

Remit 5 – Ministry Partners within Mutual Recognition Agreements

Background:

The 42nd General Council 2015 approved the establishment of a category of “ministry partner” for ministers of denominations within mutual recognition agreements, with eligibility for call or appointment within the United Church as determined by the specific contents of the agreements.

The 42nd General Council 2015 also approved, subject to remit, that a “ministry partner,” while under appointment or call, would be a full member of the presbytery and equivalent to an ordered minister of the United Church in respect to membership and responsibilities in all courts of the church.

The 42nd General Council 2015 authorized a Category 2 remit to presbyteries to test the will of the church with respect to this change.

The Question:

Does the presbytery agree that:

- (a) ministers of denominations within mutual recognition agreements (“ministry partners”), while under appointment or call, are full members of the presbytery, and equivalent to ordered ministers of the United Church in respect to membership and responsibilities in the courts of the church; and that
- (b) the Basis of Union be amended to reflect this policy?