A RESOLUTION ON ECUMENICAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED CHRUCH OF CHRIST AND THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA Approved at Submitted

A Prudential Resolution

TEXT OF MOTION

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8 9 WHEREAS, the gospel of Jesus Christ unites the followers of Christ in a single community of 10 faith and compels us to make our unity visible so "that the world may believe..." John 17:21; 11 12 WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ and the United Church of Canada are united and 13 uniting churches with multiple denominational streams which identify them and shape their 14 Christian self-understanding; 15 16 WHEREAS, the United Church of Canada and the United Church of Christ have common 17 commitment to the visible unity of the church of Jesus Christ and to the one ecumenical 18 movement; 19 20 WHEREAS, the United Church of Canada and the United Church of Christ have common 21 Congregational and Reformed heritage and sit in common witness to mission, worship, 22 theological conversation and commitment to justice; 23 24 WHEREAS, the United Church of Christ and the United Church of Canada have engaged in 25 dialogue and have identified similarities and differences that can commonly strengthen who they 26 are and their witness in North America as united and united churches; 27 28 THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the twenty-ninth General Synod United Church of Christ 29 recognize the United Church of Canada as an ecumenical partner; 30 31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, the United Church of Canada and the United Church of Christ 32 mutually commit to forming the United Church Ecumenical Partnership Committee, an 33 ecumenical partnership committee of ten (10) persons – five from each communion; 34 35 BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the United Church Ecumenical Partnership Committee 36 brings back to the thirtieth General Synod recommendations for further steps and activities to 37 bring the two communions toward full communion and visible unity. 38 39 **FUNDING** 40 41 Funding for the implementation of the resolution will be made in accordance with the overall mandates of the affected agencies and the funds available. 42 43 44 **IMPLEMENTATION**

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- The Collegium of Officers, in consultation with appropriate ministries or other entities within the United Church of Christ, will determine the implementing body.