

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on February 1, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Nancy Ferguson (Chair), Barb Nott, Bill Steadman, Stewart Walker, Jim Jackson, Helen Smith, Joy Galloway, Dave Le Grand,

STAFF: Diane Matheson-Jimenez (Acting Executive Minister), Susan Whitehead

REGRETS: Susan Lindquist, Kathie Smith, Peter Hartmans, Mastard Sakala, John Watson

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.

Diane opened the meeting with worship

CHECK-IN

Executive took time to do a check-in with each other with a focus on hope.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There was an addition of the Commission Minutes date that needed to be made on the agenda and the addition of the General Council Executive (GCE) Summary to New Business.

MOTION by Dave Le Grand/Joy Galloway CS Exec 2024-02-01-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were some errors in the Minutes that will be corrected.

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Jim Jackson CS Exec 2024-02-01-02
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on December 7, 2023 be approved, as corrected.
CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Helen Smith/Barb Nott CS Exec 2024-02-01-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from November 28, 2023 and the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from November 28, 2023 be received, for information.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

There is no correspondence at this time.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- *PRC Update re: RCM and Possible Ordination/s*
The Chair of the PRC was not present at the meeting so Stewart and Nancy gave an update on the possible ordinations. The PRC has indicated that the Office of Vocation is in charge of approving ordinations and the PRC plans them. The CSRC has not received Testamur for the current applicant therefore, they will not be ordained at the 2024 CS RCM.

Nancy shared that the candidate will not be present at the 2024 CS RCM as they will be attending their convocation in Halifax that weekend. Stewart indicated that there may be 2 Designated Lay Minister Ordinations and/or Commissioning at the 2024 CS RCM.

CS FINANCE RT MOTION RE : 2022 AUDIT

The CSRC Finance Resource Team forwarded a motion to the CS Executive:

MOTION by Bill Jones / Michael Wesa

CS FIN 2024-01-22-01

That the Finance Resource Team of Canadian Shield Regional Council recommend the 2022 Audit to the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive for approval at their meeting February 1st, 2024.

CARRIED

Executive received the 2022 CSRC Audited Statements in the Agenda Package and reviewed the statements.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Steadman CS Exec 2024-02-01-04

That the CSRC Executive receive the 2022 CSRC Audited Financial Statements.

CARRIED

SIGNING AUTHORITIES

It was decided to add Diane Matheson-Jimenez as a signing authority for the CSRC.

MOTION by Joy Galloway/Bill Steadman CS Exec 2024-02-01-05

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 Jones, Diane Matheson-Jimenez and Kathleen Smith, effective February 1, 2024.

CARRIED

2024 CS REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING (RCM): UPDATE ON THEME, PLANNING AND MEAL COSTS

Executive discussed the planning for the Canadian Shield Regional Council Meeting scheduled for May 2024, with a theme titled "Upon This Rock" being proposed.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Dave Le Grand CS Exec 2024-02-01-06

That the CSRC Executive approve the theme entitled "Upon This Rock" for the 2024 CS Regional Council Meeting to be held May 3-5, 2024.

CARRIED

Executive deliberated on the financial implications of meal costs and Diane proposed asking delegates to contribute towards meals due to the substantial expenses at the hotel. It was agreed that two dinners (Friday and Saturday) and one lunch (Saturday) will be provided, with delegates being responsible for their own lunche on Sunday. The budget for the RCM was discussed, with estimates ranging from \$40 to \$50 per person for meals. Executive decided to empower the planning team to make decisions on cost savings and requested a report back at the March meeting of Executive. The team also noted that next year's in-person Festival of Faith would replace the in-person regional meeting, potentially saving costs.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Steadman CS Exec 2024-02-01-07

That the CSRC Executive direct the 2024 CS RCM Planning Team to explore the possibility of charging an amount of money per delegate to

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on March 7, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Nancy Ferguson (Chair), Barb Nott, Bill Steadman, Stewart Walker, Jim Jackson, Helen Smith, Susan Lindquist, Mastard Sakala, Joy Galloway

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

GUEST: Calin Lau

REGRETS: John Watson, Dave LeGrand

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.

Peter opened the meeting with worship discussing the wilderness journey in Luke 4 and Mark 1:12-13.

INTRODUCTION

Executive welcomed Calin Lau to the CS Executive meeting. Calin, the new Growth Animator for The United Church and deployed into CS and SW Regional Councils, explained his role and the team's approach to growth. He emphasized that growth could be interpreted in various ways, depending on perspective, and that the team's focus was on rebuilding after the pandemic. Calin also outlined his current projects, which include supporting existing communities of faith and fostering emerging communities. He acknowledged the challenges posed by resource limitations but expressed optimism about the potential for growth and the excitement of the struggle towards it.

CHECK-IN

Drawing our attention back to Peter's worship theme, the Executive took time to do a check-in with each other naming blessings found in this Lenten wilderness time.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Jim Jackson CS Exec 2024-03-07-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was an error in the Minutes – a duplicate sentence at the end of the Camp McDougall section.

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Barb Nott CS Exec 2024-03-07-02
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council
Executive held on February 1, 2024 be approved, as corrected.
CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Mastard Sakala CS Exec 2024-03-07-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from
January 23, 2024 and the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith
Commission from January 30, 2024 be received, for information.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

There is no correspondence at this time.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- *Incorporated Ministries (Camps) Update & Clarification of Role*

Camp McDougall

Diane shared her research on the relationship between the Regional Council and Camp McDougall. She clarified that the Regional Council cannot direct the camp's operations but can make suggestions. She outlined the current financial and staffing issues at the camp and shared that the board had voted to suspend the 2024 camping season for restructuring. There was a discussion by the board about the potential to hire reduced staff to run a vacation bible school-type camp experience to keep the McDougall profile high. The location for these opportunities is yet to be determined. The Executive also discussed communication issues and the need to respect the legal separation between the church and its Incorporated Ministries. Lastly, Executive was directed by the Chair to strike a motion from the minutes of a previous meeting.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Steadman CS Exec 2024-03-07-04
The CSRC Executive votes to remove the motion #CS Exec 2024-
02-01-08 from the February 1, 2024 Minutes, as the Regional
Council, through its Executive, does not have the authority to
direct an Incorporated Ministry to take an action.
CARRIED

Camp Duncan

At the last meeting of Executive, Diane was directed to inquire if Camp Duncan opted not to remove board members who were involved in the sale of the property without consultation. The legal advice received suggests that there is no benefit to not affirming board members that were involved. It was decided that the best course of action is to allow the Camp Duncan Board to work through their process and we will provide support as needed.

The question was asked if we need to have a section in the CSRC Governance Document to give clarity about our role with regard to Incorporated Ministries. Barb shared that there was a Governance Document Review Team that met in 2021 to review the document but nothing has been done since then. Executive directed Peter to look into the team and to report back next steps to the next Executive meeting.

- *Wording Change for Motion CS Exec 2024-02-01-04 re: 2022 Audit*
Nancy shared with Executive the need legally to change the wording of the motion CS Exec 2024-02-01-04 from "received" the 2023 CSRC Audited Financial Statements to "approve," as Executive must approve the statements.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Barb Nott CS Exec 2024-03-07-05
That the CSRC Executive approve the 2022 CSRC Audited Financial
Statements.
CARRIED

Metropolitan UC in Toronto. Also, there are 200 ministry personnel on a waiting list to be placed across the UCC, who are either immigrating from other countries or joining us from other denominations within Canada. The budget for 2025 for the UCC is going to be a bit of a struggle; they will need to cut \$2 million from the budget from the regional operating grants.

EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (APPENDIX A)

Peter shared an update on his health over the last few months and updated Executive on the new hire, Shawn Redden, who starts on Monday, March 18, 2024. He also briefed Executive about Huntington University (see report).

Remit Update

Peter thanked staff and volunteers who have been calling communities of faith regarding the remit vote. The votes are now coming in and we are sitting at about a 50% response rate. The deadline for votes is March 31, 2024.

NEW BUSINESS

Possible Creation of a Property Commission

Jim Jackson reported that there was a motion passed by the Support to Communities of Faith Commission (SCoFC) regarding the approval process for property sales within the region and the possible creation of a Property Commission. There will be more information to come on this.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- April 4, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- April 25, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- May 3-5, 2024 - Regional Council Meeting in Sault Ste. Marie
- May 30, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

CLOSING

Nancy adjourned the meeting at 3:25 p.m. and ended with a prayer.

APPENDIX A Executive Ministers Report March 2024

I am grateful to return from sick leave and I want to express deep appreciation for the support I received in and during my absence. Work continues with our Regional Meeting in May. The planning team has made progress with a key focus for the business of our regional meeting

focusing on the Election of Commissioners and Proposal review in advance of General Council 45.

GC45:

General Council 45 will take place in Calgary in 2025. The Nominations Committee will consider Commissioners and we will be able to elect 9 Commissioners for GC45. We need to confirm a proposal deadline for our RC meeting.

2025 Festival of Faith:

Planning continues for our Festival of Faith in 2025. Hotel space has been booked and the planning team has been working on securing speakers and preparing a draft agenda for the Festival of Faith. The Moderator has corresponded recently around a scheduling conflict during the 2025 Festival of Faith. We will discuss at our Executive.

Remit 1 Update:

Every 2 weeks, General Council sends the Regional Council a list of which congregations have not yet voted on the remit. The Regional Council, through Donna, has sent out a number of campaigns which targeted communities of faith that had not submitted votes. From that mail campaign, we have received quite a bit of correspondence indicating that votes had been sent in and/or identifying dates in the near future that votes would be happening.

Staff, Melody, and the Right Relations team have been making calls and sending emails to communities of faith. Most have responded positively around voting. Most communities of faith are very aware of the March 31st deadline and working to ensure their vote counts!

Staff Update - Justice and Faith Formation Minister in CSRC and SWRC:

New Staff:

The hiring team for our new Justice and Faith Formation Minister in the Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Councils has selected a candidate. The interview team reviewed a number of applicants and was impressed with the interviews and it was a difficult choice. The selection team was made up of Lisa Blais (CSRC), Susan Eagle (SWRC), Jody Maltby, Diane Matheson-Jimenez, with administrative support by Susan Whitehead. The committee selected, Shawn Redden, ministry personnel who originates from the Maritimes. She is in the process of moving and plans to live in a number of locations, before she settles on a final destination. She has many years' experience in ministry both congregationally and supporting the Presbytery, Conference and Regional Council as a volunteer. She starts March 15, 2024.

Transition of Staff:

Dale Hildebrand has retired as of February 29, 2024. Dale's work is deeply appreciated, serving both Toronto Conference and Shining Waters Regional Council. We are so grateful for Dale's professionalism and commitment to the work. We pray that as he starts a new chapter in life, he will be richly blessed.

Rob Smith, Personnel Minister for Canadian Shield Regional Council has now transitioned to support both the Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Councils. Dale Hildebrand supported the transition through orientation for Rob with Toronto South communities of faith.

Ordination and Commissioning of Designated Ministers:

The Office of Vocation has been corresponding with Rob and I around the interviews with Designated Lay Ministers, who have indicated the desire to transition to Ordination and Commissioning. We may have folks who will be ready to be Ordained or Commissioned at our Celebration of Ministry Service in 2024.

Huntington University:

We have not made any progress with Huntington University. We have not heard anything from either the Huntington University lawyer or through the General Council legal office. I will follow up with Huntington and GC office in March.

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

... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the Thunder Bay United Church Camps, Incorporated 2024-2025 Board of Directors

**James E. Bidnall
A. Ernest Epp
Laurie Forbes
Dave Hammond
Linda Hammond
Gerhardt F. Jansekovich
Lori Jansekovich
Faye Larsen
William Lynch
**Patricia McDonald
Ross McCubbin
Ken Moffatt
Richard Paterson**

This is based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of February 11, 2024, draft board Meeting minutes of April 2, 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. During follow up with this IM, concerns were raised by National Service staff to Regional Council staff. Regional Council staff are working with this IM and can provide further information.***

*****N.B. Since the annual meeting Patricia McDonald has resigned.***

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Remit 1 Letter

The CSRC will continue to work towards being an anti-racist region. Peter shared the email from Adele Halliday, Anti-Racism and Equity Lead at the General Council Office (GCO), where she indicated Remit 1 - Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization within The United Church of Canada has passed with 80% of communities of faith voting. He expressed deep appreciation to the CSRC Right Relations Resource Team for working hard to get the vote out to our region and he thanked staff in both regions for diligently working with communities of faith to vote.

Letter to the Moderator re: Palestine and Israel

The General Council Executive (GCE) received a letter regarding Israel/Palestine, which was about the process of The UCC. While everyone universally laments the suffering of innocent people and the injustice of this conflict, what the letter itself asked was in conflict with the practice and polity of The UCC and so the Moderator did not respond directly to this letter.

Letter from the Moderator re: Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage

This was a pastoral letter as a response to the concern around Israel/Palestine and how different groups are responding. The Moderator shared how the GCE is responding to this crisis and how

we are partnering with groups like KAIROS, encouraging people to walk in prayerful solidarity while tracking the distance travelled.

Janet MacDonald's Resignation Letter

Peter shared that Janet MacDonald, the Financial Administrator for CS and SW Regional Councils, has indicated she will resign from her position next June 30th, 2025.

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Stewart Walker CS Exec 2025-04-25-05
That the CSRC Executive receive Janet MacDonald's letter of resignation effective June 30, 2025, with extreme gratitude for all her work.
CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Update on Creation of Property Commission - Motion

Jim Jackson shared a bit about how this decision came about. In the past 2-3 years, the process of the selling of properties for the region did not work with the processes and timelines of the real estate businesses, thus, leading to SCoFC requesting that the Property Resource Team become a Commission, with the ability to make its own decisions regarding the sale of properties. After consulting The Manual (section C.2.6) and learning that other regions immediately set up a Property Commission at the inception of the region, the Property RT feels confident this is the proper decision for our region. Diane shared a chart of the proposed changes to the CSRC Governance Document and policy documents in order to implement this change in policy.

MOTION by Helen Smith/Stewart Walker CS Exec 2025-04-25-06
That the CSRC Executive authorizes the establishment of a Property Commission, effective April 25, 2024, and that the current Property Resource Team to be transitioned into that role, with the terms of reference to be approved at the next Executive meeting on May 30, 2024.
CARRIED

DRAFT BUDGET

The CSRC Finance Resource Team forwarded a recommendation to Executive re: the 2025 Draft Budget.

Finance Resource Team Motion 2024-04-22-03:

Moved by Bill Jones/seconded by Michael Wesa that the Finance Resource Team of Canadian Shields Regional Council recommend the 2025 draft Budget to the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive for approval. Motion Carried.

Janet MacDonald joined the meeting to share the draft 2025 Budget.

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Barb Nott CS Exec 2024-04-25-07
That after review by the CSRC Finance Resource Team, the CSRC Executive recommends the 2025 Draft Budget to the 2024 Canadian Shield Regional Council meeting in Sault Ste. Marie, ON May 3-5, 2024.
CARRIED

2024 CS REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING and GC45

GC45 Commissioners Election – Nominations Committee Motion

Nominations Ctte Motion:

Moved by Helen Smith/seconded by Kathie Smith that the Election of GC45 Commissioners be held at an electronic recall of the Canadian Shield Regional Council in mid-September 2024.

camp should be given specific support tasks but not an open-ended bailout, with a focus on improving communication between the Board and constituency.

Executive agreed to pursue these concerns in the next four to six months. Additionally, there was a discussion about the potential use of church spaces for satellite camps, the complexities and liabilities associated with this. The decision was made to postpone this discussion until a later meeting to allow time for updates on other matters. Shawn Redden will attend the board's next meeting to introduce herself.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UCC

Peter shared that there is a special 100th Anniversary service at Metropolitan UC in Toronto that will serve as the kickoff to the 100th. He also said that the UCC is providing \$2,000 per regional council for 100th anniversary celebrations within the region. If we don't use that entire amount, it was suggested putting it towards the Festival of Faith in 2025, which is happening near the 100th anniversary.

HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY UPDATE

Peter stated that progress is being made with Huntington University, as the President is back to work and things are moving along. Barb will be attending the convocation for Huntington University this year.

2025 FESTIVAL OF FAITH UPDATE

The team has a full compliment of planning team members now and the group has been meeting regularly to plan with the speakers and start the agenda. It now seems the Moderator will be joining us for the FoF and will update us if she is available to lead her Flourishing event the day or two before the start of the FoF.

EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (APPENDIX A)

Peter gave a verbal update on his health situation and shared the Executive Ministers Report.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business at this time.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- May 3-5, 2024 - Regional Council Meeting in Sault Ste. Marie
- May 30, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

CLOSING

Peter shared Executive's thanks and deep appreciation for Barb Nott's service as Past-Chair and thanked Joy, Helen, and John for their service over the years.

Nancy gave a closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 4:00 p.m.

APPENDIX A
Executive Ministers Report
April 2024

We look forward with great anticipation to our May Regional Council Meeting. The planning team has made progress with the business of our regional meeting, focusing on the Election of Commissioners and Proposal review in advance of General Council 45. Our meeting also gives folks an in-person/online opportunity to connect, listen, pray, share, laugh, and learn as Church.

GC45:

General Council 45 will take place in Calgary in 2025. The CSRC Nominations Committee is considering Commissioners; we will be able to elect 9 Commissioners, plus our Chair of Executive.

100th Anniversary Kick off - June 9, 2024 from 4 - 6 p.m.:

Consider joining the UCC kick off celebration online or in-person at Metropolitan United Church, Toronto, on June 9, 2024.

Festival of Faith:

Planning continues for our Festival of Faith in 2025. Hotel space has been booked and the planning team is been working on securing speakers and preparing a draft agenda for the Festival of Faith. The Moderator hopes to attend the next Festival of Faith and provide a flourishing event, in advance of the FoF on June 12, 2024. Rob can offer an update at our Executive meeting.

Remit 1 update:

A big thank you to volunteers and staff who worked so very hard to support communities of faith around voting on Remit 1. All 16 Regional Councils, the National Indigenous Council, and 80% of pastoral charges in The United Church of Canada participated in the vote on Remit 1: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization.

The voting process engaged many across the church in deep and sometimes challenging conversations about right relations with Indigenous Peoples. There is one final phase in the remit process. The 44th General Council Annual Meeting will be asked to enact the remit when it meets on October 19, 2024. This is the same process for all Category 3 remits.

In anticipation of the General Council enacting the remit in October, the National Indigenous Council, the National Indigenous Elders Council, and the Executive of the General Council will continue to work together to identify and lay out a framework for the autonomous Indigenous organization within the United Church. Thank you again to all who voted and work so very hard to complete this important work.

Staff update:

Our new Justice and Faith Formation Minister, Shawn Redden, has started! Shawn is moving to Ontario and has served as ministry personnel in the Maritimes. She is in the process of moving and plans to live in a number of locations, before she settles on a final

location. She has many years experience in ministry both congregationally and supporting the Presbytery, Conference, and Regional Council as a volunteer.

Huntington University:

We have made progress with Huntington University and we are in the process of scheduling a zoom connection. Huntington University also invited me to their spring Convocation on Tuesday May 21, 2024 at the Science North Cavern. This invitation is a first since I started as Executive Minister so again, we are making progress! I cannot attend, due to health restrictions; however, I am working with Chair Nancy to determine a replacement in my absence. I think it would be good if we sent someone from the Regional Council.

Executive Minister Health Update:

I am presently waiting for minor surgery in Hamilton. My hope is that surgery will lead to a more normal routine. I have returned to work full-time and I am grateful for the time given to recover. Again, I want to express deep appreciation to Diane for covering for me in my absence.

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on May 30, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Nancy Ferguson (Chair), Bill Jones (Chair-Elect), Stewart Walker, Jim Jackson, Mastard Sakala, Susan Peverley, Laurie Stevenson, Lionel Ketola

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

GUEST: Gord Roberts

REGRETS: Bill Steadman, Susan Lindquist, David LeGrand

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.

Peter opened the meeting with worship reading from one of his favourite passages, Philippians 4:4-9 and ended in prayer.

INTRODUCTION AND CHECK-IN

Executive has a new composition and members introduced themselves and did a check-in.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Mastard Sakala CS Exec 2024-05-30-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as circulated.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Stewart Walker/Jim Jackson CS Exec 2024-05-30-02
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council
Executive held on April 25, 2024 be approved, as circulated.
CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

Peter shared that he is always amazed at the volume of work that the Commissions do and is grateful for their time.

MOTION by Stewart Walker/Peter Hartmans CS Exec 2024-05-30-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from March
26, 2024 and the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission
from March 26, 2024 and April 23, 2024 be received, for information.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Email from Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa re: 100th Anniversary of UCC

Peter discussed the letter from Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa re: the 100th Anniversary. The GCO is offering Regional Councils \$2,000 for a way to participate as we see fit in the 100th Anniversary celebrations. He wondered if we would be interested in pooling this money with SWRC and use it for the Festival of Faith celebration, which happens on the actual weekend of the 100th.

Nancy will represent the CSRC at the 100th Anniversary kickoff service on May 9, 2024 at Metropolitan UC in Toronto.

Executive has decided to refer this discussion to the fall of 2024. Celio will take the lead on helping to create the video.

Retirement email from Todd McDonald – SWRC Staff

Executive received this letter from Todd McDonald regarding his retirement in 2025.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Nancy pointed out that in the last minutes the decision was made to have a fall online RCM to elect GC45 Commissioners. The date will be chosen by the Nominations Committee at their June meeting and Bill Jones will report back to Executive with a date.

2024 REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING (RCM) RECAP

Executive members shared their impressions of the meeting and gave suggestions on improvements:

- Great meeting and good to see everyone in-person;
- Table group facilitators were not clearly denoted – would have been better if they had time to introduce themselves and discuss what their role is;
- Sound and lighting were excellent; music leadership was adequate but there were moments where you couldn't hear them at the front;
- Rarely knew there was an online presence; might have been good to have another screen at the front of the room with just the online people there all the time during the meeting;
- In-person voting seemed cumbersome;
- Someone with hearing loss will be totally lost at table group discussion time; hard to hear everyone talking;
- It might be helpful to have a laptop set up somewhere in the meeting and invite people on site to jump into the zoom meeting to say hello;
- Many comments about how well Chaired the meeting was;
- Sometimes the font size of the hymns and slides were hard to see; the presiding table needs their own monitor;
- For the most part, evaluations expressed a relaxed and positive experience.

HONORARIA POLICY FOR VOLUNTEERS/GUEST TO RC EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Nancy shared that the question has arisen about honoraria for volunteers or guests to the RCM and it was discovered that the CSRC does not have a policy around this. It was suggested that it be referred to the Finance Resource Team for consideration and for them to bring back a recommendation. Executive discussed what an honorarium means – is it a gift or is it money for services rendered? If we pay their travel costs, that's not an honorarium, per se, it is just covering their expenses.

There was consensus that Peter will ask Kathie Smith and Helen Smith (as they were part of the Planning Team and Local Arrangements for this RCM) for their input on honoraria for guests and volunteers. Peter will work with them to draft a policy and will then forward that to the Finance RT.

PROPERTY COMMISSION

- Proposed Policy Changes
- Proposed Governance Document Changes

Jim Jackson shared that the Support to Communities of Faith Commission (SCoFC) received Executive's motion below and worked diligently on creating the definition, duties and responsibilities for the Commission Chair and Members. They also amended the Property Policies and Procedures Manual to reflect the new Commission and bringing it up-to-date.

MOTION by Helen Smith/Stewart Walker

CS Exec 2025-04-25-06

That the CSRC Executive authorizes the establishment of a Property Commission, effective April 25, 2024, and that the current Property Resource Team to be transitioned into that role, with the terms of reference to be approved at the next Executive meeting on May 30, 2024.

CARRIED

The task group in charge of this work (consisting of Jim Jackson, Gord Roberts, Susan Peverley, Bill Jones and Diane Matheson-Jimenez) endeavored to distinguish between which are related to temporal, practical property matters – which would remain with the Property Commission - and ones which are related to spiritual matters – which would remain with the SCoFC.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Jones

CS Exec 2025-05-30-04

That the CSRC Executive approve the Property Commission Chair and Member Job Descriptions, Terms of Reference, and the Property Commission addition to the Property Policy and Procedures document.

CARRIED

MOTION by Bill Jones/Susan Peverley

CS Exec 2025-05-30-05

That a member of the Property Commission sit on the CSRC Executive and that the Property Commission Minutes be submitted to Executive, for information.

CARRIED

GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT REVIEW TEAM

Executive discussed the Governance Review Team and added new members as we have lost some over the years. This team will review the current Governance Document and update it.

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Lionel Ketola

CS EXEC 2025-05-30-06

That the CSRC Executive create a Governance Document Review Team to include Barb Nott, Bill Steadman, John Watson, Jim Jackson, Susan Whitehead and one other member to be added by the Chair of Executive.

CARRIED

CSRC LOGO POLICY

Regional council staff received a letter from Trinity UC in Capreol wanting to use our RC logo on their signage and there was a question about a policy around this.

There was consensus that Peter and Susan would draft a policy for the use of the CSRC logo and report back at the September 5, 2024 meeting.

CAMPING UPDATE

Diane gave an update on issues concerning the two camps within the Canadian Shield Regional Council: Camp Duncan, facing complications from an unauthorized property sale, and Camp McDougall, struggling with financial and compliance challenges. The team made plans to draft policies and seek support for Camp McDougall, while also considering the allocation of remaining Mission Support Fund grants.

CSRC SUB-EXECUTIVE

The CSRC has not had an active sub-Executive since the inception of the region. As Covid hit and doing business online became the norm, using e-votes has been very effective and we have not needed a sub-Executive. The decision was made to add this to the agenda for September for a more fulsome discussion.

GCE SUMMARY MAY 2024

The General Council Executive Summary was distributed to Executive with the Agenda Package. There were no questions about the report.

EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (APPENDIX A)

Peter gave his verbal update on his health situation and the Executive Ministers Report. He also shared that we are making progress with meeting with Huntington University; Peter will report back at the September meeting of Executive.

NEW BUSINESS

Spring 2025 CS Online RCM Date

Executive discussed possible dates for the 2025 CS RCM, which will be online.

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Lionel Ketola CS EXEC 2025-05-30-07
That the 2025 Canadian Shield Online Regional Council Meeting be
on Saturday, May 3, 2025.
CARRIED

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- September 5, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

CLOSING

Nancy gave a closing prayer and adjourned the meeting at 3:20 p.m.

APPENDIX A Executive Ministers Report May 2024

RCM:

I am so very grateful for the local arrangements and planning team for a successful and well-planned Regional Council Meeting (RCM). I am also very grateful for our staff and guests who played a key role organizing and providing leadership for the meeting. Most of all, I am grateful for Chair Nancy and Susan Whitehead, who sat at the head table and provided excellent leadership.

GC45:

General Council 45 will take place in Calgary in 2025. The Nominations Committee is considering Commissioners and we will be able to elect 9 Commissioners.

Festival of Faith:

Planning continues for our Festival of Faith in 2025. Hotel space has been booked and the planning team is been working on securing speakers and preparing a draft agenda for the Festival of Faith. The Moderator hopes to attend and provide a flourishing event, in advance of the FoF gathering on June 12, 2025.

100th Anniversary Kick off - June 9, 2024 from 4p.m.-6 p.m.:

Consider joining the UCC kick off celebration online via YouTube or in-person at Metropolitan United Church, Toronto, on June 9, 2024. Chair Rev. Nancy Ferguson, will attend the 100th anniversary kick-off service following her attendance at Shining Waters RCM June 7-8, 2024.

Staffing Update:

Following the RCM, Shawn Redden (the new Faith Formation Minister) went on a road trip across the region, connecting with various groups, clergy etc. as a way of getting to know the CSRC.

News from Shining Waters Regional Council:

Todd MacDonald announced his retirement as of July 31, 2025. Glad we have one more year but both Regional Councils have benefited from his experience and advice as Rob Smith and others joined our team.

Huntington University:

We have made progress with Huntington University! We are in the process of scheduling a zoom connection. Huntington also invited me to their spring Convocation on Tuesday May 21, Science North Cavern. Barb Nott attended in my place and was also invited to attend via her own invitation. Barb agreed to wave the CSRC and United Church of Canada flag at Convocation.

Executive Minister Health Update:

As I write today, my surgery (a Cerebral Angiogram) is scheduled for Thursday May 23. I have taken Friday May 24 off as a recovery day.

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on June 25, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Nancy Ferguson (Chair), Bill Jones (Chair-Elect), Jim Jackson, Susan Peverley, Laurie Stevenson, Lionel Ketola, Gord Roberts, Bill Steadman, Susan Lindquist

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead

REGRETS: David LeGrand, Stewart Walker, Mastard Sakala

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.

Peter opened the meeting with worship reading from Psalm 121 and ended in prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Bill Jones **CS Exec 2024-06-25-01**
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as circulated.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Trinity UC in Thunder Bay

Nancy shared the letter from Trinity UC and thanked Trinity UC for sharing their building with us.

NOMINATIONS RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING GC45 COMMISSIONERS

Bill Jones shared the recommendation from the Nominations Committee regarding the process for election of GC45 Commissioners, indicating that it is the same process that was adopted by Nominations and Executive for the election of GC44 Commissions.

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Mardi Mumford **CS NOMS 2024-06-11-05**
That the Nominations Committee recommend to Executive the adoption of the proposed Nomination and Election Process for Commissioners to General Council.
CARRIED

MOTION by Bill Jones/Lionel Ketola **CS Exec 2024-06-25-02**
That the CSRC Executive adopt the Nominations Committee recommended Nominations and Election Process for Commissioners to General Council.
CARRIED

NOMINATION RECOMMENDATION REGARDING ADDITIONAL COMMISSION MEMBERS

Bill Jones explained that the Pastoral Relations Commission would like to increase their member number from 9 to 10. There was discussion about the high volume of work the Commission is engaged in and that the additional member would be helpful.

MOTION by Mardi Mumford/Kathie Smith **CS NOMS 2024-06-11-02**
That the CSRC Nominations Committee recommend to the Executive that the PRC membership be increased from 9 to 10 members, plus the Chair and Secretary.
CARRIED

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Susan Peverley **CS Exec 2024-06-25-03**
That the CSRC Executive approve the Nominations Committee recommendation that the Pastoral Relations Commission membership be increased from 9 to 10 members, plus the Chair and Secretary.
CARRIED

Jim Jackson indicated that Executive has not formally approved the election of the 3 members to the 3 Commissions – Peter Haddow, John Watson, and Jack Page.

MOTION by Gord Roberts/Jim Jackson **CS Exec 2025-06-25-04**
That the CSRC Executive approve the election of Peter Haddow to the Support to Communities of Faith Commission, John Watson to the Pastoral Relations Commission, and Jack Page to the Property Commission.
CARRIED

2025 FESTIVAL OF FAITH (FOF) BUDGET

Peter shared that the Festival of Faith (FoF) planning team is requesting that the budget for the event be \$30,000 for CSRC portion of the event. He explained that at the 2023 FoF, the venue was at a college and although CSRC saved money on the venue, there were accessibility issues. The 2025 FoF will be hosted at a hotel where there are no accessibility issues and thus, is a bit more expensive.

MOTION by Laurie Stevenson/Lionel Ketola **CS Exec 2024-06-25-05**
That the budget for the 2025 Festival of Faith be \$30,000 for the Canadian Shield Regional Council's portion of the joint event with SWRC (50% percent of the total cost of \$60,000).
CARRIED

UPDATE REGARDING SHINING WATERS REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

Nancy and Peter shared their experiences at the Shining Waters Regional Council Meeting at North Bramalea United Church in Brampton, as Nancy represented the Canadian Shield Regional Council. Peter acknowledged Nancy's active participation, including her role as a communion server and her CSRC "flag-waving", and expressed his appreciation for the significance of her physical presence at the meeting, especially for the 100th celebration kickoff. Nancy shared her experience of attending a service with other high-ranking members of the United Church, highlighting the networking opportunities and the value of physical meetings. They both agreed that the event was a wonderful opportunity to witness, and Nancy shared she would include a link to the service recording in her reflection for future reference.

CONVERSATION ABOUT PROCEEDING ASAP WITH: PART-TIME ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT, TO BE SHARED BETWEEN SWRC AND CSRC, AS A TRANSITION FOR JANET

Peter shared an update on staffing with Executive, reminding the team that Janet had submitted her resignation for June 30, 2025. He suggested proceeding with the hiring of a full-time accounting assistant immediately to help with the transition. The bookkeeping for SWRC is a bit more complicated and would require an earlier start date of September 1, 2024 and then to have a January 1, 2025 start date with CSRC, with CSRC's relationship being a fee for service. Jody Maltby (SWRC Staff) will be the staff support to the CSRC Finance Committee.

MOTION by Lionel Ketola/Bill Steadman **CS Exec 2025-06-25-06**
That the CSRC Executive direct Executive Minister, Peter Hartmans, to commence with the hiring of a full-time accounting assistant to help with the transition in preparation for when Janet MacDonald leaves her position on June 30, 2025.
CARRIED

DISCUSS THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY AND LETTER FROM GC REGARDING \$2,000

This item has been moved to the September 2024 CS Executive meeting.

EXECUTIVE MINISTER UPDATE

Peter shared a good news health update with Executive members.

NEW BUSINESS

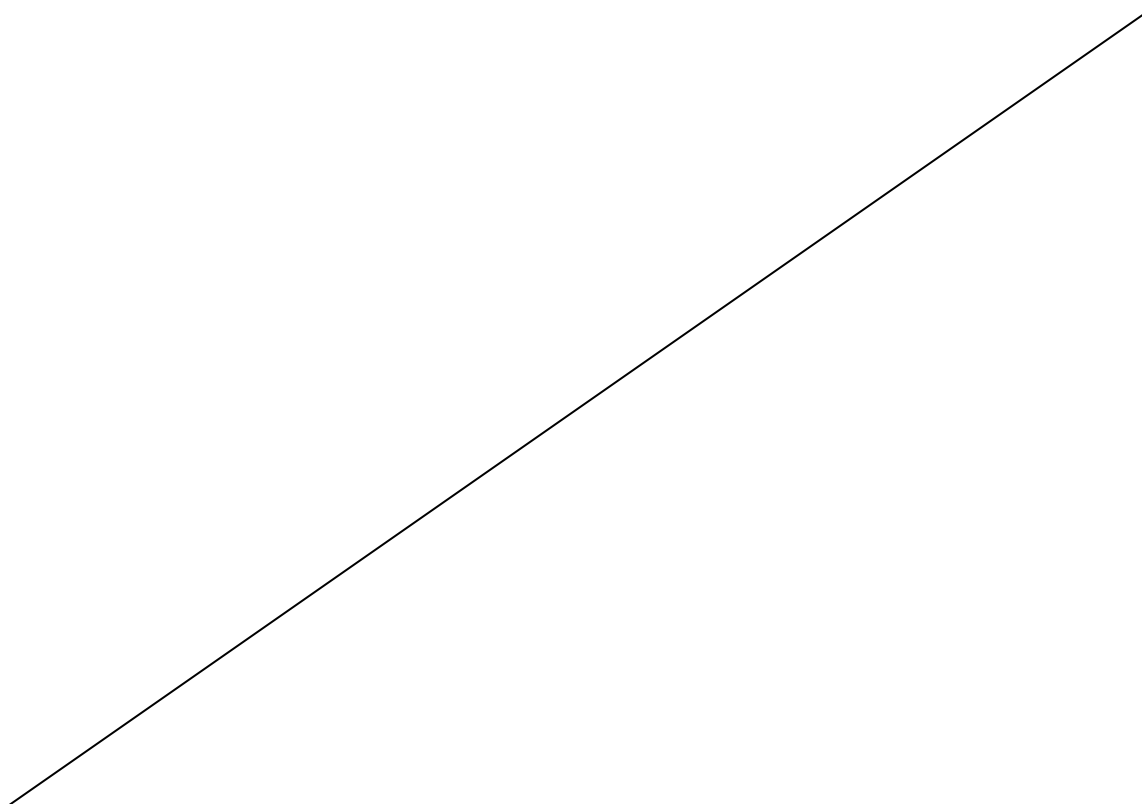
There was no new business.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- September 5, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom (if needed)
- September 24-26, 2024 Joint Executive Meeting with SWRC at Villa Loyola, Sudbury

CLOSING

Peter gave a closing prayer and Nancy adjourned the meeting at 2:02 p.m.



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.

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on November 7, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Nancy Ferguson (Chair), Laurie Stevenson, Bill Steadman, Stewart Walker, Jim Jackson, Gord Roberts, Lionel Ketola, Susan Peverley, Bill Jones

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead, Meranda MacKenzie

REGRETS: Susan Lindquist, David LeGrand, Mastard Sakala

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.

Peter opened the meeting by lighting the Christ Candle, then discussed All Saints Sunday and continued with a reading from Matthew 11:28 and ended with prayer.

INTRODUCTION

Executive welcomed Meranda MacKenzie to the meeting; she is the new staff person in SWRC and CSRC as the Bookkeeper and she started on October 1, 2024.

CHECK-IN

Executive members were asked to name someone or something that they light a candle for today.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Lionel Ketola CS Exec 2024-11-07-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as circulated.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Bill Jones and Gord Roberts were omitted in the list of those members present.

MOTION by Bill Jones/Bill Steadman CS Exec 2024-11-07-02
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on September 25, 2024 be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Lionel Ketola CS Exec 2024-11-07-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from September 18, 2024 be received, for information.
CARRIED

Executive deliberated Page 36 of the PRC Minutes questioning if Executive discussed the issue of Celebration of Ministry Service (CoMS) and Executive confirmed that this issue was not discussed at an Executive meeting and that perhaps it was mischaracterized by the PRC recording secretary. Executive directed the Chair of the PRC, Stewart Walker, to communicate to the PRC that that there was error made in the minutes regarding the CoMS and to have the minutes secretary correct that set of minutes.

MOTION by Stewart Walker/Bill Steadman CS Exec 2024-11-07-04
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from
September 18, 2024 be received, for information.
CARRIED

MOTION by Laurie Stevenson/Gord Roberts CS Exec 2024-11-07-05
That the Minutes of the CSRC Property Commission from September
18, 2024 be received, for information.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Notes from the Moderator and General Secretary re: Meeting with Presiding Officers on Oct. 2, 2024

Executive members discussed the email from Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa regarding the meeting of Presiding Officers which took place on October 2, 2024.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Thank You Letter to Camp McDougall

After the letter went out to Camp McDougall with concerns about their 2024 camping season, they responded by sending in an annotated list of things they have accomplished. As a follow-up, Executive directed Peter to send a letter of thank you and encouragement. Diane Matheson-Jimenez has been working with the Camp McDougall team on their policies and Shawn Redden has been working with them on program questions.

HONOURARIA POLICY FOR VOLUNTEERS/GUESTS TO RC EVENTS AND MEETINGS UPDATE

Peter shared that he, Katie Smith, Helen Smith and Susan Whitehead met recently to discuss a possible honouraria policy with regards to regional council events and meetings. This is still being discussed and a policy needs to be created. Peter will update Executive at the next meeting.

HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY UPDATE

Peter has still been attempting to connect with Huntington University. He will update Executive at the next meeting. The Chair raised the question of chaplaincy as being a continued UCC connection with Huntington. Stewart Walker shared some history in relation to chaplaincy at Huntington in the past; but no chaplaincy currently exists.

CSRC LOGO POLICY

Executive approves of the general idea of the logo policy presented but would like to see some wordsmithing regarding time frames. Peter will work with Susan Whitehead and bring an updated policy to Executive at a later meeting.

INSTALLATION OF CHAIR-ELECT AT IN-PERSON JUNE 2025 FESTIVAL OF FAITH (FOF)

Nancy shared the idea of moving the installation of the Chair-Elect from the online 2025 CS Regional Council Meeting to the in-person Festival of Faith Event a month later in June 2025. Bill Jones, Chair of the Nominations Committee, will forward the request to his team and will report back to Executive.

LSRC COMPLAINT UPDATE

Peter shared that the Living Skies Regional Council Complaint Team has been working together to review the case and recommended that an investigator be hired. The General Council Office (GCO) assigned John Watson as the investigator, who is trained in this kind of inquiry and is a former parole officer. All costs will be covered by the CSRC and then reimbursed by LSRC.

John will fly to Living Skies Regional Council and will meet with both the Complainants and Respondent and he will send a report back to the team and then it will get referred to Executive.

There are two complaints: one is about a church employee and the other is about a camp employee, both of which are the same person. The camp is an Incorporated Ministry and the regions cannot deal with it; it will go to the Incorporated Ministry department of the UCC. Legal council from the GCO has informed us we cannot do a review for a camp (an incorporated ministry) and therefore, we must comply with their request and leave it. John has set a timeline of the end of December to have the visit and the report completed.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UCC

Plans, \$2,000 from GCO, and Regional Engagement

Peter shared that the information package that was sent out under the title of "United Church Foundation" (UCF) was misleading; the person who created the material did not have authorization to do it and it is not a sanctioned event from the UCF.

Executive had a discussion on ways that the CSRC could celebrate the 100th anniversary. It was thought that through the CSRC, either through Executive or the Support to Communities of Faith Commission (SCoFC), should be encouraging and inviting clusters of communities to celebrate via in-person or hybrid watch parties across the region.

As the primary Admin on the 2025 Festival of Faith (FoF) planning team, Susan shared that there will also be 100th anniversary celebrations after June 10th, 2025 at the closing worship for the FoF event on Sunday, June 15th at the Bell Park Amphitheatre in Sudbury with the FoF keynote speaker, John Bell.

There was consensus to send a request to the Grants Committee to propose a process of distribution for these funds (\$2,000 from GCO for the 100th Anniversary) that can support watch parties around the region, in lieu of sending the Chair to Newfoundland on June 10th, 2025.

FOLLOW UP ON JOINT EXECUTIVE DISCUSSIONS RE: NEXT 5-10 YEARS

Nancy stated that the notes from the CSRC Caucus at Villa Loyola were distributed in the agenda package for this meeting.

Items from the caucus notes discussed included:

Circuit Rider Model - Talked about looking at the circuit rider model for ministry that comes to them from our Methodist roots, and how a student minister might benefit, and the training that would be needed for this, but it comes back to including the educational institution who do the education and formation work and there needs to be some connection through the Office of Vocation.

Technology - Collaborations around technology is a big piece.

Bonding as a Region - What does it mean to wave the regional flag? Connection with one another and with the region is a big piece.

Supervision - Huge demand and need for Pastoral Charge Supervisors;

Self-Assessment - Loss of pastoral oversight committees that used to come to visit the pastoral charge every 3 years to check in; perhaps every 3 years (or sooner) reach out to the community of faith (cof) and discuss their self-assessment.

Financial Support - Perhaps use the income from the sale of churches and earmark that money to go towards visits to cof's.

The Chair invited the Commissions to share these notes with their respective members with the question how these ideas could help them as a commission; do these ideas resonate with the

commissions and how could they/we enable these ideas to happen; then have them report to an Executive meeting in the new year.

GCE SUMMARY SEPTEMBER 2024

The Executive acknowledged the receipt of the General Council Executive Summary from September 2024.

EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (APPENDIX A)

Peter gave a verbal update on his health situation and shared the Executive Ministers Report.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business at this time.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- December 5, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

CLOSING

Nancy gave a closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

APPENDIX A Executive Ministers Report November 2024

I am so grateful for the Joint Executive Retreat in Sudbury and for the Executive's significant commitment of time, online and in-person. I am also grateful for all the pre-planning work Susan contributed for the retreat, with support around travel, accommodation and support during and following the retreat.

GC45:

The Regional Council will offer an orientation time for GC45 Commissioners early in the new year.

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) and a wonderful event to attend. The June 2025 UCC 100th celebration will take place on Sunday, June 8th 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. We have included time on the agenda to discuss at our November meeting.

Festival of Faith:

Planning continues for our CSRC and SWRC joint Festival of Faith in 2025. Hotel space has been booked and the planning team has secured a speaker, which is John Bell from Scotland! The Moderator hopes to attend the Festival of Faith and possibly provide a flourishing event in advance of the event.

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.

Staff update:

We are in the process of transitioning from Janet's work to Jody. Jody will provide key leadership around financial planning and support of both the SWRC and CSRC Finance committee and continue her support around granting and property sales, a key component of the regional budget and long-term planning for the regional council. We have hired Meranda MacKenzie, who has started as bookkeeper for both SWRC and CSRC, starting October 1. 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 primary support to the Communities of Faith Commission. Jody will shift out of providing primary support to communities of faith, replaced by the new positions as first point of contact. Jody will continue to support regional Admin staff for both regional councils.

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 through Dale Hildebrand, who will start December 1. Todd MacDonald and Eun-Joo Park will provide primary support for Rob in November.

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on December 5, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

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

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead, Janet MacDonald, Meranda MacKenzie

REGRETS: David LeGrand, Gord Roberts, Laurie Stevenson

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.

Peter opened the meeting by lighting the Christ Candle, and as we are in the season of Advent and this is the first Sunday, this is also the Hope candle. Peter shared the Moderator's Advent Message to the church and he ended with prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Bill Jones/Bill Steadman CS EXEC 2024-12-05-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Susan listed 2 amendments to the Minutes on Page 2 and 3.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Lionel Ketola CS EXEC 2024-12-05-02
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on November 7, 2024 be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Mastard Sakala/Lionel Ketola CS EXEC 2024-12-05-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from October 16, 2024 and the CSRC Property Commission from October 31, 2024 be received, for information.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter from Sarah Charters re: UCC Foundation

Peter shared that he spoke to Sarah Charters regarding this letter from Friends of the Foundation, which is not a letter from the foundation itself but appears to be. Sarah wrote a letter to both CSRC and SWRC discussing that this was a well-meaning person but not part of the official body of the UCC Foundation and we could disregard the letter from that individual. Peter will put information out in Bedrock later this week clarifying the situation for the CSRC and possible plans for the 100th Anniversary around our region.

Email from Gary Kenny, Nuclear Free North

The email from Gary Kenny is asking us to add our endorsement of their resolution expressing opposition to the deep geological repository for nuclear waste to be housed in Northern Ontario.

After discussion, Executive made the decision to forward the letter to the CSRC Social Justice Network of Ontario Regions (SJNOR).

There was consensus that Peter will share the Nuclear Free North letter with the CSRC SJNOR reps and forward their recommendations back to the CSRC Executive.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Follow-up on Joint Executive Meeting Visioning Conversation (Next 5-10 Years)

Following the September 25, 2024 meeting of Executive at Villa Loyola in Sudbury, the Joy, Health and Excellence team that organizes events for ministry personnel asked Nancy if she would like to host a coffee hour with ministry personnel to hold a caucus similar to ours, using the same questions as ours. She did this on November 20, 2024 and decided to do one with lay leaders and this will happen on December 10, 2024 with the same questions. Nancy informed Executive that they will be receiving additional notes for discussion in the Commissions.

Installation of Chair-Elect

Bill Jones shared that the Nominations Committee discussed this at their last meeting and decided that they would like to see the installation happen at an in-person RCM. Bill shared this with Nancy to get her opinion and she suggested doing it at the in-person 2025 Festival of Faith (FoF) event in June 2025. The only issue with this is that it is a joint event with SWRC and they may not want that to happen there.

There is the possibility of doing an online meeting and having the Chair and Chair-Elect together in the same room and do the installation online at the meeting. Executive decided that we would do the installation at this year's FoF but in upcoming years, will make the decision for the future at the next Executive meeting. Bill has submitted his report to Executive (*attached as Appendix A*) and Executive will ponder before the next meeting.

2025 DRAFT BUDGET

Nancy welcomed both Janet MacDonald and Meranda MacKenzie to the meeting and they shared the updates since the 2025 Draft CSRC Budget was presented at the 2024 Regional Council Meeting (RCM).

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Mastard Sakala CS EXEC 2025-12-05-04
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive approve the 2025
CSRC Budget, as presented.
CARRIED

2023 CSRC DRAFT AUDITED STATEMENTS

Janet MacDonald explained the error written by the auditors saying, "To the Congregations of CSRC" where it should say, "To the Members of CSRC" and the correction will be made. Janet presented the 2023 Audited Statements to the team.

MOTION by Susan Peverley/Bill Jones CS EXEC 2025-12-05-05
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive accept the 2023
Audited Statements.
CARRIED

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Lionel Ketola CS EXEC 2025-12-05-06
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive authorize Peter
Hartmans (Executive Minister) and Nancy Ferguson (Chair of CSRC
Executive) to sign the Statement of Financial Position on behalf of the
Canadian Shield Regional Council.
CARRIED

1 Abstention – Peter Hartmans

ADD SIGNING AUTHORITY – MERANDA MACKENZIE AND JODY MALTBY

Meranda MacKenzie will be taking over for Janet MacDonald as the bookkeeper for the region and Jody Maltby will be now supporting the Finance Team, and therefore, they both need signing authority.

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Bill Steadman CS EXEC 2024-12-05-07
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive approve the addition of Meranda MacKenzie and Jody Maltby as signing authorities for the Canadian Shield Regional Council, effective December 5, 2024.
CARRIED

HONOURARIA POLICY FOR VOLUNTEERS/GUEST TO RC EVENTS AND MEETINGS UPDATE

Executive would like to see the policy after it is formatted and then it will be approved. Peter and Susan will format for the next Executive meeting.

RCM LOCATION POLICY

Executive would like to see the policy after it is formatted and then it will be approved. Peter and Susan will format for the next Executive meeting.

LIVING SKIES REGIONAL COUNCIL (LSRC) COMPLAINT UPDATE

Peter shared the hope was to have the investigation completed by December but the investigator took ill and the trip needed to be canceled; John Watson will complete his work in the new year.

CSRC LOGO POLICY

Executive discussed the CSRC Logo Policy, revised the policy, approved the policy, and sent it back with Peter and Susan to format and bring it to the next Executive meeting.

MOTION by Mastard Sakala/Susan Peverley CS EXEC 2024-12-05-08
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive approve the CSRC Logo Policy.
CARRIED

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UCC UPDATE

Peter forwarded the request from Executive to the Grants Resource Team asking them to propose a process of distributing the \$2,000 to support 100th Anniversary watch parties around the region. That process has been set up and will be put in Bedrock this week for people to learn how they can access a grant by submitting a proposal. When communities of faith decide what they are going to do for the 100th, they can post their event on the UCC 100th celebration event page.

GCE SUMMARY NOVEMBER 2024

The Executive acknowledged the receipt of the General Council Executive Summary from November 2024. There was a question about the section related to electing a Moderator from the floor of a GC meeting; Peter will forward the answer to the question to Executive in an email when he gets the answer.

EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (APPENDIX B)

Peter gave a verbal update on his health situation and shared the Executive Ministers Report.

NEW BUSINESS

Jim Jackson shared that at the last Support to Communities of Faith Commission (SCoFC) Meeting in November 2024, they dealt with the representation to the Social Justice Network of Ontario Regions (SJNIOR). Ernie Epp has been the only rep to SJNIOR and wanted to have another rep, if possible. Steve Calverley has been approved as another rep, with David LeGrand as an alternate.

The question arose from the SCoFC whether they had the authority to appoint someone or if it should come from Executive and it was decided that the SCoFC has the authority to act on the region and justice work falls under the SCoFC. Peter suggested that when we review the work of the CSRC Governance Document at an upcoming meeting, that we formally add the SJNIOR to the work of the SCoFC.

Jim will send a message to the CSRC Nomination Committee indicating any new members in the SCoFC and the SJNIOR.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- Thursday, February 6, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- Thursday, March 5, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- Thursday, April 3, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- Thursday, May 1, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- **2025 Online Regional Council Meeting** - Saturday, May 3, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom
- Thursday, June 5, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

CLOSING

Nancy gave a closing prayer and the meeting adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

**APPENDIX A
NOMINATIONS REPORT TO EXECUTIVE
DECEMBER 2024**

The Nominations Committee met and looked at the issue of when to have the installation of the regional chair. The committee thought that although we are going to have the installation at the Festival of Faith this time, it would be preferable to have the installation at the in-person meeting of the Region in the future. This would mean that either Nancy would have an extra year as Chair or that I (Bill) would have my term extended by one year to 3 years.

I spoke to Nancy about this and she thought that it might be an idea to have it at the Festival of Faith meetings all the time. This would mean that it would happen there this year and at the Festival of Faith each time.

This issue there is that we have begun having the two regions at the festival. The question then becomes would SWRC be interested in seeing the installation of the Chair of our Region at a joint function if we were to continue to have joint festivals. The question coming out of this is if the festival were to be held in Shining Water, what would they think. If however, this year were the only joint festival, it might be OK.

APPENDIX B Executive Ministers Report December 2024

This past November has been a busy month both for the regional council and General Council. Major preparation continues for General Council 45 starting in the new year, with an in-person meeting August 7-12, 2025 in Calgary. This past month, Staff Leaders met in Toronto for the week of November 18th, 2024 where the gathering has three meetings in one. The first meeting was a gathering of staff leaders from across the Church, the second was a meeting of the General Council Executive, and the third meeting was a meeting of Executive Ministers.

Staff Leaders/General Council Executive

Staff Leaders and the General Council Executive spent a significant amount of time considering and discussing the state of the Church. Both groups were offered updates regarding the strategic plan and work has started on updating the strategic plan based on learning from this past year, which will be introduced in January. The work of General Council will compliment and support the strategic work and thinking within both the Executive/Commissions, as we consider and plan for the next 5/10 years, supporting communities of faith, outreach ministries, and our work together as a regional council. All three meetings were both inspirational and challenging.

GC45

The regional council will offer an orientation time for GC45 Commissioners scheduled for January 21, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. The Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Council Commissioners will be briefed on upcoming meetings and the work of General Council 45. They will also be updated on travel schedule and then break out into regional groups to connect as CSRC Commissioners and SWRC Commissioners.

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. Chair Nancy asked about spiritual support/chaplain at Laurentian University. Their current website says: *"A multid denominational program that helps students with personal and religious concerns during the school year through religious and faith counselling, fellowship among students and faculty, regular religious services and a variety of special events."* No Links or contact information are provided on the University website.

Villa Loyola Update

With our recent and many past retreats to Villa Loyola, the Executive was updated at our November meeting regarding changes at Villa Loyola. Following our recent November Executive, a press release was sent out:

The future of Villa Loyola: A reorientation towards community leadership:

Sudbury, Ontario, November 6, 2024 - Villa Loyola has long been a cornerstone of the French-speaking community in Northern Ontario, both spiritually and educationally. Today, the Jesuits of Canada announce their intention to transfer Villa Loyola to a new local leadership, ceasing to be direct owners and administrators by July 31, 2025.

Jesuits are actively seeking potential buyers among their current collaborators within local religious and indigenous communities who share their Catholic and Ignatian values and vision. The Jesuits will discuss with them the future of Villa Loyola. If no acceptable plans are received by January 31, 2025, Villa Loyola will be placed on the real estate market.

100th Anniversary June 8th 2025

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. With the recent decision of the regional council Executive to promote regional gatherings to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of The United Church of Canada, the Mission Grants Resource Team, in partnership with the Support to Communities of Faith Commission, are reaching out to communities of faith within the regional council to invite folks to apply for small grants to support and promote gatherings of neighbours for 100th Anniversary worship “watch parties” in June of 2025.

Festival of Faith

Planning continues for our CSRC and SWRC Festival of Faith (FoF) in 2025. John Bell will be providing key leadership for the Festival of Faith! He is a Scottish hymn-writer and Church of Scotland minister. He is a member of the Iona Community, a broadcaster, and a former student activist. He works throughout the world, lecturing in theological colleges in the UK, Canada, and the United States but is primarily concerned with the renewal of congregational worship at the grass-roots level. The festival will also include a number of workshops and key leadership from within the United Church too. Registration for the Festival of Faith will begin early in the new year. The Moderator also hopes to attend the FoF and provide a flourishing event in advance.

Staff Update

Sabbaticals:

Rob Smith went on Sabbatical on November 1, 2024 returning January 31, 2025. Dale Hildebrand will provide coverage for Rob for part of his absence, starting December 1, 2024 and will end his contract February 18th, 2025 for both CSRC and SWRC.

