APPENDIX 1.2

CONFLICT OF INTEREST POLICY

Members of Council or committees are required to make Council or their committee aware of any conflict of interest – either real or apparent – as soon as possible.

A Conflict of Interest may be monetary or non-monetary.

- A monetary conflict arises where a decision is being considered that may have a monetary effect, either positive or negative, on a member of the Council or committee, or a person close to the member (relative or friend).
- A non-monetary conflict arises in any circumstance where a member of the Council or committee is constrained in any way from acting in the best interests of the United Church. That could occur when a member of the Council or committee or person close to the member stands to gain a benefit in some non-monetary way from a decision that the Council or committee is considering.

There are two aspects to conflict of interest: (1) A member must not be in an actual conflict of interest, and (2) they must not appear to be in a conflict of interest to those outside of the process. It is critical to avoid both actual and perceived conflict of interest. If a member participates in a decision where there exists a conflict of interest-either real or apparent- the decision may be subject to appeal or a legal challenge as a result.

Waiver of conflicts – In any situation where a member has an apparent conflict of interest, the Governance Body may waive the conflict of interest and allow the member to participate in the decision-making. The Governance Body must be satisfied that waiving the conflict will not negatively impact on the transparency and integrity of the Governance Body's decision-making.[1]

Reference: Pastoral Relations: Engaging and Supporting (2015), pg. 11

1. United Church of Canada. (2016). Governance Handbook Policies and Terms of Reference. p. 13.