

SUMMARY OF DECISIONS

General Assembly 2021

Online 29-30 Sept

**EMPOWERING
GENERATIONS**
GA21 

MODERATOR INSTALLED

- Rev Hamish Galloway was installed as the Moderator for 2021-2023 in an online service.

MEMORIAL MINUTES

- Assembly approved that Memorial Minutes for 44 ministers be placed in the records of the Assembly.

ORDINATION ANNIVERSARIES

- Assembly acknowledged ordination anniversaries and the Moderator extended warm congratulations to all those who will celebrate these milestones before the next Assembly.

MODERATOR DESIGNATE

- Rev Rose Luxford was announced as the Moderator-Designate. She will be Moderator of the General Assembly for the period 2023-2025.

ASSEMBLY MEETING

- The Assembly ratified the recommendation that a Special Assembly be held in 2022 to attend to business submitted to but not dealt with at the 2021 General Assembly online.
- Assembly adopted a new provision (BOO 14.29) relating to the date, time and place of General Assembly meetings, which says that in exceptional circumstances, where it is impractical to hold a General Assembly which participants can attend in person, the Council of Assembly may determine that a General Assembly can be held by electronic means.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- Assembly confirmed presbytery and Asian representatives on the Nominating Committee and recognised Associates.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROVISIONS RATIFIED

- It was agreed that the Supplementary Provisions and other documents adopted or amended by the Council of Assembly since the last General Assembly be ratified.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY ACCOUNTS

- Assembly received the audited accounts for 1 July 2020 to 30 June 2021. The Council of Assembly was authorised to sign the audited accounts on behalf of General Assembly.

TURAKINA FUNDS

- It was agreed that the balance of the funds from the winding up of the Turakina Ngā Hara Trust be transferred to Te Aka Puaho.

COOPERATIVE VENTURES

- Assembly approved four corrections (2.1.7; 3.4.3; omitting 3.4.4; and 3.4.2) of the Procedures for Cooperative Ventures (2018).
- Cooperative Ventures will support the work of the Partner Churches through a common assessment mechanism overseen by the Resource Allocation Group, and this Group will determine assessment collected by national Convening Partner.
- Assembly ratified the withdrawal of the Congregational Union as a Partner Church of UCANZ.

MAHI TAHI I TE ROOPU MAHI – WORKING TOGETHER

- Assembly agreed to the establishment of two work groups – one to continue the discussion on the issues raised by Te Mahi Tahī I te Roopu Mahi in regard to the discernment of a strategic direction for the Church, and to report back to the next General Assembly.
- The second workgroup, in consultation with the Doctrine Core Group, to work on the Five Faces of Mission (including a review and update) and bring recommendations to the next General Assembly.

BOOK OF ORDER CHANGES

- A range of changes to Book of Order provisions were adopted by General Assembly.
- Assembly adopted changes to Book of Order provisions regarding disciplinary matters, emergency assemblies, how Te Aka Puaho commissioners are appointed to Assembly.
- Changes had been adopted ad interim at the 2018 General Assembly and were ratified by Assembly.
- Assembly adopted some changes to the Book of Order (discipline) as interim provisions having force until GA next meets.

BOOK OF ORDER CHANGES

- Changes to provisions adopted mean that it is now possible to achieve a quorum for an Emergency Assembly.
- Assembly agreed to appoint to General Assembly one minister or elder commissioner per Maori pastorate.

BOOK OF ORDER CHANGES – CHAPTER 15 DISCIPLINE

- Assembly adopted changes to the provisions in chapter 15 of the Book of Order. The changes address issues identified during actual proceedings.
- Amendments were adopted as interim provisions having force until the next General Assembly meets.
- Under special legislative procedure provisions church councils and presbyteries have the opportunity to consider rules adopted ad interim in the lead-up to General Assembly.

NATIONAL COMMITTEES

- Assembly approved two extensions of membership: one on a national church committee, the other on a national work group.

CHURCH PROPERTY COMMISSION

- Assembly approved the members of the Commission that deals with matters referred to it by the Church property trustees and matters related to the relevant Act.

ASSEMBLY DECISIONS

For full details of all the online Assembly decisions, check out the Assembly minutes which will be published on the Church website in November.

Videos and images are available for download on the Church's website along with daily news summaries from 29 and 30 September 2021.

<https://www.presbyterian.org.nz/about-us/general-assembly/general-assembly-2021>