



2015 Summit: Adventures AGM DRAFT Minutes

NOTE: AGM Minutes are considered draft until voted on at the next AGM

**The 2015 CCVT AGM began at 1.45pm on Saturday, May 16, 2015
and was held at Wallan Gateway Church, 7 Commercial Drive, Wallan**

Dwelling in the Word

Andrew Menzies (Principal, Stirling) led a time of reflection based around an alternative Beatitudes written by the Klong Toey UNOH team; inviting participants to write their own Beatitudes for their neighbourhood.

The Chair Milton Oliver welcomed people to the AGM and explained the process that would be followed.

Motion 1 – Affiliation The United Oromo Christian Church of Australia

Resolved: That The United Oromo Christian Church of Australia be affirmed and welcomed as an Affiliated Church of Churches of Christ in Victoria and Tasmania Inc.

Moved: Philip Kua (Clayton) and **Seconded:** Paul Cameron (CCVT EO, Discovery)

The AGM noted that this proposed Affiliation was communicated to churches in accordance with the Constitution, and there being no objections received, those gathered at the Celebration Event this morning celebrated the affiliation of the church, and now, as has been our past practice, the AGM formally approves the Motion, without discussion and by acclamation.

Minutes of 2014 AGM

Resolved: That the Minutes of the 2014 Annual General Meeting of Churches of Christ in Victoria and Tasmania Inc. be accepted.

Moved: Terry Vickerman (Frankston), **Seconded:** Bill Hearn (Mulgrave)

An Adventures Story

Andrew Tonkin, senior minister at Mildura was interviewed by the EO, Paul Cameron.

Renewal Challenge Update

David Warren and Frank Morabito (Prop Corp), Tim Brewster (Community Care), Andrew Menzies and John Sharpe (Stirling), Marshall Muller and Kaye Reid (Mission and Ministry) were invited to the stage in an expression of support

for the Renewal Challenge process. The AGM noted the apologies of Paul Arnott (Community Care), and Lynette Leach (Stirling, who spoke via video).

The EO, Paul Cameron presented a Renewal Challenge Update, drawing on the Renewal Challenge FAQs paper, and other points found in the attached notes.

Representatives of the four Partner Departments (PDs) then spoke in support of Renewal Challenge.

David Warren: "In my time at Prop Corp, this has been the most coordinated effort experienced so far; as part of the Implementation Taskforce, this is a great start to a wonderful journey".

Tim Brewster: "Community Care wants to be more aligned with the other PDs, this helps churches wanting to be more engaged with their communities, and I am excited to be able to simplify processes for churches."

Lynette Leach (via video): "Stirling is committed to full participation in the Renewal Challenge process; I can recommend the FAQs doc, it puts the journey into an historic context (Future Directions to Affinity to Renewal Challenge). Being a movement is really important, and leadership formation and equipping is part of what Stirling can contribute as well as providing theological reflection and critique of the Renewal Challenge and all that comes from it. Healthy relationships in any structure are always the key, and I affirm our place in the ongoing conversation".

Andrew Menzies: "Silos and specialisation can be very unhealthy, the whole is always greater than the sum of the parts..."

Marshall Muller: "We at Mission and Ministry are entering into a phase of changing our culture".

The Chair concluded by affirming that "missional functionalities are the primary consideration of the Challenge; as well as learning not to hold on to some things too tightly, for the church is not ours, it's Christ's".

Opportunity was then provided for comments and questions.

Resolved: That this AGM affirms the Renewal Challenge and urges Council to keep on going with the process.

Moved: Dave Tolputt (Castlemaine), **Seconded:** Scott Mageean (Hobart City)

Delegates were given a further reminder about voting at any time during the meeting, and up to its closure.

Partner Department Reports

Community Care (Tim Brewster, Board Chair)

Delegates were reminded of the recent research project into the neighbourhood engagement churches were doing, and what they want to do.

Three things emerged: meals and food banks, putting together a register of each of these; youth mentoring was wanted, looking at models now; seed funding grants have been made to churches.

Question from Marshall Muller (Hobart City): "Can you share how the two boards are now working together?"

Tim indicated that there are now three bodies working together around a single table (Council, M&M and Community Care), while ensuring the various focuses and responsibilities are maintained.

Mission and Ministry (Kaye Reid, Transitional Team Leader)

Mission and Ministry are working hard on what Renewal looks like, for which Kaye commended the current M&M staff; the composition of the board has had significant changes, and it has been a pleasure to acknowledge Community Care additions to the M&M Board, and meeting as Council Plus helps us all be much more aware of 'living into the future' and the challenges that brings.

Question from Mark McAuley (Monash): "Given the shape of the traditional process of training ministers, what about the Apostles/Prophets/Evangelists?"

Kaye responded that there is a need for a balance of these ministry gifts across all levels; that it has been talked about a lot; that leadership development needs to name it and seek it; thus we are very aware of the conversation's importance, and are collaborating with Stirling as an important part of the process; while at the same time valuing pastors and teachers discerning what gifts are needed where.

An Adventures Story

A video clip narrated by Andrew Menzies introduced delegates to the new Hindmarsh Centre for Mission and Ministry and Archives Centre at Mulgrave.

Stirling (Andrew Menzies, Principal)

Brief highlights were provided based on the written report, including acknowledging the 2014 Board members; and some 2015 plus plans were shared: the completion of the Hindmarsh Centre and the archive centre, Brian Macallan developing online learning, Tabor arrangements are an ongoing conversation, a Professional Doctorate launched, new campuses in Geelong and Queensland, Graduate School for Health and Aged Care launched, new board members.

Upcoming Seminars were also noted: Two of CCVT's Indonesian friends will be taking part in the July 20-22 Churches of Christ Identity intensive. Mick Duncan and Urban Transformation—also in July; John Bond and Milton Oliver church planting—in June.

Prop Corp (David Warren, Board Chair and Frank Morabito, Acting CEO)

Delegates noted that Frank Morabito has been with Prop Corp for eight years.

The Chair noted that the journey of the last 4-5 years into insurance and financial services, and nationally, has provided a big change; yet Prop Corp is looking forward to more growth and development through the Renewal Challenge.

Appreciation was expressed to Terry McCredden, and thanks to Charlie Jung for joining the board as a new Trustee. The Chair also noted that it had been a challenging time with Joel Plotnek (CEO) having been unwell for a period of months.

Frank Morabito expressed his thanks to the Prop Corp staff team, indicating that both Alison Peisley and Mel Milson are both present at the AGM. Frank then affirmed that Prop Corp tries to balance having a strong balance sheet with providing support to CCVT and mission throughout CCVT: There is now \$30M in the Prop Corp portfolio, with a return of about 13%; the size of loans to churches is increasing; and CCFS is CCVT's response to the challenge of what churches are trying to do...and it is driven by mission.

An Adventures Story

Sally Tonkin, CEO St Kilda Gatehouse, an affiliated Mission Agency of CCVT, was interviewed by the EO. She outlined the history and purpose of Gatehouse (been going for 23yrs, is a drop in centre seeing around 25 women per day—an increasing number; the women come for things they need, but also the community they find there). Gatehouse's involvement with the media following the death of Tracey changed the language of reportage by consistently seeking to humanise Tracey and other women; this had a big impact on how the story was told. Gatehouse has a new preventative project in Dandenong, as they have discovered that the age of 13 is when many girls enter sex work. Churches can help by donating clothes, toiletries and money, and prayer (particularly for Dandenong – assessing the violence in the area, wisdom and support to ensure Gatehouse is creating a safe space).

CCVT Inc. Finance report (Frank Morabito)

While maintaining sustainability is challenging in these times of change, it is important to note that the Ministry Contribution rate has remained constant; there have been great returns on investment; and active management of expenses, resulting in a modest surplus for the year enabling the continuation or increase of its grants to other groups.

Thanks were expressed to all Prop Corp finance and accounting staff for the services provided to CCVT and affiliates.

Motion 2 - Domestic Violence

The Chair noted that Paul Arnott (ED, Community Care) was a key contributor to the formation of this Motion; and as the funeral of his mother-in-law was held in Tasmania yesterday, he is unable to be present.

Well in excess of 80% of AGM Delegates, in accordance with Constitution 10.4.2, agreed to add a further paragraph to the Motion as distributed to Delegates. This paragraph read as follows:

“We commit ourselves as Churches of Christ in Victoria and Tasmania to be churches that advocate for and live out Christ's message that men and women are created equal in God's image (Genesis 1.27; Galatians 3:28), and will consequently work to change attitudes that contribute to the demeaning of and violence against women.”

Moved: Milton Oliver (Chair, Roxburgh Park/Wallan), **Seconded:** Geoff Meehan (Montrose).

Resolved: That Churches of Christ in Victoria and Tasmania Inc., at its Annual General Meeting on May 16, 2015, affirms the following:

“Violence against women is the leading cause of death, disability and illness in Australian Women aged 15-44. It is a broad societal problem that is never acceptable and cannot be justified on any grounds. One aspect of this problem is domestic and family violence, which predominantly affects women and children; between 1999 and 2010 almost 95% of perpetrators of family violence against women were male.

As people committed constitutionally to the Shared Value of Justice, we value the dignity, equality and inherent worth of all persons regardless of gender, race, economic standing or belief system (Genesis 1.27). Therefore, in announcing the Kingdom and expectant of its arrival, we work for social justice, equal opportunity for all persons, and the responsible care and management of the environment. (From the CCVT Inc. Statement of Purpose)

Acknowledging the measures that the Federal, State and Local Governments have taken to respond to domestic violence so far, we urge them to go further in their provision of funding and resources to address the causes and outcomes.

We commit ourselves as Churches of Christ in Victoria and Tasmania to be churches that advocate for and live out Christ's message that men and women are created equal in God's image (Genesis 1.27; Galatians 3:28), and will consequently work to change attitudes that contribute to the demeaning of and violence against women."

Moved: Sally Tonkin (CEO, St Kilda Gatehouse, member at Fitzroy North) **Seconded:** Graeme Cann (Berwick)
There were no questions or comments, and subsequently the Motion was carried unanimously.

Question: Alan Matheson (Surrey Hills) asked "What do we do with page 2? How does that feed into the motion?"

The Chair responded indicating that it doesn't feed into the motion, it is a resources page.

The AGM also noted that the statistics provided in the Motion were based on a 2004 VicHealth study, and South Australian data.

Other AGM Business

Anne Oliver (Roxburgh Park) noted a 'Godly men' article written by the Chair for a church paper was a good resource; and asked for a definition of the word 'mission' commonly used at the Summit.

The EO responded by pointing to the first question in the Renewal Challenge FAQs paper "CCVT exists to join in with the mission of God, the missio Dei, reconciling people with God and each other through Jesus Christ; living out God's dream for the world—his Kingdom, the space where Christ and his Way reigns, where righteousness and justice, peace, joy and shalom are increasingly manifest", noting that this will be expressed in many ways in different local contexts and neighbourhoods.

Resolved: That all Reports be received as distributed, including the ratification of new Board members, where relevant.

Moved: Milton Oliver (Chair, Roxburgh Park/Wallan), **Seconded:** Rod Brown
Carried unanimously.

The EO then gave a brief glimpse at the rest of 2015 and into 2016: A further round of the very well received Regional Conversations are planned and looked forward to, with content around governance and also a more personal response to the Renewal Challenge; a projected October 17 Special General Meeting (maybe including input from Martin Robinson), the 2016 Summit events will be held at this similar time in May, with a possible international conversation partner.

The Chair expressed his appreciation to members of Council, and then concluded the AGM by leading a time of prayer in small groups.

4.35pm AGM declared closed.

