

POLICY-Marriage Policy

Background:

PEUC has never had a "Marriage Policy". Council, with the leadership of the Ministry and Personnel Committee has discussed this since April 2017.

There have been four different opportunities for congregants and adherents to attend gatherings, review the potential policy and put forth their opinions. These meetings were held after church as well as in the evening to allow attendance by as many as were interested.

These gatherings were held informally, using our Holy Manners as guidelines for discussion. During these sessions, it was apparent by the comments that the majority of those present were in agreement with the proposed policy.

Taking into account the congregational response to this process, the following motion was proposed at the September 06, 2017 Council meeting of Port Elgin United Church:

PURPOSE:

To affirm the principles of marriages performed by the ministerial staff of Port Elgin United Church.

POLICY:

The Port Elgin United Church Marriage Policy affirms that marriages may be conducted either in the church building or at another venue arranged for by the couple. Marriages will be conducted, with no discrimination, for a loving couple who wish to covenant together in a Christian marriage. A marriage procedure will be made available to the couple, which lists expectations with regards to fees and required preparations.

RATIONALE:

To align the Marriage Policy of Port Elgin United Church with our Mission and Vision Statements, United Church of Canada guidelines, the law of Canada and the support of our congregants and adherents.

Motion passed at the Council meeting of PEUC on September 06, 2017

Move: to vote on the Marriage Policy as sent by email and read aloud by Patti Byers

Motion: Patti Byers

Seconded: John Van Berlo

Proposal to discuss policy and vote: none initiated by those in attendance.

Motion: carried