

# Meeting Summary 03/2024

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March 6, 2024 / 6:15pm / Zoom Meet

## AGENDA

1. Senior Leadership Update
2. Financial Review
3. Departmental Presentation
4. Miscellaneous

## NOTES

Board meetings always open and close with a prayer. This is our way to seek guidance as we work for MCC Toronto and its community.

1. **Senior Leadership Update:** Significant highlights include exploration of various funding sources to help MCC Toronto handle the many demands of running the many programs it offers and the maintenance of the facilities. For example, MCC Toronto is applying for a federal infrastructure grant for the several building maintenance fixes (e.g. boiler) that are needed as well as an accessibility improvement grant. MCC Toronto continues to pursue partnerships, including one with the University of Toronto around food justice. Bringing back anointing in a safe way is also being explored, given its popularity with the congregation.
2. **Financial Review:** As budgeted, 2023 ended with an operating deficit. As we anticipated, the final operating deficit was larger than the budgeted deficit. This was largely due to unbudgeted expenses such as replacing knob and tube electrical wiring. The Board has approved covering this deficit using specific funds intended for this purpose. This includes using some of the previous year's accumulated surplus. We received the audit plan from the auditors as we officially close the year in advance of the June Annual Congregational Business Meeting (ACBM). MCC Toronto is also looking at leveraging technology to better track various key indicators of performance, to better plan and adjust plans as needed.
3. **Departmental Presentation:** Sam Braemer (Senior Director of Human Rights at MCC Toronto) share information about the range of initiatives and partnerships done as part of this important work. From Youth Mental Wellness to Anti Hate programs and community events, Human Rights work at MCC Toronto continues to build momentum.
4. **Miscellaneous:**
  - A committee was formed to recruit members for the available Board of Directors position. The committee is made up of 1 Board Member (Kevin Wilcock) and 1 Congregant appointed by the Senior Pastor (Allister Douglas). Should you (or someone you know) be interested (and ideally have a financial background), applications are to be submitted

online, once available. In the meantime, please feel free to reach out to Kevin and/or Allister. Voting will take place at the June ACBM.

- Reflection: the Board discussed and shared how to best approach challenges and opposing points of views. Two themes emerged as piece of wisdom: 1) Listen attentively – to really understand where others might be coming from and 2) Pause – take a moment to breathe and process the information received. A good reminder for all and all kinds of situations.
- Sadly, we have seen an increase in disturbances during services. While phones can be great tools to share the MCC Toronto experience with others, the noise from them takes away from congregants' experience of the service. A reminder to please put phones on silent and take calls from the social hall.

## **NEXT MEETINGS**

April 24 and June 9 (ACBM), 2024