

Board of Trustees – 2023 AGM

Legal:

Today I would like to bring you up to date on the insurance claim against Aviva. You will have read in the AR that Thomas Donnelly, our lawyer from Thomas Gold Pettingill has been working on our behalf in our litigation with those responsible for the fire. After a day of mediation, a final settlement of \$7,000,000.00 was reached. These funds were transferred into an interest-bearing account with TGP in January 2020. Our court date was set for June 2020. This did not happen due to courts being closed during the height of the pandemic. To date we have not received a reply from AVIVA to the offer of \$1,000,000.000 to settle our dispute out of court. Thomas is continuing to speak to opposing Council to get at least a counteroffer, so we know where we stand.

In Newmarket you must set a court date, to set a court date. We are waiting to hear when our first court date will be so that a court date can be arranged to hear the case. The counteroffer will stand until the case is heard in court.

The Board of Trustees and AUC Council are keenly aware that the settlement funds are needed for the rebuilding project.

To this end, the Trustees have had conversations with representatives in our wider church to seek their wisdom and support during this crucial time.

Jody Maltby:

I had a very positive conversation with Jody Maltby who is the Regional Staff lead and Communities of Faith minister, staff support to the Communities of Faith Commission. She and the region are very aware of the project and are standing ready, to assist us as they need us to ensure our success. She was quite emphatic in her enthusiasm for our project, and was interested to hear how far we have come and what our current needs are.

She suggested that an amalgamation with another congregation might be considered, such as what happened when AUC amalgamated with St. Paul's United in Oak Ridges. A congregation, who might amalgamate with AUC would bring their assets to this new relationship.

She is going to give some thought to this.

Kris Tavella:

Kris Tavella is the director, real estate development for Kindred Works, new name for the United Church Property Resource Corporation. Kindred Works reimagines church properties for residential uses.

Kris asked us to send him some of our docs to review. He will be sharing this with his inner group to see if there is way for them to support us at this time. We should be hearing back from Kris either this week or next.

Katja Brittain:

Katja works for Toronto United Church Council – TUCC. TUCC works with church communities to connect them with resources for ministry. They offer access to professional advice, financial support, and leadership development.

I have a call tomorrow morning with Katja to let her know of our situation to see what support or ideas TUCC might be able to offer.

Trustees will continue to update the Church Council and congregation as we hear back from our church partners and lawyers.

Trustees will also recommend to the Council at their April meeting that Council consider fund raising for individual and corporate donations.

It is time for you the members of the congregation along with former AUC friends to be invited to participate in fundraising for those items that will be needed for the new church building - furnishings etc.

Thank you to the members of the Board of Trustees, to members of Council and the EDGE Property Committee for their support and dedication to our rebuilding project.

