

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council hybrid meeting held on September 25, 2024 at 10:15 a.m. at Villa Loyola Retreat Centre in Sudbury, ON and online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Nancy Ferguson (Chair), Bill Steadman, Stewart Walker, Jim Jackson, Susan Lindquist, Mastard Sakala, Lionel Ketola, Bill Jones, Gord Roberts

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Diane Matheson-Jimenez, and Susan Whitehead

REGRETS: David LeGrand, Susan Peverley

Chair Nancy welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

Nancy honoured the traditional lands upon which we meet and then spoke about the CSRC being a safe space.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Executive discussed the agenda and removed the 100th Anniversary item and use of logo and added them to the joint Executive meeting. Jim Jackson had a piece of new business regarding United in Learning and it was added to the agenda.

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Mastard Sakala CS Exec 2024-09-25-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Bill Jones/Bill Steadman CS Exec 2024-09-25-02
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on May 30, 2024 and June 25, 2024 be approved, as circulated.
CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Lionel Ketola CS Exec 2024-09-25-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from May 21, 2024, June 24, 2024, and July 18, 2024 be received, for information.
CARRIED

MOTION by Stewart Walker/Bill Steadman CS Exec 2024-09-25-04
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from May 28, 2024, June 25, 2024, and August 7, 2024 be received, for information.
CARRIED

MOTION by Gord Roberts/Bill Jones CS Exec 2024-09-25-05
That the Minutes of the CSRC Property Commission from June 13, 2024 and August 22, 2024 be received, for information.
CARRIED

INCORPORATED MINISTRIES: OMNIBUS MOTION

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Steadman CS Exec 2024-09-25-06
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council (6) Executive take the
following actions:**

a) St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation (Thunder Bay, ON)

**... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of
Canada approve the St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing
Corporation 2024-2025 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 Tuesday, June
18, 2024, the 2024 board member approval form, contact list provided and
receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries
Policy of The United Church of Canada.***

***N.B. Information - ONCA deadline for by-laws is fast approaching and there
are two Incorporated Ministries that the Region has not received updated by-
laws to approve. Camp McDougall Inc. is working on its by-laws and an
update has been requested from Thunder Bay United Church Camps,
Incorporated (Camp Duncan), but has not been received yet.***

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

M&S Certificate for CSRC

Nancy shared the CSRC received a Certificate of Thanksgiving from Mission & Service indicating that the CSRC gave \$453,168 and Executive shared their thanks.

St. Paul's UC – TB Letter re: Vote for One Ministry

This is a letter received from St. Paul's United Church in Thunder Bay regarding the vote for One Ministry and the ordination of DLMS. Since it was sent to the regional council, Executive receives the letter and forwards the correspondence to the General Council Office (GCO). When the letter is sent to GCO, the request will be made to include CSRC in any correspondence with respect to the letter.

**MOTION by Stewart Walker/Gord Roberts CS Exec 2025-09-25-07
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council forward the correspondence
letter from St. Paul's United Church – Thunder Bay dated July 20, 2024
re: One Order Ministry to the General Council Office.**

CARRIED

UNIPPI Letter

Peter shared the letter from United Network for Justice and Peace in Palestine and Israel (UNIPPI) and indicated that we have already been circulating the work of the General Secretary to communities of faith. Peter sent an email to the UNIPPI indicating that this work has already been done.

Closure of Safe Consumption Site Sent to Ontario Government

On September 3, 2024, there was an online vote for Executive asking for approval for the Chair to send a letter to the Premier of Ontario and the Health Minister of Ontario regarding concerns over the closure of safe consumption sites in Ontario. This is confirmation that it was completed.

Request from Living Skies Regional Council

Peter shared that the Living Skies Regional Council (LSRC) has officially requested that the CSRC handle a Workplace, Discrimination, Harassment and Violence Response Policy complaint on their behalf due to a perception of bias within the LSRC office.

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Stewart Walker CS Exec 2025-09-25-08
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council (CSRC) Executive accept the request from Living Skies Regional Council (LSRC) that the CSRC be the receiving body for a Workplace, Discrimination, Harassment and Violence Response Policy complaint, acting on behalf of Living Skies Regional Council

CARRIED

1 Abstention – Peter Hartmans

MOTION by Bill Jones/Susan Lindquist CS Exec 2025-09-25-09
That Peter Hartmans, Diane Matheson-Jimenez, and Stewart Walker provide administrative support for the complaint from Living Skies Regional Council.

CARRIED

2 Abstentions – Peter Hartmans and Stewart Walker

HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY UPDATE

Peter shared that he has attempted to reach out many times to no avail and will keep trying to contact the President.

CAMP MCDUGALL 2024-2025 PLAN

Diane indicated that there is mostly an entirely new board for Camp McDougall but they still have 2 former members. They want to meet with the CSRC Executive in response to our letter but sent a spreadsheet of their work instead.

After discussion about their work, Executive directed Peter to send a thank you letter to the board in response to the letter and all the work completed to date.

Diane shared that in the summer of 2025, it will be the 65th anniversary of Camp McDougall.

CS NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE REP FROM EXECUTIVE

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Lionel Ketola CS Exec 2025-09-25-10
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive elect Mastard Sakala to serve on the Canadian Shield Nominations Committee as the Executive representative.

CARRIED

1 Abstention – Mastard Sakala

EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (APPENDIX A)

Peter gave a verbal update on his health situation and shared the Executive Ministers Report. He also indicated that Rob Smith, the regional Pastoral Relations Minister (PRM), will be going on sabbatical on Nov. 1, 2024 until Jan. 31, 2025 and Dale Hildebrand, former PRM to Shining Waters Regional Council, will be taking over his duties during that time period.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim Jackson shared that the United in Worship project run by George and Joy Bott supports 34 communities of faith within Ontario and is a subscription service, with the whole service for the cost of one pulpit supply day. As of June 30, 2025, the Botts are stepping down from running the project and are inviting us to consider continuing with the program in some form.

If anyone is interested, please contact George and Joy Bott asap. Executive will send a thank you to the Botts closer to June 2025. Jim shared that the SCoFC senses it is a good idea to keep this program going and may be sending a request to Executive for budgetary possibilities soon.

NEXT MEETING DATES: *IF NEEDED* - October 3, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
November 7, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

CLOSING

Nancy gave a closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 12:00 p.m.

Executive Ministers Report September 2024

We look forward with great anticipation to our Joint Executive Retreat. I am grateful for all the pre-planning work Susan contributed for the retreat, with support around travel and accommodation.

GC 45:

The Nominations Committee has been working on filling slots for CSRC. The regional council will review and vote on nominations on October 17th. Any remaining nominations can be voted on by the Executive, if needed. General Council 44 will meet in October on Saturday, October 19th, continuing the work of the 44th General Council. Agenda still TBD.

100th Anniversary Kick off: June 9, 2024 and June 8th 2025

The UCC 100th Anniversary kick-off service took place in Toronto at Metropolitan United Church. The service was recorded (which still can be viewed at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=r-4_aQoPw7Q) and a wonderful event to attend. The June 2025 UCC 100th Celebration will take place on Sunday, June 8th, 2025 in Newfoundland. We have been invited to consider how we use the \$2,000 grant for the 100th anniversary celebration. Executive Ministers have been invited to attend the service in-person.

Festival of Faith:

Planning continues for our CSRC and SWRC Festival of Faith in 2025. Hotel space has been booked and the planning team has secured speakers and is preparing a draft agenda for the Festival of Faith. The Moderator hopes to attend the Festival of Faith and perhaps provide a flourishing event, in advance of our event.

Staff update:

There are some updates around staffing changes for the fall. We are in the process of transitioning Janet's work with the Finance Resource Team to Jody Maltby. Jody will provide key leadership around financial planning and support of both the SWRC and CSRC Finance Committees, the regional budget and long-term planning for the Regional Council finances. We have also hired Meranda MacKenzie, who will start October 1, 2024 as Bookkeeper for both SWRC and CSRC. She will shadow Janet in preparation for her retirement. Jody will provide direct oversight to Meranda and we welcome her to the team! Jody will continue with her role as staff lead for SWRC and Diane will continue in her role as staff lead in CSRC, including coordinating between Community of Faith Support, the Property Commission and Pastoral Relations for staff and the Commissions. Jody will continue to provide primary support for Regional Admin. staff for both regional councils and Diane will provide specific and organizational support for Regional Admin. staff in the CSRC, focusing on the RCM and special events. For information, in Shining Waters Regional Council, with the shift of Jody's work, Diane shifts her work in SWRC and will coordinate between Community of Faith Support and Pastoral Relations work.

Sabbatical:

Rob Smith will go on Sabbatical, returning January 31. We are currently planning coverage for Rob in his absence.

Huntington University:

We have made slow progress with Huntington University. We are in the process of scheduling an in-person or zoom meeting with President Kevin. Huntington University also invited Barb and I to their spring Convocation on Tuesday, May 21, 2024 at the Science North Cavern. Barb Nott did attend and wave the CSRC flag and she connected with President Kevin.

Executive Minister Health Update:

Good news! I am feeling much better. I feel I have recovered from my transient ischemic attacks (strokes) and I am glad to be working normally again.