



CANADIAN SHIELD
REGIONAL COUNCIL
The United Church of Canada



RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

September 26, 2022 to November 25, 2023



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PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

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**Canadian Shield Regional Council
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting**

Held by *Zoom*
September 28th, 2022 at 1:15 p.m.

Welcome (1:20 p.m.)	John Watson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
Attendance	Karen Gooch (Secretary), Jane Graham, Ted Harrison, Elaine Lush, Catherine Somerville, Erin Todd, Stewart Walker, John Watson (Chair), Fraser Williamson (9)
Regrets	Joy Bott
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Check-in	Members of the Commission spent a few minutes checking-in. People shared generally positive comments about the retreat and the CRSC AGM. Although it was good it was to connect in person, the event highlighted that COVID is still a risk in the community. Plans were shared for walking the Camino.
Acknowledgement	John Watson acknowledged that we meet on the places of gathering for generations of traditional sojourners. He affirmed the importance that the Canadian Shield Regional Council has committed to be a safe space where all are welcome.
Opening	Elaine Lush reminded us that fall is a short season in the north and we should take time to be quiet and enjoy the limited number of days before winter sets in. She read a poem about fall and offered a prayer.
Agenda	Motion 2022-09-28-01 Elaine Lush/ Jane Graham moved that the agenda be accepted as circulated. Carried
Minutes of Previous Meeting	Motion 2022-09-29-02 Karen Gooch/ Fraser Williamson moved that the minutes from the June 29 th , 2022 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission meeting be accepted as circulated. Carried
Business Arising	
Retiring Ministers	The United Church released <i>Pastoral Relations: Additional Resources for Retirement</i> earlier this year. Commission members are asked to review this for discussion at our October meeting. Pastoral Relations: Additional Resources for Retirement (united-church.ca)
Celebration of Ministry Review	Rob Smith asked for comments about the Celebration of Ministry held at the CSRC AGM. Things went well and both retiring ministers gave lovely speeches.
Supervisor Reports	Elaine Lush lead the review of the Pastoral Charge Supervisor reports that have been received. One congregation has resisted having a review of their books done. This (and a few minor issues) will be followed up with the SCoffC at the next

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Commission Connections meeting. There were no other serious issues flagged. It was suggested that a letter of thanks be sent to the Pastoral Charge Supervisors.

Correspondence

None

New Business

Resource Teams Pastoral Relations Liaisons

- Joy Bott will no longer be a liaison, so her work will need to be reassigned. She will remain a member of the PRC.

LLWLs

- Work is continuing to complete the current round of LLWL licensing interviews with 2 interviews being conducted over the summer. There is still one interview remaining.

Support to Ministry Personnel

- Rob Smith offered thanks to those who worked on organizing the retreat. At the Anishinabe Spiritual Center in Espanola. There were few complaints about the \$100 fee to attend. Students attended for free and one Ministry Personnel had their fee paid by their congregation. There were 22 in attendance, but only a couple of retirees. It was good to have the students present. There was a question about holding the retreat in conjunction with the CSRC AGM. The cost of travel would be a consideration. Millage is paid by the Region for those attending the AGM.

Consensus Packet

The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting. We discussed whether there should be any terms or conditions applied to Doreen Mason (Retired DLM) regarding her approval to preside over the sacraments. It was agreed by consensus that the motion should simply state that she be licenced to preside over the sacraments.

The following motions were presented for a vote:

1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the re-appointment of David Chuipka (Candidate) to St. James-in-the-Valley United, Capreol, ON half-time effective October 1st, 2022 to September 30th, 2024 with the following terms:

Half-time (20 hours)

Community of Faith ADP Company Code 32Q7

Eligible Service (in years) 1

Step/increment category Step 1

Is manse included No

Minimum Full-Time Salary \$53,635.00

Prorated Annual Salary \$26,817.50

Additional Salary (in \$) 0.00

Total Salary \$26,817.50

Phone/Communications \$50.00

Continuing Education \$746.50

Other \$0.00

Total Remuneration \$27,614.00

2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council receive the request for a change in pastoral relations of the

- Rev. Louise Hart and First-Wesley United, Thunder Bay, ON effective December 31st, 2022.
3. ...that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the re-licensing of the following people who have successfully completed the re-application process and have been interviewed by the LLWL Resource and Support Team, effective October 1st, 2022 to June 30th, 2025:
 - Brenda McLay
 - Francis Morris
 4. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. John's United, Marathon, ON to re-license George Bott as a sacraments elder for the pastoral year October 1st, 2022 to June 30th, 2023.
 5. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of Grace United, Nipigon, ON to re-license Phyllis Gauvin as a sacraments elder for the pastoral year October 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023.
 6. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. Paul's United, New Liskeard, ON to license Bonnie Moore as a sacraments elder for the pastoral year October 1st, 2022 to June 30th, 2023. She recently participated in a training led by Elaine Lush
 7. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. John's United, Marathon, ON to license Nancy Vernon as a sacraments elder for the pastoral year October 1st, 2022 to June 30th, 2023. George Bott will mentor her. She was recently trained by Rob Smith.
 8. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. John's United, Marathon, ON to license Stephen Collins as a sacraments elder for the pastoral year October 1st, 2022 to June 30th, 2023. George Bott will train and mentor Stephen.
 9. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve that Doreen Mason (Retired DLM) be licenced to preside over the sacraments.
 10. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council appoint Doreen Mason as the Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Burk's Falls United, Burk's Falls, ON, effective October 1st, 2022.
 11. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council appoint the Rev. Melody Duncanson-Hales as Pastoral Charge Supervisor to Holy Trinity United, Elliot Lake ON, effective July 1st, 2022.
 12. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council appoint Peter Haddow as the Pastoral Charge Supervisor to Loring Pastoral Charge, Loring, ON, effective October 1st, 2022.
 13. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council appoint Rev. Sandra Jenkinson as Pastoral Charge Supervisor to Carmichael United, North Bay, ON effective October 1st, 2022.

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Motion 2022-09-28-04

Elaine Lush/ Fraser Williamson moved that each and every motion of the Consensus Packet be approved.

Carried

Sacraments Elder Training Stewart Walker agreed to offer online Sacraments Elder training. He stated he will reach out to the Manitou Intentional Learning Community (MILC) for support.

Other Business

Welcome Rob Smith welcomed Rev. Catherine Somerville to the PRC. She will be a valuable asset to the Commission.

Next Meeting The next meeting will be held on Wednesday October 26th, 2022 at 1:15 p.m. Jane Graham will provide the opening and Rob Smith will close the meeting.

Adjournment Stewart Walker offered a closing prayer before the meeting was adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Chairperson, John Watson

Secretary, Karen Gooch

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: 7:00 PM October 13, 2022

Present: Jim Jackson, Peter Haddow, Mardi Mumford, , Susan Peverley, Ernie Epp, Bonnie Johnson

Regrets: George Bott, Marilyn Schatzler, Brynn Carson, Crystal Greig

Staff Support: Melody Duncanson Hales, Diane Matheson Jimenez

Opening Prayer: Melody opened with prayer.

Introduction: Diane Matheson-Jimenez

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space: Jim

Approval of Agenda: agreed by consensus

1. Rutherglen – Mattawa;

Moved: Peter Haddow

Seconded: Susan Peverley

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith formally recognize the amalgamation of St Andrew's in the Pines Mattawa and Mount Pleasant Rutherglen to become Rutherglen- Mattawa Pastoral Charge. **Carried**

For the purposes of record keeping:

M&S number: 12050150 (Mattawa Rutherglen Pastoral Charge)

The CRA registration number remains the same: 107678377RR0001

The mailing address remains the same: PO Box 409, Mattawa, ON P0H 1V0

Financial accounts have been amalgamated.

Worshiping site will be St. Andrew's in the Pines, Mattawa property

Mount Pleasant, Rutherglen property declared surplus

List of officers are as follows:

Chair: Daryll Olmstead

Secretary: Debbie Lacelle (lacelewayne@gmail.com)

Treasurer: Karen Glanfield

Trustees: Roly Beckett (alt: Heather Olmstead), Beth Bangs, Debbie Lacelle, Roddy Rose

Pastoral Charge Supervisor: Rev. Rick Thorne

Property Chair: Roddy Rose

Worship/Outreach Chair: Betty Lennips (assisted by Debbie Lacelle)

2. Rutherglen – Mattawa – list surplus property

Moved: Bonnie Johnson**Seconded: Di Tait**

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith direct the Property Resource Team act on our behalf with regards for the request for the sale of the surplus property, the Mount Pleasant Rutherglen, for the Rutherglen Mattawa Pastoral Charge
Carried

2022/2023-6

3. Central UC (Sault Ste Marie): request to list property

Moved: Peter Haddow

Seconded: Bonnie Johnson

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith accept the recommendation of the Property Resource Team to approve the request of the Trustees of Central United Church, Sault Ste. Marie Ontario, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, having received the direction of Central United Church, Sault Ste. Marie congregation and Church Council,

- A. To list for sale the Property of Central United Church, Sault Ste. Marie Ontario, the legal description of which is - Lot number eleven (11) in Hughes subdivision "B", Plan 7360 in the Town of Sault Ste. Marie - Lot .number twelve (12) in Hughes subdivision "B", Plan 5887 in the Town of Sault Ste. Marie- Lot thirteen (13) in Hughes subdivision "B", plan 5884 in the City of Sault Ste. Marie - Lot eighteen (18) in Hughes subdivision "B", Transfers T249177 and T248996 in the City of Sault Ste. Marie - Lot nineteen (19) in Hughes subdivision "B", Transfer T248996 in the City of Sault Ste. Marie and the municipal address is 160, Spring Street, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario P6A 3A5, the terms of which are as follows:
 - a. Agent: Century 21, Choice Realty Inc. 121 Brock Street, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario
 - b. Commission: 5% of the Sale Price plus HST
 - c. Asking Price: \$ 800,000
 - d. Possession Date: to be arranged.
 - e. Furnishing included: to be arranged depending on the purchaser
 - f. The sale being conditional on the approval of the Support to Communities of Faith Commission of the Canadian Shield Regional council of the United Church of Canada
 - g. A provision for a minimum of 7 business days to respond to an offer as a detail in the listing
- B. And to dispose of the proceeds of the sale of the building, property and furnishings as follows:
 - a. Reimbursement of holding, maintenance and disposal costs
 - b. Covering the unpaid past assessments and current year assessment
 - c. Repaying any congregational indebtedness
 - d. With the remaining funds to be invested and utilized for the ministry and mission of the congregation of Central United Church, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario

Carried

4. The Joint group of the Commission for Support for Communities of Faith and the Pastoral Relations have set a up a Supervisor's session on Saturday November 12, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. and Tuesday November 22, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
5. Bonnie asked questions around the requirements for accessibility improvements.

Next Meetings: October 27, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. and November 24, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment: Jim declared the meeting adjourned.

Susan Peverley closed the meeting with prayer.

Jim Jackson, Chair

Mardi Mumford, Secretary

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EXECUTIVE

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on October 13, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.

PRESENT: Barb Nott (Chair), Jim Jackson, Nancy Ferguson, John Watson, Kathie Smith, Helen Smith, Dave Le Grand, Mastard Sakala, Susan Lindquist, Bill Steadman, Joy Galloway

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead

REGRETS: Stewart Walker, Eun-Joo Park

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.
Barb honoured the traditional lands upon which we meet with the following words:

The lands where we gather today, across this region, have been places of gathering for First Nations people as they camped and travelled across the land for generations beyond our knowing. Before people arrived from across the seas, these Nations lived, loved, raised children and made a living. They lived in harmony with all that the Creator had made. As we meet today, we recognize those traditional sojourners in this land. We give thanks for them and for the lands on which we gather today. We acknowledge that our history has come at a great cost to the Indigenous community and we commit ourselves to be partners in healing and reconciliation.

Barb then read the CSRC safe space statement:

The Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive, as an affirming community, is a safe place that welcomes and includes all people to gather and participate in the life and work of the regional council regardless of age, ability, race, cultural background, sexual orientation or gender identity. In this space, all are welcome.

Peter led Executive in a reflection and then he ended with prayer.

CHECK-IN

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There are 4 errors in the Regional Meeting Update section and have been corrected.

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

The point was brought up that the e-votes, according to The Manual, need to have at least 48 hours' notice before closing. In the future, all CSRC E-votes will have at least 48 hours' notice. Also, John Watson was added as a voting member of Executive to the minutes.

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

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

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

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

FINANCIAL UPDATE (IF ANY)

Janet has indicated that all the financial information from the meeting continues to come in and she cannot update the final budget until she received that information. There will be an update at the next meeting of Executive.

INCORPORATED MINISTRIES OMNIBUS MOTION (ST. PAUL'S HOUSING CORP.)

Peter gave a brief overview of what Incorporated Ministries are and why we have them.

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

- a) **St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation**
- - ... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation 2021-2022 Board of Directors
 - - Lynne Curran
 - Laurie Forbes
 - H. Brian Foster
 - Gail Henderson
 - Don Macdougall
 - Doreen Macdougall
 - Debra Mehagan
 - Bert Rowson
 - Ray Quinn
 -
 - *This is based on the draft Annual Meeting minutes of September 21, 2021, the 2021 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per The United Church of Canada Incorporated Ministries Policy.*
 - **CARRIED**

2022/2023-10

REGIONAL MEETING UPDATE

Regional Council Reflection, Comments, Thanksgiving, and Learning

Peter gave thanks for everyone who worked on the meeting and especially the tech team.

Nancy gave a brief reflection and stated that the evaluation forms are still coming in and the team will continue to review them. A report to Executive will be forthcoming.

Executive was asked to share their views of the meeting and one point that came up was that there needed to be more volunteers to help with set up and tear down. Also, there needs to be people from the host church on the planning team to help with the local arrangements.

The comment was made that in the future, we need to have hybrid meetings in case people are still uncomfortable meeting in-person due to Covid/Flu and also because of mobility reasons. Several evaluations stated that the online experience was excellent.

Other comments included were that we could/should have taped or made live the discussion groups. Also, it was stated that not having a choir was missed – Bill explained we didn't have one because of Covid protocols and concerns.

There was an indication that people felt that voices were not heard from the floor at all, especially during the GC44 piece. This was an important oversight with the General Secretary present at our meeting, he could have answered many questions directly.

Some people still had Covid anxieties at the meeting. The face-to-face meeting was very important for our region, bridging all the 3 conferences together, as this was only our 2nd in-person meeting since becoming a region.

Executive members who attending the campfire at Hannah Lake enjoyed their time.

Proposal: Renaming the Regional Council

This decision has been deferred to the next meeting, as members of Executive did not receive the proposal ahead of time.

Executive Conversation around Scheduling the Next RCM and Location

Peter indicated that the planning team has not had their final wrap-up meeting and their feedback may have an impact on the scheduling and location. The planning team co-chairs will report back to Executive at the next meeting.

REGIONAL MEETING TRAVEL REMUNERATION POLICY

Executive discussed the 2019 and 2022 Regional Meeting Travel Remuneration Policy. Peter indicated it would be beneficial to have a regional policy in place that will not need to be altered at each meeting.

It was suggested that communities of faith should realize that there is a cost to “being church” and travel for their Ministry Personnel, and possibly Regional Reps, will need to be covered by each pastoral charge.

Nancy mentioned that there are two ministry personnel in Sault Ste. Marie are now in “formal association” with communities of faith there. It is understood that the community of faith in which the Ministry Personnel are in Formal Association with will cover the cost of their travel to a regional meeting and maybe that could happen in other places.

EXECUTIVE MINISTER'S REPORT

Peter discussed one portion of his report – the hiring of a new full-time administrative assistant. The job posting was just put up online today by the General Council Office.

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

NEW BUSINESS

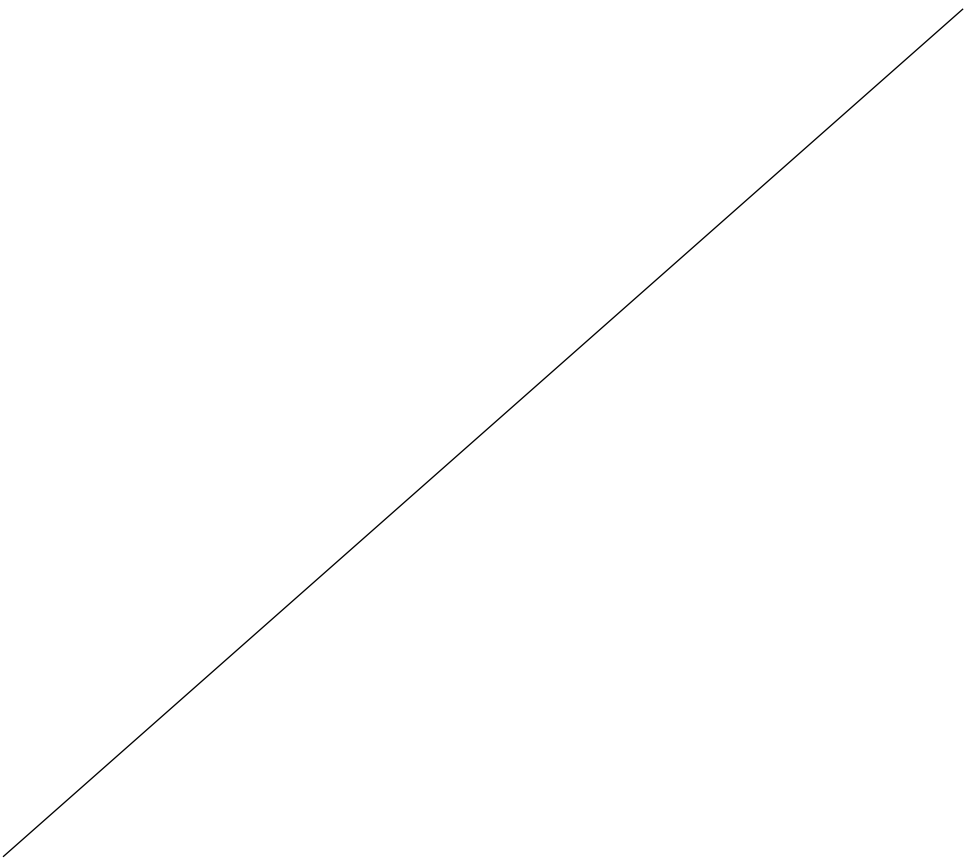
There was no new business.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- November 3, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- December 1, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

CLOSING

Barb adjourned the meeting at 3:32 p.m. and she ended with a prayer.



PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

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Canadian Shield Regional Council
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
October 26th, 2022 at 1:15 p.m.

Welcome (1:20 p.m.)	John Watson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
Attendance	Joy Bott, Karen Gooch (Secretary), Jane Graham, Elaine Lush, Catherine Somerville, Erin Todd, Stewart Walker, John Watson (Chair), Fraser Williamson (9)
Regrets	Ted Harrison
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Check-in	Members of the Commission spent a few minutes checking-in. People shared about what has been happening in their lives. Fall clean-up is happening, Fraser Williamson was re-elected to town Council, a dedication was held at Grace United in Sudbury after rebuilding from a fire and people have spent time away studying or saying goodbye to a family cottage that will be sold. COVID is still a concern for many.
Acknowledgement	John Watson acknowledged that we have made a commitment to care for creation as we walk with First Nation people and that as an Affirming community, we have pledged to make our meeting space safe for all.
Opening	Jane Graham read from Proverbs 17 reminding us that a cheerful heart is good medicine and that laughter doesn't happen often enough. Laughing with others can change the atmosphere for the better.
Agenda	Motion 2022-10-26-01 Catherine Somerville/ Elaine Lush moved that the agenda be accepted as circulated. Carried
Minutes of Previous Meeting	Motion 2022-10-26-02 Karen Gooch/ Erin Todd moved that the minutes from the September 28 th , 2022 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission meeting be accepted as circulated. Carried
Business Arising	
Retiring Ministers	The United Church released <i>Pastoral Relations: Additional Resources for Retirement</i> earlier this year. Commission members were asked to review this ahead of this meeting. Pastoral Relations: Additional Resources for Retirement (united-church.ca) We held a brief discussion about guidelines concerning the relationship between Communities of Faith and retiring ministers. It was agreed that the PRC does not need its own formal policy at this time. The PRC will recommend that church councils and retiring ministers review this document as retirement approaches. A facilitated conversation may be needed in some situations if issues arise.

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Supervisor Reports Elaine Lush and former PRC member Joy Galloway have reviewed the supervisors' reports and Elaine offered to prepare a report for the next Commission Connections meeting so that feedback can be provided to the Support to Communities of Faith Commission (SCofFC) about any issues that need to be addressed.

Sacrament Elder Training Stewart Walker has approached the Manitou Intentional Learning Community (MILC) and they are willing offer a Sacraments Elder training course in the new year. This would be offered through Zoom and open to anyone but geared to those looking to be a Sacraments Elder for their Community of Faith.

Correspondence

- A letter dated October 18th, 2022 was received from the Zion United Council and the Trout Creek United Official Board. The churches have a shared ministry agreement which states that each church will be responsible to hire their own pulpit supply if the minister is away. Often, they end up hiring the same LLWL because of a shortage of local LLWLs. They are requesting that the PRC consider a proposal that would see anyone hired to do pulpit supply at both churches on the same Sunday would be paid the standard pulpit supply rate plus \$50 (plus milage) rather than the full rate for each service. The following discussion was held:
 - These two Communities of Faith only share a minister and are not a two-point charge. Do they want to maintain their independence? Is this about the shortage of LLWLs or is this a financial issue?
 - Currently, if an LLWL were to preach at two independent churches in a larger city such as Sudbury or North Bay, they would get paid the full rate for both services. Would this proposal set a precedent where two churches that are geographical close together could reach an agreement to use the same LLWL on a Sunday for a lower cost? Some LLWLs actively seek out opportunities to preach twice on a Sunday.
 - We want to be fair to both LLWLs and churches and it was suggested we should consider the proposal from this letter as a way ease the financial burden on individual churches considering that there is not a lot of extra preparation required to preside at a second service.
 - The policy for hiring LLWLs is different for two-point charges and it was felt that unless we revisit the policy, we cannot make individual exceptions for churches that chose not to become a two-point charge. They cannot consider themselves a two-point charge simply for the purpose of LLWL reimbursement.
 - There was a suggestion that LLWLs might want to consider presiding at two Sunday services if it is practical to do so. This may help ease the shortage of LLWLs in some areas.
 - We agreed by consensus that we are not able to support the proposal from Zion and Trout Creek. Rob Smith and John Watson will draft a response to the churches reiterating our current policy and inviting them to explore becoming a two-point charge in the future to see if this better suits their situation.

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- The draft of an Ecumenical Shared Ministry Agreement between St George's Anglican Church, Diocese of Algoma and The United Church of Espanola was received for information.

few Business

Resource Teams Pastoral Relations Liaisons

- There was no report.

LLWLs

- An online check-in for LLWLs is planned for November 19th.
- The minimum remuneration for LLWLs will rise by 3.4% to \$182.95 on January 1st, 2023 and the milage rate will rise to \$.55 per kilometer.
- An education event is being organized for February 25th, 2023. Suggestions for a theme would be welcome.

Support to Ministry Personnel

- The minimum remuneration for Ministry Personnel doing pulpit supply will rise by 3.4% to \$232.00 on January 1st, 2023 and the milage rate will rise to \$.55 per kilometer.
- The Ministry Personnel Wellness Team will meet next week.

Consensus Packet The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting. The following motions were presented for a vote:

1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the call of the Rev. Mastard Sakala (OM) to Harmony United, Thunder Bay, ON effective October 1st, 2022 to September 30th, 2024 with the following terms:

Full-time (40 hours)

Community of Faith ADP Company Code 31H2

Eligible Service (in years) 11

Step/increment category E

Is manse included No

Minimum Full-Time Salary \$62,696.00

Prorated Annual Salary \$62,696.00

Additional Salary (in \$) 0.00

Total Salary \$62,696.00

Phone/Communications \$1,800.00

Continuing Education \$1,493.00

Other \$7.00

Other Details

Top-up of continuing education amount

Total Remuneration \$65,996.00

2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of All People's United, Sudbury, ON to re-license Mona Campbell and Marlene Chuipka as sacraments elders for the current pastoral year effective October 1st, 2022 to June 30th, 2023.

Motion 2022-10-26-03

Joy Bott/ Catherine Somerville moved that each and every motion of the Consensus Packet be approved.

Carried

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Gifts Rob Smith pointed out that no gifts were given at the recent AGM to retiring Ministry Personnel or to Rev. Mastard Sakala as he was welcomed into ministry. This has been done in the past but it appears there was an oversight this year. Rob will consult the Regional Council Executive about protocols around this. What is an appropriate cost? Suggestions for gifts included a Hudson's Bay blanket or a gift certificate. There should be enough money in the PRC budget for this expense.

Letter to Communities of Faith Rob Smith and John Watson will be sending a letter to all Communities of Faith to remind them of the increase in remuneration for LLWLs and to encourage people to consider training to become an LLWL. There will also be a reminder that there will be training for Sacrament Elders in the new year.

Other Business

Next Meeting The next meeting will be held on Wednesday November 23rd, 2022 at 1:15 p.m. Catherine Sommerville will provide the opening and the closing for the meeting.

Adjournment Rob Smith offered a closing prayer before the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Chairperson, John Watson

Secretary, Karen Gooch

2022/2023-16

EXECUTIVE

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on November 3, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.

PRESENT: Barb Nott (Chair), Nancy Ferguson, John Watson, Kathie Smith, Helen Smith, Mastard Sakala, Bill Steadman, Joy Galloway, Stewart Walker, Susan Lindquist, Dave LeGrand

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead, Rob Smith

REGRETS: Eun-Joo Park, Jim Jackson

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

Barb honoured the traditional lands upon which we meet and then read the CSRC safe space statement.

Peter led Executive in a reflection including a reading from Psalm 27:1-4 and then ended with prayer.

CHECK-IN

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair added an Executive check-in to the agenda.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

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

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

OMNIBUS MOTION FROM THE INCORPORATED MINISTRIES (Thunder Bay United Church Camps Incorporated - Camp Duncan)

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/John Watson

2022-11-03-04

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

CARRIED

SIGNING AUTHORITY UPDATE NEEDED (JANET, SUSAN, RACHAEL, WILL, AND JOAN)

Peter indicated that the regional signing authorities list needs to be updated from having Janet MacDonald, Susan Whitehead, Rachael Howes, Will Kunder and Joan Bailey. Peter asked if Kathie Smith would like to be added to the list to replace Will and Joan.

MOTION by Bill Steadman/John Watson

2022-11-03-05

That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive remove Will Kunder and Joan Bailey as signing authorities and add Kathie Smith.

CARRIED

REGIONAL MEETING UPDATE

- *Proposal: Renaming the Regional Council*
Executive reviewed the proposal submitted to the Regional Council after the deadline date, which was then referred to the Executive.

MOTION by John Watson/Dave LeGrand

2022-11-03-06

That the CSRC Executive write to Mr. Taggart thanking him sincerely for offering this proposal but the Regional Council will not proceed with his Regional Renaming proposal.

CARRIED

- *Executive Conversation around Scheduling the Next RCM and Location*
Rob Smith joined Executive to discuss the idea of a learning event (Festival of Faith) instead of a Regional Council Meeting (RCM) every year. Executive had a fulsome discussion about the possibility of a learning event in the spring in lieu of an in-person RCM, with the possibility of having an online RCM in the fall (2023) or a full hybrid meeting the following year (2024).

There was interest in having a sub-committee to discuss this possibility and the report back to the December meeting of Executive. Members include: Barb Nott, Rob Smith, Stewart Walker, Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Peter Hartmans (Susan Whitehead – Staff Resource).

- *Regional Meeting Travel Remuneration Policy*
Executive looked at the past remuneration motions for RCMs and discussed having a permanent policy in place going forward.

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

2022/2023-18

RECOMMENDATION FROM FINANCE RESOURCE TEAM

Peter indicated that Janet MacDonald was unable to attend this meeting and would like Executive to defer this conversation until the next meeting of Executive, when she can be present and have the final numbers for the RCM.

Finance Resource Team June 23, 2022 Meeting Motion:

Motion by Barb Cunningham/Bill Jones

2022-06-23-01

*That the CSRC Finance Resource Team recommend to the CSRC Executive that
\$100,000 from surplus funds accumulated due to Covid be distributed to*

EXECUTIVE MINISTER'S REPORT

Executive received the Executive Minister Report and Peter discussed a few items. In future reports, Peter will include the strategic plan of The United Church of Canada and the 100th anniversary of The UCC in 2025.

NEW BUSINESS

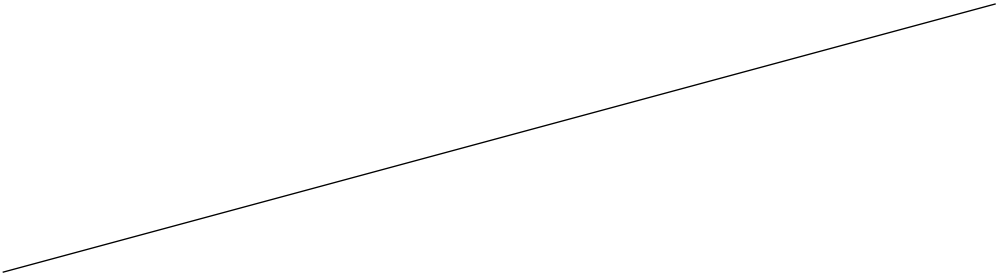
There was no new business.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- December 1, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- January 5, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- February 2, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- March 2, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- April 6, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

CLOSING

Barb adjourned the meeting at 3:05 p.m. and Nancy ended with a prayer.



PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

PRC 2022, Page 45

Canadian Shield Regional Council
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
November 23rd, 2022 at 1:15 p.m.

Welcome (1:20 p.m.)	John Watson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
Attendance	Joy Galloway, Karen Gooch (Secretary), Jane Graham, Ted Harrison, Elaine Lush, Catherine Somerville, Erin Todd, John Watson (Chair), Fraser Williamson (8)
Regrets	Joy Bott, Stewart Walker
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Check-in	Members of the Commission spent a few minutes checking-in by answering the question "What are you looking forward to?". People are anticipating Christmas preparations, getting ready to go away for the winter, singing in Christmas concerts and skiing. The members of Grace United are looking forward to celebrating the first Christmas in their rebuilt church following a fire.
Acknowledgement	John Watson acknowledged that we gather on lands of many indigenous nations with whom we walk together in solidarity and reconciliation. He reminded us that as an Affirming community, we have pledge to make our meeting space safe for all.
Opening	Catherine Sommerville shared some of her experiences (and photos) of walking the Camino a number of years ago. The journey is guided by a series of markers and arrows, as there is no map available. Those who walk often carry stones of remembrance with them as they hold others in prayer. The trip is very rewarding despite the toll it takes on your body. Catherine offered a prayer from that time in her life to open our meeting.
Agenda	Motion 2022-11-23-01 Fraser Williamson/ Elaine Lush moved that the agenda be accepted with 2 additional items – PRC finances and new Commission Connections member. Carried
Minutes of Previous Meeting	Motion 2022-11-23-02 Karen Gooch/ Jane Graham moved that the minutes from the October 26 th , 2022 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission meeting be accepted as circulated. Carried
Business Arising	
Supervisor Reports	Elaine Lush prepared a summary of the Pastoral Charge Supervisors' reports to be brought to the Commission Connections in order to share areas of common concern with the Support to Communities of Faith Commission. Rob Smith thanked her for her work.

The United Church of Canada
Canadian Shield Regional Council

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CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
November 23rd, 2022

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- Sacrament Elder Training** Stewart Walker is working with the Manitou Intentional Learning Community (MILC) to develop an online sacraments training course to run in January. There have been 4 or 5 people that have expressed an interest in this training.
- Retiring Minister Gifts** There was a brief discussion about gifts for retiring Ministry Personnel. It was agreed that a \$150 gift card for a restaurant meal should be given. Rob Smith will ensure that Rev. Cory Vermeer-Cuthbert and Rev. Susan Ivany, the retirees honoured at this year's AGM, receive their gift.
- Motion 2022-11-23-03**
Jane Graham/ Elaine Lush moved that the retirees honoured at the CSRC AGM should receive a \$150 restaurant gift card as an expression of our thanks for their service to the United Church. **Carried**
- Letter to Communities of Faith** A letter was distributed to the Communities of Faith encouraging people to consider training to be a Sacraments Elder or an LLWL. So far, several people expressed an interest in these training opportunities. The letter also had a reminder about the increase in the minimum remuneration for LLWLs to \$182.95 and the increase in the travel rate to .05 per kilometer.
- Correspondence**
- Correspondence was received which outlined the results of the cost-of-living review for Ministry Personnel. A review has not been done for 8 or 9 years instead of the usual 3 years. Minimum salaries across the country are ranked based largely on the cost of housing in any particular area. The review has resulted in recommendations that will be implemented in June 2023. Increases will be capped so that no area will see an increase that is more than one step up the scale (equivalent to about \$3,000 in salary). This could result in some budgeting challenges for some, but it is expected that most Communities of Faith in the CSRC will not feel the effect of this (with the possible exception of the larger urban centers).
- Appendix I**
- A letter was received from Kathie Smith, CSRC Chair of Nominations. It was circulated by email to PRC members before this meeting. Now that the new governance structure has been in place for several years, Nominations is requesting that the PRC-related job descriptions (Appendix I) attached to Kathie's letter be reviewed. A brief discussion was held and it was generally agreed that the job descriptions were accurate, but that there was an underestimation of the time commitment. John Watson agreed to respond to Kathie with a more accurate expectation of time including monthly meetings, preparation time and opportunity for involvement with the Commission Connections by three PRC members. Although the current PRC Chair is part of the CSRC Executive, this role could be taken on by any PRC member.

Unfinished Business

- Resource Teams** Pastoral Relations Liaisons
- A discussion was held about how to work with Communities of Faith who are not actively searching for Ministry Personnel. Could Liaisons play a larger role in encouraging churches to find a way to fulfill their ministry needs?

CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
November 23rd, 2022

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- Should there be a review of each congregation's situation annually? Should we add something about this to the Pastoral Charge Supervisor report? It was agreed we want to avoid treating this as another item on a checklist.
- Liaisons could help ensure that congregations are kept aware of possible ministry options and that lines of communication remain open. We don't want to make the assumption that every congregation needs paid Ministry Personnel. We should be considering new ways of 'doing church'.

LLWLs

- The scheduled November 19th online check-in for LLWLs has been postponed until November 30th from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m.
- An educational opportunity is being organized for February 25th, 2023. Suggestions for a theme would be welcome. There has been coordination with MILC for this event.

Support to Ministry Personnel

- Peter Hartmans will be part of an online check-in from 9:30 – 11:30 a.m. on December 7th.
- Janice MacLean from Prayer Bench will be the leading an event on January 26th, 2023 from 9:30 a.m. to noon focusing on trust, meditation and COVID-19 recovery.

Consensus Packet The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting. Rob Smith highlighted the fact that First United in Wawa received a grant from the national church to allow the congregation to pay Minhyuk Hwang and extra 5 hours a week.

The following motions were presented for a vote:

1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the amendment to the appointment of Minhyuk Hwang (Candidate) to First United, Wawa ON from 20 hours to 25 hours a week effective September 1st, 2022 to July 31st, 2023 with the following terms:

Community of Faith ADP Company Code	RB5J
Eligible Service (in years)	0
Step/increment category	Step 1
Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$50,160.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$31,350.00
Additional Salary (in \$)	0.00
Total Salary	\$31,350.00
Phone/Communications	\$1,000.00
Continuing Education	\$933.13
Other	\$1,067.00

Other Details

For travel and books combined with continuing education

Total Remuneration	\$34,350.13
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2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the appointment of the Rev. William Steadman (OM – Retired) to Copper Cliff United, Copper Cliff ON effective December 1st, 2022 to November 30th, 2025 with the following terms:

Part-time (16 hours)	
Community of Faith ADP Company Code	909P

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Eligible Service (in years)	43
Step/increment category	F
Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$64,440.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$25,776.00
Additional Salary (in \$)	0.00
Total Salary	\$25,776.00
Phone/Communications	\$600.00
Continuing Education	\$597.20
Other	\$0.00

Other Details

December 2022 to be paid at 2022 salary as above.

Effective January 1st, 2023, 2023 salary rates will apply

- phone/communication at \$600 per year
- continuing education at \$617 per year
- mileage rates as per UC rates

Total Remuneration \$26,973.20

3. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council appoint the Rev. Robert Smith as the Pastoral Charge Supervisor for First-Wesley United, Thunder Bay ON, effective January 1st, 2023.

Motion 2022-11-23-04

Joy Bott/ Catherine Somerville moved that each and every motion of the Consensus Packet be approved.

Carried

PRC Finances Rob Smith spoke about the PRC budget.

- There is currently \$15,000 annually available for programing. So far this year, very little of this has been spent. The recent Ministry Personnel retreat in Espanola cost approximately \$4,000 plus \$1,500 for the facilitator. Members were asked to think about ways this money could be spent. There is the possibility of funding one in-person PRC meeting each year as the CSRC as a whole considers options for future meetings.
- In addition to the regular budget, there is \$100,000 available for ministry development. This designated money came out of the United Church restructuring and there is no time frame for when to spend it. One suggestion was that we consider hiring someone part-time to provide support virtually to the Ministry Personnel working within our Regional Council.

Commission Connections Commission Connections is a joint committee of the Pastoral Relations and Support to Communities of Faith Commissions which is made up of two members plus CRSC staff from each commission. They meet once a month on Monday afternoons. We currently need another representative from the PRC. Erin Todd volunteered to be part of this team.

Other Business

Next Meeting The next meeting will be held on Wednesday January 25th, 2023 at 1:15 p.m. Elaine Lush will provide the opening and the closing for the meeting.

CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
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Adjournment

Catherine Sommerville offered a closing prayer from her time walking the Camino before the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

Chairperson, John Watson

Secretary, Karen Gooch

2022/2023-24

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

Support to Communities of Faith Commission Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada ZOOM Meeting – Date: Thursday November 24, 2022 6:30 p.m.

Agenda

Welcome, Check-in:

Opening Prayer:

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:

Approval of Agenda:

Approval of Minutes: October 27, 2022 pages 182 -186

Business Arising:

Responsibility to archives

Correspondence:

Fairview UC Tehkummah

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

1. Changes in Communities of Faith
 - a. Schreiber
 - b. Hornpayne –
 - c. The United Church of Espanola – Ecumenical agreement
2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting Nov. 21 NorthBay Thunderbay
3. Commission Joint working group- Supervisors Nov. 12 and Nov 22.

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team - St Stephen's Chelmsford, Central UC Sault Ste Marie, Hillview
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team
- Right Relations Resource Team
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team
- United in Worship Project
- Social Justice Network

Emergent Business:

Date of Next Meeting:

Adjournment: Closing Prayer:

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada**

ZOOM Meeting – Date: Thursday November 24, 2022 6:30 p.m.

Present: Jim Jackson, Peter Haddow, Bonnie Johnson, Ernie Epp, Crystal Greig, Mardi Mumford, Susan Peverley,

Regrets: Marilyn Schatzler, Brynn Carson, George Bott

Staff Support: Melody Duncanson Hales, Diane Matheson Jimenez

Welcome, Check-in:

Opening Prayer: Rev. Susan Peverley opened with prayer

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space: Jim Jackson acknowledged the many Indigenous territories upon which we meet and declared that this was a safe space.

Approval of Agenda:

Moved: Bonnie Johnson

Seconded: Peter Haddow

That the agenda for the meeting November 24, 2022 be approved with the addition to Correspondence from Porcupine UC. Carried

Approval of Minutes:

Moved: Mardi Mumford

Seconded: Susan Peverley

That the minutes of the meeting of the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith, October 27, 2022 pages 182 – 186 be approved. Carried

Business Arising:

Responsibility to archives: Diane Matheson Jimenez will do some research as to what other regions have done and look for a job description so that we can work to fulfill this responsibility.

Correspondence:

1. Fairview UC Tehkummah

Moved: Mardi Mumford

Seconded: Peter Haddow

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve an emergency grant for the sum of \$5,000.00 to assist in paying for the Required Insurance Coverage for the year 2023(Jan.1, 2023 until December 31, 2023) for Fairview United Church Tehkummah ON

Carried

Next steps for Fairview UC is to start the process to make the decision to disband. Determine the status of the cemetery, investigate the willingness of the Township to receive the cemetery and the church property for a nominal fee (\$2.00) to facilitate a land

2022/2023-26

transfer from the UCC to the (Name of) municipality. Melody will work with their-Pastoral Charge Supervisor, Gail Cronin.

2. Porcupine UC.

Moved: Susan Peverley

Seconded:

Crystal

Greig

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve the request from Porcupine United Church to withdraw up to \$10,000.00 a year from the Manse Fund GIC to cover the shortfall of the operating income. Carried

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive: A single item was to name the Board members for Camp Duncan.

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

1. Changes in Communities of Faith
 - a. Schreiber - no report
 - b. Hornpayne – no report
2. The United Church of Espanola – Ecumenical agreement is now in the hands of the Diocese of Algoma.
3. Local regional cluster support:
 - a. The Sudbury Partnership met on Nov. 21. Several projects are in the works. Shared u-tube services for December 25 and January 1st, a working group will meet in early January to look at ways to work together for Right Relations
 - b. North Bay Group will meet on Monday November 28th to explore more ways to partner
 - c. Thunder Bay – the multi site group continues to work.
4. Commission Joint working group- a workshop for Pastoral Charge Supervisors was held on Nov. 12 and Nov 22. About 25 supervisors attended. There is a need for the reports to be circulated to both Commissions.

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team (PRT)

- St Stephen's UC Chelmsford: there has been an offer to purchase with a closing date of January 16, 2023. The PRT has approved the sale acting on behalf of the Support to Communities of Faith Commission.
- Central UC Sault Ste Marie: There has been a conditional offer to purchase and The PRT will review the final sale acting on behalf of this Commission.
- Manitouwadge: Conversations are being held to look for partners for use and support of the Name of the Church property.
- Fairview Memorial UC
- Hillview Pioneer Memorial United Church

Having received a recommendation from the PRT to approve the sale of Hillview Pioneer Memorial United Church property, and also

the request from the Trustees of Hillview Pioneer Memorial United Church, a congregation of the United Church of Canada, which received the direction of Hillview Pioneer Memorial United Church governing body,

Moved: Crystal Greig Seconded: Peter Haddow

That the Commission for The Support For to Communities of Faith Commission approves the sale of the Hillview Pioneer Memorial United Church property, the legal description of which is PCL 14963 SEC SST PT LT 3 CON 3 DYMOND PT 2 TER 311, EXCEPT PT2 54R1153 TEMISKAMING SHORES, DIST OF TEMISKAMING and the municipal address of which is 88402 Hwy 65W, Temiskaming Shores ON

the terms of which are as follows:

a. Agent: Judie Martin Royal Lepage

b. Commission: 5%

c. Purchase Price: \$225,000

d. Possession Date: January 31, 2023

e. Furnishings included: Pulpit, Altar, two refrigerators, two electric stoves, kitchen island,

B. And to dispose of the proceeds of the sale of building, property and furnishings as follows:

a. Reimbursement of holding, maintenance and disposal costs

b. Covering unpaid past assessments and current year assessment

c. Repaying any congregational indebtedness

d. With the remaining funds to be invested and utilized for the ministry and mission of the congregation of Hillview Pioneer Memorial United Church. **Carried**

Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team: See appendix 1.

Moved: Crystal Greig Seconded: Susan Peverley

*That the Support to Communities of Faith Commission approve the recommendations of the Mission Support and Regional Council Grants Resource teams for grants(appendix 1) for 2023. **Carried***

Bonnie Johnson abstained.

2022/2023-28

- **Right Relations Resource Team:** The team is preparing a Christmas Wish list to encourage support of local Indigenous vendors. A new Minute for Right Relations is being prepared.
- **Affirming Ministry Resource Team:** The next meeting of this team is in January. Peter Haddow will be conducting a book study in the new year in partnership with Mantiou Intentional Learning Community (MILC).
- **Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team:** Jeffrey Dale has been working with churches in the Sudbury area to prepare them towards working as a team with the support of a local administrator. It looks as though one community of faith within the network will apply for a Vision Fund Grant of \$ 5,000.00 to help with the preparation for such a role.

Confirmation

The first weekend of May will be a confirmation retreat for both Shining Waters and Canadian Shield RCs. The retreat will be hosted at Sparrow Lake Camp in the Muskoka Region and will be lead by all the ministry personnel whose youth are participating.

Bees for Peace

Shining Waters received a grant from the Embrace the Spirit Fund to create a curriculum with the University of Toronto organization Bees for Peace. This curriculum will be for Vacation Bible Camps in the upcoming year, and we will be working across both Canadian Shield and Shining Waters with communities of faith and young adults to support the roll out of this program.

Young Adult Ministry Grants and Work

There are two young adults who recently received Vision Grants:

One is through Canadian Shield Regional Council, Torrin Maag who is working on Neurodivergence and the Church's relationship with people who are engaging with the church in this way. Torrin also received a grant from Canadian Shield RC.

The second, is through Shining Waters Regional Council, Hopelyn Butler, who is working on a resource for young adults regarding Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity. She will be working with Canadian Shield RC young adults as she develops this curriculum.

- **United in Worship Project:** No report
- **Social Justice Network:** The Network met November 24th and notes will be sent to the Commission.

Emergent Business: Insurance coverage has become an issue and Diane shared two links to information. This topic might be a good next workshop.

<https://united-church.ca/leadership/church-administration/local-administration/group-insurance/ucc-protect>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fpBhCkJg7pE&list=PLQDu-SgFb3RhqpBF-IFLskjoAzh1or3hQ&index=3>

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday January 24, 2023 at 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment: Peter Haddow moved to adjourn at 8:21 p.m.

Closing Prayer: Melody lead a closing prayer.

Jim Jackson, Chair

Mardi Mumford, Secretary

Appendix !

Canadian Shield Regional Grants Team

Digest of Actions

November 23, 2022 7 pm Zoom online meeting

Present: Diane Trollope (Chair), Bea Webb, Nancy Rouble, Susan Siszcar, Stuart Taggart, Melody Duncanson Hales (CSRC Staff Support), Diane Matheson-Jimenez (CSRC Staff Support)

2023 Mission Support Grant applications were reviewed. Full applications and supporting documents for these applications are available from Melody Duncanson-Hales.

2023 Canadian Shield RC Mission Support Grant Budget: \$60,000

2023 Mission Support Grant Requests

Pastoral Charge Mission Support Grant Outreach Ministry and Social Issues Projects

<u>Goulais River UC:</u>	<u>5000</u>	Camp McDougall	\$23,000
Total congregational:	\$5,000	Rainbow Camp:	20,000
		Daisy Chain Drop-In	6,000
		Five Oaks Retreat Centre	10,000
		<u>The Hub Community Network</u>	<u>20,000</u>
		Total outreach:	\$49,000

The United Church of Canada
Canadian Shield Regional Council

2022/2023-30

Total Mission Support Grant Requests, 2023: \$85,000

Grants Team Recommendations

Pastoral Charge Mission Support Grant Outreach Ministry and Social Issues Projects

Goulais River UC:	5000	Camp McDougall	22500
<i>Val D'Or SEM (anticipated):</i>	<i>3000</i>	Rainbow Camp:	19500
<u><i>Hearst SEM (anticipated):</i></u>	<u><i>3000</i></u>	Daisy Chain Drop-In	5000
Total congregational:	\$11,000	Five Oaks Retreat Centre	<i>not recommended at this time</i>
		The Hub Com Network	<i>not recommended at this time</i>
		Total outreach:	\$47,000

Budget for Canadian Shield MSG: \$60,000

total recommended requests: - 58,000

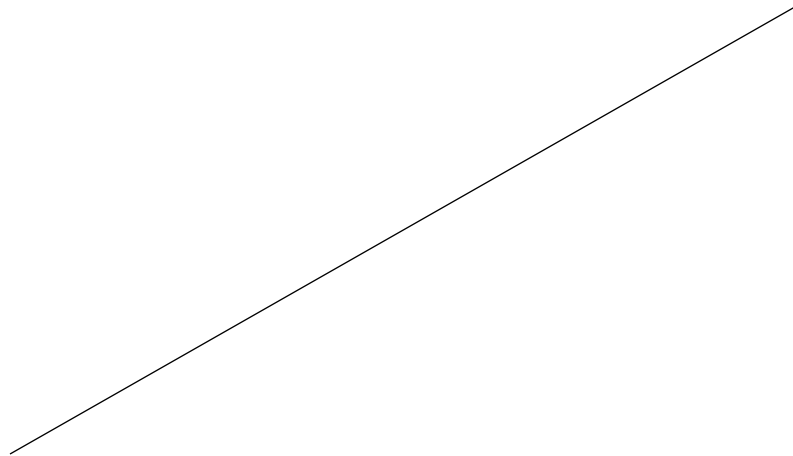
Remainder held for emergent needs: \$ 2,000

(\$6000 for anticipated requests from Hearst and Val D'Or)

Respectfully Submitted,

Melody Duncanson Hales,

Staff Support, Canadian Shield Regional Council Grants Resource Team



EXECUTIVE

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on December 1, 2022 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.

PRESENT: Barb Nott (Chair), Nancy Ferguson, John Watson, Helen Smith, Mastard Sakala, Bill Steadman, Joy Galloway, Stewart Walker, Susan Lindquist, Dave LeGrand, Jim Jackson, Eun-Joo Park

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead, Janet MacDonald

REGRETS: Kathie Smith

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.
Barb honoured the traditional lands upon which we meet and then read the CSRC safe space statement.

Peter led Executive in Worship with an Advent prayer from our Moderator, The Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Landsdowne, last year's Advent message from our past Moderator, The Very Rev. Richard Bott and then ended with prayer.

CHECK-IN

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chair added an Executive check-in, Shared Ministry in Algoma Diocese and the CSRC, the new Moderator's visit, and the possibility of an in-person Executive meeting to the CSRC to the agenda.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Dave LeGrand/Jim Jackson 2022-12-01-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission
Minutes from October 26, 2022 be received, for information.
CARRIED

MOTION by Nancy Ferguson/Helen Smith 2022-12-01-04

2022/2023-32

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

CARRIED

OMNIBUS MOTION FROM THE INCORPORATED MINISTRIES

Canadian Shield Regional Council Omnibus motion – December 1, 2022

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Jim Jackson 2022-12-01-05

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

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

-

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

-

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

-

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

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

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

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

-

- *This is based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of February 13, 2022, and Board Meeting minutes of July 10, 2022, the 2022 board member approval form, contact list provided and*

***receipt of other required documentation per The United Church of
Canada Incorporated Ministries Policy.***

CORRESPONDENCE

- *Proposal Consideration – Stuart Taggart*
Peter shared the letter that was sent to Stuart Taggart re: his proposal to the CSRC.
- *Rachael Howes – Retirement Letter*
Peter shared that Rachael Howes has decided to retire from her role with the CSRC and SWRC and read her retirement letter. He then indicated that they just hired a new administrative assistant for Shining Waters and Canadian Shield Regional Councils and further said that Rachael would need to be replaced and they are looking to hire in February or March 2023. There were some very compelling applicants that they may want to review for that (Rachael's) position. Peter asked for feedback from Executive re: a new hire after explaining that the purpose of the admin hires is to increase the Program Staff's admin capacity. He indicated that he has a meeting with Jody Maltby on Monday to whiteboard out the admin roles.

REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING CHECK-IN

- *Executive Conversation: Sub-Committee update; Scheduling a Learning Event or an in-person RCM or an Online RCM?*
Barb shared that the Sub-Committee investigating a Learning Event for 2023 has met and are very keen on the idea of it. With Executive's approval, a date and location have been set – June 9-11, 2023 in North Bay, ON. This event will be a Festival of Faith (official title TBD) with keynote speakers, music, workshops, etc. Susan is investigating the Canadore College facilities for the event and Diane is approaching Ted Harrison at Trinity UC (North Bay) to host the Sunday worship. This event will be open to Ministry Personnel and Lay people (not just regional reps like at the RCM). There will be a registration fee for attendees and Janet MacDonald indicated there are funds available to use for some of the costs and potentially, subsidizing travel for participants from the other side of the region (in this particular case, Thunder Bay). There will be an online RCM in late fall to attend to any business. The Learning Event Planning Team will meet again next week to flesh out more details, including how often this event will occur (yearly, bi-yearly, etc.).

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

- *Regional Council Meeting Remuneration Travel Policy: Conversation Continued*
Executive reviewed and discussed the draft RCM Remuneration Travel Policy.

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

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

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deadline for application to be determine by the Regional Council Executive in advance of the meeting.

CARRIED

- *Regional Council Meeting Draft Planning Policy (First Review)*

Peter suggested that the policy discussion be deferred to another meeting of Executive.

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/John Watson 2022-12-01-08

That the CSRC Executive table the conversation about the Regional Council Meeting Draft Planning Policy, definitely, into 2023.

CARRIED

FINANCE UPDATE AND FINAL 2023 REGIONAL BUDGET

Janet joined the Executive meeting and shared the 2020 CSRC Audited Statements. The 2021 Statements cannot move forward until the 2020 ones are approved by Executive.

MOTION by Helen Smith/John Watson 2022-12-01-09

That the CSRC Executive receive the 2020 CSRC Audited Financial Statements.

CARRIED

Janet then shared and reviewed the 2023 CSRC Budget with Executive.

MOTION by Eun-Joo Park/John Watson 2022-12-01-10

That the CSRC Executive approve the 2023 CSRC Budget.

CARRIED

MOTION Bill Steadman/Joy Galloway 2022-12-01-11

That the CSRC Executive receive, for information, the year-to-date Financial Statements.

CARRIED

CONVERSATION WITH JANET REGARDING FINANCE TEAM RECOMMENDATION (IF REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING UPDATE IS COMPLETE)

Finance Resource Team June 23, 2022 Meeting Motion:

Motion by Barb Cunningham/Bill Jones

2022-06-23-01

That the CSRC Finance Resource Team recommend to the CSRC Executive that \$100,000 from surplus funds accumulated due to Covid be distributed to

Executive had a fulsome discussion about the proposed motion from the Finance Resource Team.

MOTION by John Watson/Jim Jackson 2022-12-01-12

That the CSRC Executive, after receiving the motion from the Finance Resource Team, it was decided to put \$100,000 in a fund designated for communities of faith support.

CARRIED

EXECUTIVE MINISTER'S REPORT

Executive received the Executive Minister Report, for information.

NEW BUSINESS

Shared Ministry in Algoma Diocese and CSRC

Bill Steadman led Executive in a discussion about shared ecumenical ministry with the Anglican Church in our region. Bill has been appointed as an Honourary Associate with the Anglican Church in Goulais River. While discussing Bill's ongoing role in the Anglican Church, the Archbishop of Algoma, the Very Rev. Anne Germond, asked for clarity around the United Church's position on shared ministry and how permission may be granted for presiding at the sacraments. Bill indicated that there are discussions going on about multiple Anglican parishes wanting to do shared ministry with The United Church of Canada, including sharing of the sacraments, so was looking for clarification to inform the Archbishop.

The CSRC has a process for Ecumenical Shared Ministries with other denominations which is to first contact the Regional Pastoral Relations Minister, who then works with the Pastoral Relations Commission to create an agreement with all parties. It was decided that Peter would contact Anne to inform her of our process and then let the Pastoral Relations Minister and the Pastoral Relations Commission manage any agreements.

Moderator's Visit

The question was raised when would the new Moderator come to the CSRC for a visit. Nancy and Barb indicated they were just in a meeting yesterday with The Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne and she indicated that she will start her regional visits in the fall of 2023. Executive has decided to extend an invitation to her for June of 2024. Peter stated he would send the invitation and report back to Executive.

Possible Executive In-Person Meeting

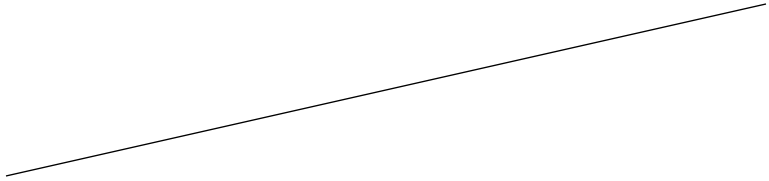
The Chair expressed an interest in starting to holding an in-person Executive meeting again. Dates may vary depending on the venue availability (Villa Loyola in Sudbury possibly). Susan will inquire at Villa Loyola for the week after Easter 2023.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- January 5, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- February 2, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- March 2, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- April 6, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom – need to change the date to after Easter and a possible in-person Executive meeting

CLOSING

Barb adjourned the meeting at 3:56 p.m. and Nancy ended with a prayer.



SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

Support to Communities of Faith Commission Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada ZOOM Meeting – Date: Wednesday December 14 , 2022 6:30 p.m.

Present: Jim Jackson, Bonnie Johnson, Ernie Epp, Crystal Greig, Mardi Mumford, Susan Peverley, Marilyn Schatzler,

Regrets: Peter Haddow, Brynn Carson, George Bott

From Property Resource Team: Gord Roberts

Staff Support: Melody Duncanson Hales, Diane Matheson Jimenez

Welcome

Prayer: Diane gathered the meeting in prayer

Acknowledgement and Safe Space: Jim reminded the group that we are meeting on indigenous territory and that we meet in a safe space.

Agenda: Just one item St Paul's UC Manitowadge

1. Gord Roberts, the lead for the Property Resource team, did a brief summary of the situation.

MOTION: Moved: Susan Peverley

Seconded: Bonnie Johnson

That in accordance with The Manual (2022) section G.1.5.2 that the Support to Communities of Faith Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council assumes financial responsibility for the property and approves the request of St. Paul's United Church, Manitowadge to disband the pastoral charge as a recognized community of faith effective January 8, 2023 with thanks to God for the ministry of this congregation.

Carried

2. **MOTION: Moved: Ernie Epp**

Seconded: Marilyn Schatzler

That the Support to Communities of Faith Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council names Geoff Newton, Chris Denny, Gordon Roberts and Joy Bott as the Board of Trustees for the former St Paul's United Church, until all decisions are made regarding the disposition of the property that housed St. Paul's United Church, Manitowadge

Carried

3. Adjournment: Jim thanked the group for the work of the evening and declared the meeting adjourned.

Closing Prayer: Gord Roberts closed the meeting with prayer.

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: Tuesday January 24, 2023 6:30 p.m.

Agenda

Welcome, Check-in:

Opening Prayer: **Mardi Mumford**

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space: **Ernie & Jim**

Approval of Agenda:

Approval of Minutes: November 24, 2022 pages 187 - 193

December 14, 2022 pages 194 – 195

Business Arising:

Responsibility to archives -

Correspondence:

Covenant from East Korah Maxwell UC

Susan Jackson – Disbanding Manitowadge UC

Val D’Or request -

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

2. Changes in Communities of Faith
 - a. Schreiber
 - b. Hornpayne –
 - c. The United Church of Espanola – Ecumenical agreement
2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting Nov. 21 North Bay Thunderbay
3. Commission Joint working group – Workshop Feb. 7, 2023 Deficit Dilemma

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team -
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team
- Right Relations Resource Team
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team
- United in Worship Project
- Social Justice Network

Emergent Business: Festival of Faith

Date of Next Meeting:

Adjournment:

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Closing Prayer: **Diane Matheson**

Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: Tuesday January 24, 2023 6:30 p.m.

Present: Jim Jackson, Ernie Epp, Marilyn Schatzler, Bonnie Johnson, Crystal Greig, Susan Peverley, Mardi Mumford, Peter Haddow

Regrets: Brynn Carson George Bott

Staff Support: Diane Matheson Jimenez, Melody Duncanson Hales, Celio De Andrade Santos Jr.

Welcome, Check-in: Celio was introduced as a new staff member.

Opening Prayer: Mardi Mumford opened the meeting with prayer.

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space: Ernie Epp acknowledged that we gather on territory covered by the Huron and Superior Robinson treaties of the 1850s. Jim Jackson declared that this meeting was a safe space where we can meet, discuss and listen safely.

Approval of Agenda:

Moved: Crystal Greig

Seconded: Peter Haddow

That the agenda circulated be accepted with the addition to emergent business of the June Learning event.

Carried

Approval of Minutes:

Moved: Mardi Mumford

Seconded: Marilyn Schatzler

That the minutes from the meeting of the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith on November 24, 2022 pages 187 – 193 be accepted.

Carried

Moved: Mardi Mumford

Seconded: Bonnie Johnson

That the minutes from the meeting of the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith on December 14, 2022 pages 194 – 195 be accepted.

Carried

Business Arising:

Responsibility to archives: Diane Matheson Jimenez has worked with Erin Greeno to draft a position description for a volunteer Archives Champion. (Appendix 1)

Our commission will review the description and at our next meeting will recommend the next steps.

Correspondence:

- Covenant from East Korah Maxwell UC: The Covenant has been reviewed by Marilyn and Di and the East Korah Maxwell UC Council has approved it.

Moved: Marilyn Schatzler Seconded: Crystal Greig

*That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith affirm the Covenant from East Korah Maxwell United Church acting on behalf of Canadian Shield Region Council. **Carried***

Marilyn will contact them to inform and thank them, Jim will report this to the Executive. We need a process and way to track the Covenants submitted to our commission.

- Susan Jackson Information and Statistics Co-ordinator for the United Church of Canada sent confirmation of the disbanding of Manitowadge UC effective January 8, 2023.

- Val D'Or is making adjustments to their request to sell the church. This will be referred to the Property Resource team.

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive: The meetings are the last week of the month so next week. No meeting since November. Jim will take the motion about the Covenant to next week's meeting.

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

3. Changes in Communities of Faith
 - a. Schreiber – CP lawyers are preparing documents to sign off on the property. **d**
 - b. Hornpayne – No report
 - c. The United Church of Espanola – The Ecumenical Shared Ministry Personnel agreement has been approved by the Diocese of Algoma and by the United Church of Espanola congregation and has been forwarded to the Pastoral Relations Commission. Start date is February 1, 2023 and the members of the shared team have been named and Rob Smith will convene the first meeting.
4. Local regional cluster support:
 - a. Sudbury – a small local team has been created to promote local Right Relations
 - b. NorthBay – a decision to share services if there is a 5th Sunday of the month. January 29, Jennifer Henry will be the guest preacher for this shared worship.
 - c. Thunderbay- looking forward to more co-operation as new ministers arrive
 - d. Sault Ste Marie – Jeffrey Dale met with all the clergy to discuss how to support shared youth ministry

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3. Commission Joint working group – Workshop Feb. 7, 2023 Time, Talent and Treasurers when it feels like your church doesn't have enough. This is another joint venture. Looking to tap into lay leadership.

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- **Property Resource Team**

- - St Stephen's Chelmsford offer has been sent to the lawyers for sign off. Canadian Shield now has access to a lawyer to aid in the sale of property.
- St Paul's Manitouwadge is still in process
- Working with Toronto UC council on property development
- Central UC Sault Ste Marie – the purchaser has asked for an extension
- Jan. 1 2023 The Manual now includes a section for trustees
- St Matthew's St Paul's Hearst need to review the need of the manse for the new Anglican Priest
- Hillview Pioneer PC – there is some discrepancy re the size of the building so they are back to negotiations.

- **Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team**

- St Mathews St Paul's Hearst SME \$3000.00
- Network & cluster grant to North Bay \$2000.00
- Camping Fund – Trinity North Bay Family camp \$3400.00
- St Joseph PC camp grant \$667.00

- **Right Relations Resource Team:** Meet last week

- Looking for a way to recognize Maxine McVey and Art Solomon for their early work with The Cairn and Right Relations
- Have a Heart Day – Feb. 14, 2023
- LLWL cluster has requested a workshop Feb. 25th on land acknowledgements
- MILC – bringing folks to do training around advocacy.
- Reviewing and revising job description for team and leader will give to Nominations for review and then to Executive

- **Affirming Ministry Resource Team:** Peter reported that the team met on January 12th.

- planning a town hall March 1 at 7:00 on zoom for all affirming congregations and those congregations looking into it. How are they living out Affirming? How do we support these congregations
- Planning a workshop
- Book Study Queer Virtue by zoom, hosted by Peter Haddow
- Next meeting March 23, 2023

- **Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team:** Need to contact Jeffrey Dale for an update.

- **United in Worship Project:** No report

- **Social Justice Network :** Ernie reported that the group met January 24, 2023 for a brief meeting to discuss assessments of the regional councils across

Ontario. No request was made last year so potential request of \$1000.00 (\$500.00 for last year and \$500.00 for 2023). We also need to add volunteers from this region to better reflect our geographic area.

Emergent Business:

- **Festival of Faith:** This learning event will take place June 9, 10, 11th at Canador College in North Bay. The format will be workshops, worship, plenary sessions. Two keynote speakers will be Marlene Britton from the Office of Vocation and well known musician Linnea Good. There will be a social, Wings, Hymns and Rock and Roll night. Travel will be compensated for greater than 300km.
- **Strategic Planning Group:** Melody is on this national committee. Does this group have a role in this?
- In light of the many church closings, does this Commission have a role to support new ways to keep church in those communities.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday February 28, 2023 We will continue to be consistent with the last Tuesday of the month.

Adjournment: Moved: Peter Haddow *That the meeting be adjourned at 8:11 p.m.*

Closing Prayer: Diane Matheson lead the group in a closing prayer.

Jim Jackson, Chair

Mardi Mumford, Secretary

Appendix 1

Regional Council Archives Champion – Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Councils

The Archives Champion(s) will encourage communities of faith to care for their records in the best possible manner and to preserve the documentary history of the United Church of Canada. The Archives Champion has the following responsibilities:

- To inform communities of faith of their responsibility, as per The Manual, to deposit records at the Ontario Regional Council Archives in Toronto, or Winnipeg as appropriate**
- To be familiar with the archives section of the United Church of Canada website
- To assist communities of faith who have questions and concerns about archives and records
- To provide advice to any community of faith's archives committees or similar bodies
- To direct and/or distribute resource materials, created by the United Church of Canada, on recordkeeping and archives
- To connect with the Ontario Regional Council Archivist on archival best practices and emerging issues with the work

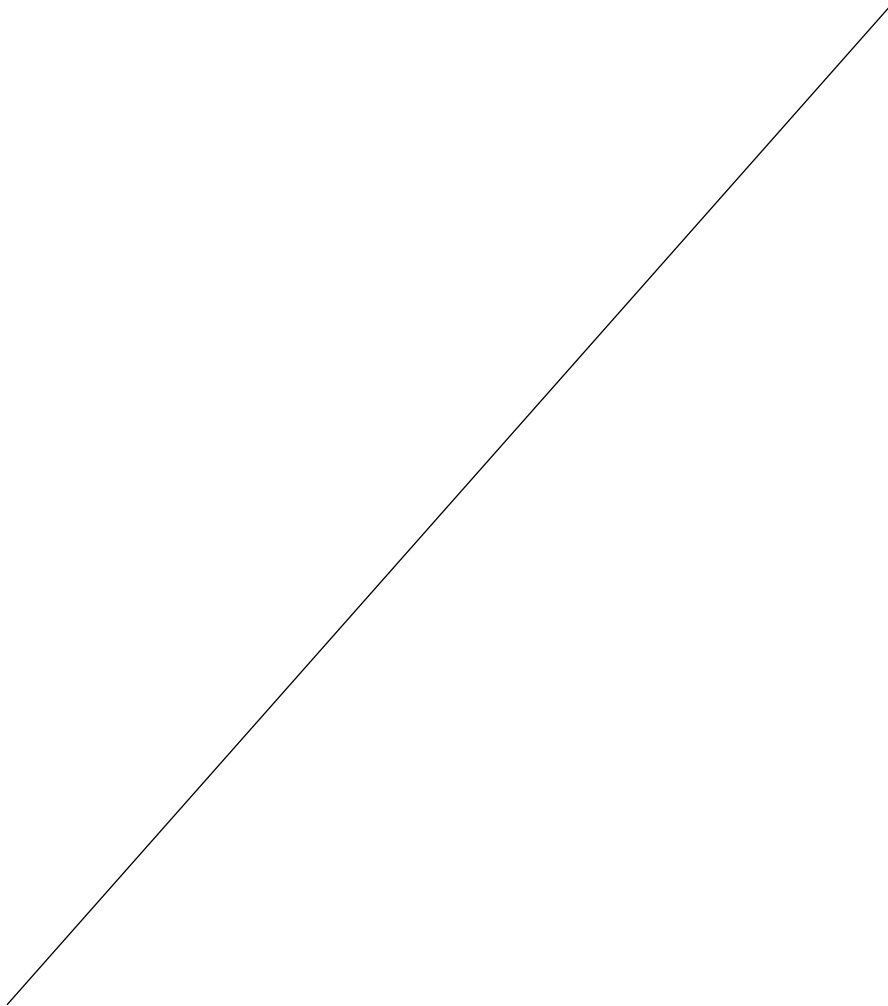
The United Church of Canada
Canadian Shield Regional Council

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- To help coordinate, with Regional Council staff, the deposit of community of faith records to the Ontario Regional Council Archives in Toronto or Winnipeg, as appropriate**
- To be in regular communication with the Ontario Regional Council Archivist and Regional Council staff about archival needs of communities of faith in the Regional Council

**For continuity, pastoral charges of the former Cambrian Presbytery will continue to send archival material to the University of Manitoba in Winnipeg

The Archives Champion will need to be familiar with the polity of the United Church of Canada; to have an interest in history; and to have a willingness to learn best practices for recordkeeping, records management, and archives, for both physical and digital records.



PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

PRC 2023, Page 1

Canadian Shield Regional Council
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
January 25, 2023 at 1:15 p.m.

Welcome (1:20 p.m.)	John Watson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
Attendance	Joy Galloway, Karen Gooch (Secretary), Jane Graham, Ted Harrison, Elaine Lush, Catherine Somerville, Erin Todd, John Watson (Chair), Stewart Walker, Fraser Williamson (8)
Regrets	Joy Bott
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Opening	Elaine Lush shared a brief reflection about finding balance between the freedom to do anything vs being stuck and not able to move forward in life. Why do some people appear to have so much enthusiasm and don't seem to get bogged down with the things that life throws at us? How do we push ourselves to do the things we don't want to do? Elaine offered an opening prayer to start the meeting.
Check-in	Following the theme of the opening reflection, members of the Commission spent a few minutes checking-in by answering the question "What gets you off the couch?". People shared stories about what holds them back and what (or who) inspires them to tackle life's challenges.
Acknowledgement	John Watson acknowledged that we gather on lands of many indigenous nations with whom we walk together in solidarity and reconciliation. He reminded us that as an Affirming community, we have pledged to make our meeting space safe for all.
Agenda	Motion 2023-01-25-01 Fraser Williamson/ Joy Galloway moved that the agenda be accepted with 1 additional item – discussion of Congregational Designated Minister request. Carried
Minutes of Previous Meeting	Motion 2023-01-25-02 Karen Gooch/ Ted Harrison moved that the minutes from the November 23 rd , 2023 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission meeting be accepted as circulated. Carried
Business Arising	
Sacrament Elder Training	Stewart Walker has been working with the Manitou Intentional Learning Community (MILC) to develop an online sacraments training course. It was proposed that a 2-hour session take place on the morning of Saturday March 25 th followed by an evening session on Tuesday March 28 th . Stewart indicated that he will check if recording could be available following the event. There was a reminder that to become a Sacrament Elder, people must take the training and obtain a recommendation to the PRC from a Community of Faith.

CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
January 25th, 2023

PRC 2023, Page 2

COL Assignments Rob Smith updated members about the COL review. All treasurers have been informed about the changes that take effect July 1st, 2023. In the past the COL was largely based on housing costs, now other factors such as tax and utility costs will be taken into account. 42% of Communities of Faith will have a change to their COL assignment level – 26% moved down the scale and 15% moved up. A drop in the COL level will not mean lower pay for currently employed Ministry Personnel.

Correspondence

- A document was received regarding the Admission Minister Matching Program Pilot being initiated by the United Church. A discussion was held about the program.
 - As part of this pilot, 5 churches will be chosen to place 5 new Admissions Ministry Personnel in full-time positions. Rob Smith has enrolled the CSRC in this program and there are 3 Communities of Faith who may be eligible to take part. This is seen as a way to help ease the shortage of Ministry Personnel, particularly in more isolated regions of the United Church. It is also felt that this may help broaden cultural representation within the United Church.
 - Some concerns were raised by PRC members. This is a replacement for the old settlement program, which didn't always work out. Ultimately, many who were settled moved on to larger centers once the initial placement period wrapped up. Some wondered if we will be creating a 2 tiered-system since this is only for immigrants. There was a question about why some new immigrants may be having trouble getting an interview when there are many Communities of Faith without Ministry Personnel.
 - Communities of Faith will need to be ready to help these candidates adapt to living in Canada. Will there be help to lessen the burden of this? Are there tools in place to bridge any gaps with those in the pews who may have reservations about dealing with someone of a different cultural background.
- A card was received from Cory Vermeer-Cuthbert. She offered her thanks for the gift card presented to her upon her retirement from ministry.
- A request was received from St. Andrews, Massey to hire a Congregational Minister including a job description and Living Faith Story. A full discussion of this request was held later in this meeting.

New Business

Resource Teams Pastoral Relations Liaisons

- There was no report since the Liaison Resource Team has not met since the last PRC meeting.

LLWLs

- An LLWL educational opportunity is planned for February 25th, 2023. Lisa Blais will provide information about how to write a land acknowledgement and Kellie McComb will speak about boundaries for LLWLs.
- There are currently LLWLs that are preaching every weekend since there is a shortage of those available for pulpit supply.
- There are plans in place to start the relicensing process for another group of LLWLs.

CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
January 25th, 2023

PRC 2023, Page 3

Support to Ministry Personnel

- Janice MacLean, host of *The Prayer Bench* will be the facilitator at an event on January 26th. Diane Matheson-Jimenez, CSRC Minister, Community of Faith Support has agreed to attend a future event.
- There will be an online event hosted by Shining Waters Regional Council to discuss issues related to MAID.
- The Moderator plans to visit all the regions of the Church during her tenure and she has committed to be part of a CSRC Ministry Personnel retreat in 2024.

Consensus Packet **Appendix I**

The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting. By consensus, the Collaborative Ministry Agreement between Iron Bridge Pastoral Charge and St. Andrew's United, Blind River ON was removed from the Consensus Motion for further discussion.

The following motions were presented for a vote:

1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the appointment of the Steven Loweth (DLM) to Westminster United, Thunder Bay ON effective March 1st, 2023 to February 28th, 2026 with the following terms:
Full-time
Community of Faith ADP Company Code TCBK
Eligible Service (in years) 6
Step/increment category C
Is manse included No
Minimum Full-Time Salary \$59,811.00
Prorated Annual Salary \$59,811.00
Additional Salary (in \$) 0.00
Total Salary \$59,811.00
Phone/Communications \$1,200.00
Continuing Education \$1,543.00
Other \$1,300.00
Other Details
 Discretionary Fund up to \$500 annually
 Travel up to \$800 annually
Total Remuneration \$63,854.00
2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council grant Steven Loweth (DLM) permission to preside over the sacraments at Westminster United, Thunder Bay ON while he is serving as their minister effective March 1st, 2023 to February 28th, 2026.
3. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the call of the Rev. Lionel Ketola (OM) to First-Wesley United, Thunder Bay ON beginning March 1st, 2023 with the following terms:
Part-time 30 hours
Community of Faith ADP Company Code 31VT
Eligible Service (in years) 15
Step/increment category F
Is manse included No

The United Church of Canada
Canadian Shield Regional Council

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CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
January 25th, 2023

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- | | |
|---|-------------|
| Minimum Full-Time Salary | \$66,631.00 |
| Prorated Annual Salary | \$49,973.25 |
| Additional Salary (in \$) | 0.00 |
| Total Salary | \$49,973.25 |
| Phone/Communications | \$600.00 |
| Continuing Education | \$1,157.25 |
| Other | \$0.00 |
| Other Details | |
| Moving expenses to be split between First-Wesley United and Westminster United. | |
| Total Remuneration | \$51,730.50 |
4. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the short-term appointment of the Rev. Glen Eagle (OM – Retired) to Willowgrove United, Sault Ste. Marie ON effective February 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2023 with the following terms:
Part-time 20 hours
Community of Faith ADP Company Code
- | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------|
| Eligible Service (in years) | 37 |
| Step/increment category | F |
| Is manse included | No |
| Minimum Full-Time Salary | \$63,038.00 |
| Prorated Annual Salary | \$31,519.00 |
| Additional Salary (in \$) | 0.00 |
| Total Salary | \$31,519.00 |
| Phone/Communications | \$0.00 |
| Continuing Education | \$771.50 |
| Other (per month) | \$500.00 |
| Other Details | |
| Travel supplement | |
| Total Remuneration | \$38,290.50 |
5. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council appoint Roger West as temporary Pastoral Charge Supervisor for St. Andrew's United, Blind River ON, effective January 1st, 2023 to April 30th, 2023.
6. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of Grace United, Nipigon ON to relicence Phyllis Gauvin as sacraments elder, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.
7. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the Shared Ministry Personnel Agreement (Appendix I) between Espanola United, Espanola ON and St. George's Anglican Church, Espanola ON, effective February 1st, 2023 to January 31st, 2024.
- Motion 2023-01-25-03**
Erin Tod/ Catherine Somerville moved that each and every motion of the Consensus Packet be approved.

Carried

CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
January 25th, 2023

PRC 2023, Page 5

Rob Smith provided some background information about the Collaborative Ministry Agreement Between Iron Bridge-Bellingham Pastoral Charge, Iron Bridge, ON and Blind River Pastoral Charge, Blind River, ON and Canadian Shield Regional Council of The United Church of Canada (Appendix II).

- There was unanimous agreement when the Ministry Agreement was voted on by both congregations. However, there was significant opposition during the vote at one of the congregations to appoint Rev. Lawrence Muvunzi to the position. Rob was concerned and consulted colleagues at the CSRC about the vote. When the congregation was approached about reconsidering the vote, they informed the PRC that they will allow the result to stand since the UCC threshold of 50% + 1 was met. The cause of the opposition was stated to be the cost involved. There is also some concern that it appears the minister was picked before the Ministry Agreement was finalized.
- There was a mention that perhaps the language around dispute resolution in items 8 and 10 of the Agreement could be reviewed for clarity.
- Both parties to the Agreement will be reminded that all payroll must be handled through one Community of Faith, which will be listed as the employer with ADP.
- Since Rev. Muvunzi has not arrived in Canada yet, all dates in the Ministry Agreement and the appointment motion will be valid for 3 years, adjusted to reflect his arrival date.

Motion 2023-01-25-04

Catherin Somerville/ Jane Graham moved that Collaborative Ministry Agreement Between Iron Bridge-Bellingham Pastoral Charge, Iron Bridge, ON and Blind River Pastoral Charge, Blind River, ON and Canadian Shield Regional Council of The United Church of Canada (Appendix II) be approved. It will be valid for 3 years and the starting date of the Agreement will be adjusted to reflect the date of Rev. Muvunzi's arrival in Canada.

Carried

Motion 2023-01-25-05

Jane Graham/ Joy Galloway moved that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the appointment of the Rev. Lawrence Muvunzi (OM – Admissions) to Iron Bridge Pastoral Charge, Iron Bridge, ON and Blind River Pastoral Charge, Blind River, ON effective for 3 years with the starting date dependant on the arrival of Rev. Muvunzi to Canada and with the following terms:

Full-time

Community of Faith ADP Company Code	31EZ
Eligible Service (in years)	12
Step/increment category	E
Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$61,235.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$61,235.00
Additional Salary (in \$)	0.00
Total Salary	\$61,235.00
Phone/Communications	\$1,200.00
Continuing Education	\$1,543.00
Other	\$0.00
Total Remuneration	\$63,978.00

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CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
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LLWL Fund	There was a brief discussion about setting up a fund to help those who may not be able to afford LLWL training in the hope that this may encourage some new applicants. There may be some funding available through a program at St. Paul's United, Thunder Bay. It was suggested that a bulletin insert be prepared to promote LLWL training and that perhaps there should be follow-up contact with church councils across CSRC. Rob Smith will talk about this further with the LLWL Resource Team.
Covenanting Service Offering	There have been questions about what happens to the offering collected during CSRC covenanting services. The PRC currently has no policy around this. Under the old church structure, Presbyteries oversaw these events and the money usually went to support ministry education. It was agreed that the Liaisons should work with the Communities of Faith to decide where offering money should be directed, but that organizers should be encouraged to consider options that promote ministry education. There is nothing to prevent donations towards any charity of the congregation's choosing.
Congregational Designated Minister	<p>Appendix III</p> <p>St. Andrew's United, Massey ON has requested approval to hire a Congregational Designated Minister (CDM) to provide pastoral care on a part-time basis. The proposed job description (Appendix III) was circulated to PRC members by email for review before this meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ There are some possible applicants for the position who are currently LLWLs but there were questions raised about how candidates will be evaluated with regard to their pastoral care skills. What kind of background, training or work experience will be considered.▪ It was suggested that a vulnerable police records check should be a requirement. The CDM would be accountable to the congregation which currently is operating with a Pastoral Charge Supervisor. The PCS has offered support for this.▪ What are the expectations around pastoral care training? Most of the work will be done over the phone, but where is the line between providing pastoral care and visiting. Concerns were also raised about eroding the ministerial role in this area without clear boundaries in place.▪ Catherine Somerville has been working with the congregation on this and she will talk further with them about some of concerns that were raised. She will also endeavour to make contact with another congregation who has already hired a CDM. It was felt that since this is a new concept for CSRC, that we need to explore the possibilities before committing to approve this request.
Other Business	
Administration Support	Donna Rutz who provides Administrative Support to Shining Waters Regional Council will now be tasked with providing additional support to our Region.
Next Meeting	The next meeting will be held on Wednesday February 22 nd , 2023 at 1:15 p.m. Stewart Walker will provide the opening and the closing for the meeting.
Adjournment	Elaine Lush offered a closing prayer before the meeting was adjourned at 3:30 p.m.

CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
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Chairperson, John Watson

Secretary, Karen Gooch

EXECUTIVE

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on February 2, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom.

PRESENT: Barb Nott (Chair), Nancy Ferguson, John Watson, Helen Smith, Mastard Sakala, Bill Steadman, Joy Galloway, Stewart Walker, Susan Lindquist, Dave LeGrand, Jim Jackson, Eun-Joo Park, Kathie Smith

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

Barb honoured the traditional lands upon which we meet and then read the CSRC safe space statement.

CHECK-IN

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

One change to the agenda is the removal of accepting the Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes from November 24, 2022; they were accepted at the December 1, 2022 meeting of Executive.

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Eun-Joo Park **202-02-02-01**
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by John Watson/Kathie Smith **2023-02-02-03**
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission
Minutes from November 23, 2022 and the Support to Communities
of Faith Commission Minutes from December 14, 2022 be received,
for information.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

- *SWRC letter re: Joint Festival of Faith*
Executive had a fulsome discussion about the possibility of having a joint Festival of Faith event with Shining Waters Regional Council.

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

WELCOME AND GREETINGS – DAVID LEYTON-BROWN, PRESIDENT OF SWRC

As David entered the meeting in the last half, Kathie Smith (Past Chair) took the chair in Barb's absence and welcomed David Leyton-Brown, the President of Shining Waters Regional Council, to the meeting where he gave greetings from SWRC.

NEW ADMIN HIRE UPDATE – RACHAEL'S REPLACEMENT

Peter shared with Executive that we have hired the first new administrative assistant, Celio De Andrade, in January 2023 and he is working out very well. There will be interviews for Rachael's replacement next week with the hope that the new hire will have the opportunity to shadow Rachael on the job.

MODERATOR IN CSRC IN 2024 FOR MINISTRY PERSONNEL FLOURISH EVENT

Peter indicated that Canadian Shield Regional Council received an invitation from the Moderator (Right Rev. Carmen Lansdowne) to visit the region for a week-long event the week of April 29, 2024. This event will include a two-day retreat with ministry personnel and a symposium event at Emmanuel College.

HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY DRAFT MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)

Peter led Executive in a discussion about updates in bylaws since the change in structure in The UCC from Presbyteries and Conferences to Regional Councils. Executive discussed the draft Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Huntington University, The United Church of Canada, and the Canadian Shield Regional Council.

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

NEXT IN-PERSON EXECUTIVE MEETING – IN SUDBURY, APRIL 12-13, 2023

The next in-person Executive Meeting will be held at Villa Loyola in Sudbury, ON on Wednesday, April 12 to Thursday, April 13, 2023. The meeting will begin with lunch on the 12th and will end with lunch on the 13th. Susan will make flight travel arrangements for people coming from Thunder Bay.

FESTIVAL OF FAITH CHECK-IN

Barb shared some of the plans for the Festival of Faith (FoF) with Executive including the agenda, keynote speaker Marlene Britton, musical guest Linnea Good, workshop titles, etc. There will be a registration fee of \$125 each and Executive suggested we could record/livestream the workshops and charge a fee for those who could not attend.

IN-MEETING POLL FOR DATE OF NEXT ONLINE RCM – NOVEMBER 2023

Peter shared that since the decision was made at a previous Executive meeting to have an in-person educational event in June of 2023 (Festival of Faith), that meant that the next Regional Council Meeting (RCM) would be online in the fall. After discussing possible dates for our next online RCM, Executive voted via a zoom poll and the results are as follows: the next CSRC RCM will be held on Saturday, November 25, 2023 and it will be an all-day meeting.

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EXECUTIVE MINISTER'S REPORT

Executive received the Executive Minister Report, for information.

NEW BUSINESS

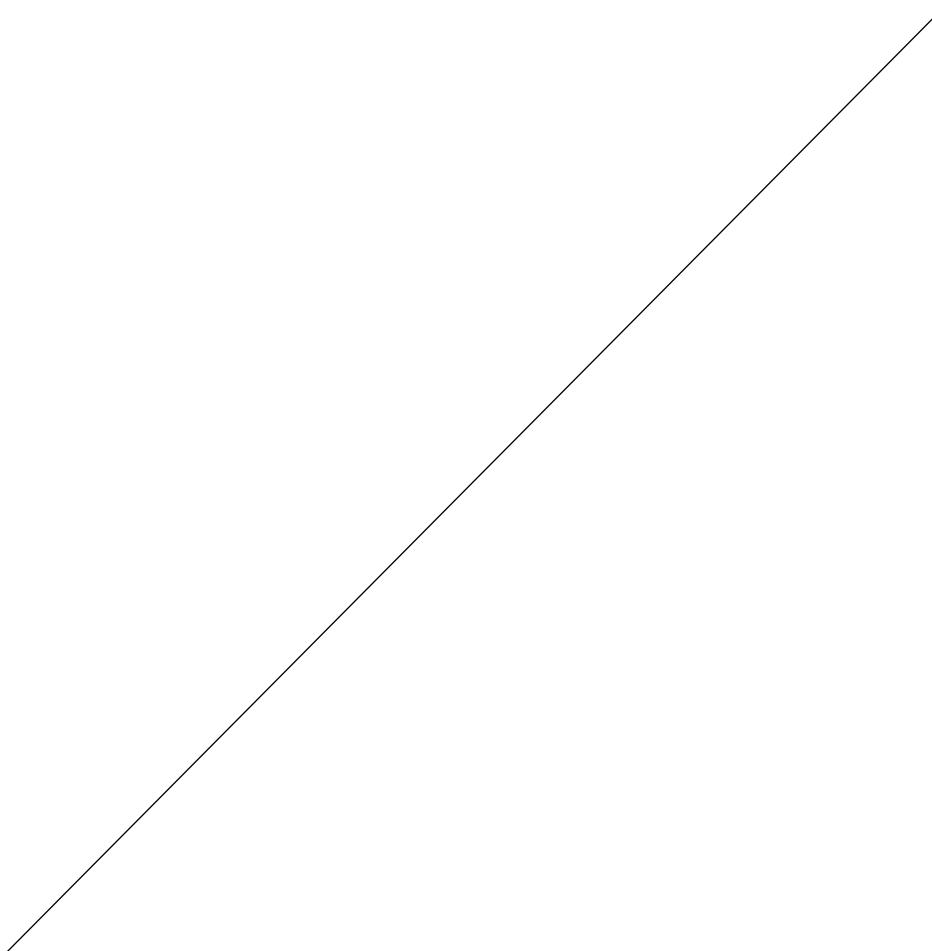
There is no new business.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- March 2, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- April 12-13, 2023 In-person Meeting at Villa Loyola, Sudbury
- May 4, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- June 1, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

CLOSING

As Kathie took the chair after the break, she adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m. and Peter ended with a prayer.



EXECUTIVE E-VOTE

CSRC Executive E-Vote

RE: Memorandum of Understanding Between CSRC and Huntington University

MOTION: Peter Hartmans

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

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: Tuesday February 28, 2023 6:30
Agenda

Welcome, Check-in:

Opening Prayer:

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:

Approval of Agenda:

Approval of Minutes: January 24, 2023 pages 196 - 200

Business Arising:

Responsibility to archives - **Review and approval** of Regional Council Archives
Champion (*see Appendix 1 of Jan 24, 2023 SCFC minutes*)

Correspondence required re depositing Archival material (App 1 of Jan 24
Meeting)

Covenant Tracking – minutes page 197

Correspondence:

Property sales: St Stephen's Chelmsford January 31, St Paul's Manitouwadge &
Hillview UC February 6, 2023 – e-mail vote

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

5. Changes in Communities of Faith

- a. Schreiber
- b. Hornpayne
- c. Val D'Or

2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting North Bay, Thunder Bay

3. Commission Joint working group – Workshop Feb. 7, 2023 Deficit Dilemma

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team -
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team
- Right Relations Resource Team – statement circulated by region
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team – PIE Day
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team
- United in Worship Project
- Social Justice Network

Emergent Business:

Annual Reports and Self-Assessments?

Date of Next Meeting:

Adjournment:

Closing Prayer:

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: Tuesday February 28, 2023 6:30**

Present: Jim Jackson, Peter Haddow, George Bott, Mardi Mumford, Susan Peverley, Ernie Epp, Marilyn Schatzler, Crystal Greig,

Regrets: Brynn Carson, Bonnie Johnson,

Staff Support: Melody Duncanson – Hales, Diane Matheson-Jimenez

Opening Prayer: Melody Duncanson- Hales lead the group in prayer inspired by Nicodemus.

Acknowledgement of Territory: George Bott did an extensive acknowledgement including “why we have an acknowledgement ?”

Approval of Agenda:

Moved: George Bott Seconded: Crystal Greig

Moved that we approve the agenda with the addition of Holy Trinity Elliott Lake in the section of “Changes in Communities of Faith”.

Carried

Approval of Minutes:

Moved: Mardi Mumford Seconded: Peter Haddow

That the Commission for the Support of Communities of Faith approve the minutes of the meeting January 24, 2023 pages 196 - 200

Carried

Record of e-mail motions passed February 6, 2023

Moved: Mardi Mumford Seconded: Marilyn Schatzler

That the Support to Communities of Faith Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council approves the recommendation of the Property Resource Team, Canadian Shield Regional Council to approve the sale of the Hillview Pioneer Memorial United Church property, the legal description of which is PCL 14963 SEC SST PT LT 3 CON 3 DYMOND PT 2 TER 311, EXCEPT PT2 54R1153 TEMISKAMING SHORES, DIST OF TEMISKAMING and the municipal address of which is 88402 Hwy 65W, Temiskaming Shores ON the terms of which are as follows:

a. Agent: Judie Martin Royal Lepage

b. Commission: 5%

c. Purchase Price: \$215,000

d. Possession Date: January 26, 2023

e. Furnishings included: Pulpit, Altar, two refrigerators, two electric stoves, kitchen island,

B. And to dispose of the proceeds of the sale of building, property and furnishings as follows:

a. Reimbursement of holding, maintenance and disposal costs

b. Covering unpaid past assessments and current year assessment

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- c. *Repaying any congregational indebtedness*
d. *With the remaining funds to be invested and utilized for the ministry and mission of the congregation of Hillview Pioneer Memorial United Church.* **Carried**

Moved: Mardi Mumford Seconded: Marilyn Schatzler

That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Support to Communities of Faith Commission approves the recommendation of the Property Resource Team, Canadian Shield Regional Council to approve the sale of the property of St. Paul's United Church located at 8 Shawinigan Drive in Manitouwadge Ontario (legal description being: PCL 11538 SEC TBF; LT 254 PL M182 MANITOUWADGE; MANITOUWADGE being all of PIN: 62428-0568) to The Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Congregations in Canada-Central Region for the sum of \$1 with a closing date of February 15, 2023 as per the attached agreement of purchase and sale. **Carried**

Business Arising:

Moved: Susan Peverley Seconded: Marilyn Schatzler

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve the Position Description for the Archives Champion. The person or team will report to the Commission who will act on behalf of the Region. **Carried**

Diane and Jim will prepare a letter to all Communities of Faith with information around archives including a request for people interested in this position.

Covenant Tracking: The Staff has a process to track this.

Correspondence:

St Stephen's Chelmsford closed January 31, 2023. A request has been sent about the distribution of their portion of the proceeds.

Moved: Crystal Greig Seconded: Peter Hadow

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve the plan for disposition of the monies realized from the sale of St Stephen's UC Chelmsford be distributed as follows:

47% Canadian Shield Regional Council

10% M & S

10% Indigenous Fund

3% Archives

Portion for Legacy from Congregation

\$5,000. Larchwood UC

\$2,000 Larchwood UC Outreach project supporting the Chelmsford Valley District Secondary School food security ministry

\$5,000. Grace UC

\$2000. Royal Ontario Legion Command in support of the Chelmsford Legion

\$2000. Sudbury Food Bank designated to the Chelmsford Friendship House Food Bank. **Carried**

Moved: Crystal Greig

Seconded: Peter Haddow

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve the plan for disposition of the monies realized from the sale of Hillview Memorial UC be distributed as follows:

47% Canadian Shield Regional Council (suggest the following: St. Paul's United Church United Church Foundation designated for Indigenous Education Right Relations Fund of CSRC)

10% M & S

10% Indigenous Fund

3% Archives

30% Portion for Legacy from Congregation

- *Food Forever Fund of the Temiskaming Foundation-13%*
- *Temiskaming Hospital Foundation for the purchase of 2 massage chairs, a blood pressure monitor replacement, and a mobile work station-12%*
- *Zack's Crib-5%*
- *St. Paul's United Church- 20%*
- *NOSM 10%*
- *Water Ambassadors Canada -10%*
- *Canadian Foodgrains Bank-10%*
- *World Accord -10%*
- *United Church Emergency Appeals Fund- 10%*

Carried

St Paul's Manitouwadge & Hillview UC February 6, 2023 – e-mail vote recorded in the section for the minutes.

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive: The next meeting will be April 12 & 13 at Villa Loyola in Sudbury. The Memorandum of Understanding for with Huntington University will be discussed.

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

6. Changes in Communities of Faith

- a. Schreiber- - 4th year trying to get settled
- b. Hornpayne – AGM in March will document decision to close at the end of June
- c. Val D'Or – sale and closure will be referred to the Property Resource team once documentation is received
- d. Holy Trinity Elliot Lake – for information that there are issues around property and governance as well as information sessions with Kindred Works.
- e. Fairview Tehkummah UC on Manitoulin Island is now pending the Municipality voting on the severance of the cemetery from the Church property.
- f. St Mark's Sudbury is now using a Council of the Whole governance model with the Supervisor, Kathy Dahmer as chair.

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7. Local regional cluster support:
 - a. Sudbury meeting – some work on partnerships around Right Relations
 - b. North Bay – partnering with worship on the 5th Sunday. The next meeting is March 2, 2023
 - c. Thunder Bay- some networking around worship. Staff is planning a workshop April 21,22 & 23.
8. Commission Joint working group – Workshop Feb. 7, 2023 Time, Talent, Treasures: Deficit Dilemma – well attended with lots of interest.

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team – No report
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team – no report
- Right Relations Resource Team - statement circulated by region as a response to the newest discovery of graves at the Residential school site. Presenting a workshop for LLWL March 4th.
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team – Working with Spirit Dancing for a combined PIE Day event, Get together was postponed until March 23. Working with Jeffrey Dale and Celio De Andrade Santos Jr.
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team – no report
- United in Worship Project - 30 to 40 churches are registered. This project is continuing but more writers are needed and George and Joy Bott are looking at the future and long term sustainability. How do we support this project? The commission will put out a call to the region for writers as well as information about what resources are available.
- Social Justice Network -Letters have gone out to each region in Ontario with notification of an assessment to support the Ontario Network for Social Justice. A vigil is coming up in support of A Guaranteed Liveable Income.

Emergent Business:

Annual Reports and Self-Assessments: A notice that Annual Reports are to be submitted electronically to the office has been sent out. Mardi asked if we are asking that these be submitted who is going to check that they have or who is going to review these documents to look for ways to support individual Communities of Faith? What is the purpose of the Self- Assessment and Jim noted that it is very difficult to locate on the website.

Future- Ernie Has been attending several zoom sessions on the future of the United Church of Canada and he recommended several books. Ernie will send out a follow up e-mail with his thoughts and the titles of these books.

Date of Next Meeting: March 28, 2023 6:30 p.m.

Adjournment: Jim declared that the business of the commission had been completed and that the meeting was adjourned.

Closing Prayer: Peter Haddow closed the meeting with prayer.

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

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Canadian Shield Regional Council
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
March 22nd, 2023 at 1:15 p.m.

Welcome (1:20 p.m.)	John Watson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
Attendance	Joy Bott, Joy Galloway, Karen Gooch (Secretary), Jane Graham, Ted Harrison, Elaine Lush, Catherine Somerville, Erin Todd, John Watson (Chair), Stewart Walker (10)
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Check-in	Members of the Commission spent a few minutes checking-in. Many talked about traveling south. Some went far away to someplace warm while others traveled to south in Ontario to visit family - to greet a new grandson or to say goodbye to family members who are moving across the country.
Opening	Stewart Walker shared a poem called <i>The Peace of Wild Things</i> by Wendell Berry to open the meeting.
Acknowledgement	John Watson acknowledged that we gather on lands of many indigenous nations with whom we walk together in solidarity and reconciliation. He reminded us that we are partners in healing and reconciliation and that all are welcome in this meeting space.
Agenda	Motion 2023-03-22-01 Erin Todd/ Joy Galloway moved that the agenda be accepted with 1 additional item – discussion of the Pastoral Charge Supervisor reports. Carried
Minutes of Previous Meeting	Motion 2023-03-22-02 Karen Gooch/ Catherine Somerville moved that the minutes from the January 25 th , 2023 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission meeting be accepted as circulated with one correction – St. Paul's United (pg. 6) should be the one in Thunder Bay. Carried
Business Arising	
Covenanting Service Offerings	Rob Smith consulted the Liaisons about what should happen to the offering collected at covenanting services. They are recommending that the decision should be left in the hands of the covenanting church, but churches should be encouraged to consider putting the money towards helping ministerial students. The Region doesn't have a formal student fund, but there may be some designated money that came from the former Presbyteries. Rob will investigate this further. Rob will also approach the CSRC Executive about setting up a regional emergency student fund. Motion 2023-03-22-02 Ted Harrison/ Stewart Walker moved that the discussion of whether to establish a formal policy concerning covenanting offerings be tabled until more information about any relevant student funds is available. Carried

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Sacraments Elder Training There have been 12 people who have signed up for the 2-session online Sacraments Elder training being held Saturday March 25th and Tuesday March 28th. Rob will send out a reminder that all Sacraments Elders need to be relicensed annually.

LLWL Training Fund There is no further information available about this request at this time.

St. Andrew's, Massey DCM **Appendix I**

A revised job description for the Congregational Designated Minister (CDM) at St. Andrew's United (Massey ON) was circulated by email before this meeting. The following discussion was held:

- Some wondered if we are setting a standard for what a CMD should be. Are there other examples and should this be classed as a CDM position? Would there be accountability to the United Church? Most agreed that the person who is hired would be accountable to the congregation and would be covered under the same liability insurance as other employees of the United Church.
- There were questions about what kind of training or qualifications would be required for the position – pastoral care field training, a social work background?
- What would supervision entail – support, training, learning goals? Would a supervisor be paid? In this case, there would be no direct supervision by Ministry Personnel since this congregation is without a minister currently. The congregation have tried to develop a ministry partnership with other local congregations but this has not been fruitful.
- The position mostly involves checking in with elderly members of the congregation by phone to try and maintain contact with members. The person who is hired, will need clear guidelines and expectations.
- It was suggested that we postpone a decision since there are still some unanswered questions around supervision and job expectations. Ted Harrison offered to work with Catherine Somerville to look at what is in the Manual or other relevant handbooks that may be helpful in defining this job position.

Motion 2023-03-22-03

Ted Harrison/ Joy Galloway moved that approval of the request from St. Andrew's United (Massey ON) to hire a Congregational Designated Minister be tabled until the next meeting to allow time to clarify the parameters for supervision and expectations for the position.

Carried

Correspondence

The following items of correspondence were received:

- An application was received from Emmanuel United (Sault Ste. Marie ON) to the United Church's Fund for Visiting Ministry Personnel during a Sabbatical. The church has met all the qualifications and the PRC will recommend approval of the grant.

Motion 2023-03-22-04

Catherine Somerville/ Jane Graham moved that Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council recommends the approval of Emmanuel United's (Sault Ste. Marie ON) request for money from the Fund for Visiting Ministry Personnel during a Sabbatical.

Carried

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- A letter dated March 9th was received from Carol McLean, Chairperson of St. Andrew's (Sault Ste. Marie ON) Church Council regarding advise about a possible conflict of interest relating to whether the minister is able to leave a Council meeting while their salary (or other job related items) is being discussed without affect quorum. It was agreed that most congregations have figured out a way to dela with this and there is no need for further clarification at this time.
- A draft of the Framework for Sick Days for Ministry Personnel and Lay Employees was circulated to PRC members by email for review. The United Church is looking for input about this proposal.

New Business

Resource Teams Pastoral Relations Liaisons

- There was no report from the Liaison Resource Team.

LLWLs

- We need to look at a way for congregations to encourage members of their local community to consider LLWL training. This could help with the current LLWL shortage of since many are not willing to travel to preach. It appears as if the last notice regarding LLWLs did not reach Ministry Personnel who may be able to offer support and encouragement to those who may be interested in training.
- Relicensing for another group of LLWLs is ongoing.

Support to Ministry Personnel

- A Lenten event with Diane Matheson-Jimenez is planned for March 23rd from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.

Consensus Packet The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting. By consensus, the three motions related to David Colwell were removed from the Consensus Motion for further discussion.

The following motions were presented for a vote:

1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council accept the request of a change of pastoral relations because of the acceptance of a new appointment, of Laura Hutchinson with St. Andrew's United, Matheson ON and Trinity United, Iroquois Falls ON, effective June 30th, 2023.
2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the appointment of Laura Hutchinson (DLM) to Covenant United, Timmins ON effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2026 with the following terms:

Part-time (20 hours)

Community of Faith ADP Company Code	AS31
Eligible Service (in years)	4
Step/increment category	B
Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$54,468.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$27,234.00
Additional Salary (in \$)	0.00
Total Salary	\$27,234.00

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Phone/Communications	\$1,200.00
Continuing Education	\$771.50
Other	\$0.00
Total Remuneration	\$29,205.50

3. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council grant Laura Hutchinson (DLM) permission to preside over the sacraments at Covenant United, Timmins ON while she is serving as their minister effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2026.
4. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of Broadway United, Thunder Bay ON to re-licence Lori Jansekovich as sacraments elder, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.
5. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. Andrew's United, Coniston ON to re-licence Maxine Dale as sacraments elder, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.
6. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. Mark's Pastoral Charge, Sudbury, ON to extend the appointment of Diane Tate (Candidate) from July 1, 2023 to August 31, 2023 so that she can complete her Supervised Ministry Experience. There is no change of terms.

Motion 2023-03-22-05

Elaine Lush/ Jane Graham moved that each and every motion of the Consensus Packet be approved.

Carried

David Colwell

Rob Smith provided some background information about the change of pastoral relations of David Colwell with Pinegrove United (Rosslyn ON) and Trinity United (Thunder Bay ON).

- David's employment with these two congregations was terminated without notice by the Office of Vocation after his Supervised Ministry Experience (SME) and his Candidacy was terminated by his Candidacy Board. There are a number of questions about how this situation was handled since the congregation has been left paying for his 90-day notice period even though the decision about his employment was out of their hands. As well, the PRC was only informed about this after the fact. There was a lack of respect for all those involved and it is felt by many that the Office of Vocation and the Candidacy Board overstepped in this situation.
- This is an unfortunate situation. The Candidacy Board was not happy with his progress as a ministerial student. However, under the new structure of the United Church, congregations are supposed to have more autonomy about who they hire. In this case the churches were informed about his termination by Zoom without being given an opportunity to be part of the decision.
- David is due 90-day severance (the standard for ministerial appointments) but the Office of Vocation has said it has no money to pay, leaving this expense to be borne by the two congregations. Not paying it would likely mean a challenge at the Labour Board. It is easier to pay since there is no guarantee of a Labour Board ruling that is favourable for the Church.

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Held by Zoom
March 22nd, 2023

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Motion 2023-03-22-06

Ted Harrison/ Joy Bott moved that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council accept the change of pastoral relations of David Colwell as the result of the termination of his Supervised Ministry Experience and his Candidacy by his Candidacy Board and the Office of Vocation thus placing him on the Discontinued Lay Ministry list with Pinegrove United (Rosslyn ON) and Trinity United (Thunder Bay ON) effective February 9th, 2023. **Carried**

- It was proposed that the PRC write a letter to the Office of Vocation requesting that clear written guidelines about the termination of SME students be put in place and that a mechanism be created to share any cost associated with a termination. This hopefully will prevent issues in the future, but will not fix this situation.
- Most of the time congregations that hire an SME student do not have any major problems, but there will likely be some hesitancy to take on students based on what has happened here.
- There is concern about the power of the Office of Vocation to terminate someone without first consulting the congregation that employed them. It is important that guidelines are in place to ensure this type of appointment ends as well as possible.
- Rob Smith will write the letter to the Office of Vocation with help from John Watson and Catherine Somerville to explain our concerns and request a change in how these situations are handled in the future.

Motion 2023-03-22-07

Joy Bott/ Jane Graham moved that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council write a letter to the Office of Vocation requesting that they be clearer about the process of terminating a student and that they share the costs that are incurred. (1 opposed) **Carried**

- It was proposed that \$1,500 be given to each congregation from the PRC budget to help cover the cost of pulpit supply for the 90-day severance period of David Colwell. This will not fully cover the severance costs, but it would be a gesture of support. The congregations had budgeted for David's salary costs for this period and now pulpit supply costs would have to be added on top of that.

Motion 2023-03-22-08

Jane Graham/ Catherine Somerville moved that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council that Pinegrove United (Rosslyn ON) and Trinity United (Thunder Bay ON) be reimbursed from the PRC budget, \$1,500.00 each to cover the costs of pulpit supply for the ninety days of severance that they were required to give to David Colwell as a result of the Office of Vocation decision to terminate his Supervised Ministry Experience **Carried**

Other Business

- PCS Reports Elaine Lush and Joy Galloway will review the Pastoral Charge Supervisor on behalf of the PRC reports and issue a report.

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CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
March 22nd, 2023

PRC 2023, Page 23

Next Meeting The next meeting will be held on Wednesday April 26th, 2023 at 1:15 p.m. Jane Graham will provide the opening and Karen Gooch will provide the closing.

Adjournment Stewart Walker offered a closing prayer before the meeting was adjourned at 3:15 p.m.

Chairperson, John Watson

Secretary, Karen Gooch

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: March 28, 2023
Agenda

Welcome, Check-in:

Opening Prayer:

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:

Approval of Agenda:

Approval of Minutes: February 28, 2023 pages 201 - 206

Business Arising:

Responsibility to archives - Help wanted for Archives Champion
Strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments

Correspondence:

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

9. Changes in Communities of Faith

- a. Schreiber
- b. Hornpayne –
- c. Val D'or
- d. Fairview – Tehkummah
- e. Holy Trinity Elliot Lake
- f. St Mark's

2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting North Bay Thunder Bay

3. Commission Joint working group –

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team
- Right Relations Resource Team
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team
- United in Worship Project
- Social Justice Network

Emergent Business: *Rural Connect and Thunder Bay Stewardship Event*

Date of Next Meeting: April 25, 2023

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Adjournment:

Closing Prayer:

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: March 28, 2023
Agenda**

Present: Present: Jim Jackson, Peter Haddow, George Bott, Mardi Mumford, Susan Peverley, Ernie Epp, Marilyn Schatzler, Crystal Greig, Bonnie Johnson,

Regrets: Brynn Carson

Staff Support: Melody Duncanson Hales, Diane Matheson-Jimenez

Opening Prayer: Rev. Susan Peverley opened the meeting with prayer.

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space: Jim Jackson acknowledged the indigenous territory upon which we meet and gave thanks. As well he re-affirmed that this is a safe space to meet and discuss.

Approval of Agenda:

Moved: Crystal Greig Seconded: Peter Haddow

Moved that we approve the agenda as circulated with the addition of the topics of Rural Connect and the Thunder Bay Stewardship event to Emergent Business.

Carried

Approval of Minutes:

Moved: Mardi Mumford Seconded: George Bott

That the Commission for the Support of Communities of Faith approve the minutes of the meeting February 28, 2023 pages 201 – 206.

Carried

Business Arising:

- Responsibility to archives: A letter has been prepared and will be circulated. If this commission has anyone in mind, a tap on the shoulder might be appropriate. The Nominations Committee will be also given this information.
- Strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments: Staff has met. First quarter (January1 – March 31) a reminder to submit will be sent. Second quarter (April1 – June30) Track the Annual Reports and Self Assessments that have been received. Third quarter (July – September 30) a small committee will use a rubric to review both the Annual Reports and Self-Assessments looking for red flags. Fourth quarter (October – Dec. 31) Follow up by staff.

- Susan Peverley noted that a cheque was presented to Larchwood UC from members of the former St Stephen's United Church in Chelmsford from the proceeds of the sale of the building but no indication of the intention of the monies. *Reference can be made to the February minutes regarding the reason for the cheque and the distribution of the funds.*

Correspondence:

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive: Next meeting will be in person at Villa Loyola in Sudbury, April 12th, 13th.

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

10. Changes in Communities of Faith

- a. Schreiber: Trustees will seek legal help from the Region
- b. Hornpayne:

Moved: Susan Peverley

Seconded: George Bott

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith recognizes that the congregation of Grace United Church Hornpayne can no longer maintain their church and therefore approves with regret the request from congregation of Grace United Church, Hornepayne Pastoral Charge to close the church building effective June 30, 2023 and disband the Community of Faith effective September 30, 2023, and

The Commission names the following trustees, George Bott, Jim Claveau and Carlo Bin, to work with the Property Resource team with regards to the disposal of the property. **Carried**

- c. Val D'Or: The Grant team approved the request for \$3000.00 to support ministry. Work is ongoing around a formal request to sell the building.
- d. Fairview – Tehkummah: Still waiting for approval from the municipality to sever the cemetery.
- e. Holy Trinity Elliot Lake: This pastoral charge is now using the Council of the Whole governance structure. There is a full slate of trustees who will work to get an assessment of the building. Next meeting is May 7, 2023 to discuss the future and possibility of disbanding.
- f. St Mark's: This pastoral charge is now using the Council of the Whole governance structure.
- g. Port Loring, Restoule, Golden Valley are having conversations.

11. Local regional cluster support:

- a. Sudbury meeting- May event with Manitou Intentional Learning Community on supporting Right Relations. Next meeting will discuss summer collaborations and youth ministry
- b. North Bay – 2 shared events in April Good Friday and the 5th Sunday. Next meeting May 10, 2023

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- c. Thunder Bay - shared musical event **Awaken Us**, A Cantata on Jesus Resurrection by Rick Gunn" April 16th.
 - d. Sault Ste Marie – staff will facilitate a meeting April 16th with these congregations.
3. Commission Joint working group – Meeting will be organized around the Self Assessments, Annual Reports and the Supervisor reports.

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team – Diane Matheson Jimenez is working on compiling resources. This team approved the Accessibility project from Trinity UC Lively
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team: For information:
 - o CSRC Lay Learning Event Seed Grant of \$2,800 awarded to First Wesley in support of the city-wide choir cantata event.
 - o Education for Ministry Grant of \$500 awarded to Di Tait
 - o CSRC New Outreach Initiatives Grant of \$3000 awarded to St. Andrew's, Sudbury in support of "Christianity at the Margins: Young Adult Ministry" project
 - o Capital Assistance Grant for Camps and Education Centres of \$4000 awarded to Camp McDougall in support of capital maintenance projects
 - o Emergent Mission Support Grant for 2023 of \$3000 awarded to Golden Valley SEM, Val D'Or QC
- Right Relations Resource Team: Will meet after Easter to plan a workshop for the June Festival of Faith. The Remit (see Appendix 1) will need an education piece so that congregations can hold an informed vote.
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team: This team met March 23rd. Plan a May 10th Town Hall with Affirming congregations,. The PIE Day workshop with Shining Waters was excellent.
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team: Sudbury has several Regional Youth events as well as a Regional Confirmation group that will share a retreat with Shining Waters in May.
- United in Worship Project: There are 3 new writers supporting this project: Whitney Bruno, Melody Duncanson Hales, Brenna Baker with Justin Coutts indicating that he is interested. George and Jim will meet to finish off the request for help and a summary of the project.
- Social Justice Network: The network is following up with the Ontario regional councils to ensure the assessments are paid. There will be a meeting in May. The Guaranteed Liveable Income network saw a vigil at St Andrew's UC Larch Street Sudbury led by Torrin Maag and an action in front of Right Honorable Patti Hajdu constituency office.

Emergent Business:

- Thunder Bay Stewardship event: April 22, 23rd with staff members sharing worship, digging into conversations providing resources.
Moved: Mardi Mumford Seconded: Peter Haddow *That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve the expenditures of funds from the Network and Cluster fund for hospitality at the Thunder Bay Stewardship event.*

Carried with Ernie Epp abstaining.

- Rural Connect: There is a need to engage in the wider region for a deeper understanding on how Rural Connect works. This commission is seeing many church closures with no clear ability to support continued worship in these communities. Rural Connect is a way to facilitate worship and connection. How are we using the proceeds from the sale of church property to support these small communities of faith? George Bott, Jim Jackson, Melody Duncanson Hales and Diane Matheson Jimenez will put together a proposal to take to the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive to look at how the proceeds from sale of property which is held at the Region level can support new initiatives including Rural Connect. As well there is a need to create a Legal Fund to support these sales.

Date of Next Meeting: Monday April 24, 2023 at 6:30 PM

Adjournment: Peter Haddow moved for adjournment at 8:11 p.m.

Closing Prayer: Melody closed the meeting with prayer

Appendix 1 Remit

https://united-church.ca/news/establishing-autonomous-national-indigenous-organization?utm_source=E-Newsletters&utm_campaign=d08ab5d0a7-ES230328&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_53a49c9e28-d08ab5d0a7-189116948&goal=0_53a49c9e28-d08ab5d0a7-189116948&mc_cid=d08ab5d0a7&mc_eid=bdb6e7362

In 2022, at General Council 44, the National Indigenous Council proposed that the church identify and remove any structural barriers that would prevent the development and sustaining of an autonomous National Indigenous Organization within The United Church of Canada. When any requested change in church structure will alter the Basis of Union of *The Manual*, as this will, a Category 3 Remit is required.

This remit (opens in a new tab) asks if the church will agree to remove these structural barriers so that the Indigenous Church can determine its place and structure within the United Church. The 44th General Council authorized this remit to test the will of the church with respect to this change.

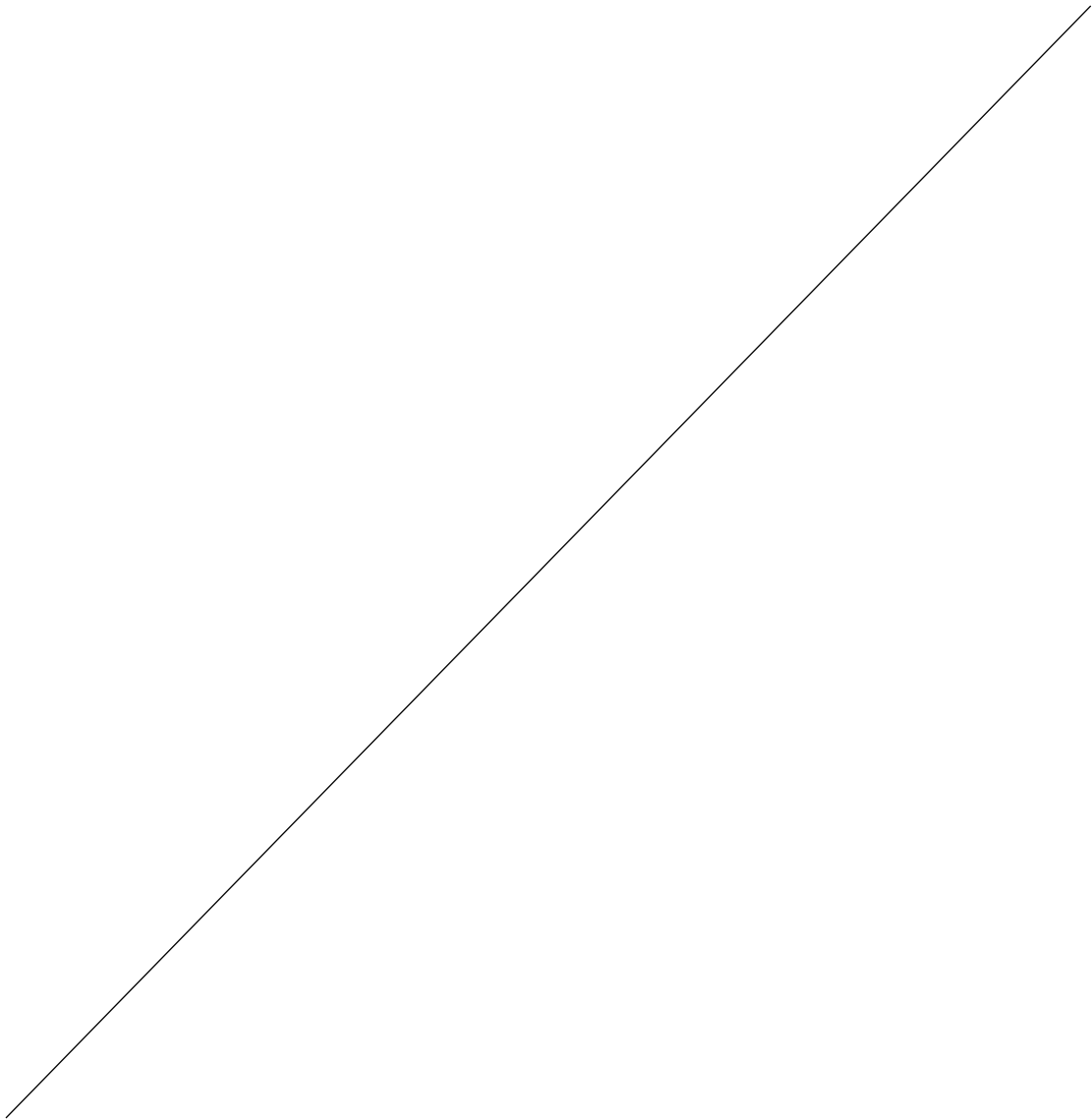
Approval of this remit will enable the creation of an autonomous National Indigenous Organization within The United Church of Canada. This would acknowledge Indigenous

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peoples' rights to their own spiritual identities and to self-determination, and would be consistent with the Caretakers of our Indigenous Circle's *Calls to the Church* and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

The remit requires a vote by every regional council and each pastoral charge's governing body. Information about the remit, as well as voting cards, were sent to every regional council and each pastoral charge on March 10, either through email or Canada Post. Voting will take place between March 15, 2023, and March 31, 2024. Abstentions are considered a vote against the remit.



EXECUTIVE

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on April 12-13, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. at Villa Loyola in Sudbury, ON.

PRESENT: Barb Nott (Chair), Nancy Ferguson, John Watson, Helen Smith, Bill Steadman, Stewart Walker, Susan Lindquist, Dave LeGrand, Kathie Smith

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead

GUESTS: Nicole Treksler (UCC Legal Counsel), Mardi Mumford, Melody Duncanson-Hales

REGRETS: Mastard Sakala, Jim Jackson, Eun-Joo Park and Joy Galloway

Wednesday, April 12, 2023 – 1:00 p.m.

Chair Barb Nott welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive and opened with a prayer.

Barb honoured the traditional lands upon which we meet and then read the CSRC safe space statement.

CHECK-IN

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

HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY CONVERSATION – MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT AND COVERSATION WITH NICOLE TREKSLER, LEGAL COUNCIL FOR UCC)

Barb introduced Nicole to Executive and invited her to open discussions about the Memorandum of Agreement between Huntington University, The United Church of Canada, and the Canadian Shield Regional Council. Nicole shared that this agreement is the third one to cross her desk and the drafted agreement is typical of this kind of relationship. She indicated that the agreement can be rescinded with a 6-month written notice if we decide to terminate the agreement.

Executive had an in-depth discussion with Nicole about the benefits of keeping this agreement as is or changing it.

There was consensus that a meeting with Kevin McCormick and the Executive would be beneficial to make final decisions about the Memorandum of Agreement. Nicole and Peter will set that meeting up and report back to Executive.

OPENING WORSHIP WITH COMMUNION

Stewart led Executive in Opening Worship with Communion.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Bill Steadman/John Watson

2023-04-12/13-01

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

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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MOTION by Kathie Smith/Susan Lindquist 2023-04-12/13-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on February 3, 2023 via Zoom be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Helen Smith/Dave Legrand 2023-04-12/13-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from January 25, 2023 be received, for information

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Susan Lindquist 2023-04-12/13-04
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes from January 24th and February 28th, 2023 be received, for information.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

- *Remit Email from Adele Halliday, Anti-Racism and Equality*
Peter stated that we will be discussing Remit #1 later on in the agenda and Executive decided to wait to have the discussion.

CS RCM PLANNING TEAM POLICY DRAFT DOCUMENT

Executive reviewed and edited the Canadian Shield Regional Council Meeting Team Draft Policy, which was created from our learnings after our last in-person RCM in Sudbury, as well as our past experiences with conference and regional meetings.

SIGNING AUTHORITIES REVISITED

Peter revisited the changes in staff that has and is occurring in the region and the need to change the signing authorities.

MOTION by John Watson/Nancy Ferguson 2023-04-12/13-05
That the signing officers for all Bank Accounts at the Bank of Montreal and BMO Nesbitt Burns for the Canadian Shield Regional Council be Susan Whitehead, Janet MacDonald, Kathleen Wolfe and Kathleen Smith, effective June 1, 2023.

CARRIED

NOMINATIONS REPORT

The Chair of Nominations, Kathie Smith, shared the nominations report with Executive. There were several positions posted in January and the team is still working on getting those positions filled. Each Resource Team and Commission are sending in updated job descriptions to Nominations and will be put up on the website as soon as they are received.

Executive discussed the list of terms for this body and Kathie indicated that everyone should now be on a 3-year term, with the end dates being staggered. For those Executive members whose term is up in 2023 (Stewart Walker, Dave LeGrand, Joy Galloway, Helen Smith and Eun-Joo because she is leaving to take a position with the SWRC), they could choose to stay for a second term.

FESTIVAL OF FAITH (FoF) UPDATE

Susan shared that there are currently sitting at 51 registrants and about 4 of those are from Shining Waters RC and that the planning team has a meeting on April 25th, where they will discuss how to increase the promotion of the FoF. The planning team just learned that James Ko's Admission to The United Church of Canada will be at the Sunday service of the FoF. A reminder message will go out to the region with that information.

REMIT #1 VOTE – ESTABLISHING AN AUTONOMOUS NATIONAL INDEIGENOUS ORGANIZATION

Peter indicated that there are two ways the region can move with the remit; the first is to discuss this at the Regional Council Meeting to serve as an education function for communities of faith and then remind the church boards/councils to vote; the second is to have a vote at the Executive level. Executive had a discussion about which way would be most beneficial to communities of faith and it was decided that there will be an educational component at the RCM and that perhaps a Town Hall Meeting will happen within a month of the due date of the vote (February 2024).

EXECUTIVE MINISTER'S REPORT

Executive received the Executive Minister Report, for information (*attached as Appendix A*).

Update on UCC Budget

Peter attended a staff leader's meeting on Tuesday afternoon where Erik Mathiesen reported about the budget for The United Church of Canada. The UCC needs to make a cut to their budget of \$6 million. Discussions at the General Council Office have occurred questioning the number of regions in The UCC, if we could decrease some of them and what would that look like.

Conversations About Relationship Between CS and SW

Peter led a discussion with Executive about the relationship between SW and CS to date and how we have been sharing staff, events, budgets, etc. He expressed sadness around the number of pastoral charges they have closed in the last 2-3 years. Peter indicated that this was a preliminary discussion about our relationship and future partnering and for Executive to think about it.

Peter closed the meeting and Executive sang, VU 289 "It Only Takes a Spark."

Thursday, April 13, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.

OPENING PRAYER

Barb opened the meeting and Peter started off by acknowledging Volunteer Appreciation Week and thanked all Executive members for all their hard work they do for the region that is deeply appreciated. Peter led Executive in a brief worship by singing Voices United 356 "Seek Ye First the Kingdom" and then shared a prayer.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH SWRC

Executive reviewed the MOU between SW and CS regional councils. There were minor clerical changes and a larger change to #10. Executive acknowledged that this term in the MOU has not been met and would like to honour it going forward, expressing the need to have both the Executives of SW and CS Regional Councils to meet face-to-face soon. It was determined that the ad hoc committee could be the Chair and Chair Elect of the CS Executive, the President and President Elect of the SW Executive (the Past Chair/President if no Chair/President Elect is present), plus the Executive Minister, his assistant, the Staff Lead from SW and other staff, as needed. The wording for #10 will be rewritten to reflect that this group will jointly decide the dates of the Regional Council Meetings for both regional councils, with input from the Executives.

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SEPTEMBER 2023 JOINT EXECUTIVE ZOOM MEETING BETWEEN CS AND SW

Executive discussed the possibility of meeting at Villa Loyola in September 2023 for a joint CS and SW Executive meeting. Executive instructed Peter to ask the SW Executive if this is a possibility for them.

SCoFC PROPOSAL PRESENTATION

The Chair welcomed Mardi Mumford and Melody Duncanson-Hales to the meeting where they shared a presentation on behalf of the Support to Communities of Faith Commission (*Appendix B*).

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Nancy Ferguson

2023-04-12/13-06

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

CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

David shared that members at St. Andrew's UC in Sudbury had a robust discussion about the Manitou Art Collection and they wondered if there was a digital copy of all the pictures in the collection. The suggestion was to contact the Right Relations Resource Team (RRRT) to inquire if the region can have access to these images (possibly with a CSRC watermark on each image). Susan has some of the images digitized after the Conference Office fire. The request for digital images of the collection will be forwarded to the RRRT for action.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- May 4, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom, if needed
- June 1, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

CLOSING

Barb adjourned the meeting at 11:45 a.m. and Executive ended Executive's time together with singing MV 92 and Peter ended with a prayer.

Appendix A Executive Minister Report March 2023

Happy Spring!!! The planning team for the Festival of Faith is well organized and has made significant progress. Staff visited the venue site. Shining Waters Regional Council has chatted with Canadian Shield Regional Council, through Barb this past month, around a learning event and we will need to begin thinking about partnering for 2025. Both Regional Council Executives seem very excited.

We posted the new full-time admin. position to be shared between the Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Councils. The position was posted in January for two weeks. We also circulated via Regional networks, hiring platforms etc. The General Council supports hiring for Regional Councils through its HR office. They received many applicants and a three-person hiring team was created with myself, Jody Maltby and Joy Galloway. We did interviews in early February. We hired Kathleen Wolfe and she started mid-March. You can reach Kathleen at Email:

kwolfe@united-church.ca . Kathleen provides primary administrative support for Shining Waters and Canadian Shield Regional Councils. Rachael retires May 2023, we will be very sad to say goodbye. Susan will move as primary Executive Minister admin. support for both Regional Councils. Presently Susan just supports Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive.

We are currently in the position of hiring a new Congregational Support Minister for SWRC, who's primary work will focus South of the 407 in Shining Waters Regional Council. The successful applicant is Eun-Joo Park! We are delighted for Eun-Joo and SWRC; however, CSRC will deeply miss her leadership and this change will also create a vacancy for CSRC at our Executive.

Recently at our Executive Minister Management Meeting, Erik Matheson, CFO for the United Church shared that the General Council (GC) needs to cut our GC operating budget by 6 million dollars over two years. He also feels that communities of faith do not have the capacity to increase General Council assessments. One of the acute challenges at this time for General Council is both the challenge of inflation and at the same time, receiving smaller returns on investment. While the Regional Council operating grant will remain the same until 2025, M&S Grants to the Regional Council will likely be cut in 2024/25, which could have an impact on our operating income. The cut will also have an impact on granting.

In the near future, we have pre-planned some room for cuts to our income. However, my sense is in the future, we will face cuts to our operating budget, while at the same time our expenses will increase. Part of the way we are addressing this future challenge is by partnering more and more with Shining Waters around staffing and budgeting related to staffing. However, my suggestion to both Regional Councils is to start talking about how we can partner more as two Regional Councils. Erik Matheson at our recent meeting, raised the delicate point that he has concerns around the economic sustainability of 16 Regional Councils. Frankly for many, it went over like a lead balloon. For me, I am mindful that he has the challenging task of being the messenger and not the author of our economic challenge.

My sense is we could approach this future challenge in two ways. One we could wait and deal with the challenge when we need to face it head-on, which is a legitimate strategy, since the Regional Council would likely be more accepting facing a budget challenge in real time. The second option would be to intentionally reach out to Shining Waters Regional Council about partnering more beyond staff. Perhaps experiment with ways we could consolidate our administrative work as a Regional Council. Consider how we could partner around Regional Council Meetings and at the very least, consider how we are **distinctive** as a Regional Council and consider what work we are we doing that is essentially the same? I am aware the Canadian Shield Regional Council is new and folks are new to each other. My sense, after discussing this with Chair Barb, is that we need to proceed carefully and thoughtfully as we work toward creating a strong community in CSRC. However, as our Regional Council policy already has a mechanism for partnering, I am recommending that we work towards planning a joint Executive Meeting with CSRC and SWRC in the fall to brain storm how we can strengthen our partnership and perhaps consider how we can work together. If we can figure out a path forward together, perhaps we can offer leadership to the entire church, as we face our future challenges together. We could also provide leadership to our communities of faith as they face similar challenges and conversations with neighbouring United Churches.

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“...for truly I say to you, if you have faith the size of a mustard seed, you will say to this mountain, ‘Move from here to there,’ and it will move; and nothing will be impossible to you.” ~Matthew 17:20
“I am about to do a new thing; now it springs forth; do you not perceive it? I will make a way in the wilderness and rivers in the desert” ~Isaiah 43:19

Canadian Shield is a Regional Council that has faith that moves mountains. In the face of decline – in membership, financial and human resources, and aging church buildings – members of Canadian Shield are working together to creatively discern and respond to God’s will for the church in this time. And while we, with deep regret, as a Commission of the Regional Council disband communities of faith with regularity, we also live in trust that the small seeds our congregations have planted will take deep root and become a resting place for fresh expressions of the Holy Spirit at work in Northern Ontario.

We are blessed with abundance in Canadian Shield! We have access to funds that allow us to support educational initiatives, ministry with youth, community outreach, outdoor ministries, and much more. It is a privilege we do not take lightly to be able to share these monies with communities of faith and individuals who are doing and being church in innovative ways. We have also found that restricted funds, and funds with very specific foci, have kept us from responding in a timely and nimble way when communities of faith recognize a need, or discern a call, and wish for the Regional Council to partner in doing a new thing.

To this end, we are proposing the adoption of the Mustard Seed Strategy. Our vision is that the \$100 000 communities of faith support fund established by CSRC Executive motion 2022-12-01-12 (MOTION by John Watson/Jim Jackson That the CSRC Executive, after receiving the motion from the Finance Resource Team, it was decided to put \$100,000 in a fund designated for communities of faith support. CARRIED) will be administered by the Support to Communities of Faith Commission and renewed in perpetuity, seeded from property sales and redevelopment to a maximum of \$25 000 per year. Of the \$25 000 per annum, we would like to see \$5 000 designated for the work of the Support to Communities of Faith Commission – travel for an in-person meeting if appropriate, facilitation or a retreat opportunity to enable us to do our work more faithfully, or supplies we may need. The remaining \$20 000 we would like to be able to grant to communities of faith to facilitate growth. Examples may include, but not be limited to, purchasing technology (such as that made available through Rural Connect) to enable collaboration, organizing community hubs, and providing hospitality.

We live in hope that we might soon see an end to the need to disband communities of faith. As congregations turn to one another in collaboration and amalgamation, we would invite members of the Executive into a time of discernment with the Support to Communities of Faith Commission. It has been our practice, in Canadian Shield, not to declare surplus property when communities of faith amalgamate. In order that we might better support all congregations in the Regional Council, we would like to discuss the possibility of revisiting this policy. We would welcome the opportunity for a joint Executive and Support to Communities of Faith Commission Zoom call where we might build community, pray together, and discern how we can partner together to witness the new things God is up to in our Regional Council.

In gratitude and respect,
Jim Jackson, Chair - Support to Communities of Faith Commission

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: April 24, 2023 6:30 p.m.

Agenda

Welcome, Check- in:

Opening Prayer:

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:

Approval of Agenda:

Approval of Minutes: March 28, 2023 pages 207 - 211

Business Arising:

Up date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments

Correspondence:

Central United SSM request

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive: In person meeting April 12, 13th

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

12. Changes in Communities of Faith
 - a. Schreiber
 - b. Hornpayne –
 - c. Val D’or
 - d. Fairview – Tehkummah
 - e. Holy Trinity Elliot Lake
 - f. St Mark’s
2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting North Bay Thunder Bay
3. Commission Joint working group – no meeting

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team -
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team
- Right Relations Resource Team – statement circulated by region
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team – PIE Day
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team
- United in Worship Project - Help wanted request?
- Social Justice Network

Emergent Business:

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Rural Ministry Renewal
Growth Animator

Date of Next Meeting:

Adjournment:

Closing Prayer:

Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
April 24, 2023 by Zoom

Present: Present: Jim Jackson, Peter Haddow, George Bott, Mardi Mumford, Ernie Epp, Marilyn Schatzler, Crystal Greig, Bonnie Johnson,

Regrets: Brynn Carson Susan Peverley

Staff Support: Melody Duncanson Hales, Diane Matheson-Jimenez

Opening Prayer: Jim Jackson opened with prayer

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space: Jim Jackson made a simple acknowledgement honouring the traditional lands and also declared that this was a Safe Space to meet.

Approval of Agenda:

Moved: Peter Haddow

Seconded: Bonnie Johnson

That the agenda be approved as circulated with the addition of an update under Business Arising about the Archives Champion and the addition of an update under Changes in Communities of Faith of Hillview – Pioneer Memorial UC.

Carried

Approval of Minutes:

Moved: Mardi Mumford

Seconded: George Bott

That the Minutes from the Support to Communities of Faith Commission on March 28, 2023 pages 207 - 211 be accepted.

Carried

Business Arising:

Reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments: in process should be ready for September

Archives Champion: Helen Walker has put her name forward. Ernie Epp is also interested to help out.

Correspondence:

Central United SSM request: This Community of Faith is hoping to sell the building and prioritize ministry over property.

Moved: Marilyn Schatzler

Seconded: Bonnie Johnson

That the Support to Communities of Faith Commission approve the request from Central United Church, Sault Ste Marie to use the remaining restricted Manse fund \$10,097.52 for church operations.

Carried

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive: The Executive met in person at Villa Loyola in Sudbury. Mardi attended the second day. The discussion around Huntington University and the role of Canadian Shield Regional Council was postponed. In his report, Peter Hartmans encouraged the continued sharing of resources and collaboration with Shining Waters. Mardi presented an update (Appendix 1) on the Mustard Seed project. This commission needs to develop protocols for financial support from this fund.

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

Changes in Communities of Faith

- Schreiber- still in process to hire a new lawyer
Hornpayne –

Moved: George Bott

Seconded: Peter Haddow

That the Support to Communities of Faith Commission extend to Grace UC Hornpayne the legal support of a lawyer retained by Canadian Shield Regional Council-including help with the legal costs.

Carried

This congregation is pro-active and has an inventory of worship resources to give away. George will send this to Mardi to send to the region for advertising.

- Val D'or: in process
- Fairview – Tehkummah: awaiting a decision from the municipality
- Holy Trinity Elliot Lake: Next meeting May 7th to discuss next steps re disbanding and selling of property
- St Mark's : Meeting as a Council of the Whole. This is providing transparency. Will need staff support for visioning next steps and transitions.
- Hillview – Pioneer Memorial: The congregation has voted to disband June 30, 2023

Moved: Peter Haddow

Seconded: Chrystal Greig

That the Support to Communities of Faith Commission approve, with regret, the request of Hillview – Pioneer Memorial Pastoral Charge to disband effective June 30, 2023.

Carried

To be noted that there are issues around location of deeds, names on deeds, legal names, CRA designations (numbers and names) We could support Communities of Faith by doing some education around this.

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Local regional cluster support:

Sudbury: Met by Zoom April 12, 2023 and discussed Young Adult Church, a Right Relations local event. Next meeting May 31st to discuss summer programming.

North Bay: Combined worship on Good Friday and will again worship together April 30, 2023. There are more intentional conversations on "What will a United Church presence look like in North Bay?" there is interest in the Rural Hub project.

Sault Ste Marie: Gathered April 18, 2023 with Ministry and chairs of councils to discuss significant transitions. Next meeting is June 4, 2023

Thunder Bay: A cluster meeting was held on April 22, 2023 with discussions around stewardship and Rural connect. This was well attended

Manitoulin: Well served by paid ministry at this time. There is co-operation.

North Shore: The Pastoral Relations Commission is working in this area with a new shared Ecumenical ministry in Espanola, a Central Algoma cluster and a shared ministry with Iron Bridge and Blind River.

Commission Joint working group – no meeting

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team – working dividing up the responsibilities over the summer months. Don Haslam is a new member of the team.
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team: A \$3000.00 New Initiatives Grant was awarded to Trinity UC Lively for a project to support the Walden Food Bank with prepared individual meals to give out. Christine Paul is a new member of the team
Camping ministries supported 11 campers.
- Right Relations Resource Team – Meeting April 25th and on the agenda is a shared event with Manitoulin Intentional Learning Community (MILC) for the Indigenous Day of Prayer June 21, 2023 and also developing a Land Acknowledgement workshop for the Festival of Faith.
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team – Meeting April 27, 2023 to plan the May 10th Town Hall by Zoom with all affirming churches and those interested.
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team: there are resources for Summer projects such as VBS or Family Faith nights as well a Confirmation retreat with Shining Waters in May.
- United in Worship Project: Writers have stepped up.
- Social Justice Network: Awaiting responses to the request for funds from the Ontario Regional Councils

Emergent Business:

Rural Ministry Renewal : See Appendix 2 The General Council is looking for consultation about the needs of rural communities . Each region's rural ministry looks different. The following questions need to be discussed.

- a. What is unique about renewal in rural ministry contexts?
- b. What does successful renewal look like in rural settings?
- c. What resources would be most useful for rural ministry renewal?

The commission needs to review the document and respond. Peter Haddow has expressed interest in working on this.

Growth Animator: See Appendix 3 The Commission needs to review this document and respond to Diane Matheson Jimenez, a small group will meet sometime the week of May 8th to discuss feedback. Mardi, George, Jim and Ernie have expressed interest in working on this.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday May 30, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. by zoom

Adjournment: Peter Haddow moved for adjournment at 8:23 p.m.

Closing Prayer: Diane Matheson Jimenez closed the meeting with prayer.

Jim Jackson, Chair

Mardi Mumford, Secretary

Appendix 1

The Mustard Seed Project - April 13, 2023

1. The commission is coming back with our plan following the CSRC December motion by John Watson and Jim Jackson to put \$100,000 in a fund designated for communities of faith support.

2. The Commission wants to be able immediately to access the \$100,000. earmarked to the Commission.

3. We propose to use up to \$25,000. per year

\$5,000.00 for Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith for meeting costs, hospitality. The Commission needs to be nimble with its offer for support.

\$20,000. In grant form to facilitate growth, support new ways of doing worship in small congregations, technology support for small congregation without paid accountable ministry to connect with Rural Connect Hub or United in

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Worship, support legal fees for property issues and support congregations through transition.

This fund will help the Support to Communities of Faith commission on behalf of the Regional Council, help communities of faith in Canadian Shield to live out our shared call to deep spirituality, bold discipleship and daring justice.

4. We want the Executive to commit to replenishing this fund for up to \$25,000.00 per year using a percentage from the proceeds of sale of properties.

Presently proceeds from the sale of properties are as follows: 3% Archive support, 10% Indigenous Church, 10% M & S, 30% for legacy of closing church, 47% to the Region with some input from the congregation on allotment to some of the existing funds such as Camp Fund

5. Procedural piece: The Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith will manage the fund with a specific paper trail to request Finance to release funds. For large sums, there will be an application form to detail the specifics.

Appendix 2

Request for Proposals: Rural Ministry Renewal Project

Background

The United Church of Canada would like to intentionally learn more about rural ministry renewal and collaborate with regions to help inform future support and resource development. To facilitate this learning, EDGE received a grant that can be shared with Regional Councils, to host events online or in person that engage questions around rural ministry renewal, such as:

- What is unique about renewal in rural ministry contexts?
- What does successful renewal look like in rural settings?
- What resources would be most useful for rural ministry renewal?

The insights gleaned from engaging these questions will help to inform the development and sharing of tools and resources for communities of faith and regional councils going forward. The aim of this initiative is to work with regional councils, to understand what is already being done, what is working, and potentially where more resources are needed.

Events/Gatherings (online or in-person)

Regional Council Clusters (cluster of regions within one Executive Minister Portfolio) and Indigenous Ministries are invited to consider how they might best glean insights into rural ministry renewal in the coming year within their context. The renewal group, within the Growth initiative, is hoping to gather information on how to best revitalize and energize existing communities of faith (Growth 5.1.1 and 5.1.2).

This invitation is to offer some financial support for work your region is likely already engaged in. We are hoping to gather information and begin conversations about rural ministry specifically. Through the grant we have access to, each cluster may request up to \$5000 in the coming year to engage in this work.

- Events/Gatherings should...
- Engage these questions:
 - a. What is unique about renewal in rural ministry contexts?
 - b. What does successful renewal look like in rural settings?
 - c. What resources would be most useful for rural ministry renewal?
- Include representation from a minimum of 5 communities of faith
- Include individuals from a variety of different backgrounds, ages, genders, etc.

Please note that if you already have an event/gathering planned, including an Annual General Meeting or a rural ministry event, where these questions can be addressed, there is no need to host a separate event/gathering. The region does not have to host an event itself, if it can glean insights into these questions through another event/gathering.

Reporting

We are hopeful that this is a first step in working with regional councils to focus on the renewal of existing rural communities of faith.

We are requesting that an online form be completed (questions provided below) that will be the basis of a conversation between regional council leadership responsible for rural ministry (to be identified by the regional councils) and the renewal team.

1. Approx. how many people were engaged in these questions?
2. What is unique about renewal in rural ministry contexts?
3. What does successful renewal look like in rural settings?
4. What resources would be most useful for rural ministry renewal?
5. If funding was requested, how was the money spent?
6. Other

Expression of Interest

Please fill out the following information and submit it to bcorlett@united-church.ca by **June 30, 2023**.

1. Contact Name (this person will be asked to complete the reporting form and help organize the reporting conversation; they do not need to be responsible for the event/gathering).
2. Contact Email Address:
3. Proposal Submitted on Behalf of (Regional Council(s)):
4. Event Description:
 - a. Anticipated Event Date(s)

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- b. Audience Focus (i.e. Winnipeg Area or isolated rural ministries)
5. How will you gather responses to the questions around rural ministry renewal? (eg. Survey, workshop, round tables, etc.)
 6. What amount of funding would help make your event(s) possible (\$0 to \$5,000)?
 7. Provide a brief description of how funds will be used.
 8. Would you be interested in participating in an ongoing rural ministry renewal project beyond this proposal?
- ☐ I understand that we will have to complete an online reporting form after our event and organize a debrief conversation about our findings.

Appreciating that we're entering AGM season, if you are unable to complete this in detail but are interested, please drop us a quick email and we can follow up with you later.

Appendix 3

Position Title: Growth Animator	Evaluation Category: Category 7?
Reports to Position: Director of Growth and Ministry Development	Direct Reports: None
Unit/Regional Council: Organizational Development and Strategy Unit Working with: _____ Regional Councils	Date Last Reviewed:

Context

The United Church of Canada is a Christian community of faith and hope, called to celebrate God's presence and to love and serve others. We act in cooperation with others for peace, justice, care for creation, and the healing the world.

Within the United Church the General Council Office supports ministry of the communities of faith and regional councils. It is the denominational expression of The United Church of Canada, working ecumenically and in global partnership.

The Organizational Development and Strategy (ODS) Unit supports the General Council Office in the development, execution, and communication of its vision and strategic priorities. The unit helps shape the public face of The United Church of Canada, contributing to the denomination's principled presence supporting bold witness in the public square and strengthening invitation to the church across the country and its ministries. It assists in nourishing congregations, supporting regional councils, advancing the national program, and contributing to effectiveness of the church. The Unit houses the General Council Office planning function (strategic and operational), reporting and evaluation; a Communications Department of subject matter experts who

ensure alignment in key messaging; and a Department of staff dedicated to the church's overarching priority of Growth, who work with the regions to cultivate innovation, strengthen existing congregations toward transformation, and seed and grow new communities of faith.

Position Purpose

Within the framework of the strategic plan, under the direction of the Director of Growth and Ministry Development, and working directly with the relevant Regional Executive Minister (or delegate), the Growth Animator plants, enhances, evaluates and connects new communities of faith, supports renewal efforts in existing ministries, and strengthens invitation to The United Church of Canada.

Primary Areas of Responsibility

1. Seeding New Communities of Faith, 60%

- Receive proposals from within the relevant regions for new or emerging communities of faith;
- Provide ongoing support, consultation and evaluation to new communities of faith;
- Assess needs for financial support and help to match with available regional, national, Foundation, or other resources;
- Link regional growth initiatives to strategic national initiatives;
- Develop needed resources to support, promote and interpret church planting efforts;
- Invoke imagination and support for church plants through hosting events and making presentations, in many forms;
- Assist in collectively celebrating the formation of new communities.

Collaborate and support one national thematic planting streams (e.g. online, communities of disability, francophone communities, migrant, intercultural, Indigenous, rural etc).

Renewing Existing Communities of Faith (working with congregational support ministers as applicable and appropriate);

20%

Collaborate regionally with committees and staff dedicated to renewal efforts within the relevant region, and provide support, when assigned, to key regional or inter-regional specific renewal projects;

Contribute to strategies and resources that span both new communities and renewal in existing communities, connecting communities as appropriate.

Learning, Adapting, Innovating, Inviting

20%

Stay abreast of best practices and emerging trends in fresh expressions, church planting, and church renewal;

Engage with and integrate decolonial, intercultural and Equity, Diversity and Anti-Oppressive (EDA) practices;

Assist the church with active experimentation, bold action and deep learning.

- Identify regional and community of faith opportunities to strengthen invitation to The United Church of Canada;
- Working with regional communicators, contribute to and help animate communication campaigns;

Your job title does not define or limit your duties and you may be required to carry out other work within your abilities from time to time at our request. We reserve the right to introduce changes in line with technological developments, which may impact upon your job duties or methods of working.

Position Qualifications

Education

- Bachelor of Theology or community development education or its equivalent.

Experience

- At least four years' experience in ministry development, innovative congregational ministry, outreach or overseas ministry or education and community development with demonstrated skills in program development and project management.

Skills and Abilities

- Demonstrated excellence in verbal and written communications.
- Demonstrated skills in administration, time management, setting priorities and situational analysis is required.
- Knowledge of the life and work of The United Church of Canada together with experience working within the structure, policies and ethos;
- Recognition of personal and professional boundaries;
- An ability to relate policies and procedures to faith, and to reflect theologically on policy;
- A motivated self-starter capable of identifying the need for and taking independent action with the ability to work collegially and constructively within a staff team;
- Solid computer skills and evidence of adaptive use of new technologies.

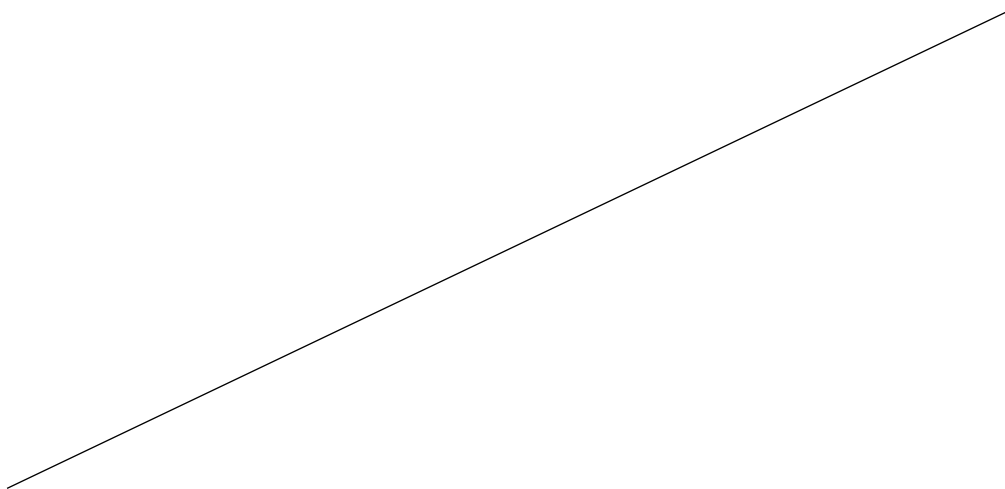
Personal Characteristics

- Alignment with the vision and values of The United Church of Canada – respect, integrity, passion and diversity;
- Demonstrated capacity to embrace change, take risks, experiment, reflect, and adapt, and cultivate adaptation in others.

Working Conditions

This position may be nested in one or more regional council offices, may work from a home office, or may work from the General Council Office. In these situations, collaboration and partnership with unit staff is key. Occasional evening and weekend meetings and travel within the assigned region will be required. They are responsible for their own timetable/work schedule and regular full accountability within the Unit staff team is required. Manual dexterity required to use desktop computer and peripherals. Intermittent physical activity including sitting, standing, and lifting. Occasional overtime may be required. A willingness and ability to work and travel within the Region is required.

As part of our ongoing commitment to the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, The United Church of Canada will aid employees who request accommodation throughout their employment with us, unless the position is deemed to be a bona fide occupational requirement and/or to the point of undue hardship considering issues of health, safety and cost.



PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

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Canadian Shield Regional Council
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
April 26th, 2023 at 1:15 p.m.

Welcome (1:20 p.m.)	Rob Smith welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order. Rob agreed to chair the meeting in John Watson's absence.
Attendance	Joy Bott, Joy Galloway, Karen Gooch (Secretary), Jane Graham, Ted Harrison, Elaine Lush, Catherine Somerville, Erin Todd, Stewart Walker (10)
Regrets	Fraser Williamson
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Check-in	Members of the Commission spent a few minutes checking-in. Many spoke about preparation for the spring as we move into warmer weather – returning from Florida, bringing a child home from an overseas school experience, preparing for a wedding, training for a triathlon or visiting family as travel conditions improve.
Opening	Jane Graham shared a poem called <i>Change the Way You See</i> by Donna Ashworth to open the meeting Change the way you see by Donna Ashworth (thisbugslife.com)
Acknowledgement	Rob Smith acknowledged that we gather on indigenous land and we walk together in solidarity and reconciliation with First Nation People. He reminded us that all are welcome in this meeting space.
Agenda	Motion 2023-04-26-01 Catherine Somerville/ Ted Harrison moved that the agenda be approved with one addition – a follow-up regarding offering at covenanting services. Carried
Minutes of Previous Meeting	Motion 2023-04-26-02 Karen Gooch/ Joy Bott moved that the minutes from the March 22 nd , 2023 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission meeting be accepted with the correction of two typos - a spelling error and the amount paid to help cover severance costs (pg. 22) should be \$1,500. Carried
Business Arising	
St. Andrew's, Massey DCM Request	Appendix I A revised job description for the Congregational Designated Minister (CDM) at St. Andrew's United (Massey ON) was circulated by email before this meeting. There was a brief discussion before presenting a motion for approval: <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Catherine Somerville provided a completed Position Categorization Worksheet which was used to help finalize the job description (Found in the Pastoral Relations: Congregational Designated Ministers manual from March 2020.) Congregational Designated Ministers (March 2020) (united-church.ca)▪ It was recognized that a lot of work has gone into this job description. Thanks to Catherine for her work with the St. Andrew's Community of Faith.▪ A more general discussion about DCMs was held later in this meeting.

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Motion 2023-04-26-03

Catherine Sommerville/ Elaine Lush moved that the request from St. Andrew's United (Massey ON) to hire a Congregational Designated Minister be approved based on the revised job description (Appendix I). Carried

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| Letter to Office of Vocation | As discussed at our last meeting, a letter has not yet been sent to the Office of Vocation concerning the termination of David Colwell following the ending of Supervised Ministry Experience (SME). |
| Pastoral Charge Supervisors | Only 5 Pastoral Charge Supervisor reports have been received so far. Rob Smith will request that Sue Whitehead send out a reminder letter. Joy Galloway and Elaine Lush will meet to review the reports that have been received. |
| Admissions Pilot | There are 5 Ministry Personnel waiting for placement through the Admissions Pilot Project. No churches in this region have expressed an interest in hiring through this project. |

Correspondence

- The following items of correspondence were received:
- A letter dated April 17th, 2023 was received from Rev. John Fraser on behalf of the Council of St. James-in-the-Valley United, Val Therese ON. The letter outlines the experiences of Student Minister David Chuipka, who has resigned his position. The congregation feels that David left due to a lack of support as he faced some personnel issues while trying to meet the obligations of his SME. To date, David has not formally requested to give up his candidacy and has not met with the Candidacy Board. It appears there has not been communication with the Office of Vocation or the Atlantic School of Theology. There is little the PRC can do at the moment to influence this situation and the Community of Faith is still considered a learning site. The congregation seems to have genuine concern for David's well-being. Perhaps there has been some blurring of the line between his role as a minister and his obligations as a student, which should always come first.
 - A letter was received Susan Boisvert on behalf of the Search Committee of Covenant United, Timmins ON which outlines the frustrating experience of hiring a new minister. There is not likely anything the PRC can do in the short term, however is good to have these issues highlighted in writing. Rob will discuss some of these ideas with the Liaisons. Susan's letter mentioned problems using ChurchHub and perhaps there needs to be more awareness of support options that are available through the United Church. The experience of Covenant United is not likely unique as many churches are taking up to 2 years to find a minister.

New Business

- | | |
|----------------|--|
| Resource Teams | <u>Pastoral Relations Liaisons</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ There was no report from the Liaison Resource Team as they have not met. <u>LLWLs</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ There has been a request to update the Pulpit Supply Policy concerning reimbursement when an LLWL provides a sermon and worship outline but is unable to attend the service because of extenuating circumstances. Preparation |
|----------------|--|

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is the biggest part of the job for an LLWL and there should be encouragement to pay compensation (less any mileage) when last part of the task cannot be completed. This will also help maintain a positive relationship between the congregation and the LLWL. Rob Smith will consult with the LLWL Resource Team and will draft an addition to the policy for the next PRC meeting.

- Relicensing for another group of LLWLs is ongoing.

Support to Ministry Personnel

- There will be an online event with Kellie McComb on May 10th from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. with the theme Getting to your Way.

Consensus Packet The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting. Rob Smith highlighted the following items from the Consensus Packet:

- The call for Minhyuk Hwang is provisional and he will be ordained on May 28th, 2023.
- Rev. James Ko will be admitted to the United Church on Sunday June 11th, 2023 at Trinity United, North Bay as part of the Regional Council's Festival of Faith.
- The motion to revoke marriage licences for David Colwell and David Chuipka is included because of the ending of their student appointments. Currently, the PRC has no formal policy in place regarding the revocation of marriage licences.

The following motions were presented for a vote:

1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the provisional call of Minhyuk Hwang (Ordinand) to First United, Wawa ON effective June 1st, 2023 with the following terms:
Part-time (25 hours)

Community of Faith ADP Company Code	RB5J
Eligible Service (in years)	1
Step/increment category	A
Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$51,233.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$32,020.63
Additional Salary (in \$)	0.00
Total Salary	\$32,020.63
Phone/Communications	\$1,000.00
Continuing Education	\$964.38
Other	\$0.00
Total Remuneration	\$33,985.01
2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council accept the change of pastoral relations of the Rev. Eun-Joo Park with St. Andrew's United, Sault Ste. Marie ON effective July 31st, 2023.
3. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council accept the change of pastoral relations of David Chuipka with St. James-in-the-Valley United, Sudbury ON effective June 30th, 2023.
4. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. John's United, Marathon ON to re-licence George Bott as a Sacraments Elder, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.

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5. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. John's United, Marathon ON to re-licence Nancy Vernon as a Sacraments Elder, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.
6. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. John's United, Marathon ON to re-licence Stephen Collins as a Sacraments Elder, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.
7. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. Andrew's United, Massey ON to licence May Cameron, who has recently completed her studies, as a Sacraments Elder, effective May 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.
8. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of Espanola United, Espanola ON to licence Dawn Yorke, who has recently completed her studies, as a Sacraments Elder, effective May 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.
9. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the licencing of Aaron Palmer as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader. Aaron has successfully completed the training, the application process and has been interviewed by the LLWL Resource and Support Team, effective May 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2026.
10. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield approve the following Admittand as having met the appointment/call/employment requirements for admission at the June 11th, 2023 Celebration of Ministry service to be held at Trinity United in North Bay. James Byung Yun Ko will be admitted into his current appointment (April 1st, 2022 – June 30th, 2025) as congregational minister at Trinity United, Lively ON.
11. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield approve the removal of the marriage licences of David Colwell and David Chuipka because of the ending of their student appointments.

Motion 2023-04-26-04

- Jane Graham/ Joy Bott moved that each and every motion of the Consensus Packet be approved. Carried

**Congregational
Designated Ministers**

A discussion was held about the role of the Congregational Designated Ministers within the Canadian Shield Region.

- Currently there are churches within our Region without Ministry Personnel who are employing the same person for pulpit supply almost every week. Some have Sacraments Elder or LLWL training. Some have no background in the United Church. Over time some of these people are being thought of as 'the minister' by the members of the Community of Faith and this is causing unease for some people.
- Issues include the question of who is the de facto minister accountable to and is this practice devaluing the role of trained ordained Ministry Personnel and DLMs. People who are in these positions may lack an understanding of church policy, ethos or theology. There may not be a police record check done. Would accepting them as CDMs be a good idea in order to provide at least some oversight? Would this work in isolated communities? Perhaps making such an

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appointment would be a way of recognizing that some congregations will not be able to attract a minister because of money or isolation issues.

- Should CDMs be considered as support for Ministry Personnel and DLMs or can we endorse a CDM as *the* minister for a congregation? This brings up the question of what it means to be a minister. Should we revisit the one order of ministry concept and the role of DLMs (which remains somewhat murky since the failure of the one order remit)?
- Shining Waters Regional Council is watching how our Region handles this situation as they have churches in the large urban areas that cannot afford to hire a minister because of cost-of-living issues and housing shortages (and most churches no longer have manses).
- As there are 44 out of 78 Communities of Faith in our Region that are not served by Ministry Personnel, this will be an ongoing discussion.

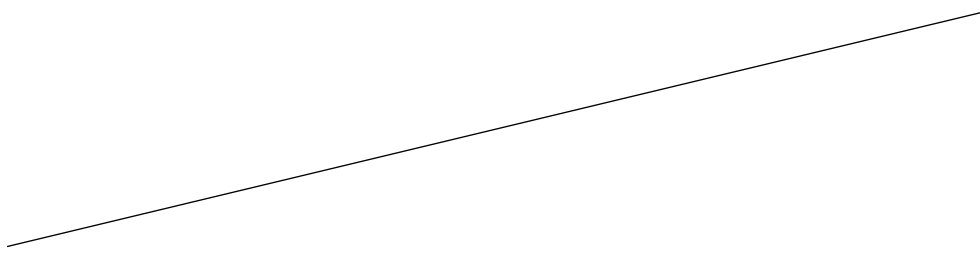
Other Business

Next Meeting The next meeting will be held on Wednesday May 24th, 2023 at 1:15 p.m. Ted Harrison will provide the opening and closing.

Adjournment Jane Graham offered a closing blessing before the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

Chairperson, John Watson

Secretary, Karen Gooch



SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

**Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
May 18, 2023 at 12:00 p.m. by zoom**

Present: Jim Jackson, Bonnie Johnson, Ernie Epp, Peter Haddow, Mardi Mumford, Susan Peverley, Crystal Greig

Regrets: George Bott, Marilyn Schatzler

Staff Support: Diane Matheson Jimenez, Melody Duncanson Hales

1. Diane opened with prayer
2. Shequindah United Church
 - a. Background. At the May 9, 2023 meeting of the Church Council of the Whole and the Trustees a motion was made to request the demolition of the building. The Property Resource Team discussed this request and has made a recommendation to this commission

Motion:

Moved; Mardi Mumford **Seconded:** Peter Haddow

That the Support to Communities of Faith Commission, Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the recommendation of the Property Resource Team that Shequindah United Church be given permission to proceed with Demolition of the building housing Shequindah United Church the legal description of which is "Townplot of Shequindah in the District of Algoma, Province of Ontario" One Half Acre, more or less, composed of Lot Eight on the South Side of Campbell Street in the aforesaid Townplot of Shequindah and the municipal address is 27 Townline Road, Shequindah, Ont. POP 1WO, the terms of which are as follows: Demoliton Quote of \$15000. Presented by Mike Varey Construction Company of Little Current, Ontario. (date pending for completion - expect it to be completed by May 30 2023)

Carried

3. Central United Church in Sault Ste Marie is considering an offer on their building. Motions will be sent to the Property Resource Team for their recommendations to this body.
 4. Adjournment: Jim Jackson adjourned the meeting at 12:16 p.m. as the business at hand had been completed.
-

PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

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Canadian Shield Regional Council
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
May 24th, 2023 at 1:15 p.m.

Welcome (1:20 p.m.)	John Watson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
Attendance	Joy Galloway, Karen Gooch (Secretary), Jane Graham, Ted Harrison, Elaine Lush, Catherine Somerville, Erin Todd, Stewart Walker, Fraser Williamson (9)
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Check-in	Members of the Commission spent a few minutes checking-in.
Opening	Rob Smith shared a short reading from the book <i>Guerrillas of Grace</i> by Ted Loder to open the meeting
Acknowledgement	John Watson acknowledged that we gather on indigenous land and we walk together in solidarity and reconciliation with First Nation People. He reminded us that all are welcome in this meeting space and that anyone should feel free to come forward if they believe we have not lived up to this commitment.
Agenda	Motion 2023-05-24-01 Catherine Somerville/ Fraser Williamson moved that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried
Minutes of Previous Meeting	Motion 2023-05-24-02 Karen Gooch/ Erin Todd moved that the minutes from the April 26 th , 2023 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission meeting be accepted with the correction of a couple of typos and the correction that the letter to the Office of Vocation has not yet been sent. Comments concerning marriage license revocation should indicate that the PRC currently does not have a formal policy about this. Carried
Business Arising	
Letter to Office of Vocation	The letter to the Office of Vocation concerning the termination of David Colwell following the ending of Supervised Ministry Experience (SME) has not yet been sent and this will be made a priority before our next meeting.
Pastoral Charge Supervisors	Only 6 Pastoral Charge Supervisor reports have been received so far. Rob Smith will ensure that reminder letter is sent out. Joy Galloway and Elaine Lush have agreed to review these.
Pulpit Supply	As discussed at our last meeting, Rob Smith will provide wording for an update to our Pulpit Supply Policy concerning the payment of LLWLs when material is prepared and the LLWL is not able to attend the planned worship service.
Congregational Designated Ministers	Following up on our discussion about CDMs at our last meeting, John Watson highlighted that the role of the PRC should be to provide approval for a congregation to hire a CDM based on distinct criteria. It seems that perhaps some in the church are interpreting the role of a CDM very broadly and see this as an

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opening to provide an alternate form of ministry. It is important to ensure that there is room for a full conversation about this to take place.

Correspondence

None

New Business

Resource Teams Pastoral Relations Liaisons

- There was no report from the Liaison Resource Team as they have not met.

LLWLs

- The relicensing of LLWLs is ongoing, however there are still 16 LLWLs in the current group whose licenses will expire in June and many of these have not yet completed the required paperwork. Some of these LLWLs have questioned the need to be relicensed every 3 years.
- It is known that there are currently former LLWLs who let their licenses lapse and still continue to preach regularly. Technically, congregations can hire whoever they wish to preach and non-licensed people can preach up to 4 times a year under PRC policy. Some LLWLs are saying what is the point of licensing?
- It is difficult to enforce the licensing when there appears to be few consequences if unlicensed people are preaching. Are congregations aware of the risk in hiring non-licensed or non-UCC recognized people? If there are problems, the United Church would not be available to offer support. Perhaps there should be some education about this.
- There is a shortage of LLWLs and this may lead to congregations hiring unlicensed people in order to fill their pulpit.
- Ted Harrison spoke about the success of the in-person training that was offered in the former Manitou Conference. Perhaps this is a way to increase the interest and awareness of the role of LLWLs. Ted offered to speak with Kathleen McCallum (who lead this program for Manitou) to see if she may be interested in leading some in-person training again. CSRC does have a good online-training program and perhaps a hybrid training version could be developed if there is interest.

Support to Ministry Personnel

- There are currently no events planned.
- Plans for the Moderator to attend a Ministry Personnel retreat in the Region in 2024 have changed. She will attend the May 2024 general meeting.
- An evaluation/questionnaire will be sent out to Ministry Personnel in the Region to help determine what kind of events are needed/wanted and how best to provide support.

Consensus Packet The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting. Rob Smith highlighted the following items from the Consensus Packet:

- The call for Minhyuk Hwang was a short-term call to allow his ordination to take place on May 28th, 2023.
- Rob Smith will temporarily be appointed Pastoral Charge Supervisor at St. Andrew's United, Sault Ste. Marie while the search continues for someone who willing to take on the role.

The following motions were presented for a vote:

The United Church of Canada
Canadian Shield Regional Council

2022/2023-96

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1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the re-appointment of Lisa Blais (DLM) to Trinity United, North Bay, ON, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2026 with the following terms:

Part-time (34 hours)	
Community of Faith ADP Company Code	TBUZ
Eligible Service (in years)	17
Step/increment category	F
Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$61,455.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$52,236.75
Additional Salary (in \$)	3,074.00
Total Salary	\$55,310.75
Phone/Communications	\$329.28
Continuing Education	\$1,311.55
Other	\$0.00

Other Details

The con-ed Lisa is eligible to use is \$1,493
and is not included in her salary.

Total Remuneration \$56,951.58

2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council accept the change of pastoral relations of Minhyuk Hwang with First United Pastoral Charge, Wawa, ON effective July 31st, 2023.
3. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. Andrew's United, Sturgeon Falls, ON to re-licence Kathie Smith as a sacraments elder, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.
4. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council appoint the Rev. Robert Smith as the Pastoral Charge Supervisor for St. Andrew's United, Sault Ste. Marie effective July 31st, 2023.

Motion 2023-05-24-03

Joy Galloway/ Elaine Lush moved that each and every motion of the Consensus Packet be approved. **Carried**

Compassionate Support Rob Smith spoke about a CSRC minister who has asked for financial help to attend a family funeral outside our Region.

- There is a national compassionate fund, but the application process is quite intrusive in Rob's opinion. Rob consulted Melody Duncanson-Hales, but currently, the CSRC has no emergency fund to help ministers who may be in need of one-time, emergency financial aid. The minister involved has approached their church and the surrounding community to no avail.
- Rob proposed that \$500 be offered, with the money coming from the PRC budget. This is not a lot of money, but it would set a precedent.
- It was suggested that the CSRC Executive be approached about setting up a benevolent fund to aid Ministry Personnel needing limited financial help. In the meantime, the following motion was presented for approval.

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Motion 2023-05-24-04

Erin Todd/ Ted Harrison moved that the Pastoral Relation Commission create a one-time \$500 compassionate fund (with money from the PRC budget) to be administered by Rob Smith and that the Commission make a request to the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive to consider creating a permanent fund as per our mandate to promote the health and wellness of our Ministry Personnel. **Carried**

Other Business

LLWL Licence Rob Smith brought forward the request to license Cindy Hebert as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader, confirming that she has met all criteria.

Motion 2023-05-24-05

Elaine Lush/ Catherine Somerville moved that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the licencing of Cindy Hebert as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader effective May 24th, 2023 to June 30th, 2026. **Carried**

Next Meeting A discussion was held about the timing of future meetings of the PRC since Wednesday no longer works for one of our members. It was proposed that PRC meetings be moved to the 4th Tuesday of the month. This will be confirmed at our next meeting on the 4th Tuesday of June.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday June 27th, 2023 at 1:15 p.m. Elaine Lush will provide the opening and Karen Gooch the closing.

Adjournment

To close the meeting, Ted Harrison offered a poem by Alfred K. LaMotte called *My DNA Results Came In*.
[Wild Words: Ferociously Nourishing Poetry \(guideforconscioushealing.com\)](https://www.guideforconscioushealing.com/wild-words-ferociously-nourishing-poetry).
The meeting was adjourned at 2:45 p.m.

Chairperson, John Watson

Secretary, Karen Gooch

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: May 30, 6:30 p.m.
Agenda

Welcome, Check- in:

Opening Prayer:

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:

Approval of Agenda:

Approval of Minutes: April 24, 2023 pages 212 – 220

Notes from special meeting May 8, 2023 re Growth Animator Position
Description and Rural Ministry Renewal Initiative

Minutes from the Zoom meeting May 18, 2023 re Shequindah UC p. 221

Business Arising:

Up date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments
Growth Animator – suggestions and response
Rural Ministry Renewal Initiative

Correspondence:

Pinegrove UC request

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive: In person meeting April 12, 13th

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

13. Changes in Communities of Faith

- a. Schreiber
- b. Hornpayne –
- c. Val D’or
- d. Fairview – Tehkummah
- e. Holy Trinity Elliot Lake – response to Melody’s letter?
- f. St Mark’s

2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting North Bay Thunder Bay

3. Commission Joint working group – no meeting

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team -
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team
- Right Relations Resource Team –
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team –
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team
- United in Worship Project -
- Social Justice Network

Emergent Business:

Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith

Date of Next Meeting:

Adjournment:

Closing Prayer:

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
May 30, 2023 by zoom
Minutes**

Present: Present: Jim Jackson, Peter Haddow, Mardi Mumford, Ernie Epp, Crystal Greig, Bonnie Johnson, Susan Peverley Marilyn Schatzler

Regrets: Brynn Carson, George Bott,

Staff Support: Melody Duncanson Hales, Diane Matheson-Jimenez

Opening Prayer: Diane Matheson Jimenez opened with a poem “God Said Yes to Me” and a prayer

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space: Jim Jackson made a simple acknowledgement honouring the traditional lands and also declared that this was a Safe Space to meet.

Approval of Agenda:

Moved: Bonnie Johnson Seconded: Susan Peverley

That the agenda be approved as circulate.

Carried

Approval of Minutes:

Moved: Mardi Mumford Seconded: Peter Haddow

*That the Minutes from the Support to Communities of Faith Commission on April 24, 2023 pages 212 – 220 and for May 18, 2023 page 221 be accepted. **Carried***

Business Arising:

Annual Reports and Self-Assessment tracking. Next step is to send a reminder and set up a tracking sheet.

Growth Animator Position: See Appendix 1 for the response sent to Jenifer Henry. Jim Jackson will represent the Commission on the interview team.

Rural Ministry Renewal Initiative; See Appendix 2 We are awaiting the response.

Correspondence:

Pinegrove UC, submitted the following about their restricted funds.

Here are the current amounts in the restricted funds managed by the Trustees.

1) Business Investor Account: \$26,475.21

2) Guaranteed Investment Certificates - 1yr.usually rolled over. \$37,500.00

3) TD Canadian Banking & Utilities GIC - 5 yr investment. \$150,000.00

Total amount of restricted funds \$213,975.21

ALL WITHDRAWALS, TRANSFERS, OR REINVESTMENTS REQUIRE TWO OF THE 3 SIGNATURES.

We meet with our personal Banker to discuss reinvestments and ask questions as a group and then make our decisions. All investments come due on May 17th. The monies in the investor account is able to be used for housing allowance for a Minister, however at this time we do not have a Minister and do not know when we may be able to engage one.

Moved: Susan Peverley

Seconded: Mardi Mumford

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith, Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request from the trustees of Pinegrove United Church Thunder Bay, to use the Church's restricted funds to cover the payment to the contractor for roof replacement with the understanding that any fundraising money received for the roof will be reimbursed to the Trustees up to the amount advanced. Carried

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive: No Report

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

Changes in Communities of Faith

- Schreiber- have connected with UC lawyer Heather Keachie
- Hornpayne – final service June 25, 2023
- Val D'or: - need to do a title search for the deed. Eldorado Mines has no interest in the property. This community of faith is not disbanding but moving to a House Church model. Awaiting a motion to request to list.
- Fairview – Tehkummah: Decommissioning Service will be June 18, 2023. Will need the support of UC lawyer Heather Keachie. The intention is to amalgamate with St Andrew's South Bay Mouth.
- Shequinda: Melody showed photos of before and after the demolition.
- Holy Trinity Elliot Lake: Next meeting of the Council of the Whole will be June 4, 2023 and there may be a proposal from the trustees at that time.

- St Mark's : The Supervisor, Kathy Dahmer has reported that the Council of the Whole will look at future ministry positions once a liaison is appointed in the fall. On going support will be needed from staff to look at the future.

Local regional cluster support:

Sudbury: Meeting May 31st to discuss summer projects Young Adult Supper Church is continuing

North Bay: Bay: The cluster meets June 26th to report back on what opportunities there are to feed the students from Nipissing and Canadore.

Sault Ste Marie: Staff are meeting Sunday June 4th

Thunder Bay: Some shared worship activities. Looking at supporting youth camping in partnership with the Presbyterian Youth camp.

Commission Joint working group – no meeting

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team: Central UC Sault Ste Marie: their counter offer was declined. Looking to reduce the listing price. The team is awaiting 3 motions.
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team
 - Education grant for \$500.00 to Pam Brown
 - National Tech grant for Trinity Lively \$565.20
 - National grant for Mattawa Rutherglen for Chimney repair \$5000.00
 - Camping Bursary in total for July Camp McDougall \$1680.00 July Camp Duncan \$1470.00
- Right Relations Resource Team: Meeting June 1st to finalize workshop for the Festival of Faith event and looking at installing a bench at The Cairn in memory of Maxine McVey
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team: A townhall event was held May 10th with 17 participants. Ideas included having a Rainbow Minutes with topics and reflections. They will have a display at the Festival of Faith event . Peter is meeting with Powassan UC to discuss the Affirming process. Sturgeon Falls Uc will have a Pride Sunday June 4th.
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team: Report from Jeffrey Dale: We had twenty-five young people come to Sparrow Lake from both Canadian Shield and Shining Waters. We were grateful for the participation and leadership from Pam Brown, Di Tait, Ryan Fea and Christian Bogg from Sudbury area and their willingness to travel to make this weekend happen. We focused our attention around A New Creed and engaged youth in how they live out its call through their lives and their ministry. It was a fun and enlightening weekend.
We have started the conversation regarding the idea of bringing both regional

- councils together for a youth gathering at Camp McDougall in September, which is now in the planning phase. From Jeffrey Dale
- United in Worship Project: No report
 - Social Justice Network: No report

Emergent Business:

A request for a workshop to explore how to do pastoral care in Lay Led Congregations. This has been done before and could be done again with staff and lay leaders in person. Looking at a fall date

Ernie Epp requested clarification around previous presbytery property. This automatically went to the region and is stored in their offices. A process should be in place to borrow such items as banners with a way to record who has the item. With the retirement in Thunder Bay of Joan there will be a gap. Rob Smith will be the staff person who will be responsible.

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday June 27, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. by zoom

Adjournment: Peter Haddow moved to adjourn at 8:20 p.m.

Closing Prayer: Melody closed the meeting with prayer.

Jim Jackson, Chair

Mardi Mumford, Secretary

Appendix 1

Support for Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
Response to Growth Animator Position Description
Special meeting – May 7, 2023 6:30 p.m. by Zoom

Present: Jim Jackson, Ernie Epp, Marilyn Schatzler, Peter Haddow, Mardi Mumford

Staff Support: Diane Matheson Jimenez, Melody Duncanson Hales

Diane opened with a reflection.

Pre- Amble: Diane outlined that this special meeting is to respond to the request from General Council on 2 different parts. This is setting up the future of the church and planting the seeds that will help move the United Church of Canada towards the future.

The first part to consider is the Growth Animator Position Description and the second is the Rural Ministry Renewal Initiative.

Growth Animator Position Description:

Background: Cam Fraser has been hired as the Growth Co-ordinator (Director of Growth and Ministry Development). The Animator will be imbedded in the region and shared between Shining Waters Regional Council and Canadian Shield Regional Council. Reporting of activities, would be to the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith.

The division of responsibility would be 45% renewing existing communities of faith, 45% seeding new communities of faith and 10% Learning, Adapting, Innovating and Inviting. This position would be divided with 50% Canadian Shield Regional Council and 50% Shining Waters Regional Council.

Response:

- **Need** that there will be opportunities once we work with this model to be flexible around the percentages
- The position will **need** a deep appreciation of our rural context in Northern Ontario
- The commission **needs** to be involved as this evolves; communication with the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith needs to be clear
- The implication around evangelicalism **needs** to start with the people in the pews before we can expect to reach out.
- This is a big job filled with hope.
- There is a real **need** to reach out to lay led congregations and this will be hard in the rural structure and this position will **need** a good strategy to communicate with these small, lay led congregations.

Appendix 2

Support for Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
Response to Rural Ministry Renewal Initiative
Special meeting – May 7, 2023 6:30 p.m. by Zoom

Rural Ministry Renewal Initiative:

Background: This is coming from the work the EDGE has done over the years and the request is that each region connect with rural communities to respond to 3 questions.

1. What is unique about renewal in a rural ministry contexts?
2. What does successful renewal look like in rural settings ?
3. What resources would be most useful for rural ministry renewal?

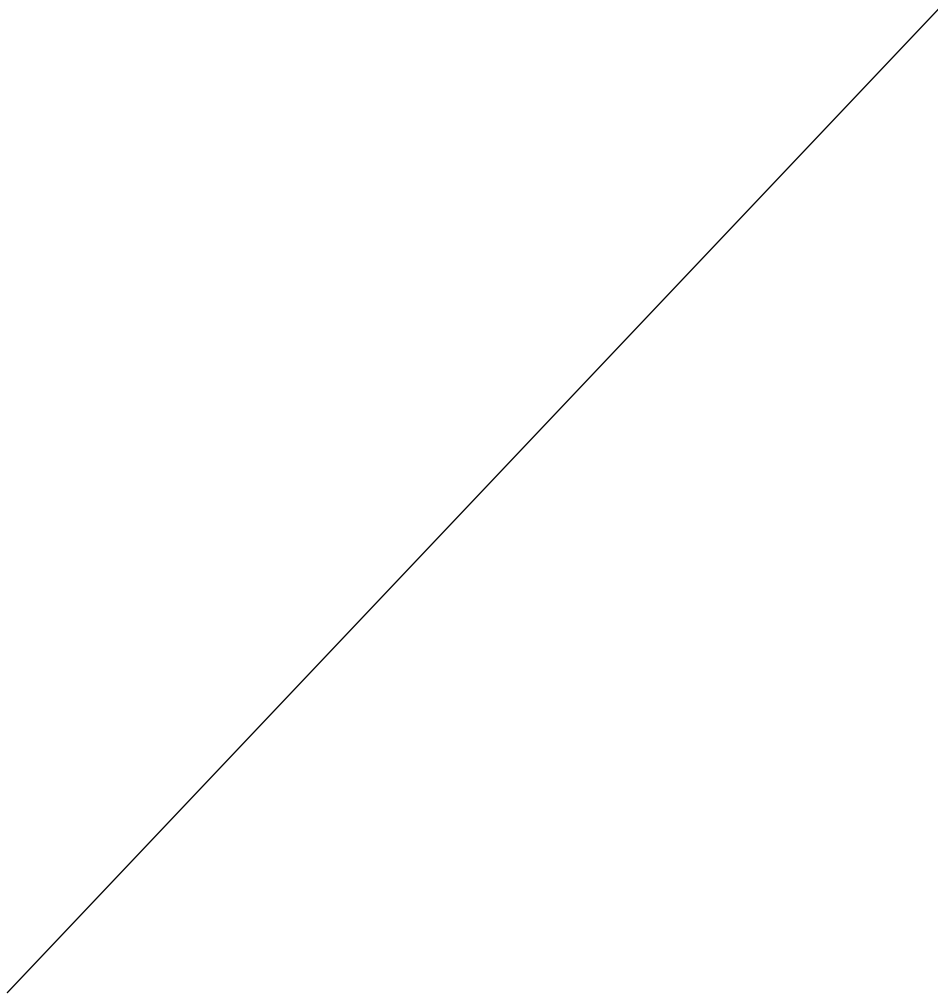
2022/2023-104

There is a grant of \$5000.00 to be shared with Shining Waters to do an event. Options are a event in person or on line, a survey.

Response:

- **Need** to the definition or threshold of rural. Isolated? How isolated? Do they self identify?
- **Need** a combination of staff time and lay leadership to do workshops
- **Need** to coordinate with Shining Waters to develop a workshop template
- **Need** a budget for deploying staff, lay leaders or commissioners, mileage and accommodation and refreshments.

Possible workshop sites: Matheson, Manitoulin, Sundridge, North Shore, Hwy 11 Corridor, Hwy 17 Northern Corridor



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on June 1, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Barb Nott (Chair), Nancy Ferguson, John Watson, Helen Smith, Bill Steadman, Stewart Walker, Susan Lindquist, Dave LeGrand, Mastard Sakala, Jim Jackson, Eun-Joo Park

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead

REGRETS: Joy Galloway, Kathie Smith

Chair Barb Nott welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

Barb honoured the traditional lands upon which we meet and then read the CSRC safe space statement.

CHECK-IN

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

Peter opened the meeting with Worship, reading Psalm 104:24-34.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were some changes to the Commission dates that needed to be made on the agenda.

MOTION by Dave LeGrand/John Watson

2023-06-01-01

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

CARRIED

MOA HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY REVISITED

Barb shared the revised Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with Huntington University (HU) after the last Executive Meeting. Executive members discussed the concerns from the last meeting and how they could be resolved.

The first was the concern that we would not have enough time to elect members of the board and that HU would appoint someone if we didn't do it. Peter shared that the GCO lawyer added a 60-day notice as a deadline for appointing people.

There was consensus that the 60-day notice is acceptable as a deadline for appointments.

The second concern was about the document language around divesting ourselves of responsibility of appointing people for all time, not just for a term. Peter explained this is a 2-year document that we can choose to rescind at any time and that if we don't appoint someone in the given time frame, we will be able to do it in the next cycle.

2022/2023-106

After a lengthy discussion about appointing members and the language in the document, Executive passed the following motion:

MOTION by Eun-Joo Park/Helen Smith 2023-06-01-02

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

CARRIED

1 Abstention – Peter Hartmans

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Nancy Ferguson/Bill Steadman 2023-06-01-03

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

CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Helen Smith/John Watson 2023-06-01-04

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

CARRIED

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Eun-Joo Park 2023-06-01-05

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

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

- *Signed MOU Between CS and SW from Executive Secretary*
Barb shared with Executive that the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between CSRC and SWRC has been signed and distributed to each Region.

HR UPDATE – RACHAEL'S RETIREMENT; SUSAN AND KATHLEEN TO COVER WORKLOAD

Peter shared that Rachael Howe's retired the day before this meeting and that she will be missed. Kathleen Wolfe has been hired in advance of Rachael's leaving and that is working out very well. Susan will now pick up work for both Executives and Kathleen will pick up the other pieces for both regions.

Diane Matheson-Jimenez has bought a new house in North Bay and will be settled there by July 2023.

MODERATOR'S FLOURISHING EVENT IN CSRC – MAY 2-4, 2024 AND RCM 2024

Peter shared that the Flourishing Event in 2024 is being driven by the Moderator and we are partnering with them to offer two events in one. This way, people will only have to travel around the region once, given the vast geography of our region. The Moderator asked for a central location in the north to host this event; the suggestion was made for Sault Ste. Marie, ON, and we are waiting to hear back from the Moderator's office to confirm.

FESTIVAL OF FAITH UPDATE

Barb shared that we are over 100 people coming to the event and some people are coming just for the Saturday. Instructions will be going out to people this week on how to get to the residence and venue and any last-minute details. The workshops seem to be well-attended in advance and people seem very excited about the topics. Gifts will be given out to the workshop leaders (pure maple syrup) to thank them for their time. Evaluation forms will be available to fill out to help us plan for the next FoF.

EXECUTIVE MINISTER'S REPORT

Executive received the Executive Minister Report, for information (*attached as Appendix A*).

NEW BUSINESS

The Joint Executives Ad Hoc Committee met on May 2, 2023, consisting of the Chair and Chair Elect of CSRC and the President and President Elect of SWRC, the Executive Minister, and other staff from both regions. The group was very positive about meeting for a joint Executive meeting in-person between the two regions, which will occur on September 26-28, 2023 at Villa Loyola Retreat Centre in Sudbury, ON. Susan circulated the minutes from this meeting to both Executives.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- Summer Meeting 2023, if needed
- September 7, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- Joint Executives In-Person – September 26-28, 2023 at Villa Loyola in Sudbury
- October 12, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

CLOSING

Peter and the Executive thanked Eun-Joo for her time on Executive and on the Transition Team and wished her good luck in her new position with Shining Waters Regional Council.

Barb adjourned the meeting at 3:22 p.m. and Nancy ended with a prayer.

2022/2023-108

JOINT EXECUTIVE AD HOC COMMITTEE:

Happy Spring!!! The Joint Executive Ad Hoc Committee of Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council met on May 2, 2023. The group included Chair Barb and President David, Chair Elect Nancy and President Elect Tina. The conversation focused on our relationship between Regional Councils, planning between both regions, and a discussion about the 2025 Festival of Faith.

The Ad Hoc Committee discussed the upcoming joint Executive meeting between the two regional Executives, including making the meeting a 1- or 2-night stay. The decision was made to drive up to Sudbury to the Villa Loyola retreat centre in the afternoon of Tuesday, September 26th, 2023 to get there for a dinner time start, stay for 2 nights, and return home in the afternoon on Thursday, September 28th. We have sent emails to both Executives with this information and Susan has confirmed the dates and times with Villa Loyola. David shared that he was very thankful that the CS Executive invited the SW Executive to come up to share a joint meeting in September and feels it will be very beneficial to both regions. SW and CS Executives will work jointly on the agenda for the meeting.

The Ad Hoc Committee discussed the in-person dates for both Regional Council Meetings (RCMs) in 2024. After an extensive search through dates that would work for both SW and CS, and didn't interfere with holidays or special days within the UCC, it was decided that the SW in-person RCM for 2024 would be the weekend of June 7, 8, 9 and the CS in-person RCM for 2024 would be May 3, 4, 5, in partnership and working around the Moderator's Flourishing Event on May 1-4. We have corresponded with the Flourishing Event planning committee to let them know we plan to work around the event to host our 2024 Regional meeting. This will consolidate travel and facilitate travel support. The suggested location given to the Moderator's Planning Committee is Sault Ste Marie, a central location for both events.

FESTIVAL OF FAITH 2023 and 2025:

The 2023 Festival of Faith planning is going very well. The planning committee and local arrangement are well organized and we look forward to wonderful event! Presently, 102 people have registered.

The Joint Ad Hoc Committee started conversation around the joint Festival of Faith in 2025 and the team looked at possible calendar dates in 2025. I shared with the committee that the Moderator's Planning Committee asked Regional Councils to consider partner events for their official visit. The Moderator-lead Flourishing Event will not be considered our official visit. The Ad Hoc Committee decided to reach out to the Moderator's Advisory Committee to see if she would consider participating in a Festival of Faith event tentatively set for June 13-15, 2025.

UPCOMING MODERATOR'S FOURISH VISITS, hosted by the Moderator:

As previously mentioned, the CS Moderator's Flourish visit will be May 1- 4, 2024. Peter will inquire if we can share that visit with the CS RCM. Location still TBD, but suggested location Sault Ste. Marie.

2023 REGIONAL MEETING NOVEMBER, BUDGET AND STAFFING:

Janet continues planning for the 2024 budget and planning for the online Regional Council Meeting will not likely start until mid to late summer or first thing in the fall.

We say goodbye to Rachael Howes as of May 31, 2023. I have deeply appreciated her work, sense of humor and great skill over the past 5 years. It has been an honour to work with her. We hired a new Congregational Support Minister for SWRC, whose primary work will focus south of the 407 in Shining Waters Regional Council. The successful applicant is Eun-Joo Park! We are delighted for Eun-Joo and SWRC. Currently, she is serving is the Canadian Shield Regional Council and the minister at St. Andrew's United Church in Sault Ste. Marie. She will start August 1, 2023.

Recently at our Executive Minister management meeting, Erik Mathiesen the CFO for the United Church, shared that the General Council needs to cut our GC operating budget by 6 million dollars over two years. He also feels that communities of faith do not have the capacity to increase General Council assessments. One of the acute challenges at this time for General Council is both the challenge of inflation and receiving smaller returns on investment. While the Regional Council operating grant will remain the same until 2025, M&S Grants to Regional Council will likely be cut in 2024/25, which could have an impact on our operating income. The cut will also have an impact on granting.

In the near future, we have pre-planned some room for cuts to our income. However, my sense is in the future, we will face cuts to our operating budget while at the same time our expenses will increase. Part of the way we are addressing this future challenge is by partnering more and more around staffing and budgeting related to staffing. However, my suggestion to both Regional Councils is to start talking about how we can partner more as two regional councils. Erik Mathiesen raised the delicate point that he has concerns around the economic sustainability of 16 Regional Councils. For me, I am mindful that he has the challenging task of being the messenger and not the author of our economic challenge.

My sense is we could approach this future challenge in two ways: one, we could wait and deal with the challenge when we need to face it head-on, which is a legitimate strategy, as the Regional Council would likely be more accepting facing a budget challenge in real time; and two, would be to intentionally reach out to the Canadian Shield Regional Council about partnering more beyond staff. Perhaps experiment with ways we could consolidate our administrative work as a Regional Council; consider how we could partner around RCMs and at the very least, consider how we are distinctive as a Regional Council and consider what work are we doing that is essentially the same. My sense discussing with President David from SWRC is that we need to proceed carefully and thoughtfully, as we work toward creating a strong community between the two Regional Councils. However, as our Regional Council policy already has a mechanism for partnering, I am recommending that we work at the joint Executive meeting this fall to brainstorm how we can strengthen our partnership and perhaps, consider how we can work together. If we can figure out a path forward together, perhaps we can offer leadership to the entire church as we face our future challenges together. We could also provide leadership to our communities of faith as they face similar challenges and conversations with neighbouring United Churches.

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: June 26, 6:30 p.m.
Minutes

Agenda

Welcome, Check- in:

Opening Prayer:

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:

Approval of Agenda:

Approval of Minutes: May 30, 2023 pages 222– 229

Business Arising:

- Up date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments
- Growth Animator – job posted
- Rural Ministry Renewal Initiative
- Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith

Correspondence:

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

14. Changes in Communities of Faith
 - a. Schreiber
 - b. Hornpayne –
 - c. Val D'or
 - d. Fairview – Tehkummah
 - e. Holy Trinity Elliot Lake
 - f. St Mark's
2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting North Bay Thunder Bay
3. Commission Joint working group – no meeting

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team -
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team
- Right Relations Resource Team –
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team –
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team –
- United in Worship Project -
- Social Justice Network

Emergent Business:

Moving forward: To Do List for Support for Communities of Faith Commission

1. Trustee refresher Course: Review responsibilities around investments, insurance, building maintenance, sale of property, deeds.
2. Create a way to communicate across the region: **Minute for Regional Council**
3. In person 2 day workshop do deal with visioning, being pro-active, supplement the meetings where time is always limited for the extras.
4. What do we do with communities that have closed their church and how do we support them with resources, staff,
5. Keep a list to track membership once a church closes, are they getting pastoral care? Is it our job to follow up?
6. Supervisors and our commissions connection to them
7. How do we gather information to give support

Date of Next Meeting:

Adjournment:

Closing Prayer:

Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: June 26, 6:30 p.m.

Present: Jim Jackson, Bonnie Johnson, George Bott, Susan Peverley, Mardi Mumford, Crystal Greig, Ernie Epp

Regrets: Peter Haddow, Marilyn Schatzler

Staff Support: Diane Matheson Jimenez, Melody Duncanson Hales

Welcome, Check- in:

Opening Prayer: Susan Peverley opened with prayer based on Kings 2:9

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space: Jim Jackson acknowledged the Indigenous Territories upon which we are situated and also that this is a safe space to meet.

Approval of Agenda:

Moved: Crystal Greig

Seconded: Bonnie Johnson

That the agenda be approved as circulated.

Carried

Approval of Minutes:

Moved: Mardi Mumford Seconded: Bonnie Johnson

That the minutes of the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve the minutes for May 30, 2023 pages 222– 229.

Carried

Business Arising:

2022/2023-112

1. Up date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments: Kathryn Wolfe is the administrative support for both Canadian Shield and Shing Waters Regional Councils and will work with staff to set up the spreadsheet for both Annual Reports and Self-assessments.
2. Growth Animator: The job position has been posted. Jim Jackson will represent Canadian Shield on the interview team and Jody Maltby will represent Shining Waters. Our feedback was incorporated in the posting and we are confident that Jim and Jody will be able to find a person who will take our concerns of the differences between the regions seriously.
3. Rural Ministry Renewal Initiative:
4. Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith: Staff leadership has a workshop available and will set up dates to provide this to several clusters. During the staff retreat in September strategies will be worked out.

Correspondence: None received.

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive: The discussions around the region's role in Huntington University has been deferred.

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

1. Changes in Communities of Faith
 - a. Schreiber: no progress
 - b. Hornpayne: The last service was Sunday June 25, 2023. George Bott attended. The church will close in September. The stain glass windows have been re-claimed by the donors and the large stained glass window will go to Marathon for safe keeping. The trustees will submit a plan for the disposal of any funds remaining and send it to this commission.
 - c. Val D'or: We are hoping for clarity about the deed for the church and manse.
 - d. Fairview – Tehkummah: No progress on the severing of the property. The decommissioning service was June 18, 2023 with Melody Duncanson Hales presiding.
 - e. Holy Trinity Elliot Lake: Diane and Melody attended a meeting on June 25, 2023 to listen. They will continue to support this community of faith. An inventory needs to be completed this summer.
Moved: George Bott Seconded: Susan Peverley
That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve the recommendation from the Property team to allow the trustees for Holy Trinity United Church in Elliot Lake to move forward with the letter of intent from the City of Elliot Lake with regards to the church building.
Carried
 - f. St Mark's: At the request of the supervisor, Kathy Dahmer, Melody will have a conversation with the council of the whole in September to discuss collaborative ministry.

2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting North Bay Thunder Bay: no report

3. Commission Joint working group: It has been quite a while since this group has met. We are good at advertising the covenanting of new ministries but need to also communicate the decommissioning, disbanding and amalgamations of congregations.

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

1. Property Resource Team:

Moved: Mardi Mumford Seconded: George Bott

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith give its consent to Board of Trustees of St. Andrew's United Church:

(1) To the listing for sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is: LT 2-7, 11-14 PL 129 St. Mary's; Sault Ste. Marie and the municipal address of which is 712 Wellington Street East, Sault Ste. Marie, On P6A 2M7 pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of St. Andrew's United Church a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as seller and EXIT Realty True North as Broker, dated the 13'th of June 2023 and subject to regional council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

Agent: EXIT Realty True North,

Terms: acceptance of any offer is conditional on obtaining the consent of The Canadian Shield Regional Council of the United Church of Canada and allow a minimum of 1-2 weeks to obtain this consent, Brokerage commission is 5%, asking price is yet to be finalized until listing but the appraisal range is between

\$850-950,000 with the property to be listed within 1-2 weeks of obtaining regional council's Approval.

(2) The proceeds of the sale of the property will first be used to pay the conveyance costs of the sale, any outstanding debts of the congregation and then to fund the continued life and work of the congregation as we continue our faith journey at another location." **Carried**

2. Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team: 2 grants were approved

- a. Church Modernization grant for \$5000.00 for roof repairs for Pinegrove United Church Rossland.
- b. New Outreach Initiative grant for \$3000.00 to St Paul's United Church Thunder Bay for their Intercultural Prayer ministry.
- c. It is Camp Bursary Season and Melody will be keeping a running tally of bursaries given to campers for Camp Duncan and Camp McDougall.
- d. We hold Diane Trollope in our prayers.

3. Right Relations Resource Team: This team has been very active, doing a workshop on Acknowledgements at the Festival of Faith, providing resources for Indigenous Month. They have a summer student working on providing newsletters and other great information.

2022/2023-114

4. Affirming Ministry Resource Team: No report
5. Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team: No report
6. United in Worship Project; George and Joy did a presentation at the Festival of Faith.
7. Social Justice Network: Ernie reported that the UCC Guaranteed Liveable Income Network met June 26th to discuss progress on the private members bill and also a bill before the Senate.

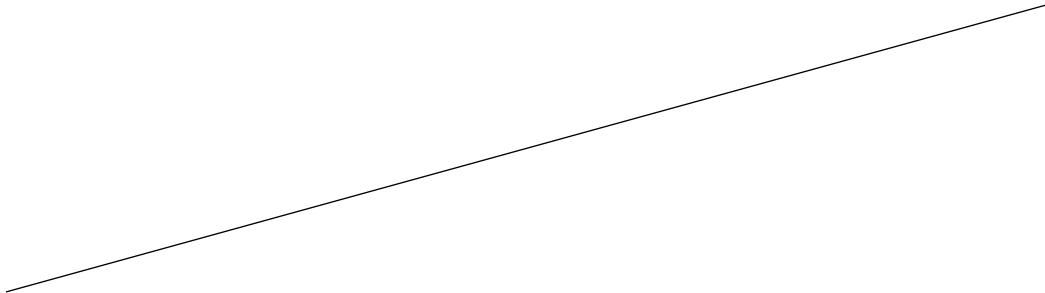
Emergent Business:

1. Moving forward: To Do List for Support for Communities of Faith Commission
 - a. Trustee refresher Course: Review responsibilities around investments, insurance, building maintenance, sale of property, deeds. The Pacific Region has done some work around this and staff will work on this in the fall with maybe a Town Hall and some modules.
 - b. Create a way to communicate across the region Minute for Regional Council who would do this? Perhaps a newsletter that could be posted.
 - c. In person 2 day workshop do deal with visioning, being pro-active, supplement the meetings where time is always limited for the extras. No discussion
 - d. What do we do with communities that have closed their church and how do we support them with resources, staff. We need to be constantly aware of this and allow time for a process to take place. Perhaps developing how do build a "virtual congregation"
 - e. Keep a list to track membership once a church closes, are they getting pastoral care? Is it our job to follow up? No discussion
 - f. Supervisors and our commissions connection to them. No discussion
 - g. How do we gather information to give support. No discussion

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday September 26, 2023

Adjournment: Moved by Crystal Greig that the meeting be adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Closing Prayer: Diane led the group in prayer using a blog "a Growing Church is a Dying Church"



PASTORAL RELATIONS MINISTER

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Canadian Shield Regional Council
Pastoral Relations Commission Email Polls
July 2023

The following 2 motions were presented to the Pastoral Relations Commission members by email for a vote in July 2023. It was agreed by consensus that a third motion to approve the creation of a benevolent fund for active ministry personnel will be deferred until the September meeting.

Consensus Motion
July 6th, 2023

1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the appointment of Tracy Davis (DLM) to Emmanuel United, North Bay ON effective August 1st, 2023 to July 31st, 2026 with the following terms:
Part-time (15 hours)
Community of Faith ADP Company Code TCZJ
Eligible Service (in years) 17
Step/increment category F
Is manse included No
Minimum Full-Time Salary \$61,455.00
Prorated Annual Salary \$23,045.63
Additional Salary (in %) 10
Total Salary \$25,350.19
Phone/Communications \$250.00
Continuing Education \$578.63
Other 0.00
Other Details
As required by the United Church Guidelines
Total Remuneration \$26,178.82

Motion 2023-07-01

Ted Harrison/ Stewart Walker moved that each and every motion of the Consensus Packet be approved. **Carried**

Consensus Motion
July 17th, 2023

1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the appointment of Kim Inglis (Candidate) to Trinity United, Mindemoya, ON effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024 with the following terms:
Part-time (20 hours)
Community of Faith ADP Company Code TCZC
Eligible Service (in years) 0
Step/increment category Step 1
Is manse included No
Minimum Full-Time Salary \$55,459.00
Prorated Annual Salary \$27,729.50
Additional Salary (in %) 0
Total Salary \$27,729.50
Phone/Communications \$480.00
Continuing Education \$771.50
Other 0.00
Total Remuneration \$28,981.00

The United Church of Canada
Canadian Shield Regional Council

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CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission email Polls
July, 2023

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2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the change of terms of the call of the Rev. Catherine Somerville (OM) to St. Stephen's-on-the-Hill United, Sudbury, ON effective September 1st, 2023 with the following terms:

Part-time (16 hours)

Community of Faith ADP Company Code	TL1V
Eligible Service (in years)	36
Step/increment category	F
Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$66,631.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$26,652.40
Additional Salary (in %)	15
Total Salary	\$30,650.26
Phone/Communications	\$600.00
Continuing Education	\$617.20
Other (travel allowance)	600.00

Other Details

Adequate administrative assistance defined as 9 hours a week for three mornings a week

Total Remuneration \$32,467.46

Motion 2023-07-02

Ted Harrison/ Karen Gooch moved that each and every motion of the Consensus Packet be approved. Carried

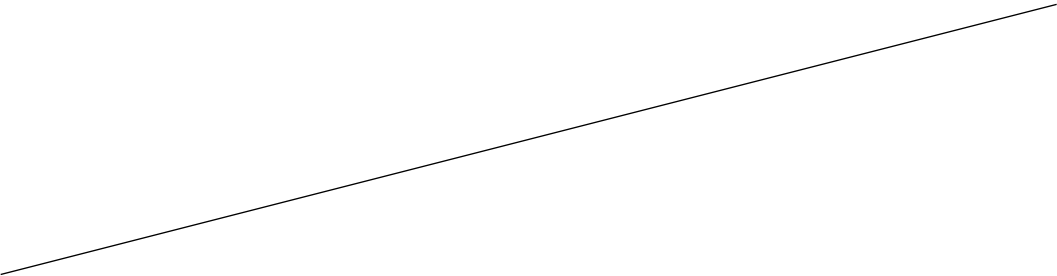
*Catherine Somerville abstained from voting on the second motion.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday September 26th, 2023 at 1:15 p.m. Erin Todd will provide the opening and closing.

Chairperson, John Watson

Secretary, Karen Gooch



SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: July 27, 2023 8:00 p.m.**

Present: Jim Jackson, George Bott, Susan Peverley, Mardi Mumford, Crystal Greig, Peter Haddow, Marilyn Schatzler

Regrets: Bonnie Johnson, Ernie Epp, Brynn Carson

Staff Support: Diane Matheson Jimenez

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space: Jim Jackson acknowledged the Indigenous Territories upon which we are situated and also that this is a safe space to meet.

Purpose of the SCFC Meeting: To review the recommendation from the Property Resource Team and make a decision regarding the request from St Andrew's United Church, Sault Ste Marie. for the sale of their church property, and the sale of the Sheguiandah United Church property, Manitoulin Island Ontario.

The Property Resource Team met July 27, 2023 in the morning and have forwarded their recommendations

Moved: George Bott

Seconded: Peter Haddow

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve on the recommendation from the Property Resource Team the sale of St Andrew's United Church, Sault Ste Marie. 712 Wellington Street East, Sault Ste Marie Ontario LT 2-7 11-14 PL 129 St Mary's Sault Ste Marie for \$930,00.00 (Nine Hundred Thirty Thousand Dollars) conditions will need to be waived Oct 6 with closing scheduled for Jan 19, 2024.

Carried

Moved: Crystal Greig

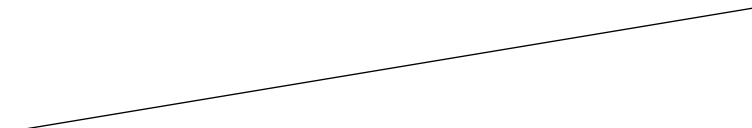
Seconded: Susan Peverley

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve on the recommendation from the Property Resource Team the sale of the Sheguiandah United Church property, 27 Townline Sheguiandah Manitoulin Island Ontario to Judy Marten for \$80,000.00 (Eighty Thousand Dollars) closing August 25, 2023.

Carried

Adjournment; Peter Haddow moved to adjourn at 8:21 p.m.

Closing Prayer: Diane closed the meeting with prayer.



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on August 16, 2023 at 11:00 a.m. online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Barbara Nott (Chair), Joy Galloway, Jim Jackson, Nancy Ferguson, Stewart Walker, Helen Smith, Susan Lindquist, John Watson, Kathie Smith, Bill Steadman

STAFF: Janet MacDonald Jody Maltby, Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Kathleen Wolfe

REGRETS: David Le Grand, Mastard Sakala, Susan Whitehead

The Chair opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. Barbara Nott provided an opening prayer. She gave an acknowledgement of the land, and acknowledged our commitment to being a safe place for all people to gather and participate in our Region.

REQUEST FROM CAMP MCDUGALL

Background Information

In the Spring of 2023, the Board of Camp McDougall had to make the difficult and very necessary decision to cancel the 2023 camping season due to not being able to secure staffing to fill vital positions. Simultaneously, the person who had been hired to keep the camp's books resigned from the position suddenly, leaving some key pieces of work left undone. It is now necessary for Camp McDougall's Board to hire Janet MacDonald to help get the camp's finances back on track, file required documentation, and ensure summer students are paid for their work. Camp McDougall is asking CSRC for a loan of up to \$5,000 to pay for Janet's services.

Questions & concerns that arrived during email vote resulting in a zoom meeting are as follows:

- Whether this loan is interest free?
- What is the time commitment?
- What are the loan terms in CSRC?
- Is there a financial report?
- What needs to be done regarding finances treasurer leaving & government regulations?

Janet was able to provide the following information. Camp McDougall charitable status is a concern. The youth leaders have not been paid properly through payroll although have been receiving advances. Bank Accounts have not been reconciled. At this time Janet does not know how long it will take to complete what is being asked of her.

Camp McDougall Annual Meeting is scheduled for November 2023 following which the Executive is requesting a financial report. In the case that \$5,000 will not be enough to allow Janet to complete the work requested another motion will be put in place.

MOTION by John Watson / Stewart Walker

2023-08-16-01

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

MOTION

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

Diane Matheson-Jimenez closed the meeting in prayer 11:40 a.m.

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

Support to Communities of Faith Commission

September 13, 2023 – 6:30 pm

Special Meeting – by zoom

Present: Jim Jackson, Peter Haddow, Crystal Greig, Susan Peverley, George Bott, Ernie Epp, Marilyn Schatzler

Regrets: Mardi Mumford,

Staff Support: Melody Duncanson Hales, Diane Matheson Jimenez

Jim Jackson opened the meeting

Melody Duncanson-Hales provided background on Holy Trinity, Elliot Lake

MOTION by Peter Haddow / George Bott that the Support to Communities of Faith Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council, on the recommendation of the Property Resource Team, approve the sale of Holy Trinity United Church, Elliot Lake. 40 Hillside Drive North, Elliot Lake, Ontario. PIN 31628-0277 (LT) PCL 4117 SEC AES; BLK Q PL M146 GUNTERMAN; ELLIOT LAKE for \$100 000.00 (One Hundred Thousand Dollars) with closing scheduled for October 6, 2023.

MOTION

CARRIED

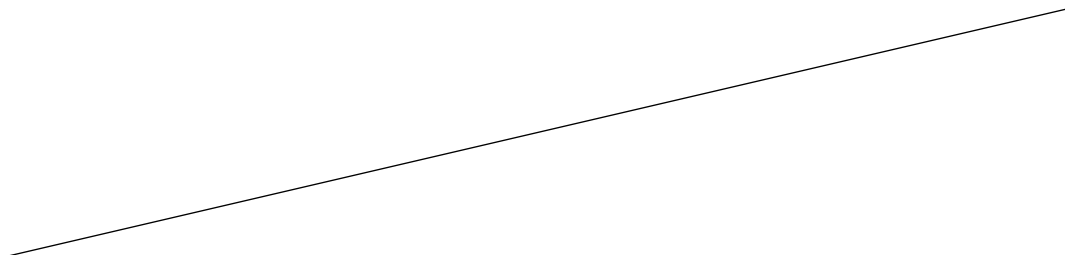
Jim Jackson let Commission members know that Peter Haddow has resigned from the Commission and thanked Peter for his service.

There being no further business, Peter Haddow moved adjournment at 6:50 pm.

Diane Matheson-Jimenez closed the meeting with prayer.

Jim Jackson, Chair

Mardi Mumford, Secretary



PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

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Canadian Shield Regional Council
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
September 26th, 2023 at 1:15 p.m.

Welcome (1:20 p.m.)	John Watson welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
Attendance	Joy Bott, Joy Galloway, Karen Gooch (Secretary), Jane Graham, Ted Harrison, Elaine Lush, Catherine Somerville, Erin Todd, Stewart Walker, John Watson, Fraser Williamson (11)
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Check-in	Members of the Commission spent a few minutes checking-in. People shared about their summer including travel, spending time with family, sailing and participating in a triathlon.
Opening	Erin Todd shared a reading from <i>Listening to Your Life</i> by Frederick Buechner. In <i>To Go on Trying</i> Buecher reminds us that we are compelled to keep on trying even in the face of failure once we have felt the love of God.
Acknowledgement	John Watson acknowledged that we gather on lands of many Indigenous nations and we offer thanks for healing and reconciliation as we work together to care for creation. John reminded us that all are welcome in this safe meeting space.
Agenda	Motion 2023-09-26-01 Elaine Lush/ Ted Harrison moved that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried
Minutes of Previous Meeting	Motion 2023-09-26-02 Catherine Somerville/ Karen Gooch moved that the minutes from the June 27 th , 2023 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission be accepted as presented. Carried Motion 2023-09-26-03 Karen Gooch/ Joy Galloway moved that the minutes from the July 2023 email polls of the Pastoral Relation Commission be accepted as presented. Carried
Business Arising	
Letter to Office of Vocation	The letter to the Office of Vocation concerning the termination of David Colwell following the ending of Supervised Ministry Experience (SME) has not yet been sent. Rob Smith will make this a priority before the next meeting.
Pastoral Charge Supervisor Reports	Elain Lush has summarized reports from 13 Pastoral Charge Supervisors representing a number of Communities of Faith. Her report was emailed to PRC members to review. There are several items that will need some follow-up including several congregations that are questioning their longer-term sustainability. We will discuss how we can help at our next meeting. Rob Smith will forward a copy of the report to the Support to Communities of Faith Commission (SCoFC) as some of these issues fall under their purview. It was noted the joint committee of the PRC and (SCoFC) has not met recently. It is

CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
Held by Zoom
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important that we commit to following up as a way of recognizing the work of the Supervisors. Rob offered thanks to Elaine for her work on putting this report together.

Pulpit Supply The Pulpit Supply Policy still needs to be updated, including how to handle the issue of compensation when a congregation uses material prepared by an LLWL who is not able to attend worship due to unforeseen circumstances. It was suggested that perhaps partial compensation could be offered.

LLWL In-person Training There was an update regarding in-person LLWL training.

- There has been a good response with 15 or 16 people expressing interest. Kathleen McCallum will lead a training session for the first component of the training at Villa Loyola in Sudbury November 17-19. It will likely be a hybrid session since there are 3 people from Thunder Bay who are interested, but travelling to Sudbury would be difficult. The plan is to hold 1 in-person session and two online sessions to complete the course.
- Each session will cost participants \$300 not including lodging and food. The full budget for the event is not known yet. Rob will have numbers at our next meeting. It was agreed that additional funding to help with the cost of the facilities and food should come from the United in Learning Fund which has money available for LLWL training events.
- Online registration will open soon.

Motion 2023-09-26-04

Ted Harrison/ Joy Bott moved that the Pastoral Relation Commission approve the offering of a hybrid LLWL training event, with the first of four modules to be held at Villa Loyola in Sudbury on November 17-19, 2023. Participants will each pay \$300 per module with additional funding being made available through the United in Learning Fund pending finalization of the budget. Carried

Benevolent Fund The vote on this motion was first presented for an email vote on July 6th, 2023, but the vote was postponed by consensus. It was noted we have had two requests for financial help this year.

Motion 2023-09-26-05

Fraser Williamson/ Jane Graham moved that the Pastoral Relation Commission approve the creation of a benevolent fund to be used to support active ministry personnel in emergency situations. The fund would be jointly administered by the Pastoral Relations Minister and the Chair of the Pastoral Relations Commission. The fund would be initially funded with two thousand dollars and kept at that level annually. Carried

LLWL License Non-Renewal There are 4 LLWLs that have not applied to have their licenses renewed despite efforts to contact them. Rob Smith will send out a letter informing Communities of Faith that they are no longer licensed as Lay Worship Leaders by the CSRC. Rob will also ensure that the Pulpit Supply List is updated.

Correspondence

Rob Smith brought the following to the attention of the PRC members:

- A letter from General Secretary Michael Blair was circulated to PRC members by email containing information regarding the United Church's cost of living (COLA) calculations. There will be a 6.3% increase in 2024 under the previous

CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting
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policy, but beginning in 2025 the GC Executive has decided to delink the annual decisions from the Consumer Price Index (CPI) while striving to compensate paid accountable personnel as fairly as possible.

- Several GCE proposals to eliminate functional distinctions between Designated Lay Ministers and Ordered Ministry were all carried and will be presented to the GC meeting in October. Regional Councils will be urged to review their policies for DLMs and retired DLMs with the goal of bringing consistency across the country.

[GCE summary, Sept. 22-23, 2023 | United Church 44th General Council \(generalcouncil44.ca\)](#)

New Business

Resource Teams Pastoral Relations Liaisons

- Several covenanting services are planned for the fall.

LLWLs

- A fall check-in for LLWLs will be held on November 2nd.
- Interviews are still ongoing. It has been difficult to find people to complete the interviews.

Support to Ministry Personnel

- There will be a retreat for Ministry Personnel in Orillia November 8th - 9th. This is a joint event with Shining Waters Regional Council and will cost \$150. The theme is *Embracing the Next Normal: Forging a New Path*. The deadline for registration is October 23rd and can be done online.
- It was suggested that the PRC might be able to help with travel costs and the following motion was passed:

Motion 2023-09-26-06

Jane Graham/ Joy Galloway moved that the Pastoral Relation Commission approve that up to \$5,000 from the Ministry Support Fund be made available to help with travel costs for participants of the ministry retreat being held November 8th – 9th, 2023 in Orilla.

Carried

Consensus Packet The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting. It was noted that the PRC was being asked to approve several calls in the consensus motion retroactively. A discussion was held about this practice, as this is not the first time this has happened.

- The question was raised of how important PRC approval is if it happens after the effective appointment date given that Communities of Faith can ultimately hire whoever they want. Are we just a rubber stamp? It was stated that it is important for the PRC to review calls and appointments to ensure that all the correct terms are in place, otherwise what is the point of our approval?
- The Office of Vocation ultimately approves all candidates and it operates on a complaint driven system. Complaints must be written for action to be taken. The PRC is responsible to ensure that all the technical steps are taken before an appointment is finalized.
- In the past, Presbyteries had to approve all appointments and under the new UC structure this falls to the Regional Councils. There have always been the occasional retroactive approvals, but we should be more diligent about avoiding this situation in the future.

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- One big reason we end up in this situation is because there appears to be a disconnect between the Regional Council and Communities of Faith. Once the decision has been made to hire, congregations and candidates are often in a hurry to start the appointment and they do not want to wait for the next PRC meeting. This is especially noticeable after our summer break. There should be more education about the process of hiring and firing with involvement of the Liaisons and CSRC Representatives.
- We are doing a disservice if we continue allowing appointments to start before PRC approval. It was agreed that going forward, we will try to ensure that appointments are not approved retroactively. This will improve accountability and transparency. Practically, this will likely mean that if congregations decide to hire someone over the summer, PRC approval will not happen before our September meeting (meaning an appointment will likely take effect around October 1st).

The following motions were presented for a vote:

1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council receive the request from Brynn Carson (DLM) for a change of pastoral relations effective November 10th, 2023 for health reasons.
2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the admittand the Rev. Desire Tiriwepi (OM) as having met the appointment requirements for admission to The United Church of Canada at a service of admission at St. Paul's United, Thunder Bay ON on October 29th, 2023.
3. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the call of the Rev. Susan Peverley (OM) to Manitowaning-Tehkummah Pastoral Charge, Manitowaning ON effective October 1st, 2023 with the following terms:

Part-time (30 hours)	
Community of Faith ADP Company Code	TCRO
Eligible Service (in years)	4
Step/increment category	B
Is manse included	Yes
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$41,912.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$31,434.00
Additional Salary (in \$)	\$0.00
Total Salary	\$31,434.00
Phone/Communications	\$900.00
Continuing Education	\$1,157.25
Other	0
Total Remuneration	\$33,491.25

4. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the appointment of Caitlin Smithers (Candidate) to St. Andrew's United, North Bay ON effective September 1st, 2023 to August 31st, 2025 with the following terms:

Full-time	
Community of Faith ADP Company Code	TCHE
Eligible Service (in years)	0
Step/increment category	Step 1

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Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$51,865.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$51,865.00
Additional Salary (in \$)	\$0.00
Total Salary	\$51,865.00
Phone/Communications	\$900.00
Continuing Education	\$1,543.00
Other	\$1,000.00

Other Details

Additional continuing education (total \$2,543.00)

Total Remuneration 55,308.00

Adequate Administrative Assistance

Office Administrator to be in office Tuesday to Thursday 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. and Friday 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

5. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the appointment of the Rev. Bill Jones (OM - retired) to Porcupine United, Porcupine ON effective September 1st, 2023 to August 31st, 2026 with the following terms:

Part-time (20 hours)

Community of Faith ADP Company Code	3D19
Eligible Service (in years)	28
Step/increment category	F
Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$63,038.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$31,519.00
Additional Salary (in \$)	\$1,200.00
Total Salary	\$32,719.00
Phone/Communications	\$1,200.00
Continuing Education	\$771.50
Other	0.00

Other Details

Over minimum salary

Total Remuneration 55,308.00

Adequate Administrative Assistance

Full-time secretary

6. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council grant Kim Inglis (Candidate) permission to preside over the sacraments while serving Trinity United, Mindemoya ON, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.
7. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council grant Caitlin Smithers (Candidate) permission to preside over the sacraments while serving St. Andrew's United, North Bay ON, effective September 1st, 2023 to August 31st, 2025.
8. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. Paul's United, Cochrane ON to relicence Christine Mitchell-Kydd as a sacraments elder, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.

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Held by Zoom
September 26th, 2023

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9. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. Matthew's and St. Paul's United, Hearst ON to re-licence Kerttu Ladouceur as sacraments elder, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.
10. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. Matthew's and St. Paul's United, Hearst ON to re-licence Susan Jansson as sacraments elder, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.
11. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of Mountjoy United, Timmins ON to re-licence Diane Rust as sacraments elder, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2024.
12. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council re-licence the following people who have applied for re-licencing and have been interviewed by the LLWL Resource and support team and are recommended to be relicensed, effective July 1st, 2023 to June 30th, 2026:
 - Marg Hiddleston
 - Gail Cronin
13. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council extend the following people who have applied for re-licencing but who have not yet been interviewed by the LLWL Resource and Support Team and are not yet recommended to be relicensed, effective October 1st, 2023 to December 31st, 2023:
 - Jane Graham
 - Faye Moffatt
 - Dawn Yorke
 - Gail Cronin
 - Ron Holotuk

Motion 2023-09-26-07

Joy Galloway/ Elaine Lush moved that each and every motion of the Consensus Packet be approved.

Carried

Other Business

Celebration of Ministry Rob Smith brought forward a recommendation to put off holding a celebration of ministry service at the November CSRC online meeting and to instead plan a service for the in-person meeting next spring.

Motion 2023-09-26-08

Ted Harrison/ Jane Graham moved that the Pastoral Relations Commission will not hold a celebration of ministry service at the November 25th CSRC general meeting, but will plan a service for the in-person meeting in the spring of 2024. **Carried**

Sacraments Elders Rob Smith informed the PRC that there has been interest shown by a number of people who wish to become Sacrament Elders.

Next Meeting The next meeting will be held on Tuesday October 31st, 2023 at 1:15 p.m. Elaine Lush will provide the opening and closing.

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Adjournment

Erin Todd offered a closing prayer before the meeting was adjourned at 3:35 p.m.

Chairperson, John Watson

Secretary, Karen Gooch

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

Support to Communities of Faith Commission Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada ZOOM Meeting – Date: September 26, 6:30 p.m.

Agenda

Welcome, Check-in:

Opening Prayer:

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:

Approval of Agenda:

Approval of Minutes: June 27, 2023 pages 230 - 235

July 27, 2023 page 236

September 13, 2023 page 237

Business Arising:

- Up date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments
- Growth Animator –
- Rural Ministry Renewal Initiative
- Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith
- Trustee Refresher course
- Support Communities of Faith when their building is sold: tracking membership, resources,
- Pastoral Relations communications: list of Communities of Faith under supervision – how do we connect?
- Shequindah
- St Andrew's Sault Ste Marie

Correspondence:

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive: November 25th meeting,
In person meeting April 12, 13th

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

15. Changes in Communities of Faith
 - a. Schreiber
 - b. Hornpayne –
 - c. Val D'or
 - d. Fairview – Tehkummah
 - e. Holy Trinity Elliot Lake update
 - f. St Mark's
 - g.

2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting North Bay Thunder Bay

3. Commission Joint working group – no meeting

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

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- Property Resource Team -
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team
- Right Relations Resource Team –
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team –
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team –
- United in Worship Project -
- Social Justice Network

Emergent Business:

Date of Next Meeting:

Adjournment:

Closing Prayer:

Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: September 26, 6:30 p.m.
Agenda

Present: Jim Jackson, Ernie Epp, Mardi Mumford, Crystal Greig

Regrets: George Bott, Susan Peverley

Staff Support: Melody Duncanson Hales, Diane Matheson Jimenez

Welcome: Jim called the meeting to order and recognized that we did not have a quorum.

Opening Prayer: Mardi opened with prayer

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space: Jim acknowledged that we need to remember that we gather on lands of many Indigenous groups. He recognized that we meet in a safe space and all that safety entails.

Approval of Agenda: an abbreviated agenda will be used.

Approval of Minutes: Deferred

Up date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments: Admin staff is compiling a list and staff will address the missing reports.

Growth Animator: Calin Lau has been hired for the position for Shining Waters and Canadian Shield.

Rural Ministry Renewal Initiative: no report

Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith: no report

Trustee Refresher course: A staff at the national level are putting together a refresher course that will be both online and have gathering points.

Support Communities of Faith when their building is sold: no report

Pastoral Relations communications: list of Communities of Faith under supervision – no report

Correspondence:

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive: The planning team for the November 25th Regional Meeting has put together a business agenda. This commission will do the opening worship.

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

Changes in Communities of Faith

- h. Schreiber: No report
 - i. Hornpayne: no report
 - j. Val D'or: no report
 - k. Fairview – Tehkummah: no report
 - l. Holy Trinity Elliot Lake: The congregation has voted to disband. Their final service is October 1st, 2023. At the next meeting of the commission, we will move a motion to disband and set the date for December 31, 2023. The trustees need to draft a plan for the dispersal of funds from the sale of the building to the city.
 - m. St Mark's : no report
 - n. Shequindah: The congregation need to discern with the help of staff whether to disband or amalgamate and decide on a plan for the dispersal of funds from the sale of the property.
 - o. St Andrew's Sault Ste Marie: The commission recommend that the Property Resource team work on our behalf in the matter of the sale of St. Andrew's UC Sault Ste Marie. The team meets on September 28th to discuss this matter.
2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting North Bay Thunder Bay: no report
3. Commission Joint working group – no report

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team – Several properties are in the initial stages Trinity Iroquois Falls. And St Andrew's Matheson.
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team: Two new members have been assigned Christine and Dave Clarke. A new chair needs to be chosen. The availability of Mission Support grants is up for discussion as there has been a 25% cut in funds from the United Church of Canada for this work. There is no Canadian Shield Regional policy around loans. This is work that this commission might do and then bring to the executive.
- Right Relations Resource Team: no report
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team: no report
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team: deferred

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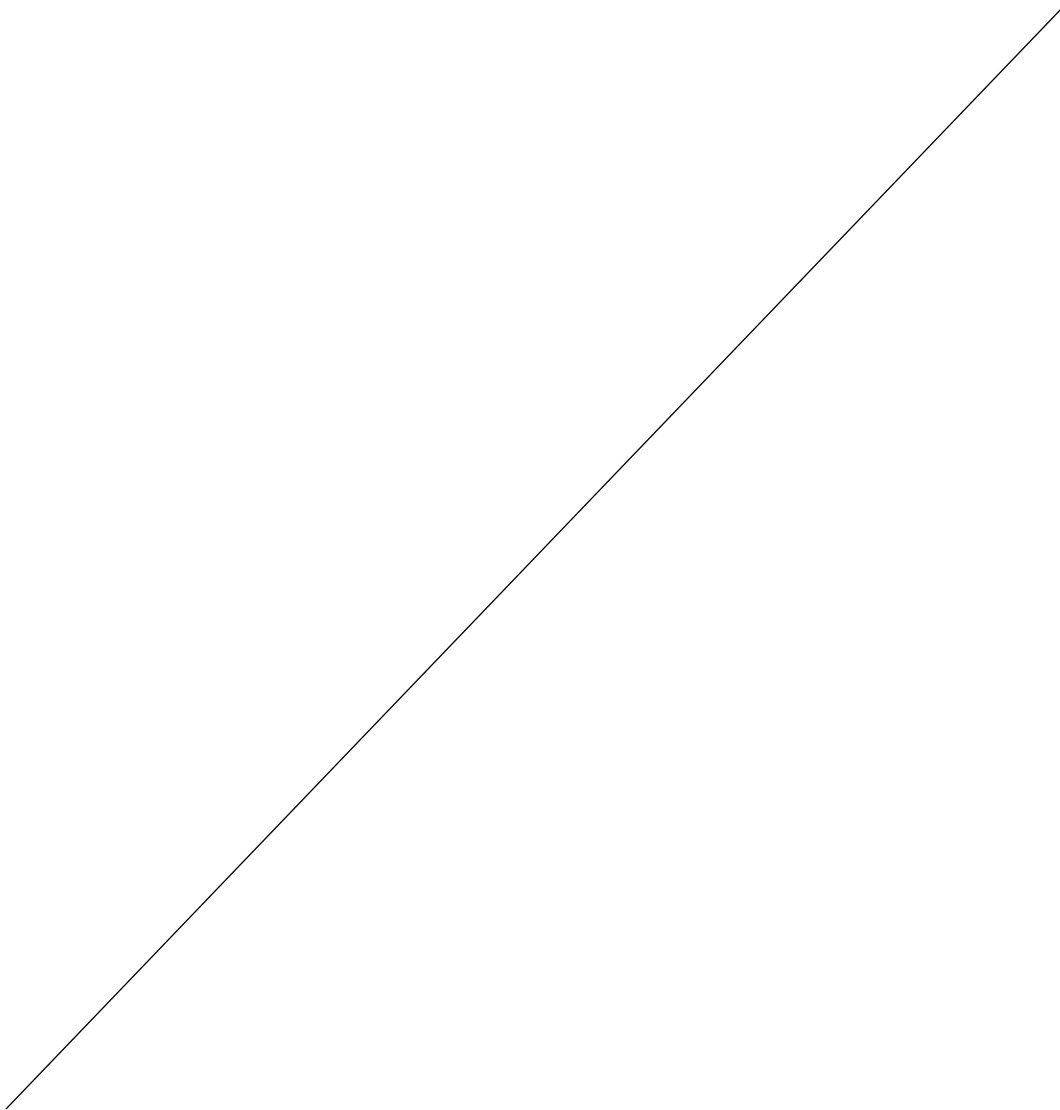
- United in Worship Project: no report
- Social Justice Network: no report

Emergent Business:

Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday October 24, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. by zoom

Adjournment: Jim declared the meeting adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Closing Prayer:



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on October 12, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

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

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead

REGRETS: Nancy Ferguson, Dave LeGrand

Chair Barb Nott welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive and welcomed Peter back after being off on leave.

Barb honoured the traditional lands upon which we meet and then read the CSRC safe space statement.

Peter opened the meeting with a prayer.

CHECK-IN

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were some changes to the Commission dates that needed to be made on the agenda.

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Jim Jackson **CS Exec 2023-10-12-01**
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was business arising from Huntington University from the June 1, 2023 meeting; Peter shared that he has reached out to Kevin McCormick to meet in-person but were unable to do this because of scheduling. Peter will attempt to schedule a meeting in November.

There was one error in the June 1, 2023 minutes – Page 16 above Motion 2023-06-01-02, change “to” to “the.”

MOTION by John Watson/Joy Galloway **CS Exec 2023-10-12-02**
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on June 1, 2023 be approved, as amended.

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CARRIED

MOTION by Kathy Smith/Joy Galloway **CS Exec**

2023-10-12-03

That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on August 16, 2023 be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

1 Abstention

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by John Watson/Jim Jackson **CS Exec 2023-10-12-04**

That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from April 26, 2023, May 24, 2023, June 27, 2023 and an e-vote in July 2023 be received, for information.

CARRIED

MOTION by Joy Galloway/John Waston **CS Exec 2023-10-12-05**

That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes from May 30, 2023 be received, for information.

CARRIED

INCORPORATED MINISTRIES OMNIBUS MOTION

MOTION by John Watson/Susan Lindquist **CS Exec 2023-10-12-06**

That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive take the following actions:

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

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

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

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

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

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

CORRESPONDENCE

- *Letter of Concern re: 2024 RCM Date and Ordination*

Peter shared a letter of concern received regarding the Ordination of a student in the Canadian Shield RC and Executive discussed changes to the policy regarding Ordination, Commissioning, Admissions, etc. John highlighted that after it had been approved by there region, there was a modification to the policy where ordinations could now occur outside of a Regional Council Meeting, allowing individuals to begin their work immediately without losing a year of pensionable time and that the choice of when the ordination should occur rested with the candidate.

After discussion, Executive made the decision to refer the letters to the Pastoral Relations Commission (PRC) for action.

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Jim Jackson CS Exec 2023-10-12-07
That the CSRC Executive refer the 2 letters (letter of concern from Rev. Catherine Somerville and the letter from the Chair of North and Central Ontario Candidacy Board) be referred to the CS Pastoral Relations Commission for review and possible action.
CARRIED

- *Proposal from Harry Oussoren*

The region received this proposal from Harry Oussoren. Peter had discussed this proposal with Melody Duncanson Hales and the chair of the Right Relations

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Resource Team, Lisa Blais. The proposal is lengthy and has been assigned to the Right Relations team for review.

RESCHEDULING OF JOINT EXECUTIVE MEETING IN SUDBURY

Peter shared his disappointment at having to cancel the Joint Executives meeting in Sudbury September 24-26, 2023. He will check in with Tina and Barb/Nancy in the upcoming weeks about dates for fall of 2024.

MOTION by John Watson/Jim Jackson **CS Exec 2023-10-12-08**

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

CARRIED

NOMINATIONS UPDATE

Kathie proposed changes to the terms of office for the chair, chair-elect, and past chair positions, suggesting a four-year model instead of the current six-year commitment. This change was recommended to ease the burden on nominees and facilitate smoother transitions in leadership. She expressed hope that these changes would simplify the nomination process. She addressed John's question about the possibility of past chairs staying on for longer than a year, noting that while it would not be a problem, the current plan was for a four-year model. The team also discussed the importance of the past chair in maintaining continuity, and the challenges of retaining volunteers due to the long commitment required of 6 years.

Kathie shared the Chair Elect/Chair/Past Chair 4-Year Timeline with Executive to help illustrate the model. After a discussion, Executive passed a motion to receive the Nominations recommendation and adopt the model.

MOTION by John Watson/Bill Steadman **CS Exec 2023-10-12-09**

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

Kathie Smith/Helen Smith **CS Noms 2023-10-10-01**

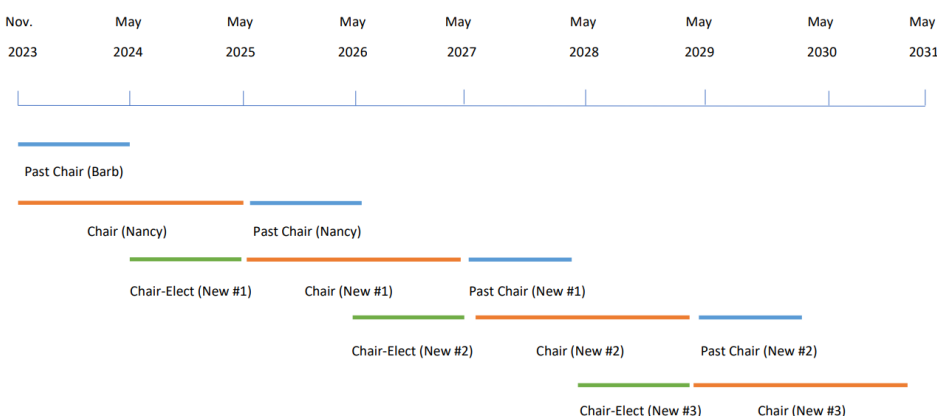
That the CSRC Nominations Committee recommend adopting a four-year model regarding the terms of office for Chair/Chair-Elect/Past Chair to the CSRC Executive for consideration.

CARRIED

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

CARRIED

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



The Nominations Committee also recommended 2 new names to the Mission Support Resource Team:

MOTION by Helen Smith/Janice Brownlee *CS Noms 2023-07-31-01*
That the CSRC Nominations Committee recommend Christine Paul and Dave Clarke to the Mission Support Resource Team, effective August 2023.
CARRIED

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Stewart Walker **CS Exec 2023-10-12-10**
That the CSRC Executive accept the Nominations Committee recommendation of Christine Paul and Dave Clarke to the Mission Support Resource Team, effective August 2023.
CARRIED

DISCUSSION RE: FORMAL POLICY AND TERMS FOR LOANS FROM THE CSRC

A potential policy regarding loans from the Canadian Shield was discussed, leading to the formation of a working group consisting of members from the Finance Committee, the Grants Committee, and Staff. A process for handling financial requests and approvals was discussed, with Bill suggesting that the responsible group should make recommendations, and Jim proposing a hierarchy for approvals. The role of the Executive was also discussed, with Peter highlighting that the current policy allows the Executive to approve up to \$5,000.

Executive agreed with the creation of a working task group consisting of:

- Diane Matheson-Jimenez (CSRC Staff)
- Melody Duncanson Hales (CSRC Staff)
- One member from the Finance Resource Team
- One member from the Grants Resource Team

This group will create a proposal to present to Executive regarding a policy for loans from the regional council. The decision was not made on which group/entity will be responsible

for receiving and recommending to Executive; the Chair suggested that the working task group could make that decision and report back to Executive.

2021 CSRC DRAFT AUDIT – FINANCE MOTION

The 2021 CSRC Draft Audit was shared with Executive prior to the meeting.

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Joy Galloway CS Exec 2023-10-12-11
That the CSRC Executive receive the 2021 CSRC Audited
Financial Statements.
CARRIED

REGIONAL MEETING 2023 AND 2024

- *Planning Team Notes for 2023 and Updates for 2023 RCM*

Barb shared that there was a planning meeting to discuss the 2023 online RCM. The planning team consists of Barb, Peter, Diane and Susan; it was decided since this was a smaller, online meeting that a full planning team was not needed. Agenda includes the remit vote, proposals (if any), approval of the 2024 Draft Budget, Nominations and the installation of the new Chair, Nancy Ferguson.

The Support to Communities of Faith Commission will host the opening worship, while the Pastoral Relations Commission will host the closing worship. The decision was made to hold off on workshops, presentations, celebrations, retirements, church closures, etc. until the May 2024 in-person meeting. Susan is waiting for confirmation from St. Peter's UC in Sudbury to be the site for the installation of the Chair portion of the meeting.

There will also be an opportunity for Communities of Faith to have time to share what is going on at their churches.

- *Updates for 2024 RCM*

Kathie reported on expressions of interest for the 2024 Planning Team, noting that we have the following members of the team:

- Kathie Smith – Chair
- Mardi Mumford – Member
- Ryan Fea – Member
- Helen Smith – Member

- *Music Matters 2024 and our RCM Date*

Susan shared that Music Matters 2024 is occurring in Thunder Bay on the same weekend as our RCM. There are exciting plans in the works to do some joint events during our meeting time and their event time; more details to come.

GROWTH ANIMATOR POSITION

Jim Jackson shared information about our new Growth Animator, Calin Lau, who will be shared between CSRC and SWRC, and will be starting in the position in January 2024.

EXECUTIVE MINISTER'S REPORT

Executive received the Executive Minister Report, for information (attached as Appendix A).

NEW BUSINESS

Pastoral Relations Request

John shared that there is a request from the PRC re: ministers requesting financial support in our region. John proposed the creation of a benevolent fund for ministry personnel, to be administered by the Pastoral Relations Minister and the Chair of the Commission, funded at \$2,000 annually. The team agreed with Peter's suggestion that this fund could come from the existing special funds supporting ministers. Bill expressed concern about the limited amount, suggesting a higher funding of \$5,000 would be more reasonable and the Pastoral Relations Commission will set up the criteria for the fund.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Kathie Smith

CS Exec 2023-10-12-12

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

CARRIED

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- November 2, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- December 7, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. viz Zoom

CLOSING

Barb adjourned the meeting at 3:34 p.m. and Peter ended with a prayer.

Appendix A Executive Minister Report October 2023

Happy Fall!!!! I am grateful to return from sick leave and continue to recover. I am currently on graduated return to work and hope to return full-time by the end of October. I deeply appreciate the time the United Church provided for recovery and in particular the support of Jody and Susan Whitehead, along with the entire staff of CSRC and SWRC who provided key support in my absence. I am grateful to be back.

The Joint Regional Councils Executives Ad Hoc Committee for the CSRC and SWRC met on May 2, 2023. The group included Chair Barb and President David and Chair-Elect Nancy and President-Elect Tina. The conversation focused on our relationship between Regional Councils, planning between Regional Councils and a discussion about the 2025 Festival of Faith event. A gathering of both Executives was planned for fall 2023, but needed to be postponed and we will need to discuss rescheduling.

Festival of Faith 2023 and 2025:

The 2023 Festival of Faith went well and I am grateful for the hard work of both volunteers and staff who supported the event. In particular, I am grateful to Rev. Rob Smith who planted the seed for the festival of faith initially! We gained many learnings from our first gathering and participants shared they were grateful to gather together to worship, laugh, learn and grow in faith. One key concern was the size of the facility and mobility issues.

The Festival of Faith in 2025 is planned for June 13-15, 2025. Currently the nominations committee has asked for expressions of interest from both Regional Councils and we are focusing on Sudbury as the venue location. The Moderator will attend the Festival of Faith 2025! Rob Smith will provide key leadership for this event.

UPCOMING MODERATOR'S FOURISH VISITS, hosted by the Moderator:

As previously mentioned, the CS Moderator's Flourish visit will be May 1- 4, 2024.

2023 Regional Meeting November

Budget: Janet continues planning for the 2024 budget and planning for the online Regional meeting continues.

Staffing:

Jeffery Dale:

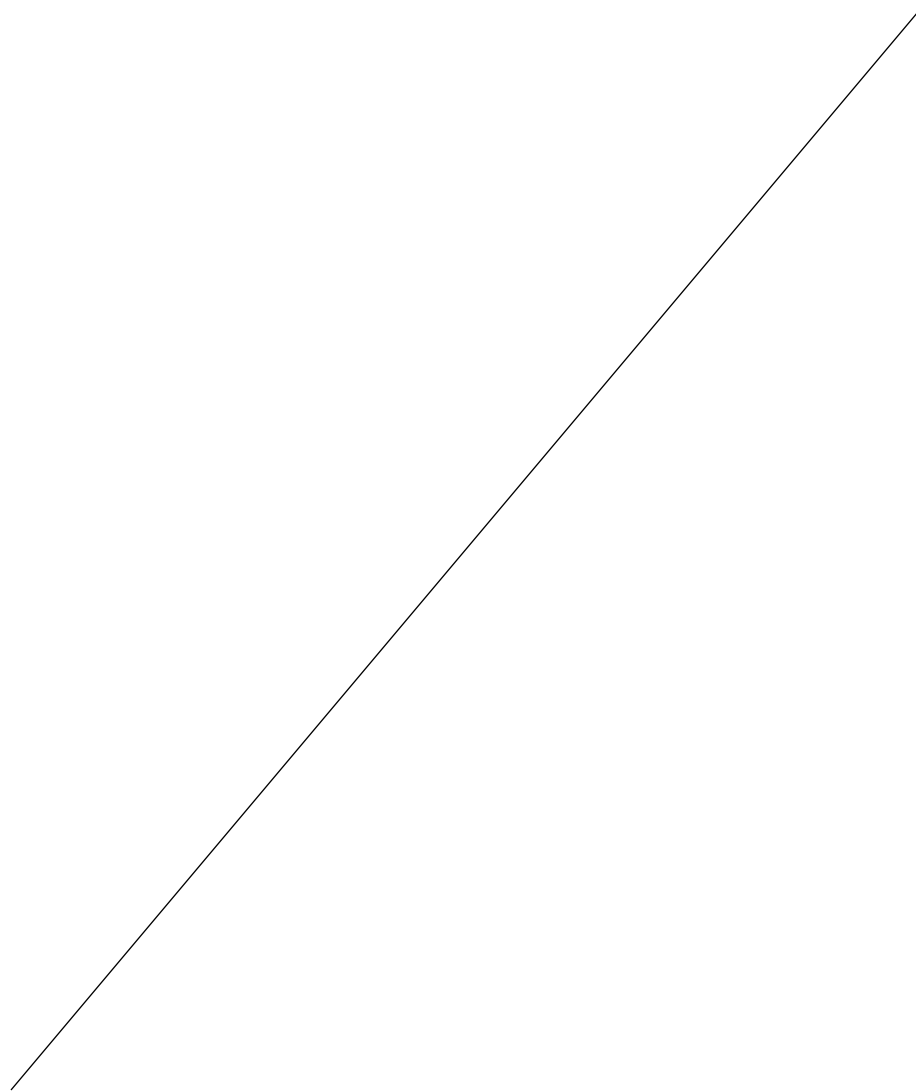
We said goodbye to Jeffery Dale who accepted a Call to Port Elgin United Church. I want to express deep appreciation for Jeffery's ministry within Shining Waters Regional Council and Canadian Shield Regional Council. In my absence, Diane and Jody have been working towards replacing Jeffery's position who will provide key leadership support around Youth Ministry and Faith Formation in CSRC and Justice ministry, Youth Leadership and Faith Formation in SWRC.

Staff lead, CSRC:

As part of our transition to a more integrated staff, I have asked Diane Matheson-Jimenez to enter the role of Staff Lead for the Canadian Shield Regional Council. This would be a similar role to Jody Maltby in Shining Waters Regional Council. The Staff Lead role partners with the Executive Minister around coordination, partnership and key leadership. In particular, Diane will focus on coordinating administrative staff, especially at events like the Regional Meeting and the Festival of Faith. Diane would also be in the position to provide key leadership in my absence.

Pastoral Relations Minister: Currently Dale Hildebrand has indicated that he will be retiring by the end of 2023. Dale serves as Pastoral Relations Minister for Shining Waters Regional Council. As part of our staff partnership with Shining Waters Regional Council, Rob Smith will begin to more formally partner with Shining Waters Regional Council focusing on Pastoral Relations work, in partnership with Todd Smith and Eun-Joo Park. Rob will continue to serve as CSRC Pastoral Relations minister.

Melody Duncanson-Hales: Melody continues to serve CSRC as Congregational Support Minister part-time and also supports the CSRC and SWRC part-time through the General Council Philanthropy Unit. This summer, at the request of the Philanthropy Unit, Melody's role shifted from 60/40 in CS&SW/General Council Office to 50/50 CS&SW/GCO. The shift reflects a shift in work within both CSRC and SWRC with greater demand for her work around stewardship development in both Regional Councils. GCO requested the financial shift to reflect the practical shift in work supporting congregations through stewardship support.



SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: October 24, 2023 6:30 p.m.

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Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: October 24, 2023 6:30 p.m.
Agenda

Welcome, Check-in:

Opening Prayer:

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:

Approval of Agenda:

Approval of Minutes: June 26, 2023 pages 230 - 235

July 27, 2023 page 236

September 13, 2023 page 237

Notes from September 26, 2023 page 238 – 241

Business Arising:

- Up date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments
- Growth Animator –
- Rural Ministry Renewal Initiative
- Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith
- Trustee Refresher course
- Support Communities of Faith when their building is sold: tracking membership, resources,
- Pastoral Relations communications: list of Communities of Faith under supervision – how do we connect?

Correspondence: Magnetawan governance document

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive: November 25th meeting, In person meeting April 12, 13th

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

1. Updates from Communities of Faith
 - a. Schreiber
 - b. Hornepayne –
 - c. Val D'or
 - d. Fairview – Tehkummah
 - e. Holy Trinity Elliot Lake
 - f. St Mark's
 - g. Shequindah
 - h. St Andrew's Sault Ste Marie
2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting North Bay Thunder Bay
3. Commission Joint working group – no meeting

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team -

Support to Communities of Faith Commission

Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada

ZOOM Meeting – Date: October 24, 2023 6:30 p.m.

- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team
- Right Relations Resource Team –
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team –
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team –
- United in Worship Project -
- Social Justice Network

Emergent Business:

Date of Next Meeting:

Adjournment:

Closing Prayer:

The United Church of Canada
Canadian Shield Regional Council

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Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: October 24 ,2023 6:30 p.m.

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Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: October 24 ,2023 6:30 p.m.

Present: Jim Jackson, Susan Peverley, Mardi Mumford, Crystal Greig, Bonnie Johnson, Ernie Epp, George Bott

Regrets: Marilyn Schatzler, Brynn Carson

Staff Support: Melody Duncanson Hales, Diane Matheson Jimenez

Welcome, Check-in:

Opening Prayer: Diane started the meeting with a prayer of thanks for this season

Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space: Jim acknowledged the various territories that we inhabit and also declared this as a safe space to meet and talk.

Approval of Agenda:

Moved: Crystal Greig **Seconded:** Bonnie Johnson

That the agenda be accepted as sent. **Carried**

Approval of Minutes:

Moved: Bonnie Johnson **Seconded:** Ernie Epp

That the minutes of the Commission for June 26, 2023 pages 230 - 235, July 27, 2023 page 236 and September 13, 2023 page 237 be accepted. **Carried**

Moved: Mardi Mumford **Seconded:** Ernie Epp

That the notes from September 26, 2023 page 238 – 241 be received for information.

Carried

Business Arising:

Up date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments: A meeting will be set up with a small committee to develop a rubric and way to get this done with the help of volunteers from this committee.

Growth Animator and Rural Ministry Renewal Initiative: Callin Lau will start in January with a focus on renewal to begin with.

Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith: This should be a topic for the Joint Pastoral Relations and Support to Communities of Faith commissions.

Trustee Refresher course: A national UCC course is being set up through Church X and will have shared courses available possibly by January 2024.

Support Communities of Faith when their building is sold: At present this is done by supervisors and will need to be another item for the Joint Commissions group.

Pastoral Relations communications and supervisors.: Another item for the Joint Commissions group.

Support to Communities of Faith Commission
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada
ZOOM Meeting – Date: October 24, 2023 6:30 p.m.

245

Correspondence: Magnetawan governance document was received. The group is requesting clarification about the endowment fund. We require more information before we can approve the new structure. Diane Matheson Jimenez will connect with this pastoral charge with our concerns.

Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive: Jim Jackson reported from the October 24, 2023 meeting;

1. A letter of concern was received around ordination dates and a response is under advisement
2. A proposal, entitled Canada's Indian Act – A Proposal, from Rev. Dr. Harry Oussoren has been received.
3. Nominations committee recommended changes to the length of terms for the Past chair and the Chair Elect making this a 4 year commitment. This was approved.
4. The audit for the 20/21 was approve.
5. A committee has been set up to develop a policy for the Executive to deal with loans.
6. November 25th meeting will be virtual. This commission will be responsible for the opening worship and George Bott will co-ordinate this.

Commission Business: (Standing Items)

2. Updates from Communities of Faith
 - a. Schreiber: the UCC lawyers have reviewed the documents and have resolved the issues of the trustees ownership. The disposal of the property is moving closer. The Restrictive Covenant has a limitation of 32 years. . Motions from the trustees for permission to list will be forth coming.
 - b. Hornepayne: the ownership has been transferred to the Trustees of Grace United Church Hornepayne has been completed and motions from the trustees to sell will be forth coming.
 - c. Val D'or: no information
 - d. Fairview – Tehkummah: Still awaiting a decision from the local planning board to sever the cemetery from the property.
 - e. Holy Trinity Elliot Lake: Final service was October 4, 2023
Moved: Mardi Mumford Seconded: George Bott
That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith honour with regret, the request from the congregation of Holy Trinity United Church Elliot Lake to disband on December 15, 2023.
Carried
Moved: Susan Peverley Seconded: Bonnie Johnson
That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve the plan for distribution from the sale of the property by the trustees of Holy Trinity as follows:
10% to M & S
10% to the Indigenous Church
3% to UCC archives
30% as legacy to St Joseph Hospital 40%, Elliot Lake Food Bank 25%, Camp McDougall 15%, St Andrew's UC Blind River 10%, St Andrew's UC Massey 10%
47% to Canadian Shield Regional Council
Carried
 - f. St Mark's: The council of the whole is considering correspondence from St Stephen's on the Hill UC about shared ministry.
 - g. Shequindah: Work continues
 - h. St Andrew's Sault Ste Marie:

Moved: George Bott Seconded: Crystal Greig

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith affirm the decision of the Property Resource Team to give permission to sell the property of St Andrew's United Church Sault Ste Marie 712 Wellington Street East, Sault Ste Marie Ontario LT 2-7 11-14 PL 129 St Mary's Sault Ste Marie. **Carried**

2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting North Bay Thunder Bay : no report
3. Commission Joint working group: Jim Jackson will contact John Watson to organize a meeting of the Joint working group.

Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team:

Moved: Susan Peverley Seconded: Crystal Greig

That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve recommendation from the Property Resource team for the request from the Board at Trinity United Church Iroquois Falls to list the property PART PCL 866 SEC NEC SRO; Lot 107 Plan M10T Town of Iroquois Falls and the municipal address is 156 Devonshire Ave, Iroquois Falls, ON, P0K 1E0. **Carried**

- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team: 2 lay learning grants were approved. A cluster support grant was approved for Zion UC Sundridge to establish a cluster in the area. Dave Clarke has been appointed to the small team to develop a loan policy for the Region Executive.
- Right Relations Resource Team: This team has received the proposal from Rev. Dr. Harry Oussoren and will review it. A grant was approved for Patrick Etherington and Francis Whiskeychan to develop relationships and provide education and attend the National Elders Conference in Edmonton.
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team: no report
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team: Staff support person position is being examined for posting.
- United in Worship Project: The number of memberships is up.
- Social Justice Network: A gathering is set for November, Ernie will report after that.
-

Emergent Business: None

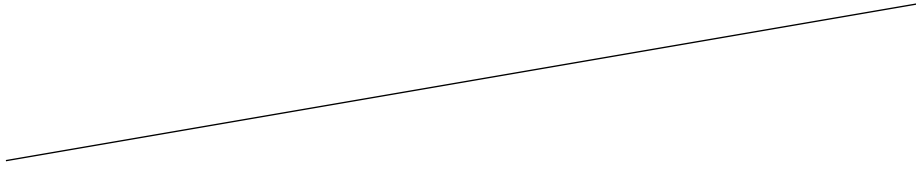
Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday November 28, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. by zoom

Adjournment: Jim Jackson declared that the business had been completed at 8:43 p.m.

Closing Prayer: Melody Duncanson Hales read a blessing prayer.

Jim Jackson, Chair

Mardi Mumford, Secretary



EXECUTIVE

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on November 2, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Barb Nott (Chair), Nancy Ferguson, John Watson, Bill Steadman, Stewart Walker, Dave LeGrand, Jim Jackson, Kathie Smith

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead

REGRETS: Susan Lindquist, Mastard Sakala, Helen Smith, Joy Galloway

Chair Barb Nott welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive and welcomed Nancy back to Canada after her sabbatical overseas.

Barb honoured the traditional lands upon which we meet and then read the CSRC safe space statement.

Peter opened the meeting with a prayer and highlighted Helen Smith today, as she has a particularly difficult and challenging funeral in Sault Ste. Marie today.

CHECK-IN

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There were some changes to the Commission dates that needed to be made on the agenda.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Kathie Smith CS Exec 2023-11-02-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Bill Steadman CS Exec 2023-11-02-02
That the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on October 12, 2023 be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Dave LeGrand/Peter Hartmans CS Exec 2023-11-02-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from September 26, 2023 be received, for information.
CARRIED

MOTION by John Watson/Nancy Ferguson CS Exec 2023-11-02-04

2022/2023-146

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

CORRESPONDENCE

- *Email from Fraser Williamson re: 2024 RCM Date*
Executive discussed the letter from Fraser Williamson regarding the date of the 2024 Regional Council Meeting (RCM). This issue was referred to the Pastoral Relations Commission (PRC) at the October 2023 CSRC Executive meeting. The PRC have since met and made the decision that there will not be an ordination at the 2024 RCM in Sault Ste. Marie. Executive directed Peter to write a joint response letter to Fraser Williamson on behalf of himself, the Executive Minister, the Chair of Executive, the Chair of the PRC, and the Chair of the Nominations Committee. See section "Possible 2024 Ordination – Update from PRC" below for more information.
- *Email from Melody Duncanson Hales re: funding*
The team also discussed responding to a funding request from Melody regarding Réseau Access and support for a supervised consumption site (petition signing initiative). A decision was made to have Dave draft a letter to Melody from Barb and the Support to Communities of Faith Commission. Kathie requested the letter include a call for other communities of faith to show public support.

RESCHEDULING OF JOINT EXECUTIVE MEETING

Barb shared that the new Joint Executives meeting date will be on Tuesday, September 24 – Thursday, September 26, 2024 at Villa Loyola in Sudbury. Peter has already offered these dates to the SWRC Executive at their last meeting and the CSRC Executive has confirmed these new dates work.

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

POSSIBLE 2024 ORDINATION – UPDATE FROM PRC

Executive continued their discussion about the possibility of having an Ordination at the 2024 CSRC RCM. The PRC referred the matter back to Executive, indicating there are two options available:

- 1. To wait to be ordained until the next RCM (2025), which will be online; or,**
- 2. To be ordained at a different service (outside the in-person 2024 RCM) that they arrange with the Region.**

Individuals seeking ordination would normally have to wait until the next meeting if their documents (Testamur) and Supervised Ministry Education (SME) were not in place. Alternatively, they could arrange a service at a location of their choice. The point was made that since all students must receive their Testamur and complete their SME before they can be ordained, it is clear the date of the RCM will not work. Executive discussed the implications of changing the date of the RCM at this time, i.e. losing the deposit for the venue, possibly not being able to book the venue again at this late date, possibly not being able to get the Moderator to attend the RCM, Nominations timeline changes, etc. A suggestion was made that there not be a formal ordination for the candidate but that an affirmation of ordination could happen at the meeting 2024 RCM in Sault Ste. Marie to recognize them.

REGIONAL MEETING 2023 UPDATE

- *Updates*

As previously mentioned, the theme is called "The Stones Will Shout." Executive reviewed the agenda for the meeting and Barb shared that the SCoFC and the PRC will be leading the opening and closing worship, respectively. The agenda includes an optional refresher on Zoom protocols, a gathering and welcoming, and a time of grounding with the Right Relations Resource Team prior to the Remit vote. The team also planned to have a budget presented and voted on, nominations opened, and a new chair installed. The team also discussed the importance of registration deadlines and communication about the meeting, which had been taken over by Donna for website communications.

2025 CS RCM

There was a brief discussion about the 2024 RCM and a possible lay-led congregation information session prior to the meeting in 2024, potentially inviting the Moderator to participate. John shared that several people expressed that we reconsider having the Ministry Personnel Retreats prior to the RCM, as many people who participate in those are part of the planning and want it to happen after the RCM.

- *Executive Accountability Report Starting Point*

Peter thanked the staff team and the Chair for planning the RCM in his absence and shared a draft of the Executive Accountability Report for the Report Packet at the upcoming RCM. Peter requested that Executive review the report and that any updates be sent to himself and Susan this week and emphasized that the report was a team effort.

BUDGET UPDATE – 2024 CSRC DRAFT BUDGET

Executive discussed the draft budget for 2024 and Peter shared that there is no requirement that Executive approves a budget before a RCM. He asked if Executive would like to conduct an e-vote to bring the draft budget to the RCM or just bring the draft budget to the RCM and then approve the final budget at the December meeting of Executive. Members decided to review it before presenting it at the regional meeting. They agreed that any major changes could be made at the December Executive meeting.

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

EXECUTIVE MINISTER'S REPORT

Executive received the Executive Minister Report, for information (*attached as Appendix A*). Peter reported that Jeffrey's position is now vacant and the position of Justice and Faith Formation is about to be posted and there is a desire to re-establish youth ministry support for Canadian Shield.

- *Huntington University Update*

Peter has attempted on several occasions to plan a meeting with the President of Huntington with no success with finding a mutual meeting time. He will continue to try to set up a meeting. If a meeting date is not chosen before the installation of Nancy as the new Chair for the CSRC, Executive can choose to pivot and have Nancy take over the negotiations if that is ideal.

NEW BUSINESS

GC44 Meeting

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Barbara shared her experience from the GC44 annual meeting, noting that the discussion about Designated Lay Minister (DLM) discussion took up a significant portion of the meeting time. Peter added that while the DLM conversation was complex, with some progress had been made, discussing their role in the church and their acceptance within communities of faith was also discussed. Bill, who co-authored the One Ministry report years ago, expressed his interest in understanding the current status of the issue. Peter indicated he would send Bill a link to the recorded conversation for better understanding. They also discussed the end of missionary work in South Korea.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

- December 7, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- January 2024 TBD

CLOSING

The meeting also marked Barbara's last official meeting as Chair of the Canadian Shield Regional Council, for which the Executive expressed their gratitude.

Barb adjourned the meeting at 3:10 p.m. and Nancy ended with a prayer.

Appendix A
Executive Minister Report November 2023

Happy Fall!!!! I am grateful to return from sick leave and continue to recover. I am currently on graduated return to work and hope to return full-time starting in November. I deeply appreciate the time the United Church provided for recovery and in particular, the support of Jody Maltby and Susan Whitehead, along with the entire staff of CSRC and SWRC who provided key support in my absence. I am grateful to be back.

The Ad Hoc Committee:

The Ad Hoc Committee of the Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council met May 2, 2023. The group included Chair Barb and David and Chair Elect Nancy and Tina. The conversation focused on our relationship between Regional Councils, planning between Regional Councils and a discussion about the 2025 Festival of Faith. A gathering of both Executives was planned for fall 2023, but needed to be postponed and Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive has proposed a new tentative date for fall 2024.

Huntington University:

Work continues updating the bi-laws for Huntington University, following the reorganization of The United Church of Canada and the establishment of Regional Councils. Nicole Treksler, legal council for The United Church of Canada, has forwarded first draft of proposed changes to the by-laws, which reflect the UCC structural shift. Chair Barb Nott and I have also reached out to Dr. Kevin McCormick, President and Vice-Chancellor of Huntington University, to discuss the proposed changes. We are currently waiting for a response.

Festival of Faith 2025:

The Festival of Faith in 2025 is planned for June 13-15, 2025. Currently, the Nominations Committees has asked for expressions of interest from both Regional Councils and we are focusing on Sudbury as the venue location. The Moderator will attend the Festival of Faith 2025! Rob Smith will provide key leadership for this event.

Upcoming Moderator's Flourish Visit Update/change:

In early 2023, the Moderator reached out to Regional Councils with the desire to host local Regional Flourish events across The United Church of Canada (hosted by the Moderator and coordinated and organized by the Moderators Office). The Moderator asked for May 1- 4, 2024. Our Regional Council Executive, sensitive to the significant geography, cost and environmental footprint of gathering folks from across the Regional Council, elected to attach our Regional Council Meeting (RCM) to the Flourish event hosted by our Moderator. The Executive also invited the Moderator to stay for our RCM and the Moderator offered to preach on Sunday May 5, 2024, concluding the Regional meeting. Recently the Moderator indicated that she needed to cancel a portion of her Flourish event and will focus on our Regional meeting May 3-5th, 2024.

2023 Regional Meeting November

Planning for the meeting continues and I deeply appreciate Barb, Diane and Susan, who coordinated planning in my absence.

Budget: Janet continues planning for the 2024 Draft Budget and planning for the online Regional meeting continues.

Strategic Plan Update

Work continues around The United Church of Canada Strategic Plan. Key pieces for the Regional Council include the hiring of a national coordinator, Cameron Fraser (he/him) Director of Growth and Ministry Development. Cam, along with local CSRC and SWRC folks, partnered around hiring a local Growth Animator to be shared between the Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council. Calin Lau was hired recently and will start January 1, 2024 for CSRC and SWRC.

The Growth initiative represents the leading priority of the Strategic Plan of The United Church of Canada. As a way to embody this priority, the General Council Office's Organizational Development and Strategy Unit is working with regional councils to create and fill six new positions. The six Growth Animators will be deployed across the regions to work in local and regional partnerships with a focus on renewing existing communities of faith, creating new communities, and strengthening invitation. Growth Animators will support and connect with communities where growth is occurring and seek to bring best practices and fresh possibilities where growth is a challenge and feels impossible.

The Growth initiative is seeking to articulate a vision for what growth and invitation looks like rooted in humility and respect as we together answer our call to be the church, become beloved community, and embody Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, and Daring Justice. These staff will join a team that includes existing EDGE colleagues bringing their experience and expertise.

CANADIAN SHIELD REGIONAL COUNCIL – November 25, 2023

**MINUTES
OF THE REGIONAL MEETING
November 25, 2023**

The Regional Council Meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council took place on November 25, 2023 via Zoom video conference. The theme was *The Stones Will Shout*.

FRIDAY, May 25, 2023

Words of Welcome, Opening of Meeting and Constituting the Council

The Canadian Shield Regional Council gathered via Zoom video conference at 12:30 p.m. to begin the Regional Council Meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council. Barbara Nott, Chair, welcomed all those participating, introduced herself and the Executive Minister, Peter Hartmans.

Chair Barbara Nott constituted the meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, and as the United Church gathered together, to deal with such business as should properly come before the Council.

Barbara gave an acknowledgement of the land and a safe space statement.

Introductions

The Chair made a number of introductions, including the online and technical hosts, the chaplain, the parliamentarian, the equity host, and the scrutineers. Peter Hartmans introduced the Canadian Shield Regional Council staff team and Barbara introduced the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive.

Barbara Nott led the participants through a test motion and vote.

Opening motions

MOTION by Peter Hartmans / Nancy Ferguson
That the following enabling motions be adopted,

CS RCM 2023-11-25-01

- a) **Roll of the Regional Council: that the Roll of the Regional Council shall consist of:**
 - All ministry personnel within the geographic bounds served by the Canadian Shield Regional Council (Basis of Union 6.2.1);
 - Ministers of denominations within mutual recognition agreements while under appointment or call (Basis of Union 6.2.2);
 - lay members elected by the Community of Faith, respecting the balance of lay and ministry personnel where possible (Basis of Union 6.2.3);
 - additional lay members as determined by the regional council if necessary, to respect a balance of ministry personal and lay members who are not ministry personnel in the membership of the Regional Council (2023 Manual C.1.2.b)
- b) **Bounds of the Regional Council Meeting: that the bounds of the Regional Council meeting for voting purposes shall be the Zoom meeting ID 835 4652 3743 and when in session.**
- c) **Agenda: that the Agenda as printed and circulated be the order of business, subject**

to those changes that are recommended by the Agenda & Business Chairperson and approved by the Regional Council; or as recommended by the Regional Council itself.

- d) **Minutes:** that the Minutes of the meetings of the Canadian Shield Regional Council held September 23-25, 2022 be approved as circulated.
- e) **Accountability Reports:** that the reports as presented in the Report Packet be accepted for information.
- f) **Adjournment of Sessions:** that the Chair has the authority to recess the Regional Council when business, as ordered, is completed.
- g) **Corresponding Members:** that corresponding members shall be: official guests of the Regional Council. Their names shall be included in the Record of Proceedings. (2023 Manual C.1.5)
- h) **New Business:** that any items of New Business shall be referred to Barb Nott, of the Agenda & Business Committee. New Business items close at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, November 25, 2023.

Procedural Motions

- 1. The procedural and prayer microphone shall be the chat box;
- 2. Any handouts must be authorized by the Agenda & Business Committee;
- 3. The Parliamentarian shall be Bill Steadman;
- 4. The Chair shall present a Proposal. The Chair will invite prayerful discernment and discussion on the wisdom of the Proposal. When the Chair discerns that the sense of the meeting is such that we are ready to hear a motion on the Proposal she/he will invite the presenter to put the motion. Once the motion has been moved and seconded, Rules of Debate and Order shall be followed;
- 5. At the discretion of the Chair, microphone time for each speaker will be limited to 1½ minutes per Proposal and 1½ minutes per motion with the exception of the mover (who may speak at the beginning and end of a motion).
- 6. Microphone time may be reduced at the discretion of the Agenda & Business Committee in 30-second increments when any item of business exceeds 20 minutes.
- 7. The normal voting procedure shall be a show of hands using the RAISE HAND function or *9 for those on the phone. If two people are joined from the same household one person will vote with the Raise Hand function and the second will type YES or NO in the chat. Those who wish to abstain will type ABSTAIN in the chat. Where a secret ballot is required, an online poll will be provided.
- 8. In the case of limited time for business, items will be dealt with in the following order: Proposals to General Council, Proposals to Regional Council, Elections.

Background for Consent Motions

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

A consent agenda is a tool to help the Regional Council focus on what is most important. Proposals which are routine or non-controversial actions or routine changes in policy or

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procedure are included in the consent agenda. At the meeting, any 5 voting members of the Regional Council may request to move any item(s) from the consent agenda to be placed on the meeting's agenda. By courtesy, advance notice would be given to the Executive Minister. If you have a concern, you are encouraged to contact the Executive Minister in advance as an exchange of information may resolve a question.

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

Process for Removal of an Item from the Consent Motion:

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

1. **Presider/chair:** "You have all received the Report Packet, with the consent agenda. Do any 5 voting members wish to remove an item from the consent agenda to be placed on the meeting's agenda by the Business Table?"
2. **If any 5 voting members requests it, an item is removed (by courtesy, advance notice would be given to the Executive Minister).**

Presider/chair: "Without discussion, then, the consent agenda is ready for a vote. Those in favour? Opposed? All items on the consent agenda are adopted."

**Procedural
CARRIED**

Diane Matheson-Jimenez gave an orientation to how the group will be together during the meeting, and a BRAVE slide was shared.

Opening Worship

A time of worship was led by the Support to Communities of Faith Commission.

Right Relations Resource Team "Grounding Time"

Whitney Bruno, a team member from the Right Relations Resource Team, led the Region in a time of grounding before the remit discussion and vote.

Remit Discussion and Vote

Whitney Bruno, a member of the Right Relations Resource Team, led the region in a grounding time and shared a video from the UC National Spiritual Gathering in July 2023. Melody Duncanson Hales let the region in a question and answer period and then offered a prayer before the remit vote.

**MOTION: Moved by Kathie Smith and seconded by Stewart Walker CS RCM 2023-11-25-02
That Canadian Shield Regional Council agrees to amend the Basis of Union to reflect:**

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

within The United Church of Canada, it will have its own mechanisms to make any future changes to its structure and processes, and therefore, will not be subject to the remit process under section 7.4.1 of the Basis of Union^{**}; and,

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

** The “Denominational Council” and the “General Council” are often used interchangeably.*

*** The detailed proposed changes to the Basis of Union are listed in a chart on page 5 of this document (Remit 1: Study Guide for Category 3 Remit – Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization), under the section heading “Frequently Asked Questions”.*

CARRIED

Proposals

There were no proposals submitted before the deadline of November 1, 2023.

Mission and Service Presentation

Melody Duncanson Hales presented some M&S (Mission and Service) information to the region.

The meeting took an all-purpose break.

Theme Time: The Stones Will Shout

Chair Barb invited delegates to share examples of how their communities of faith are “shouting” hope and love, how they are engaging with their neighbours, what is new or exciting in their communities of faith, and what good news people are experiencing, with many people sharing.

Financial Budget and Funds Report

Janet MacDonald, the Financial Administrator, presented a brief narrative on the 2024 Draft Budget and then answered questions.

Motion: Moved by Nancy Ferguson and seconded by Kathie Smith CS RCM 2023-11-25-03
That on the recommendation of the Executive, the Canadian Shield Regional Council
approve the 2024 Draft Budget, as presented.

CARRIED

Nominations Report

Kathie Smith, Chair of the Nominations Committee, presented the Nominations Report.

New Business

There was no new business.

Installation of the New Chairperson

Nancy Ferguson was installed as the new Chair of the Canadian Shield Regional Council.

Closing Worship

A time of closing worship was led by the Pastoral Relations Commission.

Courtesies and Outgoing Chairperson

Peter Hartmans gave his thanks to Barbara Nott for her time as Chair of the Executive. The new incoming Chair, Nancy Ferguson gave her thanks to Barbara Nott on behalf of herself, the Executive, and the Regional Council. She also gave courtesies to Peter Hartmans, the entire staff and all who helped to put on this meeting.

The United Church of Canada
Canadian Shield Regional Council

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Adjournment

The Chair, Nancy Ferguson, asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

MOTION: Moved by **CS RCM 2023-11-25-04**
That the 2023 Canadian Shield Regional Council Meeting be adjourned.
CARRIED

Blessing

Peter Hartmans offered a blessing before the region departed.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:15 p.m.



Appendix A

**DIGEST OF ACTIONS OF THE
THE EXECUTIVE
OF THE CANADIAN SHIELD REGIONAL COUNCIL
FOR THE PERIOD October 13, 2022 to November 2, 2023**

Decisions made by the Executive October 13, 2022

1. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from May 25, 2022 and June 29, 2022 be received, for information.
2. That the Canadian Shield Regional Council (6) Executive take the following action:

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

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

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

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

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

Decisions made by the Executive November 3, 2022

4. That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Community of Faith Commission Minutes from May 25, June 16, June 28, and October 13, 2022 and the Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from September 28, 2022 be received, for information.

5. That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive, based on the guidance received from General Council Staff, pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada, approve the Constitution and By-Laws of the incorporated ministry known as Thunder Bay United Church Camps Incorporated (*Camp Duncan*), revised May 18, 2021, and approved by the members of the *Thunder Bay United Church Camps Board (Camp Duncan)* on May 18, 2021.
6. That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive remove Will Kunder and Joan Bailey as signing authorities and add Kathie Smith.
7. That the CSRC Executive write to Mr. Taggart thanking him sincerely for offering this proposal but the Regional Council will not proceed with his Regional Renaming proposal.
8. There was consensus that Peter draft a Travel Remuneration Policy to be presented at the next Executive meeting in December 2022.

Decisions made by the Executive December 1, 2022

9. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from October 26, 2022 be received, for information.
10. That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Community of Faith Commission Minutes from November 24, 2022 be received, for information.
11. That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive approve the following actions pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada:

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

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

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

This is based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of October 18, 2022, the 2022 board member approval form, contact list provided and

receipt of other required documentation per The United Church of Canada Incorporated Ministries Policy.

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

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

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

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

12. That the CSRC Executive approve of the 2023 In-Person Learning Event to be hosted in North Bay, ON on June 9-11, 2023.
13. That the CSRC Executive accept the Regional Council Meeting Remuneration Travel Policy as follows, with a review date in 5 years:
 - The Regional Council will reimburse over 300 km for Regional Council members travel, or contribute to airfare equal to mileage cost, minus the value of 300 km. The Regional Council encourages folks to car pool for both environmental and budgetary reasons.
 - Regional Council members (including retired ministry personnel) may apply to the Regional Council, through the Executive Minister, for an exemption to the policy and request full reimbursement, due to extenuating circumstances, with deadline for application to be determined by the Regional Council Executive in advance of the meeting.
14. That the CSRC Executive table the conversation about the Regional Council Meeting Draft Planning Policy, definitely, into 2023.
15. That the CSRC Executive receive the 2020 CSRC Audited Financial Statements.

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16. That the CSRC Executive approve the 2023 CSRC Budget.
17. That the CSRC Executive receive, for information, the year-to-date Financial Statements.
18. That the CSRC Executive, after receiving the motion from the Finance Resource Team, it was decided to put \$100,000 in a fund designated for communities of faith support.

Decisions made by the Executive February 2, 2023

19. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from November 23, 2022 and the Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes from December 14, 2022 be received, for information.
20. There was consensus that the Canadian Shield Regional Council will invite Shining Waters Regional Council to participate in a joint Festival of Faith in 2025.
21. There was consensus that Executive needs more time to review the MOA, which will be attended to at an upcoming Executive meeting.

Decisions made by the Executive E-Vote February 17, 2023

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

Decisions made by the Executive April 12-13, 2023

23. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from January 25, 2023 be received, for information.
24. That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes from January 24th and February 28th, 2023 be received, for information.
25. That the signing officers for all Bank Accounts at the Bank of Montreal and BMO Nesbitt Burns for the Canadian Shield Regional Council be Susan Whitehead, Janet MacDonald, Kathleen Wolfe and Kathleen Smith, effective June 1, 2023.
26. That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive support, in principle, the Mustard Seed Strategy proposal of the Support to Communities of Faith Commission and to create policy that reflects that proposal.

Decisions made by the Executive June 1, 2023

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

28. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from March 22, 2023 be received, for information.
29. That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes from March 28, 2023, April 24, 2023, and May 18, 2023 be received, for information.

Decisions made by the Executive August 16, 2023

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

Decisions made by the Executive October 12, 2023

31. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from April 26, 2023, May 24, 2023, June 27, 2023 and an e-vote in July 2023 be received, for information.
32. That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes from May 30, 2023 be received, for information.
33. That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive take the following actions:

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

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

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

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

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

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

34. That the CSRC Executive refer the 2 letters (letter of concern from Rev. Catherine Somerville and the letter from the Chair of North and Central Ontario Candidacy Board) be referred to the CS Pastoral Relations Commission for review and possible action.
35. That the CSRC Executive suggest rescheduling the Joint CS and SW Executives Meeting in Sudbury for the fall of 2024, with consultation with the SW Executive.
36. That the CSRC Executive receive the following motion from the Nominations Committee and approve it:

Kathie Smith/Helen Smith

CS Noms 2023-10-10-01

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

CARRIED

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

37. That the CSRC Executive accept the Nominations Committee recommendation of Christine Paul and Dave Clarke to the Mission Support Resource Team, effective August 2023.
38. That the CSRC Executive receive the 2021 CSRC Audited Financial Statements.
39. That the CSRC Executive authorize the Pastoral Relations Commission to withdraw up to \$5,000 annually from the Health, Joy and Excellence Fund for Ministry Personnel in need of financial support, with the Pastoral Relations Commission to assess, and administer case by case.

Decisions made by the Executive November 2, 2023

40. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Minutes from September 26, 2023 be received, for information.
41. That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes from June 26, 2023, July 27, 2023, September 13, 2023 and September 26, 2023 be received, for information.
42. There was consensus that the CSRC Executive will join the SWRC Executive in Sudbury, ON at Villa Loyola on September 24-26, 2024 for the Joint Executives Meeting.
43. There was consensus that Executive will review the draft Budget prior to the 2023 CS RCM via email, with the Executive Minister drafting an email to the Financial Administrator, Janet MacDonald, asking to have it ready before the November 25, 2023 CS RCM.

Appendix B

ACCOUNTABILITY REPORTS

Regional Council Executive

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



Connecting within our Regional Council

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

As a Regional Council, the region has hosted zoom gatherings for both Lay and Ministry Personnel and for support, updates and education. Our website/newsletter continues to be a key tool for communication within our Regional Council. Many local and a few regional networks and local groups have also met to connect, learn, challenge, listen, and work together. The Executive also celebrates the significant work of the Regional Council Commissions, networks/clusters, and information gatherings.

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

Work of the Regional Executive

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

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

Monthly Work of the Regional Council Executive

If you are interested in a detailed account and overview of the work of the regional council Executive, please see the [Digest of Actions](#), which will be received for information at our Regional Council Meeting. The digest offers an itemized account of the Regional Council Executive since our last Regional Council Meeting. It also gives you an idea of the monthly variety and work of our Executive. Please see the [Executive page](#) on our website to view all Minutes. We have also added a new link to our webpage which offers a close look at our finances, including audited statements as they are completed by the auditors: <https://canadianshieldrc.ca/about/regional-finances/>

Working towards Right Relations, Anti-Racism and Equity

The Regional Council also lifts up our commitment to equity across our work and living into Right Relations. The Right Relations Resource Team provide key leadership within the Regional Council and have an updated information section on our regional website. <https://canadianshieldrc.ca/justice-issues/right-relations/>

The United Church of Canada is working towards becoming an anti-racist institution. For the United Church, it means encouraging the General Council Office, Regional Council Offices, communities of faith, and even Canadian society, to pause and reflect. The United Church has allocated staffing and resources for both General Council staff, regional staff and Ministry Personnel. The United Church is offering training, learning opportunities and discussion groups as part of a strategy of becoming an anti-racist Church. Practically, the Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council staff have joined together on a one-year journey of reflecting, learning, re-learning history, theological reflection, and discussion on how to become an anti-racist Church and work towards right relationship. Staff from both regions met together bi-weekly to talk, learn, challenge, pray, reflect, and discuss on a path toward becoming an anti-racist church.

Both Regional Councils have encouraged equity conversations at the Executive level, as well as commission and committee levels of the church.

As part of our work around living into Right Relations as the United Church of Canada the United Church of Canada is asking Regional Councils and Pastoral Charge boards to

vote on Remit 1 by March 31, 2024 and return the voting results to General Council by March 31.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Staffing

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

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Andrade Santos Jr., to increase our administrative support to program staff in CSRC and in 2023, in anticipation of Rachael's retirement, we hired Kathleen Wolfe for administrative support. Celio and Kathleen both provide administrative support for both Regional Councils.

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

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

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

Strategic Plan:

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

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

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

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

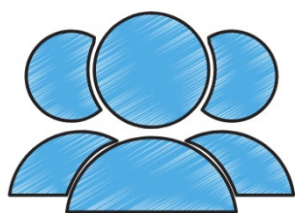
Recently, the General Council office, in consultation with the Regional Council, will hire 6 Growth Animators, which are full time positions, to support the work of growth and renewal for the UCC. Rev Calin Lau was hired by General Council to serve as Growth Animator for the Canadian Shield Regional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

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

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

As we look forward, I give thanks for the support of my family this past year. I give thanks to God for the grace of community, the love of and support of the Spirit and the message of God's love and grace through Jesus Christ, which has provided incredible hope during a very challenging year.

Peter Hartmans (Rev.), Executive Minister
Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Councils



CSRC
EXECUTIVE

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

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

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

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Work continues to be done by our Commissions, Committees and Resource Teams. These dedicated volunteers and staff make sure that the work that needs to be done moves forward. THANK YOU.

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

Our Executive meets monthly, except in the summer unless needed. Our meetings carry out the work of the Regional Council when our Region is not meeting. It is often a full agenda and includes oversight of the Commissions, Finance, Policies, preparing for a Region Council Meeting, emerging work and the work of the Regional Executive Minister and staff.

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

The draft 2024 Budget will be presented at our 2023 Regional Council Meeting.

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

Until we meet again.
Peace!

Barbara Nott
Chair, CSRC

Nominations Report

Respectfully submitted by Kathie Smith on behalf of the Nominations Committee

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



NOMINATIONS
COMMITTEE

The Nominations Committee is currently served by:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

The work of nominations isn't easy at the best of times, even more so given the geographical expanse of our region. Each of us have been given gifts by God and

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sometimes it takes in-person conversations to recognize the passion and gifts of others, and sometimes, it is in these conversations that we ourselves recognize God's call and to realize the gift we have been given to serve the wider church. For this reason, except for the Past Chair, Chair positions, all terms ending in 2023 have been extended until the 2024 CS RCM. The Chair Elect position will be elected at the May 2024 RCM.

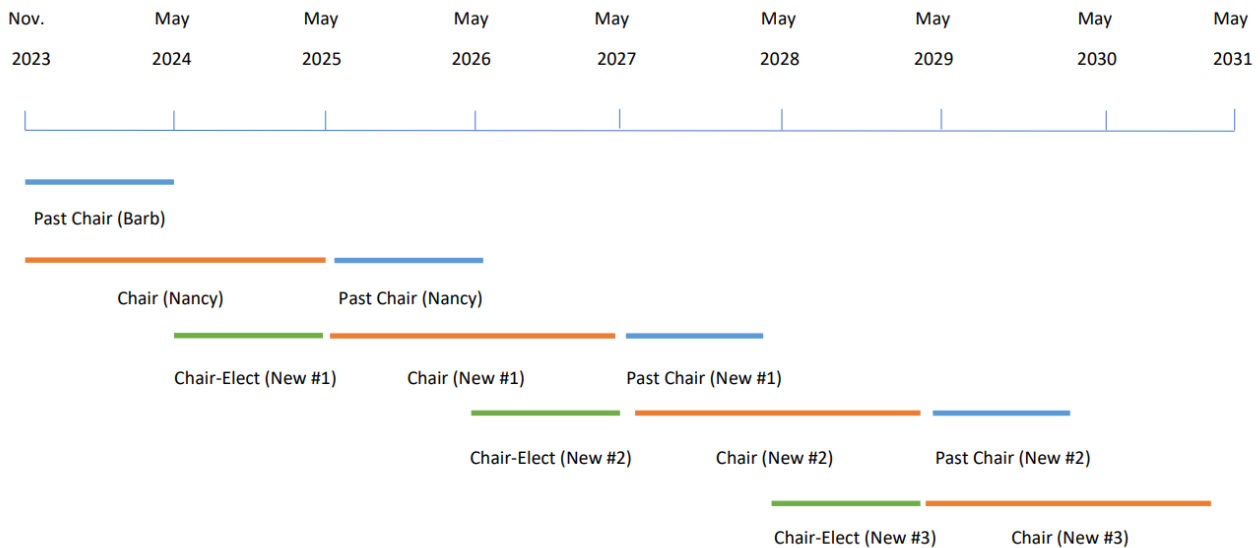
The Nominations Committee looks forward to putting out the call for disciples, to receiving your nominations and to gather in-person as a Regional Council in May 2024.

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

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

Peace and Blessings

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



CSRC Draft Budget

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CSRC - Draft Budget		2022 Actual		2023 Budget		2023 to Oct. 31		2024 Draft Budget
Income								
National Grants								
Assessment		325,000		325,000		271,431		325000
M&S Grant		240,000		239,000		201,040		180000
Other		47,876						
Salary		99,000		99,000		82,500		99000
		711,876		663,000		554,971		604000
HST recovered		2,688				9,760		
Investment Income		- 48,363		25,000		33,776		25000
Miscellaneous		25				4,734		
Festival of Faith						11,531		
Regional Meeting		2,494						
Youth Income		5,000				28,858		
Pastoral Relations Income		16,820				13,051		
Sale of Property/Residual Accounts		16,345				99,629		35000
Total Income		706,885		688,000		756,310		664000
Expenses								
Archives								
Bookstore Support		1,800		1,800		1,800		1800
Clusters and Networks						525		
Committees		1,000		1,000				1000
Congregational Support		5,100						
Corporation Overview		2,000		3,000		1,918		3000
Distribution of Property Sale						16,000		
Executive		552		5,000		5,717		5000
Festival of Faith						33,478		
Finance		16,412		16,000		5,445		17500
Grants		55,000		60,000		58,000		55000
Legal Fees		1,741		5,000		668		10000
Reserve Fund		125,000						
Miscellaneous		2,703		5,100		4,329		3700
Office Expenses		21,771		25,000		17,808		25000
Pastoral Relations		26,013		15,000		17,757		15000
Regional Meeting		54,698		35,000				35000
Retail Sales Taxes		13,386		1,000		8,827		1000
SJNOR		1,000		1,000				1000
Staff Team								
Cell Phones		2,990		4,000		1,705		4000
Continuing Education		1,504		7,500		2,484		7500
Internet		2,161		2,000		1,349		2000
Moving						4,192		
Salaries		410,711		469,100		410,049		435000
Travel		17,765		10,000		16,648		20000
Resources		114		2,500		515		2500
		433,084		495,100		436,942		471000
SWRC/CSRC Shared Expenses		9,188		9,000		6,214		9000
Youth (CSJ)								
Youth		7,081		10,000		4,113		10000
		777,530		688,000		619,542		664000
Income over Expenses		- 70,645		-		136,769		0

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Designated Funds October 31, 2023

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

Appendix C

PROPOSALS TO CANADIAN SHIELD REGIONAL COUNCIL
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There were no proposals.