

Canadian Shield Regional Council

The United Church of Canada

2022 Regional Council Meeting

“Tending Our Nets”

September 23-25, 2022



Report Packet

Regional Council Meeting Hosted by St. Andrew's UC in Sudbury, ON



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Agenda

Friday, September 23, 2022

12:00 – 1:00	Optional Trip to Cairn / Labyrinth		2:30	Sacred Fire/Smudge		6:00 – 7:00	DINNER
			3:00	Welcome and Introductions			
1:00	Registration		3:45	Opening Worship		7:15 – 8:15	Theme Time with Jennifer Henry
			4:15	Erin's Body Break			
			4:25	Table Group Session			Theological Reflection – Rev. Michael Blair
				Bookroom, Announcements			

Saturday, September 24, 2022

8:45 – 9:15	Morning Worship		12:00	LUNCH		6:00	Banquet
9:15 – 10:30	Nominations Budget & Funds GC44 Report		1:00 – 2:00	Life Cycle of a Congregation			Service
10:30 – 11:00	BREAK		2:00 – 3:00	Proposals Presentation of Nominees Elections Announce Ballots Vote on Budget			Theological Reflection
11:00 – 11:30	Affirming RT					8:30	Campfire with Youth at Hannah Lake Camp
11:30 – 11:45	Erin's Body Break		3:00 – 3:30	BREAK			
11:45 – 12:00	Announcements, Grace		3:30 – 4:30	Roundtables			
	Camp McDougall						

Sunday, September 25, 2022

8:45 – 9:00	Gathering Music		10:30	CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY SERVICE			
9:00 – 10:00	New Business Installation New Executive Covenanting of New Staff Courtesies Closing Motions			(St. Andrew's UC)			
10:00	BREAK		12:00	Bagged Lunches and Goodbyes			



Welcome Letter from Arrangements Committee

“Tending Our Nets”



2022 Canadian Shield Regional Council Meeting

Welcome to (everything-you-need-to-know-about) the 2022 Regional Council Meeting!

We are excited to announce that we'll be gathering **in-person** for our 2022 Regional Council Meeting the weekend of September 23-25 at St. Andrew's United Church (111 Larch Street, Sudbury). The site is fully accessible, all music will be projected so no need to pack your hymn book, and a team of Chaplains will be on-site to respond to your needs! For those for whom travel presents an obstacle or health prohibits your ability to join the meeting in-person, a real-time, two-way virtual option will be available. *Please indicate how you will be attending the meeting on the Registration Form.*

What has sustained you since we last met? How have you tended to your needs and the needs of your community of faith? What has kept you grounded and connected? The theme of this year's Regional Council Meeting is **“Tending Our Nets”**. We will offer opportunities through worship, theme speakers, presenters, round table discussions, excursions, informal conversations, and theological reflections to do just that – to consider how we have been tending to our various nets. We'll take time to reconnect, to reacquaint, and to renew.

As your Planning Team, we are excited by the trust you have placed in us and the plans that are taking shape. We are delighted to be welcoming among us special guests General Secretary Rev. Michael Blair, Program Development and Strategy Lead Jennifer Henry from the General Council Office, and Communities of Faith Minister for Equity and Innovation Susie Henderson from Shining Waters Regional Council.

Along with the business of the Council, there will be a presentation by Jennifer Henry on the new United Church Mission Statement: “Deep Spirituality. Bold Discipleship. Daring Justice.”, an exploration of the Lifecycle of Congregations by our own Rev. Melody Duncanson-Hales, and a How-To on becoming an Affirming Ministry by Resource Team Lead Peter Haddow. But wait, there's more!

We recognize that while we are excited to meet again in-person but we are tired. We also recognize that the old “normal” of packing in as much as possible would only serve to drain our limited reserves rather than inspire. So this year, we are replacing Workshops with Round Table Discussions facilitated by our special guests. We're also including two “Body Breaks for Every Body” led by Rev. Erin Todd to provide release, an opportunity to take a guided excursion to the Cairn, to walk the Labyrinth, to relax with art supplies, to shop at the book room, and to browse a variety of displays with lots of helpful information to take home.

We will take time to honour our Retirees and acknowledge anniversary milestones at a Banquet on Saturday evening; and on Sunday morning, we will meet to complete the business of the Council and gather to participate in the Celebration of Ministry Service. Please note that a sample



worship service is being prepared for use in your home church for Sunday, September 25 while your ministry personnel is at the meeting. This will give an opportunity to connect communities of faith with the Council and highlight this year's theme.

All meals are offered on-site. *Please note any dietary needs/restrictions on the Registration Form.* Due to limited parking on the Friday, a shuttle bus service will be offered from the Northbury Hotel to St. Andrew's United Church (*see the Accommodations list for more hotels to stay at*). On Saturday and Sunday, we encourage you to carpool. There will be merchandise for order (*see Registration form for ordering your Regional shirt*); and Regional mugs for direct-sale (*cash or cheque only*), that may come in handy if you forget to pack your re-useable beverage bottle! There will be one printed copy of the Report Book at your table. You can also order one in advance for \$10 (*see Registration form*). Better yet ... help us save a tree or two and bring your laptop or tablet to reference it remotely.

As a Regional Representative – be you lay or ministry personnel – your registration fee is covered by the annual assessment. However, if you are not a regional representative, you are welcome to attend the meeting as a paying or non-paying guest where you will may participate in all aspects of the meeting except voting. If you would like meals as a paying guest, the fee will be \$125.00. Everyone must register for the Regional Council Meeting regardless of your role.

If you are Ministry Personnel and are planning to attend the 2022 Ministry Personnel Retreat, watch for emails about the registration package! In the meantime, please register for the meeting. We are so looking forward to seeing you!

If you have any questions about the meeting, please email swhitehead@united-church.ca or call the main Regional Office at 1-833-236-0821, ext. 1. Please be advised that we will be following all the COVID protocols of the meeting site. At the same time, we are also aware that the protocols continue to evolve so you will be updated closer to the meeting date of any changes or restrictions. As always, stay tuned!



**2022 Canadian Shield
Regional Council Meeting**

2022 CS Regional Council Planning Team

Nancy Ferguson (Co-Chair)

Helen Smith (Co-Chair)

Mardi Mumford

Barbara Nott

Heather Mitchell

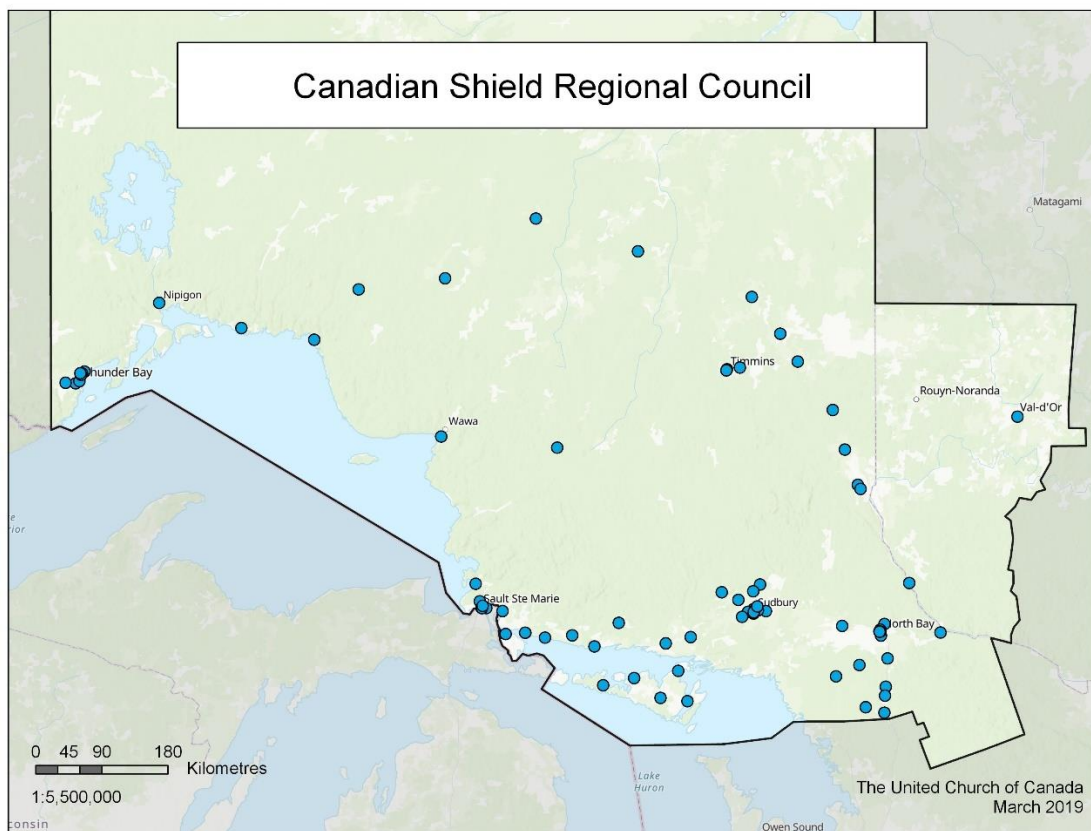
Faye Moffatt

Peter Hartmans (Staff Resource)

Susan Whitehead (Staff Resource)



Map of the Canadian Shield Regional Council



Business of the Court

Procedural and Consent Motions 2022

FOR ACTION

MOTION by _____ that the following enabling motions be adopted...

- a) **Roll of the Regional Council:** that the 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);
 - 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 (2022 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 at St. Andrew's United Church, 111 Larch Street, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 4T5 and the Zoom meeting ID 89755048801 when in session; that the Canadian Shield Regional Council hold a Celebration of Ministry Service Sunday, September 25, 2022 at 10:30 a.m. to take place at St. Andrew's United Church, 111 Larch Street, Sudbury, Ontario P3E 4T5.
- 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) **Minutes:** that the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council held October 16, 2021 be approved as circulated.
- e) **Accountability reports:** that the reports as presented in the Report Packet be accepted for information.
- f) **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.
- g) **Corresponding Members:** that corresponding members shall be official guests of the Regional Council. Their names shall be included in the Record of Proceedings. (2022 Manual C.1.5)
- h) **New Business:** that any items of New Business shall be referred to Nancy Ferguson and Helen Smith, of the Agenda & Business Committee. New Business items close at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday, September 24th, 2022.



Procedural Motions

MOTION by

1. The procedural and prayer microphone shall be the chat box and designated floor microphone at St. Andrew's United Church.
2. Any handouts must be authorized by the Agenda & Business Committee;
3. The Parliamentarian shall be Rev. Bill Steadman;
4. The Chair shall present proposals. The Chair will invite prayerful discernment and discussion on the wisdom of the proposal. When the Chair discerns that the sense of the meeting is such that we are ready to hear a motion on the proposal they will invite the presenter to move the motion. Once the motion has been moved and seconded, Rules of Debate and Order shall be followed;
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: in-person, a show of hands using ballot cards, except where a secret ballot is required, and by Zoom, a show of hands using the RAISE HAND icon found at the bottom of the participants panel or *9 for those on the phone. If two people are joined from the same household one person will vote with the Raise Hand icon and the second will type YES or NO in the chat. Those who wish to abstain will type ABSTAIN in the chat. Where a secret ballot is required, ballot sheets will be provided by the regional council and an online poll will be provided.
7. In the case of limited time for business, items will be dealt with in the following order: Proposals to Canadian Shield Regional Council, Reports requiring a decision of the Regional Council, Reports for Information.

Background for Consent Motions

Evaluation and experience have shown that the agendas of meetings of the Regional Council are full and that time for fulsome discernment and discussion of important items is occasionally lacking.

A consent agenda is a tool to help the Regional Council focus on what is most important. Proposals which are routine or non-controversial actions or routine changes in policy or procedure are included in the consent agenda. At the meeting, any five (5) voting members of the Regional Council may request to move any item(s) from the consent agenda to be placed on the meeting's agenda. By courtesy, advance notice would be given to the Executive Minister. If you have a concern, you are encouraged to contact the Executive Minister in advance as an exchange of information may resolve a question.

In a consent agenda you may also find minutes of previous meetings, accountability reports, etc. The list of correspondence to the Executive (if any) is included with the reports to be received for information.

Process for Removal of an Item from the Consent Motion:

The process for acting on the consent agenda in the opening sessions will be as follows:

1. Presider/chair: "You have all received the workbook, with the consent agenda. Do any five voting members wish to remove an item from the consent agenda to be placed on the meeting's agenda?"



2. If any five voting members requests it, an item is moved (by courtesy, advance notice would be given to the Executive Minister).
3. Presider/chair: "Without discussion, then, the consent agenda is ready for a vote. Those in favour? Opposed? All items on the consent agenda are adopted."

How to Create Proposals in the Canadian Shield Regional Council

Creating a Proposal to be consider by the General Council or Regional Council:

Proposals can be created to be considered by the Regional Council or the Regional Council Executive. A "proposal" is a formal request for the council to take action. It is one way that a United Church member may raise an issue that is important to them and ask for the church to take action on it.

The 2022 Manual, Section F, describes in detail how a proposal may be submitted. The outline below also provides a template for creating a proposal. Proposals can be submitted before the Regional Council meeting, to be circulated in the regional meeting Report Packet or, a proposal can be submitted to the Agenda and Business table before the scheduled close of submission of new business, during our Regional Council Meeting. See the CSRC Meeting Agenda for specific close of business time.

Proposal [template] (also see 2022 Manual, Section F, Initiating Action and Change)

PROPOSAL NAME

Origin: [Regional Council Name]

1. What is the issue? (describe in broad terms)

We believe God/Jesus/Holy Spirit is calling us to:

- do something about...
- engage the topic of...
- respond to the challenge of...
- etc.

Note: *Proposals for the General Council are for issues of denominational responsibility that go beyond the bounds of a Regional Council.*

Proposals for the Regional Council are for issues of Regional Council responsibility that are within the bounds of the Regional Council.

Proposals can also be created for consideration, to be forwarded to the General Council by the Regional Council (see Section F of the 2022 Manual, Section F, Initiating Action and Change)

2. Why is this issue important?

For example:

- What are the key underlying theological, ecclesiological, missional, or justice issues?
- What is the history/background of this issue?



- What are the principles informing this issue?
- What would be the implications of taking no action on this issue?

3. How does this proposal help us to live into our church's commitments on equity?

Over the course of several years, General Council has made the following commitments on equity. Describe in broad terms the ways in which this proposal engages with some of these principles:

- adopting [the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#) as the framework for reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples;
- adopting the [Calls to the Church](#) from the Caretakers of our Indigenous Circle as the basis for a new relationship;
- welcoming [people of all sexual orientations and gender identities](#) into full membership and ministry in the church;
- committing to becoming [an intercultural church](#);
- committing to becoming an open, accessible, and barrier-free church, where there is [full participation of people with disabilities](#);
- working towards functional bilingualism and ensuring that Francophone ministries are an integral part of the church's identity, mission, and vision;
- [opposing discrimination](#) of any kind on the basis of identity; and
- developing an anti-racism policy and committing to becoming an [anti-racist denomination](#).

Who has been consulted in the development of the proposal? Was the proposal developed "with" people, or "on behalf of" people? What might be the impact of this proposal on people and communities? Who is advantaged and who is disadvantaged by this approach?

4. How might the General Council/Regional Council respond to the issue?

The (regional council) proposes that the General Council could:

Name a possible response that the General Council/Regional Council might consider:

- A. Study/discussion of the issue
- B. Action on the issue, which could include
 - General Council/Regional Council directing that a policy/strategy be developed based on specified principles and parameters;
 - General Council/Regional Council adopting a policy position/strategy;
 - General Council/Regional Council encouraging/suggesting action by congregations and other communities of faith on the issue.

Note to 3.A: The General Council/Regional Council could be asked to have a conversation about a particular issue as an end in itself without making a policy decision or taking other action.

Note to 3.B: Suggestions for wording of a policy/strategy could be offered as possibilities for consideration in the decision-making process but not as expectations of a particular outcome.

5. For the body transmitting this proposal to the General Council:

Are there comments, affirmations, suggestions you would like to make with respect to this proposal? Is this proposal in response to a previous proposal, motion or action? If so, please name the previous action(s) and proposal number(s).

If you have questions regarding this proposal, please send them to info@generalcouncil44.ca.



Parliamentary Procedures (Rules of Debate and Order)

There are four principles that lie behind the rules for Parliamentary Procedure:

- 1) Justice and Courtesy for all.
- 2) Recognition of the will of the majority.
- 3) Protection of the rights of the minority.
- 4) One thing at a time.

In The United Church of Canada, the Procedures, as found in *The Manual* (2022, pp. 191-195), are the basic source of our Procedures and for items not covered, we turn to parliamentary rules accepted in Canada (Bourinot's Rules of Order).

GENERAL PROCEDURES

Voting Methods

Voting can be conducted in a number of ways:

- a) VERBALLY - "aye" or "nay"
- b) STANDING or RAISING THE HAND or RAISING VOTING CARD
- c) ANSWERING THE ROLL CALL by "yes" or "no"
- d) SECRET BALLOTING

Proposals

Proposals are formal requests for specific action within the Court of Regional Council. Normally, we will work in "proposal" mode which provides a greater freedom to edit and improve the suggested action before moving the proposal to a "motion."

Motions

Any delegate may make or second a motion. The motion must be seconded before it is discussed. If a motion is not seconded, it is lost. A discussion of the motion precedes a vote. After the vote, the chairperson declares the motion "carried" or "defeated." There can be only one main motion before the meeting at any time. The chairperson must insist that any discussion be directed strictly to the motion in question. A delegate may not speak twice to the same motion (the mover may speak first and last).

Amendments

An "amendment" to a motion can be made by a delegate. It must be moved and seconded before it is voted on. If not seconded, it is lost. An "amendment" may add words, change words, or strike out words, but must not change the general intent of the motion. A vote is taken first on the "amendment" and if passed, the original motion is changed to include the "amendment." It is discussed and voted on. If the "amendment" is defeated, then a vote is taken on the original motion. An amendment may be made to an "amendment" but a third amendment is out of order.

PARLIAMENTARY LANGUAGE

1. Adopting a report and receiving a report as a whole

This motion implies that the court supports the action of the committee or the person and that action is approved. If the report has several recommendations, it is usually desirable to adopt the recommendations one at a time before "accepting the report as a whole."

2. Receiving a Report

If there is no specific resolution or recommendation that has been made or requested, the report is simply "received."



3. Quorum

The Manual 2022, Section C.4.3 b and c:

- a) The regional council may meet only if a minimum number of members is present. For meetings of either the regional council or its executive,
- b) if there are 60 or more members, at least 20 members must be present; and
- c) there must be at least one ministry personnel and one lay member who is not ministry personnel present.

4. Reconsider

If a group wishes to change a motion that has already been passed, a motion to "reconsider" is in order. Normally, the motion to "reconsider" is in relation to a negative decision made previously. Normally, notice of motion is given that this will be raised at the next meeting (see #10). If it is decided at the same meeting, a two-thirds majority is required.

5. Table

When a recommendation or motion is tabled, all consideration is postponed until sometime in the future. A special motion is required to take the motion from the table.

6. Withdraw a motion

This permits the motion to be "withdrawn." The mover and seconder of the motion must agree to its withdrawal. If either refuse to withdraw, the motion cannot be "withdrawn." Any member may move to withdraw a motion.

7. Point of order

If a Chairperson does not notice an infringement of the meeting rules by someone, a member may rise on a "point of order." the Chairperson will then yield the floor to hear and consider the point made.

8. Question

The Motion to put the Question or the call for the vote immediately, in reality is a motion of closure of debate. It requires a seconder but may not be discussed. A two-thirds majority is needed to pass that motion and if passed, the motion on the floor must be voted upon immediately. Normally, a person who has previously spoken in the debate may not "move the question."

9. Question of Privilege

More accurately called a "point of privilege," such questions have to do with the rights and interests of the assembly as a whole, or of a member personally and arise if, in the course of debate, it appears that those rights or interests are adversely affected. It can be from the simple level, where a member states, "President, I rise on the question of privilege" and the Chair asks them to state their point, and the member states, "I should like to have the windows open" or "I should like to have the last speaker withdraw his comments about Mr. A." The Chair then makes the decision about the point. It requires no seconder, is in order when another has the floor, is not debatable or amendable, and requires no vote unless the Chairperson is challenged in their ruling.

10. Meeting

The meeting refers to the time from the constitution of the meeting on Friday afternoon to the adjournment on Sunday morning at the Celebration of Ministry.



Financials

As I sit to write this, I read last year's notes and almost said refer to last report. 2021 was another unusual year. The pandemic continued to curtail most activities in the region. That, in combination with reduced staffing costs, allowed the region to finish the year in a surplus position. At the beginning of 2022, \$300,000 was transferred to our investment fund.

The audit for 2019 is complete. The audit for 2020 is complete but waiting approval and the 2021 audit may be complete by the regional meeting. Audited statements will be posted online when approved.

Notes on 2022

The pandemic continues, but with many restrictions lifted more activities are happening. During the past couple of years, we have discovered new ways of doing things – many of them saving money and travel time. We expect as restrictions lift that activities will increase and money will be spent.

Notes on 2023 Draft Budget

The 2023 draft budget has been drafted assuming we will be returning to more normal activities. We have budgeted for having an in-person regional meeting every two years but that is still to be determined.

We do not yet have amounts for General Council Grants for 2023, nor do we have a salary schedule yet for 2023. A final budget will be taken to the Executive for approval later in the fall of 2022 when these numbers are known.

Submitted by,

The Finance Resource Team

Janet MacDonald – CSRC Financial Coordinator

Bill Jones, Janet Ross, David Clarke, Michael Wesa, Barbara Cunningham



CSRC - Draft Budget	2020 Actual	2021 Actual	2022 Budget
Income			
National Grants			
Assessment	325,000	325,000	325,000
M&S Grant	289,000	240,000	216,000
Other	558	9,375	
Salary	<u>99,000</u>	<u>99,000</u>	<u>99,000</u>
	713,558	673,375	640,000
Investment Income	24,821	24,017	25,000
Miscellaneous	3,000	25	
Youth Income (CSJ)		40,098	
Pastoral Relations Supervisors	12,105	14,070	
Sale of Property		400,000	
Total Income	<u>753,484</u>	<u>1,151,585</u>	<u>665,000</u>
Expenses			
Archives	9,017	9,257	12,000
Bookstore Support	1,800	1,800	1,800
Clusters and Networks		791	
Committees	325	-	1,000
Congregational Support		29,198	
Corporation Overview	3,000		
Distribution of Property Sale		212,000	
Executive	59	-	5,000
Finance	6,559	7,436	15,700
Grants	54,000	46,000	60,000
Legal Fees		-	5,000
Legal Reserve Fund			25,000
Miscellaneous	4,129	1,839	6,000
Office Expenses	42,740	31,527	20,000
Pastoral Relations	13,696	17,455	15,000
Regional Meeting	244	634	80,000
Retail Sales Taxes	918	1,228	1,000
SINOR	1,500	1,000	1,000
Staff Team			
Cell Phones	3,289	3,200	3,000
Continuing Education	1,561	1,143	6,000
Internet	1,440	1,550	1,500
Salaries	385,405	387,532	375,000
Travel	4,418	5,458	10,000
Resources	<u>643</u>	<u>1,145</u>	<u>2,500</u>
	396,756	400,028	396,500
SWRC/CSRC Shared Expenses	1,553	2,545	10,000
Youth (CSJ)		40,098	
Youth	<u>111</u>	<u>404</u>	<u>10,000</u>
	<u>536,408</u>	<u>803,241</u>	<u>665,000</u>
Income over Expenses	<u>217,076</u>	<u>348,344</u>	<u>-</u>



CSRC - Draft Budget	Jan to June 2022	2023 Draft
Income		
National Grants		
Assessment	162,500	325,000
M&S Grant	126,698	239,000
Other	19,250	
Salary	<u>49,500</u>	<u>99,000</u>
	357,948	663,000
Investment Income	- 77,350	25,000
Miscellaneous		
Youth Income (CSJ)		
Pastoral Relations Supervisors	8,820	
Sale of Property		
Total Income	<u>289,418</u>	<u>688,000</u>
Expenses		
Archives		** reserve funding
Bookstore Support		1,800
Clusters and Networks		
Committees		1,000
Congregational Support	99	
Corporation Overview		3,000
Distribution of Property Sale		
Executive		5,000
Finance	11,512	16,000
Grants	55,000	60,000
Legal Fees		5,000
Legal Reserve Fund		
Miscellaneous	876	5,100
Office Expenses	9,770	25,000
Pastoral Relations	10,234	15,000
Regional Meeting	1,163	* 1/2 of 2yr inperson 35,000
Retail Sales Taxes	2,914	1,000
SINOR		1,000
Staff Team		
Cell Phones	674	4,000
Continuing Education	1,468	7,500
Internet	600	2,000
Salaries	203,157	469,100
Travel	4,445	10,000
Resources	<u>173</u>	<u>2,500</u>
	210,517	495,100
SWRC/CSRC Shared Expenses	1,545	9,000
Youth (CSJ)		
Youth	<u>2,352</u>	<u>10,000</u>
	<u>305,982</u>	<u>688,000</u>
Income over Expenses	<u>- 16,564</u>	<u>-</u>



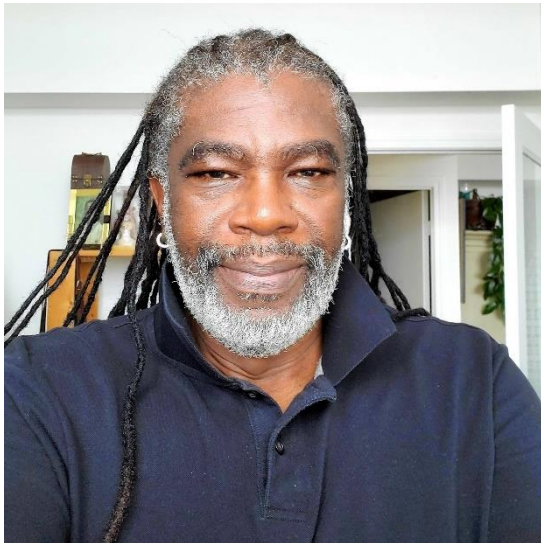
Proposals

As of the circulation of this Report Packet, there are no proposals to date.



Guests to the Canadian Shield Regional Council Meeting

Michael Blair, Executive Secretary, The United Church of Canada



Rev. Michael Blair serves the General Council of The United Church of Canada as the General Secretary, a role he began on November 1, 2020. He is the first person of African descent to serve in this role in The United Church of Canada. In his time at the General Council Office, he has served in a number of capacities including as Executive Minister for Ethnic Ministry; and Executive Minister, Church in Mission. Before joining the General Council staff, Michael served as the Executive Director of the Toronto Christian Resource Center (CRC) in Regent Park, Toronto.

Michael previously served as a congregational minister of a number of Baptist churches in Toronto and St. Catherine's, Ontario; a staff member with Intervarsity Christian Fellowship at the University of Toronto, and as a community chaplain with the Ontario Multifaith Council's Reintegration Program.

Michael serves as Chair for the Mission from the Margins working group of the Commission on World Mission and Evangelism. In 2021, Michael delivered the Gandier Lecture at Emmanuel College, on the theme of Becoming the Beloved Community. He also recently contributed the Afterword to For the Sake of the Common Good, a collection of essays in honour of Lois Wilson, one of his mentors.

Born in Jamaica, Michael is a graduate of Ontario Bible College (Tyndale), University of Waterloo and Wycliffe College, Toronto School of Theology, University of Toronto. He is the father of two adult sons.

Michael enjoys photography in his spare time.

Jennifer Henry, Senior Program Development and Strategy Lead, The United Church of Canada

Jennifer Henry is an activist, theologian and feminist leader. She currently serves as Senior Program Development and Strategy Lead for The United Church of Canada and the Interim Senior Manager of the Communications Unit. She worked for almost three decades in national and global ecumenical social justice, including as Executive Director of KAIROS between 2012 and 2020.

Jennifer has a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Manitoba, and a Master of Social Work and a Master in Theological Studies from the University of Toronto. She is currently completing a Diploma in Denominational Studies at the Vancouver School of Theology. Jennifer also sits as a Public Interest Director on the College of Immigration and Citizenship Consultants.

In 2016 she was the recipient of the Anglican Award of Merit, and in 2019



Lutheran Theological Seminary in Saskatoon voted to grant her the degree of Doctor of Christian Letters (honoris causa) to recognize her long commitment to faithful action for social justice. She resides in Toronto, with her partner and daughter, as a guest on territory governed by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant.

Susie Henderson

Regional Minister Equity and Innovation, Shining Waters Regional Council



Susie is the Regional Minister for Equity and Innovation in Shining Waters Regional Council. She has worked for more than 30 years as a lay leader in ecumenical and denominational justice networks. A feminist, queer woman; a partner, a mom, an auntie, and a godmother, Susie is committed in her workplace and in her life, to re-weave with others the threads of equity, justice and diversity that create vibrant and life-giving communities. Susie enjoys working with her hands and in her spare time she is contracted by the fairies to construct little houses in her garden and beyond.

Staff Bios

Peter Hartmans, Executive Minister

Canadian Shield Regional Council (CSRC) and Shining Waters Regional Council (SWRC)

Peter serves Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council. He has been ordained for over 25 years. Previously, Peter served Hamilton Conference for 11 years; serving 5 years as Minister for Faithful Public Witness and 6 years as Executive Secretary. Prior to serving at Hamilton Conference, Peter ministered to Palmerston United Church and two congregations in the United States. Peter grew up in Toronto, but has also had the privilege of serving and living in various rural settings. He has been married to his partner in life, Alice, for 26 years. They have three children; their daughter and elder son have recently finished university and their youngest son started university this past fall. Their home is in Guelph. His daughter Erin, plans to get married to Matt, June 2019. Peter attends Dublin Street United Church, Guelph.



Susan Whitehead, Executive Assistant to Peter Hartmans, Admin for CSRC



Susan is the Executive Assistant to Peter Hartmans and gives administrative support for the Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Councils. Susan is a former elementary school teacher who joined the UCC in 2012. Susan has worked as an Office Coordinator at the Conference level and is now the “other half” of Peter Hartmans’ two assistants. She excels at technology (Zoom, AC, etc.) and has worked with the tech crew in “The Pit” at GCO Executive meetings, as well performing projection for GC42 and GC43. After leaving her home in Toronto for school, she never quite ended up going back and decided to stay in North Bay, where she now lives with her husband Matthew, their two children, Julia and Andrew, and their family dog “Buttons.”

Rachael Howes, Executive Assistant to Peter Hartmans, Admin for SWRC



Rachael Howes is the Executive Assistant and Administrative Support in the Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council. Most of Rachael’s career has been in administrative support, including a law office and a legal clinic, but has also included non-profits and a local church office. While at the community legal clinic, she was also a community legal worker, doing intake and appearing before tribunals on behalf of low-income people. Rachael lives in Orillia, and has two grown children. She has always been active in her community and currently is an active member of St. Paul’s in Orillia where she sings in the choir, and is Chair of the Worship Committee.

Rob Smith, Pastoral Relations Minister for CSRC

Rev. Rob Smith joined the Regional Council staff on May 1st of 2019 as a congregational support minister for the western part of our region. Rob’s position has changed and he now serves as the Pastoral Relations Minister for the region. Rob moved to Thunder Bay in 2016 after spending thirty-years on the west coast. He was born and raised in Beamsville, Ontario and wasn’t quite ready to move back to southern Ontario. He is a graduate of Fresno Pacific Biblical Seminary in Fresno, California and Vancouver School of Theology. He was ordained in The United Church of Canada in 2007 and settled to the Bella Coola Pastoral Charge on the coast of British Columbia where he had been a social worker. He brings a passion for renewing our sense of mission as communities of faith and our call to living into right relations with Indigenous people. He cares for his mom and shares a home with two cats who have followed him from Bella Coola; Rusty and Yoda.



Melody Duncanson Hales, Minister Community of Faith Support and Mission for CSRC

Rev. Melody Duncanson Hales is a Canadian Shield minister providing support to Communities of Faith, Stewardship and Youth. After serving almost a decade in rural congregational ministry, Melody returned to her home conference of Manitou to offer program support as the Mission and Stewardship Animator in 2008. She's a cheerleader - listening, encouraging, telling your stories of hope and generosity wherever and whenever she can. She loves participating in worship, teaching, exploring, planning and meeting the challenge of being the church in Northern Ontario. Melody lives in Sudbury with her husband Chris, and their children Lachlan, Padraig and Kaleo.



Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Community of Faith Support Minister for CSRC

Diane is delighted to serve Canadian Shield Regional Council as Community of Faith Support Minister. An Ontario Certified Teacher, Diane has almost exclusively lived her call to teach and learn within structures of The United Church of Canada. Diane comes to Canadian Shield with three years experience serving as Minister for Social Justice to Antler River Watershed, Horseshoe Falls, and Western Ontario Waterways Regional Councils; and two years experience supporting Intentional Interim Ministry, listening circles, and life cycle changes in Shining Waters Regional Council. Prior to serving the regional councils, Diane was Minister for Social Justice and Youth to Hamilton Conference. Diane currently lives, works and worships in Brantford with her spouse Jose, their twins Felix and Christian, and their Olde English Bulldogge, Diesel. Diane and family look forward to relocating to and making a new home – and lots of wonderful memories! – within the boundaries of Canadian Shield Regional Council.



Jeffrey Dale, Minister for Youth, Justice and Faith Formation for CSRC



Jeffrey has worked within The United Church of Canada for over seventeen years by serving four communities of faith in both the former Toronto and London Conferences. Jeffrey currently is often found on Sunday mornings guest preaching at communities of faith throughout the regional council. Jeffrey brings a strong background in the arts to his work as a theatre practitioner and author. Jeffrey was the winner of the James MacRae Canada 150 Award for Poetry and was voted Person of the Year at the 2020 Fierté Simcoe Pride Gala Awards. Jeffrey studied Grade 8 in piano from the Royal Conservatory of Music. Jeffrey holds a Master of Fine Arts in Creative Writing from the University of Guelph and a Master of Divinity from Emmanuel College. Jeffrey holds a graduate certificated in Children's Mental Health (Georgian College), a Bachelor of Arts in Theatre and History (University of Guelph), and a Diploma in Theatre Arts (Algonquin College). Currently, Jeffrey is studying in the Certificate in Addiction

Studies at Wilfrid Laurier University. Jeffrey is also working on a play about the statue, Crucified Woman, that stands at Emmanuel College as a painful reminder of the misogyny that exists within the church and society. Jeffrey lives in the west end of Toronto where he and his dog Max enjoy the wilds of High Park. Jeffrey truly believes that "if we are open to seek justice, pursue creativity, and love unconditionally; we will truly know what it means to be together in humanity."



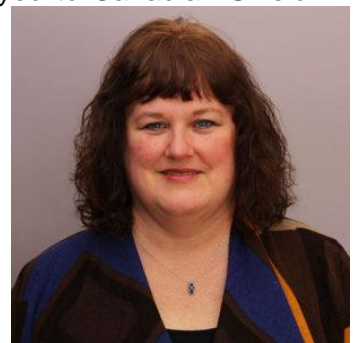
Joan Bailey, Marriage License Admin Assistant (half-time) for CSRC and SWRC



Joan works part time and provides administrative support to Ministry Personnel for marriage licenses in Canadian Shield Region and Shining Waters Region. She also works half-time as the secretary at Trinity United Church in Thunder Bay, and previously was employed as the Administrative Assistant for Cambrian Presbytery for over 22 years. Joan lives with her husband Glenn in Rosslyn, a lovely little rural community on the outskirts of Thunder Bay. She is an active member of Pinegrove United Church and plays handbells with the Bells United Handbell Choir. Joan has three grown children and two adorable grandsons. Joan works part time and provides administrative support to Ministry Personnel for marriage licenses in Canadian Shield Region and Shining Waters Region. She also works half-time as the secretary at Trinity United Church in Thunder Bay, and previously was employed as the Administrative Assistant for Cambrian Presbytery for over 22 years. Joan lives with her husband Glenn in Rosslyn, a lovely little rural community on the outskirts of Thunder Bay. She is an active member of Pinegrove United Church and plays handbells with the Bells United Handbell Choir. Joan has three grown children and two adorable grandsons.

Kellie McComb, Office of Vocations Staff for CSRC and SWRC

Kellie McComb is a part of the General Council Office of Vocations staff deployed to Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council. Kellie is a diaconal minister who has served in team ministry at First United Church, Waterloo, Ontario, for more than ten years. As a student, Kellie served Mount Pleasant pastoral charge and then Norwich Gore United Church both within the current Horseshoe Falls Regional Council. She was settled in, and served for four years, the Thessalon pastoral charge, which is now in the Canadian Shield Regional Council. After that Kellie served the Indigenous Church through Grand River United Church for four years during which she was Co-Chair for the Council on Learning for Great Lakes Waterways Presbytery. Kellie was a member of the General Council Executive and was their representative on the Aboriginal Ministries Council. Kellie is an Educational Supervisor and brings lots of experience in pastoral relations including being a facilitator with the United Fresh Start program. Kellie is an artist, curler and spiritual director and offers leadership with a pastoral approach, grounded in the Spirit.



Retiree Bios

Rev. Susan Ivany



After completing my MDiv at Queen's Theological College, I was ordained in 1998, under a huge tent on the outskirts of Winnipeg, by the Conference of Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario. Being ordained in a circus tent has provided fodder for some good jokes through the years! I was settled to St. Paul's United Church in Thunder Bay, and in 2001 began a long-term ministry with Westminster United Church in Thunder Bay.

In our 21 years of ministry together, I believe the people of Westminster, the wider church, and I, have fulfilled our covenant well. I believe we are a good example of what a healthy, fruitful, and faithful long-term ministry can be in the name of Jesus. I've been inspired by the people of Westminster and their faithfulness to the life and work of God's church. I'm proud and humbled to have shared most of my ministry with this community of faith.

I am grateful to my family and friends for their unwavering support, from those first hesitant whispers of my call to ministry, to this time of retirement. I've been surrounded with the best kind of support imaginable, and I am thankful. Whatever retirement may bring, I set out on this new adventure knowing I have been deeply blessed to serve God in The United Church of Canada, as minister of Word, Sacrament, and Pastoral Care. I carry that blessing in my heart and spirit, with an abundance of gratitude.

Rev. Cory Vermeer-Cuthbert

As I looked forward to retiring at the end of June, this year, a half year early, my goal was to savour the summer. And indeed, that is what I have been doing – daily gardening and enjoying a shady, breezy spot and a cold drink.

My call to ministry came one Saturday morning – the still small voice said, "I want you in ministry – and in the United Church." Two days later, I made inquiries at Emmanuel College; I had but four weeks to get all the paperwork submitted and then flew to Amsterdam to meet a friend. Upon my return to Canada, there was a letter of acceptance, a letter offering a scholarship, and the next day I was sitting in class! Long story short, I completed my M. Div. in 1994, completed an eight-month internship in 1995, was ordained at Conference in May, and the following weekend married Winston Cuthbert. And three years later we had two children, Rory and Sina. What a whirlwind!



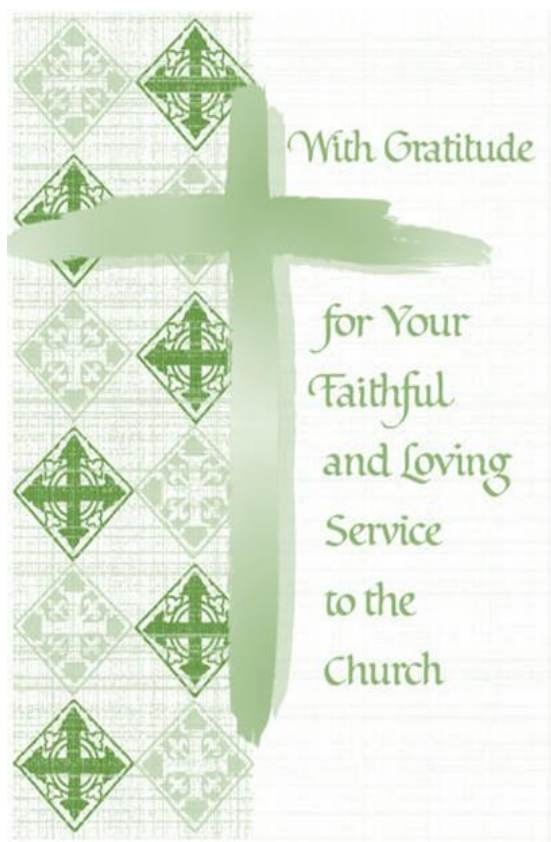
I was settled at St. Andrews United Church in Chalk River, Ontario, in 1995 – their first female minister in their 100-year history. When Sina was two years old, I became a full-time homemaker for a year and then answered a call to part-time ministry at St. John's Evangelical United Church, in Golden Lake – their first female minister in a long history. After four years I answered a call to full-time ministry at the Espanola/Webbwood Pastoral Charge – their first female minister after a gap of over sixty years. After twelve years there, I accepted a call to Holy Trinity United in Elliot Lake – their first female minister since its beginning.



Looking back, I see God's constant provision, God's enabling, God's gentle guidance and the opportunity to explore new communities and meet faith-ful people. In each of my pastorates I have had the privilege of seeing God's hand at work in calling parishioners to Licensed Lay Worship Leader ministry, being part of their learning circle, and witnessing their growth in faith and ministry. I am grateful for these past 27 years in ordered ministry, and look forward to discerning future ministry possibilities. As Melody once said, I haven't preached my last sermon! Meanwhile, I will continue to savour the summer, anticipate autumn's offerings, and support dear friends undergoing treatments for cancer.

Celebrations and Milestones

Milestones in Ministry



You have led them by the Holy Spirit to serve your people, to build up your Church, and to glorify God's name and to work in common for the sake of the Gospel.

70 Years	Kenneth Moffatt (OM)
55 Years	James Sinclair (OM)
50 Years	Beverly Hill (OM)
45 Years	William Steadman (OM) Mary-Jo Eckert Tracy (OM)
35 Years	David Giuliano (OM) Catherine Somerville (OM)
30 Years	Linda Saffrey (OM)
25 Years	Betty Pretty (OM) Lori Campbell (OM) David Zub (OM)
20 Years	Robert Smith (OM) Helen Smith (DLM)
10 Years	Janice Frame (OM) Tracy Davis (DLM)
5 Years	Brynn Carson (DLM)





We remember with thanksgiving those who have faithfully in their day and place served the United Church of Canada and who having lived this life, have now entered into the life to come.

MINISTRY PERSONNEL

The Reverend Peter Hoyle (Sept. 27, 2021) – Peter served in Hamilton Presbytery for many years and had recently moved to Northern Ontario to the Canadian Shield Regional Council. Peter celebrated his 50-year anniversary of service as a minister in The United Church of Canada this year.

The Reverend Clayton Austin (Oct. 10, 2021) - Clayton was an ordained minister with The United Church of Canada serving many communities throughout his tenure including working in Nova Scotia and then retiring in Algoma Presbytery, now the Canadian Shield Regional Council. In his earlier years, he took pleasure in fishing and enjoying the outdoors. In his retirement years, he took great solace in writing poetry and sharing it with others.

The Reverend William “Bill” Sherwin (Oct. 10, 2021) - Bill became a United Church minister and served in Espanola, Massey, Matheson, Bronte, Guelph, St. Thomas, St. Catharines and Long Branch. Bill and Lois then retired to Orillia to be back on Lake Couchiching, upon which he and his brother grew up each summer at Geneva Park, and to be closer to their beloved family cottage on Eagle Lake in South River.

The Reverend Hugh MacDonald (Dec. 21, 2021) - He was ordained in 1957 and served churches in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Ontario. In the 1980's he was one of the ministers at Current River United Church in Thunder Bay and he was also a popular lecturer at Confederation College in Thunder Bay.

Pastor Maxine McVey (Jan. 6, 2022) - Maxine is known to many across our region for her years of leadership and commitment to our church family. She came to realize her vocational calling as a lay leader at Larchwood Memorial in Dowling, and after her course of study at the Centre for Christian Studies, was commissioned as a Diaconal Minister. She served the people of St. James in the Valley United Church (Sudbury), and Lyons Memorial United Church (Gore Bay) with great joy and love. Maxine was also dedicated to leadership in the wider United Church of Canada, serving in Sudbury Presbytery as President of Manitou Conference, as a delegate to General Council, and most recently, on the Transition Team and Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council.



Maxine's legacy of justice and healing is most realized in her ministry supporting right relations with Indigenous people, both locally in the Sudbury Manitoulin area, and in her work with the wider United Church of Canada. Maxine was instrumental in the construction of the Apology Cairn at Laurentian University in Sudbury, marking the site of the 1986 United Church Apology to Indigenous people. She was a most respected and valued member of the Right Relations Resource Team for Canadian Shield; this ministry and deep learning profoundly affected her life and spirituality.

The Reverend Cynthia Desilets (Feb. 15, 2022) - Cindy was ordained by Manitou Conference and settled in the Sturgeon Falls Pastoral Charge. She was then called into ministry with the newly formed Covenant United Church in Timmins, where she retired in 2019. In her retirement, Cindy continued to serve as Supervisor to Mountjoy United Church in Timmins. Cindy was also dedicated to leadership in the wider United Church of Canada, serving as chair in both North Bay and Spirit Dancing Presbyteries, as a delegate to General Council, on the General Council Sub-Executive, the General Secretary Advisory Team as well a wide variety of other national roles, and, most recently, on the Transition Team and Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council.

The Reverend Bruce Thomson (July 18, 2022) - Bruce was ordained in 1987 and served the three-point charge covering Burk's Falls, Katrine and Magnetawan, Ontario until 1991. He then practiced law in Bracebridge, Ontario. He recently retired and moved to Nova Scotia.

The Reverend Linda Saffrey (Aug. 1, 2022) - Linda was ordained in 1992 and served The United Church of Canada in many capacities and multiple congregations over the course of her ministry. She led many children's summer bible camps. She served at several pastoral charges including Onaping Falls in Levack, Burks Falls, Blackstock-Nestleton in Blackstock, and St. Mark's in Sudbury as well as various pastoral charges in the greater Toronto area. She retired in 2017.

LAY REPRESENTATIVES TO THE WIDER CHURCH

David Robinson (Nov. 29, 2021) – Dave served as a dedicated lay member for many years at Emmanuel United Church in North Bay and was an avid golfer who was one of the organizers of the North Bay and Area United Churches Golf Challenge that was started in 2009. Conference and Regional Council Staff have enjoyed participating in the challenge each year and were always thankful that the proceeds of the challenge were often donated to Manitou Conference and the Canadian Shield Regional Council for youth events and camping. Dave was also a very active member of the Emmanuel Village board from its inception and Emmanuel Village continues to be one of the corporations under the CSRC umbrella.

We apologize for any omissions that have occurred in this list



Digest of Actions

November 2, 2021
CSRC Executive Meeting
Zoom

MOTION by Kathie Smith/John Watson 2021-11-02-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved as circulated.
CARRIED

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Stewart Walker 2021-11-02-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on September 28, 2021 via Zoom, be approved as circulated.
CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Kathie Smith 2021-11-02-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from June 23, 2021 and September 29, 2021 be received, for information.
CARRIED

There was consensus that the letter be received for information.

There was consensus that Jody Maltby be invited to the next meeting of Executive (early December 2021) and that there will not be a January Executive meeting.

MOTION by Kathie Smith/John Watson 2021-11-02-04
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive approve the edited 2021 Canadian Shield Regional Council Governance Document.
CARRIED

MOTION by Jim Jackson/John Watson 2021-11-02-05
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive receive the 2021 CSRC Policy and Procedure Manual, for information and to be posted on the website.
CARRIED

MOTION by Stewart Walker/Dave Le Grand 2021-11-04-06
That the CSRC Executive forward proposal #2021-01, *Justice and Peace for Palestine and Israel* to the General Council 44, with concurrence.
CARRIED
1 Abstention

December 9, 2021
CSRC Executive Meeting
Zoom

MOTION by Selina Mullin/Kathie Smith 2021-12-09-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Maxine McVey 2021-12-09-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on November 2, 2021 via Zoom, be amended.



CARRIED
(1 Abstention)

MOTION by John Watson/Peter Hartmans 2021-12-09-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from November 3, 2021 be received, for information.
CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Selina Mullin 2021-12-09-04
That the CSRC Executive approve the 2022 CSRC Budget.
CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Kathie Smith 2021-12-09-05
That the CSRC Executive receive the 2021 CSRC Financial Statement to October 31, 2021 for information.
CARRIED

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Jim Jackson 2021-12-09-06
That the CSRC Executive approve Bill Jones be appointed to the CSRC Property Resource Team.
CARRIED

February 3, 2022
CSRC Executive Meeting
Zoom

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Kathie Smith 2022-02-03-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

MOTION by Dave Le Grand/Joy Galloway 2022-02-03-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on December 9, 2021 via Zoom, be approved as amended.
CARRIED

MOTION by Tori Mullins/Helen Smith 2022-02-03-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from November 24, 2021 and the Pastoral Relations Commission from October 27, 2021 and December 8, 2021 be received, for information.
CARRIED

March 3, 2022
CSRC Executive Meeting
Zoom

MOTION by John Watson/Tori Mullins 2022-03-03-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

MOTION by Helen Smith/Tori Mullins 2022-03-03-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on December 9, 2021 via Zoom, be approved as circulated.
CARRIED



MOTION by Dave Le Grand/John Watson 2022-03-03-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from January 26, 2022 and the Pastoral Relations Commission from January 26, 2022 be received, for information.
CARRIED

April 19, 2022
CSRC Executive Meeting
Email Poll

MOTION: Email Poll 2022-04-19-01
That the CSRC Executive accept the 2019 Independent Auditor's Report from Capstick, McCollum & Associates.
CARRIED

May 5, 2022
CSRC Executive Meeting
Zoom

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Kathie Smith 2022-05-05-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as circulated.
CARRIED

MOTION by Helen Smith/John Watson 2022-05-05-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on March 3, 2022 via Zoom be approved as circulated.
CARRIED

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Jim Jackson 2022-05-05-03
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held the CSRC Executive E-Vote on April 19, 2022 be approved as circulated.
CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Helen Smith 2022-05-05-04
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from February 24, 2022, March 9, 2022, March 30, 2022 and April 11, 2022 and the Pastoral Relations Commission from February 23, 2022 and March 23, 2022 be received, for information.
CARRIED

MOTION by Nancy Ferguson/Helen Smith 2022-05-05-05
That the CSRC Executive receive the 2022 CSRC Financial Statement to March 31, 2022 for information.
CARRIED

MOTION by Nancy Ferguson/Helen Smith 2022-05-05-06
That the theme for the 2022 CSRC Regional Council Meeting on September 23-25, 2022 be "Tending Our Nets."
CARRIED

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Peter Hartmans 2022-05-05-07
That the CSRC Executive move into In Camera for the discussion about the CSRC Staff.
CARRIED



MOTION by Jim Jackson/Nancy Ferguson 2022-06-02-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as circulated.
CARRIED

MOTION by Helen Smith/Joy Galloway 2022-06-02-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on May 5, 2022 via Zoom be approved as amended.
CARRIED

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Dave Le Grand 2022-06-02-03
That the Minutes of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Support to Communities of Faith Commission from April 28, 2022 and the Pastoral Relations Commission from April 27, 2022 be received, for information.
CARRIED

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Helen Smith 2022-06-02-04
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive approve the following:
Laura Hutchison (Ministry Personnel) be nominated as GC44 Commissioner to replace a vacancy, Ernie Epp (Lay) be named as the first alternate and that Stewart Walker (Ministry Personnel) be named the second alternate, effective June 2, 2022.
CARRIED

MOTION Jim Jackson/John Watson 2022-06-02-05
That Michael Wesa be added to the list of names for the Finance Resource Team.
CARRIED

MOTION Peter Hartmans/Jim Jackson 2022-06-02-06
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive move the Conversations About Staff in-camera.
CARRIED

MOTION Peter Hartmans/Joy Galloway 2022-06-02-07
That Jody Maltby, Staff Lead from Shining Waters Regional Council, be added to the in-camera session with the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive.
CARRIED

MOTION Peter Hartmans/Nancy Ferguson 2022-06-02-08
That Susan Whitehead join the confidential in-camera session to take notes, if needed.
CARRIED

MOTION Peter Hartmans/Nancy Ferguson 2022-06-02-09
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive move out of in-camera.
CARRIED

MOTION Peter Hartmans/Kathie Smith 2022-06-02-10
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive support the proposal from the Philanthropy Unit to share the position held by Melody Duncanson Hales of 40% to Philanthropy and 60% to Canadian Shield Regional Council, with a starting date to be negotiated with the Philanthropy unit.
CARRIED



MOTION Peter Hartmans/Helen Smith 2022-06-02-11
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive approve the Executive Minister hiring a second Congregational Minister at 60% time, with a starting date to be negotiated.
CARRIED

MOTION Peter Hartmans/Jim Jackson 2022-06-02-12
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive authorize the Executive Minister to create terms of reference for an interview committee to be approved by the Executive.
CARRIED

MOTION Peter Hartmans/Kathie Smith 2022-06-02-13
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive petition the Shining Waters Regional Council Executive to partner with hiring a full-time admin to serve both the Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council as outlined on the confidential Proposed Staff Changes Chart dated May 30, 2022.
CARRIED

August 19, 2022
CSRC Executive Meeting
Zoom

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Helen Smith 2022-08-19-01
That for the 2022 Regional Council meeting only, the Regional Council cover 100% of round-trip transportation cost for all Regional Council members, with the mileage rate at \$0.46 per km and receipts required for plane, bus or train travel.
CARRIED

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/John Watson 2022-08-19-02
That as a way of welcoming and expressing hospitality to new clergy, and their family, being admitted to The United Church of Canada and the Canadian Shield Regional Council, that the Canadian Shield Regional Council cover 100% of round-trip transportation cost for the family of Rev. Mastard Sakala as he is admitted to The United Church of Canada, at the New Ministry Service on Sunday, September 25, 2022.
CARRIED

September 8, 2022
CSRC Executive Meeting
Zoom

MOTION by Dave Le Grand/Nancy Ferguson 2022-09-08-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

MOTION by Joy Galloway/Jim Jackson 2022-09-08-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on June 2, 2022 via Zoom be approved as circulated.
CARRIED

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Joy Galloway 2022-09-08-03
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on August 19, 2022 via Zoom be approved as circulated.
CARRIED



MOTION Kathie Smith/Stewart Walker Email Poll 2022-09-13-01
That after review by the CSRC Finance Resource Team, the CSRC Executive recommends the 2023 Draft Budget to the 2022 Canadian Shield Regional Council meeting in Sudbury, ON.

2021 CSRC Meeting Minutes – Via Zoom

MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING October 16, 2021

The meeting of Canadian Shield Regional Council took place on October 16, 2021 via Zoom. The theme was *Learning to Fly Again*.

Words of Welcome, Opening of Meeting and constituting the Council

Canadian Shield Regional Council gathered via Zoom video conference to begin the annual meeting of Canadian Shield Regional Council. The meeting started at 9:30 a.m.

A video of the theme hymn, *Learning to Fly Again*, written by Bill Steadman, was played.

Kathie Smith, Chair, welcomed all those participating. Jody Maltby gave a brief introduction to the Zoom functions.

The Chair constituted the meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, and as the United Church gathered together, to deal with such business as should properly come before the Council. She then lit the Christ candle.

Sylvia Carscadden, of the Right Relations Resource Team, provided an acknowledgement of traditional territories. Peter Haddow, Team Lead of the Affirming Ministry Resource Team, gave a safe space statement.

The Chair made a number of introductions; staff, parliamentarian, chaplain, Rt. Rev. Richard Bott, Moderator, General Council guests, and the local arrangements team.

The Worship team led the meeting in worship.

Opening motions

MOTION by Stewart Walker / Helen Smith that the following enabling motions be adopted...

- a) Roll of the Regional Council: that the 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);
 - 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 (2021 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 Zoom meeting ID 931 6858 4167 and when in session; that the Canadian Shield Regional Council hold a Celebration of Ministry Service Saturday, October 16, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. to take place on Zoom meeting ID 931 6858 4167.
- 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) Minutes: that the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council held November 6 and 7, 2020 and June 10, 2021 be approved as circulated.
- e) Accountability reports: that the reports as presented in the Report Packet be accepted for information.
- f) 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.
- g) Corresponding Members: that corresponding members shall be: official guests of the Regional Council. Their names shall be included in the Record of Proceedings. (2021 Manual C.1.5)
- h) New Business: that any items of New Business shall be referred to Barb Nott, of the Agenda & Business Committee. New Business items close at 11:00 a.m.

Procedural:

- 1. The procedural and prayer microphone shall be the chat box;
- 2. Any handouts must be authorized by the Agenda & Business Committee;
- 3. The Parliamentarian shall be John Watson;
- 4. The Chair shall present a Proposal. The Chair will invite prayerful discernment and discussion on the wisdom of the Proposal. When the Chair 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;
- 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 the YES and NO icons found at the bottom of the participants panel or *9 for those on the phone. If two people are joined from the same household one person will vote with the Yes/No icons and the second will type YES or NO in the chat. Those who wish to abstain will type ABSTAIN in the chat. Where a secret ballot is required, an online poll will be provided.
- 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

Finance Presentation

Janet MacDonald, Finance Administrator, presented the 2022 draft Budget.

MOTION by Barbara Nott/Janet Ross that on the recommendation of the Executive, the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the 2022 Draft Budget.

MOTION

CARRIED

Report Presentations

Right Relations Resource Team:

Guest, Sara Stratton gave a presentation on Relationship with the Indigenous Church. Sara is a Reconciliation and Indigenous Justice Animator with the General Council Office. Her particular focus is



helping the non-Indigenous church live up to our apologies and to the commitments we made to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. She gave a primer on the relationship of the United Church with Indigenous people and gave an update on the Calls to the Church. She ended with a question for all to consider, "What are we meant by God to be in this relationship, and how might we do that?"

The meeting took an all-purpose break.

Report Presentations cont'd

Pastoral Relations Commission and Support to Communities of Faith Commission:

Mardi Mumford of the PRC/SCFC Working Group went through the Self-Assessment Toolkit and the work on covenanting.

Proposals

A proposal, *Justice and Peace for Palestine and Israel*, was received at 12:14 p.m. October 15, 2021. The proposal is directed to the 44th General Council. The proposal missed the scheduled Regional Council townhall meeting, designed to discuss proposals in advance of the Regional Council meeting, held on October 7, 2021.

The topic of the proposal is very complicated and requires thought, prayer, study, reflection and conversation. As the proposal was submitted less than 24 hours before the Regional Council meeting, the Regional Council does not have enough time to prepare to discuss this important topic. The deadline for General Council 44 proposals is October 31 (extended to November 15).

MOTION by Barbara Nott / Mardi Mumford that the Canadian Shield Regional Council refer the proposal *Justice and Peace for Palestine and Israel* to the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive for review and consideration for submission to General Council 44.

MOTION

CARRIED

Manitou Art Collection

Lisa Blais, Team Lead of Right Relations Resources Team, gave an introduction to, and acknowledgements of, a video presentation created by Teresa Jones about the Indigenous art known as the Manitou Collection. The video included the history of the collection, named the artists, and how churches can respond.

The video is available for viewing on the Canadian Shield Regional Council website.

Nominations

Jim Jackson, Chair of Nominations Committee, introduced the Nominations Report and presented a slate of officers.

MOTION by Mardi Mumford / Janice Brownlee that the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the 2021 Nomination Report.

MOTION

CARRIED

Courtesies and Announcements

Chair, Kathie Smith thanked staff, guests from the General Council office, workshop presenters, and those involved in planning and presenting this Canadian Shield Regional Council meeting.

Barbara Nott made some announcements. Barbara also announced that Huntington University bestowed an Honourary Doctorate on The Rt. Rev. Richard Bott, Moderator.



Theological Reflection

The Rt. Rev. Richard Bott gave a theological reflection based on the meeting theme and with a scripture reading from Isaiah

Peter Hartmans offered a blessing and the meeting broke for lunch.

Gathering Music

A recording of *A Fire is Meant for Burning*, VU #578, was played as the meeting returned from lunch.

Chair-Elect, Nancy Ferguson, acknowledged, gave thanks, and outlined how she came to the position of Chair-Elect. She outlined what she brings to the role.

Workshops

The meeting participated in a choice of workshops for an hour:

- M & S Workshop (Melody Duncanson-Hales)
- Grand River Bookstore (Pat Gilmour)
- Technology (Randy Boyd)
- Components of Covenanting (Rob Smith)

The meeting then participated in a second choice of workshops for a second hour:

- Opioid Crisis (Jeffrey Dale – Shining Waters Regional Council staff)
- Social Media and your Church (Summer Students)
- Residential Schools and the UCC (Moderator – Richard Bott and Sara Stratton)

The meeting took an all-purpose break.

EVENING SESSION

Celebration of Ministry Service

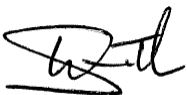
The Regional Council meeting concluded with a Celebration of Ministry service. Rev. Nancy Ferguson presided. The service included a celebration of becoming an Affirming regional council. Rita Olink was the guest speaker. Linda Hutchinson brought greetings and congratulations from Affirm United. The service acknowledged and honoured retirees, and ministers marking significant anniversaries, and included a time of In Memoriam.

Installation / Promises of the new President

Peter Hartmans and Kathie Smith installed Barbara Nott as the new Chair of Canadian Shield Regional Council. Rt. Rev. Richard Bott, Moderator, offered prayer.

Closing

Incoming Chair, Barbara Nott, offered a benediction and declared the meeting closed.



Kathie Smith, Chair



Peter Hartmans, Executive Minister



Executive Minister's Report to the Regional Council

"Tending Our Nets"

Regional Meeting Report

Our Regional Council meeting theme for this year is *Tending Our Nets*. This has been a challenging third year for the Regional Council, communities of faith and The United Church of Canada. We continue to walk through the pandemic together and hopefully we will soon move to a post- Pandemic chapter. Staff and volunteers have worked countless hours, preparing, changing, experimenting, and succeeding in continuing as Church in new and creative ways. As an Executive, we have heard stories of sacrifice, perseverance, hope, success and also deep fatigue. We have also heard stories of worry, stress, frustration and struggle. As a region, as community, we give thanks; we continue to be on a long journey together; we celebrate the resilience of our churches and the expression of the Gospel in many new and creative ways. Our pandemic experience raises many questions about how we approach ministry. How we serve each other and finally our role as a Church in society.



Connecting within our Regional Council

Although this past year many of our communities of faith, outreach ministries, and camps have struggled with meeting in person, our ministry has continued! Folks have used their phones, mail, video (Zoom/YouTube) for church. Most communities of faith have returned to offering in-person worship. We have continued a ministry of caring and support, and we have continued in new and creative ways. Volunteers, music leaders, ministry personnel, camp staff, outreach staff, congregational support staff have all worked tirelessly.

As a Regional Council, the region has hosted townhall meetings for both Ministry Personnel and Lay Leaders for support, updates and education. Our website continues to be a key tool for communication within our Regional Council. Many local and a few regional networks and local groups have also met to connect, learn, challenge, listen and work together.

Work of the Regional Executive

Barb Nott, Regional Chair, along with our Executive members, Commissions and working teams, all provide key leadership for our Regional Council, some of their minutes can be found on our Regional website and provide an overview of their work. In addition, we also have many volunteers who work within the Regional Council providing support, advice, supervision and even friendship to neighbouring communities of faith.

The 2023 budget will be presented at our Regional meeting. We have also added to our webpage audited statements as they are completed by the auditors. Covid-19 has slowed our audits as the auditors prefer in-person meetings. Our Regional Council should be fully up-to-date with audits in the near future. I am grateful to the finance team for all their work and support of Janet MacDonald.

Working towards Right Relations, Anti-Racism and Equity



The United Church of Canada is working towards becoming an anti-racist institution. For the United Church it means encouraging the General Council office, Regional Council offices and communities of faith and even Canadian society to pause and reflect. The United Church has allocated staffing and resources for both General Council staff, Regional staff and Ministry Personnel. The United Church is offering training, learning opportunities and discussion groups as part of a strategy of becoming an anti-racist Church. Practically, the Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council staff have joined together on a one-year journey of reflecting, learning, re-learning history, theological



reflection and discussion on how to become an anti-racist Church and work towards right relationship. Staff from both regions meet together bi-weekly to talk, learn, challenge, pray, reflect, and discuss on a path toward becoming an anti-racist Church.

Both Regional Councils have encouraged equity conversations at the Executive level, Commission and Committee levels of the church. The regional council continues to lift up our commitment to equity across our work.

It has been a little over one year since we celebrated becoming an Affirming Region!!!!

Staffing

In 2022, we saw transition of staff in our Regional Council. Melody Duncanson-Hales was invited by the national Philanthropy unit to split her time with the Canadian Shield Regional Council. On September 1, 2022, Melody began sharing her time with the Canadian Shield Regional Council. As a result of Melody's shift, we hired Diane Matheson-Jimenez to serve as Congregational support minister, starting September 1, 2022. Diane has served as General Council staff for many years and we are excited that she has agreed to join our team. In a staff sharing agreement with the Shining Waters Regional Council, Jeffery Dale will take on the role supporting youth ministry and justice for the Canadian Shield Regional Council. I appreciate the work of Rob, Melody, Joan, Susan and Rachael this past year. We are blessed with incredible staff who have worked tirelessly over the past year. Thank you!!!! I am also grateful for our Executive and Chair Barb Nott who have provided attentive leadership throughout this year. Thank you!!!



On a personal note, I completed a sabbatical which took place between December 2021 and March 2022. It had been 10 years since my last sabbatical and the United Church has shifted significantly during this period. Part of my role at transition was to Co-Chair the United Church of Canada transition team. From transition I was invited to become Executive minister for the Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council. This period of transition has been both exciting, stressful, energizing and exhausting. My sabbatical offered the opportunity to consider transition, the impact of the pandemic on the Church and most of all the potential for ministry with our new Regional Councils. The primary focus of my sabbatical considered what opportunities for ministry lie with the new Regions. How can Regional Councils support communities of faith, lay leadership and ministry personnel? I also considered staffing, Regional partnership and Regional and denominational vision for ministry now and in the future. I look forward to sharing my insights as we walk together in the future in ministry. I am grateful in particular to Jody Maltby who provided support as acting Executive minister for both the Canadian shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council, in my absence.

As we look forward, I give thanks for the support of my family this past year as I have mostly worked virtually. I give thanks for the many worship services I have been able to witness virtually this past year across our Regional Council. I give thanks to God for the grace of community, the love of and support of the Spirit, and the message of God's love and grace through Jesus Christ, which has provided incredible hope during a very challenging year.

Peter Hartmans (Rev.)
Executive Minister



General Council 44 Report



In a historic decision, the commissioners of the 43rd General Council decided on March 20, 2021, to conduct the 44th General Council online only in July 2022. This will be the first time in the church's 97-year history that the triennial meeting will not be in person.

One of the most significant changes is the time span the GC44 meeting will cover. Unlike previous General Councils, which typically met for a week in the summer, GC44 will be constituted in February 2022 and culminate with the induction of the new Moderator after the July 2022 portion of the meeting.

Nine commissioners from across the CSRC were elected to represent us and vote on motions that were brought to the group

On February 13, 2022 General Council 44 was constituted. Learning Sessions: Wednesdays from March to May. Discussion Sessions June 17 -19. Decision Sessions July 21 - 25
Closing Worship/Installation of the Moderator August 7.

General Council 44 Decision Session Highlights

On July 21, the Moderator opened the General Council 44 Decision sessions, a process “soaked in prayer” and committed to Equity Aspirations.

After a moving four directions prayer and territorial acknowledgement, the Council passed a procedural motion to receive the Facilitation Team report, *Suggested Ways Forward*, as well as several Regional Council Reports.

The focal point of the **decision session 1** was a keynote address by Philip Vinod Peacock, an ordained minister from a long-time partner of The United Church of Canada, the Church of North India. Rev. Peacock serves as the Executive Secretary for Justice and Witness of the World Communion of Reformed Churches. Peacock urged the Council to see discipleship as “turning our backs on these demons, naming them as false gods, and turning to Jesus whose way is justice and love.”

In **Decision session 2** it was they highlighted some of the supports to equity, such as interpretation and translation, they encouraged Commissioners to consider why they are speaking or not speaking. General Secretary the Rev. Michael Blair highlighted a series of issues before the church as we seek to live into the newly developed strategic plan.

In **Decision session 3**, the General Council began considering proposals. As the first proposal was considered, some Commissioners raised concerns about the overall process of General Council 44 decision-making. The process, which has included Learning sessions, small group discussion, and Decision sessions was voted on at the opening of Council in a motion (referred to as GS01). Issues raised included whether every small group had discussed and given their view on every proposal and whether corresponding members should be included in the online polling leading to putting the motion wording forward (even though Commissioners are the only ones to vote on the ultimate motion). Out of reflection on questions of membership, the Council approved a motion (originating as TICIF01) that requests the Theology and Inter-Church Inter-Faith Committee to lead the church in a study on discipleship.

The 4th Decision Session began with Friends of Council sharing information on the make up of this General Council—a gathering of 256 Commissioners, within an overall community of 500 persons.



An early step in this Decision session was for the Council to elect seven persons to serve on the General C Seeking the wisdom of global ecumenical partners and denominations, the Council approved a motion to invite a multilateral ecumenical dialogue of Canadian mainline protestant churches to prayerfully discuss the possibility of organic church union. Council Executive, from the rise of this Council to the 46th General Council (2028)

The session ended with Commissioners casting their votes for election of the Moderator. Results of the election are expected in the next decision session.

The 5th Decision session was regarding a proposal on creating a Clergy Consultative Committee, the Council chose to take no further action, and referred ample small group discussion notes on this topic to the General Secretary for consideration when implementing other related proposals.

The Council approved a motion regarding cooperative communities of faith that will strengthen the way the United Church recognizes and supports these linked ministries, including with resources, guidelines, and better access to ChurchHub.

A complex motion regarding Ministry Leadership in the 2020s was separated into two parts, with “Part B” on Designated Lay Ministry to return to Council at a later point. Council approved the remaining motion which focused on facilitating lay-led ministry in the best way possible, enabling space within United Church of Canada policies for ongoing support and connection.

Decision Session 6 heard from three of the over 30 global, ecumenical, and interfaith partners that are accompanying General Council.

One of the first of a series of proposals related to Leadership, the Council heard an expressed concern for access to theological education in French and for the general situation of theological education.

The church chose to take no action on a specific proposal to request reports on the general state of theological education within The United Church of Canada. The Council also took no action on a proposal seeking a review on the accessibility of the diaconal education program.

The Council also chose to take no further action on three further motions:

mandating Full Circle performance reviews of senior General Council and regional office staff

establishing a discipline process oversight body to assess the Office of Vocation (originating as and applying SMART requirements for review/disciplinary action

establishing an oversight body for the Office of Vocation and Candidacy Boards, with particular attention to the process for candidates for ministry in the church

chose to take no further action on a proposal relating to the jurisdiction and authority of clergy.

A proposal related to providing financial support to suspended clergy generated discussion about the need for a greater depth and breadth of understanding of the intentions and implications. An amendment proposed to refer this proposal to the next annual meeting of GC44 was carried.

In **Decision Session 7**, the Council began with two proposals related to Leadership before turning to work related to Emboldening Justice. On the two Leadership proposals, the Council took no action on a further proposal related to the jurisdiction of clergy (SW05) and affirmed a proposal the General Council rework *Human Resources Manual Policy 2.15 on Compensation and Leaves*, making the need for rest and renewal a part of any leave.



Turning to issues of related to Justice, the Council affirmed a motion requesting that the Theology and Inter-Church Inter-Faith Committee develop a framework for a principle-based approach to all the justice work of The United Church of Canada and report back to General Council 45 for adoption.

The Council passed a motion on the autonomy of the Indigenous Church that directs the General Secretary to identify and remove all the structural barriers to developing and sustaining an autonomous Indigenous Church within The United Church of Canada, consistent with the [Calls to the Church](#) and the [UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#); continue the conversation of restructuring, right relations, and reparations with the National Indigenous approve a new structure of the Indigenous Church within the United Church, and relationship to the settler church, as will be determined by the Indigenous Church in its own time and through its own processes, within the framework of the Calls to the Church, and without the need for further remit approvals Circle; and report back to General Council 45 on the state of the dialogue and required next steps.

The Council then returned to a series of proposals originating from regional councils related to Palestine and Israel. These proposals call for the church to take specific positions in response to the calls of Palestinian partners. The Facilitation Team had proposed that the church “take no action” on these proposals at this time given the principle-based work before the church. The motion to “take no action” was defeated, and the proposals remain as business before the Council.

In **Decision Session 8** the Council then turned to a proposal related to Deepening Climate Integrity, one of the church’s Strategic Objectives. The Council passed a motion setting a bold new emissions reduction target of an 80% decrease in carbon emissions by 2030. This public commitment is intended to engage the church in common action to address the climate catastrophe, accelerating a 2018 commitment that called for an 80% reduction by 2050. The motion addresses the church’s own emissions, but also calls for education, building community resilience, policy advocacy, and business actions, building on its 2015 divestment from fossil fuel investments.

The Council returned to a discussion on Designated Lay Ministry (DLM) stemming from an earlier motion on Ministry Leadership. The Business Table proposed that the General Council Executive be asked to consider this challenging question of the status of DLM’s. A motion was passed to refer this question back to the General Council Executive for further discussion and clarification, returning the proposed resolution to the next annual meeting of the 44th General Council. As an interim measure, regional councils are encouraged to grant a licence to perform the sacraments to retired DLM’s who are providing Sunday supply to communities of faith.

Addressing a proposal introduced in June, the Council considered and passed a motion to develop an education program about antisemitism, ensuring the program included advocacy, and animation throughout the church.

The Council then passed a motion through which the United Church calls for decriminalization of illicit substances for personal use. As well as advocating with the federal government, the motion enables working towards harm reduction practices across the church, providing resources for local conversations, and pastoral education for ministry personnel, including training on Naloxone administration at each community of faith.



Chair of Executive Report



It is hard to believe that it has been a year since I became the chair of the Canadian Shield Regional Executive. As we prepare for a face-to-face Regional meeting, I am looking forward to meeting and interacting with all of you.

Dewitt Jones, a photographer for National Geographic, talks about his insight and experiences he has gained as he shot pictures for them. He showed how to recognize and celebrate all that's good and right with the world and that can lead us to happier, more productive lives. It enables us to recognize the options and opportunities before us, while helping to unleash our energy and creativity.

I have been supported by the CSRC Executive over this past year. This team is made up of very talented and dedicated members with a wealth of knowledge that makes my job easy. Without the staff we would not have been able to carry out many of the decisions that the Executive have made. THANK YOU! Work continues to be done by our Commissions, Committees and Resource Teams. These dedicated volunteers and staff make sure that the work that needs to be done moves forward.

Over the last year I have had the opportunity to travel parts of the region to be part of Covenanting Services with our Ministry personnel, to travel to Marathon for the Ordination of Rev. Tori Mullen and sadly services for ministers we have lost this past year. It has been great to meet you, interact with you and put names to faces.

Our Executive meets monthly except in the summer months. At our meetings we carry out the work of the Regional Council when our region is not meeting. It is a full agenda and includes oversight of the Commissions, finances, Regional policies, preparing for the Regional Council meeting, emerging work and the work of the Regional Executive Minister and staff.

A detailed account and overview of the work of the Executive is under the Regional Council Executive digest. The digest offers an itemized account of the Regional Executive since our last regional meeting as well as an idea of the variety and work of the Executive.

The draft 2023 Budget will be presented at our Regional Council Meeting in September. Because of COVID-19 staff travel has been down but support to Communities of Faith have increased.

Canadian Shield Regional Council has encouraged equity conversations at the Executive level, commission and committee levels of the church. Last year we celebrated becoming an Affirming Region!!!! We continue to journey towards living into right relations.



Regional Council Executive, Commissions and Resource Teams are involved in a wide variety of ministry focusing on justice work, support to communities of faith and ministry personnel, granting and youth. With almost half of our Communities of Faith led by lay people we need to find ways to help and support them. Our staff are doing a fantastic job.



A special thanks to our Commissioners for GC 44. Instead of being face to face it has been virtual, starting in February and ending in July. Many decisions have been approved after discussion and voting. During this first year, I continue to rely on Peter's leadership to guide me and support me. It is greatly appreciated.



I also want to give a big THANK YOU to all those who offer leadership in their communities of faith. With it we continue to be a United Church in their communities.

Our regional meeting then this year is ***Tending our Nets***. It is the first time in three years that we will be meeting face to face. What joy it will be to interact with each other, to share, listen and work together.

Peace!
Barbara Nott
Chair, CSRC Executive





My role as Chair of The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Canadian Shield Regional Council is made easy by a fine group of hard-working individuals of both lay and Ministry personnel:

Elaine Lush, Erin Todd, Erwin Thompson, Fraser Williamson, Jane Graham, Joy Bott, Joy Galloway, Karen Gooch, Stewart Walker, and Ted Harrison. I am proud to say that as a region we are leaders in finding new ways to be the church. This report sets out what we have done since we last reported to you and lists those individuals who have stepped up and taken on responsibility in the governance of the church. Thank you one and all for what you do.

John Watson, Chair
Pastoral Relations Commission

Pastoral Relations Activity

Since the Last Regional Council Meeting in October 2021

2021

1. **Trinity Pastoral Charge, Magnetawan, ON** – approved the Ecumenical Shared Ministry Personnel Agreement with St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Magnetawan and the calling of the Rev. Sylvia Poetschke of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada as the full-time ministry effective October 15, 2021.
2. **First Pastoral Charge, Wawa, ON** – approved the appointment of Minhyuk Hwang (Candidate) part-time (20 hrs) effective December 1, 2021 to July 31, 2023.
3. **Trinity Pastoral Charge and Pinegrove Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON** – approved the appointment of David Colwell (Candidate) full-time effective December 1, 2021 to November 30, 2023.
4. **Trinity Pastoral Charge and Pinegrove Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON** – approved the Shared Ministry Personnel Agreement between Pinegrove Pastoral Charge and Trinity Pastoral Charge effective December 1, 2021 to November 30, 2023.

2022

5. **Kapuskasing Pastoral Charge, Kapuskasing, ON** – change of pastoral relations of the Rev. Byung Yun Ko (Presbyterian Minister) effective March 31, 2022.
6. **Trinity Pastoral Charge, Lively, ON** – appointment of the Rev. Byung Yun Ko (OM – Admissions) full-time effective April 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025.
7. **Holy Trinity Pastoral Charge, Elliot Lake** – change of pastoral relations due to retirement of the Rev. Cornelia Vermeer-Cuthbert (OM) effective June 30, 2022.
8. **St. Peter's Pastoral Charge, Sudbury** – appointment of the Rev. Erin Todd – part-time (8 hours) effective March 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022.
9. **St. Peter's Pastoral Charge and Grace Pastoral Charge, Sudbury, ON** – approved Short Term Shared Ministry Personnel Agreement effective March 1, 2022 to June 30, 2022.
10. **St. John's Pastoral Charge, Marathon, ON** – approved provisional call for Selina Mullin (Candidate) effective March 1, 2022.

11. **Willowgrove Pastoral Charge, Sault Ste. Marie, ON** – change of pastoral relations with the Rev. Haiti Mvundura effective April 1, 2022.
12. **St. John's Pastoral Charge, Marathon, ON** – change of pastoral relations with the Rev. Tori Mullin (OM) effective July 31, 2022.
13. **Loring Pastoral Charge, Loring, ON** – change of pastoral relations with the Rev. Fraser Williamson effective July 31, 2022.
14. **Powassan Pastoral Charge, Powassan, ON** – call of the Rev. Fraser Williamson (OM) part-time (30 hours) effective August 1, 2022.
15. **St. Peter's Pastoral Charge, Sudbury, ON** – call of the Rev. Ryan Fea full-time effective July 1, 2022
16. **East Korah/Maxwell Pastoral Charge, Sault Ste. Marie, ON** – reappointment of Helen Smith (Designated Lay Minister) part-time 20 hours effective July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2027
17. **Omond Pastoral Charge, North Bay, ON** – appointment of the Rev. Will Kunder (OM – retired) part-time (14 hrs) effective July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025.
18. **St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge, Matheson, ON and Trinity Pastoral Charge, Iroquois Falls, ON** – reappointment of Laura Hutchinson (DLM) part-time (20 hours) effective July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2025.
19. **Trinity Pastoral Charge, Capreol, ON** – reappointment of Pam Brown (Candidate) part time (20 hours) effective July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024.

Pastoral Relations Liaisons

The following people serve as Pastoral Relations Liaisons for our region:

Joy Bott, Karen Brophey, Sylvia Carscadden, Joy Galloway, Mercedes Hughes, Sandra Jenkinson, Mardi Mumford, Catherine Somerville, Jan Venton, Stewart Walker and Fraser Williamson.

These people work with communities of faith to help them discern their ministry needs. We are blessed as a region to have such gifted and committed individuals who serve in this way.



Current Assignments

1. Westminster Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON – liaison is Jan Venton – currently searching for a full-time minister.
2. St. John's Pastoral Charge, Marathon, ON – liaison is Sylvia Carscadden – currently discerning next steps.
3. Willowgrove Pastoral Charge, Sault Ste. Marie, ON – liaison is Stewart Walker – currently searching for a full-time minister
4. Central Algoma Churches Community (CACC), Thessalon, ON – liaison is Joy Bott – currently discerning next steps
5. Iron Bridge Pastoral Charge, Iron Bridge, ON – liaison is Stewart Walker – currently discerning next steps
6. Blind River Pastoral Charge, Blind River, ON – liaison is Stewart Walker – currently discerning next steps
7. Holy Trinity Pastoral Charge, Elliot Lake, ON – liaison is Catherine Somerville – currently discerning next steps
8. Massey Pastoral Charge, Massey, ON – liaison is Catherine Somerville – currently discerning next steps
9. Espanola Pastoral Charge, Espanola, ON – liaison is Mardi Mumford – currently discerning next steps



10. Manitowaning-Tehkummah Pastoral Charge, Manitowaning, ON – liaison is Mercedes Hughes – currently searching for a part time minister
11. Mindemoya Pastoral Charge, Mindemoya, ON – liaison is Mercedes Hughes – currently searching for a part-time minister
12. Copper Cliff Pastoral Charge, Copper Cliff, ON – liaison is Mardi Mumford – currently searching for a part-time minister
13. Sturgeon Falls Pastoral Charge, Sturgeon Falls, ON – liaison is Sandra Jenkinson – currently discerning next steps
14. Loring Pastoral Charge, Loring, ON – liaison is Catherine Somerville – currently discerning next steps
15. Nipissing-Restoule, Nipissing, ON – liaison is Fraser Williamson – currently discerning next steps
16. Emmanuel Pastoral Charge, North Bay, ON – liaison is Fraser Williamson – currently discerning next steps
17. St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge, North Bay, ON – Liaison is Rob Smith – currently searching for a short term, part-time (30 hrs) supply minister
18. St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, New Liskeard, ON – Liaison is Joy Galloway – currently searching for a part-time minister (20 hours)
19. Covenant Pastoral Charge, Timmins, ON – Liaison is Sandra Jenkinson – currently discerning next steps
20. St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, Cochrane, ON – Liaison is Joy Galloway – currently discerning next steps
21. Kapuskasing Pastoral Charge, Kapuskasing, ON – liaison is Joy Galloway – currently discerning their future.

Pastoral Charge Supervisors



PASTORAL CHARGE
SUPERVISOR

When a community of faith does not have a called or appointed ministry personnel The Manual requires that a pastoral charge supervisor be appointed. The Supervisor provides quorum for the meeting of the governing board. Pastoral Charge supervisors are also required when a ministry personnel is a student minister or an admissions minister.

In the Canadian Shield Region, a majority of our pastoral charges are without ministry personnel. We are dependent on pastoral charge supervisors. We are grateful for all those who serve in this way. Thank you. We appreciate your valuable and vital ministry.

This year we prepared a new Pastoral Charge Supervisors handbook and we had a gathering to review the new handbook.

We are always needing more people to be a pastoral supervisor. If you are interested and want to know more about this service opportunity please contact Rob Smith rsmith@united-church.ca

1. All People's Pastoral Charge, Sudbury, ON – Barbara Nott
2. Blind River Pastoral Charge, Blind River, ON – Cory Vermeer-Cuthbert
3. Broadway Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON – Shane Judge
4. Burks Falls Pastoral Charge, Burks Falls, ON – Sandra Jenkinson
5. Trinity Pastoral Charge, Capreol, ON – student minister – Lynda Todd
6. Carmichael Pastoral Charge, North Bay, ON – vacant
7. Central Algoma Church Community, Thessalon, ON – David Zub
8. Chapleau Pastoral Charge, Chapleau, ON – Susan Lindquist
9. Chelmsford: St. Stephen's Pastoral Charge, Chelmsford, ON – Mardi Mumford



10. Cochrane: St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, Cochrane, ON – Brynn Carson
11. Coniston: St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge, Coniston, ON – Stewart Walker
12. Copper Cliff Pastoral Charge, Copper Cliff, ON – Sue Peverley
13. Echo Bay Pastoral Charge, Echo Bay, ON, - Bruce McLeish
14. Elliot Lake Pastoral Charge, Elliot Lake, ON – Peter Haddow
15. Emmanuel Pastoral Charge, North Bay, ON – Janice Brownlee
16. Espanola Pastoral Charge, Espanola, ON – Whitney Bruno
17. Goulais River Pastoral Charge, Goulais River, ON – Laurie Stevenson
18. Hearst: St. Matthew's and St. Paul's Pastoral Charge – Bill Jones
19. Hillview Memorial Pastoral Charge, New Liskeard, ON – Joy Galloway
20. Hornepayne: Grace Pastoral Charge, Hornepayne ON – George Bott
21. Iron Bridge Pastoral Charge, Iron Bridge, ON – Jane Graham
22. Kapuskasing Community Church Pastoral Charge, Kapuskasing, ON – Laura Hutchinson
23. Katrine Pastoral Charge, Katrine, ON – Fraser Williamson
24. Kirkland Lake Pastoral Charge, Kirkland Lake, ON – Elaine Lush
25. Loring Pastoral Charge, Loring, ON - vacant
26. Manitouwadge Pastoral Charge, Manitouwadge – Joy Bott
27. Manitouwaning-Techamah, Manitouwaning, ON – Gail Cronin
28. Marathon: St. John's Pastoral Charge, Marathon, ON – Jim Jackson
29. Massey Pastoral Charge, Massey, ON – Brian Bigelow
30. Mattawa-Rutherglen Pastoral Charge, Mattawa, ON – Richard Thorne
31. Mount Joy Pastoral Charge, Timmins, ON – Rob Galloway
32. Nipigon Pastoral Charge, Nipigon, ON – John Watson
33. Nipissing-Restoule Pastoral Charge, Nipissing, ON – Fraser Williamson
34. Phelps Pastoral Charge, Redbridge, ON – Ron Holotuk
35. Pinegrove Pastoral Charge, Rosslyn, ON – Christina Stricker
36. Schreiber Pastoral Charge, Schreiber, ON – George Bott
37. St. James in the Valley, Sudbury, ON – (student minister) - David LeGrand
38. St. Mark's Pastoral Church, Sudbury, ON – student minister – Kathy Dahmer
39. St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, New Liskeard, ON – Joy Galloway
40. St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON – admissions minister – John Watson
41. Sturgeon Falls Pastoral Charge, Sturgeon Falls, ON – Gordon Roberts
42. St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, Temiscaming, QC – Lillian Roberts
43. Trinity Pastoral Charge, Lively, ON – Melody Duncanson-Hales
44. Trinity Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON – student minister – Christina Stricker
45. Val D'Or Pastoral Charge, Val D'Or, QC – Will Kunder
46. Wawa Pastoral Charge, Wawa ON – Eun-Joo Park
47. Westminster Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON – Rob Smith
48. Willowgrove Pastoral Charge, Sault Ste. Marie, ON – Glen Eagle

Canadian Shield is made up of 78 pastoral charges, 93 communities of faith and 28 ministry personnel in a call or an appointment. We have five students serving pastoral charges and two admission ministers.



Sacraments Elders

A Sacraments Elder is appointed by the community of faith, trained by the region and licenced by the region to offer the sacraments to their community of faith where there is no available ministry personnel. They are licensed for one year and must be renewed annually by action of the community of faith.

We are very grateful for the willingness of these people to serve their community of faith in this way.



1. Tim Cecile – Trinity, Chapleau
2. Maxine Dale – St. Andrew's, Coniston
3. Beverley Foley – Hillview, New Liskeard
4. Lori Jansecovich – Broadway, Thunder Bay
5. Susan Jansson – St. Matthew's and St. Paul's Anglican/United Church, Hearst.
6. Eleanor Katona – Hillview, New Liskeard
7. Christine Mitchell-Kydd – St. Paul's, Cochrane
8. Kerttu Ladouceur – St. Matthew's and St. Paul's Anglican/United Church, Hearst
9. Susan Lindquist – Trinity, Chapleau
10. June McDougall – Knox, Manitowaning
11. Diane Rust – Mountjoy, Timmins
12. Kathie Smith – St. Andrew's, Sturgeon Falls
13. Judy Tomlin – Hillview, New Liskeard
14. Glenda Woodbury – St. Paul's, Temiscaming, QC

Licensed Lay Worship Leaders

Licensed until December 31, 2022

These are in the process of being interviewed for re-licensing

- Brenda McLay
- Francis Morris
- Linda Sarginson
- Ron Holotuk

Licensed until June 30, 2023

- Elaine Brummer
- Bonnie Kirk
- Ross MacLeod
- Gail Cronin
- Martha Cunningham-Closs
- Jane Graham
- Marguerite Hayes
- Cindy Hebert
- Margaret Hiddleston
- Faye Moffatt
- Brian Mundell
- Nancy Mundell
- Judy Sears
- Dawn Yorke



Licensed until June 30, 2024

- George Bott
- Joy Bott
- Cathy Bright
- Lorna Chuipka
- Lorna Corzine
- Robert Cosbey
- Shannon Duffus
- Vivian Hall
- Diana Hannaford-Wilcox
- John McDonald
- Cyndy Raby
- Marie Rinne
- Lori Van Santvoort-Jansekovich
- Nancy Vernon
- Roger West
- Wanda Wilding

Licensed Until June 30, 2025

- Karen Brophey
- Linda Clarke
- Rob Farris
- Peter Haddow
- Elizabeth Henderson
- Jennifer Moorlag
- John Sheridan



The Canadian Shield Regional Council is very blessed to be served by a group of very gifted Licensed Lay Worship Leaders. We are grateful for all the work that they do each and every Sunday.

We also have an excellent Licensed Lay Worship Leader Resource team who work hard to support our LLWL's. The members of the Resource Team are: Dawn Yorke, Susan Peverley, Janice Frame, Peter Haddow and Jane Graham.

On November 6, 2021 we hosted a check in event for our LLWLs by Zoom. We are intending to have another event in the fall of 2022 – stay tuned for more information.

On February 26, 2022 we offered 2 workshops for Continuing Education which many of our LLWLs attended. One was on Funerals hosted by Valerie Kingsbury and the other was about music and worship hosted by Diana Hannaford-Wilcox. We plan to host a similar event in February 2023.

This year we welcomed two new LLWLs: Diana Hannaford-Wilcox from Thunder Bay and Jennifer Moorlag from New Liskeard.

We are also very blessed to have within the boundaries of our region the On-line Licensed Lay Worship Leaders training program directed by Joy and George Bott. We give thanks for their ministry not only to our region but to our entire denomination.



Another program that originates within our region but serves our entire denomination is the United in Worship Project which provides worship resources for churches. Check out their website: <https://www.united-in-worship.ca/>

Formal Association

All ministry personnel who are either retired or are not serving a pastoral charge are required to be in formal association with a community of faith in order to be compliant with the standards of the United Church of Canada. If you wish to continue to perform the duties of ministry like marriage in the name of the United Church you need to seek out a formal association.

The following ministry personnel are in formal association with these communities of faith.



NOT CURRENTLY SERVING
MINISTRY PERSONNEL

The Rev. Mary Jo Tracy – Lyons Memorial, Gore Bay

The Rev. Melody Duncanson-Hales – St. Andrew's, Silver Water, part of the Western Manitoulin Pastoral Charge

The Rev. Robert Smith – First Wesley, Thunder Bay

Tracy Davis (DLM) – Omond Memorial, North Bay, ON

The Rev. Betty Pretty – Emmanuel United Church, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

The Rev. Kathy Dahmer – St. Mark's United Church, Sudbury, ON

The Rev. John Fraser – St. James in the Valley, Sudbury, ON

The Rev. Bruce McLeish – Willowgrove, Sault Ste. Marie

The Rev. David Zub – St. Andrew's, Sault Ste. Marie

These are all the records I currently have. I am certain there are others who have made arrangements to be in formal association. If you do not see your name here, but are in formal association, could you please send me an email at rsmith@united-church.ca with your name and the name of the pastoral charge. Thank you.

The process of entering into formal association is outlined in the Policy and Procedures Manual of the Pastoral Relations Commission available from our Pastoral Relations Minister or on our website. [Canadian Shield Regional Council Pastoral Relations Commission Policies & Procedures \(canadianshieldrc.ca\)](https://canadianshieldrc.ca/)

We give thanks to our retired ministry personnel for their continued service to our church. You are a vital part of our on-going ministry.



Ministry and Personnel Wellness Team



MINISTRY WELLNESS TEAM

One of the roles of the Pastoral Relations Minister and of the Pastoral Relations Commission is to support the “health, joy and excellence” of our ministry personnel. The following ministers serve as the Ministry Wellness Team along with Rob Smith our Pastoral Relations Minister; Ted Harrison, Erin Todd, Nancy Ferguson and Kellie McComb the Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Council Office of Vocation Minister. They are a great team and I am grateful for their wisdom and support.

We offered the following programs since our last Canadian Shield Regional Council Meeting in October of 2021 for all ministry personnel:

1. October 27-28, 2021 – Emotional Intelligence with Jenny Stephens
2. January 27, 2022 – retreat led by Kellie McComb and Karen Medland
3. February 24, 2022 – retreat led by Marlene Britton
4. April 28, 2022 – “How Big Is Your Call” – Abigail Johnson
5. June 9, 2022 – Ministry Personnel Check-in with Rob Smith
6. September 22-23, 2022 – “Courage to Connect” with Fred Monteith at the Anishinaabe Spiritual Centre in Espanola

Submitted by: John Watson and Rob Smith



Support to Communities of Faith Commission

The **Support to Local Communities of Faith Commission (SCFC)** has met regularly since our last Canadian Shield Regional Council meeting in November 2021.

Members of the SCFC are: George Bott, Brynn Carson, Ernie Epp, Crystal Greig, Peter Haddow, Jim Jackson, Bonnie Johnson, Mardi Mumford, Susan Peverley, Marilyn Schatzler, Diane Tait.

Secretary: Mardi Mumford

Chairperson: Jim Jackson

Representative to the Canadian Shield Executive: Jim Jackson

Staff Support: Melody Duncanson-Hales

Technical Staff Support: Susan Whitehead



Thanks to Rev Bill Steadman, Janice Brownlee and Christina Sticker who retired from the SCFC at the November 2021 Annual Meeting and welcome to Di Tait and Susan Peverley who joined the SCFC at the same annual meeting.

Main Responsibility of Commission

The main purpose of this commission is to offer support to local communities of faith. One of the primary responsibilities is helping congregations and communities of faith in the development of their profile and entering into a covenant with the region. We have worked with the Pastoral Relations Commission to develop the **“Self-Assessment Tool Kit”**. This tool kit with supporting documentation has been approved and is available on the CSRC website.

The SCFC and the PRC have established a consultation group known as the **“Commission Connection”** consisting of two people from each Commission (the Chair and one other) and the respective staff support. This working group created the Self Assessment checklist including instructions and have been working on creating a Collaborative Ministry Handbook.

BIG Picture Issues

Communication between the SCFC, Resource Teams and Communities of Faith is important so that we can provide advice or action as necessary to support Communities of Faith when it is needed. Communication is important for maintaining a strong region.

Property Sales as a CSRC Health Issue. How do we offer the wise stewardship of our gifts? How could property sales fuel new ways to do church? What is the impact on staff planning for the next 5 years? How do we re-focus? How do we revitalize Communities of Faith with a sense of mission?

Community of Faith health is an issue we haven't been able to address. This includes property concerns, lack of clergy for small congregations and Sunday pulpit supply. Regional Representatives and Pastoral Charge Supervisors need to feel comfortable bringing local issues to the SCFC for consideration.

Covenanting between SCRC and Communities of Faith isn't happening as quickly as it should. Tools are available on the Website and help is a phone call away.

Covenant Documents have been received from East Korah Maxwell.

Cluster Development needs to continue. There are some clusters but there is an opportunity for more to be developed.



Process issues: SCFC and the Property resource Team continue to work on processes to provide timely approvals regarding property sales and major renovations.

Congregational Self-Assessment is an area where we need to establish some process with congregations, Pastoral Charge Supervisors, and Regional Reps so that this important task can be undertaken.

Providing assistance to the Pastoral Relations Commission and the Communities of Faith, if required. in the development of The Community of Faith's Living Faith Story.

Emergent Business:

Workshop for Canadian Shield Reps: This might be a project for the **Commission Connections** working group. Lillian Roberts during her time with the region developed a Regional Representative job description outlining the responsibilities and duties. This workshop was held in May 2022 and we think the Workshop should be an annual event.

Connecting with Communities of Faith: The commission is working on ways to connect with each of the Communities of Faith. Prior to the May workshop, members of the SCFC called each pastoral charge to remind them of the workshop and to make a point of connection. How we do this moving forward is an ongoing discussion.

The SCFC will develop contact pathways with Pastoral Charge Supervisors as a source of information regarding the health and well-being of Communities of Faith.

Resource Teams

Within the **CSRC** the following Resource Teams, Project and Network all have a reporting relationship to the **SCFC**. You will find a report from each of them outlining the work they have been involved in since the last annual meeting of the **CSRC**.

The Resource Teams are: Property Resource Team, Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team, Right Relations Resource Team, Affirming Ministry Resource Team, Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team, United in Worship Project, Social Justice Network of Ontario Regions (SJNOR).

Respectfully submitted,
Jim Jackson, Chair – Support to Communities of Faith



Nominations Committee

We begin our report by giving thanks to all who serve their community of faith as a representative, to those who are new to the role – welcome. We also give thanks to all those who continue to serve the CSRC on one of its governing bodies. Our community is blessed to have such commitment.

The folks currently serving on the Nominations Committee are:

Kathie Smith, St. Andrew's United, Sturgeon Falls
Helen Smith, East Korah Maxwell, Sault Ste. Marie
Mardi Mumford, Trinity United, Lively
Janice Brownlee, Trinity United, North Bay

Staff Advisor: Rob Smith, Pastoral Relations Minister



Since our last GM in November of 2021, members of the nominations committee have met as needed.

In December, nominations recommended to the Executive that Bill Jones be named as a member of the Property Resource Team to replace Dale Young, who had resigned. Executive approved the recommendation.

As well, Nancy Ferguson stepped down as an appointed liaison on the Pastoral Relations Commission. Stewart Walker was subsequently appointed to replace Nancy as a liaison, by the Pastoral Relations Commission.

In early May, Executive, received a resignation from one of the elected Commissioners to GC44 (which was already in process), the nomination committee was asked to put out an urgent a call for a commissioner.

The call went out in mid-May.

Despite the fact, that the 'virtual only' GC44 was already in process, we were pleasantly surprised to receive three nominations. Following much prayer, discernment and discussion, nominations made the following recommendation to Executive:

- ◆ Laura Hutchison be named as GC44 to replace the resignation
- ◆ Ernie Epps be named as the first alternate
- ◆ Stewart Walker be named as the second alternate

Executive approved the recommendation.

A detailed listing of the GC44 Commissioners serving the region follows the report.

In June, the Finance team requested that their membership be increased by one (1) member, as they were having difficulty meeting quorum (due to inadequate number of members). Nominations sought out a suitably skilled candidate and recommended that Michael Wesa be named to the Finance Team. Executive approved the recommendation.

Please see the chart below for a complete listing of those who are currently serving on The Executive, Nominations, the Commissions and on Resource Teams as well as the vacancies.

Please visit the Nominations page at <https://canadianshieldrc.ca/> to nominate yourself or a friend.



The Nominating Committee would like to acknowledge the commitment of the following people as they step down from the governance structure of the CSRC: Dale Young, Erwin Thompson, Tori Mullin, Dawn Vaneyk, Louise Hart, Donna Mese, Cindy Brownlee, Isabella Barbeiro, Barb Cundari, Paul Allard. Thank you for sharing your wisdom, leadership, and love for the work of the wider church.

We especially give thanks for life and love of Maxine McVey and Cindy Desilets, who mentored many of us in the life and work of the wider church. May their spirits continue to guide us and may we also be inspired to be mentors and champions of the CSRC and the wider church.

Peace and blessings,

Kathie Smith, Chair,
CSRC Nominations Committee



Right Relations Resource Team



RIGHT RELATIONS RESOURCE TEAM

The Canadian Shield Regional Council's Right Relation Resource Team (RRRT) was created following the 2018 General Meeting. The RRRT carries on the work initiated by the Living into Right Relations Home Group and other reconciliation efforts initiated by groups from across our region. The purpose of the Right Relations Resource team is to develop, support and nurture just and respectful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. To achieve this, we endeavour to do the following:

- Actively seek out ways to advocate and support the work of reconciliation throughout our region.
- Educate re: The Truth and Reconciliation Commission "Calls to Action" and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and suggest ways to respond concretely.
- Share truth and endeavour to increase cultural competency about things such as: Canada's and the Church's role in the colonization of Indigenous Peoples; generational impacts of residential schools; systemic racism; restoration of language, culture, spirituality and treaties.
- Encourage the church's presence where and when Indigenous Peoples are seeking justice, celebrating, remembering, mourning, learning, protesting, rallying, praying...and show up!
- Research and share appropriate resources to build capacity, encourage local leadership development, and empower and equip the church to do this work

Key projects that support this work since 2021 include:

- Advocacy work supporting the Robinson Huron Treaty Litigation, We'tsuwet'en, Indigenous Programming at Laurentian University, etc.
- Collaboration and promotion of events such as "You Owe us an Apology" on Indigenous Peoples Day and the Decode/Discover/Determine UNDRIP workshop
- Maintaining and sharing content on the Right Relations Facebook page, website and email group on the reconciliation efforts locally and in our wider region
- Preparing content (including videos and resource packages) on a variety of topics such as the Manitou Art Collection, Residential Schools, and more for the CSRC website
- Creating and distributing digital and print Minute for Right Relations, Summer Reading Lists, Suggesting Listening Material, and more
- Providing oversight for the Manitou Art Collection paintings in the care of communities of faith in our region – In November 2021, the Right Relations Resource Team arranged to re-home the painting "Suffering and Growth" by Leland Bell at First Wesley United Church in Thunder Bay.

Maxine McVey, in memoriam

In January, 2022, Maxine McVey, a valued and much-loved member of the Canadian Shield Right Relations Resource Team, passed into Spirit.

Attending the General Council of The United Church of Canada, in 1986, at Laurentian University, in Sudbury, where the Church apologized to Indigenous Peoples, had a profound effect on Maxine and was the beginning of her becoming an ally. With the help of Elder Art Solomon and local volunteers, she was the project manager for the building of the Cairn, at Laurentian University, that marks the spot where the Apology was delivered.



In the following years, Maxine made use of every opportunity to learn more about Indigenous peoples and to remind her United Church friends of their responsibility to follow through on the words of the Apology.

In 2005-06, she was a member of the committee that organized a touring exhibition of the Manitou Art Collection.

Maxine was an active member of the Manitou Conference Right Relations Group, serving as Chair for a few years. She served on the Canadian Shield Right Relations Resource Team since its inception in 2019. Her wisdom, experience and participation were gifts she offered freely.

The Right Relations Resource Team feels that it is important to remember Maxine's legacy. We are currently working with the Indigenous Students Learning Centre on the idea of placing a bench in her honour along the path leading down to the Cairn. This will be part of our work in the coming year.

The members of the team are: Linda Ambrose, Lisa Blais (Team Lead), Sylvia Carscadden, Janie Clayton, Carol Germa, Susan Lindquist, Brian Mundell, Melody Duncanson-Hales (Staff Resource)



Property Resource Team

There is a map on the Region's website that shows where each of the Communities of Faith within the Canadian Shield Regional Council fits across our very diverse Region. It would be an interesting exercise to fill in the map to show where there used to be United Church of Canada Communities of Faith in the area, we now call Canadian Shield Regional Council. If you should happen to have a memorial plate or mug or cup from one of these communities, please snap a picture of it and send it to us and help us to keep their memory alive.



Since we last met, the Property Resource Team has been primarily focused on walking with Communities of Faith who have wrestled with the difficult decision to sell their property, whether in the form of their Manse or the Church building itself. This is often made even more heart felt and gut wrenching by the fact that in many of our Communities there are still people who can remind us that "My parents/grandparents donated the land for that Church" or "I used to play in that Manse when I was a kid. "All of those feelings/sentiments are very understandable and very human.

As we continue in to the still not fully known future, what are some of the challenges and or opportunities that lie before us...

1. How do we continue to be good stewards of the faith legacies that our ancestors in the faith have given to us?
2. If we are in the same position as many Communities of Faith where we need to find money to bolster our budgets, can we legitimately think about selling a portion of our local assets? The simple answer is "yes". The process for doing so can be found beginning on page 11 in the Property Resource Team Handbook and is available on the Region's website.

The first level required for the Region to make a decision is for the Property Resource Team to make a recommendation to the Support to Communities of Faith Commission as to the initial request. This is the usual process. IF THERE IS REASON TO EXPEDITE THIS PROCESS, PLEASE INDICATE THIS WITHIN THE REQUEST ITSELF. PLEASE ALSO INDICATE "BY DOING THIS THE MINISTRY AT _____ WILL BE CONTINUED/EXPANDED/ENHANCED.

If we don't hear you the first time, please try again. We want to get it and we want to support the direction you have chosen if we can.

Along the way, we have also learned some things (PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK WITH COMPETENT LEGAL COUNSEL!!!!)

- There is no HST on used housing, so if you sell a Manse the sale/purchase is HST free
- If you sell a Church the HST question DEPENDS on the end use of the property...if you sell to another CRA recognized Church/Charity, then there would be no HST on the sale/purchase. If the purchaser is for instance intending to convert the Church into a private home, there would be HST applicable. PLEASE BE SURE TO CHECK!!!!

In 2025 we will mark the 100th Anniversary of The United Church of Canada. When we began, the world was challenged to rebuild and welcome following the aftermath of the First World War.

As we approach 2025 how will we create vital inviting, open, engaged, safe Communities of Faith within the communities in which we live and work, in the aftermath of wars known or not yet named, or Covid 19 or the next generation of pandemic which may very well be beyond our imaginings; our Communities of Faith



may well be lay led; our buildings are likely to be profoundly re-imagined and many faith communities are likely to have no building at all; the Church itself is not likely to have any more structure than is absolutely needed.

Let`s have a conversation as we go.

Let`s give ourselves all the permission we require.

Let`s see what faith filled art we can create.

Submitted by, Rev Gordon Roberts for the Property Resource Team
(Jan Ross, Jack Page, Stuart Taggart, Wayne Jeffkins, Paul McAllister. Rev. Bill Jones)



Mission Grants Resource Team



MISSION GRANTS RESOURCE TEAM

Team Members:

Bea Webb – sec't; Diane Trollope – chair; Gary Fischer; Nancy Rouble; Susan Siczkar; Stuart Taggart; Rev Melody Duncanson Hales - Staff Resource

Once again, I work with an amazing dynamic Team, On the ball and with a Staff Resource, Melody that is a both a dictionary and encyclopedia of all terms we may need. This Team has a good heart and their faith keep us blessed in this ministry.

Thank you, team for your dedication and alert capabilities for this ministry to our Regional Council.

We are excited this year to hopefully be truly alive with a full camp venue and more. Strict guidelines are in place as always.

And there were the usual requests for improvements, loans for new possibilities, and some emergent matters. We review, and either recommend, or approve. These are detailed below in Melody 's report.

My thanks again for this team's hard and dedicated work. We appreciate being able to offer this work on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council.

Respectfully submitted by

Diane Trollope
CSRC Mission Grants Resource Team, 2022

2022 Mission Support Grant Awards:

approved at Regional Council Support to Communities of Faith Commission:

Mission Support Grants, funded by generosity to the Mission and Service of the United Church of Canada, are administered and awarded within each region to offer support to communities of faith and outreach ministries of the United Church. The Canadian Shield Regional Grants Team develops contextual criteria, invites applications, reviews information and offers award recommendations to the Support to Community of Faith Commission.

2022 Canadian Shield RC Mission Support Grant Budget: \$60,000

Pastoral Charge Grants		Social Outreach Grants	
Goulais River PC:	\$5,000	Camp McDougall:	\$18,000
Val D'Or Shared Ecumenical	\$3,000	Welcome Friends-Rainbow Camp	20,000
Hearst Shared Ecumenical	\$3,000	Elder Abuse Prevention Muskoka	6,000
Total Pastoral Charge Grants:\$11,000		Total Social Outreach Grants \$44,000	

Budget for Canadian Shield MSG:	\$60,000
total approved requests:	-55,000
Remainder held for emergent needs:	\$ 5,000

United Church of Canada Capital Assistance Programs

The purpose of the Capital Assistance Fund is to provide financial assistance for the renewal and development of congregations, camps, education centres, community ministries, and



chaplaincies. Assistance is available in the form of loans and targeted grants for eligible pastoral charges/congregations and other ministries that would otherwise be unable to undertake or complete these projects. These programs include Technology Support Grants, Church and Manse Modernization Grants, and Capital Assistance Loans. Since temporarily freezing funding due to pandemic restrictions, The United Church of Canada Capital Assistance programs have resumed and the Grants team is currently reviewing applications and recommends awards from The United Church of Canada.

- **St. Paul's UC, Golden Valley, \$1500 Technology Support Grant supporting sound and livestreaming equipment**
- **St. Andrew's Sault Ste. Marie \$1500 Technology Support Grant supporting sound and livestreaming equipment**
- **Camp McDougall \$4000 Capital Assistance Grant in support of building maintenance and docking system**
- **Emmanuel UC, Sault Ste. Marie, \$1500 Technology Support Grant in support of livestreaming equipment**
- **Harmony-St. Mark's UC, St. Joseph's Island, \$5000 Church Modernization Grant in support of window installation**
- **Harmony-St. Mark's UC, St. Joseph's Island, \$1500 Technology Support Grant to purchase audio-visual equipment**
- **Grace UC, Hilton Beach, St. Joseph's Island, \$1500 Technology Support Grant to purchase audio-visual equipment**
- **Omond Memorial UC, North Bay \$5000 Church Modernization Grant in support of chairlift installation.**
- **Chisholm United Church, \$5000 Church Modernization Grant in support of roof repair.**
- **Carmichael United Church, North Bay, \$5000 Church Modernization Grant in support of roof repair**

Canadian Shield Regional Council Grants

A variety of modest grants to support faith communities and individuals in mission, outreach, faith formation, lay leadership development, youth and camping ministries, continuing education and support to networks and clusters are available to members of the Canadian Shield region. The Grants Team sets criteria for these programs, reviews requests and awards funds. In 2021, Canadian Shield Regional Council also made emergency congregational funding available to meet pandemic demands. If you have a project, a ministry, an event, or continuing education goal that could use financial support, please contact Melody Duncanson Hales, staff support to the Grants Team.

- **Little Current United Church, \$1500 Affirming Ministries Grant in support of children's and teen free book giveaway project in partnership with Pride Manitoulin**
- **One Lay Learning Grant, \$83.33 subsidizing Licensed Lay Preaching tuition.**



Affirming Ministry Resource Team

Our theme for this year's CSRC AGM is "Tending Our Nets." These words reminded me of what the Affirming Ministry Resource Team and the Canadian Shield Regional Council is about. As disciples we are called in the name of Jesus to not only tend our nets but mend and extend them.

Tending - Look for productive ways that honour and uplift the many differences within our Communities of Faith and beyond.

Mending - Work towards reconciliation and healing relationships not only with 2SLGBTQ+ and BIPOC Communities but also with all those who are marginalized.

Extending - reaching out to others who are wanting a deep connection. A relationship that is profoundly caring where there is sense of belonging and be truly seen and known. No matter who we are we all yearn for a deep connection to others and or a higher power.

I am so proud of the work the Affirming Resource Team has done this year. In December of 2021 we were a part of an Advent study put on by Manitou Intentional Learning called "Do you hear what I hear? Do you see what I see? - A three-part journey exploring the Christmas story through different lenses. Each part had members of the 2SLGBTQ+ and BIPOC Communities telling their Christmas story. I received many emails after about how moving it was. I would like to thank Gillian Schell and all the others of M.I.L.C for this opportunity to share with words and music our own unique stories. It was a gift wrapped with love and tied with a ribbon of hope for a brighter, more Affirming tomorrow.

On March 14th, we joined up with St. Paul's United Church (Thunder Bay) to host a virtual PIE Day Celebration. There were several special guests including Mallory Brennan, who is on the Board of Affirm United/S'affirmer Ensemble and works year-round for the Welcome Friend Association's Rainbow Camp, Steve Robertson, and Sam who connected with us from China. They shared their journey with us.



In the future we hope to be able to co-host with other Affirming Communities of Faith to Celebrate/Recognize special dates within the 2SLGBTQ+ community and have learning sessions that help bring us to a better understanding of what it means to be Affirming.

We updated our Affirming Ministry page on the Canadian Shield Regional Council website. It has educational information as well as a list of various Pride Celebrations within the Region. Please check it out.

On June 24th a few of us travelled to Serpent River First Nations to celebrate Pride. Although it rained just before it started and the black fleas came out to greet us, a Rainbow appeared. It was one of the most wonderful experiences of my life. There was an overwhelming sense of community and of family no matter gender orientation/identity or expression, race or age. These are the gifts we share when we walk together. These are just a few of the things that I wanted to highlight. As a team we know there is still work to be done.

In the next year there are a few things we would like you to think about.

- Do you have a same-sex marriage policy? Why or why not?
- Why should our Community of Faith become Affirming? What is the difference between being Welcoming and Affirming?



AFFIRMING
MINISTRY
RESOURCE TEAM



- Have you thought about becoming an Affirming Community of Faith but don't know where to begin?
- What does it mean to be Public, Intentional and Explicit?

If you would like to talk about these, or any other topic regarding Affirming, the Affirming Ministry Resource Team is here to help. If you are interested in buying a CSRC Affirm Flag, please go to the Registration Desk at the Regional Council Meeting to purchase one.



Thank you from your CSRC Affirming Ministry Resource Team:

Rob Smith – CSRC Staff
Peter Haddow – Team Lead
Gailand MacQueen
Susan Merrier
Marilyn Schatzler



Youth and Young Adult Resource Team



As we enter into post pandemic ministry, Young Adult and Youth (YaYa) ministry in Canadian Shield Regional Council is slowly re-emerging and re-imagined. Gradually, youth are gathering again for reunions and retreat, with many communities beginning the hard work of developing vibrant ministries from scratch. We look forward to welcoming new members on our team, offering gifts and a wider vision. We are grateful, celebrating the vision of local

congregations, some partnering together, to offer in person experiences for children, youth, young adults and their families, from outdoor games and campfires, church picnics, messy church and sharing family faith. Thank you!



Camp McDougall: This was a very busy post pandemic summer for Camp McDougall. Of note, we are grateful for the excellent staff and Camp Director Halle Zachary, who navigated the waters of pandemic protocols and fully subscribed camps. Camp McDougall will be hosting their own AGM Saturday, September 24. Please refer to the Camp McDougall annual report for more detailed information. Congratulations and gratitude for these amazing staff members who shared the joy of camp with kids who really needed it this year!



Board members have worked hard all year to provide the best camp experience possible, making sanitation and ventilation improvements on the property and supporting staff. We are so thankful to Camp McDougall's volunteers, including volunteer chaplains who offered their gifts of time and leadership to this very special community. And a huge thank you to all financial supporters, who ensured that every child who wanted to go to camp had a place in their cabin. Thank you!

Camp McDougall is improving their communication with a new website, and is excited to plan for a new season welcoming campers, returning and new, to safe community where all can celebrate God's presence, living in respect with creation.



Canada Summer Jobs, Students Interns - Canadian Shield Regional Council. This year, Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council hired fifteen students together to work on a variety of projects. The students of Canadian Shield Regional Council worked on a variety of projects from guaranteed liveable income advocacy, music in worship, children's faith formation, to science and faith discussions, right relations, mental health, and community outreach.



As we look forward to a new season, there is fresh commitment and renewed energy to engage with young adults and youth across our region. We welcome Jeffrey Dale in his capacity supporting faith formation and justice to the Canadian Shield Regional staff team!

The YAY Team is always open to fresh and passionate folks who are ready to advocate and engage with youth and young adults – consider joining our team!

(submitted by staff support, Jeffrey Dale and Melody Duncanson-Hales)



United Church Women (UCW)



As I write this report, I am enjoying seeing photographs on Facebook from those who were able to attend our 60th anniversary gathering in Cape Breton. It is great to see the photos and videos and to have the chance to join the group electronically for some of the gathering.

During this past part of the pandemic, I have had the privilege of attending some local UCW meetings at Lyon's Memorial United Church in Gore Bay on Manitoulin Island and at St. Peter's United Church in Sudbury via Zoom. Somehow, I know I will feel at a bit of a loss when the ladies finally meet in person and I will be unable to attend in person. I have also had the privilege of attending the National Zoom meetings. These zoom meetings have been a wonderful connection at a time when the pandemic still keeps us from meeting in person. We have learned that if there is unfinished business when we meet, we can always have a zoom meeting to finish the business instead of waiting to meet in person again.

As it is no doubt across the country, some of our UCW units have begun to finally gather in person decked out in masks, social distancing, and being confused when there are no refreshments. A UCW meeting with no goodies really????!! On the bright side that means no cleanup is necessary after meetings!! Near North District (formerly North Bay Presbyterial) has had a fall meeting in North Bay and were able to gather in force and in person in Trout Creek United Church this past spring. I have not heard of any gatherings in Algoma Presbyterial in the past year but I am sure that Algoma Presbyterial ladies are also slowly beginning to gather in person as the pandemic seems to slow and the majority of our members have received their vaccine shots and booster shots. We also have a large area of 'unorganized' units (formerly Sudbury and Spirit Dancing Presbyterials which have been closed for a while now) with whom we try to connect. It was the hope with the new UC organization 'clustering' would occur within geographical areas when and if Presbyterials closed. In our Canadian Shield UCW 'clustering' has not occurred in a large part of Northeastern Ontario and we still search for a means of connecting local UCW units.

We have endeavored spread UCW news with Canadian Shield UCW newsletters that seem to have become regular publications twice a year, *Fall into Christmas* and *Spring to Summer*. The newsletters have contained brief biographies of our individual executive members so that everyone



could get to know us. As well, they contain news of Districts and Presbyterials, units, and news from National. It has been a challenge to obtain email addresses for UCW ladies but the electronic address list is growing and we hope that, with ladies sharing these newsletters, news of CS UCW reaches most UCW Units. In some cases we mail hard copies of newsletters to those who are not connected electronically. The National UCW newsletter *Keeping in Touch* has also been distributed using this contact list or mailed out as a hard copy. CS UCW has a Facebook page with 76 members with posts to boost morale, list events, and happenings from our churches and units. We cancelled our spring gathering 2022, just to be on the safe side of the pandemic, but will try to gather this fall using the same theme as the 60th anniversary gathering, *Continuing the Hope*.

Again, as no doubt across the country, the executive has remained in place as the pandemic slowed activities and meetings where elections normally occur did not take place. I wish to take this opportunity to thank our CS UCW executive for their support over this pandemic year. We give thanks for the wonders of our electronic age that has provided ways to communicate with one another.





My personal hope is that future hybrid meetings, combining in person and electronics learned during this pandemic, will allow our groups to be more inclusive and allow those who cannot leave their homes or find themselves out of the area a chance to enjoy the UCW. It may be a steep learning curve but so worth the effort. It may just encourage the next generation of woman to join UCW

units. We continue the hope and pray that our Canadian Shield UCW will continue to be strong and continue our mission of love and service to others.

Blessings.

Dawn Monroe, President
Canadian Shield UCW



Social Justice Network of Ontario Regions (SJNOR)



The Social Justice Network of the Ontario Conferences developed in the 1980s out of the Coordinating Committee of the Ontario Conferences, created to ensure that Conferences of the United Church did not contradict each other when speaking to the Ontario Government. The Social Justice Network of the Ontario Conferences found a particular focus in social assistance rates cut so severely in 1995. The Social Justice Network has long been a supporter of the Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition (ISARC), in which one of the Network's members, the Rev. Susan Eagle, has long played a leading role. The reorganization of the United Church of Canada, with Regional Councils replacing Conferences as well as Presbyteries, has led to a name change and

reduced the number of persons attending meetings (since Regional Councils share staff and lay representation is still needing to be found). Two laypersons do play a leading role, since Charles Barrett, a retired economist who long worked for the Conference Board of Canada in Ottawa, serves as Chairperson, and Ernie Epp, a retired historian at Lakehead University in Thunder Bay, keeps the record.

The Social Justice Network of the Ontario Regional Councils continued to depend on the Zoom platform during 2021-22. A virtual meeting, with reports from the Regional Councils and presentations by General Council staff, took place by Zoom on 16 November 2021. Among the activities noted at this fall meeting were the Guaranteed Livable Income Initiative inspired by the Very Rev. Lois Wilson, Right Relations and Anti-Racism work, especially in the East Central Ontario Regional Council, creation of a Social and Ecological Justice Commission by the Shining Waters Regional Council, support for the work of the United Network for Justice and Peace in Palestine and Israel and of United for Mining Justice, and progress on becoming Affirming Ministries. GCO staff noted that new Mission and Vision Statements had been approved by General Council 43 in which our communities of faith were described as "united in deep spirituality, inspiring worship, and daring justice." A Strategic Plan was under development for the four years to GC45 in 2025. Susan reported that ISARC was focusing attention on housing issues.

The virtual meeting of 27 January 2022 dealt at the outset with the annual grant to ISARC. Will Kunder, long-time Treasurer of the Network, had returned to the task and reported that the end-of-the-year balance at Church House, based on the usual levy of Regional Councils, amounted to \$11,627.58. The grant usually made at the November meeting was consequently made, in the amount of \$5,000. Discussion then focused on the fact that 2022 offered both a Provincial Election on June 2nd and municipal elections in the fall. General Council 44 was also scheduled for the summer. On the way to authorizing a sub-committee to plan a day of action, the meeting heard about the current actions of KAIROS, including activities For the Love of Creation.

Charles Barrett, Ernie Epp, and Diane Matheson-Jimenez (Minister inter alia of Social Justice in the Horseshoe Falls, Antler River Watershed, and Western Ontario Waterways Regional Councils) met a number of times by Zoom—with a larger meeting on 8 March including, among others, Melody Duncanson-Hales—to plan an evening session for all who were interested to consider such topics as a Guaranteed Livable Income, social housing, climate change, and Long Term Care for seniors. The plan developed involved an opening plenary session with worship led by the Very Rev. Lois Wilson, four concurrent facilitated group discussions on Housing, Guaranteed Livable income, Substance Abuse, and Long Term Care, and a second plenary session focused on how United Church members can interact effectively with elected officials (former MPP and active United Church member Ted McMeekin led this discussion). This Ontario Social Justice Roundtable took place on Sunday evening, May 1st with the Ontario Election Campaign beginning on May 4th. About a hundred people entered the virtual Roundtable and explored the several topics in the four break-out rooms. As note-taker in the Long Term Care discussion, I was impressed by the critical views expressed by a number of people and their desire for a much more humane system than Ontario seniors have been facing. However, on June 2nd, the Ford Conservatives were returned to office with an increased majority!

Respectfully submitted, Ernie Epp



Atlantic School of Theology (AST) Report

Annual Report to United Church of Canada Regions

Atlantic School of Theology continued to offer a full slate of courses and programs in the last year, adjusting constantly to COVID-19 protocols and norms, just as the churches have done. All courses were delivered online or in a hybrid format. We enjoyed a strong number of new applications, and our total enrollment hovers around the 180-person mark.



Three faculty members were called and appointed to tenure track positions: Rev. Dr. Susan MacAlpine-Gillis, Rev. Dr. Andy O'Neill, and Dr. Evangeline Kozitza Dean. We are delighted by the rich knowledge, experience, and skill that these scholars bring to our teaching team. 2021 brought a change in senior leadership, as Rev. Canon Neale Bennet retired as President. Dr. Tim O'Neill has been called as our Interim President, and we have commenced the search for a new long-term president to serve from mid-2023 onward.

2021 saw the launch of our newest program, the Diploma in Missional Leadership. The first cohort is comprised of United Church persons serving in active ministry. The next cohort will launch in 2023. Our Continuing Education programs ranged from "Progressive Approaches to the Bible" to "Decolonizing Theology," and were all delivered online. AST's Camino Nova Scotia pilgrimage program took place in beautiful Cape Breton Island this year.

Deep gratitude goes out to our United Church of Canada partners, from the General Council to the Regions to the local churches and ministers where our students are serving and are supervised. We continue to seek to be responsive to the emerging needs of the church as we serve God's world together.

In Christ,
Rev. Dr. Rob Fennell
Academic Dean



Centre for Christian Studies Report

Submitted on behalf of Ken Delisle and the Centre for Christian Studies

Spring 2021 – New Rhythms

By the spring of 2021 staff had found rhythms of working together while working from our homes. We became quite adept at meeting through Zoom for staff meetings, committee meetings, student and mentor and field orientations, and we also made sure to schedule meetings with each other just to chat like we would if we were in the office together. Students were also becoming more comfortable and resourceful with online learning and we have been impressed with the ways students have worked creatively with their field sites to meet their learning goals under ongoing health restrictions. In 2021 we held our Annual Service of Celebration online which allowed friends and family of the graduates to participate from across Canada.

Summer 2021 – New faces

In the summer of 2021, we ran our first UCC Admission Orientation program for ministers entering the church from other denominations. People joined online from time zones in Canada, India, Korea, Kenya, Congo, Zambia, and Zimbabwe. This meant people were joining the learning circle from every part of the day – morning, afternoon, evening and late into the night. Our Learning on Purpose circle was held for the first time online in August 2021. Donors to the Matching Gift Campaign supported the development and implementation of this new way of offering the LoP. We learned from student feedback how to create space during the intensive learning circles for time to work independently away from the screen while also offering students opportunities to meet informally so they could chat about all the non-school stuff that matters to them. And, importantly, staff enjoyed valuable vacation time. We took advantage of the easing of COVID restrictions to visit family and friends throughout July and August.

Fall 2021 – Changes coming and other new things

Our learning circles continued to be online, including: Integration Year, Culture and Identity, and Right Relations. The Right Relations learning circle was a joint circle with Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre and CCS. It was designed and led collaboratively with the staff from both schools. This collaboration allowed staff from both schools to learn from each other's teaching methods, but best of all was the opportunity to talk and laugh together. Right Relations was the first learning circle we ran in a hybrid format with sixteen people participating in person and sixteen people participating online. Some students proceeded with field placements, while others focused on external courses, which were widely available online.

In the fall Michelle and David both announced that they would be leaving CCS to pursue other ministry callings. Michelle returned to congregational ministry in London Ontario and David has begun the discernment process to enter ordained ministry in the Church of England. This set in motion the search process for two new additions to the CCS staff team and the announcement that Ken Delisle would serve as Interim Principal for the first half of 2022.

Spring and Summer 2022 – New Rhythms

In winter and spring of 2022, we held online learning circles on Spiritual Practice, Relationships, Power & Privilege, and Ages & Stages. The Annual Service of Celebration was again held online, and Aileen Urquhart, retired diaconal minister and social justice advocate from Sioux Lookout, was honoured as Companion of Centre. In the summer we held our Learning on Purpose course *in-person* in London, Ontario! Our first in-person circle since the beginning of the pandemic – and nobody got sick!



In the summer of 2022 we announced our new Principal, Alan Lai, and our new member of Program Staff, Alcris Limongi, both of whom will be starting in October. We are very pleased to be welcoming Alan and Alcris to CCS!

Progress –

Education

We continued to innovate online pedagogy – the UCC Admission Orientation and Right Relations circles are just two examples. We held 11 Learning Circles online, including four circles that had never been offered online: Culture and Identity, Right Relations, Grief and Loss, and Ministry as Community Building. We continued with free-of-charge public workshops with our CCS Fridays series, exploring topics including How to Host an Online AGM, The Pandemic of Racism, Profiles of Diakonia, Indigenous Testamur, Unanswered Questions about 9/11, and Transgressive Devotion. Members of our learning community presented and participated at conferences including Diakonia of the UCC and Anglican Deacons Canada gatherings (attended by Lori, Michelle, Janet, Marcie). Janet and Michelle attended an online conference on Asian Women's Theology. David attended an online conference with a diaconal network in the UK.

Justice

Staff and students remain committed to ministry education that lives a theology of justice.

One aspect of this is our continued practice of revising assigned reading lists with an anti-racist, decolonial lens. Carrying on from last year, we are stringently assessing the whiteness of our assigned authors, and making changes, circle by circle. We do this with the understanding that auditing readings is not a box to be checked, but it is an ongoing practice we are committed to.

We understand that striving for anti-racist and decolonized education is not only about readings. When inviting chaplains, guest speakers, resource people, and education partners for learning circles we are prioritizing people of colour and Indigenous people.

Connecting

Our partnership with the social media firm, Strategic Charm, enables us to stay connected with old friends and reach new folks through Instagram and Facebook.

Our online learning circles have provided an opportunity for people to try a CCS learning circle who might not have otherwise made the journey to Winnipeg. This includes continuing studies students from the US, but it also includes continuing studies students from across Canada. The same is true for our CCS Fridays – in the past these were only available to those who make it to Woodsworth house at noon on a Friday. Now we regularly see people from across the country and occasionally we are visited by someone in the US or further abroad.

Community

The CCS community includes a vast group of generous donors and engaged alumni. As an example of our community engagement we saw a 48% response rate to the donor survey – most organizations don't receive more than 20% response rate. This year donor generosity supported the project to put the LoP online. The fact that they gave almost the same amount in 2021 as 2020 shows an outstanding outpouring of generosity when we were expecting to have some financial losses.

Students are persisting in their ministry formation during this protracted experience of distancing and Covid health precautions. They support each other as they support their local communities. It has been a tiring and challenging year – that is undeniable. But students remain engaged, inspired, and motivated to keep transforming themselves and the world around them.



We are blessed with collaborative, generative partners, including:

Anglican and United Churches

Diakonia of the United Church of Canada

Anglican Deacons

Diakonia of the Americas and Caribbean

Diaconal Mentors, Field Placements, Learning Facilitators, Local Committee members,

Council and Committee volunteers

St Andrew's College

St Stephen's College

Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre

Strategic Charm (social media managers)

2022 So Far

In winter and spring of 2022, we held online learning circles on Spiritual Practice, Relationships, Power & Privilege, and Ages & Stages. The Annual Service of Celebration was again held online, and Aileen Urquhart, retired diaconal minister and social justice advocate from Sioux Lookout, was honoured as Companion of Centre. In the summer we held our Learning on Purpose course *in-person* in London, Ontario! Our first in-person circle since the beginning of the pandemic – and nobody got sick!

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Our Year Book, Financial Statements and Annual Report may be found at: <http://ccsonline.ca/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/2021-Year-Book.pdf>





**HUNTINGTON
UNIVERSITY**

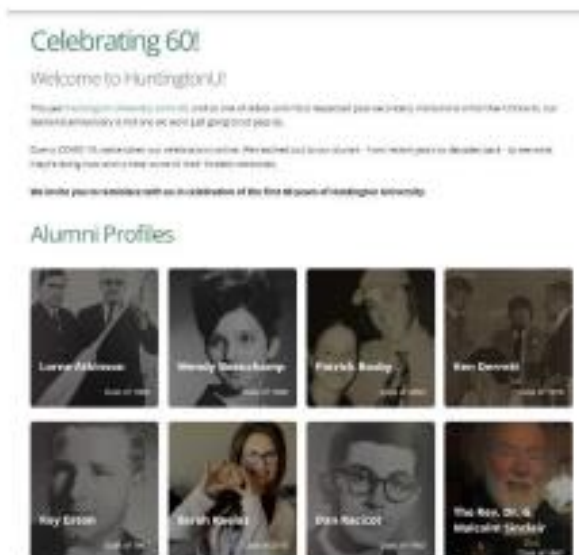
Report to the Canadian Shield Regional Council
2021-2022

Huntington University is a learning institute for higher education located in Greater Sudbury, Ontario. Opening in 1960, it was one of the first post-secondary establishments in northern Ontario. Over the past 60 years, Huntington University has made a name for itself by proudly partnering with many organizations, both national and international, to foster relations and build community. The university has also successfully established several Centres of Excellence, such as the first Teaching and Learning Centre in the north, the Peruvian Canadian Institute and the Canadian Finnish Institute, which have all enhanced northern Ontario's academic landscape.

Our work at Huntington University continues despite the challenges of the past two years, resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic and changes to post-secondary in northern Ontario. We are actively engaged in creating new opportunities for growth, with a plan that is centered around forging relationships and partnerships with countries, students and businesses based on our shared values and goals to continue to build communities. We are leveraging the partnerships we have built over the years, and take pride in knowing our successful institutes and centres of excellence give us a strong foundation to build upon as we look ahead to the next 60 years in our legacy.

Huntington University 60th Anniversary

Amidst the backdrop of a global pandemic in 2020, Huntington University marked its 60th anniversary year. While celebrations could not take place in person, the university found creative ways to promote the milestone, including via the huntingtonu.ca website and through various magazine publications.





Together May we Grow | Thomas Barker

Seniors 50+ Lifestyle Magazine | Winter 2021 | Page 8

Thomas Barker - a proud Huntington University alumni, member of the Board of Regents, and the President of the Alumni Association - shares his memories of Huntington University.

[VIEW ARTICLE](#)

Discover more stories shared by our alumni, from the 1960's through to today, by visiting our [alumni profiles](#) page.



Celebrating 60 Years of Post-Secondary Education Excellence at Huntington University - pages 16 & 17

Seniors 50+ Lifestyle Magazine | Fall 2020

Thank you to our alumni Roy Eaton (left) and Wendy Beauchamp (right) who joined President and Vice-Chancellor Dr. Kevin McCormick for this cover shoot for the fall issue of Seniors 50+ Lifestyle Magazine. Their stories, harkening back to the late 1960's at Huntington University are highlighted.

[VIEW ARTICLE](#)



Huntington University | 60 Years and Still Moving Forward

2020 Sudbury Vision for the Future (Northern Life) | January 2020 | Pages 21 & 22

Chancellor Emeritus, Edward J. Conroy, has been a part of Huntington University's legacy since the 1950's. Dr. Conroy shares his memories from those early years, and his thoughts as Huntington University looks ahead to the next 60 years.

[VIEW ARTICLE](#)

New Chancellor

On November 26, 2020, as Huntington University continued to celebrate its 60th anniversary, the Board of Regents announced Mrs. Bela Ravi as the new Chancellor of Huntington University.



Chancellor Announcement | November 26, 2020

As Huntington University continues to celebrate its 60th anniversary, the Board of Regents announces Mrs. Bela Ravi, as the new Chancellor of Huntington University, to guide the institution through this auspicious and exciting celebratory year.

[VIEW ARTICLE](#)



Huntington Helps Emergency Bursary Fund

The Huntington Help Emergency Bursary Fund was initially launched by Huntington University in March 2020, shortly after the COVID-19 pandemic was declared by the World Health Organization. In the first 24 hours, more than 60 applications were received from post-secondary students in Greater Sudbury, representing all of the major university and college institutions in our community, who had been impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Shortly thereafter, impressed by Huntington's commitment to community, TD Bank Group invested \$10,000 so that applications could be reopened for a 2nd round of bursaries.

Huntington Helps Emergency Bursary Fund | March and April 2020



In March 2020, Huntington University established the Huntington Helps Emergency Bursary Fund – a \$25,000 COVID-19 response initiative to assist ALL post-secondary students in need, across the Greater Sudbury community. Due to high demand and urgent need, 100 emergency bursaries were provided to students representing all of the major university and college institutions in our community, who were impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic.

[VIEW ARTICLE](#)

Huntington Helps Emergency Bursary Fund | December 2020



Huntington University and TD Bank Group are partnering to support a second round of the Huntington Helps Emergency Bursary Fund. TD is investing \$10,000 so that applications for emergency bursaries can reopen. An additional contribution by Huntington University, as part of its 60th anniversary celebrations, will ensure that 60 emergency bursaries can be awarded in this round of applications.

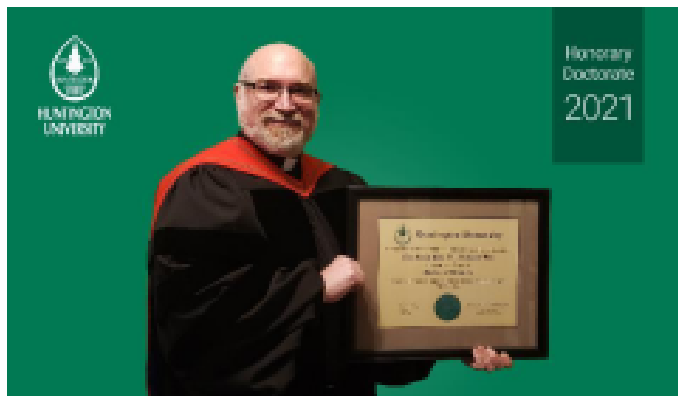
[VIEW ARTICLE](#)

Open to all post-secondary students across the Greater Sudbury community. [Apply today!](#)



Honorary Doctorates – 2021

In celebration of Huntington University's 60th anniversary celebrations, which were extended due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, several Honorary Doctorates were conferred by the institution in Spring 2021.



Honorary Doctorate of Divinity

The Right Reverend Dr. Richard Bott,
43rd Moderator of the United Church of
Canada.

Honorary Doctorate of Sacred Letters

- Dr. Scott Darling, for his work as an educator, community leader and passionate champion of local causes in Greater Sudbury.
- Dr. Suzanne Dupuis – Blanchard, an academic, advocate, registered nurse and leader for aging adults and seniors across Canada.
- Dr. Dalton McGuinty - Ontario's 24th Premier.
- Dr. A. Oluremi Odulana-Ogundimu, a renowned doctor, pediatrician, and life-long champion for multiculturalism and inclusion in Greater Sudbury.
- Dr. Richard Rainville, for his tireless advocacy for the community and vulnerable populations and his work as Executive Director of Réseau ACCESS Network in Greater Sudbury.
- Dr. Livy Visano – an award-winning academic and passionate scholar, Department of Equity Studies (Human Rights and Equity Studies Program), York University.

St. Andrew's United Church Chapel Renewal Project

Huntington University, as part of its 60th anniversary year celebrations in 2020-2021, donated funds in support of improvements to a small chapel located on the 2nd floor of St. Andrew's United Church. The renewal project highlights the longstanding history and future of St. Andrew's United Church and Huntington University. On October 17, 2021, as part of Sunday worship at St. Andrew's United Church, Rev. Dave Le Grand declared it Huntington Sunday and invited Huntington University's President and Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Kevin McCormick, to address the congregation. A new plaque was also unveiled to commemorate the rededication of the chapel which has been renamed the Huntington University Peace Chapel.



Spring Convocation 2022

An Honorary Doctorate of Sacred Letters was conferred upon Dr. Bela Ravi on June 27, 2022 during an evening Sorubg Convocation ceremony presented by Huntington University at the Caruso Club. The official conferral of the Honorary degree was conducted by Mrs. Mary-Liz Warwick, Chair of the Huntington University Board of Regents and Dr. Kevin McCormick, President and Vice-Chancellor of Huntington University. This prestigious accolade was presented while Dr. Bela Ravi continued to proudly serve as Chancellor of Huntington University. She was officially installed as Chancellor, amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and the university's 60th anniversary year, during a private ceremony held on November 23, 2020.



In Memoriam

Sadly, 2020 and 2022 marked the passing of several esteemed members of the Huntington University family.

Dr. Edward J. Conroy – February 2022

A founder of Huntington University, he served as a member of the Board of Regents prior to his appointment as the university's third Chancellor. In 1995 Huntington presented him with an Honorary Doctorate of Sacred Letters, and in 2015 he was named Chancellor Emeritus, a role he was immensely proud of.

Mrs. Jean Dick – January 2022

Her many years of involvement with our university, including more than two decades of service on the Huntington Advisory Board, left a positive impact on thousands of Huntington alumni and graduates over the years. In 1987, Mrs. Dick was also presented a Fellowship from Huntington University in recognition of her leadership and the many initiatives she fostered within our institution and beyond the walls of our university.

Dr. Franca Damiani Carella – January 2020

Countess of Vergada, Doctor of Sacred Letters from Huntington University, founder and Executive Director of The Vitanova Foundation, as well as a dear sister to Dr. Livio Visano, a member of our Huntington University Board of Regents.



Burkina Faso Award – National Order

Dr. Kevin McCormick, the President and Vice-Chancellor of Huntington University, has been appointed to the rank of Knight of the Order of the Stallion (Chevalier de l'Ordre de l'Étalon) by The Council of National Orders, Presidency of Faso Grand Chancellery of Burkinabe Orders. The Knight of the Order of the Stallion, which is a National Order and the highest honour the government of Burkina Faso can bestow,

rewards personal merit and/or eminent civil or military services rendered to the nation. The medal was presented on Friday, July 29th during a private investiture ceremony held at the Embassy of Burkina Faso in Ottawa. In 2020, Dr. McCormick personally funded an international awards program to provide academic support for 70 post-secondary students, hailing from five different post-secondary institutions in Burkina Faso, including medical students making a difference during global health crisis.



EMMANUEL COLLEGE
OF VICTORIA UNIVERSITY IN
THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

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Fall 2022

Dear Friends:

On behalf of Emmanuel College, I want to bring greetings to your region as you meet this fall season. It is my hope and prayer that your meeting goes well and that you experience God's presence and blessing in this important work of the church.

My name is HyeRan Kim-Cragg and it is my privilege to bring you greetings as Emmanuel's new Principal. I come to this role as the Timothy Eaton Memorial Church Professor of Preaching and an ordained member of the United Church of Canada. My term began July 1, 2022. Despite the challenge of the COVID 19's reality we are still facing, I hope to see you in person in the near future and share good news of Emmanuel College with you and hear good news of this region's wonderful ministry.

Some good news from Emmanuel College is that this fall **we are embarking on two new faculty searches.** One in United Church of Canada studies (tenure track) and another in Spiritual Care and Practical Theology. These faculty complements will enable us to cultivate students to become conscious and compassionate scholars, and equip them to become competent and committed leaders in the United Church and beyond.

2021-22 was our second full academic year offered through pandemic-related remote delivery. After a brief taste of in-person gatherings and community life at the beautiful Victoria University campus in fall 2021, we had high hopes of returning to in-person learning this past January. Regrettably, due to the rise of the Omicron variant we were forced to remain online for the winter and summer terms. Emmanuel staff and faculty have adapted well and continued to offer excellent pedagogical, community & spiritual life & student service experiences throughout the pandemic in this online format. We have explored ways to incorporate the best of the online experience as we move forward into predominately in-person experiences this fall 2022.

Emmanuel College's accreditation with the Association of Theological Schools was renewed for another 10 years. Emmanuel received a very positive report from the ATS, commending us on the hard work of interreligious theological education in a triply-embedded school. Emmanuel College is blessed and challenged by the three significant relationships we share with Victoria University, Toronto School of Theology, and University of Toronto.

These relationships made the re-accreditation process particularly arduous, but under the fine leadership of Nevin Reda, it was successful and we were well prepared for the ATS Team visit last fall. They were very impressed with our self-study and complimented those responsible for it. In doing this work at Emmanuel College, we have become aware of areas where we need to make changes. We think these changes will strengthen the College and enhance its work as an educational institution preparing individuals for various forms of ministry and service.

Emmanuel College continues to provide significant financial support to students. Through the John W. Billes Fund, Emmanuel continues to provide 100% of tuition coverage to all domestic students who are registered full-time in the M.Div. program and who are engaged in The United Church of Canada's



candidacy pathway process. All incoming domestic full-time students are eligible for our **Entering Theological Education grant, which offers 50% tuition coverage to their first year courses.**

For more information about studying at Emmanuel College and about the financial support available for all Emmanuel programs, whether one is studying full-time or part-time, please contact Andrew Aitchison, emmanuel.admissions@utoronto.ca.

Emmanuel is offering an increasing number of Continuing Education events online. These events are offered through the Centre for Religion and its Contexts. This past academic year featured "The Things They Didn't Teach Me in Seminary" Seminar Series, which was developed to bridge the gap between academy and church. M.Div. students could take this series for credit, while engaging with continuing education participants who were ministers in the field. The Centre will host its second Annual symposium entitled "Re-thinking Preaching," in April. In August it presented the third annual "Christian Left Conference" with a focus on Creation, Land and Indigeneity. A list of upcoming offerings are found on the Emmanuel College web site at <https://www.emmanuel.utoronto.ca/the-centre-for-religion-and-its-contexts/continuing-education-events-and-courses/>. For further information about these events please contact Shawn Kazubowski-Houston: ec.events@utoronto.ca.

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If you have questions or are seeking further information about Emmanuel College, please be in touch with us or explore Emmanuel: <http://bit.ly/exploremmanuel>.

Yours sincerely,



Rev. Dr. HyeRan Kim-Cragg,

Principal
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