

**CANADIAN SHIELD REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**MINUTES  
OF THE INAUGURAL REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING  
May 31 – June 2, 2019**

The Inaugural meeting of Canadian Shield Regional Council took place on June 31 – June 2, 2019 at the Quattro Hotel and Conference Centre and St. Andrew's United Church, Sault Ste. Marie, ON. The theme was *Moving Forward with the Spirit*.

**FRIDAY, May 31, 2019**

**AFTERNOON SESSION**

Gathering music

The music team led the council in gathering music, including the theme song written for the meeting, *Moving with the Spirit*.

Welcome, honouring the land, and constituting the Council

Chair, Jim Jackson welcomed people to the inaugural meeting of Canadian Shield Regional Council, and included a Bible reading. The Chair constituted the meeting in the name of Jesus, the Christ, Sovereign Head of the Church, to conduct business properly brought before it. The Christ candle was lit; the council acknowledged that we are gathering on the traditional territories of Indigenous peoples, and the Chair recognized that this is a safe space.

Greetings were brought from the Mayor's representative, Donna Hilsinger, and Chief Sayers of the local Indigenous community.

Guests and staff were introduced and the Chair welcomed youth forum members.

The Moderator, Rt. Rev. Richard Bott brought greetings via video message.

Opening motions

MOTION by Barbara Nott/Mardi Mumford that the following enabling motions be adopted...

- a) Roll of the Regional Council: that the roll of Roll of the Regional Council shall consist of:
  - All ministry personnel within the geographic bounds served by the Canadian Shield Regional Council (Basis of Union 6.2.1);
  - Ministers of denominations within mutual recognition agreements while under appointment or call (Basis of Union 6.2.2);

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- lay members elected by the community of Faith, respecting the balance of lay and ministry personnel where possible (Basis of Union 6.2.3);
  - additional lay members as determined by the regional council if necessary, to respect a balance of ministry personal and lay members who are not ministry personnel in the membership of the Regional Council (2019 Manual C.1.2.b)
- b) **Bounds of the Regional Council Meeting:** that the bounds of the Regional Council meeting for voting purposes shall be the numbered tables in the meeting space on the floor of the meeting of the Quattro Conference Centre, and, when in session. That the Canadian Shield Regional Council hold a Celebration of Ministry Service including ordination to the order of ministry of the United Church of Canada on June 2, 2019 at 11am at St. Andrew's United Church, 712 Wellington St. E. Sault Ste. Marie to fulfil its responsibility to ordain those whom the Office of Vocation has confirmed as having completed all the requirements for ordination and whom the Regional Council has confirmed have a covenantal relationship in place with a community of faith.
- c) **Agenda:** that the Agenda as printed and circulated be the order of business, subject to those changes that are recommended by the Agenda & Business Chairperson and approved by the Regional Council; or as recommended by the Regional Council itself.
- d) **Adjournment of Sessions:** that the Chair has the authority to recess the Regional Council when business, as ordered, is completed, until the next order of the day.
- e) **Corresponding Members:** that corresponding members shall be: official guests of the Regional Council. Their names shall be included in the Record of Proceedings. (2019 Manual C.1.4)
- f) **New Business & Nominations:** that any Nominations for the Regional Council and items of New Business shall be given to the Agenda & Business Committee by 11:00 am, Saturday June 1, 2019.
- g) **Naming of the Regional Council 6:** Following a process of Regional Council consultation and voting, that Regional Council 6 will be re-named: The Canadian Shield Regional Council.

MOTION

CARRIED

Procedural Motions

MOTION by Barbara Nott/Mardi Mumford

1. The procedural and prayer microphone shall be microphone #1;
2. Any handouts must be authorized by the Agenda & Business Committee;
3. The Parliamentarian shall be Bill Steadman;
4. The Chair shall present a Proposal. The Chair will invite prayerful discernment and discussion on the wisdom of the Proposal. When the President discerns that the sense of the meeting is such that we are ready to hear a motion on the Proposal she/he will invite the presenter to put the motion. Once the motion has been moved and seconded, Rules of Debate and Order shall be followed;

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5. At the discretion of the Chair, microphone time for each speaker will be limited to 1½ minutes per Proposal and 1½ minutes per motion with the exception of the mover (who may speak at the beginning and end of a motion).
6. Microphone time may be reduced at the discretion of the Agenda & Business Committee in 30 second increments when any item of business exceeds 20 minutes.
7. The normal voting procedure shall be a show of hands using ballot cards, except where a secret ballot is required (ballot sheets will be provided by the Agenda & Business Committee through the Conference Office).
8. In the case of limited time for business, items will be dealt with in the following order: Proposals to General Council, Proposals to Regional Council, Elections.

**MOTION**

**CARRIED**

Opening of Nominations

Kathie Smith, Chair of Nominations Committee, introduced the Committee members, introduced the report and explained the slate of officers, and opened nominations.

Announcements

Barbara Nott was called on for announcements and introduced the local arrangements team, and the music and worship teams.

Opening Worship

The Worship team led the meeting in an opening worship.

Stewardship Update

Melody Duncanson-Hales provided an update on Mission and Service and Stewardship.

The meeting took an all-purpose break.

Right Relations presentation

Maurice Switzer gave a presentation on our 'treaty responsibilities' and the work before our church as we respond to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action.

Announcements and Grace

Barbara Nott gave announcements and Cindy Desilets led grace.

**EVENING SESSION**

The meeting took part in a getting-to-know-you activity, listened to a presentation titled, *Five Became One*, and Kathie Smith presented a job description of a Regional Representative.

Overview of Transition

Nora Sanders, General Secretary of The United Church of Canada, gave an overview of the transition to the new structure of the church.

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Introduction to Governance of the Region

Barbara Nott moderated a panel discussion on the governance of the Canadian Shield Regional Council. The panel consisted of Jim Jackson, Mardi Mumford, Lillian Roberts and Will Kunder.

Theological Reflections

Nora Sanders, General Secretary of The United Church of Canada gave theological reflections on the Canadian Shield Regional Council and the theme of this meeting.

The meeting was adjourned until 8:45 Saturday morning.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 1, 2019**

**MORNING SESSION**

Gathering music

The music team led the council in gathering music.

Announcements

Peter Hartmans gave some announcements.

Worship

The members of the Youth Forum led worship and followed with a report on the youth forum activities.

Governance Structure

MOTION by Barbara Nott/Cindy Desilets that the Canadian Shield Regional Council ratify the Canadian Shield Regional Council governance structure.

MOTION

CARRIED

Nominations

Kathie Smith gave an update on nominations and announced nominations are open until 11 a.m. today.

Budget

Janet MacDonald introduced the Financial Report and draft budget. She outlined the process for questions.

Proposals

Proposal #2019-02: Erin Todd introduced the proposal titled, *Practice Regarding Celebration of Ordination/Commissioning/ Recognition/Admission/Readmission*.

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MOTION by Erin Todd/Ted Harrison that Canadian Shield Regional Council move Section #3 of proposal #2019-02, *Practice Regarding Celebration of Ordination/ Commissioning/ Recognition/ Admission/Readmission*.

MOTION

CARRIED

Proposal #2019-05: Will Kunder presented the proposal titled, *Interim Affirming Status*.

MOTION by Nancy Ferguson/Crystal Greig that as priorities are being established for the Regional Council, the Regional Council Executive, the Commissions and the Resource Teams, they include the language required for Affirming Ministries, “the inclusion of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities in the life and work of the Ministry” (required by Affirm United);

And that Canadian Shield Regional Council authorize the Affirming Ministry Resource Team to develop an Interim Action Plan for the first year of the Regional Council’s existence, June 2019-2020, detailing how the Regional Council will live out the above commitment in the region’s responsibilities and functions;

And that Canadian Shield Regional Council authorize the payment of the annual Affirm United/S’affirmer Ensemble of \$100 for 2019 and 2020.

MOTION

CARRIED

There were two abstentions to the vote.

The meeting took an all-purpose break.

Reflections by Ordinand

Lillian Roberts introduced Ordinand, Susan Peverley and invited her to address the council.

Discipleship in Your Church

Melody Duncanson-Hales and Barbara Nott gave a presentation on discipleship of volunteering, speaking about generous, intentional choices with our time.

Announcements and Grace

Barbara Nott was invited to give announcements and Barbara led the council in a sung grace.

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**AFTERNOON SESSION**

Clusters and Networks

Karen Hilfman Millson, Minister for Congregational Support and Clusters & Network Animation from Shining Waters Regional Council provided a session on clusters and networks.

Nominations for Chair and Chair-Elect

Cindy Desilets presented the nominees for the position of Chair of Canadian Shield Regional Council: Barbara Nott and Kathie Smith. Both were invited to address the council.

Ballots were distributed and elections held for the positions of Chair and Chair-Elect.

Announcement of new Chair and Chair-Elect

The Chair announced that Kathie Smith was elected as the Chair of Canadian Shield Regional Council for the term of 2019-2020. Barbara Nott has agreed to have her name stand as Chair-Elect of Canadian Shield Regional Council.

Nominations

The Nominations Committee report was distributed and Kathie Smith spoke to it.

MOTION by Eun-Joo Park/Faye Moffatt that Canadian Shield Regional Council elect those listed in the Nominations Report from the Nominations Committee to serve on the Executive, Nominating Committee, Pastoral Relations Commission, Support to Communities of Faith Commission, Property Resource Team, Mission Support & Grants Resource Team, Living Into Right Relations Resource Team, Affirming Ministry Resource Team, Finance Resource Team, Youth and Young Adult Ministry Resource Team of Canadian Shield Regional Council for stated terms.

MOTION

CARRIED

MOTION by Stuart Taggart/Mardi Mumford that the Canadian Shield Regional Council destroy the ballots from the election of Chair and Chair-Elect.

MOTION

CARRIED

Proposals

Proposal #2019-01: Scott Mosher introduced the proposal titled, *Resolution, Little Current Pastoral Charge*

MOTION by Barbara Nott/Bill Jones that the Canadian Shield Regional Council forward proposal #2019-01, *Resolution, Little Current Pastoral Charge* to the General Council with concurrence.

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MOTION

CARRIED

There were abstentions to the vote.

Proposal #2019-03: Janie Clayton and Teresa Jones introduced the proposal titled, *Single-Use Plastic Water Bottles*.

MOTION by Janie Clayton/Teresa Jones that the Canadian Shield Regional Council endorse the no single-use plastic water bottle policy (proposal #2019-03) and that the Chair of the Regional Council write letters to all individual Communities of Faith within the region asking each to establish a policy stating that they choose not to use single-use plastic water bottles in their churches, and to incorporate into their rental policies, a request that others using their buildings abide by this same agreement.

MOTION

CARRIED

There were two abstentions to the vote.

Announcements

Lillian Roberts and Eun-Jo Park made announcements.

The meeting took an all-purpose break.

Workshops

The meeting participants were offered workshops on the following topics; Living Into Right Relations, Church Hub, Stewardship, Churches Without Paid Accountable Ministry, Mission as a Church, Your Living Faith Story, and Technology and Your Church.

Honouring Retirees

Ministry Personnel who are retiring were honoured and asked to speak at the banquet. Will Kunder gave a presentation on the Right Relations Artwork.

In Memoriam

Lillian Roberts led an in memoriam for Ministry Personnel, former Presbytery lay members and Regional Council representatives.

Worship

The Worship team led evening vespers and Nora Sanders offered theological reflections.

**SUNDAY, JUNE 2, 2019**

The meeting reconvened at St. Andrew's United Church, in Sault Ste. Marie with gathering music.

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Announcements

Barbara Nott and Peter Hartmans gave announcements. Peter brought greetings from the Shining Waters Regional Council.

Motion to Reconsider - Governance Structure

MOTION by Ted Harrison/Kathleen McCallum that Canadian Shield Regional Council reconsider the decision ratifying the governance document.

MOTION

CARRIED

Proposals

Proposal #2019-04: George and Joy Bott introduced the proposal titled, *Using Technology as a Means for Gathering for Canadian Shield Regional Council*.

MOTION by George Bott/Kathie Smith that the 2020 Canadian Shield Regional Council meeting be an electronic meeting.

MOTION

DEFEATED

MOTION by Ted Harrison/Diane Uurainen that the Canadian Shield Regional Council ratify the Canadian Shield Regional Council governance structure

MOTION

CARRIED

Budget

Janet MacDonald answered the written questions that had been submitted after the budget presentation.

MOTION by Helen Smith/Barbara Nott that the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the budget as presented in the Canadian Shield Regional Council meeting workbook.

MOTION

CARRIED

Dedication of stole

Peter Hartmans led a dedication of a new stole that was designed and commissioned by the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive and made by the people of St. Andrew's United Church in Sault Ste. Marie.

Installation of New Executive and Chair

Kathie Smith was installed as the new Chair of the Canadian Shield Regional Council. The new Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council was installed.



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Dedication of communion set

The communion set received as a gift from London Conference was dedicated to the use of Canadian Shield Regional Council.

Covenanting with Staff

The Chair of Canadian Shield Regional Council led a covenanting with the Regional Council staff.

Appreciation

Guests and those who provided leadership during this Regional Council meeting were given thanks.

The members of the council were invited to pick up a stone to take to their Community of Faith as a sign that the process of entering into a covenant with the Regional Council has begun.

Closing

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned.

Celebration of Ministry Service

The inaugural meeting of Canadian Shield Regional Council concluded with a Celebration of Ministry service at St. Andrew's United Church, Sault Ste. Marie. Chair Kathie Smith and Eun-Joo Park presided assisted by Executive Minister Peter Hartmans. Executive Minister Peter Hartmans delivered the message. Susan Peverley was ordained to the order of ministry of The United Church of Canada and then presided for the Sacrament of Communion.

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James (Jim) E. Jackson, Chair

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Peter Hartmans, Executive Minister