CONSTITUTION The Dr. A. E. Elliott Religious Training Support Fund

PREAMBLE

The following document includes the revised constitution for the Dr. A. E. Elliott Religious Training Support Fund, which includes additions and revisions (indicated by a date (i.e., February 2018).

This document was approved at the November 23, 2018 meeting of Twin Valleys Presbytery.

BACKGROUND:

In February, 1979, Dr. A. E. Elliott of Grenfell, Saskatchewan celebrated his one hundredth birthday. Dr. Elliott gave long years of service to The United Church of Canada and in particular, the church in Saskatchewan. The last years of Dr. Elliott's ministry were spent in Qu'Appelle Presbytery. At the time of his one hundredth birthday, Qu'Appelle Presbytery sought a way to honor Dr. Elliott. It was the feeling of the Presbytery that a lasting tribute in the form of an educational fund be established. Rev. Gordon Stevenson and Rev. Jack Busby were charged with presenting a proposal for such a fund to Qu'Appelle Presbytery.

In February, 2018, with the anticipated implementation of Remit 1 by General Council 43 in Oshawa, Ontario (i.e., Three Council Model), which would result in the discontinuation of Presbyteries, a recommendation was presented to Twin Valleys Presbytery that would see the transfer of the management of Dr. A. E. Elliott Religious Training Support Fund to a congregation or Pastoral Charge within the bounds of the former Twin Valleys Presbytery. (Added February 2018)

The congregation approached to assume responsibility for the Fund was St. Paul's United Church, Estevan (part of the St. Paul's International Pastoral Charge). The St. Paul's United Leadership Team officially accepted this responsibility in May, 2018. (Added September 2018)

PURPOSE OF THE FUND:

The purpose of the fund would be fourfold and it is suggested that the monies from the fund be used in the following order:

- For the training of persons who seek to serve the church in ordained and diaconal ministry in regular courses of study presented at recognized United Church Theological colleges.
- 2. For the training of lay persons who have shown leadership ability and a commitment to The United Church.
- 3. For the continuing education of diaconal and ordained ministers and lay persons.
- 4. To support internship sites.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FUND:

The fund shall be administered by a committee of St. Pauls' United Church, Estevan, whose tasks will be to manage and promote the fund, solicit, receive and invest monies related to the fund, and distribute bursaries from the fund, according to the criteria of this Constitution. (Revised February 2018)

The committee of St. Pauls' United Church which is established to administer the fund may invite the ongoing participation of two or three people from the former Twin Valleys Presbytery to assist with accessing applications to the fund. (Added September 2018)

ELIGIBILITY TO RECEIVE FUNDS:

Any person who is a member or adherent of The United Church of Canada, and qualifies under the previous sections (i.e., Purpose of the Fund) may apply. First claim will be to persons or families active in Pastoral Charges within the boundaries of Twin Valleys Presbytery, as these were in place on December 31, 2018 (See Note). Courses or events shall be appropriate to the context of The United Church of Canada. Application must be made and approval must be granted before the starting date of the event. (Revised February 2018)

Note: The Pastoral Charges of Twin Valleys Presbytery as of December 31, 2018 were: Alameda; Arcola-Kisbey (Arcola (St. Andrew's), Kisbey); Broadview Whitewood (Broadview (St. Andrew's), Whitewood (St. Andrew's)); Carlyle; Carnduff Alida (Carnduff (St. Andrew's); Crossroads (Maryfield (St. Andrew's), Wawota); Gainsborough-Carievale (Carievale, Gainsborough (Knox)); Glenavon (Glen Avon (St. Andrew's), Moffat (St. Andrew's)); Grenfell; Indian Head (St. Andrew's); Kennedy (Kennedy, Langbank); Kipling; Manor (Knox); Moosomin (Bethel); Ogema, Bengough, Pangman (Ogema, Bengough (Knox)); Oxbow, Glen Ewen (Oxbow (St. Paul's)); Prairie Points (Creelman (St. Andrew's), Fillmore (Grace)); Radville (Ceylon, Minton-Gladmar, Radville); Redvers (Knox); Rocanville (Rocanville (St. Paul's), Welwyn (Trinity)); Spy Hill; St. Paul's International (Estevan (St. Paul's), North Portal (Knox), Portal , ND, USA (First Presbyterian)); Stoughton (Grace); Wapella (St. Andrew's); Weyburn (Grace); Wolseley (St. James); Yellow Grass United Lutheran Partnership (SM) (Yellow Grass, Peace Lutheran). (Added February 2018)

INITIAL FUNDING:

It is suggested that during the years 1980 and 1981, an appeal be launched to give the fund a principal operating base. A goal of \$2,500.00 for each of the above years seems realistic. When the fund reaches \$5,000.00, the interest on the principal may be used and funds in excess of \$5,000.00 may also be used for the above stated purposes. It is suggested that the principal be \$20,000.00. At no time shall an appeal be made when the fund is in excess of \$25,000.00.

FUNDING:

The funding shall come from United Church congregations, United Church Women groups, Presbytery and individuals who wish to contribute.

The committee of St. Paul's United Church, Estevan, established to manage the fund, will contact former Pastoral Charges of Twin Valleys Presbytery twice each calendar year, to promote the fund and solicit donations. (Added February 2018)

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR DISTRIBUTION OF FUNDS:

- 1. Committee to receive application and make recommendations once per month.
- 2. Individuals must apply a minimum of three weeks before the start day of the event.
- 3. Maximum award per application is five hundred dollars (\$500.00). No applicant may receive more than twenty five percent (25%) of the available bursary monies per year.
- 4. Applicants are responsible to cover a minimum of 1/3 of the total cost. They are encouraged to request funding from their home/local congregation of 1/3 of the total cost. They may apply to the Fund for a maximum of 1/3 of the total cost.
- 5. Applications from those stated above (i.e., Eligibility to Receive Funds) will be the first to be considered.
- 6. If the committee deems that the amount of available monies in the fund are sustainable, they may consider applications from outside the former Twin Valleys Presbytery. (Revised February 2018)

GUIDELINES FOR BURSARY APPLICATIONS:

Maximum Allocations: Maximum bursary amount per application: 1/3 of total cost

(i.e., tuition, books, travel, accommodation, meals)

Maximum bursary per application: \$500.00

Maximum number of applications by one person, per year: 2

(Revised February 2018)

APPLICATION FORM:

Application forms and criteria for the Fund are to be distributed annually to the Pastoral Charges of the former Twin Valleys Presbytery.

Applications must include the total cost of the event (i.e., tuition, books, travel, accommodations, meals). The travel will include actual air, bus or taxi costs, or be determined based on return-trip mileage, at the current National Denominational rate) (Revised February 2018)

AMENDMENT TO THE FUND:

The fund may be amended by the following action:

- 1. A notice of motion to amend must be distributed to all Pastoral Charges of the former Twin Valleys Presbytery three months and one month ahead of the meeting when the amendment(s) will be presented for vote;
- 2. The notice of motion must include a copy of the current constitution as well as the proposed changes that will be voted on;
- 3. Each congregation of the former Twin Valleys Presbytery would be entitled to have one (1) delegate represent it at the meeting where the amendment(s) would be presented;
- 4. Each delegate would be extended permission to vote only on the motion(s) related to the fund;
- 5. Any amendment(s) approved under this process would be incorporated into the constitution. (Revised February 2018)

(last updated: November 23, 2018)