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## **DEXCOM Meeting Minutes**

### **October 23-24, 2023**

#### **Present:**

Brad Boyd, Abe Chan, Keith Cheung, David Driedger, Carmen Kinniburgh, Janet Kirby, Andrew Martens (absent Oct 23), Terry Ann Opperman, Mark Peters, Kenda Reimer, Steve Schneider

#### **Guests:**

Genghis Chan, Jamie Fox, Ryan Graham, Erin Knott, Andy Lambkin, Dwayne Toews

### **October 23, 2023 – Sevenoaks Alliance Church**

#### **Sharing and Prayer**

Mark Peters opened the meeting at 1:21pm, which was followed by a time of sharing and prayer.

#### **DEXCOM Education Session on Land Stewardship**

Ryan Graham joined the meeting via Zoom and Andy Lambkin joined in person at 2:36pm.

Ryan and Andy shared about the state of the conversation about land and building stewardship within The Alliance Canada, which while still in an early phase, spans a spectrum of considerations including ideas of new development, dealing with aging buildings and shrinking congregations, New Ventures needing meeting places, etc. With the evangelical church in North America in decline overall, the need for a plan for land use stewardship will be increasingly important.

After establishing a case for why this conversation matters, Ryan and Andy walked through a three-part articulation of a theology of land as a foundational part of developing a plan for land use stewardship. This is important, in part, to speak into a climate where there is a strong capitalist worldview, and where revivalist theology or 'build it and they will come' theology still speaks loudly into how we manage our land use.

The proposed theology of land, which Andy was asking for input into, focused on three pieces:

- land is God's
- the land we have is a gift from God
- we are to steward that gift for God's kingdom purposes.



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A key element to consider is how the corporate church (and we need a clearer definition of who comprises the corporate church – local, district, national, etc.) speaks into decisions about land use so that the land God has entrusted to us has the greatest impact for our mission of demonstrating love for God and love for neighbours. As a DEXCOM, there is both a protective (protect against land being unwisely dispersed) and proactive (how can we best use the land for kingdom purposes) responsibility in considering use of land. We need to find ways to get these conversations into local churches with boards and pastors to work together on solutions.

Questions and comments raised by DEXCOM included:

- The challenge of balancing the autonomy of local churches with the needs of the corporate church.
- The complexities of changing perspectives of land/air space/partial sale for redevelopment.
- Concern over how we use the language in this conversation given our history in Canada and the conversation around reconciliation.
- Ensuring legacy use (possibly through a reversion clause) if a property is given away to another group.
- Ensuring we aren't boxed into holding onto land, but that it can still have convertibility.
- Regarding a theology of land, wonder if land is given to us as a gift or vice versa, or perhaps it is a more interdependent relationship.
- How does this respect the life cycle of churches, and the opportunity to let one go in a community in order to birth something in a community with a greater need for gospel presence?
- As we step into this, we need to continue to bolster understanding/practice of discernment.
- Developing a similar grid with other districts with some shared language would be helpful.
- Other 'older' denominations who are ahead of us in this curve may have some wise counsel to share with us on these issues.
- We'd appreciate hearing back as these conversations with other DEXCOMs take place.

Ryan expressed appreciation, then prayed over DEXCOM and then Ryan and Andy left the meeting at 3:59pm and a short break was taken.

### **Interview with Jamie Fox**

Jamie Fox joined the meeting at 4:05pm and shared some stories of how God is at work at Sevenoaks as well as some areas for prayer.



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DEXCOM prayed for Jamie.

The meeting adjourned at 4:35pm. DEXCOM then adjourned to dinner.

### **October 24, 2023 – District Office**

Mark Peters opened the meeting at 8:31am and led a devotional followed by a time of listening prayer.

1. The business meeting was called to order by Steve Schneider at 8:55am and he reviewed a few ways DEXCOM will conduct its meetings.

2. Adoption of Agenda (**TAB B**)

An Information item was added as 11.6.

**Moved (A. Chan) to approve the Agenda as amended.**

**CARRIED**

3. Signing of Declarations and Agreements (**TAB C**)

4. Declaration of Conflict of Interest

Janet expressed a conflict of interest regarding nominating the Chair of the District Conference 2025 Nominating Committee.

5. Items Removed from Consent Agenda (**TAB D**)

No items were removed from the Consent Agenda.

6. Adoption of Consent Agenda (**TAB D**)

The following items were included on the Consent Agenda:

- Approval of DEXCOM Meeting Minutes April 17-18, 2023
- Approval of DEXCOM Virtual Meeting Minutes June 15, 2023
- Approval of DEXCOM Email Minutes June 30, 2023
- Approval of DEXCOM Email Minutes June 30, 2023
- Approval of DEXCOM Email Minutes September 11, 2023
- Approval of DEXCOM Email Minutes September 11, 2023
- Approval of Report of the District Superintendent to DEXCOM
- Approval of Bylaws Committee Virtual Meeting Minutes June 8, 2023



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- Approval of Bylaws Committee Email Minutes August 29, 2023
  - Approval of Bylaws Committee Virtual Meeting Minutes September 11, 2023
  - Approval of Bylaws Committee Virtual Meeting Minutes September 19, 2023
  - Approval of Model Church Bylaws Revisions
  - Approval of Chilliwack Chinese Alliance Church Bylaws
  - Approval of Finance Committee Virtual Meeting Minutes May 25, 2023
  - Approval of Finance Committee Email Minutes June 8, 2023
  - Approval of Finance Committee Email Minutes July 5, 2023
  - Approval of Finance Committee Virtual Meeting Minutes September 15, 2023
  - Approval of Finance Committee Email Minutes October 13, 2023
  - Approval of Income Statement Summary for September 2023
  - Approval of Balance Sheet Summary at September 30, 2023
  - Approval of Loans to Churches at September 30, 2023
  - Approval of Licensing and Ordination Committee Minutes April-October 2023
  - Approval of DEXCOM Standing Committee on Licensing and Ordination Terms of Reference Revisions
  - Approval of List of Approved Licensing and Ordination Interviewers and Markers
  - Approval of Closure of Mosaic
  - Approval of Date and Location of the 2024 Annual General Meeting for the Christian and Missionary Alliance – Canadian Pacific District
  - Approval of Action Log as of October 10, 2023

**Moved (D. Driedger) to adopt the Consent Agenda as presented.**

**CARRIED**

## 8. Strategic Plan Updates

Mark Peters asked Lead Team members to share updates related to the Strategic Plan:

- Dwayne Toews shared about good progress with Leadership Development Cohorts with one completed, one underway, and a new one launching in January; involvement with the National Licensing and Ordination Committee in working through alignment between districts; working on developing ideas for a national leader development pathway; working on rebooting the New Worker Retreat for fall 2024; and some of the church transitions he is helping to facilitate.
- Erin Knott shared about working with a few churches as they develop and live into the next steps of structure; progress in restoring the district's relationship with Eagle Bay Camp and steps forward in dealing with liability issues; working on the District Office's information management structure; working with the National Policy Advisory Team; and three legal matters she has been helping to navigate. It was noted by Mark Peters that DEXCOM would be wise to anticipate increased litigation matters in the future.



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- Genghis Chan shared about a season of growth within our Chinese churches with increasing numbers and opportunities for additional congregations and church plants and an increasing desire of senior pastors in Chinese churches to move toward handing leadership to second-generation leaders.
  - Mark Peters shared about increased collaboration between districts in matters of strategy and implementation; some steps being taken with district finances as we step into post-Covid realities; and positive involvement with our Canadian Theological Commission as they wrestle with matters related to gender and sexuality.

A break was taken at 10:01am.

Dwayne updated DEXCOM on Stacy Dryfhout's health diagnosis and long-term disability. Internally, Kim Tran has been promoted to Stacy's role, and Sarah Parker has been hired to fill Kim's previous role. Dwayne led in prayer for Stacy.

## 9. DEXCOM Policy Governance (**TAB E**)

### 9.1. District Superintendent Monitoring Report Review

**Moved (D. Driedger) that DEXCOM accept the in-depth Monitoring Report for October 2023 as providing reasonable interpretation and evidence of compliance with all aspects of the policies covered except for policy 4.4.5. DEXCOM accepts the explanations for the non-compliance with policy 4.4.5 and the Records of Employment have been filed and the processes accepted.**

**CARRIED**

**Moved (D. Driedger) that DEXCOM accept the District Superintendent Monitoring Report for October 2023 acknowledging that the exception to policy 4.4.5 has been rectified.**

**CARRIED**

### 9.2. *Policy Governance Manual* Review of Section 3, Policy Type: DEXCOM-Management Delegation

**Action Item** – The District Bylaws Committee to recommend changes to section 3.4 of the *DEXCOM Policy Governance Manual* to capture changes to the monitoring policy.



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9.3. Executive Limitations Revisions and Additions

**Moved (B. Boyd) that DEXCOM approve revisions to policies 2.2.2 and 2.7.3 and the additions and revisions to the executive limitations policies on church loans in the *DEXCOM Policy Governance Manual*.**

**CARRIED**

9.4. Reorganization of Section 4, Executive Limitations and the District Superintendent Monitoring Schedule and In-Depth Review Schedule

**Moved (J. Kirby) that the reorganization of section 4, Policy Type: Executive Limitations of the *DEXCOM Policy Governance Manual* and the accompanying monitoring schedule and in-depth review schedule be approved.**

**CARRIED**

10. Financial Matters (**TAB F**)

10.1. Modified 2024 Budget

A comment was made that it would be more helpful to present a one-year budget rather than two years at once as the second-year projection is not very accurate.

**Moved (J. Kirby) that the modified 2024 budget be approved.**

**CARRIED**

10.2. Operating Reserve Usage for 2024

There was extensive discussion over how the Operating Reserve should be used according to the policy and based on past practice, with the outcome that two of the items for consideration (District Staff Retreat and Pastoral Relations/Lead Team Travel) were removed from consideration at this time.

There was discussion about the need to review and make changes to the policy governing the use of the Operating Reserve.

**Action Item** – The District Finance Committee is directed to review the Operating Reserve, budgeting process, and any corresponding policies impacted and recommend to DEXCOM whether the *Operational Surpluses and Undesignated Income Policy* should be an operational or DEXCOM policy.



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**Moved (J. Kirby) that the use of \$112,000 for the 2024 fiscal year from operational surpluses and undesignated income be approved as follows:**

- **New Venture Subsidies – \$103,000**
- **International Travel for Lisa Rohrick – \$5,000**
- **PowerTeam – \$4,000**

**CARRIED**

10.3. Yarrow Alliance Church Building Project

Comments were made about the positive process of review with Yarrow and Brad shared the Finance Committee’s recommendation for the project. There was clarification over the cost projections and discussion about this kind of project being in line with the use of land conversation from October 23, 2023.

**Moved (B. Boyd) that the Yarrow Alliance Church building project be approved with a maximum project cost of \$2.15M and a maximum indebtedness of \$1.25M with a 15-year amortization.**

**CARRIED**

10.4. South Hazelton Property

There was discussion about how DEXCOM views this item in light of the discussion about land on October 23, 2023, with the outcome being that no way forward was seen for continuing to utilize the property for Christian ministry, so it will be reverted back to the Crown.

11. Administrative Matters (**TAB G**)

11.1. Required Election Elements in Church Bylaws

There was extensive conversation about whether allowance should be made for a solitary church to have a non-traditional election process when there is no precedent in our district or nationally, with some concern expressed for making an exception in this case.

It was also noted that under the second bullet point of the proposed Required Election Elements, regarding quorum, that in the case of a church that had stipulated quorum as “the Active Members present at a duly called meeting”, that type of quorum would not be considered a reasonable threshold for an alternative election process that doesn’t take place at a constituted meeting.



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Moved (D. Driedger) that the following be approved as the required election elements in CPD church bylaws:

- **A clear indication of membership support that meets the minimum requirement for board election:**
  - **The principle of one vote per Active Member.**
  - **There must be a reasonable threshold of required participation that is equivalent to a quorum.**
  - **The rights of Active Members to vote must be respected (i.e., no preferential group targeted).**
  - **There must be reasonable assurance that the Active Member who is eligible to vote is the person casting the vote.**
- **Although the process for election may change, the requirements for board members remain intact:**
  - **Board members must be voting members of the church (*Local Church Constitution*, Article 6.1 and 7).**
  - **Board members must meet the Scriptural requirements for the position (*Local Church Constitution*, Article 8.1)**
  - **Board members must meet any further bylaw requirements.**
  - **Board members must meet the requirements of the *BC Societies Act* sections 43 and 44 in an incorporated church, and this is a best practice if in an unincorporated church.**
  - **Board members must not be ineligible persons under the *Income Tax Act* of Canada.**
- **Some form of vetting process (usually done by the nominating committee) must be performed.**
- **Sufficient time (equivalent to notice) must be given for members to participate in the election process.**
- **The results of the election process must be clearly communicated to the membership.**

**CARRIED (6 for, 4 against)**





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11.2. Status of Vancouver Mandarin Church

There was history shared about the relationship between the district and Vancouver Mandarin Church, as well as the current state of the relationship as Genghis Chan has reached out extensively.

Some issues were clarified about the current state of property ownership, insurance, and lack of adopted policies at the church.

Janet called for a point of order to pray for the church and for wisdom as DEXCOM considered the path forward.

Several options of ways forward were considered, as were several possible liabilities and risks for the district. The following was decided:

**Whereas DEXCOM desires to see the ministry of Vancouver Mandarin Church be able to continue, and**

**Whereas DEXCOM desires to honour the historic intention for the property to remain a place of Christian worship, and**

**Whereas there is a desire to address an aging facility being a safe environment for ministry to vulnerable persons, and**

**Whereas there is existing significant liability risk,**

**It was moved (D. Driedger) that DEXCOM requires that Vancouver Mandarin Church address by January 31, 2024 the immediate liability risks with the following minimum requirements:**

- **have a Safety and Risk Management policy in place**
- **the daycare to sign a hold harmless indemnification agreement**
- **the daycare to provide the CPD with evidence of liability insurance**

**CARRIED**

11.3. Review of the DEXCOM Email Policy

**Moved (J. Kirby) that the name of the *District Executive Committee Email Policy* be changed to *District Executive Committee Email Communication and Voting Policy*.**

**CARRIED**



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#### 11.4. Appointment of District Conference 2025 Nominating Committee

**Moved (J. Kirby) that:**

- **The following people be approached to serve on the District Conference 2025 Committee on Nominations in order of priority:**
  - **Jessica Low, Grant McDowell, Chung Leung (Steven Yip if Chung Leung declines), Kyla Ward, Jon LeFave, Simon Martin, Anna Carr, Jeremy Kinniburgh**
- **Keith Whitaker be appointed Chair, Monique Chan be appointed Vice-Chair, and the Secretary role be filled by the District Superintendent (with primary choices being one of Chung Leung, Grant McDowell, or Jessica Low).**
- **If both Chung Leung and Steven Yip decline, the District Superintendent be empowered to seek another ethnic minority candidate.**

**CARRIED**

#### 11.5. Brainstorm Ongoing Education and Training

Additional ideas were suggested, including revisiting the conversation on land stewardship and a conversation on the deconstruction of faith.

A straw poll was taken on existing and added options, with the top three choices being (in priority order):

- Deconstruction of faith
- Intercultural fluency training
- Sexual orientation and gender

#### 11.6. Appointment to the District Conference Audit Review Committee

Steve noted the appointment of Janet Kirby to the District Conference Audit Review Committee.

#### 12. In Camera Meeting



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13. Future Meetings

April 29-30, 2024

October 15-16, 2024

April 14-15, 2025

October 20-21, 2025

14. Adjournment

**It was moved by B. Boyd that the meeting be adjourned.**

**CARRIED**

The meeting was adjourned at 2:20pm.

