



St. Davids-Queenston United Church
Annual Report
2017

St. Davids-Queenston United Church
Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda
Sunday, February 19, 2017
Immediately following the worship service.

Approximately 55 members were in attendance.

1. PRAYER: Rev. James opened the meeting with a prayer.

Steve Hardaker, Chairperson of the Congregation, announced that Marianne McRae has agreed to act as the Congregational Secretary.

MOTION: To extend voting privileges to all in attendance, except on motions of church and spiritual policy and the Nominating Committee Report. Moved by: Larry McRae;
Seconded by: Bill Utting. **CARRIED**

2. 2016 ANNUAL REPORT:

MOTION: To receive all reports as presented in the Annual Report of 2016 (including the Minutes from the previous Annual Congregational Meeting), except the 2017 Budget and Nominating Committee Reports. Moved by: Ron Chapman; Seconded by Nancy Lang. **CARRIED**

3. 2016 FINANCAL STATEMENT:

Presented by Marianne McRae

- Sincere thanks were expressed to Darlene Romanowsky for the tremendous job she does in keeping the books so well-organized and in such detail.
- 2016 ended with an operating budget surplus of **15,414.26**.
- There was an 18% increase in envelope offerings over 2015.
- The proposed 2016 operating income budget was exceeded by \$9,294.05!
- We had a very small deficit in Capital expenses of \$110.01.
- These figures do not include our contributions to the United Church Mission and Service Fund, which are dealt with separately.

4. 2017 OPERATING EXPENSE AND OPERATING INCOME BUDGET:

Presented by Marianne McRae

- A motion was passed at the Official Board on January 17, 2017 to recommend that the proposed budgets for the operating expenses of \$167,190.64 and operating income of \$167,190.64 be accepted and brought forward to the congregation for approval.
- The Budget increase for 2017 is approximately 3%.
- Major factors contributing to the budget increase include:
 - Ministry and Personnel expense increases as a result of addressing CRA guidelines and United Church of Canada imposed salary package restructuring.
 - utility costs
 - routine expenses increases
- Of note is the Proposed Operating Income Budget, which outlines the sources of funding. The income budget is \$167,190.64 and includes identifiable givings of \$144,640.00.
- As a congregation, by approving the 2017 budget, we are committing to a balanced budget for 2017, so each member is encouraged to do their part in reaching this goal.

MOTION: That the Proposed Operating Expense Budget for 2017 of \$167,190.64 and the Proposed Operating Income Budget for 2017 of \$167,190.64 be approved.

Moved by: Marianne McRae; Seconded by Al Des Roches. CARRIED

- Throughout the year, the Finance Committee will update the congregation on the financial health of the congregation.
- A sincere vote of thanks was expressed to the UCW for continuing to fund the church's insurance payment and supporting several of the projects undertaken by the Property Committee.

5. MISSION AND SERVICE FUND:

Presented by Jill Dill

- For 2016, the commitment to the United Church of Canada Mission and Service Fund was \$15,000.00.
- For 2016, we exceeded our commitment by \$766.00. The Mission and Outreach Committee has recommended, and the Official Board agrees, that the amount of \$15,000.00 be proposed to the Congregation as the 2017 commitment to the United Church Mission and Service Fund
- Thanks were expressed to Rena Edgley for her many years of dedicated service to this committee and to Lillian Pyke and Bob Johnston for agreeing to serve on this committee

MOTION: To commit to a goal of \$15,000.00 for our 2017 contribution to the United Church of Canada Mission and Service Fund. Moved by: Jill Dill; Seconded by: Tony Gazzard. CARRIED

6. NOMINATING COMMITTEE:

Presented by Steve Hardaker

- We have some new nominees for Church Committees and the Official Board: Lyndsay Gazzard has agreed to serve on Session. Bob Kerr is joining the Property Committee. Gaye Benner is joining the Christian Education Committee. Nancy Lang has agreed to be the Interim Chair of Christian Education Committee and Lillian Pyke is joining Mission and Outreach Committee.
- Nominees for Committees of the Official Board: Judy Kerr is joining the Flower Committee. Bob and Judy Kerr are joining the Activities Committee.
- Marianne McRae has agreed to be the Congregational Secretary.
- Appointments to the Cave Springs Corporation and to the Extension Council are not being made and are therefore vacant. Anyone wishing to volunteer for these committees is encouraged to speak to Larry McRae or Steve Hardaker.

MOTION: To accept all positions as nominated. Moved by: Larry McRae; Seconded by: Bill Utting. CARRIED

- The following individuals were thanked for their past service on Church Committees and the Official Board: Harvey Hall has left the Property Committee; Ginny Slingerland is retiring from Ministry and Personnel; Christine Earley and Nikole Amato have left Christian Education and, Rena Edgley has retired from Mission and Outreach. In addition, Esther Binning and Bob Johnston have retired from the Friendly Visitors and Fred Van Nest has retired from the Activities Committee.
- Christine Earley is no longer the Congregational Secretary.
- Roberta Chevers has retired from the Trustees.
- Verda Smith has retired from managing the kitchen on behalf of the UCW. This has been taken over by Violet McArthur
- The following ladies received special recognition for their many years of faithful and dedicated service to the church and committees of the Official Board: Ginny Slingerland, Verda Smith, Rena Edgley and Roberta Chevers.

7. NEW BUSINESS

- George Dunn expressed thanks to the Activities Committee for their dedicated efforts. He suggested that the beef-on-a-bun events be advertised on Cogeco each month.
- Thanks were expressed to Rev. Paul James for his spiritual leadership and ministry.
- Thanks were expressed to Stephanie Morley for her dedication to the Sunday School.
- Thanks were expressed to Lisa Brillon for her work with the Choir and her musical leadership.
- Thank you to Darlene Romanowsky who put together the Annual Report and the Financial Statements. It was noted that Darlene is the voice of our church as she is usually the person answering the phone.
- Roy Harwood suggested that a fund be set up for the future where the interest, but not principle, is spent. He suggested contributions could be directed to this fund instead of memorial flowers. He further suggested that members consider the church in their wills. A special service could be held every year to recognize those who have contributed to this fund.
- Thanks were expressed to the Congregation for their continued generous support of the work of our church through weekly givings, attendance at fundraising events and tireless volunteering at many church functions. New members seem to come on a regular basis, so we must be doing something right. Special mention was made of the folks who make sure new people receive a warm welcome.
- Contributing members were encouraged to consider switching weekly envelope givings to Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR) which is a direct debit program that allows you to support our church through an automatic monthly withdrawal from a bank account. It means regular contributions throughout the year that make it easier for you to give to the church and an advantage for our Finance Committee to track our income against our expenses.
- Anne Dorland expressed thanks to Steve Hardaker for his gracious and dedicated leadership.

**MOTION: To close the congregational meeting. Moved by: Lyndsay Gazzard; seconded by Nancy Lang.
CARRIED**

Adjournment was at noon.

All present were invited to attend the luncheon following the meeting.

Rev. James offered a blessing for the food we were about to receive.

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MINISTER'S THOUGHTS

January 2018

Dear Friends:

Another year has rolled past. Every year time seems to go faster.

This past September I completed ten years as your minister.

It is amazing how quickly the years have slipped by - until I think about the changes to the congregation.

So many funerals, so many new faces (well, you were new when you arrived - many of you have been attending for 6,7,8 years - not so new anymore, now you are just part of the congregation) ; -)

In 10 years, we have become wheel chair accessible, redeveloped the basement, installed air conditioning and a new floor in the C.E. hall, paved the parking lot, new sound system, to name just a few of the many projects to the physical building.

Financially we are "in the black", and our church "sparkles".

The pews are full on Sundays as is the choir loft.

Children run up the aisle for children's time.

God has richly blessed our congregation.

So, what will we, as a congregation, do for the next 10 years?

What dreams do you have for our congregation?

We have been blessed - now the question is: how will we be a blessing to the community and to the world at large?

As we move into 2018 I challenge you to seek and be open to God's Spirit, to seek a new vision for our life as a community of faith. How shall we serve God going forward?

Blessings,

Paul

CONGREGATIONAL AND OFFICIAL BOARD CHAIR'S REMARKS

Hello friends. Once again this year we present the Annual Report for St. Davids-Queenston United Church. In this year's version you will read the reports of committee chairs and others who have contributed to sustaining our church family. I think you will find these reports full of interesting information. I look forward to officially presenting this report for your approval at our Annual Congregational Meeting on Sunday, February 25th after our worship service.

Our Sunday school is flourishing and very active with sincere thanks and appreciation to Stephanie Morley and the parents who volunteer their time. Stephanie works tirelessly to plan and execute a number of fun extracurricular activities for the children throughout the year. The Senior Choir grew once more this past year under the harmonious leadership of Lisa Brillon, with assistance from Anthony Scaringi. Each Sunday, Lisa leads the Choir that fills the Sanctuary with beautiful music. We all wait with great anticipation for the two Cantatas performed at Easter and Christmas. Margaret Elia is our Caretaker. There isn't a week that goes by that Margaret ensures that our church is clean and tidy from top to bottom. We owe a huge thank you to Darlene Romanowsky our church secretary. Darlene puts in countless hours completing the administrative responsibilities and tasks of a modern church. This annual report is a direct result of Darlene's dedication. Each Sunday, Rev. James leads us in worship. Our Sanctuary is full thanks to Paul's gentle message of love and compassion. This past year we celebrated Paul's tenth year as our Minister. We look forward to many more.

Once again this year, I am appealing to congregation members to consider switching your weekly envelope givings to Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). Presently there are 18 congregants using PAR. PAR allows members to support their church through an automatic monthly withdrawal from their bank account, similar to how you already pay many of your monthly bills. It makes it convenient for you to give to St. Davids-Queenston United Church, even when you are not in attendance. The more that use PAR, the easier it becomes to manage our budget. Let's double the number of members using PAR in 2018.

As we say good-bye to 2017 and welcome in the New Year, our church is a loving, faithful group of worshipers. Each Sunday we gather together to listen and learn and to celebrate God's love for each of us. Before worship service, our Sanctuary is filled with the chatter and laughter that only a loving family can bring. We pray together, we sing together and we comfort each other together. As a congregation, we volunteer our time and give generously to sustain our church. Please enjoy reading the 2017 Annual Report. Remain faithful! Share your fellowship! I look forward to seeing you in church! God bless you all!

Steve Hardaker

BAPTISMS

Frances Jean Lowrey	June 18th
Ada Violet Campbell	June 25th
Noah Francis John Monrad	June 25th

MEMORIALS

Rhoda E. Irvine	January 4th
Gregory Howard Slingerland	December 22nd (2016)
Margaret Zacharias	January 18th
Verda Smith	March 10th
Johannes Heinrich Janzen	April 22nd
Francis <u>Claire</u> Davidson	June 12th
Clifford Alvie Grimwood	September 24th

MEMBERSHIP TRANSFERS

Lyndsay Gazzard	Transferred from Martin Grove United Church Toronto, Ontario	January 2017
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SESSION

Elders: Anne Dorland (Clerk), Nancy Utting (Secretary), Pat MacDougall (Treasurer of the Memorial and Benevolent Funds), Marilyn Beatty, Martha Fleming, Lyndsay Gazzard, Norma Jane Harber, Karen Horbach, Doug McArthur, Sandra Macdonald, Wayne Philbrick, Florence Turner, Val Zuk.

Last year Communion was served 6 times, baptisms were held and 3 times and generous donations were made to Project Share.

Giving those interested in gaining further insight into their Christian faith Rev. James led Bible studies and Bob Johnston held adult education sessions.

The 8:00 A.M. Easter Sunrise service was led by Bob Johnston followed by breakfast organized by the Boyda family.

Remembrance Day wreathes were laid in the sanctuary by Al DesRoches and at the Queenston Cenotaph by Bob Johnston.

No Sunday service is complete without praising God through music. Many thanks again to Lisa Brillion not only for playing hymns, preludes, postludes, etc. but also for her competence and patience in choosing and rehearsing with the choir anthems, cantatas and other selections to complement the worship service.

We appreciate Rena Edgley and Nancy Lang's leadership with the Sunday school as they sang on Dec. 17.

Thanks once more to Stephanie Morley for her faithful leadership in the Sunday school.

To those who took time and talents to beautify the sanctuary during the holiday seasons we are truly grateful for the wonderful ambiance you created.

We also participated again this year in Niagara-Online-Worship (NOW).

7 memorial services were held and our condolences to families whose loved ones passed away during the year.

Respectfully submitted,
Anne Dorland,
Clerk of Session.

BENEVOLENT FUND

Balance Forward January 1, 2017\$943.36

RECEIPTS

Candlelight Service Givings536.00

TOTAL\$1,479.36

DISBURSEMENTS

Candlelight Givings to Niagara Falls Community Outreach.....511.51

TOTAL\$511.51

Balance December 31, 2017.....\$967.85

Submitted by Pat MacDougall – Treasurer

**MEMORIAL FUND**

Balance Forward January 1, 2017\$1,481.94

RECEIPTS

Memorial Donations.....1,674.00

TOTAL\$3,155.94

DISBURSEMENTS

Purchase of Four “Good News” Bibles46.16

Balance December 31, 2017.....\$3,109.78

Submitted by Pat MacDougall – Treasurer

SENIOR CHOIR

It's been another great year of singing for the Senior Choir! We had 18 choir members this year at our peak in the choir loft.

We recently presented our Christmas Candlelight service "Sing Joy to All the World" to wonderful reviews and donated over \$500.00 to the Benevolent Fund from the offering at our service.

We also sang a full cantata for Easter in the morning service with somewhat reduced numbers, yet a successful presentation.

Many thanks to Val Zuk, Nancy Lang and Alan Cobham for singing solos as well as our trio/quartet - Marianne McRae, Sue Cote, Nancy Lang and Anne Dorland throughout the year.

The choir welcomed new members Kathy Paul to the alto section as well as Melanie Kelch, and also her husband Alan Cobham to the baritone section. Once again we enjoyed having Bob Prentice and Alexandre Brillon join the choir for the Candlelight service.

I would like to thank all the choir members for their dedication to the choir by coming out to weekly practices and singing in church every Sunday. Their talents are greatly appreciated by the congregation and myself!

Lisa Brillon

Choir conductor and organist

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN (UCW)

The UCW meets the 2nd Wednesday of each month from September to June at 1:30 PM. On the last Friday from September to April, except December, a dedicated group of 7 – 12 ladies get together to make hundreds of meat pies. In July, these same ladies make pies for the Pie Booth at the annual Lions Club Carnival. THANK YOU ALL!

Once again in November “The Bazaar” was a great success. THANK YOU TO ALL who made this possible!

These two fundraisers make it possible to donate \$5,000.00 to the church for the insurance, to hold the Over 80's Lunch, purchase cakes for special occasions and purchase supplies for the kitchen. It also allows us to donate to Women's Place, Gillian's Place, Wellspring Niagara and Cave Springs Camp.

In April, UCW Hamilton Conference President, Nancy Risto, came to our meeting. She dissolved the Standing Executive and presided over elections of a new Executive and then swore them in to office: President Nancy Utting, Treasurer Violet McArthur and Secretary Florence Turner.

World Day of Prayer was held on March 3rd at Niagara United Mennonite Church in Niagara-on-the-Lake. The UCW Presbyterial Meeting was held March 18th at People's Memorial United Church in Ridgeway.

Throughout the year we served lunch following a number of funerals. Our sympathy to all the families who lost loved ones.

We were extremely saddened by the loss of two members this year. In January, Margaret Zacharias passed away after a long illness. In March, we lost Verda Smith, a UCW member for over 50 years and our Treasurer for many years. We are still discovering things that Verda did for our church. We are thankful for her many years of dedication and service. She may be gone, but we will never forget her beautiful smile and shining eyes.

We would like to THANK ALL the members of the Congregation who are always there to help whenever they are needed. Without your help and support, we would not be able to do what we do.

Respectfully submitted by
Florence Turner
Secretary

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN (UCW)
(Financial)

BALANCE FORWARD.....**\$8,323.06**

RECEIPTS

Meat Pies	\$3,471.75
Bazaar	3,546.75
Funerals	1,300.00
Presbytery	420.00
TOTAL	<u>\$8,738.50</u>

DISBURSEMENTS

Meat Pie Ingredients.....	\$301.06
Donations	1,200.00
Insurance.....	5,000.00
Presbytery dues (2 yrs.)	100.00
80 and over luncheon	600.00
Advertising.....	127.92
Greg	75.00
TOTAL	<u>\$7,403.98</u>

BALANCE DECEMBER 31, 2017**\$9,657.88**

Submitted by Violet McArthur (Treasurer)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Trustees met twice during the 2017 calendar year.

Creative Landscapes (Geoffrey Mayers, owner) has assumed the responsibility for selling and marking cemetery plots. In the past this job has been undertaken by volunteers from the board of Trustees but it was felt that a younger person would be able to assume the responsibilities for a longer period of time. Mr. Mayers agreed to fulfill the responsibility of selling and marking out the grave plots.

It was discovered that the land upon which the cemetery is located, was never officially transferred to the trustees. Thanks to the efforts of Sue Cote and the firm of Lancaster Brookes and Welch the proper paper work was registered and the trustees now "officially" hold title to the land.

A presentation was made to the Trustees by a former member of the Queenston community to erect a fence between the parking lot and the cemetery. The person proposing the fence is in the process of raising funds in the community to pay for the project. Concerns were raised about both maintenance and accessibility to the cemetery. The trustees requested further information about the proposal. As of December 31st, we have had no further information.

The Trustees lost two valued and loved members of the Board this past year with the death of Jerry Bergsma and Verda Smith. We miss their presence and their wisdom.

Respectfully submitted by

Rev. Paul James

BOARD OF TRUSTEES**2017 Financial Statement****CREDITS**

Balance Brought Forward Jan. 1, 2017	\$7,206.50
Public Trustee Interest.....	1,497.68
Town of Niagara-on-the-Lake Grant.....	2,000.00
Sale of Lots (3).....	3,260.00
Headstone Maintenance Fee	<u>439.00</u>

TOTAL **\$14,403.18**

DEBITS

Maintenance and Upkeep	\$10,396.00
Public Trustee	800.00
HST Payback	<u>260.00</u>

TOTAL **\$11,456.00**

BALANCE AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2017 **\$2,947.18**

2 Full Burials

9 Cremations

Submitted by Howie Lowrey

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Members of the committee in 2017 were: Gaye Benner, Bonnie Boyda, Carol James, Nancy Lang, and Stephanie Morley.

In February:

Paul's Tuesday afternoon and Wednesday Evening study groups on Events and People who changed history resumed.

A Mardi gras party was attended by 18 young people who enjoyed crafts, beads, po'boy sandwiches (subs), Parachute games, King Cake and a parade.

The committee voted No on Remit #3 mainly because we felt that it gave less autonomy to Presbytery.

Valentine Cards were sent to all those on the Friendly Visitor list.

March:

On Palm Sunday, the young people sang during Children's time. During class they signed Easter Cards for our shut-ins

The annual Easter breakfast was organized and hosted by Bonnie and Claire Boyda. We thank them for their yummy efforts. We also want to thank Violet MacArthur for making a new set of tablecloths in spring colours.

In April, we concluded the collection of used postage stamps.

June:

The annual outing to Zap Zone was held on June 4th. 17 young people and adults participated.

June 25th was Sundae Sunday!

In August, Vacation Bible Camp was held from the 21st-25th. 25 youngsters enjoyed a wonderful week.

Sunday school classes resumed in September.

October:

Confirmation classes began after church for three young people.

Afternoon and evening study groups led by Rev. James resumed, studying the New Testament.

The Faith and Culture group led by Bob Johnston began the study of the children's stories of Oscar Wilde.

A most successful Halloween Party was enjoyed by 24 youngsters and 8 adults. Thanks to Stephanie and crew for all their efforts to make all the young people feel like a very special part of the church family.

December:

The Sunday school students did a brief lessons and carols presentation during children's time, prior to the collection of the White Gifts. We are indebted to Rena Edgley for writing the script and rehearsing with the children.

Christmas cards were sent to the shut-ins.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Lang,

Interim Chair.

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL

We have met several times during the year and again this year have been in a position to submit our recommendations to the Board by the November meeting. Currently, this is the list of personnel and their representatives:

Rev. Paul James – representative Bob Johnston
 Darlene Romanowsky– representative Bonnie Boyda
 Lisa Brillon– representative Anne Dorland
 Stephanie – representative Bob Sorley
 Margaret Elia – representative Sue Cote

If you have any questions or concerns regarding our personnel, please contact their representative to discuss same.
 If you are interested in serving on our committee, please contact me.
 We will continue to meet in the New Year.

Respectfully submitted, Susan Cote.

MISSION & OUTREACH

Committee Members: Jill Dill, Joan Dunn

St. Davids-Queenston United church continues to support generously the “Toonie Sundays” which fund outreach efforts in our local communities, nationally and around the world.

In 2017 donation were made to the following projects:

Canadian Red Cross:	100.00
Red Roof Retreat:	100.00
Out of Cold, St. Catharines:	200.00
Community Kitchen:	200.00
Southridge Shelter, Regionl homeless shelter:	100.00
Oxford House First Nation, Food for the North (a Gift with Vision project):	150.00
Operation Smile:	<u>100.00</u>
TOTAL:	<u>\$950.00</u>

Samaritan’s Purse shoe Boxes were distributed to the congregation in October. Forty-two boxes were collected for distribution overseas, and were delivered in the third week of November.

St. Davids-Queenston also supports the National Church Mission and Service Fund, and again surpassed our 2017 budgeted commitment. Congratulations!

Respectfully submitted,
 Joan Dunn

Pastoral Charge contributions to the Mission & Service fund of the United Church of Canada for 2017 was **\$16,382.00.**

Contributions were up by **\$616.00** from 2016

We surpassed our 2016 budgeted commitment of \$15,000.00 by **\$1,382.00.**

Submitted by Darlene Romanowsky, Book keeper

PROPERTY

The property committee is charged with the responsibility of maintaining the building and property of the church excluding the cemetery. We also have the mandate to recommend and oversee projects to improve the facility. During the year we have completed a number of major projects such as paving the parking lot, replacing the sound system, bringing a number of railings up to code, replacing the lighting in the choir area, replaced the batteries in the exit lamps, replaced all the fire extinguishers and replaced all the hand sanitizer stations. The property committee, as well as the official board would like to thank the presbytery extension council, the Gale family, and everyone who donated funds to allow these projects to proceed.

As a committee we are small in numbers but we all work hard to make the church a safe and enjoyable place to worship. I would like to thank, Steve, Ron, Bob, Greg and Monty for all their contributions and hard work that makes my job so much easier, as well as the congregation for your support. We would like to invite anyone who would like to become involved in being a member of this important committee to talk to any of the members, we would love to have you join us.

PROPOSED PROPERTY BUDGET FOR 2018

Operating & Maintenance

General maintenance & expenses	\$1,500.00
Preventative Maintenance/Inspection/License for both lifts	1,200.00
Grass cutting/snow removal	3,200.00
Fire Extinguishers recharge (5)	<u>70.00</u>
TOTAL	\$5,970.00
Janitor	<u>4,080.00</u>
TOTAL PROPERTY OPERATING BUDGET	\$10,050.00

PROPERTY (CAPITAL PROJECTS) FOR CONSIDERATION

These are projects for consideration that would need funding and Board approval to proceed.

Replacing railing in Balcony to bring it up to code .
 Replace or clean carpet at bottom of stairs by kitchen
 Replace or clean carpet on stage in CE hall.

Submitted by
 Bill Utting
 Property Chair

FLOWER COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Judy Kerr and Sandra Macdonald

Balance as of January 1, 2017:		\$493.10
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Deposits:	35.00	
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Expenses:

Palm Sunday / Easter Sunday	89.20
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Thanksgiving Sunday	100.00
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Advent & Christmas Services	39.20
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Sunday Services	<u>225.90</u>
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Total Expenses:	454.30
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Current Balance:		73.80
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Memorial Poinsettia Fundraiser (to Dec 18):	<u>535.00</u>
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Total Funds (as at Dec 31, 2017):	<u>\$608.80</u>
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Thank you to Jill Dill for a great Thanksgiving presentation.

Thank you to Karen & Peter Horbach for the beautiful poinsettia and cyclamen plants at Christmas

Thank you to Sandra Edgeworth and Tim Andrews for the beautiful greenery.

Thank you to Judy Kerr for the new Christmas decorations.

Thank you to Darlene Romanowsky for putting all the announcements throughout the year into the bulletins and especially for the "Christmas Memorial" insert.

Thank you to everyone who placed flowers in the Church throughout the Church year.

Note: Extra funds were set aside for wreaths for the entrance of the Church. The wreaths were placed in memory of the Lowrey family by Norma Jane Harber and Pat MacDougall.

Respectfully Submitted by Sandra Macdonald

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

Committee Members: Nancy Lang, Bonnie & Clair Boyda, Bob & Judy Kerr, Al DesRoches and Doug McArthur.

We continued with our fundraising activities with the Beef-on-a-bun throughout the year raising \$2,575.45 for our special projects. The Yard Sale in the spring was well attended and enjoyed a profit of \$3,300.00.

I would like to thank everyone who offered their time and talent assisting our committee this past year. Our committee is focused on Social activities enabling everyone to get to know each other better.

Many thanks to Fred VanNest for printing tickets and posters. To all the ladies who donated pies, our thanks, they really topped off the evening.

Special thanks to all who attended making these projects a great success.

Activities for 2018

Friday, January 12:	Beef-on-a-Bun
Friday, February 09:	Beef-on-a-Bun
Tuesday, February 13:	Poetry Reading at Ravine Winery
Friday, March 09:	Beef-on-a-Bun
Friday, April 13:	Beef-on-a-Bun
Friday, May 11:	Beef-on-a-Bun
Yard Sale TBA	

Yours Truly,

Doug McArthur

SOCIAL/CRAFT GROUP

We continue to meet on the fourth Wednesday of the month. Our group is small but the fellowship is most enjoyable. This year we have enjoyed assisting Marilyn Warner with her preparations to distribute treats to shut-ins and some nursing homes. These packages are a welcome treat to many people. Please feel free to come and join us.

Submitted by Violet McArthur

FRIENDLY VISITORS

The Friendly Visitors have continued to make visits to members of our Congregation. Our list of visitors and congregation members being visited has recently been updated. There are presently 6 volunteers visiting or phoning shut-ins or making hospital visits as necessary. There are 10 people who require such services at present.

We would like to thank Susan Cote for all of her time and help as a visitor over the past few years.

Rev. James continues to be supportive of the work involved and for bringing new needs to our attention and for this we are very grateful.

We continue to welcome any member of the congregation who may be interested in joining this very rewarding and necessary volunteer endeavor. The friendly visitors programme includes telephone visits for those who may themselves not be able to get out to visit but can still provide companionship and connection to others. We would also like to remind people to continue to let Rev James or us know of anyone in the congregation who might be in need of a friendly visit.

Visitor List for FRIENDLY VISITORS-

Chair: Susan Dobson

Christine Lancaster

Rena Edgley

Marianne McRae

Melanie Kelch - new member

Marg Ballantyne – new member

Susan Cote has withdrawn from the Friendly Visitors



FAITH AND CULTURE GROUP

This year we have been looking at the children's stories on Oscar Wilde. Most of them are not well known, and the series was prompted by this season's production of "Wilde Tails" an interactive children's play. Wilde wrote beautifully and we are examining the stories from a religious, social and art perspective. This year we have introduced a new format for the meeting. We have a pot-luck supper, which is eaten in silence while the story is read, followed by a discussion period of about one hour. Attendance has been 10-15 persons.

Submitted by R. C. Johnston

HAM DINNER

Once again this year, all tickets were sold out and everyone enjoyed a great dinner on Saturday, November 11, 2017. When all was said and done, we raised \$2,436.30 for the general fund. Again, many thanks to all volunteers who helped sell tickets, set up, cook, serve and clean up!

Marianne McRae

PIE BOOTH

The St. Davids-Queenston United Church Pie Booth at the Annual St. Davids Lions Carnival was another great success! Over the 4 day period, dedicated members of the congregation, made, baked and sold 247 homemade pies and cakes raising \$4,240.00 for the church.

I want to **THANK** each and every one of you who made this possible. The kitchen workers, the people manning the pie booth, the runners, the set-up, take down and clean up people and all those who donated supplies, money to purchase supplies and made pies at home.

This is an all-encompassing Church project and it always makes us **ALL** proud! Since 1963, hundreds of members of this congregation have worked for the benefit of our church and with God's help, we hope to continue for years to come.

THANK YOU ALL from the bottom of my heart.

Respectfully submitted by Florence Turner

(All Finance Reports submitted by Darlene Romanowsky, Bookkeeper)

FINANCE

The Finance committee report includes tables showing our income and expenses for 2017, our proposed expense & income budget for 2017 and our cash position and guaranteed investment certificates at December 31, 2017.

The finance committee would like to sincerely thank all the congregation members for their continued support throughout the year. As a result of your loyalty and generosity we are pleased to present an **Operating** year end surplus of **\$14,768.04**.

Thanks, so much, for all those involved with the fundraising projects that had the profits designated to the Operating Income. The Easter Sunrise Breakfast, the ham dinner, the pie booth at the carnival, and the yard sale/barbeque raised a total of **\$8,854.90**.

We are very grateful to our tireless **Activities Committee** who continued with one Friday a month from January to June and September to November hosting the popular beef-on-a-bun/games night. With this fundraiser they designated the profits to the **Capital** project of replacing the sound system for the church. They raised **2,575.50** for the sound system.

Our very reliable, hardworking and thoughtful UCW members presented \$5000.00, once again in 2017, for the operating account to aid in the cost of the church insurance. This assistance is so greatly appreciated.

The Finance committee also recognizes and greatly appreciates the many individual members of our congregation who selflessly donate back to the church any cost incurred to them whether it be for purchasing routine kitchen supplies, food supplies for special dinners or for many other unforeseen costs with fundraising activities.

On another positive note we are pleased to report that our Envelope offerings **increased by 3%** over 2016 and as well we **exceeded** our proposed operating “income” budget for 2017 by approximately **\$5000.00**.

FINANCE HIGHLIGHTS

Operating Income

The Operating Income totaled \$173,315.60 for 2017. Our major source of income comes from envelope offerings which totaled \$154,435.51. Fundraising supplemented our income by \$8,854.90. Internal donations (UCW) a business donation and Weddings & Rentals contributed \$6,585.00 to our income. The remaining source of income comes from HST Recovery, GIC interest and other miscellaneous items.

Operating Expenses

The operating expenses of **\$158,547.56** for 2017 when compared to the operating income of **\$173,315.60** resulted in a year end **surplus of \$14,768.04**.

Capital Income

The Capital Income totaled **\$100,409.19**. The source of income comes from capital fundraising, personal donations, Extension council grant & loan HST Recovery and GIC interest.

Capital Expense

The Capital Expenses of **\$109,403.96** for 2017 when compared to the Capital Income of **\$100,409.19** resulted in a year end **deficit of \$8,994.77**.

Proposed (Expense) Operating Budget for 2018

The proposed (Expense) Operating Budget was developed based on our expenditures in 2017 adjusting the budget to meet expected increases and some decreases in 2018.

The proposed budget for 2018 is **\$174,143.00** which is an **increase of \$6,952.36** or approximately 4% from 2017. The increases in the budgeted items are mostly based on routine increased expenses each year, including salary increases. One line item to notice is the addition of a proposed budget for the care and upkeep of the cemetery. The trustees requested this addition to aid them in handling the increasing costs of caring for the cemetery when the number of sale of plots is decreasing. You will note also that we now have the added expense of paying off a loan and cost of a sabbatical.

Proposed (Income) Operating budget for 2018

The proposed (Income) Operating Budget for 2017 is **\$174,143.00** which is an increase of **\$6,952.36** or approximately 4% from 2017. This increase has been made in an attempt to have a **balanced Income/Expense Budget**. You will notice that we have included the Potentials Grant of \$5,525.00 given to help with Rev. James' 3 month sabbatical leave.

Financial Outlook

If we stay the course and repeat our success in 2017, we will surely be able to once again present a year end surplus in 2018. This is assuredly a representation of a very devoted and generous congregation that we are all blessed to be a part of.

(Operating) Income & Expense Report

January 1- December 31, 2017

INCOME:

Business Donation	\$1,000.00	
CRA employer acct. refund	240.85	
Envelope Givings	154,435.51	
Good Friday-Newark Neighbours	245.00	
HST Recovery		
Operating	2,214.34	
Online donation (mytributegift)		
to memorial fund	184.00	
Our Daily Bread Donation	107.00	
Pension designation Bell Canada	360.00	
Projects		
Easter Sunrise Breakfast	100.00	
Ham Dinner	2,436.30	
Pie Booth	4,240.00	
Yard Sale/BBQ	2,078.60	
Sale of Church Calendars	64.00	
For Flower Fund	25.00	
UCW		
Assistance with insurance	5,000.00	
Weddings & Rentals		
Donation in lieu of rental fee	285.00	
Hall Rental	300.00	
Total Income		\$173,315.60

EXPENSES:

Advertising	\$2,853.73
Children & Youth Ministry:	
Sunday school instruction	3,440.00
Vacation Bible School	400.00
Christian Education (Sunday School)	
Expenses	1,138.83
Church Salaries ADP	
Admin Assist Salary Regular	10,744.80
Admin Assist Employer Pd. EI	259.92
Admin Assist Vac Pay	644.64
Minister's Employee Benefits	13,026.63
Minister's Salary Regular	66,385.20
Recoverable HST Federal	6.47
Recoverable HST Provincial	16.93
Service Charge	267.70
Deed Registration	
Disbursement Costs	470.96
Fall BBQ	55.80
Good Friday env.offering	
to Newark Neighbours	245.00
Ham Dinner Expenses	377.54
Insurance	4,143.96
Internet Service	823.20
Kitchen Supplies	519.45
Minister's reimbursed expenses	
Phone & Internet	1,209.00
Study & book Allowance	211.60

(Operating) Income & Expense Report
January 1- December 31, 2017 *cont'd...*

Minister's Travel Expenses	2,011.50	
Niagara on line worship	100.00	
Office:		
Block Billing Meter Read Copies	575.81	
CCLI (music copyright license)	192.00	
Cheque order (1998935)	149.16	
Cheque order (1999036)	141.31	
Donation tech support annual	46.77	
Lexmark Lease photocopier	1,104.20	
Supplies	1,680.70	
Video, DVD License	271.17	
Website cost	273.36	
Year Book	32.38	
Online donation to memorial fund		
mytributegift	184.00	
Organist Salary	11,760.00	
PAR Expense	391.50	
Presbytery Dues	5,177.72	
Property :		
General expense, maint. & repair	4,367.48	
Grass Cutting & Snow Removal	2,411.82	
Janitor	4,020.00	
License platform lift	105.00	
Prev. Maintenance Elevators	750.00	
Property Search Disbursements	61.44	
Recoverable HST OPERATING		
Federal portion	466.41	
Provincial portion	1,223.78	
Session:		
Anniversary Speaker	175.00	
Choir	1,058.14	
Our Daily Bread Ministries	107.00	
Remembrance Day Wreath	50.00	
Supplies	1,166.14	
Supply Minister	806.00	
Supply Organist	1,500.00	
Telephone	832.23	
Transfer to Flower Fund	25.00	
Unforeseen Expenses		
Extension council loan	1,925.00	
Utilities		
Electricity	2,494.15	
Gas	2,973.38	
Water	696.65	
Total Expenses		\$158,547.56

YTD Surplus	\$14,768.04
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(Capital) Income & Expense Report
January 1 - December 31, 2017

CAPITAL INCOME:

HST Recovery	500.19
Beef-on-Bun	
For Sound System	2,575.50
Extension Council Grant	
For Parking Lot Paving	28,583.50
Extension Council Loan	
For Parking Lot Paving	40,000.00
Personal Donations	
For Parking Lot Paving	28,700.00
For Sound System	<u>50.00</u>
Total Capital Income	\$100,409.19

CAPITAL EXPENSES:

Extension Council loan lump sum	29,200.00
New Railings	5,010.91
Parking lot paving	56,387.45
Parking Lot White Lines	296.22
Sound System	12,078.86
Recoverable HST	
Federal Portion	1,774.43
Provincial Portion	<u>4,656.09</u>
Total Capital Expenses	\$109,403.96

YTD Deficit	\$8,994.77
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Proposed Operating (Expense) Budget for 2018

	2017			2018	
	Budget	Actual Expenses	Variance	Proposed Budget	Change from 2017 to 2018
Advertising/Promotion (External)	\$2,500.00	\$2,853.73	-\$353.73	\$1,500.00	-1,000.00
Adult Education	250.00	0.00	250.00	0	-250.00
Cemetary	0.00	0.00	0.00	4,000.00	4,000.00
Extension Council Loan	0.00	0.00	0.00	3,300.00	3,300.00
Insurance	4,300.00	4,143.96	156.04	5,300.00	1,000.00
Internet Service	900.00	823.20	76.80	900.00	0.00
BBQ Fall Luncheon	200.00	55.80	144.20	56.00	-144.00
Annual supper expenses	1,000.00	377.54	622.46	500.00	-500.00
Christian Education					
Expenses	900.00	1,138.83	-238.83	900.00	0.00
Donations	200.00	0.00	200.00	200.00	0.00
Sunday School Supplies	100.00	0.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
Sunday School Instruction	3,440.00	3,440.00	0.00	4,040.00	600.00
Vacation Bible School	400.00	400.00	0.00	400.00	0.00
Office:					
Administrative Assistant	10,744.80	10,744.80	0.00	10,897.00	152.20
Admin. Assist EI	303.24	259.92	43.32	275.00	-28.24
Admin. Assist Vac. Pay	644.69	644.64	0.05	655.00	10.31
CCLI (music copyright license)	200.00	192.00	8.00	225.00	25.00
Church website cost	350.00	273.36	76.64	275.00	-75.00
Tech. Support for "donation program"	50.00	46.77	3.23	50.00	0.00
Supplies	1,800.00	1,680.70	119.30	1,600.00	-200.00
Equipment	400.00	0.00	400.00	0.00	-400.00
Photocopier block billing meter read	600.00	575.81	24.19	625.00	25.00
Photocopier lease	1,200.00	1,104.20	95.80	1,100.00	-100.00
Video, DVD license	200.00	271.17	-71.17	300.00	100.00
Mission & Service	300.00	0.00	300.00	0.00	-300.00
Niagara-on-Line worship	200.00	100.00	100.00	200.00	0.00
PAR Expense	400.00	391.50	8.50	400.00	0.00
Presbytery Dues	5,177.70	5,177.72	-0.02	5,200.00	22.30
Session					
Anniversary Speaker	175.00	175.00	0.00	200.00	25.00
Choir	1,700.00	1,058.14	641.86	1,600.00	-100.00
Supplies	1,500.00	1,166.14	333.86	1,200.00	-300.00
Supply Minister	1,500.00	806.00	694.00	6,500.00	5,000.00
Supply Organist	1,500.00	1,500.00	0.00	1,500.00	0.00
Property					
Janitor	4,020.00	4,020.00	0.00	4,080.00	60.00
General maintenance & expenses	3,300.00	4,367.48	-1,067.48	1,500.00	-1,800.00
Grass Cutting and Snow Removal	3,000.00	2,411.82	588.18	3,200.00	200.00
(Lifts) maintenace/inspection/license	1,200.00	855.00	345.00	1,200.00	0.00
Minister's Employee Benefits	14,000.00	13,026.63	973.37	14,600.00	600.00
Minister's Salary (Includes Housing)	66,385.21	66,385.20	0.01	67,315.00	929.79
Minister Phone /Internet (Reimbursed)	1,220.00	1,209.00	11.00	1,250.00	30.00
Minister Study (Reimbursed)	1,000.00	211.60	788.40	1,400.00	400.00
Minister's Travel	3,500.00	2,011.50	1,488.50	2,500.00	-1,000.00
Service Charge ADP	270.00	267.70	2.30	290.00	20.00
Organist Salary	11,760.00	11,760.00	0.00	12,600.00	840.00
Telephone	900.00	832.23	67.77	900.00	0.00
Utilities	8,000.00	6,164.18	1,835.82	6,800.00	-1,200.00
Unforeseen expenses	5,500.00	1,925.00	3,575.00	2,510.00	-2,990.00
TOTAL	\$167,190.64	\$154,848.27	12,342.37	\$174,143.00	\$6,952.36

DONATION STATISTICS**SUMMARY OF DONATIONS BY CATEGORY (Envelope Offerings)**
Between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2018

Category	Amount (\$)	# Donations	# Donors
Anniversary	2,998.80	35	35
Christmas	2,060.00	32	32
Loose (Christmas Eve)	15.00	1	1
Christmas Eve	175.00	5	5
Donation for CE Hall	350.00	1	1
Loose (Easter)	120.00	1	1
Easter	1,430.00	38	38
Loose (Envelopes)	7.00	1	1
Envelopes	250.00	22	22
Missions	16,382.00	574	44
Loose (Regular)	1,371.00	41	1
Regular	145,324.70	2096	83
Shelving-Boiler Rm	338.99	2	2
Thanksgiving	995.00	27	27
TOTALS	\$171,817.51	2876	
Total Distinct Donors Across All Categories: 132			

GIVING ANALYSIS (envelope offerings)**2017**

Over \$2,000.00	24
\$1,000.00 to \$2,000.00	41
\$500.00 to \$999.00	18
\$100.00 to \$499.00	32
\$20.00-\$99.00	14
Less than \$20.00	3
TOTAL GIVERS	132

SUMMARY OF DONATIONS BY CATEGORY (non-envelope)
Between January 1, 2017 and December 31, 2017

Category	Amount (\$)	# Donations	# Donors
Project Parking Lot	28,700.00	14	14
TOTALS	28,700.00	14	14

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

The Nominating Committee was made up of the Chairs of the Committees: Susan Cote, Jill Dill, Anne Dorland, Steve Hardaker, Rev. Paul James, Nancy Lang, Marianne McRae and Bill Utting. We present the following names for your acceptance.

MEMBERS OF THE OFFICIAL BOARD

SESSION:

Marilyn Beatty
Lisa Brillon (ex officio)
Anne Dorland (Clerk)
Martha Fleming
Lyndsay Gazzard
Norma Jane Harber
Karen Horbach
Rev. Paul James
Sandra Macdonald
Pat MacDougall
Doug McArthur
Wayne Philbrick
Florence Turner
Nancy Utting
Valerie Zuk

FINANCE:

Al DesRoches
Howard Lowrey
Mike Macdonald (Ad Hoc)
Larry McRae (Treasurer)
Marianne McRae (Chair)
Sandra Sinclair
Darlene Romanowsky (Bookkeeper)

PROPERTY:

Ron Chapman
Allan Cobham
Steven Hardaker
Bob Kerr
Don Slingerland
Monty Slingerland
Greg Smith
Bill Utting (Chair)

NOMINATING COMMITTEE cont'd...

MINISTRY & PERSONNEL:

Bonnie Boyda
Susan Cote (Chair)
Anne Dorland
Bob Johnston
Robert Sorley

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION:

Gaye Benner
Bonnie Boyda
Carol James
Nancy Lang (Interim Chair)
Stephanie Morley (Sunday school Teacher)

MISSION & OUTREACH:

Jeff Dill
Jennifer Dill
Jill Dill (Chair)
Joan Dunn

NOMINATING COMMITTEE cont'd...

COMMITTEES OF THE OFFICIAL BOARD

FLOWER COMMITTEE:

Jill Dill
Judy Kerr
Sandra MacDonald (Chair)

ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE:

Bonnie Boyda
Clair Boyda
Al DesRoches
Martha Fleming
Bob Kerr
Judy Kerr
Nancy Lang
Doug McArthur (Chair)

FRIENDLY VISITORS:

Marg Ballantyne
Susan Dobson (Chair)
Rena Edgley
Melanie Kelch
Christine Lancaster
Marianne McRae

NOMINATING COMMITTEE cont'd...

CONGREGATIONAL AND OFFICIAL BOARD CHAIRPERSON:

Steven Hardaker

CONGREGATIONAL SECRETARY:

Marianne McRae

OFFICIAL BOARD SECRETARY:

Darlene Romanowsky

PRESBYTERY REPRESENTATIVES:

Dianne Bergsma

Larry McRae

CAVE SPRINGS CORPORATION REPRESENTATIVE

Vacant

EXTENSION COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE

Vacant

TRUSTEES:

Clair Boyda

Al DesRoches

Rev. Paul James

Bob Johnston

Howard Lowrey

Wayne Mayers

Florence Turner

Fred Van Nest

Submitted by Steve Hardaker

Caribbean Workers Outreach Project-Niagara

Rev. David Pritchard, Convenor
686 Warner Rd.
Niagara-on-the-Lake, ON L0S1J0
289-296-8648/905-984-7201 (cell)

Annual Report for 2017

Thank you for your continuing support for the Caribbean Workers Outreach Project. In 2017 we celebrated the 25th anniversary of the project through which a sawmill group of Christian volunteers in Lincoln and Niagara-on-the-Lake have ministered to Art cultural workers (males Jamaican) who come each year to assist in farm work to benefit Niagara farmers. Each spring hundreds of men (and a small group of women) leave family and home to travel to Niagara to work from 5-9 months, living on farms and saving or sending home their pay to support them and their families throughout the year. They cope with long working hours, extreme weather, isolation and loneliness. CWOP offers support to workers through five programmes.

1. Regular worship services are held in Lincoln and Niagara on Sunday evenings from late April to the end of June and both sides host a closing service at the end of August or early September. Each week volunteer drivers bring workers to services and return them to their farms. Local churches provide fruit, juice and pastries for the workers after each service. Visitors are welcome.
2. Each year two ministers from the United Church of Jamaica and Cayman Islands come to Niagara for five weeks each, to lead worship and to visit workers on farms in the evenings to offer friendship and support, sharing news from home and prayer. We need volunteer drivers to help the ministers to travel from farm to farm and also to help workers get to Sunday evening services.
3. Each year we host workers from both sides for two events with friendly competition. A dominoes match in Lincoln on a Saturday evening and a Cricket Match in NOTL on a Sunday afternoon are highlights of the summer. Participants in the Cricket Match get team shirts and everyone shares in a special meal. There is no charge to workers for these events and transportation is provided.
4. We have a fund to provide benevolent support to workers who experience the death of a parent, spouse or child in Jamaica. This helps with the cost of airfare or funeral expenses. Support may be available at other times of crisis.
5. We host a breakfast early in June for ministers from Niagara and Lincoln churches to tell them about the programme, to offer an opportunity to meet with Jamaican ministers and to enlist their support in encouraging volunteers from their churches to sign up for our ministry.

This year we also prepared and hosted a 25th Anniversary celebration service at Mountainview United Church. Over 400 Jamaicans and Canadians attended the service. Everyone received an Anniversary t-shirt, through the sponsorship of Jamaica National and worship was joyful and spirit-filled.

Rev. Dave Pritchard (convenor) and Pastor Jim Wright serve on the Project executive. On the Lincoln side Rev. Anita Spiller, Neil Ryckman and Annelies de Groot (treasurer) continue to be involved. On the NOTL side Nancy King, Donna Brown (secretary), Dave & Claudene Bell and Carol Miller continue. The Jamaican ministers who joined us this year were Rev. Norlene Jackson (May) and Rev. Wayne Wisdom (June).

We will be making some changes in the coming year and each side will have a different outreach, but will continue to care for workers and share the love of Christ with our offshore friends and newcomers. We continue to look for leaders and helpers in Lincoln and Niagara-on-the-Lake who can assist us in our shared ministry. Please contact me (information above) to join us.
David Pritchard

A ministry of the United Church of Canada and the United Church of Jamaica and the Cayman Islands.

4145 Aberdeen Road-Beamsville, ON L0R 1B6

Report Compiled by Darlene Romanowsky
February 2018

Cover photo by Steve Hardaker