

Canadian Shield Regional Council

The United Church of Canada

2023 Regional Council Meeting

“The Stones Will Shout”

November 25, 2023



Report Packet

2023 Regional Council Meeting Online Via Zoom



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Agenda

Saturday, November 25, 2023

12:15	Zoom Refresher (Optional)
12:25	Gathering Music
12:30	Gathering and Welcome Opening of Meeting and Constitution of the Court Acknowledgement of the Land, Safe Space Statement Introductions of Staff, Executive, etc. Practice Voting Opening Motions – Consent and Procedural Processes, Holy Manners/BRAVE, Equity
1:00	Opening Worship - SCoFC
1:15	Right Relations Resource Team “Grounding Time” Remit Discussion Vote on Remit #1
2:15	BREAK
2:30	Proposals – None Received
2:45	The Stones Will Shout - CoFs have time to briefly share what exciting events are happening/have happened
3:00	Approval of 2024 Budget - Janet MacDonald 2024 Budget Presentation - Vote on Budget
3:20	Nominations - 2025 FoF Planning Team - 2024 RCM Planning Team - General Nominations and Motion
3:35	New Business
3:40	Installation of New Chair (in-person together)
4:00	Closing Worship - PRC
4:15	Courtesies Hellos/Goodbyes - Turn on mics and cameras and say hello/goodbye to people in the meeting



Welcome Letter from Chair of Executive, Barbara Nott



It is Regional Council Meeting (RCM) time again! This year, the Canadian Shield Regional Council is hosting an online meeting on November 25, 2023 at 12:30 p.m. via Zoom. I would like to take this opportunity to welcome you to our meeting.

Our theme for this meeting is “The Stones Will Shout.” For those of you who kept your 2019 Regional Council Meeting Covenanting stones, it would be a great idea if you could bring it to the online meeting and set it down beside you.

In June at our first Festival of Faith event, we renewed friendships, made new friends and connections, and had time to start to develop clusters and networks. I hope that this is continuing. At this online meeting, we will hear what has been keeping us busy over the last year.

Also, we will be voting on Remit #1: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization with The United Church of Canada. It was great that so many of you attended the Town Hall with Michael Blair to help us understand the remit. The video recording of the Town Hall can be found on the CSRC website.

Looking forward to seeing you at the online RCM!

Barbara Nott
Chair of CSRC Executive



Business of the Court

Procedural and Consent Motions 2023

FOR ACTION

MOTION: by Peter Hartmans / Nancy Ferguson

CS RCM 2025-11-25-01

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 (2023 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 **835 4652 3743** and when in session.
- 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 September 23-25, 2022 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.
- g) **Corresponding Members:** that corresponding members shall be: official guests of the Regional Council. Their names shall be included in the Record of Proceedings. (2023 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 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 25, 2023.

Procedural Motions

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 Bill Steadman;
4. The Chair shall present a Proposal. The Chair will invite prayerful discernment and discussion on the wisdom of the Proposal. When the 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 RAISE HAND function or *9 for those on the phone. If two people are joined from the same household one person will vote with the Raise Hand function 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.

Background for Consent Motions

Evaluation and experience have shown that the agendas of meetings of the Executive 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 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 Report Packet, with the consent agenda. Do any 5 voting members wish to remove an item from the consent agenda to be placed on the meeting's agenda by the Business Table?"
2. If any 5 voting members requests it, an item is removed (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 considered 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 2023 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 2023 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* (2023, 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 2023, 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

CSRC - Draft Budget	2022 Actual	2023 Budget	2023 to Oct. 31	2024 Draft Budget
Income				
National Grants				
Assessment	325,000	325,000	271,431	325,000
M&S Grant	240,000	239,000	201,040	180,000
Other	47,876			
Salary	99,000	99,000	82,500	99,000
	711,876	663,000	554,971	604,000
HST recovered	2,688		9,760	
Investment Income	- 48,363	25,000	33,776	25,000
Miscellaneous	25		4,734	
Festival of Faith			11,531	
Regional Meeting	2,494			
Youth Income	5,000		28,858	
Pastoral Relations Income	16,820		13,051	
Sale of Property/Residual Accounts	16,345		99,629	35,000
Total Income	706,885	688,000	756,310	664,000
Expenses				
Archives				
Bookstore Support	1,800	1,800	1,800	1,800
Clusters and Networks			525	
Committees	1,000	1,000		1,000
Congregational Support	5,100			
Corporation Overview	2,000	3,000	1,918	3,000
Distribution of Property Sale			16,000	
Executive	552	5,000	5,717	5,000
Festival of Faith			33,478	
Finance	16,412	16,000	5,445	17,500
Grants	55,000	60,000	58,000	55,000
Legal Fees	1,741	5,000	668	10,000
Reserve Fund	125,000			
Miscellaneous	2,703	5,100	4,329	3,700
Office Expenses	21,771	25,000	17,808	25,000
Pastoral Relations	26,013	15,000	17,757	15,000
Regional Meeting	54,698	35,000		35,000
Retail Sales Taxes	13,386	1,000	8,827	1,000
SJNOR	1,000	1,000		1,000
Staff Team				
Cell Phones	2,990	4,000	1,705	4,000
Continuing Education	1,504	7,500	2,484	7,500
Internet	2,161	2,000	1,349	2,000
Moving			4,192	
Salaries	410,711	469,100	410,049	435,000
Travel	17,765	10,000	16,648	20,000
Resources	114	2,500	515	2,500
	433,084	495,100	436,942	471,000
SWRC/CSRC Shared Expenses	9,188	9,000	6,214	9,000
Youth (CSJ)				
Youth	7,081	10,000	4,113	10,000
	777,530	688,000	619,542	664,000
Income over Expenses	- 70,645	-	136,769	0



Designated Funds October 31, 2023

Affirming Ministries	13,455	
Archives	- 4,977	
Camping Fund	313,990	
Clusters and Networks	56,086	
Congregational Support	100,000	
General Fund	137,963	
Health Joy and Excellence	213,105	
Lay Education	37,807	
Legal Reserve	25,000	
LLWL Program	31,270	
New Outreach Initiatives	65,683	
Preparing for Ministry	39,111	
Right Relations	56,733	
Youth Programs	<u>67,528</u>	
		<u><u>1,152,754</u></u>



Proposals

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



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 and SWRC



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 Executive Assistant to Peter Hartmans. 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.”

Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Staff Lead and 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.



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.

Celio de Andrade Santos Jr., Administrative Support to CSRC and SWRC

Celio is an Afro-Indigenous Brazilian from a favela in Rio de Janeiro and he was always involved with social justice projects since he was a teenager. His professional background is mainly in the areas of Marketing and administration, where he worked as an administrative assistant in a Brazilian company that creates telenovela scenarios. In the Marketing area, he had many jobs in Canada where he used to work with social media strategy, website updates, SEO, and video editing. Born and raised in Brazil, he was amazed to learn more about the United Church as being an affirming church when he first joined the grass-root movement "Fierte Simcoe Pride", where he was a volunteer to help create a positive impact on the LBGTQIA+ community in Barrie. He believes that by working at United Church he will be able to contribute to creating a positive impact on many people's lives. Celio's favorite quote is an African one that says "I am because we are," which in his opinion is a phrase that reminds us that we need to live in community and help each other because we just exist and survive through connecting with other people.



Kathleen Wolfe, Administrative Support for CSRC and SWRC



Kathleen grew up in a rural area outside of Port Elgin Ontario. She attended Laurentian University in Sudbury where she obtained a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Mathematics. She began her work in the United Church as the volunteer treasurer in a small church in 2010. In 2016 after raising her four children, she took on the role as the Office Administrator of Southampton United Church and added the administrative responsibility of Port Elgin United Church in 2019. In addition, Kathleen enjoys walking along the shores of Lake Huron, sitting in the sun with a sudoku puzzle and spending time with her family.

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.



Incoming Chairperson, Nancy Ferguson



Just fresh off her sabbatical in Ireland, Nancy is busy reacclimatizing and sorting through piles of paper as she gets ready for the new challenge as Chair of Canadian Shield Regional Council! Nancy was ordained in 1996 by the former London Conference and has been serving at Emmanuel United Church, Sault Ste. Marie since 2006. When the Region formed in 2019, Nancy joined the Pastoral Relations Commission and trained as a Liaison. She also served a term on the Affirming Resource Team and continues to serve on the Health, Joy and Excellence Team under the leadership of Rob Smith which supports ministry personnel.



Digest of Actions

October 13, 2022 CSRC Executive Meeting Zoom

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Jim Jackson CS Exec 2022-10-13-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Nancy Ferguson CS Exec 2022-10-13-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on September 8, 2022 via Zoom be approved as amended.
CARRIED

MOTION by Dave Le Grand/Helen Smith CS Exec 2022-10-13-03
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on September 13, 2022 via E-vote be approved as amended.
CARRIED

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Bill Steadman CS Exec 2022-10-13-04
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from May 25, 2022 and June 29, 2022 be received, for information.
CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Helen Smith CS Exec 2022-10-13-05
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council (6) Executive take the following action:

a) St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation

... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation 2021-2022 Board of Directors

Lynne Curran
Laurie Forbes
H. Brian Foster
Gail Henderson
Don Macdougall
Doreen Macdougall
Debra Mehagan
Bert Rowson
Ray Quinn

This is based on the draft Annual Meeting minutes of September 21, 2021, the 2021 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per The United Church of Canada Incorporated Ministries Policy.

CARRIED

There was consensus that the members of the hiring team for the new administrative staff will be one from each region, plus Peter, with the ability to make hiring decisions.



November 3, 2022
CSRC Executive Meeting
Zoom

MOTION by Nancy Ferguson/Bill Steadman CS Exec 2022-11-03-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Helen Smith CS Exec 2022-11-03-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on October 13, 2022 via Zoom be approved, as circulated.
CARRIED

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Nancy Ferguson CS Exec 2022-11-03-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Community of Faith Commission Minutes from May 25, June 16, June 28, and October 13, 2022 and the Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from September 28, 2022 be received, for information.
CARRIED

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/John Watson CS Exec 2022-11-03-04
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive, based on the guidance received from General Council Staff, pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada, approve the Constitution and By-Laws of the incorporated ministry known as Thunder Bay United Church Camps Incorporated (*Camp Duncan*), revised May 18, 2021, and approved by the members of the *Thunder Bay United Church Camps Board (Camp Duncan)* on May 18, 2021.
CARRIED

MOTION by Bill Steadman/John Watson CS Exec 2022-11-03-05
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive remove Will Kunder and Joan Bailey as signing authorities and add Kathie Smith.
CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Dave LeGrand CS Exec 2022-11-03-06
That the CSRC Executive write to Mr. Taggart thanking him sincerely for offering this proposal but the Regional Council will not proceed with his Regional Renaming proposal.
CARRIED

There was consensus that Peter draft a Travel Remuneration Policy to be presented at the next Executive meeting in December 2022.

December 1, 2022
CSRC Executive Meeting
Zoom

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Jim Jackson CS Exec 2022-12-01-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

MOTION by Nancy Ferguson/John Watson CS Exec 2022-12-01-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on November 3, 2022 via Zoom be approved, as circulated.
CARRIED



MOTION by Dave LeGrand/Jim Jackson

CS Exec 2022-12-01-03

That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from October 26, 2022 be received, for information.

CARRIED

MOTION by Nancy Ferguson/Helen Smith

CS Exec 2022-12-01-04

That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Community of Faith Commission Minutes from November 24, 2022 be received, for information.

CARRIED

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Jim Jackson

CS Exec 2022-12-01-05

That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive approve the following actions pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada:

b) St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation

... the St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation 2022-2023 Board of Directors

Lynne Curran
Laurie Forbes
Gail Henderson
Don Macdougall
Doreen Macdougall
Bert Rowson
Ray Quinn

This is based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of October 18, 2022, the 2022 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per The United Church of Canada Incorporated Ministries Policy.

c) Thunder Bay United Church Camps, Incorporated o/a Camp Duncan

... the Thunder Bay United Church Camps, Incorporated 2022 Board of Directors

James E. Bidnall
Kenneth J. Buckell
A. Ernest Epp
Laurie Forbes
Dave Hammond
Linda Hammond
Malissa Irvine
Gerhardt F. Jansekovich
Teri Lynch
William Lynch
Ross McCubbin
Ken Moffatt

This is based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of February 13, 2022, and Board Meeting minutes of July 10, 2022, the 2022 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per The United Church of Canada Incorporated Ministries Policy.

CARRIED



MOTION by Nancy Ferguson/John Watson CS Exec 2022-12-01-06
That the CSRC Executive approve of the 2023 In-Person Learning Event to be hosted in North Bay, ON on June 9-11, 2023.
CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Eun-Joo Park CS Exec 2022-12-01-07
That the CSRC Executive accept the Regional Council Meeting Remuneration Travel Policy as follows, with a review date in 5 years:

- The Regional Council will reimburse over 300 km for Regional Council members travel, or contribute to airfare equal to mileage cost, minus the value of 300 km. The Regional Council encourages folks to car pool for both environmental and budgetary reasons.
- Regional Council members (including retired ministry personnel) may apply to the Regional Council, through the Executive Minister, for an exemption to the policy and request full reimbursement, due to extenuating circumstances, with deadline for application to be determined by the Regional Council Executive in advance of the meeting.

CARRIED

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/John Watson CS Exec 2022-12-01-08
That the CSRC Executive table the conversation about the Regional Council Meeting Draft Planning Policy, definitely, into 2023.
CARRIED

MOTION by Helen Smith/John Watson CS Exec 2022-12-01-09
That the CSRC Executive receive the 2020 CSRC Audited Financial Statements.
CARRIED

MOTION by Eun-Joo Park/John Watson CS Exec 2022-12-01-10
That the CSRC Executive approve the 2023 CSRC Budget.
CARRIED

MOTION Bill Steadman/Joy Galloway CS Exec 2022-12-01-11
That the CSRC Executive receive, for information, the year-to-date Financial Statements.
CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Jim Jackson CS Exec 2022-12-01-12
That the CSRC Executive, after receiving the motion from the Finance Resource Team, it was decided to put \$100,000 in a fund designated for communities of faith support.
CARRIED

February 2, 2023
CSRC Executive Meeting
Zoom

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Eun-Joo Park CS Exec 2023-02-02-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

MOTION by Joy Galloway/Dave LeGrand CS Exec 2023-02-02-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on December 1, 2022 via Zoom be approved, as circulated.
CARRIED



MOTION by John Watson/Kathie Smith

CS Exec 2023-02-02-03

That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from November 23, 2022 and the Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes from December 14, 2022 be received, for information.

CARRIED

There was consensus that the Canadian Shield Regional Council will invite Shining Waters Regional Council to participate in a joint Festival of Faith in 2025.

There was consensus that Executive needs more time to review the MOA, which will be attended to at an upcoming Executive meeting.

February 17, 2023

CSRC Executive E-Vote

Via Email

MOTION: Peter Hartmans

CS Exec 2023-02-17-01

That the CSRC Executive approve the amended proposed Memorandum of Agreement between Huntington University, The United Church of Canada and the Canadian Shield Regional Council.

CARRIED

April 12-13, 2023

CSRC Executive Meeting

Villa Loyola, Sudbury ON

MOTION by Bill Steadman/John Watson

CS Exec 2023-04-12/13-01

That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Susan Lindquist

CS Exec 2023-04-12/13-02

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on February 3, 2023 via Zoom be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

MOTION by Helen Smith/Dave Legrand

CS Exec 2023-04-12/13-03

That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from January 25, 2023 be received, for information.

CARRIED

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Susan Lindquist

CS Exec 2023-04-12/13-04

That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes from January 24th and February 28th, 2023 be received, for information.

CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Nancy Ferguson

CS Exec 2023-04-12/13-05

That the signing officers for all Bank Accounts at the Bank of Montreal and BMO Nesbitt Burns for the Canadian Shield Regional Council be Susan Whitehead, Janet MacDonald, Kathleen Wolfe and Kathleen Smith, effective June 1, 2023.

CARRIED



MOTION by Bill Steadman/Nancy Ferguson

CS Exec 2023-04-12/13-06

That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive support, in principle, the Mustard Seed Strategy proposal of the Support to Communities of Faith Commission and to create policy that reflects that proposal.

CARRIED

June 1, 2023

CSRC Executive Meeting

Zoom

MOTION by Dave LeGrand/John Watson

CS Exec 2023-06-01-01

That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

MOTION by Eun-Joo Park/Helen Smith

CS Exec 2023-06-01-02

That the CSRC Executive forward the amended draft of the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to The United Church of Canada lawyer Nicole Treksler, and then to Huntington University for review and response before final approval.

CARRIED

1 Abstention – Peter Hartmans

MOTION by Nancy Ferguson/Bill Steadman

CS Exec 2023-06-01-03

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on April 12-13, 2023 at Villa Loyola, in Sudbury be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

MOTION by Helen Smith/John Watson

CS Exec 2023-06-01-04

That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from March 22, 2023 be received, for information.

CARRIED

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Eun-Joo Park

CS Exec 2023-06-01-05

That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes from March 28, 2023, April 24, 2023, and May 18, 2023 be received, for information.

CARRIED

August 16, 2023

CSRC Executive Meeting

Zoom

MOTION by John Watson / Stewart Walker

CS Exec 2023-08-16-01

That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive approves the request from Camp McDougall for an interest free loan of up to \$5,000 to pay Janet MacDonald for bookkeeping services and to be paid back at a minimum of \$1,000 per year.

MOTION

1 Abstention (Nancy Ferguson abstained due to a conflict of interest)

October 12, 2023

CSRC Executive Meeting

Zoom



MOTION by Bill Steadman/Jim Jackson
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

CS Exec 2023-10-12-01

MOTION by John Watson/Joy Galloway
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on June 1, 2023 be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

CS Exec 2023-10-12-02

MOTION by Kathy Smith/Joy Galloway
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on August 16, 2023 be approved, as circulated.
CARRIED
1 Abstention

CS Exec 2023-10-12-03

MOTION by John Watson/Jim Jackson
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from April 26, 2023, May 24, 2023, June 27, 2023 and an e-vote in July 2023 be received, for information.
CARRIED

CS Exec 2023-10-12-04

MOTION by Joy Galloway/John Watson
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes from May 30, 2023 be received, for information.
CARRIED

CS Exec 2023-10-12-05

MOTION by John Watson/Susan Lindquist
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive take the following actions:

CS Exec 2023-10-12-06

a) St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation

... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Lynne Curran
Laurie Forbes
Gail Henderson
Linda Hietanen
Terry Hietanen
Don Macdougall
Doreen Macdougall
Bert Rowson
Ray Quinn

This is based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of June 6, 2023, the 2023 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

...pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the request of St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation to renew its loan with Peoples Trust Company in the amount of approximately \$680,009.57 for a four-year term at the rate of 5.11% paid monthly, maturing July 1, 2027 as approved by the St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation Board of Directors on September 19, 2023.



This is based on the draft Board Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2023, and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

CARRIED

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Jim Jackson

CS Exec 2023-10-12-07

That the CSRC Executive refer the 2 letters (letter of concern from Rev. Catherine Somerville and the letter from the Chair of North and Central Ontario Candidacy Board) be referred to the CS Pastoral Relations Commission for review and possible action.

CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Jim Jackson

CS Exec 2023-10-12-08

That the CSRC Executive suggest rescheduling the Joint CS and SW Executives Meeting in Sudbury for the fall of 2024, with consultation with the SW Executive.

CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Bill Steadman

CS Exec 2023-10-12-09

That the CSRC Executive receive the following motion from the Nominations Committee and approve it:

Kathie Smith/Helen Smith

CS Noms 2023-10-10-01

That the CSRC Nominations Committee recommend adopting a four-year model regarding the terms of office for Chair/Chair-Elect/Past Chair to the CSRC Executive for consideration.

CARRIED

And; will adopt the four-year model regarding the terms of office for Chair/Chair-Elect/Past Chair.

CARRIED

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Stewart Walker

CS Exec 2023-10-12-10

That the CSRC Executive accept the Nominations Committee recommendation of Christine Paul and Dave Clarke to the Mission Support Resource Team, effective August 2023.

CARRIED

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Joy Galloway

CS Exec 2023-10-12-11

That the CSRC Executive receive the 2021 CSRC Audited Financial Statements.

CARRIED

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Kathie Smith

CS Exec 2023-10-12-12

That the CSRC Executive authorize the Pastoral Relations Commission to withdraw up to \$5,000 annually from the Health, Joy and Excellence Fund for Ministry Personnel in need of financial support, with the Pastoral Relations Commission to assess, and administer case by case.

CARRIED

November 2, 2023

CSRC Executive Meeting

Zoom

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Kathie Smith

CS Exec 2023-11-02-01

That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Bill Steadman

CS Exec 2023-11-02-02

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on October 12, 2023 be approved, as amended.

CARRIED



MOTION by Dave LeGrand/Peter Hartmans

CS Exec 2023-11-02-04

That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from September 26, 2023 be received, for information.

CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Nancy Ferguson

CS Exec 2023-11-02-05

That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes from June 26, 2023, July 27, 2023, September 13, 2023 and September 26, 2023 be received, for information.

CARRIED

There was consensus that the CSRC Executive will join the SWRC Executive in Sudbury, ON at Villa Loyola on September 24-26, 2024 for the Joint Executives Meeting.

There was consensus that Executive will review the draft Budget prior to the 2023 CS RCM via email, with the Executive Minister drafting an email to the Financial Administrator, Janet MacDonald, asking to have it ready before the November 25, 2023 CS RCM.



2022 CSRC Meeting Minutes – Hybrid Meeting at St. Andrew’s UC, Sudbury via Zoom

MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING October 23-25, 2022

The annual meeting of Canadian Shield Regional Council took place September 23 – 25, 2022 at St. Andrew’s United Church, 111 Larch Street, Sudbury, Ontario, and via Zoom video conference. The theme was *Tending Our Nets*.

FRIDAY, September 23, 2022

Words of Welcome, Opening of Meeting and constituting the Council

Canadian Shield Regional Council gathered at St. Andrew’s United Church, Sudbury, and via Zoom, at 3:00 p.m. to begin the annual meeting of Canadian Shield Regional Council.

Barb Nott, Chair, welcomed all those participating, both in person and via Zoom.

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.

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

Brian Bigger, Mayor of Sudbury brought greetings from the City of Sudbury and Elder Gimaa Craig Nootchtaï brought greetings on behalf of the Atikamemshing, Anishnabek reserve.

The Chair introduced the meeting’s Chaplains, the parliamentarian, the General Council guests, and Shining Waters Regional Council guests. Peter Hartmans introduced the staff and the Finance Administrator. Chair, Barb Nott introduced the Canadian Shield Executive and the co-chairs of the planning team for the regional council meeting. David Leyton-Brown, President of Shining Waters Regional Council brought greetings from Shining Waters.

The Chair led an orientation and practice on the process for voting during the meeting.

Opening motions

MOTION by Peter Hartmans / Nancy Ferguson

CSRC Mtg 2022-01

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)**

i) 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.

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.

- j) Minutes: that the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council held October 16, 2021 be approved as circulated.**
- k) Accountability reports: that the reports as presented in the Report Packet be accepted for information.**
- l) 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.**
- m) 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)**
- n) 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

- 9. The procedural and prayer microphone shall be the chat box and designated floor microphone at St. Andrew's United Church.**
- 10. Any handouts must be authorized by the Agenda & Business Committee;**
- 11. The Parliamentarian shall be Rev. Bill Steadman;**
- 12. 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;**
- 13. 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).**
- 14. 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.**
- 15. 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.**
- 16. 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.**

CARRIED

MOTION by Nancy Ferguson / Bill Jones

CSRC Mtg 2022-02

That the Bounds of the regional council meeting of Canadian Shield Regional Council also include Hannah Lake Camp in the City of Greater Sudbury, when in session.

CARRIED

Introductions to Nominations

Kathie Smith, Chair of the Nominations Committee introduced nominations and announced the time of close of nominations.



Planning Team

Co-Chairs of the Planning Team, Nancy Ferguson and Helen Smith, were introduced and they introduced the rest of the Planning Team. They gave some announcements.

Opening Worship

Barb Nott led an opening worship.

Erin Todd led the group through a stretch break.

Table Group Session with Co-Chairs

Nancy Ferguson and Helen Smith introduced a table group session time to enable people to get to know each other.

Announcements and Grace

Nancy Ferguson and Helen Smith were called on for announcements.

The meeting broke for dinner and reconvened at 7:00 p.m.

Theme Speaker: Jennifer Henry, Senior Program Development and Strategy Lead, General Council office. Jennifer's presentation titled, *Deep, Bold, Daring: Exploring Our Call as a Denomination* delved into the newly-articulated call of The United Church of Canada: Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice. She spoke about being rooted in the call to fisher folk into deep water, into deeper relationship, and deep spirituality, as well as bold discipleship that makes hope real in daring acts of justice.

Manitou Art Collection

Lisa Blais, Team Lead for the Right Relations Team, made a presentation about the Manitou Art Collection that included the background of the collection.

Book Room

Pat Gilmour from Grand River Bookstore spoke about the books available at the book room during the meeting.

Announcements

Nancy Ferguson and Helen Smith were called on for announcements.

Theological Reflection: Michael Blair, General Secretary of The United Church of Canada Michael offered a theological reflection on transformation. He gave an invitation to be together, to dream together, to imagine the future that God has restored for our community and the communities beyond; a day of invitation to hope, to new stories, to transformation.

Announcements and Adjournment

Helen Smith was called on for announcements.

The meeting was adjourned until Saturday morning.

SATURDAY, September 24, 2022

Chair, Barb Nott, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Opening Worship

An opening worship was provided by student ministers, Minhyuk Hwang, David Chuiyka, and David Coldwell.

Budget and Funds Presentation – Janet MacDonald



Finance Administrator, Janet MacDonald, introduced the budget and answered questions.

GC44 Commissioners Report

Barb Nott, one of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Commissioners to General Council 44 gave an informal report on the General Council meeting that took place this year. She also introduced the Commissioners from Canadian Shield Regional Council.

Greetings from Moderator

The Right Rev. Carmen Lansdowne, new Moderator of The United Church of Canada, brought greetings via video.

Nominations Reminder

Kathie Smith gave a reminder announcement about nominations.

Then Let Us Sing – Video

The meeting viewed a video about the new music resource, *Then Let Us Sing*.

Emmanuel College

Andrew Aitchison of Emmanuel College gave information from Emmanuel College. The meeting took an all-purpose break.

Affirming Resource Team Presentation

Peter Hadow, the Team Lead of the Affirming Resource Team led a presentation on how to become an Affirming congregation.

The meeting took an energizing body break led by Erin Todd.

Camp McDougall Presentation

Halle Zachary and Ayla Thurston from Camp McDougall gave a presentation about the Camp.

Announcements and Grace

Nancy Ferguson was called on for announcements. Barb Nott gave a grace prior to the lunch break. The meeting broke for lunch.

Open Session: Life Cycle of a Congregation with Melody Duncanson-Hales

Melody spoke about belonging, and being part of life. We are part of life but not the centre of life. If your congregation changes, life continues; we are meant to evolve. She went on to talk about the life cycle of a congregation in this context.

Budget

MOTION by Nancy Ferguson / Helen Smith

CSRC Mtg 2022-03

That on the recommendation of the Executive, the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the 2023 draft budget as presented.

CARRIED

Nominations Report

MOTION by Kathie Smith / Stuart Taggart

CSRC Mtg 2022-04

That the Canadian Shield Regional Council elect those listed in the Nominations slate to serve on the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive, Commissions, Committees and Resource Teams of Canadian Shield Regional Council for the stated terms.

CARRIED



Presentation of New Executive

Chair, Barb Nott introduced the new Executive members.

Manitou Intentional Learning Community (MILC) Presentation

Natasha Gerolami gave a presentation about the Manitou Intentional Learning Community (MILC).

Announcements

Helen Smith was called on for announcements.

The meeting took an all-purpose break.

Roundtable Discussions and Apology Cairn

Members of the meeting broke into groups to take part in a trip to the Apology Cairn; a Roundtable discussion for lay-led congregations led by Susie Henderson; or a Roundtable discussion on General Council led by Michael Blair.

Banquet, Service and Theological Reflection

The meeting held a banquet and service starting at 6:00 p.m. Rev. Erin Todd gave a welcoming statement and statement of purpose. The service celebrated the regional council student ministers, Admissions Ministers, Ministers serving in other institutions; Jubilands; retirees; those who have passed away; and communities of faith that have closed. Michael Blair, General Secretary of The United Church of Canada gave a theological reflection. He spoke about 'hush' meaning I hear you, I understand you, I empathize with you. We're all in it together and God is 'in it' with us; God is with us and we are with each other.

The closing benediction was given by Cory Vermeer-Cuthbert.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m. until Sunday morning.

SUNDAY, September 25, 2022

Chair, Barb Nott, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

New Business

There was no new business to come before the meeting.

Installation of New Executive

Rev. Peter Hartmans presided over the installation of the new Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council.

Courtesies

Nancy Ferguson and Helen Smith were called on for announcements and courtesies.

The meeting took an all-purpose break.

Celebration of Ministry Service

The Canadian Shield Regional Council held a Celebration of Ministry service at St. Andrew's United Church, Sudbury. Chair, Barb Nott, presided assisted by Executive Minister, Peter Hartmans. Worship leaders were Rev. Rob Smith and Rev. Dave LeGrand. Barb Nott gave an Acknowledgement of the Land and a safe space statement. The Scripture readings were Matthew 4:18-23 and from Ephesians 3:14-21. Rev. Michael Blair delivered the message titled, *We Have This Ministry*.

The Rev. Mastard Sakala was admitted to the order of ministry of The United Church of Canada. The region covenanted with new staff member, Diane Matheson-Jimenez.

Chair, Barb Nott, declared the meeting closed.

Mastard Sakala offered the commissioning and benediction.



CSRC Executive Report to the Regional Council

Regional Meeting Report:

Our regional meeting theme this year is *The Stones Will Shout!* We look forward to gathering with folks together online this year and we are grateful for the time to gather together to Celebrate our Ministry together as Church.



Connecting within our Regional Council

Although 2022/23 has been a struggle for many of our communities of faith, outreach ministries, and camps, we can celebrate returning in-person to a new normal! During 2020-2022, folks have used their phones, mail, video (Zoom/YouTube) for church and in 2022/23 we returned to a new normal, with most communities of faith returning to regular in-person worship. A number of communities of faith continue to offer online worship as an option. As a Regional Council, we continue a ministry of caring and support, having continued in new and creative ways. Volunteers, music leaders, ministry personnel, camp staff, outreach staff, and congregational support staff have all worked tirelessly within our Regional Council and are deeply appreciated.

As a Regional Council, the region has hosted zoom gatherings for both Lay and Ministry Personnel and for support, updates and education. Our website/newsletter 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. The Executive also celebrates the significant work of the Regional Council Commissions, networks/clusters, and information gatherings.

Through both Commissions, the Executive and various groups, we have hosted a number of Town Hall meetings, network gatherings (MILC for example in Sudbury among many), local gatherings organized by neighbouring communities of faith across the Regional Council. We have also partnered with Shining Waters Regional Council around a number of events, including inviting Shining Waters Regional Council folks to gather with the Canadian Shield Regional Council at the Festival of Faith in North Bay this past June. It was a delight to gather with folks from both Regional Councils and the Executive is so very grateful for the 2023 Festival of Faith Planning Team. We are planning a more formal joint Festival of Faith in 2025 in Sudbury, hosted by both the Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council.

Work of the Regional Executive

Our Executive meets monthly (with the exception of the summer) and does the work of the Regional Council when our region is not meeting (C.3.1.1). Often the Executive has a very full agenda which includes oversight of the regional commissions, regional finances, regional policy, regional meeting, emerging work, and the Executive Minister and staff.

The draft 2024 budget will be presented at our regional council meeting. This past year's spending reflects an unusual year returning to a new normal following Covid 19 shift.

Monthly Work of the Regional Council Executive

If you are interested in a detailed account and overview of the work of the regional council Executive, please see the [Digest of Actions](#), which will be received for information at our Regional Council Meeting. The digest offers an itemized account of the Regional Council Executive since our last Regional Council Meeting. It also gives you an idea of the monthly variety and work of our Executive. Please see the



[Executive page](#) on our website to view all Minutes. We have also added a new link to our webpage which offers a close look at our finances, including audited statements as they are completed by the auditors:
<https://canadianshielddrc.ca/about/regional-finances/>

Working towards Right Relations, Anti-Racism and Equity

The Regional Council also lifts up our commitment to equity across our work and living into Right Relations. The Right Relations Resource Team provide key leadership within the Regional Council and have an updated information section on our regional website.

<https://canadianshielddrc.ca/justice-issues/right-relations/>

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, 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 met 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, as well as commission and committee levels of the church.

As part of our work around living into Right Relations as the United Church of Canada the United Church of Canada is asking Regional Councils and Pastoral Charge boards to vote on Remit 1 by March 31, 2024 and return the voting results to General Council by March 31.

Remit 1: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization (Deadline March 31, 2023).

This is a Category 3 Remit, and so requires a vote by every regional council and each pastoral charge's governing body. If a regional council or a pastoral charge does not register a vote, that is considered a vote against the proposal (A no vote, so please vote).

There is one question to be voted on, as follows:

Does the regional council/pastoral charge agree to amend the Basis of Union to reflect:

That The United Church of Canada will be organized as follows: (1) a three-council structure, consisting of communities of faith, regional councils and a Denominational Council*; and (2) an autonomous National Indigenous Organization; and

That once the new autonomous National Indigenous Organization is established within The United Church of Canada, it will have its own mechanisms to make any future changes to its structure and processes, and, therefore will not be subject to the remit process under section 7.4.1 of the Basis of Union; and**

The changes required for the establishment of the autonomous National Indigenous Organization.

Please see the following link for further information and voting material at the bottom of the website:

<https://generalcouncil44.ca/council/remit-1-establishing-autonomous-national-indigenous-organization>



Please see this link for review of the video of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Town Hall meeting focusing on Remit #1: <https://canadianshieldrc.ca/remit/>

Staffing

One area of increased partnership between the Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council is staffing. In 2022-2023, we saw transition of staff in our Regional Councils. Susie Henderson decided to retire from Shining Waters Regional Council in December of 2022. Susie attended the Canadian Shield Regional Council meeting in 2022 and we give thanks for Susie. Rachael Howes, administrator for both Regional Councils, transitioned into retirement at the end of May 2023. We are grateful for her many years of service. As a result of Rachael's retirement, Susan Whitehead transitioned to primary administrative support to Peter Hartmans for both Regional Councils in the spring of 2023. Donna Rutz transitioned to communication support for both Regional Councils, including website management in 2023. We added Celio de Andrade Santos Jr., to increase our administrative support to program staff in CSRC and in 2023, in anticipation of Rachael's retirement, we hired Kathleen Wolfe for administrative support. Celio and Kathleen both provide administrative support for both Regional Councils.

Dale Hildebrand, SWRC pastoral Relations minister, transitions to retirement in early 2024. He works for Shining Waters Regional Council but has supported the Canadian Shield Regional Council on various occasions in Rob's absence.

Jeffery Dale, who supported Justice/Youth Ministry and formation for ministry for both CSRC and SWRC, transitioned to parish ministry in the fall of 2023. Jeffery was called to Port Elgin United Church in the fall of 2023. Currently we are working quickly to find a replacement for Jeffery's position and we will be providing updates in the near future.

I have deeply appreciated the work of Jeffery Dale, Susie and Rachael within the Regional Council and they will be missed.

Strategic Plan:

2023 marks the start of the implementation of The United Church of Canada Strategic Plan (2023-2025). Sharing the introduction of the strategic plan it states:

"In partnership with regions and the Indigenous Church, the national ministry will dedicate focus, energy, and resources to revitalizing the church towards a vibrant future. We will renew by strengthening existing communities of faith towards transformation. We will create by encouraging the development and sustainability of 100 new communities of faith, with a particular focus on churches that serve migrant communities. And we will invite by investing in sharing our unique witness with neighbours across the country and encouraging participation in our ministries, communities, and campaigns. This passion for growth will be enabled by leadership development, supported by denomination wide strengths, fostered by justice campaigns and climate initiatives, and realized alongside Indigenous pathways.

Our priority plan pulls key activities in each of these strategic objectives into service towards dynamic growth.



Daring Justice. This is our Call, grounded in our statements of faith, right relations commitment, and core values, but articulated anew for this time. Along with our Call is a Vision to become “a bold, connected, and evolving church” as disciples of Jesus in this place.” (The United Church of Canada Strategic plan 2023-2025 document, post on the UCC website)

Recently, the General Council office, in consultation with the Regional Council, will hire 6 Growth Animators, which are full time positions, to support the work of growth and renewal for the UCC. Rev Calin Lau was hired by General Council to serve as Growth Animator for the Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council starting January 1, 2024!

See the [United Church of Canada website](#) for the most up to date details.

I continue to deeply appreciate working with Rob, Susan, Melody, Celio, Diane, Donna, and Kathleen. We are blessed with incredible staff who have worked tirelessly over the past year. Thank you!!!! I am also grateful for Chair Barb Nott who has provided incredible, attentive leadership throughout this year. Thank you!!! I am also deeply grateful for the incredible and experienced leadership the CSRC Executive provide through the year.

As we look forward, I give thanks for the support of my family this past year. 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
Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Councils



Chair of Executive Report



It is hard to believe that my time as Chair of the Canadian Shield Region Council has come to an end. It has been fun over the last 2 years meeting you, interacting with you and put names to faces at regional meetings, Covenanting Services, Ordinations and special events. I want to wish Nancy Ferguson a great 2 years, as you become the incoming chair!

As we prepare for our Zoom Regional meeting, I want to THANK YOU to all for the work you do on a day-to-day basis in your communities of faith. It is greatly appreciated. With it, we continue to be a United Church in our communities. Our theme this year is ***The Stones Will Shout!***

I have been supported by an amazing, dedicated and talented Executive during my term. Their knowledge has made my job easy. The staff is a group of people who have made it so easy to carry out the decisions that the Executive have made. THANK YOU, 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. THANK YOU.

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 Executive meets monthly, except in the summer unless needed. Our meetings carry out the work of the Regional Council when our Region is not meeting. It is often a full agenda and includes oversight of the Commissions, Finance, Policies, preparing for a Region 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 2024 Budget will be presented at our 2023 Regional Council Meeting.

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.

Until we meet again.
Peace!

Barbara Nott
Chair, CSRC



Nominations Committee

Respectfully submitted by Kathie Smith on behalf of the Nominations Committee

We give thanks to all the folks who serve their community of faith as a regional representative. As well, we give thanks to all members who are currently serving on the various governance bodies and resource teams of the region. Your commitment to serving the region and all the communities of faith within the region is discipleship in action.

The Nominations Committee is currently served by:

Kathie Smith, St. Andrew's United, Sturgeon Falls (Chair)
Helen Smith, East Korah Maxwell, Sault Ste. Marie
Mardi Mumford, Trinity United, Lively
Janice Brownlee, Trinity United, North Bay
Rob Smith, Pastoral Relations Minister (Staff Advisor)
Susan Whitehead, Executive Assistant to Peter Hartmans (Admin Support)



**NOMINATIONS
COMMITTEE**

Nominations put out 2 calls for Expressions of Interest in late summer:

- 1st – Membership on the planning team for the Festival of Faith 2025 – this a joint venture between CSRC and the Shining Waters RC and will be held in Sudbury. Membership is almost complete.
- 2nd – Membership on the planning team for the in-person Regional Council Meeting (RCM) happening on May 3-5, 2024 in Sault Ste. Marie. Planning will start shortly after the November 25, 2023, online meeting.

As we move towards our in-person RCM in 2024, the committee has asked the commissions and the resource teams to review their membership needs as part of the nomination push for the RCM.

At the October Executive meeting nominations made a recommendation to adopt a 4-year model for the term of Chair, Chair Elect and Past Chair. Citing the model would offer the following:

- Shorter commitment for potential nominees to the work of the top leadership positions;
- More viable and sustainable from a regional perspective; and,
- Make the call easier and more manageable for Nominations.

The Executive passed a motion to move to a 4-year model (motion can be found on the website in the Executive Digest of Actions and can be found by clicking on the November 25, 2023 RCM icon). The transition plan for moving to the new 4-year plan is attached at the end of this report. There may be some overlap early in the transition.

The work of nominations isn't easy at the best of times, even more so given the geographical expanse of our region. Each of us have been given gifts by God and sometimes it takes in-person conversations to recognize the passion and gifts of others, and sometimes, it is in these conversations that we ourselves recognize God's call and to realize the gift we have been given to serve the wider church. For this reason, except for the Past Chair, Chair positions, all terms ending in 2023 have been extended until the 2024 CS RCM. The Chair Elect position will be elected at the May 2024 RCM.

The Nominations Committee looks forward to putting out the call for disciples, to receiving your nominations and to gather in-person as a Regional Council in May 2024.



Feeling extremely blessed, I extend a huge thank you to the other members on the Nominations team: Helen Smith, Mardi Mumford, Janice Brownlee, Rob Smith and Susan Whitehead. Thank You!

It is in serving that we are transformed; thank you for the opportunity to serve this amazing region.

Peace and Blessings

Chair-Elect/Chair/Past Chair 4-Year Timeline

