

# Notice of Intent

## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

At last year's Annual meeting a list of Proposed Amendments to the Constitution of St. John's were introduced.

As per the St. John's United Church Minutes of February 27, 2011 Annual General Meeting, under Section 9, New Business, it was decided that:

“These recommendations will be circulated to the committees for their review and input over the next few months, and changes will then be put forward for approval by Council. After Council's approval, the recommended changes will be circulated to the congregation, and then a two week notice given for a congregational meeting to formally approve the revised Constitution.”

From the November 22, 2011 Meeting of Church Council came these two recommendations:

1. Item #7 will be adjusted to reflect that there is no longer a representative from Trustees on the Finance Committee.
2. Item #9 will be reworded to say “past-chair of Council.”

These two recommendations have been included in the following original Proposed Amendments to the Constitution. **The following proposal will be voted on for acceptance, and implementation, at the Feb. 19, 2012 Annual Meeting of St. John's United Church.**

*Copies of the current Constitution of St. John's United Church are available at the Church Office or by contacting Wanda at [sjuc@nb.aibn.com](mailto:sjuc@nb.aibn.com).*

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## PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

1. **PREAMBLE - Item #1** (pg. 4) In reference to Church Governance structure.

Currently reads:

“Each committee, by authority of the Congregation, has the power to add persons to its committee as long as it stays within the recommended number of persons for that committee. Such appointments shall hold office until the next Annual Meeting of the Congregation, where they can be re-appointed.”

Proposed Change:

Change the first sentence to eliminate the restriction on the number of persons serving on a committee. The first sentence to read: “Each committee, by authority of the Congregation, has the power to add persons to its committee.”

2. **PREAMBLE - Item # 2** (pg. 4)

Currently reads:

“The chair and secretary shall be appointed from within each committee. If a chair for a committee cannot be found from within the committee, the Nominating Committee will be responsible for finding a chair as directed by the Church Council. If this occurs, the number of recommended committee members shall not be exceeded.”

Proposed Change:

Delete the last sentence to eliminate the restriction on the number of persons serving on a committee.

3. **PREAMBLE - Item # 5** (pg. 4) An introductory paragraph to the Constitution drawn up in 2008.

Currently reads:

“This Constitution shall be reviewed prior to the 2009 Annual meeting by a committee appointed by the Church Council. This committee shall make recommendations for changes and revisions to the Church Council for approval by the Congregation during the Annual Meeting. If at such time the congregation decides to search for a new form of governance, a committee may be struck by the congregation in order to do so.”

Proposed Change:

Delete this paragraph as the Constitution has now been established for a few years, and this introductory paragraph is no longer relevant and there is no necessity of a committee reviewing the constitution prior to every annual meeting.

4. **PREAMBLE - Item # 6** (pg. 4)

Currently reads:

“We have added the phrase “Ministry of...” to each committee, where able, to indicate the importance of all that we say and do as a congregation, and to emphasize the importance of committee work within St. John’s United Church. We are all part of Christ’s ministry.”

Proposed Change:

Delete item # 6 from the Constitution, thus removing the preface, “Ministry of...” to each committee.

5. **ADMINISTRATIVE STRUCTURE** - (pg. 6) In reference to Church Council

Currently reads:

“The Church Council shall meet at least five (5) times per year: January, March, May, September, and November on the second Tuesday of the Month.”

Proposed Change:

Change the Church Council meeting day to, “...the fourth Tuesday of the month.”

6. **CHURCH COMMITTEES** - (pg. 8)

Currently reads:

1. Ministry of Finance
2. Ministry of Trustees
3. Ministry of Worship & Music
4. Ministry of Christian Development
5. Ministry of Pastoral Care & Membership
6. Ministry of Outreach
7. Ministry & Personnel
8. Nominating Committee
9. Presbytery Representatives
10. United Church Women

Proposed Change:

Eliminate the preface of, “Ministry of ...” from the committee names.

To be named:

1. Finance Committee
2. Board of Trustees
3. Worship & Music Committee
4. Christian Development Committee
5. Pastoral Care & Membership Committee
6. Outreach Committee

This change would also be reflected in any other references to these committees.

7. **MINISTRY OF FINANCE** - (Pg. 9)

Currently reads:

“Committee made up of:

- Chair
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Representative from Property (Sub-committee),
- Representative from Trustees, and
- Representative from Ways & Means (formerly called “Stewards”  
- sub-committee for fundraising)”

A. Proposed Change:

- a. Eliminate the “Sub-committee” designation of the Property Committee.
- b. Add Property Committee to the list of Church Committees (pg. 8)
- c. Create a description and responsibilities sheet for the Property Committee.

B. Proposed Change:

Change the name of the Ways & Means Committee to Special Events Committee.

C. Proposed Change:

Delete the need for a representative from the Board of Trustees on the Finance Committee.

8. **FOR ALL COMMITTEES** (pgs. 9 & 11-17)

Currently reads:

“Committee *made up of:*”

Proposed Change:

Change this heading, “Committee *to include:*”

9. **NOMINATING COMMITTEE** - (pg. 17)

Currently reads:

Committee comprised of:

- Chair
- plus no more than Two other Congregational Members

Proposed Change:

Committee to include:

- *Past-Chair* of Church Council
- plus no more than two other congregational members