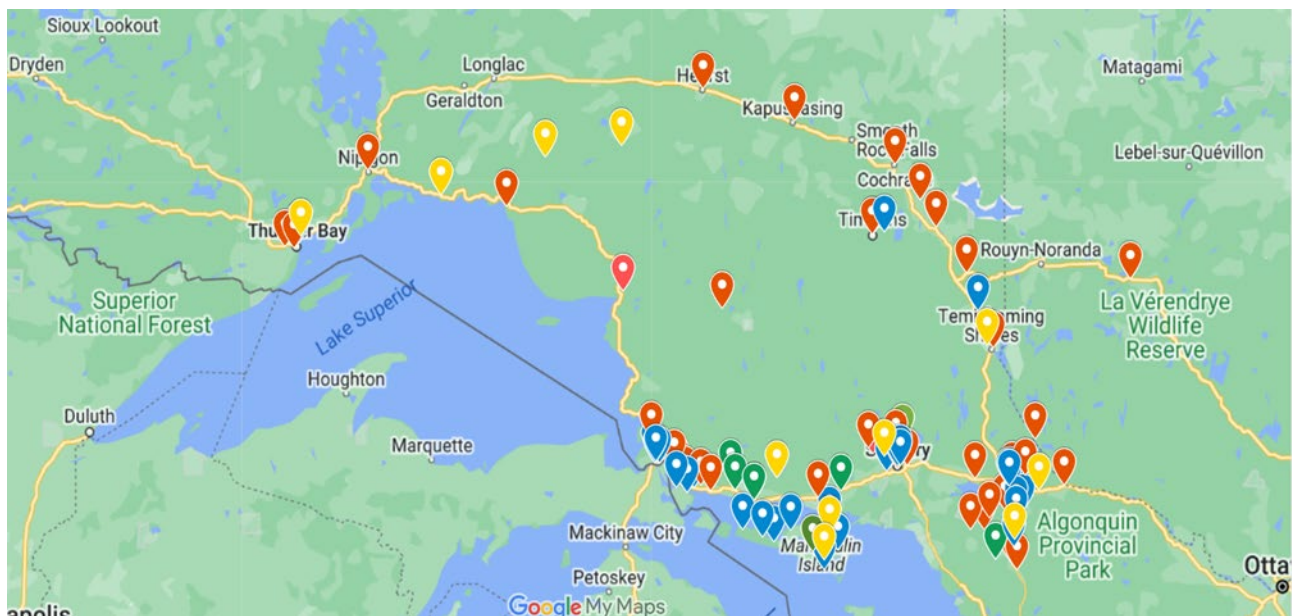


PROPERTY RESOURCE TEAM

Ancient Egyptians believed that every person has 2 deaths – the first is a physical death and the second occurs the last time the person’s name is spoken. Although it is the mandate of the Property Resource Team to support communities of faith through selling, buying, renovating, and mortgaging properties, we also acknowledge that members of this Team are keepers of the stories of congregations that have ceased to exist since we became a Regional Council. It is a privilege to not simply hold the stories, but share them when and where ever we can.

Included in this report, is a map of Canadian Shield Regional Council. Where you see red markers, these are among our lay-led congregations and congregations in search. Where you see blue markers, these are our communities of faith served by ministry personnel. And where you see yellow markers, these are congregations that have disbanded or amalgamated since 2019. Each of these congregations has a story and it is our shared call to keep those stories alive.



There has been much transition in the last year for the Property Resource Team. With much sadness, we said a few goodbyes.

We remember, with gratitude, the life and work of Stuart Taggart who had been a member of the Property Resource Team since its inception. Stuart’s stories will live on through members of the Team who knew and loved him!

Two members of the Property Resource Team - Don Haslam and Jack Page, had to step back from the Team to facilitate moves south to be closer to family. We remember Jack and Don’s many contributions with much gratitude!

With joy and gratitude, we welcomed Kathleen Jones as Administrative Support for the Property Resource Team! Kathleen’s excellent minutes have been instrumental in our organizational successes!

Like Jacob, a number of our communities of faith have wrestled with God to see what's on the other side. Since our last in person meeting in 2022, the Property Resource Team has supported:

- *Mount Pleasant UC, Rutherglen - property sold, congregation amalgamated to create Mattawa Rutherglen UC
- *Trinity UC, Kirkland Lake - renovations
- *Broadway UC, Thunder Bay - consultation
- *All People's UC, Sudbury - consultation
- *Bruce Mines UC, Bruce Mines – transfer of property
- *Central UC, Sault Ste Marie – listing property for sale
- *Emmanuel UC, Sault Ste Marie - consultation
- *Fairview UC, Tehkummah – building decommissioned
- *Grace UC, Hornepayne – property sold, congregation disbanded
- *Hillview Pioneer Memorial UC, New Liskeard – property sold, congregation disbanded
- *Holy Trinity UC, Elliot Lake – property sold, congregation disbanded
- *Powassan UC, Powassan – consultation on insurance
- *Trinity UC, Iroquois Falls – property sold, congregation continues to worship together
- *Knox UC, Nipissing – consultation
- *St. Stephen's on the Hill UC, Sudbury – consultation
- *Val-d'Or UC, Val-d'Or (Quebec) – consultation
- *St. Andrew's UC, Sault Ste Marie – listing property for sale
- *St. Andrew's UC, Schreiber – listing property for sale
- *Sheguiandah UC, Sheguiandah – property sold, congregation continues to worship together
- *St. Paul's UC, Manitouwadge – property sold, congregation disbanded
- *Trinity UC, Lively – renovations

In the last year, we have learned a great deal. If you may be embarking on a project involving property, here are some of the tips, tricks, and best practices we have learned:

*Before a community of faith is faced with a situation where they may be selling property, it is critical to know who makes up the Board of Trustees. To ensure clarity, it is helpful to name, and re-affirm, Trustees every year at the annual meeting so names are minuted.

*Extra work can be avoided if communities of faith ensure, before engaging in property discussions, that the name on the deed matches the legal name of the church. It is important, too, to know where the deed is.

*Details, like square footage, in real estate listings need to be precise and substantiated. An as is/where is clause in a purchase agreement can protect a community of faith should there be dispute about details of the property.

*It is vital that property sale agreements give suitable time for the community of faith to obtain permission from the Regional Council.

*A community that stewards a cemetery needs to ensure that good cemetery records have been maintained.

*Archival materials are property of the United Church of Canada and must be sent, at the time of congregational disbandment, to the Regional Council Archives. More information on archives can be found here: <https://www.unitedchurcharchives.ca/managing-records/communities-of-faith/what-do-the-archives-want/>

If you have any property questions or concerns, please reach out; we would love to help your community of faith!

The Property Resource Team believes that Canadian Shield Regional Council has been built on deep roots, and strong wings – the best ‘things’ we can leave to future generations.

Respectfully submitted by:

Rev. Gordon Roberts, Chair of the Property Resource Team

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