

Rev Jon Van Den Berg
Convener, Creative Ministries Committee
Synod of Southwestern Ontario
Presbyterian Church In Canada

Dear Rev Jon:

We are writing in reference to your grant of \$5000 to Cheyne Presbyterian Church, on May 31, 2017.

We thank you for your generous grant in response to our May 15, 2017 grant application.

You might remember that this grant was to help us develop more effective ministry to families both inside and outside our church. The grant would help us finance our new Family and Young Adult Pastor position that will spearhead effective ministry to families. In order to create this Family and Young Adult Pastor position, we planned to switch from our existing structure of a fulltime Children & Family Pastor position and a .67 part time Youth Pastor position to a new structure of a fulltime Children & Youth Pastor and a full-time Family & Young Adult Pastor. As a result, we needed to finance an increase in staffing of .33 person or about \$20,000 per year. At that time, we had hoped to begin this new structure July 1, 2017.

The Lord answered our prayers and careful search with a new Family and Young Adult Pastor who started in mid-August 2017. This new Family and Young Adult Pastor is only able to work with us on a part-time (19 hours per week basis) since he is also working as an Educational Assistant with the School Board. He wanted to ease into the Family and Young Adult Pastor position on a part-time basis because he wanted to retain the security of his long-tenured School Board job until he had time to discern the security of this new church position in an environment of shrinking church congregations. The School Board would not grant him a one year sabbatical to test the new full-time position, so we had to go with the part-time position. We prayerfully hope that this Family and Young Adult Pastor position can move from part-time to full-time in the last half of 2018.

We wanted to update you as quickly as possible after our leadership team met last night so that you can consider what to do about the grant.

In Christ's service,

Jim McIntosh Clerk
Rev Steve Lindsay, Moderator
Session,
Cheyne Presbyterian Church,
Stoney Creek, ON
September 22, 2017