church Budgeting and Audit Process

1. Individuals elected by World Conference as members of the World Church Finance Board shall be church members in good standing, and generally will not be current employees of Community of Christ in local or World Church jurisdictions,
2. By exception, where a multi-nations jurisdiction has recommended an employee as its representative, the First Presidency may accept such nomination,
3. Any members of the World Church Finance Board so nominated and elected may not serve more than two (2) consecutive full terms without a term break in service. A term completed by a person appointed to fill an inter-Conference vacancy is not a full term.

A second was received.

Sr Crittenden spoke to the motion.

Discussion followed. Carried.

Bro Wade handed the Chair to Apostle Mareva Arnaud

A-1 Sustain the Australia Mission Centre President

Moved Linda Hazell

That C. John Taylor be sustained as the Australia Mission Centre President.

A second was received.

Sr Arnaud read the letter of recommendation from the First Presidency, then invited C. John Taylor to share his response. The Chair called the vote on the motion.

Carried.

Item A-1a Sustain Counsellors to the Mission Centre President

Moved John Taylor

That Adam Wade and Lisa Yen be sustained as counsellors to the Mission Centre President

A second was received. *Carried.*

Sr Mareva returned the Chair to Bro Wade.

Motion of appreciation for Ben Smith

Moved Rick Sarre a motion of appreciation for Ben Smith for his leadership in the role of Mission Centre President for five years.

A second was received.

Br Sarre spoke to the motion

Carried, with acclamation.

Ben Smith shared in response.

Setting apart for Mission Centre President

At this point the Conference paused to offer setting apart prayers for C. John Taylor as Mission Centre President, by Mareva Arnaud and Ben Smith.

Note: as Adam Wade and Lisa Yen were continuing to be counsellors to the Mission Centre President they was no requirement for them to be set apart.

Closing Procedures:

The Chair, Adam Wade, recognised Robert Thompson with thanks for his chairing of the committee that organised the Peace Summit weekend event, and Robert, too, spoke thanks for all involved in across the board.

The Chair reminded the Mission Centre Conference, that:

The 2021 Mission Centre Conference referred to the action of the 2016 Australia Mission Centre conference (AMCC2016-2) to advise the date for the 2023 Australia Mission Centre Conference will be announced by the Mission Centre Presidency in consultation with the Mission Centre Financial Officer and the Mission Centre Council once the date and location are decided upon.

Motion of appreciation for Adam Wade

Helen Taylor moved a motion of appreciation to Adam Wade for his role of Interim Mission Centre President.

A second was received. Carried.

The Chair announced that he would entertain a motion to adjourn the conference *sine die*

Moved Allan Walshe.

A second was received. Carried.

The conference body sang Hymn #657, *Make Us O God a Church that Shares.*

And a closing prayer was offered by Apostle Arnaud.

The meeting closed at 4.10 PM AEST.