



**CANADIAN SHIELD**  
**REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
The United Church of Canada



# **RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS**

November 26, 2023 to September 17, 2024



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## PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

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Canadian Shield Regional Council  
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting  
Held by Zoom  
November 28<sup>th</sup>, 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, Janet Venton, Stewart Walker, John Watson (Chair) (7)
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Regrets	Joy Bott, Erin Todd
Check-in	Members of the Commission spent a few minutes checking-in by answering the question "How are you doing?" People offered their take on the recent online Regional Council meeting or talked about traveling, moving and downsizing. Some are experiencing better health while others are dealing with COVID. Someone remarked on having a sense of hope as it appears there is a trend of people returning to in-person worship following the pandemic.
Opening	John Watson offered a prayer for guidance to open the meeting.
Acknowledgement	John Watson acknowledged that we gather on lands of many Indigenous nations who have lived here in harmony with creation for generations beyond our knowing. He acknowledged our gratitude as we try to move forward as partners. As well, John reminded us that all are welcome in this safe meeting space.
Agenda	<b>Motion 2023-11-28-01</b> Joy Galloway/ Janet Venton moved that the agenda be approved as circulated. <b>Carried</b>
Minutes of Previous Meeting	<b>Motion 2023-11-28-02</b> Karen Gooch/ Stewart Walker moved that the minutes from the October 31 <sup>st</sup> , 2023 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission be accepted as presented. <b>Carried</b>
Business Arising	
Letter to Office of Vocation	The letter to the Office of Vocation regarding PRC concerns about how the unexpected ending of Supervised Ministry Experiences (SME) are handled, was sent and received by the Office of Vocation but no response has been received yet.
Pastoral Charge Supervisor Reports	The summary report of the Supervisors' reports was discussed at a Commission Connections group meeting.
Ordination	The letter dated September 19 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 from Catherine Somerville regarding the timing of the ordination for Diane Tait which was discussed at the October PRC meeting, was forwarded to the CSRC Executive. They have requested that the PRC offer a response to Catherine on behalf of the Regional Council. The following discussion took place.

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- The PRC's role in this situation is to ensure that all the boxes are ticked before ordination can take place. The rules are clear - we cannot act outside our mandate to ordain Diane at the CSRC AGM since her testamur will not be made available before then. We do have the option of ordaining Diane at a service outside of a general meeting once all the criteria have been met. Diane would be able to accept a provisional call until the arrangements can be made.
- In the New Year, a meeting is planned with all of the stakeholders in this situation and perhaps a policy change will follow.
- It was suggested that we pass a motion to ordain Diane at the AGM pending receipt of her testamur since we are assured that we will receive this when she officially graduates. There was a mixed reaction from the members of the PRC about this.
- There was some concern that if we act against our mandate, there may be issues for either Diane or the Ministry Personnel who are part of the PRC.
- There was also concern that this situation could arise again in the future and that we will be in the same situation again. Where do we draw the line?
- It was decided that John Watson should write a letter of response to Catherine to inform her that the PRC will not act against its mandate and that unfortunately Diane cannot be ordained at the AGM.

**Motion 2023-11-28-03**

Jane Graham/ Janet Venton moved that John Watson will write a letter of response to Catherine Somerville's September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 letter indicating that the Pastoral Relations Commission cannot ordain Diane Tait until all of the criteria have been met as required.

Carried

Ted Harrison and Stewart Walker Abstained

**DLM Policy** As part of the new policy concerning the role of DLMs in the United Church, Regional Councils are being asked to establish a policy to oversee DLMs in retirement so that they can retain their marriage licence and their ability to preside at the sacraments within their Region. This will not come into effect until a level 2 remit is held.

**Burk's Falls Pastoral Charge Supervisor** Burk's Falls United is in need of a new Pastoral Charge Supervisor (PCS). It has been difficult to find someone since the situation at the church is very messy. Since Linda Newnham resigned as the minister in 2021, she has maintained a relationship with the congregation and currently has a contract with them – not an appointment approved by the PRC. She has been providing more than pulpit supply. Doreen Mason, DLM was appointed as the PCS and has also been providing some pulpit supply. Doreen recently resigned as PCS over a disagreement concerning the number of hours each woman was working at the church. There was a suggestion that perhaps it is time to involve either the CSRC Executive Minister or the Pastoral Relations Minister from another Regional Council to review the situation.

**Correspondence** None

**New Business**

**Resource Teams** Pastoral Relations Liaisons



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- No meeting has been held since the last PRC meeting.

LLWLs

- There is still one pending interview for relicensing for Ron Holotuk. Rob Smith will contact him to confirm whether he wishes to maintain his license, since he is a respected elder of our church in our region.
- Relicensing has generally been quite difficult this year.

Support to Ministry Personnel

- Planning has begun for an in-person Ministry Personnel retreat to take place in conjunction with the CSRC AGM at the beginning of May. Rob Smith asked for feedback about whether it should be held before or after the AGM. Although, generally the energy level at the retreat is better if the retreat is before but it means that staff involved in organizing will not be available to attend. On the other hand, some Ministry Personnel usually leave the AGM early in order to conduct worship in their home congregations.

Consensus Packet The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting. It was noted that the three appointments in this motion were all retired Ministry Personnel. Some expressed a bit of concern and questioned if we are moving towards relying too much on retirees.

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 Rev. Elaine Lush (OM – retired) to St. Paul's Emmanuel Community Church, Englehart, ON effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024 with the following terms:

Part-time (20 hours)

Community of Faith ADP Company Code	TCHS
Eligible Service (in years)	23
Step/increment category	F
Is manse included	Yes
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$52,228.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$26,114.00
Additional Salary (in \$)	\$0.00
Total Salary	\$26,114.00
Phone/Communications	\$2088.00
Continuing Education	\$820.00
Other	0
Total Remuneration	\$29,022.00

2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the appointment of the Rev. Glen Eagle (OM – retired) to Willowgrove United, Sault Ste. Marie, ON effective December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026 with the following terms:

Part-time (20 hours)

Community of Faith ADP Company Code	31BG
Eligible Service (in years)	37
Step/increment category	F
Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$60,255.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$30,127.50

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- |                              |             |
|------------------------------|-------------|
| Additional Salary (in %)     | 7           |
| Total Salary                 | \$32,236.43 |
| Phone/Communications         | \$960.00    |
| Continuing Education         | \$771.50    |
| Other                        | \$1,800     |
| Other Details                |             |
| Travel Allowance (per month) | \$150.00    |
| Total Remuneration           | \$35767.93  |
3. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the appointment of the Rev. David Zub (OM – retired) to St. Andrew's Untied, Sault Ste. Marie, ON part-time effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024 with the following terms:  
Part-time (14 hours)
- |                                     |             |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| Community of Faith ADP Company Code | 31BT        |
| Eligible Service (in years)         | 23          |
| Step/increment category             | F           |
| Is manse included                   | No          |
| Minimum Full-Time Salary            | \$64,051.00 |
| Prorated Annual Salary              | \$25,620.40 |
| Additional Salary (in \$)           | \$0.00      |
| Total Salary                        | \$25,620.40 |
| Phone/Communications                | \$1,200.00  |
| Continuing Education                | \$656.00    |
| Other                               | 0           |
| Total Remuneration                  | \$27,476.40 |
4. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the licencing of David Chuipka as a License Lay Worship Leader. David has successfully completed the application process and has been interviewed and recommended by the LLWL Resource and Support Team. Effective December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023, to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
5. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council re-license Faye Moffat as a License Lay Worship Leader. Faye has applied for re-licensing and has been interviewed by the LLWL Resource and Support Team and recommended to be re-licensed, effective December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2023 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026
6. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the appointment of the Rev. Susan Peverley as the Pastoral Charge Supervisor for the Western Manitoulin Pastoral Charge while their minister the Rev. Janice Frame is on sabbatical. Effective January 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, to March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

**Motion 2023-11-28-04**

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

**Other Business**

Next Meeting The next meeting will be held on Tuesday January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at 1:15 p.m. Jane Graham will provide the opening and Janet Venton will offer the closing.

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**Adjournment**

Rob Smith read the poem *An Invitation to Brave Space* by Micky ScottBey Jones  
before the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

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Chairperson, John Watson

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Secretary, Karen Gooch



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## **SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION**

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

### **Agenda**

**Welcome, Check- in:**

**Opening Prayer:**

**Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:**

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Approval of Minutes:** October 24, 2023 pages 242 – 246

**Business Arising:**

- Up date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments
- Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith
- Pastoral Relations communications: list of Communities of Faith under supervision – how do we connect?
- Trinity Magnetawan governance structure.

**Correspondence:**

**Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:** November 25<sup>th</sup> meeting summary

**Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

1. Updates from Communities of Faith
  - a. Schreiber
  - b. Hornpayne –
  - c. Val D’or
  - d. Fairview – Tehkummah
  - e. St Mark’s
  - f. Iroquois Falls
  - 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 – Meeting Nov. 14, 2023 notes circulated)

**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:**

Nominations: Terms and next steps.

**Date of Next Meeting:**

**Adjournment:**

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

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

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

**Staff Support:** Melody Duncanson Hales, Diane Matheson Jimenez

**Welcome, Check- in:**

**Opening Prayer:** Melody started the meeting with a prayer.

**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: Ernie Epp**

**Seconded: Bonnie Johnson**

*That the agenda be accepted as sent.*

**Carried**

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Moved: Mardi Mumford Seconded: Ernie Epp**

*That the minutes for October 24, 2023 pages 242 – 246 be approved. Carried*

**Business Arising:**

Up date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments: A meeting date will be set for the new year.

Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith: The staff is working on how to do a workshop for cluster groupings in the new year.

Pastoral Relations communications and supervision. A list has been created. A drop in zoom meeting will be held January 24, 2024 for all supervisors. Staff will include

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Melody, Diane and Rob as well as an invitation to Callin Lau, our Growth Animator will be issued. An invitation will be sent out.

Trinity Magnetawan governance structure.

**Moved: Bonnie Johnson**

**Seconded: Susan Peverley**

*That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve the request from Trinity United Church Magnetawan to approve their governance structure.*

**Carried with 1 abstention.**

**Correspondence:** none

**Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:** Jim Jackson thanked Susan Peverley and Peter Haddow for their work on the opening worship of the regional council meeting on November 25, 2023.

The meeting was well attended. Rev. Nancy Ferguson is the new chair.

The meeting of the executive dealt with Di Tait's ordination which will not be done at the May regional meeting. Discussions with Huntington University continue. A draft budget was recommended and subsequently approved on November 25, 2023. A joint meeting between the executives of Shining Waters Regional Council and Canadian Shield Regional Council will be September 24 & 25, 2024.

**Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

2. Updates from Communities of Faith
  - a. Schreiber – no report
  - b. Hornpayne – the deed issue has been resolved and the building will be listed soon.
  - c. Val D'or – the deed issue is pending resolution.
  - d. Fairview – Tehkummah – the severance of the cemetery from the church property is still awaiting council's decision. Melody and Susan Peverley will meet to discuss moving this forward.
  - e. St Mark's - no change from last report
  - f. Iroquois Falls – see property report
  - g. Shequindah – the dispersal of funds is moving forward.
  - h. St Andrew's Sault Ste Marie – Still on the market.
3. Local regional cluster support:
  - a. Sudbury Partners are meeting December 6 to work on a shared digital service for December 31, 2023
  - b. North Bay worked as a cluster to provide candy cane reindeer at the Downtown Christmas Market event. Over 1000 candy canes were handed out and contact is estimated at 2000 people. The next meeting of this cluster is January 17, 2024.
  - c. Thunder Bay - dormant at the moment
3. The Commission Joint working group met on Nov. 14, 2023. Notes were circulated with the agenda.

### Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team:
  - o **Moved: Susan Peverley      Seconded: Mardi Mumford**  
*That the Support to Communities of Faith Commission, on the recommendation of the Property Resource Team of Canadian Shield Regional Council, grant permission to the trustees of Trinity United Church, Iroquois Falls to sell their property (legal address PART PCL 866 SEC NEC SRO; Lot 107 Plan M10T Teefy: Town of Iroquois Falls and the municipal address 156 Devonshire Ave, Iroquois Falls, ON, P0K 1E0) for \$86,500.00, and that proceeds of sale to remain with the congregation.*  
**Carried**
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team: The next meeting is December 8, 2023 to review and make recommendations for Mission Support grants. There has been a reduction of allocated funds from the United Church of Canada. An email poll may be necessary after this meeting.
- Right Relations Resource Team: This team is concerned about the response to Remit 1 and will connect with Communities of Faith who have not yet voted to offer support.
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team: A zoom gathering is planned to connect those who are interested in exploring becoming an Affirming congregation.
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team: No report
- United in Worship Project: No report
- Social Justice Network : The second meeting of the year will be November 29, 2023.

### Emergent Business:

Nominations: the following will be sent to Kathy Smith at Nominations.

Jim has one more year and will decide then  
Ernie Epp is willing to stay on for another 3 years  
Bonnie Johnson is willing to say on for another 3 years  
Susan Peverley is willing to stay on for another 3 years

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Mardi is willing to stay on for another 3 years.

We will check in with Crystal, George and Marilyn this week.

Suggestions for new members

another person from Thunder Bay

Laura Hutchinson

Janice Brownlee from North Bay

Di Tait was on and might consider coming back

Bedrock Submission:

- Property matters have taken up time on our agenda. Several churches closed and sold. We are saddened to say good bye to Holy Trinity Elliot Lake, Manitowadge, Hornepayne, Shequindah congregations.
- Our resource teams continue to work hard and provide great resources, decisions for our region.
- Our Grants team were able to recommend over \$18,000.00 worth of grants for Communities of Faith and individuals to make a difference.
- We encourage all Communities of Faith to respond to the Remit. Staff are willing to assist in your discernment.
- There will be an upcoming January Drop in zoom meeting for all Pastoral Charge Supervisors.

**Date of Next Meetings:** Tuesday January 30, 2024 and Tuesday February 27, 2024 starting at 6:30 PM.

**Adjournment:** Mardi moved to adjourn at 8:35 p.m.

Diane closed the meeting with prayer.

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Jim Jackson, Chair

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Mardi Mumford, Secretary



## EXECUTIVE

**MINUTES** of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on December 7, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

**PRESENT:** Nancy Ferguson (Chair), John Watson, Bill Steadman, Stewart Walker, Dave LeGrand, Jim Jackson, Kathie Smith, Mastard Sakala, Helen Smith, Joy Galloway

**STAFF:** Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead

**REGRETS:** Susan Lindquist, Barb Nott

Chair Nancy Ferguson welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

Nancy honoured the traditional lands upon which we meet and then shared the CSRC safe space statement.

Peter opened the meeting with worship reading from Luke 1:41. Peter also welcomed Nancy as the CSRC Executive Chairperson.

### CHECK-IN

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

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There was a change to the PRC Commission Minutes dates that needed to be made on the agenda; Executive is receiving only the October 24, 2023 minutes.

**MOTION by Helen Smith/Peter Hartmans** **CS Exec 2023-12-07-01**  
**That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.**  
**CARRIED**

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

**MOTION by Joy Galloway/John Watson** **CS Exec 2023-12-07-02**  
**That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on November 2, 2023 be approved, as amended.**  
**CARRIED**

### RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

**MOTION by John Watson/Stewart Walker** **CS Exec 2023-12-07-03**





***has been corrected and D&O coverage was reinstated September 7, 2021 and on.***

***\*N.B. This IM continues to struggle with submission of required documentation and Regional Council staff are following up.***

**CARRIED**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

- ***Letter from Kathy Dahmer***

Executive discussed the letter received from Rev. Kathy Dahmer regarding possible ordinations at the 2024 CS RCM. Since the ultimate authority around ordination resides with the Office of Vocation and decision about executing the ordinations residing with the regional Pastoral Relations Commission (PRC), Executive will refer this matter to the PRC.

**There was consensus that a letter be drafted on behalf of the CSRC Executive from Peter and Nancy, indicating that the letter from Kathy Dahmer was received and has now been referred to the Pastoral Relations Commission for a more specific response to her concerns.**

## **REGIONAL MEETING DEBRIEF**

Nancy led a discussion on the regional meeting held on November 25th via Zoom. The team reflected on the successes and challenges, including technical glitches and the learning curve for the new administrative staff. Stewart and John expressed dissatisfaction with using Zoom for these types of meetings, emphasizing the need for brevity and focus on business. Nancy proposed using Zoom's breakout group feature to encourage interaction.

## **REMIT FOLLOW UP**

The team also discussed the Remit 1 vote, with Peter reporting a low response rate of voting across the church with a 10% return of the voting cards. GCO has a listing of all churches across the country who haven't returned the cards and CSRC has a number of churches on that list. In the new year, Diane Matheson-Jimenez and Jody Maltby (SWRC) will work with the Right Relations Resource Team to reach out to our churches to encourage voting and the return of the voting cards before the close of the remit.

## **BUDGET UPDATE – 2024 CSRC DRAFT BUDGET**

Janet presented the budget, emphasizing a 25% cut to the M&S Grant for 2024 and the residual amount from congregations, which is expected to balance the budget.

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Steadman**

**CS Exec 2023-12-07-06**

**That the Executive of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the 2024 Budget with a total revenue of \$654,000 and total expenses of the same amount, as presented.**

**CARRIED**

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### **HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY UPDATE**

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 counsel for The United Church of Canada, has forwarded a first draft of proposed changes to the by-laws, which reflect the UCC structural shift, to Huntington's legal counsel. Peter and Barb had reached out to Dr. Kevin McCormick, President and Vice-Chancellor of Huntington University, in early November to discuss the proposed changes and his office indicated that Dr. McCormick is on leave until the new year. Peter and Nancy will follow up with Huntington in the new year and also look forward to a response from Huntington's legal counsel.

### **GCE UPDATE**

Peter reported there has been a change in the regional council membership related to the request to add retired Designated Lay Ministers (DLMs) to the membership role of the region. Upon further investigation, it was discovered that the request goes against the Basis of Union of the UCC and there would need to be a regional remit to remedy this; more details to come.

### **EXECUTIVE MINISTER'S REPORT**

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

Nancy inquired whether the new Growth Animator, Calin Lau, would be at the next RCM and Peter shared that he would.

### **DISCUSS UPCOMING EXECUTIVE MEETING DATES**

Unless there are emergent issues that arise after Christmas, Nancy shared that we will not need to have our January 4, 2024 CSRC Executive meeting. Susan inquired whether Executive would be open to moving the proposed dates of May 2, 2024 and June 6, 2024 to April 25, 2024 and May 30, 2024 respectively, as they fall on the weeks of the SW and CS Regional Council Meetings and the decision was made to move those dates.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Bill Steadman inquired whether the agenda package could now be sent in 2 batches as they are hard to manage when they are large and sent close to the meeting date. Susan will send the agenda package in 2 sets if there are pieces that can come early.

### **NEXT MEETING DATES:**

- January 4, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom – **if needed**
- February 1, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- March 7, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- April 4, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- **April 25, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom in lieu of May 2, 2023 (CS RCM)**
- **May 30, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom in lieu of June 6, 2023 (SW RCM)**

### **CLOSING**

Nancy adjourned the meeting at 2:00 p.m. and she 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 counsel 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 3-5<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

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### **2023 Regional Meeting November**

Planning for the meeting continues and I deeply appreciate Barb, Diane and Susan, who coordinated planning in my absence.

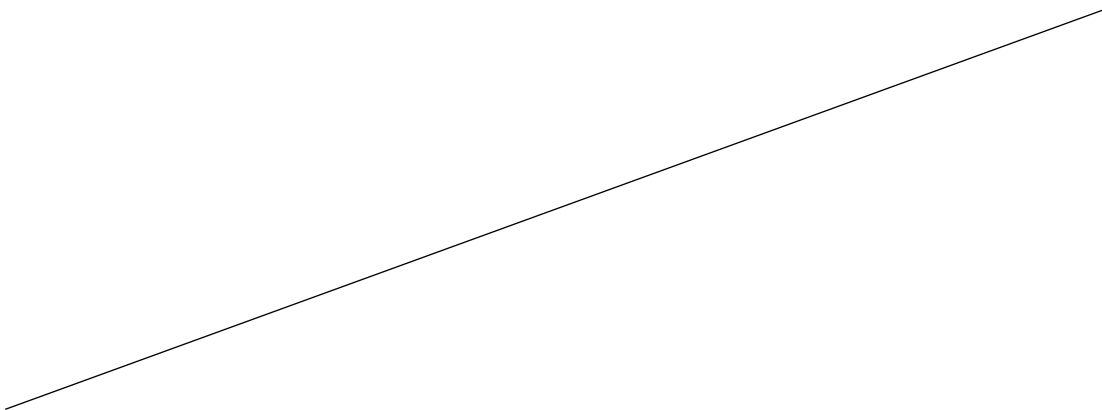
**Budget:** Janet continues planning for the 2024 Draft Budget and planning for the online Regional meeting continues.

### **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.



## PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

PRC 2024, Page 1

Canadian Shield Regional Council  
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting  
Held by Zoom  
January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 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, Erin Todd, Janet Venton, Stewart Walker, John Watson (Chair) (8)
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Guest	Cailin Lau, Growth Animator
Regrets	Fraser Williamson
Check-in	Members of the Commission took some time checking in before beginning the meeting. We welcomed Cailin Lau who spent a few minutes introducing himself. Cailin is one of 6 new Growth Animators from across the country who are part of the General Council Executive staff. Cailin goals are to listen and work with members of the church to help them explore new opportunities. He will be walking our journey with us.
Opening	Jane Graham offered a poem to open the meeting. <i>And On We Go</i> by Donna Ashworth speaks about how we are compelled to move forward no matter what life throws at us.
Acknowledgement	John Watson acknowledged that we gather on the lands of traditional sojourners and offered our commitment to being partners in reconciliation. As well, John reminded us that all are welcome in this safe meeting space.
Agenda	<b>Motion 2024-01-23-01</b> Jane Graham/ Joy Galloway moved that the agenda be approved with one item added – discussion of the pulpit supply list. <b>Carried</b>
Minutes of Previous Meeting	<b>Motion 2024-01-23-02</b> Karen Gooch/ Ted Harrison moved that the minutes from the November 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission be accepted as presented. <b>Carried</b>
Business Arising	
Letter to Office of Vocation	A letter dated October 30 <sup>th</sup> , 2023 was sent to the Office of Vocation (OV) outlining PRC concerns about how the unexpected ending of Supervised Ministry Experiences (SME) are dealt with. There was a phone call to confirm the letter was received by the OV but there is still no response about the issues that were raised. PRC members agreed that the Commission deserves a response and we discussed whether a follow-up letter should be sent to the OV and/or perhaps the General Council. We recognized that the OV may not be able to do anything, however an acknowledgement of the issue would be very much appreciated. It was agreed by consensus that Rob Smith will send a second letter to the OV asking for clarification about whether there will be a formal response to the PRC's first letter.



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**Ordination** A response was sent to Catherine Somerville's September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2023 letter regarding the ordination of Diane Tait explaining that the PRC cannot ordain Diane until all requirements are in place. In a further development, Diane's graduation has been moved up to May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (the weekend of the CSRC AGM). Diane will not be attending the AGM. An offer to ordain her at Shining Waters Regional Council AGM was rejected. Diane does not yet have a call or appointment in place.

**Burk's Falls Pastoral Charge Supervisor** **Appendix I**  
A letter dated December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2024 was sent to the governing body of Burk's Falls United Church on behalf of the PRC. As discussed at the last PRC meeting, the letter outlined our concerns with the fact that there is currently no Pastoral Charge Supervisor appointed to the Community of Faith and that Rev. Linda Newnham has been working as the minister as an independent contractor (against UCC rules). The Community of Faith has been invited to consider appointing Linda to a part-time position. A response from Burk's Falls has not yet been received.

**Correspondence**

Three pieces of correspondence were received.

- A letter was received from Rev. Kathy Dahmer regarding the ordination Diane Tait. Kathy requested that the PRC try and find a way to ordain Diane at the May CSRC AGM. The PRC has received feedback about this from number of people and we have made our position known that we cannot ordain anyone until all requirements are met. As the PRC is a decision-making body of the CSRC, the Executive cannot override our decisions.
- Correspondence was received for information from the Office of Vocation concerning Ministry Personnel continuing education. Currently, there is a lack of policy outlining what ministers can do during con-ed. The OV is attempting to offer some con-ed standards and ensure that study time is ministry related. Ministry Personnel members of the PRC have yet to receive this information directly from the OV.
- There are currently 5 DLMs who have received testamurs and they will be ordained at the CSRC AGM in May.

**New Business**

**Resource Teams** Pastoral Relations Liaisons

- Long-time liaison Sylvia Carscadden has resigned from her role. Thanks was offered for her service.
- Fraser Williamson has accepted an offer from Shining Waters Regional Council to work as a liaison for a Community of Faith in Toronto.

LLWLs

- There will be an LLWL online educational event on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 with facilitator Alydia Smith. The focus will be on prayer, music and diversity.

Support to Ministry Personnel

- There will be an online event with Bill Steadman on January 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024. The theme will be *Preparing for Lent*.
- Planning has begun for an in-person Ministry Personnel retreat to take place on May 2-3, 2024 before the CSRC AGM in Sault Ste. Marie.

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- Consensus Packet** The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting. Rob Smith noted the additional salary for Desire Tiriwepi was due to a change in the cost-of-living category for Thunder Bay. 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. Desire Tiriwepi (OM) to St. Paul's United, Thunder Bay, ON, effective February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024, with the following terms:  
Full-time  
Community of Faith ADP Company Code TC2G  
Eligible Service (in years) 9  
Step/increment category D  
Is manse included No  
Minimum Full-Time Salary \$63,173.00  
Prorated Annual Salary \$63,173.00  
Additional Salary (in \$) \$9,849.00  
Total Salary \$73,022.00  
Phone/Communications \$1,800.00  
Continuing Education \$1,640.00  
Other \$1,160.00  
Other Details  
Additional Continuing Education  
Total Remuneration \$77,622.00
  2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council re-licence Ron Holotok as a licensed Lay Worship Leader. Ron has applied for re-licencing and has been interviewed by the LLWL Resource and Support Team and is recommended to be relicensed, effective February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2026.
  3. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of Trinity United, North Bay, ON and the Rev. Lillian Roberts to be in formal association, effective February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
  4. ... 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-license Maxine Dale as their sacraments elder, effective February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
  5. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. Andrew's United, Matheson, ON to license Simone Durham and Susan Watters as their sacraments elders, effective February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
  6. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the appointment of the Jane Graham as the Pastoral Charge Supervisor for the Central Algoma Church Communities, effective May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
- Motion 2024-01-23-04**  
Janet Venton/ Stewart Walker moved that each and every motion of the Consensus Packet be approved. **Carried**

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**Celebration of Ministry** Rob Smith requested help planning the Celebration of Ministry service for the AGM as well as preparing a service outline for Communities of Faith to use in case their usual worship leaders are attending the AGM. An appropriate venue for this service has not yet been found. The Moderator will be preaching and the service will include the ordination of several DLMs. We will offer recognition to the current LLWLs from our Region. Stewart Walker and Erin Todd agreed to help plan the service. Ted Harrison offered to provide material from the 2013 ordination service held in Manitou Conference.

**Retreat Budget** **Appendix II**  
Rob Smith presented a draft budget (Appendix II) for the Ministry Personnel retreat to be held May 2-3, 2024 in Sault Ste. Marie with a net cost of \$10,475. Participants will arrive Wednesday May 1<sup>st</sup> in the evening and attend a full day of activities on Thursday. The Willowgrove UCW has been contacted about catering the 2 lunches. Registration will be \$150 and participants are encouraged to reach out to Rob if this is difficult to pay. Alternatively, continuing education funds could be used or perhaps Communities of Faith could be approached to help. It was agreed that Rob should be able to access up to \$15,000 from the PRC budget. There may be additional funding available through a Regional Council fund used to promote Ministry Personnel wellness.  
**Motion 2024-01-23-05**  
Ted Harrison/ Karen Gooch moved that the Pastoral Relations Commission approve in principle the budget as presented, for the Ministry Personnel retreat in May 2024 and that Rob Smith be authorized to access up to \$15,000 from the PRC budget for this event. **Carried**

**Pulpit Supply List** It has been difficult to maintain an accurate region-wide pulpit supply list and many retired Ministry Personnel are very already very busy preaching. Now ChurchHub has space for Ministry Personnel and DLMs to indicate their availability for pulpit supply. Communities of Faith will be able to check to find people nearby who can fill in if worship leadership is required. A list of LLWLs available in each area of the Region is available through the Regional Council Office. Rob Smith will send out a letter to Communities of Faith to inform them how to locate someone who is available for pulpit supply.

**Nominations** In order to prepare a list of nominations for the AGM, Rob requested that people let him know at the next PRC meeting whether they will continue as part of the Commission. Most members are approaching the end of their term, but there are 4 Liaisons who have no term limit and Joy Bott's current term ends in 2025. John Watson indicated that he will not stay on as Chair after the AGM, but he may stay as a member of the Commission.

**Other Business**

**Rob Smith Sabbatical** Rob Smith informed PRC members that he will be on sabbatical from November 2024 to January 2025. During his time away, he will be exploring church growth in the 2020's in Melbourne Australia.

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Held by Zoom  
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Next Meeting The next meeting will be held on Tuesday February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:15 p.m. Ted Harrison will provide the opening and closing.

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

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Chairperson, John Watson

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Secretary, Karen Gooch



2023/2024-22

## **SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION**

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission**  
**Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada**  
**ZOOM Meeting – Date: January 30, 2024 6:30 p.m.**

### **Agenda**

**Welcome, Check- in:**

**Opening Prayer: Melody Duncanson Hale**

**Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:**

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Approval of Minutes:** November 28, 2023 pages 247 – 251

December 11, 2023 Sheguiandah dispersment plan e-mail vote

### **Business Arising:**

Up date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments  
Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith  
Pastoral Relations communications: list of Communities of Faith under supervision

### **Correspondence:**

### **Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:**

**No Report.** December meeting was cancelled. Next meeting is Feb 1, 2024

### **Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

4. Updates from Communities of Faith
  - a. Schreiber
  - b. Hornepayne –
  - c. Val D'or
  - d. Fairview – Tehkummah
  - e. St Mark's
  - f. Iroquois Falls
  - g. St Andrew's Sault Ste Marie
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: representation on Social Justice Network of Ontario Regions. 2 reps, staff ( perhaps MILC)

**Emergent Business:**

Property Resource team as a commission.

Report for May meeting

Nominations: another term and vacancies. Any suggestions?

**Date of Next Meeting:**

**Adjournment:**

**Closing Prayer:** Diane Matheson

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission**

**Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada**

**ZOOM Meeting – Date: January 30, 2024 6:30 p.m.**

**Minutes**

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

**Staff Support:** Melody Duncanson Hales, Diane Matheson Jimenez, Calin Lau

**Welcome, Check- in:**

**Opening Prayer:** Melody Duncanson Hale opened with a prayer from Kate Bowler about being grateful.

**Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:** Jim Jackson honoured the land and gave thanks. He declared that the United Church of Canada was committed to be partners for reconciliation. Jim repeated the United Church of Canada's policy for safe space.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Moved: Crystal Greig      Seconded: Bonnie Johnson**

*That the agenda be amended to include the Growth and Renewal animator, Calin Lau and to add the series about Disability Justice under emergent business.*

**Carried**



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### **Approval of Minutes:**

**Moved: Mardi Mumford**

**Seconded: Susan Peverley**

*That the minutes of November 28, 2023 pages 247 – 251 be approved and the notes from the December 11, 2023 Shewiandah dispersement plan e-mail vote be added as an Appendix. **Carried** (see Appendix 1)*

Calin Lau introduced himself and his hope for the future. He will appreciate learning about our region and bring back to the General Council what support can happen. Their mantra is to “fail forward” and to follow the spirit. He hopes to celebrate all stages that Communities of Faith are going through. Diane encouraged Calin to consider a focus on clusters rather than individual pastoral charges.

### **Business Arising:**

Up date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments: a work in progress.

Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith: Continue to discuss this at the next joint meeting of the Pastoral Relations Commission and this commission.

Pastoral Relations communications: A list of Communities of Faith under supervision has been sent to all members of this commission.

**Correspondence:** None

### **Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:**

No Report. December meeting was cancelled. Next meeting is Feb 1, 2024

### **Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

#### **5. Updates from Communities of Faith**

a. Schreiber: No movement

b. Hornpayne:

The Property Resource team approved the sale of Grace United Church Hornepayne.

**Moved: Ernie Epp      Seconded: Crystal Greig**

*That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith honour the request of the trustees for the dispersal of funds after the legal fees are paid as follows: 10% M & S, 10% Indigenous Church 3% Archives, 50% to St John's United Church, Marathon and 27% Hornepayne Food bank. **Carried** George Bott abstained.*

c. Val D'or: Work continues on the title and deed issues as well as the Quebec jurisdiction requirements.

d. Fairview – Tehkummah: The municipality of the Township of Tehkummah is requesting an archeological ultra sound of the cemetery plots before it can approve the property for severance. Staff will consult re costs and look into cemetery records.

- e. St Mark's: Still working on future visioning.
  - f. Iroquois Falls: The decommissioning of the building was held January 7, 2024. The Community of Faith is now meeting at the local museum.
  - g. St Andrew's UC and Central UC Sault Ste Marie: no news on the sale of either of the buildings properties.
6. Local regional cluster support:
- a. Sudbury meeting: St Andrew's UC has been working with consultants from Toronto United Church Council and is hoping to invite other Sudbury United Churches to a face to face meeting in April.
  - b. North Bay: The churches continue to worship together on any 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. They also have a team, United Chill Crusaders, for the Coldest Night of the Year walk.
  - c. Thunder Bay: no cluster at this time.
3. Commission Joint working group: A round table discussion of Supervisors was held January 15, 2024 with 15 in attendance. Work needs to be done to improve promotion. The hope is that this will happen quarterly.

### Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)

- Property Resource Team: No report
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team
- **Moved: George Bott**                      **Seconded: Marilyn Schatzler**  
*That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve the 2024 allocations as presented by the Mission Support and Regional Council Grants Resource team. Carried* (See Appendix 2)
- Right Relations Resource Team: The team is tracking the weekly Remit 1 votes and following up on those pastoral charges that have not voted.
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team: A zoom meeting has been organized for Wednesday January 31, 2024 to answer questions on Affirming.
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team: A new Canadian Shield/Shining Waters staff member has been hired for Faith Formation and Social Justice. Rev. Dr. Shawn Redden will start March 18, 2024.
- United in Worship Project: This project has 30 churches registered and writers to help. Promotion continues across the country.
- Social Justice Network: Ernie reported that their meeting on January 24 focused on requesting funding from the Ontario Regional Councils. He welcomes representation of Rev. Redden on the Social Justice Network of Ontario Regions and notes that perhaps Manitou Intentional Learning Centre (MILC) might be approached to also send a representative.

### Emergent Business:

Property Resource Team as a commission: Current realities require time sensitive decisions. As well there is a perceived duplication of work done first by the team and

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then repeated by the Commission. Staff will investigate how other regions manage. This is a start of a conversation.

SCFC Report for May 2024 Annual Meeting: This might be an opportunity for the sharing of highlights and invite a conversation on how to support communities of faith.

Nominations: A reminder that this commission is looking for new members.

Series on Disability Justice: Shining Waters region is looking for help with human resources, promoting and facilitating small group discussions for a series Feb. 21<sup>st</sup>, Feb. 28<sup>th</sup> and March 6<sup>th</sup>. Susan Peverley indicated she would help. Others could let Diane know. This commission was also encouraged to get the word out.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday February 27, 2024

**Adjournment:** Bonnie Moved to adjourn at 8:27 p.m.

**Closing Prayer:** Diane Matheson ended with a prayer of thanksgiving for the work of this commission's members.

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Jim Jackson, Chair

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Mardi Mumford, Secretary

## **Appendix 1**

### **Notes for Sheguiandah United Church – Request to Distribute Proceeds of Property Sale December 10, 2023.**

#### **Background:**

As you know, Sheguiandah United Church has sold the property that previously housed their ministry. If Sheguiandah was amalgamating with Little Current (this is being discussed currently and is likely to happen), it would be assumed they would take all the proceeds of the sale with them into the new relationship. Although they have not yet decided whether they will disband or amalgamate (Sheguiandah folks are already worshipping with Little Current; it's more of a formality at this point), Sheguiandah's leaders are very clear that they want proceeds from the sale of the property to be managed as a bit of a mashup of the disbanding and amalgamating procedures so that they can both support the ministry of Little Current and the work of the United Church at home and abroad. Given that, our Regional Council policy mandates the following:

\*3% for regional archival purposes

\*Up to 30% of the funds as proposed in a plan of disposition by the community of faith and approved by the Community of Faith Commission, for the mission of the congregation or the wider United Church

\*10% to a fund related to the Calls to the Church to support Indigenous Ministries both locally and in the wider church

\*10% to Mission and Service of The United Church of Canada

\*Remainder of the funds designated for Regional council use

Sheguiandah asked the Commission to consider the following plan of distribution:

\*3% United Church Archives

\*10% Mission & Service fund of the United Church of Canada

\*10% United Church Indigenous Ministry, Local and Nationally

\*14% Sheguiandah Centennial Museum

\*14% Sheguiandah Community Senior's Hall

\*3% Framed Picture of the Church for the Museum depicting the last 130 yrs.

\*46% Little Current United Church upon our proposed future Amalgamation.

At our last meeting, we were unable to act on the request because the 2 charities they asked to support were not listed on the Charities Directorate. Since then, I have received word that this was a clerical error. The legal name of the senior centre is Howland Seniors Club (and the charitable number is 11896 4493 RR0001). As is the case in many municipalities, the museum in Sheguiandah is not its own charity, but comes under the number of the municipality. Sheguiandah can donate to the Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands and earmark the funds for the museum. This is legal and will satisfy CRA requirements.

**Moved: Mardi Mumford**

**Seconded: George Bott**

*that the Support to Communities of Faith Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the following plan for the distribution of the proceeds from the sale of the property by the Trustees of Sheguiandah United Church as follows:*

*\*3% United Church Archives*

*\*10% Mission & Service fund of the United Church of Canada*

*\*10% United Church Indigenous Ministry, Local and Nationally*

*\*14% Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands for the Museum*

*\*14% Howland Seniors Club*

*\*3% Town of Northeastern Manitoulin and the Islands for the Museum to receive and care for a framed picture of the Church depicting the last 130 yrs.*

*\*46% Little Current United Church upon the proposed future amalgamation* **Carried**

**E-mail response from:** George Bott, Mardi Mumford, Jim Jackson, Ernie Epp, Crystal Greig, Bonnie Johnson, Marilyn Schatzler

## **Appendix 2**

### **Canadian Shield Regional Grants Team Digest of Actions December 2023-January 2024**

Present: Dave Clarke (Chair), Bea Webb, Nancy Rouble, Susan Siszar, Christine Paul, Melody Duncanson Hales (CSRC Staff Support), Diane Matheson-Jimenez (CSRC Staff Support)

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**2024 Mission Support Grant applications** were reviewed. Full applications and supporting documents for these applications are available from Melody Duncanson-Hales.

**2024 Canadian Shield RC Mission Support Grant Budget: \$45,000**

**2023 Mission Support Grant Requests**

*Pastoral Charge Mission Support Grant Outreach Ministry and Social Issues Projects*

Hearst SEM:	<u>3000</u>	Rainbow Camp	\$10,000
Total congregational:	\$3,000	<u>Daisy Chain Drop-In:</u>	
<u>6,000</u>			

Total outreach: \$16,000

**Total Mission Support Grant Requests, 2024: \$19,000**

**Grants Team Recommendations**

*Pastoral Charge Mission Support Grant Outreach Ministry and Social Issues Projects*

Hearst SEM:	<u>3000</u>	Rainbow Camp:	\$10,000
<u>Val D'Or SEM (anticipated):</u>	<u>3000</u>	<u>Daisy Chain Drop-In</u>	
<u>6,000</u>			

Total congregational:	\$6,000	Total outreach:	
\$16,000			

**Budget for Canadian Shield MSG: \$45,000**

**total recommended requests: - 22,000**

**Remainder held for emergent needs: \$23,000**

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 February 1, 2024 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

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

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

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

Chair Nancy welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

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

Diane opened the meeting with worship

### CHECK-IN

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

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

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



2023/2024-30

## RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

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

## CORRESPONDENCE

There is no correspondence at this time.

## BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- *PRC Update re: RCM and Possible Ordination/s*  
The Chair of the PRC was not present at the meeting so Stewart and Nancy gave an update on the possible ordinations. The PRC has indicated that the Office of Vocation is in charge of approving ordinations and the PRC plans them. The CSRC has not received Testamur for the current applicant therefore, they will not be ordained at the 2024 CS RCM. Nancy shared that the candidate will not be present at the 2024 CS RCM as they will be attending their convocation in Halifax that weekend. Stewart indicated that there may be 2 Designated Lay Minister Ordinations and/or Commissioning at the 2024 CS RCM.

## CS FINANCE RT MOTION RE : 2022 AUDIT

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

*MOTION by Bill Jones / Michael Wesa*

*CS FIN 2024-01-22-01*

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

**CARRIED**

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

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Steadman** **CS Exec 2024-02-01-04**  
**That the CSRC Executive receive the 2022 CSRC Audited Financial Statements.**  
**CARRIED**

## SIGNING AUTHORITIES

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

**MOTION by Joy Galloway/Bill Steadman** **CS Exec 2024-02-01-05**  
**That the signing officers for all Bank Accounts at the Bank of Montreal and BMO Nesbitt Burns for the Canadian Shield Regional Council be Susan Whitehead, Janet MacDonald, Kathleen Jones,**

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

**CARRIED**

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

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

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

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

**CARRIED**

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

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

**That the CSRC Executive direct the 2024 CS RCM Planning Team to explore the possibility of charging an amount of money per delegate to help offset the cost of meals and for the planning team to report their recommendation back to the March 7, 2024 CSRC Executive meeting.**

**CARRIED**

**INCORPORATED MINISTRIES**

- *Camp Duncan*

Diane brought Executive up-to-date on the confidential issues facing Camp Duncan and on the CSRC Executive's fiduciary duties as it related to the Camp Duncan Board.

- *Camp McDougall*

Diane brought Executive up-to-date on significant issues facing Camp McDougall and its ability to offer a successful 2024 Camping Season. The issues include: ongoing financial challenges, outstanding bills from 2023, a Board Director shortage, subsequent management problems, and a failure to meet deadlines for several key grants to run the summer program for 2024. The Executive decided to recommend that the board suspend the 2024 camping season to allow time for regrouping and

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planning. The Executive also discussed the need for the Board to work with Regional Council staff on visioning and strategic planning. Executive has also tasked Diane with inquiring if the Executive has the power to not approve board members in case of an issue like this and finding out the authority of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive regarding the operation of the camp.

**MOTION by Barb Nott/Jim Jackson                      CS Exec 2024-02-01-08**  
**That in light of the current fiscal reality of Camp McDougall**  
**Inc., that the CSRC Executive direct the Camp McDougall**  
**Board to suspend operations for the 2024 camping season.**  
**CARRIED**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

*GCE Summary – November 2023*

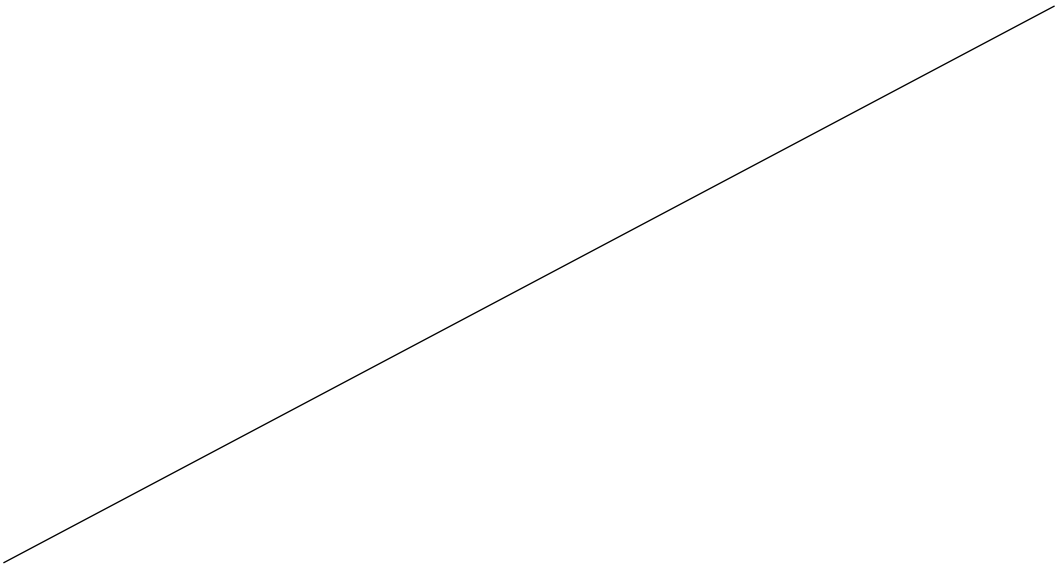
There were no questions about the GCE Summary circulated.

## **NEXT MEETING DATES:**

- March 7, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- April 4, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- April 25, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
- May 3-5, 2024 - Regional Council Meeting in Sault Ste. Marie
- May 30, 2023 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

## **CLOSING**

Nancy adjourned the meeting at 3:30 p.m. and 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: February 27, 2024 6:30 p.m.**

### **Agenda**

**Welcome, Check-in:**

**Opening Prayer:**

**Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:**

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Approval of Minutes:** January 30, 2024 Pages 252 -259

**Business Arising:**

- Update on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments
- Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith
- Property Resource team – future?

**Correspondence:**

- Property Resource Team (Gord Roberts)

**Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:**

**Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

7. Updates from Communities of Faith
  - a. Schreiber
  - b. Val D'or
  - c. Fairview – Tehkummah
  - d. St Mark's
  - e. St Andrew's & Central UC Sault Ste Marie
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: representation on Social Justice Network of Ontario Regions.

**Emergent Business:**

**Date of Next Meeting:**

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**Adjournment:**

Closing Prayer:

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission  
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada  
ZOOM Meeting – Date: February 27, 2024 6:30 p.m.**

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

**Regrets:** George Bott

**Staff Support:** Diane Matheson Jimenez, Melody Duncanson Hales, Calin Lau

**Welcome, Check-in:**

**Opening Prayer:** Melody Duncanson Hales opened with prayer

**Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:** Jim Jackson acknowledged and honoured the territories upon which we meet. He declared that this was a safe space to express opinions.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Moved:** Bonnie Johnson

**Seconded:** Susan Peverley

*That the agenda be approved with the addition of a review of the governance model of St Peter's United Church Sudbury.*

**Carried**

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Moved:** Mardi Mumford

**Seconded:** Bonnie Johnson

*That the minutes for January 30, 2024 pages 252 -259 be approved.*

**Carried**

**Business Arising:**

Update on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments:  
Melody, Diane and Mardi will meet this week to review a template and determine a process.

Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith: This needs to be a joint action with the Pastoral Relations Commission and this Commission. A date for a meeting will be set.

Property Resource team: Peter Hartmans and Diane Matheson Jimenez discussed the request from Gord Roberts, chair of the Property Resource Team, to look at the creation of a Property Commission. Presently there is often a duplication of the process and often tight timelines. Two suggestions were made, one that the Property

Resource team be incorporated into the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith and two, that a new Property Commission be created.

**Moved: Ernie Epp    Seconded: Mardi Mumford**

*That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith establish a small group from the Property Resource team this commission and a staff member to discuss the creation of a Property Commission within the Canadian Shield Regional Council using existing policies and looking at terms of reference. Carried*

Susan Peverley and Jim Jackson will represent this Commission. Jim will contact Gord Roberts to set up this group. The hope is that it will be ready for our next meeting.

**Correspondence:**

Property Resource Team (Gord Roberts): Discussed above.

**Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:** Jim Jackson reported that plans are well underway for the regional meeting May 3 – 5, 2024 in Sault Ste Marie. Food costs are extremely high and the planning committee is asking the Executive Council to ask delegates to offset the food costs by \$40.00 each.

The Executive approved the audit report.

**Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

1. Updates from Communities of Faith
  - f. Schreiber: no report
  - g. Val D'or: no report
  - h. Fairview – Tehkummah: Awaiting a ground penetrating radar assessment of the cemetery as requested by the municipality prior to approval of a severance of the property. The current driveway to the cemetery is on the property proposed for severance and a new access to the cemetery will need to be created.
  - i. St Mark's – no report
  - j. St Andrew's & Central UC Sault Ste Marie – no report
8. Local regional cluster support:
  - a. Sudbury meeting – a face to face meeting is planned for April 6, 2024
  - b. North Bay- a team for the Coldest Night of the Year walk raised almost \$12,000.00 for this project. The clergy are planning a field trip to the Loaves and Fishes Food bank to gather information and see how they can support this endeavour.
  - c. Thunder Bay- no activity
3. Commission Joint working group: Jim will contact John Watson to set a date.

**Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)**

- Property Resource Team: 2 new files being considered.
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team: A support grant and loan was approved for Trinity United Church Kirkland Lake for \$5,000.00 and \$4,500.00 respectively for roof repairs.

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- Right Relations Resource Team: This team is working hard to ensure all the Pastoral Charges have voted on Remit 1.
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team: Next meeting is March 6, 2024
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team: Awaiting the start of new staff member Shawn Redden. July 3 – 6, 2024 will be a new youth meeting; Audacious Hope which will be a joint meeting of youth from the UCC and the Presbyterian church replacing Rendezvous.
- United in Worship Project: no report
- Social Justice Network: Ernie continues to represent our region and there is hope that the new staff member Shawn Redden will also join him as a staff rep. We would like one more rep from the eastern section of our region.

**Emergent Business:**

St Peter's United Church Sudbury – New Governance model was reviewed and discussed.

**Moved: Mardi Mumford Seconded; Susan Peverley**

*That the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve the new governance model of St Peter's United Church Sudbury on February 26, 2024. Carried*

**Date of Next Meeting: Tuesday March 26, 2024 at 6:30 PM**

**Adjournment:**      **Moved: Ernie Epp** *that we adjourn at 8:08 p.m.*

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

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Jim Jackson, Chair

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Mardi Mumford, Secretary

## PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

PRC 2024, Page 9

Canadian Shield Regional Council  
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting  
Held by Zoom  
February 27<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:15 p.m.

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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, Erin Todd, Janet Venton, Stewart Walker, John Watson (Chair), Fraser Williamson (9)
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Guest	Cailin Lau, Growth Animator
Check-in	Members of the Commission took some time checking in before beginning the meeting. The weather was a big topic of conversation. The warm winter has led to change in people's normal winter routines. Some have sought out even warmer weather by travelling and cruising. Health concerns or making arrangements to move have meant big changes for some.
Opening	To open the meeting, Ted Harrison read the poem <i>The Prayers</i> by Rosemary Wahtola Trommer which was inspired by Anne Lamont's book <i>Help, Thanks, Wow: The Three essential Prayers</i> .
Acknowledgement	John Watson acknowledged that we gather on Indigenous land and he offered thanks to the early sojourners of our region. As well, John reminded us that all are welcome in this safe meeting space.
Agenda	<b>Motion 2024-02-27-01</b> Janet Venton/ Fraser Williamson moved that the agenda be approved with two items added – Pastoral Charge Supervisor requests and a DLM update. Carried
Minutes of Previous Meeting	<b>Motion 2024-02-27-02</b> Karen Gooch/ Erin Todd moved that the minutes from the January 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2024 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission be accepted as presented. Carried
Business Arising	
Letter to Office of Vocation	The follow up letter to the Office of Vocation (OV) relating to PRC concerns about how the unexpected ending of Supervised Ministry Experiences (SME) are dealt with, has not yet been sent.
DLM Ordinations	There are 3 DLMs to be ordained. Helen Smith, Lisa Blais will be ordained at the AGM and Tracy Davis has made a request to be ordained on another occasion. (There was a discussion about this request later in this meeting.) There was a question about whether there should be a change of terms made to their current appointments or whether a new call should be issued. This will need further investigation to ensure everything is in place before ordination happens. At the very least there will be a change in compensation following ordination.



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CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting  
Held by Zoom  
January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

PRC 2023, Page 2

**Nominations** The members listed below have agreed to let their name stand for another term as part of the PRC:

- Karen Gooch (Secretary) Erin Todd
- Jane Graham Ted Harrison
- Elaine Lush Joy Bott (current term ends at the 2025 AGM)

The Liaisons listed below have been appointed until the 2025 AGM:

- Fraser Williamson Stewart Walker
- Joy Galloway Jan Venton

John Watson has stepped down as Chair of the PRC but would be willing to stay on as a member of the PRC.

**Correspondence**

Three pieces of correspondence were received.

- Notes from the Ordination/Commission Minimums Working Group (dated February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024) were received for information. This group is looking at minimum standards that should be met before admission/ commissioning or ordination can take place.
- An email response was received from Burk's Falls United concerning the PRC letter dated December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 which outlined our concerns about the fact that Rev. Linda Newnham has been working as an independent contractor to the church while there is no Pastoral Charge Supervisor or appointed Ministry Personnel in place as required by United Church (UCC) policy. The response stated that they considered Linda as 'permanent pulpit supply' and offered no indication that they were interested in changing this situation. This is not recognized by the UCC and could put the church at risk of losing their charitable status, as was explained in our letter to them. It was agreed by consensus that this issue should be brought to the CSRC Executive with the recommendation that a review of the church be undertaken.

**New Business**

**Resource Teams** Pastoral Relations Liaisons

- Things have been going well for the Liaisons so there was nothing to report.

LLWLs

- The LLWL online educational event on February 24<sup>th</sup>, 2024 with facilitator Alydia Smith was cancelled due to the fact that Alydia was unable to attend.

Support to Ministry Personnel

- Planning is ongoing for the in-person Ministry Personnel retreat to take place on May 2-3, 2024 before the CSRC AGM in Sault Ste. Marie.

**Consensus Packet** The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting. Rob Smith noted that the Office of Vocation will not allow Torrin Maag to perform the sacraments until he completes his theological studies this summer. 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 Torrin Maag (Candidate) to Zion United, Thessalon, ON effective March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 with the following terms:

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Part-time (20 hours)	
Community of Faith ADP Company Code	31MT
Eligible Service (in years)	0
Step/Increment category	Step 1
Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-time Salary	\$52,176.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$26,088.00
Additional Salary (in \$)	\$0.00
Total Salary	\$26,088.00
Phone/Communications	\$600.00
Continuing Education	\$820.00
Other	\$0.00
Total Remuneration	\$27,508.00

**Motion 2024-02-27-03**

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

**Carried**

Stewart Walker abstained

Tracy Davis Ordination There has been a request from Tracy Davis, DLM to hold her ordination service outside of the May 2024 Regional Council AGM. Since there was a vote at a past Regional Council meeting to allow this, we cannot deny her request. A date will have to be coordinated with the CSRC Chair and the Office of Vocation. Tracy has not suggested a preferred date at this time.

Joint Ministry Retreat Shining Waters Regional Council is planning a Ministry Personnel Retreat in September 2024 for one night at Fern Resort near Orillia and has invited CSRC to jointly host with a cost of \$5,000 to participate. Rob Smith will bring more detailed information about the retreat to the next PRC meeting.

AGM Banquet Rob Smith is looking for help organizing the banquet being held at the AGM in May which will honour retirements, anniversaries, memorials of Ministry Personnel. There will also be a chance to recognize LLWLs and church closings at some point during the AGM. Erin Todd offered that she has a template that has been used for past banquets. One of the retirees may not be able to attend but it was suggested she could provide a recorded message or maybe attend virtually. It was suggested that all formal introductions should be done by someone who knows the honouree.

Pastoral Charge Supervisors There have been two Pastoral Charge Supervisor (PCS) requests.

- St. Paul's United in New Liskeard is in need of a PCS because of travel considerations for the current PCS and a request has been made to allow someone from their Community of Faith to be appointed to the position which is contrary to our usual practice. It was suggested that we arrange a swap of PCSs to remedy this situation.
- Zion United in Thessalon has pulled out of the Central Algoma Church Community (CACC) and there is a request for Stewart Walker to be appointed Pastoral Charge Supervisor for CACC.

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CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting  
Held by Zoom  
January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024

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**Other Business**

**Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:15 p.m. Erin Todd will provide the opening and closing. There will likely be calls that will need to be approved before our regular April meeting, but since this date is in the middle of Holy Week the meeting may be shortened.

**Adjournment** Ted Harrison re-read the poem he offered at the opening for this meeting before the meeting was adjourned at 2:50 p.m.

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Chairperson, John Watson

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Secretary, Karen Gooch

## EXECUTIVE

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

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

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

**GUEST:** Calin Lau

**REGRETS:** John Watson, Dave LeGrand

Chair Nancy welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

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

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

### INTRODUCTION

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

### CHECK-IN

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

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

**MOTION by Bill Steadman/Jim Jackson**

**CS Exec 2024-03-07-01**

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

**CARRIED**

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

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

## **RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS**

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

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

There is no correspondence at this time.

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

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

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

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

### Camp Duncan

At the last meeting of Executive, Diane was directed to inquire if Camp Duncan opted not to remove board members who were involved in the sale of the property without consultation. The legal advice received suggests that there is no benefit to not affirming board members that were involved. It was decided that the best course

of action is to allow the Camp Duncan Board to work through their process and we will provide support as needed.

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

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

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

#### **2024 CS REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING and GC45**

##### *Update on RCM Theme, Planning, and Meal Costs*

Diane shared an update with Executive about the 2024 RCM planning. A local arrangements team has been gathered by Helen Smith in Sault Ste. Marie and they have been working hard on the theme “Upon This Rock.”

Diane reported that the Planning Team was tasked with finding an appropriate amount of money to ask delegates to pay to help offset the cost of meals and the amount the team is proposing for Executive’s approval is \$40. For a larger frame of reference, she also shared that the approximate total cost of meals for delegates for the 2024 RCM is \$135 per person.

**MOTION by Bill Steadman/Barb Nott                      CS Exec 2024-03-07-06**  
**That the CSRC Executive approve the 2024 Regional**  
**Council Meeting (RCM) Planning Team’s recommendation**  
**to charge RCM delegates \$40 to help offset the cost of**  
**meals for the 2024 CS Regional Council Meeting.**  
**CARRIED**

##### *Deadline for 2024 RCM and GC45 Proposal Deadlines*

Peter indicated there needs to be a deadline for the 2024 CS RCM and GC45 Proposals.

**MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Stewart Walker CS Exec 2024-03-07-**  
**07**  
**That the CSRC Executive set the deadline of April 12, 2024**  
**for the Canadian Shield Regional Council and GC45**

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**Proposals reviewed at the 2024 CS Regional Council Meeting.  
CARRIED**

*GC45 Commissioner Numbers, GC45 Commissioner Position Description and CSRC Commissioner Nominations Policy*

Peter shared the calculation of GC45 Commissioners to be elected by our region. The CSRC is entitled to 9 Commissioners, not including the Chairperson, with 1/3 being ministry personnel and 1/3 being lay members, and with attention given to diversity of gender, age, sexual expressions, racial and cultural identities. The job description and the CSRC GC Commissioner policy have been distributed to Executive and will be on the CSRC website.

**2025 FESTIVAL OF FAITH UPDATE**

Peter shared that the venue is booked, the planning team is in full swing, and speakers have been chosen – John Bell, Jeff Crittenden, and others. He also shared that the Moderator might have a time conflict with the meeting and she wondered if we could move the date of the FoF. After checking with the Planning Team and the SW Executive, Peter is now checking with the CS Executive.

**There was consensus from the CSRC Executive that Peter inform the Moderator that we cannot move the date of the 2025 Festival of Faith (FoF) and that the Moderator's Flourishing Event can happen the day/s before the 2025 FoF.**

**GCE MEETING SUMMARY**

The GCE Meeting Summary link was forwarded to Executive in the Agenda Package. Peter shared that David Leyton-Brown is a new General Council Executive (GCE) member and that he is open to being invited to the CS Executive meetings to give GCE updates. The highlights David made at the SW Executive meeting was to make note of the 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of The UCC kickoff, which is on June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024 between 4:00 – 6:00 p.m., offered by livestream and in-person at Metropolitan UC in Toronto. Also, there are 200 ministry personnel on a waiting list to be placed across the UCC, who are either immigrating from other countries or joining us from other denominations within Canada. The budget for 2025 for the UCC is going to be a bit of a struggle; they will need to cut \$2 million from the budget from the regional operating grants.

**EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (APPENDIX A)**

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

*Remit Update*

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



## **NEW BUSINESS**

### *Possible Creation of a Property Commission*

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

## **NEXT MEETING DATES:**

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

## **CLOSING**

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

## **APPENDIX A Executive Minister Report March 2024**

I am grateful to return from sick leave and I want to express deep appreciation for the support I received in and during my absence. Work continues with our Regional Meeting in May. The planning team has made progress with a key focus for the business of our regional meeting focusing on the Election of Commissioners and Proposal review in advance of General Council 45.

### **GC45:**

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

### **2025 Festival of Faith:**

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

### **Remit 1 Update:**

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



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

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

#### *New Staff:*

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

#### *Transition of Staff:*

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

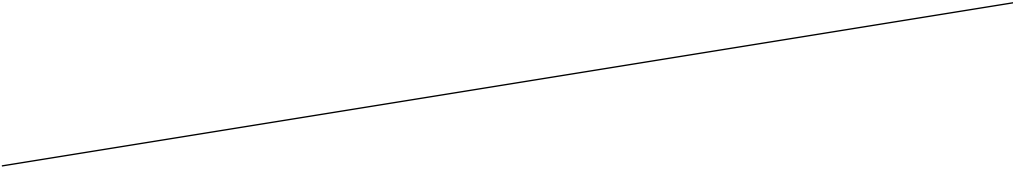
Rob Smith, Personnel Minister for Canadian Shield Regional Council has now transitioned to support both the Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Councils. Dale Hildebrand supported the transition through orientation for Rob with Toronto South communities of faith.

### **Ordination and Commissioning of Designated Ministers:**

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

### **Huntington University:**

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



## PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

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Canadian Shield Regional Council  
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting  
Held by Zoom  
March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 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, Erin Todd, Janet Venton, Stewart Walker, John Watson (Chair), Fraser Williamson (10)
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Guest	Cailin Lau, Growth Animator
Check-in	Members of the Commission took some time checking in before beginning the meeting. Since this is Holy Week, it is a very busy time for many members of the PRC. People also spoke about other activities they are involved in outside of the church including a project to discourage youth substance abuse and environmental fundraising. One member is taking a spiritual refresher by walking the Camino another is looking forward to being in the path of totality for the upcoming eclipse. Thanks was offered for some good that has come out of the COVID pandemic – the use of technology to improve worship opportunities, including recorded sermons. Several people are settling into new routines – Rob Smith is preparing to move to Southern Ontario and Cailin Lau is adjusting to his role as a Growth Animator which is very different from his former pastoral role. Finally, we took the time to acknowledge the passing of Rev. Stewart Bell, former Executive Secretary of Manitou Conference.
Acknowledgement	John Watson acknowledged that we gather on Indigenous land and we walk together with First Nation People in healing love and reconciliation. As well, John reminded us that all are welcome in this safe meeting space.
Opening	To open the meeting, Erin Todd offered a retelling of the Palm Sunday story followed by a prayer.
Agenda	<b>Motion 2024-03-26-01</b> Elaine Lush/ Fraser Williamson moved that the agenda be approved as circulated. <b>Carried</b>
Minutes of Previous Meeting	<b>Motion 2024-03-26-02</b> Karen Gooch/ Jane Graham moved that the minutes from the February 27 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission be accepted with one correction – the pronoun for Torrin Maag should be he. <b>Carried</b>
Business Arising	
Celebration of Ministry	Helen Smith and Tracy Davis will be ordained and Lis Blais will be commissioned at the Celebration of Ministry service during the upcoming CSRC meeting. New calls are not required right now, however if calls are not approved

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now, they will have to be approved when their current appointments expire. Calls for each of them are part of the consensus motion for this meeting for efficiency.

**Nominations** Everyone has agreed to remain part of the PRC for another term except Joy Bott. There is someone who has agreed let their name stand to be PRC Chair and our current Chair John Watson will remain a member.

**Pulpit Supply List** Rob Smith is continuing to work to ensure there is an up to date pulpit supply list. A final list should be available in July.

**Joint Retreat** A joint ministry retreat with CSRC and Shining Waters Regional Council is being planned at Fern Resort (near Orillia). The total budget is \$17,000. There is a request for \$5,000 from CSRC and \$7,000 from Shining Waters with the rest of the budget to be made up from a fee of \$300 per person. We discussed whether this price would put the event out of reach for some CSRC Ministry Personnel, especially when you consider the travel costs to Orillia. It was suggested that we offer a subsidy to help cover travel or fees from the CSRC wellness fund (Health, Joy, Excellence). The following motion was put forward.

**Motion 2024-03-26-03**

Ted Harrison/ Joy Galloway moved that the Pastoral Relation Commission be authorized to spend up to \$5,000 from the Health, Joy, Excellence fund to subsidize fees or travel costs (over 300 km) for any CSRC Ministry Personnel wishing to attend the CSRC/Shining Waters retreat at the Fern Resort in September 2024.

After further discussion it was decided that Motion 2024-03-26-03 should be tabled until the next PRC meeting.

**Motion 2024-03-26-04**

Ted Harrison/ Erin Todd moved that Motion 2024-03-26-03 be tabled until the April 23, 2024 PRC meeting.

Carried

**Burk's Falls** Currently, Burk's Falls United is without Ministry Personnel and has no Pastoral Charge Supervisor. It has proven difficult to find someone to take on the position.

- The history of the situation at Burk's Falls United was outlined. Rev. Linda Newnham was called several years ago to the two point Burk's Falls/Katrine Pastoral Charge. She left under difficult circumstances and the Pastoral Charge ultimately split into two separate churches. Katrine United has done well under supervision but there have been problems at Burk's Falls United. Currently Linda is working for the congregation as, what she calls an 'independent contractor', performing pulpit supply and pastoral care. Under UCC policy, Ministry Personnel must be appointed or called in order to work with a Community of Faith as their minister.
- The PRC sent a letter dated December 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to the church's governing body outlining our concerns about the lack of supervision or appointment and explained how they could rectify the situation – possibly by having the CSRC appoint Linda to the church. In response, Burk's Falls United informed the PRC that Linda has been hired as 'permanent pulpit supply' and offered no indication that they would be interested in changing this.

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- Neither Linda nor the Community of Faith are following the rules. Linda's status as a UCC minister and the congregation's charitable status are both in danger if things do not change.
- The PRC has an obligation to ensure that UCC policy is enforced. What is the message that is being sent if this is allowed to continue?
- It was agreed that Burk's Falls United 'permanent pulpit supply' arrangement cannot continue. At previous PRC meetings we have broached the subject of conducting a church review. It was suggested that we should proceed with this after giving the church a deadline to comply with UCC policy and a date of Friday May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 was agreed upon.

**Motion 2024-03-26-05**

Jane Graham/ Janet Venton moved that the Pastoral Relations Commission of the Canadian Shield Regional Council (CSRC) request that Burk's Falls United Church take action to regularize the terms of their pastoral relationship with Rev. Linda Newnham by May 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 and that if this action is not undertaken then the CSRC will initialize a formal church review. Carried

**Correspondence**

Following the last PRC meeting, Rob Smith sent a letter to the Board of Vocation inquiring about a formal response to the concerns raised by the PRC with regards to how the unexpected ending of Supervised Ministry Experiences (SME) are dealt with. We received a response letter dated March 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024 signed by Rev. Marlene Britton, Director, Policies and Programs for Ministry Personnel.

- This letter did not address the concerns that were raised. It seems to members of the PRC that sometimes students are seen as bodies that can fill spaces at a time when the UCC is short of Ministry Personnel. Students used to be placed for internships in congregations where there was a supervising minister on site – more like an apprenticeship. Has SME replaced settlement?
- Students are now be placed in congregations with only an educational supervisor. They may not necessarily have developed the skill set needed to be the minister for a congregation. We need to ensure students have all the support they need – especially in Northern Ontario. Having no direct supervision is unfair to the students and the congregations.
- Students sometimes search ChurchHub and find placements on their own with congregations who do not have experience working with a student. Congregations may not be prepared to deal the situation or may have expectations that are too high. Should the PRC be approving every student who wants to do an SME?
- What is the role of The Office of Vocation in pastoral relationships? This letter doesn't leave the impression that there is room for cooperation with the PRC or that there is an understanding of the policy role of the PRC.
- John Watson agreed to call Marlene to see if it is possible to begin an informal conversation with the Office of Vocation about this issue.

**New Business**

Resource Teams Pastoral Relations Liaisons

- No report.

LLWLs

- No report.



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Support to Ministry Personnel

- Planning is ongoing for the in-person Ministry Personnel retreat to take place on May 2-3, 2024 before the CSRC AGM in Sault Ste. Marie. So far 17 people have registered for the event.

Consensus Packet The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting. The following items were noted:

- Rob Smith stated that the base salary for Helen Smith is lower than for Lisa Blais and Tracy Davis (even though all are in Category F) due to the lower cost-of-living factor for Sault Ste. Marie.
  - There was a question about whether the phone/communication amount for Lisa Blais is too low, but the number reflects what was posted on ChurchHub by Trinity United so we have to assume it is accurate.
1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the following ordinands/commissionands as having met the appointment requirements for ordination/commission at the May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 Canadian Shield Celebration of Ministry service:
    - Lisa Blais (Candidate) – to be commissioned into a provisional call to Trinity United, North Bay, ON
    - Tracy Davis (Candidate) – to be ordained into a provisional call to Emmanuel United, North Bay, ON
    - Helen Smith (Candidate) – to be ordained into a provisional call to East Korah Maxwell United, Sault Ste. Marie, ON
  2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the provisional call of the Lisa Blais (Candidate) to Trinity United, North Bay, ON effective May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 with the following terms:

Part-time (36 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	\$67,009.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$60,308.10
Additional Salary (in %)	9.0
Total Salary	\$65,735.90
Phone/Communications	\$329.81
Continuing Education	\$1,254.60
Other	\$0.00
Total Remuneration	\$67,320.31

3. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the provisional call of Tracy Davis (Candidate) to Emmanuel United, North Bay, ON, effective May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 with the following terms:

Part-time (15 hours)

Community of Faith ADP Company Code	TCZJ
Eligible Service (in years)	17
Step/Increment Category	F

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Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-time Salary	\$67,009.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$25,128.38
Additional Salary (in %)	10.0
Total Salary	\$27,641.22
Phone/Communications	\$250.00
Continuing Education	\$615.00
Other	\$0.00
Total Remuneration	\$28,205.22

4. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the provisional call of the Helen Smith (Candidate) to East Korah/Maxwell United, Sault Ste. Marie, ON, effective May 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 with the following terms:  
Part-time (20 hours)  
Community of Faith ADP Company Code 31RZ  
Eligible Service (in years) 25  
Step/Increment Category F  
Is manse included No  
Minimum Full-time Salary \$64,051.00  
Prorated Annual Salary \$32,025.50  
Additional Salary (in \$) \$1,479.00  
Total Salary \$33,504.50  
Phone/Communications \$600.00  
Continuing Education \$820.00  
Other \$0.00  
Total Remuneration \$34,924.50
5. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of Goulais River United, Goulais River, ON to re-licence John McDonald as a sacraments elder, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
6. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of Grace United, Nipigon, ON to re-licence Phyllis Gauvin as sacraments elder, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
7. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. Paul's United, Témiscaming, QC to re-licence Glenda Woodbury as a sacraments elder, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
8. ... 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 a sacraments elder, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
9. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council appoint the Rev. Stewart Walker as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Central Algoma Church Communities, Bruce Mines, ON, effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

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10. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council appoint Peter Haddow as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for St. Paul's United, New Liskeard, ON, effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.
11. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council appoint Jane Graham as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Zion United, Thessalon, ON, effective April 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024.

**Motion 2024-03-26-06**

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

**Carried**

**Other Business**

- Regional Meeting Rob Smith stated that he is still looking for help with planning the banquet at the CSRC meeting in May where retirees and LLWLs will be honoured.
- Next Meeting The next meeting will be held on Tuesday April 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2024 at 1:15 p.m. Elaine Lush will provide the opening and closing.

**Adjournment** Stewart Walker offered a prayer before the meeting was adjourned at 3:00 p.m.

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Chairperson, John Watson

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Secretary, Karen Gooch

## **SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION**

**Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada**

**ZOOM Meeting – Date: March 26, 2024 6:30 p.m.**

### **Agenda**

**Welcome, Check- in:**

**Opening Prayer:** Melody Duncanson Hales

**Acknowledgement of Territory:** George Bott **and Safe Space:** Jim Jackson

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Approval of Minutes:** February 28, 2024 Pages 260 - 264

**Business Arising:**

Up-date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments (see template)

Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith

Property Resource team proposal – report from team

**Correspondence:**

**Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:**

**Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

9. Updates from Communities of Faith
  - a. Schreiber
  - b. Val D'or
  - c. Fairview – Tehkummah
  - d. St Mark's
  - e. St Andrew's & Central UC Sault Ste Marie
2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting North Bay
3. Commission Joint working group

**Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)**

- Property Resource Team -
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team: Welcome Friends/Rainbow Camp request
- Right Relations Resource Team – Remit 1 update
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team –
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team –
- United in Worship Project -
- Social Justice Network: representation on Social Justice Network of Ontario Regions.

**Emergent Business:**

AGM – May 3,4,5 2024 at Sault Ste Marie

**Date of Next Meeting:**

**Adjournment:**

Closing Prayer: Diane Matheson Jimenez



2023/2024-54

**Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada**  
**ZOOM Meeting – Date: March 26, 2024 6:30 p.m.**

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

**Staff Support:** Diane Matheson Jimenez, Calin Lau

**Welcome, Check-in:** Each person was asked to reflect on what they were doing this Holy Week.

**Opening Prayer:** Diane opened with prayer based on John 12: 35-36 sent by Melody Duncanson Hales

**Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:** George Bott lead the group in a reading by Tony Snow about honouring the territory and asked each person to add to the chat box the Indigenous Territory that they reside in.

Jim Jackson declared the commitment of the United Church of Canada to provide a safe space to express opinions.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Moved: Bonnie Johnson**  
*That the agenda be approved.*

**Seconded: Marilyn Schatzler**  
**Carried**

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Moved: Mardi Mumford**  
That the minutes for *February 27, 2024 pages 260 -264 be approved.*  
**Carried**

**Business Arising:**

Reviewing Annual Reports: Melody, Diane and Mardi have submitted a template (Appendix 1) for the review of Annual Reports that are submitted by Communities of Faith. Once Annual Reports are submitted to Canadian Shield Regional office, they will be placed on Share Point. A group from this Commission will use the template to review the reports. There are 87 Pastoral Charges to be reviewed. A reminder to submit Annual Reports needs to be sent out.

Pastoral Care Workshop for lay lead communities of faith: No date has been set to meet with the Pastoral Relations representatives.

Property Resource team proposal – report from team: Jim Jackson, Susan Peverley, Diane Matheson Jimenez, Gord Roberts, Bill Jones met on March 20, 2024 to work on a proposal to take to the Regional Council Executive to create a Property Commission. Jim Identified that C:2:2:6 from The Manual is the basis for this proposal. The next step is a meeting on March 28, 2024 with Jim, Gord and Diane to look at the foundational documents existing. The hope is that plan will be developed in time for our next meeting and then presented to the Executive.

**Correspondence:** None received

**Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:** The next meeting is April 25, 2024.

**Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

10. Updates from Communities of Faith

- a. Schreiber: George reported that he met with the trustees and refreshed their role. There is more interest in the property than expected. The trustees want to be fair to the community. George has asked Diane, as staff, to take a more active role in this process. George, Diane and the Trustees will meet in the first week of April.
- b. Val D'or: No report
- c. Fairview – Tehkummah: No movement. The municipality needs to define what they are asking for in order to move forward. Fairview members stated that all burial record were given to the Township. The Township has not been able to locate them to date.
- d. St Mark's: No report
- e. St Andrew's & Central UC Sault Ste Marie: No report
- f. Hornepayne: Marathon United Church received the stain glass window this past week. The building is now closed and sold.

11. Local regional cluster support:

- a. Sudbury: In-person meeting April 6, 2024
- b. Sault Ste Marie: All churches are participating in a Sunrise Easter service.
- c. Manitoulin Ministerial will be meeting in the spring.

3. Commission Connection Joint working group: Date of meeting to be determined.

**Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)**

- Property Resource Team:

- o Bruce Mines: The Historical Society is looking to purchase the building for \$1.00 with provision that the Community of Faith will still have use of the building. Closing date will be May 15, 2024
- o Trinity United Church Kirkland Lake; they have applied for an addition loan and grant for extensive repairs to the roof and organ. There is a potential economic boom in the area and the community is enthusiastic about maintaining the space for community events.
- o St Andrew's Larch Street Sudbury: Repairs from the small fire in the Place are continuing. The fire department praised the excellent emergency plan that was in place.
- o Broadway UC Thunderbay has asked to meet with Diane Matheson Jimenez to look at their options.

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- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team:  
**Moved: Marilyn Schatzler    Seconded: George Bott**  
*Having reviewed the recommendation from the Mission Support and Regional Council Grants Resource Team, the Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith approve the grant application of \$15,000.00 to Welcome Friends/Rainbow Camp. **Carried***

The team is working on a format for applications for the Mustard Seed Strategy.

- Right Relations Resource Team; Remit 1 has had 77% of Communities of Faith response
- 
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team: No report
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team: Rev. Shawn Redden (she/her) is now in place and rebuilding is on her radar. Audacious Hope Youth event in July will be at Brock University.
- United in Worship Project: 33 churches are using this service from across Canada with 5 writers contributing.

Social Justice Network: Ernie Epp and Rev. Shawn Redden will discuss representation on Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils. Ernie cited a report <https://www.covidreligionresearch.org/rural-canadian-churches-connect-through-innovative-tech-powered-network/> that might be of interest to the group as well as a book by Douglas Harink, *Paul among the Postliberals: Pauline Theology beyond Christendom and Modernity* (Grand Rapids, MI: Brazos Press, 2003)

- Calin Lau, Growth Animator has 3 events; April 16 with Ministry Personnel, April 9<sup>th</sup> with Manitou Intentional Learning Community ( MILC) and then will attend the Canadian Shield Regional Council AGM.

### **Emergent Business:**

AGM – May 3,4,5 2024 at Sault Ste Marie

Written Report:

1. Property Team to become a Commission
2. With the heaviness of closing Churches, we do have bright moments like funding for the Rainbow Camp and helping other Churches remain a Community of Faith, building or not.
3. Help of Heather Ketchie with sales of property
4. Minute highlights to be reviewed.

Minute Presentation on Saturday May 4 at the Regional meeting  
( 2 highlights and 1 ask)

1. Annual Report reviews need to sent

2. Trustees' legal names should be included in a motion in every Annual Report

**Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday April 23, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. by zoom

**Adjournment:** Moved by Ernie Epp at 8:05 p.m.

**Closing Prayer:** for a closing prayer, Diane Matheson Jimenez lead the group in reciting the Aramaic translation of the Lord's Prayer by Neil Douglas.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Jim Jackson, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mardi Mumford, Secretary

Appendix 1

**REVIEW OF THE ANNUAL REPORT FOR**  
**Name of Charge:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date** \_\_\_\_\_

A (Y) in the space beside the item indicates that it is adequately covered in the report.

1	Last year's Annual meeting minutes		
2	Ministry personnel Time, comments,		
3	Worship:		
4	Membership Statistics Trends		
5	Financial status: Surplus/Deficit Letter of Reviewed? Designated Funds? Budget for upcoming year		

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6	Trustees Enough? Issues?		
7	Regional Council rep Name Participation		
8	Leadership Impression of how and who		
9	Red Flags		
10	Sparks (projects, sense of mission)		

10	Areas where support is needed.		
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**COMMENTS AND RECOMMENDATIONS:**

Reviewed by \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

## **SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION**

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission  
Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada  
ZOOM Meeting – Date: April 23, 2024 6:30 p.m.  
Agenda**

**Welcome, Check- in:**

**Opening Prayer:** Susan Peverley

**Acknowledgement of Territory:** George Bott **and Safe Space:**

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Approval of Minutes:** March 26, 2024 Pages 265 - 272

**Business Arising:**

Up-date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments  
Pastoral Care Workshop for lay led communities of faith  
Property Resource team proposal Appendix 1.

**Correspondence:**

Central Algoma cluster Appendix 2  
St Mark's – April 11, 2024 Appendix 3

**Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:**

**Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

12. Updates from Communities of Faith
  - a. Schreiber
  - b. Val D'or
  - c. Fairview – Tehkummah
  - d. St Mark's -
  - e. St Andrew's & Central UC Sault Ste Marie
2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting North 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 – Remit 1 update
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team –
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team –
- United in Worship Project -

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- Social Justice Network:

**Emergent Business:**

AGM – May 3,4,5 2024 at Sault Ste Marie - report

Let's Connect Lay Leaders Webinar "Where two or three are gathered there is Jesus. And conflict" Thursday May 23, 2024 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Date of Next Meeting:**

**Adjournment:** Closing Prayer - Diane

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission**  
**nCanadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada**  
**ZOOM Meeting – Date: April 23, 2024 6:30 p.m.**

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

**Staff Support:** Diane Matheson Jimenez, Melody Duncanson Hales, Calin Lau

**Welcome, Check-in:**

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

**Acknowledgement of Territory:** George Bott used an acknowledgment from Peter Challis found in the Gathering and asked all to acknowledge the traditional land upon which they reside and put it into the chat box.

**Safe Space:** Jim Jackson declared this meeting to be a safe space to express opinions.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Moved: Crystal Greig                      Seconded: Bonnie Johnson**

*That the agenda be accepted as circulated. Carried*

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Moved: Mardi Mumford   Seconded: Marilyn Schatzler**

*That the minutes from the meeting of the Support to Communities of Faith Commission of March 26, 2024 pages 265 – 272 be accepted.                      Carried*

**Business Arising:**

Up-date on strategy for reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments: The process for the review of the Annual Reports by this commission will be tested at the May meeting.

Pastoral Care Workshop for lay led communities of faith: To be discussed in May with the new chair of the Pastoral Relations Commission. Details for storage, use of the reviews and staff input will be discussed. Jim was asked to include a reminder to Communities of Faith to send in their Annual Reports and Self Assessments during his presentation at the AGM.

Property Resource team proposal (appendix 1):

**Moved: Ernie Epp**

**Seconded: Mardi Mumford.**

*The Support to Communities of Faith Commission recommends that the Executive of the Canadian Shield Regional Council transition the Property Resource Team into the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council, with the authority to act for the Regional Council in matters relating to property (The Manual 2024 c.2.6).* **Carried.**

**Correspondence:**

Central Algoma cluster: (April 5, 2024 Appendix 2) Diane briefed the commission on the complexity of this issue. The following statement was drafted to send.

The Commission for the Support to Communities of Faith are not prepared to make a decision on your request of April 5th, 2024. More ground work needs to be done. We will ask staff members to schedule a round table with all parties in the Central Algoma Church Communities to discuss options. In the interim, we encourage all parties to look for the original agreement. Staff will continue to work on this and bring back their findings in May.

St Mark's – (April 11, 2024 Appendix 3)

Jim and Diane will respond to this correspondence and offer help where needed.

**Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:** Next meeting is Thursday April 25, 2024. Jim will take the motion regarding the Property Commission proposal to this meeting.

**Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

13. Updates from Communities of Faith

- a. Schreiber – progressing, waiting for a meeting of the Trustees with regional staff.
- b. Hornepayne – distribution of funds is now in process
- c. Val D'or – no report
- d. Fairview – Tehkummah – This is becoming quite complicated and may need to have an ad hoc committee of Jim Jackson, Gord Roberts , Melody Duncanson-Hal and Diane Matheson Jimenez consider the next steps.
- e. St Mark's - see correspondence
- f. St Andrew's Sault Ste Marie – an offer has been received



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- g. Central UC Sault Ste Marie – the fact that this is designated as a historical building is complicating potential sales.
- 14. Local regional cluster support:
  - a. Sudbury - June 1, 2024 Morning Brews and Future Views. Applications for funding with the region and also the Mustard Seed Fund are pending.
  - b. North Bay – no report
- 3. Commission Joint working group: A date will be set with the new chair in May.

### **Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)**

- Property Resource Team
  - o St Stephen's on the Hill, Sudbury, is working on an agreement to sell the building to the Restoration church with a rent back agreement.
  - o Emmanuel Sault Ste Marie, is working towards a partnership with the city about use of a portion of the property.
  - o Broadway UC, Thunder Bay, are considering the sale of their building.
- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team: Several grant applications have been received. Goulais River Accessibility, Sudbury Partnership for a cluster event.
- Right Relations Resource Team – Remit 1 has passed next step is at GC 45.
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team – they will have a display table at the Region AGM. Trinity UC Capreol will have a Celebration of Affirming in June. Powassan- Chisholm is in process of becoming affirming.
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team – Shawn Redden is meeting with a group of leaders and young people about attending The Audacious Hope (formerly Rendez-vous) event at Brock University in July
- United in Worship Project - The new calendar year is June so there will be some new churches attending. The Botts have committed to another year.
- Social Justice Network – Semi-annual meeting in June and an event April 30, 2024 Fairer Canada – Guaranteed Liveable Income zoom meeting.

**Growth Animator:** Calin reported that there has been discussion with other Growth Animators to develop a transition plan within the regions. The UCC is good at showing hospitality but the hard thing is continuing and learning how to share and how to go deeper is missing. Are there existing resources or do we need to create resources?

### **Emergent Business:**

- Canadian Shield Regional Council AGM May 3,4,5, 2024. The report has been sent in and Jim is preparing a short presentation for the Saturday. Let's Connect Lay Leaders Webinar "Where two or three are gathered there is Jesus. And conflict" Thursday May 23, 2024 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. This will be a series with helpful resources.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Tuesday May 21, 2024

**Adjournment: Moved: Ernie Epp** that the meeting be adjourned.

Closing Prayer Diane closed the meeting with prayer.

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Jim Jackson, Chair

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Mardi Mumford, Secretary

## Appendix 1

### **Property Resource Team to Property Commission** **Proposed Changes to Policy Documents**

Over the past two years, we have discovered that the processes we have been using for communities of faith to work through property transactions are not as streamlined or efficient as they need to be. In order to ensure prompt responses to communities of faith, the Support to Communities of Faith Commission recommends that the Property Resource Team of Canadian Shield Regional Council become a Property Commission of the Regional Council, with the authority to act for the Regional Council in matters relating to property (The Manual 2024 C.2.6).

Appreciating the unique relationship between the Support to Communities of Faith Commission and a Property Commission, it is the intention that members of both Commissions regularly check in around communities of faith in the Regional Council that may be undertaking property transactions and changes. The Commission that serves as the first point of contact for a community of faith will be responsible to ensure that the other Commission is suitably informed.

<b><u>Document/Policy/Procedure</u></b>	<b><u>Current Wording</u></b>	<b><u>Proposed Change(s)</u></b>
CSRC Policy and Procedures Manual – page 15	Property Resource Team Lead	Property Commission Chair
	Team Lead (3-year term)	Commission Chair (3-year term)
	The primary responsibility of the Team Lead is to chair all meetings of the of the Property Resource Team and to direct the work of the	The primary responsibility of the Commission Chair is to chair all meetings of the of the Property Commission, and to direct the work of the team. Operational

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	<p>team as requested by Support to Communities of Faith Commission or the Regional Council Executive. Operational decisions related to property and actions being taken by communities of faith in stewardship of property will be recommended by the Resource team to the Support to Communities of Faith Commission for decision; the team also act as a resource to communities of faith as they manage property.</p>	<p>decisions related to property and actions being taken by communities of faith in stewardship of property will be managed by the Property Commission. The Commission will also act as a resource to communities of faith as they manage property.</p>
	<p>Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair the meeting(s) of the Property Resource Team;</li> <li>• Direct the work of the Property Resource team as requested by the Support to Communities of Faith Commission;</li> <li>• Prepare the meeting agenda in consultation with the team and the Minister(s) for Congregational Support;</li> <li>• Leadership to the Property Resource Team</li> </ul>	<p>Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair the meeting(s) of the Property Commission;</li> <li>• Prepare the meeting agenda in consultation with the team and the Minister(s) for Congregational Support;</li> <li>• Leadership to the Property Commission in property policy development for the CSRC EXEC;</li> <li>• Accountable to the CSRC EXEC.</li> </ul>

	<p>in property policy development for the</p> <p>Support to Communities of Faith Commission;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Accountable to the Support to Communities of Faith Commission.</li> </ul>	
CSRC Policy and Procedures Manual – page 16	Property Resource Team Member	Property Commission Member
	<p>General Description:</p> <p>The primary responsibility of this position is to carry out the work assigned to them by the</p> <p>Support to Communities of Faith or the Regional Council; operational decisions related to</p> <p>property and actions being taken by communities of faith in stewardship of property will be</p> <p>recommended by the team to the Support to Communities of Faith Commission for decision;</p> <p>the team also acts as a resource to communities of faith as they manage property.</p>	<p>General Description:</p> <p>The primary responsibility of this position is to carry out the work assigned to them by the Regional Council; operational decisions related to property and actions being taken by communities of faith in stewardship of property will be decided on by the Property Commission;</p> <p>the team also acts as a resource to communities of faith as they manage property.</p>
	<p>Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide resources, support and direction to communities of faith in Community</li> </ul>	<p>Responsibilities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Provide resources, support and direction to communities of faith in Community of Faith property issues (buying,</li> </ul>

	<p>of Faith property issues (buying, selling, leasing, and renovating);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a Regional Property Policy defining and outlining processes, accountability and procedure for approval with regards to Community of Faith and Regional property including distribution of Funds;</li> <li>• Make recommendations to the Support to Communities of Faith Commission;</li> <li>• Review requests from communities of faith in buying, selling, leasing, and renovating property and make recommendations to the Support to Communities of Faith Commission for approval as needed;</li> <li>• Make recommendations to Support to Communities of Faith Commission relating to amalgamations to work with Communities of faith;</li> <li>• Appoint and train Task Groups to walk with</li> </ul>	<p>selling, leasing, and renovating);</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop a Regional Property Policy defining and outlining processes, accountability and procedure for approval with regards to Community of Faith and Regional property including distribution of funds in consultation with the Support to Communities of Faith Commission;</li> <li>• Review requests from communities of faith in buying, selling, leasing, and renovating property and make decisions for approval as needed;</li> <li>• In consultation with the Support to Communities of Faith Commission, provide advice to communities of faith discerning amalgamation;</li> <li>• Appoint and train Task Groups to walk with communities of faith in areas outlined above;</li> <li>• Accountable to the CSRC EXEC.</li> </ul>
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	communities of faith in areas outlined above; <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Accountable to the Support to Community of Faith Commission.</li></ul>	
	Time Commitment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meets at the call of the Team Lead (not likely to be more than 2-3 hours per month)</li></ul> through technology as required.	Time Commitment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Meets at the call of the Commission Chair (not likely to be more than 2-3 hours per month) through technology as required.</li></ul>

Draft motion: that the Support to Communities of Faith Commission recommends that the Executive make the Property Resource Team the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council, with the authority to act for the Regional Council in matters relating to property (The Manual 2024 C.2.6), as indicated in the attached chart.

In order to facilitate an efficient reporting process between the Property Commission and the Executive of the Regional Council, it is recommended that a member of the Property Commission sit on the Executive, and that the Commission will submit its minutes for information.

## Appendix 2 Central Algoma

Central Algoma Church Communities  
PO Box 127  
Bruce Mines, On, P0R 1C0

**Minister:**                      **Administrator: Robin MacLeod**                      **705-736-2236**  
**Chairperson: Rhea McAdam** **705-206-6959**

Canadian Shield Regional Council 395 Lakeshore Drive North Bay, ON P1A 2C5

April 5, 2024

Dear Council Members:

The Central Algoma Church Communities, CACC, has received the Thessalon Pastoral Charge's

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three month written notice, as per the Joint Collaboration Agreement signed May 28, 2024, to withdraw from the CACC. The official withdrawal date will be May 18, 2024. The CACC is looking to the Regional Council for approval of this withdrawal. Also, at the last CACC council meeting the Thessalon representatives to the council inquired about the CACC giving back to the Thessalon Pastoral Charge their portion of the surplus that the CACC has accumulated over the last eight years. There was never any structure or procedure for the disbursement of funds should one of the charges decide to withdraw from the cluster. Therefore, the CACC is asking the Regional Council for direction on how we should handle this request.

I am including a copy of the latest Joint Collaborative Agreement that was passed by all charges in May 2023. I'm also attaching the Thessalon Pastoral Charge's written withdrawal notification. If any other information is required you can contact me at the office Thursday or Friday from 9:00 – 3:00 at 705-785-3444, or Tuesday at my home number 705-736-2236.

Sincerely ,Robin MacLeod Administrator

### **Appendix 3 St Mark's**

As a result of that meeting- the congregation has understood they have agreed to part with their building— at that meeting- we established- grief was a factor in which it was necessary to proceed slowly.

-they were also made aware - a buyer was interested in the property- when they were ready to sell

I was asked to initiate conversation w St. Patrick's Parish next door as a possible space to rent for worship-

This- was a result of the congregation wanting to remain a congregation- while they grieve the loss of their worship space-

-they also felt they would need time - before considering -amalgamation- or shared ministry with another congregation ('not ready to date just yet')

Our council meetings since- I had provided updates re: St Pats- ball was in their court- but there has been no response for months—

We had a council meeting this past Sunday- and two things- became clear—

1) Finding a suitable worship space is not required as first step -for putting the building up for sale

2) There is literally no more energy from the congregation to survive another winter of caring for the property—

\*Don— had weeks of a broken furnace- worrying about freezing pipes- and checking on the building- as furnace needed major repairs 2 different times- he is DONE—

My worry is — the energy to remain a congregation- will be lost- if they continue to carry this building-

They agreed at the meeting to have a real estate agent walk through the building w Jim- and Don-

They are looking for an appraisal re; market value-

And then next steps from the region- re: how do we sell the building-

As for worship space-

I'm slowly moving them along- emotionally-

I doubt they will pursue ST. Pat's- some have real difficulty w Catholic worship space-

And St. Marks- participates in shared ministry during the summer already-

I'm suggesting- come the fall- the congregation - "dates" other congregations- a month at a time-

le- Sept- 'St Stephen's on the Hill-

Oct- St. Peter's

Nov-Trinity-

Or whatever they decide-

We would ask to use/rent space- for our congregational meetings- and govern ourselves as a congregation- during this time of discernment-

But- it's clear— they need to sell the building- and are asking what are their next steps- Pls advise-

Many thanks

Kathy Dahmer Supervisor





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## **EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

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

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

**STAFF:** Peter Hartmans, Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Susan Whitehead, Shawn Redden, Rob Smith

**REGRETS:** John Watson

Chair Nancy welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

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

Peter opened the meeting with worship discussing his invitation to a prayer circle today where the challenges and blessings of communities of faith were noted. Peter read from Christ the True Vine passage (John 15:1-8) and ended with prayer.

### **INTRODUCTION**

Executive welcomed Shawn Redden to the CS Executive meeting by first introducing themselves and sharing what responsibilities they have around the region. Shawn then shared a bit about herself and said how excited she is to get to know and have conversations with Executive members.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION** by Jim Jackson/Barb Nott                      **CS Exec 2024-04-25-01**  
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as circulated.  
**CARRIED**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION** by Helen Smith/Joy Galloway                      **CS Exec 2024-04-25-02**  
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on March 7, 2024 be approved, as circulated.  
**CARRIED**

### **RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS**

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Susan Lindquist CS Exec 2024-04-25-03**  
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from February 27, 2024 and the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from February 27, 2024 be received, for information.  
**CARRIED**

**INCORPORATED MINISTRIES OMNIBUS MOTION**

**MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Joy Galloway CS Exec 2024-02-06-04**  
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council (6) Executive take the following actions:

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

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

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

*This is based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of February 11, 2024, draft board Meeting minutes of April 2, 2024, the 2024 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.*

*\*N.B. During follow up with this IM, concerns were raised by National Service staff to Regional Council staff. Regional Council staff are working with this IM and can provide further information.*

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

**CARRIED**

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## **CORRESPONDENCE**

### *Remit 1 Letter*

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

### *Letter to the Moderator re: Palestine and Israel*

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

### *Letter from the Moderator re: Gaza Ceasefire Pilgrimage*

This was a pastoral letter as a response to the concern around Israel/Palestine and how different groups are responding. The Moderator shared how the GCE is responding to this crisis and how we are partnering with groups like KAIROS, encouraging people to walk in prayerful solidarity while tracking the distance travelled.

### *Janet MacDonald's Resignation Letter*

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

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

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

### *Update on Creation of Property Commission - Motion*

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

**MOTION by Helen Smith/Stewart Walker CS Exec 2025-04-25-06**

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

**CARRIED**

**DRAFT BUDGET**

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

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

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

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

**MOTION by Bill Steadman/Barb Nott CS Exec 2024-04-25-07**

**That after review by the CSRC Finance Resource Team, the CSRC Executive recommends the 2025 Draft Budget to the 2024 Canadian Shield Regional Council meeting in Sault Ste. Marie, ON May 3-5, 2024.**

**CARRIED**

**2024 CS REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING and GC45**

*GC45 Commissioners Election – Nominations Committee Motion*

*Nominations Ctte Motion:*

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

Peter and Barb shared that the Nominations Committee would like to extend the receiving of GC45 Commissioner nominations until the fall, as they feel there has not been enough time to generate enough interest for an election.

**MOTION by Helen Smith/Barb Nott CS Exec 2024-05-24-08**

**Upon the recommendation of the CSRC Nominations Committee, that the election of the GC45 Commissioners be held at an electronic recall of the CSRC by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.**

**CARRIED**

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### *Update on Planning*

Helen shared that the planning for the meeting next weekend is all set and the team is very excited about hosting the meeting in Sault Ste. Marie. Diane discussed honoraria and requested that at some point before the next RCM in 2025, if Executive would have a conversation about putting parameters around when an honourarium should be given, what amount is appropriate, to whom might an honourarium be offered to, etc. Helen shared that they worked today on fine-tuning the agenda, working in some table group time, finding places for music to go, and a discussion about evaluation forms.

### *Proposals to 2024 CS RCM*

There are no proposals to date for the RCM.

### *Executive Report for Resource Book*

Nancy indicated that Executive was forwarded a copy of the 2024 CS RCM Executive Accountability Report for the Resource Book and asked if there was any input from members. Jim shared that it was exciting to read about all these things Executive did. Susan will put the report in the Resource Book for the meeting.

## **UPDATE ON CLOSURE OF THUNDER BAY OFFICE**

Peter indicated that as Rob Smith has transitioned into a new life in southern Ontario and has moved out of Thunder Bay, there will be no one to use the Thunder Bay office. Peter stated that the region has been so appreciative of the hospitality of Trinity UC in Thunder Bay for housing us.

**MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Joy Galloway CS Exec 2025-04-25-09**

**That the CSRC Executive authorize the closure of the CSRC**

**Thunder Bay Office effective July 31, 2024.**

**CARRIED**

**1 Abstention (Jim Jackson)**

## **CAMP UPDATE**

Diane shared the news that Camp McDougall would not be operating in 2024 due to financial, bylaw, and staffing issues. Executive discussed the financial difficulties and future leadership of the camp. They agreed that the current board's inability to function was a problem. The team also discussed concerns about the corporation's lack of financial transparency and the potential impact on their staff time. They agreed to continue attending board meetings until a decision is made by the Executive.

There were concerns raised about the leadership of the Board and the United Church in the area's lack of emotional connection with the camp. The group proposed that the camp should be given specific support tasks but not an open-ended bailout, with a focus on improving communication between the Board and constituency.

Executive agreed to pursue these concerns in the next four to six months. Additionally, there was a discussion about the potential use of church spaces for satellite camps, the

complexities and liabilities associated with this. The decision was made to postpone this discussion until a later meeting to allow time for updates on other matters. Shawn Redden will attend the board's next meeting to introduce herself.

### **100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY OF THE UCC**

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

### **HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY UPDATE**

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

### **2025 FESTIVAL OF FAITH UPDATE**

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

### **EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (APPENDIX A)**

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

### **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business at this time.

### **NEXT MEETING DATES:**

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

### **CLOSING**

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

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

## **APPENDIX A Executive Ministers Report April 2024**

We look forward with great anticipation to our May Regional Council Meeting. The planning team has made progress with the business of our regional meeting, focusing on

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the Election of Commissioners and Proposal review in advance of General Council 45. Our meeting also gives folks an in-person/online opportunity to connect, listen, pray, share, laugh, and learn as Church.

**GC45:**

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

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

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

**Festival of Faith:**

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

**Remit 1 update:**

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

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

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

**Staff update:**

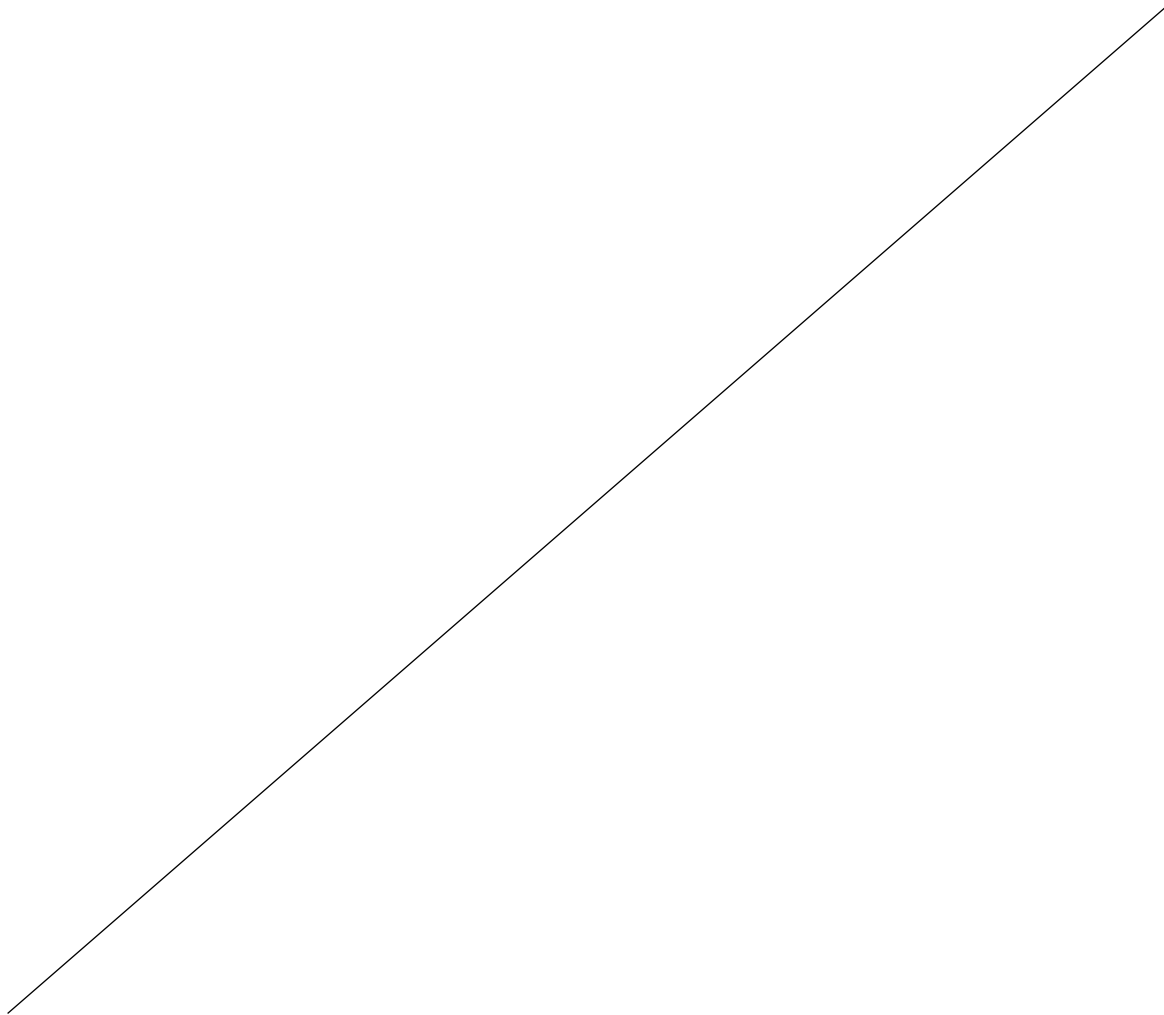
Our new Justice and Faith Formation Minister, Shawn Redden, has started! Shawn is moving to Ontario and has served as ministry personnel in the Maritimes. She is in the process of moving and plans to live in a number of locations, before she settles on a final location. She has many years experience in ministry both congregationally and supporting the Presbytery, Conference, and Regional Council as a volunteer.

**Huntington University:**

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

**Executive Minister Health Update:**

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





**REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING – MAY 3-5, 2024**

**MINUTES  
OF THE REGIONAL MEETING  
May 3-5, 2024**

The Hybrid Regional Council Meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council took place on May 3-5, 2024 at the Quattro Hotel and Conference Centre and via Zoom video conference. The theme was *Upon This Rock*.

**FRIDAY, May 3, 2024**

Words of Welcome, Opening of Meeting and Constituting the Council

The Canadian Shield Regional Council gathered in-person and via Zoom video conference at 1:30 p.m. to begin the Regional Council Meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council. Nancy Ferguson, Chair, welcomed all those participating, introduced herself and the Executive Minister, Peter Hartmans.

Chair Nancy Ferguson 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.

Bill Steadman lit the Christ Candle, Sylvia Carscadden from the Right Relations Resource Team gave an acknowledgement of the land and Susan Peverley of the Affirming Resource Team read the safe space statement.

Greetings from City Councillor and Chief

Chair Nancy welcomed Sault Ste. Marie City Councillor, Sandra Hollingsworth and asked her to bring greetings from the city of Sault Ste. Marie. She also welcomed Chair Mark McCoy and he brought greetings from the Batchewana First Nation.

Welcome to the Moderator of The UCC

Chair Nancy welcomed The Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, the 44<sup>th</sup> Moderator of The United Church of Canada to the meeting. Moderator Carmen will be sharing a talk later Friday and will run some workshops on Saturday.

Diane Matheson-Jimenez gave an orientation to how the group will be together during the meeting, and a BRAVE slide was shared.

Nancy Ferguson led the participants through a test motion and vote.

Opening Consent and Procedural Motions

**MOTION by Peter Hartmans / Kathie Smith**

**CS RCM 2024-05-03/05-01**

**That the following 2024 Hybrid Meeting Opening Consent Agenda and Procedural Motions be adopted:**

- a) **Roll of the Regional Council:** that the roll of Roll of the Regional Council shall consist of:
- All ministry personnel within the geographic bounds served by 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 (2024 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 numbered tables in the meeting space on the floor of the meeting at the Quattro Hotel and Conference Centre, 229 Great Northern Road, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, P6B 4Z2 and the Zoom meeting ID [845 1720 6362](#) when in session; that the Canadian Shield Regional Council hold a Celebration of Ministry Service Sunday, May 5, 2024 at 10:30 a.m. to take place at the Quattro Hotel and Conference Centre, 229 Great Northern Road, Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, P6B 4Z2.
- c) **Agenda:** that the Agenda, as printed and circulated, be the order of business, subject to those changes that are recommended by the Business & Agenda 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 November 25, 2023 be approved as circulated.
- e) **Accountability reports:** that the reports as presented in the Resource Book be accepted for information.
- f) **Adjournment of Sessions:** that the Chairperson have the authority to recess the Regional Council when business, as ordered, is completed, until the next order of the day.
- g) **Corresponding Members:** that corresponding members shall be official guests of the Regional Council. Their names shall be included in the Record of Proceedings (2024 Manual C.1.5).
- h) **Commitments:** that the regional council participants commit/covenant to honour the Holy Manners printed in the Resource Book and commit to our regional council's commitments around equity, justice and anti-racism through both conversation and actions. If there is failure to honour these commitments, individuals

**may be removed from the meeting at the discretion of the President.**

- i) **New Business & Nominations: that any items of New Business shall be given to the Chairperson. New Business items close at 12:00 p.m. on Saturday, May 4, 2024.**

### **Procedural**

1. **The procedural and prayer microphone shall be microphone #1 and the zoom chat box.**
2. **Any handouts must be authorized by the Chairperson and the Business & Agenda Committee.**
3. **The Parliamentarian shall be William Steadman.**
4. **The Chairperson will present proposals. The Chairperson may, at their discretion, invite an individual to verbally introduce a proposal for up to five minutes. The Chairperson will invite prayerful discernment and discussion on the wisdom of the proposal. When the Chairperson discerns that the sense of the meeting is such that we are ready to hear a motion on the proposal, they will invite the presenter to move the motion. Once the motion has been moved and seconded, Rules of Debate and Order shall be followed.**
5. **At the discretion of the chairperson, 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 Chairperson in 30-second increments when any item of business exceeds 20 minutes.**
7. **The normal voting procedure, in person, shall be a show of hands using ballot cards, except where a secret ballot is required (ballot sheets will be provided by the Chairperson through the Regional Council office). The normal voting procedure, online, shall be a show of hands using the RAISE HAND icon found at the bottom of the participants panel or \*9 for those on the phone. If two people are joined from the same household one person will vote with the Raise Hand icon and the second will type Yes or No in the chat. Those who wish to abstain will type ABSTAIN in the chat. Where a secret ballot is required, ballot sheets will be provided through the Regional Council website.**
8. **In the case of limited time for business, items will be dealt with in the following order: Elections, Proposals to Proposals to General Council, Proposals to Regional Council.**

## **Background for Consent Motions**

**Evaluation and experience have shown that the agendas of meetings of the Executive are full and that time for fulsome discernment and discussion of important items is occasionally lacking.**

**A consent agenda is a tool to help the Regional Council focus on what is most important. Proposals which are routine or non-controversial actions or routine changes in policy or procedure are included in the consent agenda. At the meeting, any 5 voting members of the Regional Council may request to move any item(s) from the consent agenda to be placed on the meeting's agenda. By courtesy, advance notice would be given to the Executive Minister. If you have a concern, you are encouraged to contact the Executive Minister in advance as an exchange of information may resolve a question.**

**In a consent agenda you may also find minutes of previous meetings, accountability reports, etc. The list of correspondence to the Executive (if any) is included with the reports to be received for information.**

### **Process for Removal of an Item from the Consent Motion:**

**The process for acting on the consent agenda in the opening sessions will be as follows:**

- 1. Presider/chair: "You have all received the Workbook, 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?"**
- 2. If any 5 voting members requests it, an item is removed (by courtesy, advance notice would be given to the Executive Minister).**
- 3. Presider/chair: "Without discussion, then, the consent agenda is ready for a vote. Those in favour? Opposed? All items on the consent agenda are adopted."**  
**CARRIED**

### Opening Worship

A time of worship was led on the theme "Upon This Rock" by Chair Nancy and the Music and Worship Team with Communion.

### Introductions

The Chair made a number of introductions, including the chaplains, the parliamentarian, the equity host, and the scrutineers. Peter Hartmans introduced the Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Councils staff team, the Office of Vocation staff, the Growth Animator, the President of the Shining Waters Regional Council and Chair Nancy

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introduced the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive and the Financial Administrator for the region.

Nominations Opening/Process

Kathie Smith, the Chair of the RCM Planning Team, shared the Nominations process for the RCM and that the nominations for GC45 Commissioners will remain open until an online recall of the CSRC in September 2024.

Open Session: Moderator Carmen

Moderator Carmen gave a brief description of her Flourishing events. After her description, she asked delegates to imagine a flourishing church – what would it look like to you? The court broke off into table group time (with the online group going into breakout rooms) to discuss flourishing and what it would like to them.

The meeting took an all-purpose break.

Open Session: Andrew Richardson

Andrew Richardson, from the Office of Vocation, described how The UCC has lived out the Strategic Plan's Daring Justice, Deep Spirituality, and Bold Discipleship, specifically focusing on Collaborative Leadership. The court broke off into table group time (with the online group going into breakout rooms) to discuss collaborative leadership/ministry, not just in churches. Questions to ponder include: What is your initial reaction? How will collaborative ministry enhance your ministry? What supports are needed? What are the road blocks?

Open Session: Calin Lau

Calin Lau, the Growth Animator for the CSRC, engaged in discussions about growth in the church and how it can be seen from different perspectives. The court broke off into table group time (with the online group going into breakout rooms) to discuss the passion, possibilities, needs, and achievements of each person in the group.

Announcements, Book Room, Greetings from UCW, and Grace

Kathie Smith, Chair of the 2024 CS Regional Council Meeting, offered some announcements. Pat Gilmore gave greetings from the Grand River Bookstore sharing some titles people may be interested in. Dawn Monroe, President of the CSRC UCW, brought greetings to the Regional Meeting. Chair Nancy then offered a grace before dinner.

The meeting took a dinner break.

Open Session: Moderator Carmen

The United Church of Canada Moderator, The Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, had an open session discussion about upon who's rock we are standing and being built on a rock.

Connecting to Music Matters 2024

The 2024 CS Regional Council Meeting connected via Zoom to the 2024 Music Matters event in Thunder Bay.

Announcements

Kathie Smith offered some announcements.

Theological Reflection

Moderator Carmen offered a Theological Reflection after the first day of the meeting.

Adjournment

Chair Nancy Ferguson declared the meeting adjourned to reconvene at 9:00 a.m. on May 4, 2024.

**SATURDAY, May 4, 2024**

Words of Welcome

Chairperson, Nancy Ferguson, welcomed participants to the second day of the Canadian Shield Regional Council meeting and called the meeting to order.

Morning Worship

Ryan Fea led the meeting in worship.

Financial Budget and Funds Report

Janet MacDonald, the Financial Administrator, presented a brief narrative on the 2024 Draft Budget and then asked that people record their questions and they would be answered later this afternoon.

The meeting took an all-purpose break.

Commission/Committee/Resource Team Presentations

Support of Communities of Faith Commission – Jim Jackson

Pastoral Relations Commission – Ted Harrison

GC44 Commissioners – Laura Hutchison

Israel/Palestine Conversation - Moderator Carmen

Right Relations Resource Team - Whitney Bruno

Property Resource Team Presentation - Gord Roberts

Affirming Resource Team - Peter Haddow

Mission Support Grants Resource Team - Nancy Rouble

Executive Committee – Nancy Ferguson

Open Session

Melody Duncanson Hales, Community of Faith Stewardship Support, brought greetings from the Philanthropy Unit of the General Council Office. She offered a stewardship presentation called “Good News! Igniting Generosity.”

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Close of New Business and Nominations, Announcements, and Grace

Kathie Smith announced the close of New Business and Nominations at 12:00 p.m. She also offered some announcements. Melody Duncanson Hales offered a grace before lunch.

The meeting took a lunch break.

Chair-Elect Speeches

The Chair-Elect candidates addressed the court; Bill Jones spoke to the court and Fraser Williamson joined by video.

Breakout Sessions

This breakout time involved 4 sessions – The Moderator, Andrew Richardson, Calin Lau, and Faithful Footprints online with Aleyxa Gates Julien.

Proposals

There were no proposals submitted before the deadline of April 12, 2024.

2025 Budget

**MOTION: Moved by Bill Jones and seconded by Bill Steadman CS RCM 2024-05-03/05-02**

**That on the recommendation of the Executive, the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the 2024 Draft Budget, as presented.**

**CARRIED**

**1 Abstention (Peter Hartmans)**

Election of Chair-Elect

Chair Nancy Ferguson explained the process for voting for Chair-Elect, both in-person and online.

After the vote was complete, Chair Nancy declared that Bill Jones has been chosen as the next Chair-Elect. Nancy gave thanks to all candidates for allowing their names to stand.

**MOTION: Moved by Kathie Smith and seconded by Bill Steadman CS RCM 2024-05-03/05-04**

**That the ballots from the Chair-Elect vote be destroyed.**

**CARRIED**

Nominations Report

Kathie Smith, Chair of the Nominations Committee, presented the Nominations Report.

**MOTION: Moved by Kathie Smith and seconded by Jim Jackson CS RCM 2024-05-03/05-03**

**That the Canadian Shield Regional Council elect those listed in the Nominations Slate to serve on the Canadian Shield Regional Council**

**Executive, Commissions, Committees and Resource Teams of the Canadian Shield Regional Council for the slated terms, as they apply.  
CARRIED**

Presentation of New Executive

Chair Nancy asked the members of the new CSRC Executive to stand or wave their hands if online in order to be presented to the court.

Breakout Sessions

There were 2 breakout sessions in the afternoon including: The Moderator, Andrew Richardson, Calin Lau, Five Oaks at Willowgrove, Labyrinth at Willowgrove, Stewardship with Melody (online) and online with the Moderator.

Book Room

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

Announcements

Kathie Smith was called on for announcements.

Banquet, Service and Theological Reflection

The meeting held a banquet and service starting at 6:00 p.m. Rev. Stewart Walker gave a welcome to everyone. The service celebrated the regional council student ministers, Admissions Ministers, Ministers serving in other institutions; Jubilands; retirees; those who have passed away; and communities of faith that have closed. Moderator Carmen gave a theological reflection. She spoke about 'hush' meaning I hear you, I understand you, I empathize with you. We're all in it together and God is 'in it' with us; God is with us and we are with each other.

The closing benediction was given by Stewart Walker.

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m. until Sunday morning.

**SUNDAY, May 5, 2024**

New Business

There was no new business.

Question & Answer Period with the Moderator of The UCC

The Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne offered a Q & A period for the region to ask questions.

Courtesies and Outgoing Chairperson

Kathie Smith, Chair of the 2024 RCM Planning Team talked about some housekeeping items.



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Chair, Nancy Ferguson gave her thanks to special guests Calin Lau, our Growth Animator, Andrew Richardson, and the Moderator for engaging with the region at the meeting. Kathie Smith presented a painting to the Moderator, that was created by Michael Raby for the Regional Council Meeting.

On behalf of the Planning Team, Kathie Smith gave courtesies to all who helped to put on this meeting.

Diane Matheson-Jimenez then thanked the Chair of the Planning Team, Kathie Smith and the Planning Team for all their hard work on the meeting.

Peter Hartmans virtually thanked Chair Nancy for her leadership at the meeting. He shared he is looking forward to the online 2025 Fall Regional Council Meeting, where the region will elect our GC45 Commissioners and then meeting in-person at the joint Shining Waters and Canadian Shield 2025 Festival of Faith in Sudbury June 13-15, 2025.

Adjournment

The Chair, Nancy Ferguson, declared the 2024 Hybrid Canadian Shield Regional Council Meeting be adjourned.

Blessing

Nancy Ferguson offered a blessing before the region departed.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:55 a.m.

Celebration of Ministries Service

Canadian Shield Regional Council held a Celebration of Ministries Service at the Quattro Hotel and Conference Centre.

Rev. Rob Smith, the Canadian Shield Regional Council Pastoral Relations Minister, welcomed everyone in-person and online and gave an Acknowledgement of the Land. Rev. Whitney Bruno spoke about the Recognition of the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls and Two Spirited People.

Rev. Rob Smith presided with assistance by Liturgists Rev. Erin Todd, Rev. Stewart Walker, Rev. Glen Eagle, and Rev. Laurie Stevenson.

The Scripture readings were from Exodus 17:1-7 and Matthew 16:13-18. The Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne delivered the message.

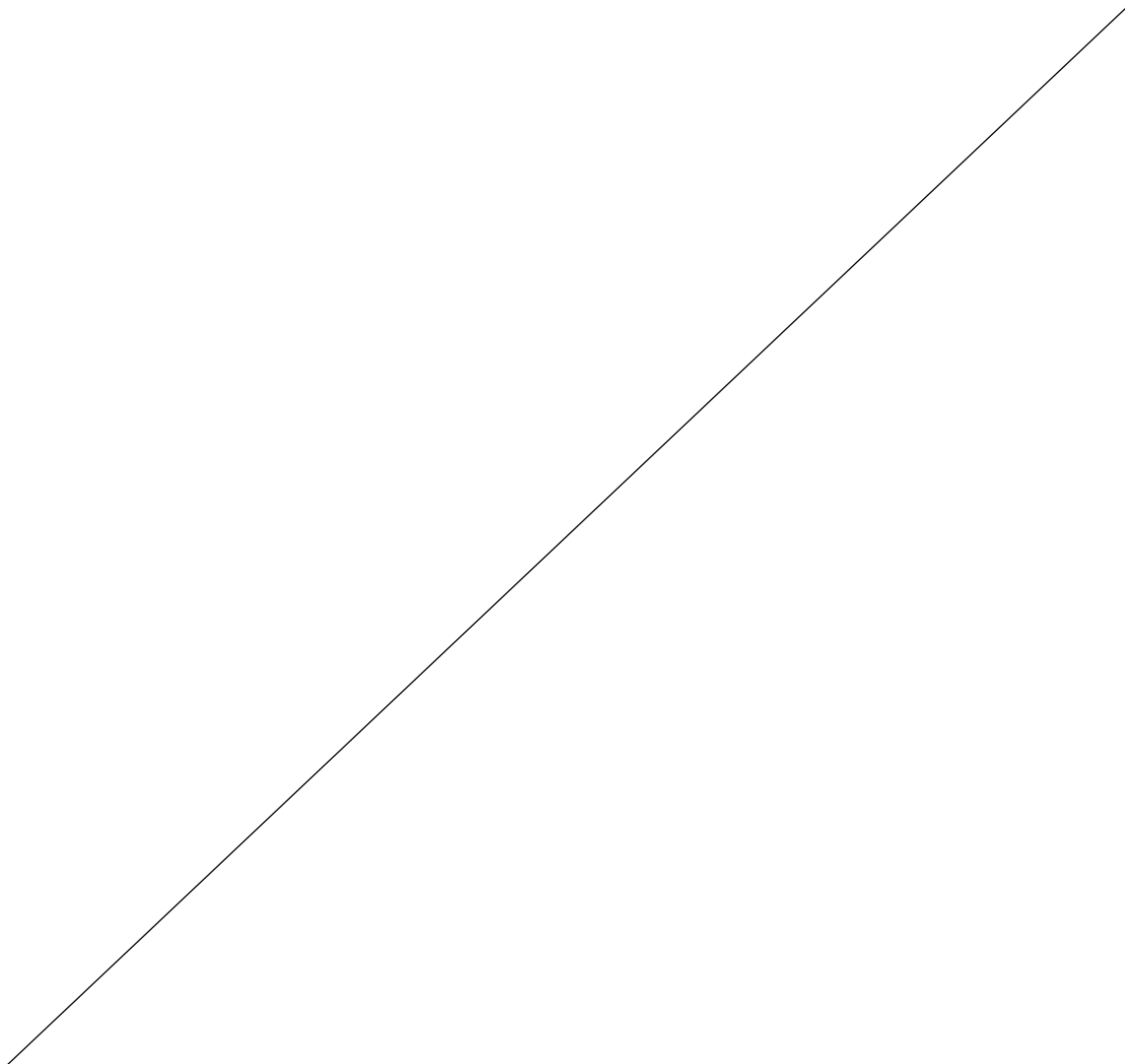
Helen Smith and Tracy Davis were ordained to the order of ministry and Lisa Blais was commissioned to the order of ministry. The ordinations and commission were presided over by Rev. Nancy Ferguson, Rev. Rob Smith, Rev. Kellie McComb (Office of Vocation), and Rev. Todd McDonald (Shining Waters Regional Council Pastoral Relations Minister).

Rob Smith acknowledged Rev. Desire Tiriwepi, whom was admitted into The United Church of Canada at a service in Thunder Bay, ON in October 2024.

There was a covenanting with the new Canadian Shield Regional Council Staff person, Shawn Redden, as well as a covenanting with the new Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive.

The Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne gave the benediction.

Rev. Nancy Ferguson, the Chair of the region, declared the 2025 Hybrid Canadian Shield Regional Meeting adjourned.



## **SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION**

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission**  
**Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada**  
**ZOOM Meeting – Date: May 21, 2024 6:30 p.m.**  
**Agenda**

**Welcome, Check- in and introduction of members**

**Opening Prayer:**

**Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space: Approval of Agenda:**

**Approval of Minutes:** April 23, 2024 Pages 273 - 283

**Business Arising:**

Reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments Pastoral Care Workshop for  
lay lead communities of faith

Property Commission – update

**Correspondence:**

**Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:**

**Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

15. Updates from Communities of Faith

- a. Schreiber
- b. Val D'or
- c. Fairview – Tehkummah
- d. St Mark's -
- e. St Andrew's & Central UC Sault Ste Marie

2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting – June 1, 2024 North Bay

3. Commission Joint working group with the addition of the Property Commission

**Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)**

- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team: Request for Morning Brews and Future Views (2 requests)
- Right Relations Resource Team –
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team –
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team –
- United in Worship Project -
- Social Justice Network:

**Emergent Business:**

Let's Connect Lay Leaders Webinar “Where two or three are gathered there is Jesus. And conflict” Thursday May 23, 2024 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Date of Next Meeting:** discussion?

**Adjournment:** Closing Prayer

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission**  
**Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada**  
**ZOOM Meeting – Date: May 21, 2024 6:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Kathy Calverley, Susan Peverley, Jim Jackson, Ernie Epp, Crystal Greig, Bonnie Johnson, Desire Tiriwepi,

**Regrets:** Marilyn Schatzler Janice Brownlee

**Staff Support:** Melody Duncanson Hales, Diane Matheson Jimenez, Calin Lau, Shawn Redden

**Welcome, Check- in and introduction of members**

**Opening Prayer:** Diane asked each what talent they bring to this commission and then she opened with prayer.

**Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space:** Jim acknowledged the territories upon which we meet. He declared that this meeting was a safe space to meet.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Moved; Ernie Epp**

**Seconded: Crystal Greig**

*That the agenda be approved as amended with the inclusion of a power point for orientation.*

**Carried**

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Moved: Bonnie Johnson**

**Seconded: Susan Peverley**

*That the minutes for April 23, 2024 Pages 273 – 283 be accepted with the corrections of lead to led.*

**Carried**

**Orientation Power Point presentation.**

**Business Arising:**

Reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments: A discussion was held about using the template. We need to add a section of Faith Formation, a section for Self-Assessments and another on Outreach/engaging community. In the end, the group will take the template and examine over the next few months review. The staff will take the reviews looking for Sparks and Red Flags. Staff will keep a list of flags reviewed. Shawn suggested “Rather than the word ‘Faith Formation’ perhaps something that is more wholistic that helps people note how/where spirituality/Christian nurture/faith formation of all ages is happening (beyond Sunday worship). And with outreach, outreach and community engagement”

Pastoral Care Workshop for Lay Led communities of faith: No Report

Property Commission – update: It has been established. On Friday May 24<sup>th</sup> the small committee will develop and review the policy. It will then be sent to the Executive.

**Correspondence:**

An e-mail was received from Jane Graham of Zion UC Thessalon with regards to the Central Algoma church communities.

**Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:** April 25, 2024 dealt with several issues including the approval of the request to establish the Property Commission (PC), the postponement of the elections of GC 45 commissioners. Next Meeting will be May 30, 2024.

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### **Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

16. Updates from Communities of Faith
  - a. Schreiber- now business of Property Commission
  - b. Val D'or – now business of Property Commission
  - c. Fairview – Tehkummah - now business of Property Commission
  - d. St Mark's - Correspondence needs to be sent. Melody met with the congregation in May around transition. Their supervisor has been intentional about how they want to be community without property.
  - e. St Andrew's & Central UC Sault Ste Marie - now business of Property Commission
17. Local regional cluster support:
  - a. Sudbury meeting – June 1, 2024 Morning Brews Future Views.
  - b. North Bay- no report.
3. Commission Joint working group with the addition of the Property Commission – Date to be set with new Chair of PRC, Stewart Walker as well as Gord Roberts, Chair of PC. The intent is to keep communications open among the commissions.

### **Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)**

- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team: Request from Morning Brews and Future Views (2 requests). We await a recommendation from the Grant Team in the near future. There will be an e-mail poll or a short meeting.
- Right Relations Resource Team: Melody reported that the next meeting is next week and they will be developing resources for National Indigenous Day. Are there ways that we can personalise the Acknowledgement as well as reach out to local communities? Ernie will make some inquiries.
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team: Capreol is becoming an Affirming congregation May 26, 2024 at 2:00 p.m.
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team: Shawn is working to connect with the previous team. Held an information night around Rendez-vous Audacious Hope that was well attended and there will be some work on grants. Would like to take time with the Commission to discuss supporting Faith Formation in the future. Another emerging piece: how does a network like Manitou Intentional Learning Community (MILC) fit into that vision?
- United in Worship Project: United-In-Worship completed a mail-out campaign and email campaign to all current subscribers letting them know that renewal time is approaching and included instructions on how to renew and how to let us know that they won't be subscribing in the coming year. We have already heard back from 55% of our current subscribers (the total is currently 35 churches). There will be follow up with a phone campaign at the end of May for all those not yet heard from. Now, we are starting the new year July 1 with sixteen signed and paid-up subscribers. They are encouraged by the numbers and the feedback.
- Social Justice Network: Ernie reported that the next meeting is June 12, 2024. He would like representation from the east section of the region. The

general work is securing support around the Guaranteed Liveable Income.  
Shawn has this area of responsibility as a staff support person.

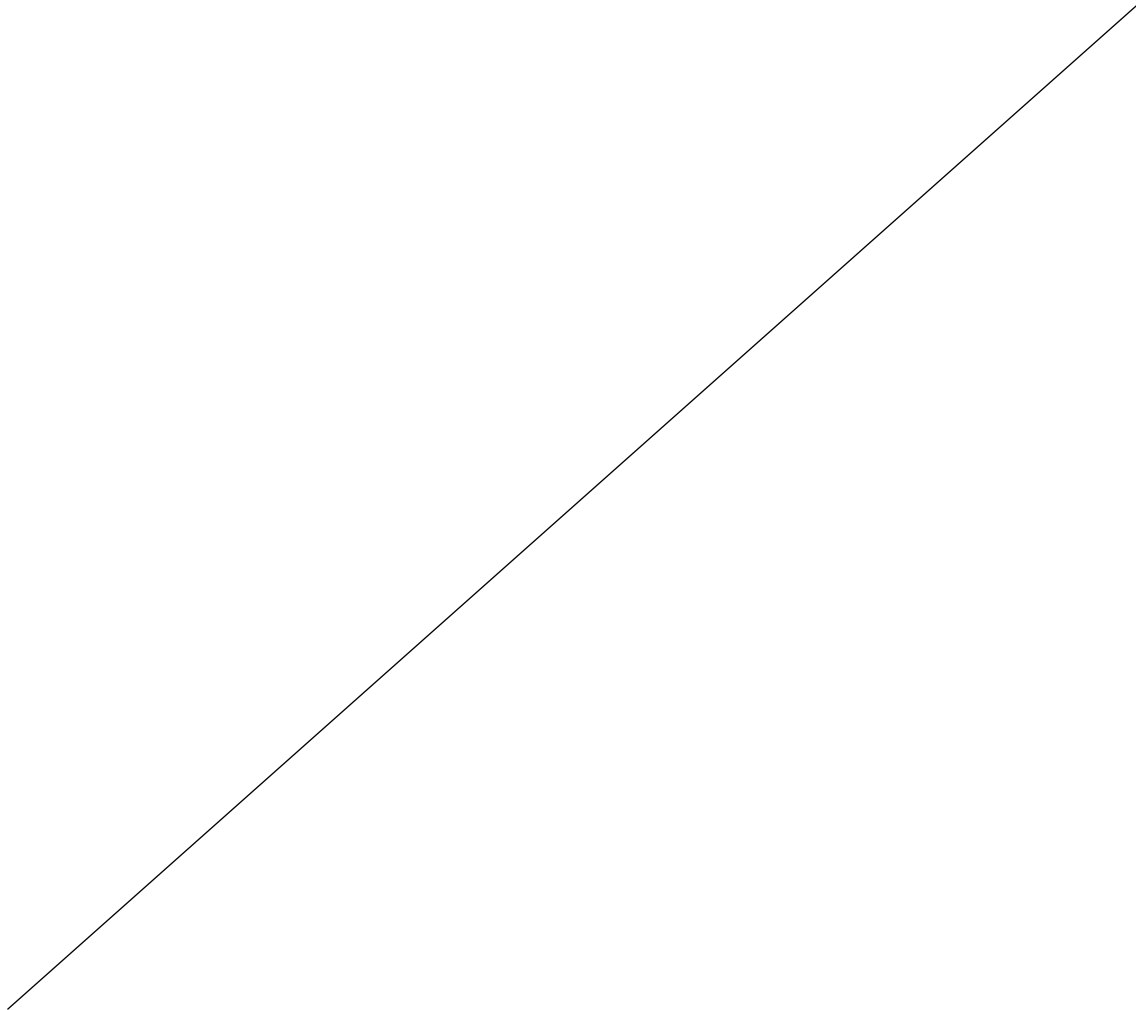
**Emergent Business:**

Let's Connect Lay Leaders Webinar: "Where two or three are gathered there is Jesus. And conflict" Thursday May 23, 2024 7:30 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.

**Date of Next Meeting:** Have the staff do a survey monkey. To see if we can find a consensus. Results of the survey Monday June 24 at 6:30 PM

**Adjournment:** *that the meeting be adjourned at 8:42 p.m.*

Closing Prayer: Melody closed the meeting with prayer.



## PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

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Canadian Shield Regional Council  
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting  
Held by Zoom  
May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:15 p.m.

Welcome (1:24 p.m.)	New Chair Stewart Walker welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
Attendance	Karen Gooch (Secretary), Jane Graham, Ted Harrison, Steven Loweth, Cyndy Raby, Erin Todd, Janet Venton, Stewart Walker (Chair), John Watson, Fraser Williamson (10)
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Guest	Calin Lau, Growth Animator (Regrets)
Regrets	Joy Galloway
Check-in	Members of the Commission took some time checking in before beginning the meeting. New members Steven Loweth and Cyndy Raby were introduced and welcomed. Now that warm weather has arrived, people talked about their plans for the summer. Some are racing and some are cheering on grandchildren who are racing. Others talked about visiting family, putting the boat in the water and a planned trip to Iceland. Some were feeling energized after the CSRC AGM.
Acknowledgement	Stewart Walker acknowledged that we gather on the land of Indigenous people who we thank for their stewardship of creation through the ages. We walk together with First Nation People in reconciliation, in learning and unlearning. As well, Stewart reminded us that all are welcome in this safe meeting space.
Opening	To open the meeting, Stewart offered a reflection based on Mark 4:35-41 – the story of when Jesus calmed the waves on the Sea of Galilee. Stewart spoke about the image of the church as a boat. He shared the 1614 painting by Dutch artist Adriaen van de Venne called <i>Fishing for Souls</i> which shows many boatloads of people in competition to be saved. Unlike the past, there is much less competition among denominations and we are often reminded that we are not alone on the water. Christ's boat is not the only one. Each congregation is a boat. Whose boat will save you?
Agenda	<b>Motion 2024-05-28-01</b> Jane Graham/ Janet Venton moved that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried
Minutes of Previous Meeting	<b>Motion 2024-05-28-02</b> Karen Gooch/ Erin Todd moved that the minutes from the April 23 <sup>rd</sup> , 2024 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission be accepted as circulated. Carried
Business Arising	
Burk's Falls	Appendix I

CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting  
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Rob Smith stated that informal attempts to encourage Burk's Falls United to regularize the terms of their pastoral relationship with Rev. Linda Newnham has been a struggle.

- Rob read aloud a letter (Appendix I) requesting that the congregation take the required steps to resolve this issue by June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The letter states that failure to contact the PRC by this date will result in a referral of the matter to the Office of Vocation. It was agreed by consensus to send this letter.
- Clarification of the background of this situation was provided for the new members of the Commission. Burk's Falls is paying Rev. Linda Newnham as an 'independent contractor'. There is no PRC appointment or Pastoral Charge Supervisor in place. This is not allowed under UC policy and could potentially put Linda's status as a minister and the charitable status of the congregation in jeopardy.
- The PRC has discussed initiating a church review, but it was agreed that this may not help the situation at this time. There has not been any response to previous attempts to bring the church into compliance.

Ministry Retreat Evaluation Rob Smith asked if there was any feedback about the recent ministry retreat. Generally, there were good comments. The speaker and exercise components had good reviews. There was some confusion around the registration process.

Celebration of Ministry Banquet It was agreed that things went well during the Celebration of Ministry Banquet.

Celebration of Ministry Service The Celebration of Ministry service went very well and was very well attended. Rob Smith offered thanks to those who helped to put the service together - Stewart Walker, Erin Todd, Glen Eagle, Willowgrove United and the team responsible for the service music.

Regional Report Evaluation Thanks was offered to Ted Harrison for the oral report he provided at the CSRC AGM. He offered a very good overview of the work of the PRC.

Joint Retreat There was a discussion about the planned joint Ministry Personnel retreat with CSRC and Shining Waters Regional Council at Fern Resort (near Orillia) in September 2024.

- Initially Rob Smith felt there was support for the event, but after the discussion at the last couple of meetings regarding providing extra funding for travel to the event, it became apparent that members of the PRC are not fully supportive of the idea.
- Unfortunately, a commitment has been made to provide \$5,000 to the event this year which would likely be cancelled without PRC money. In which case, we would still likely be on the hook for \$3,000 to \$4,000. The money will come from the Health, Joy and Excellent Fund. Those attending could apply for a subsidy grant if needed. Last year's event provided a precedent and there was initial consent that the event should happen again.
- There appears to be some tension between the two regions resulting from cultural differences. It is felt that investing in our Ministry Personnel is important, but the optics of spending on a retreat at a 'fancy' resort looks bad when so many of our churches in the north are having trouble making ends



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Held by Zoom  
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meet. There are other cost-effective ways of community building. Last year, 23 people attended (with 5 from CSRC).

- The PRC does have the money but... Perhaps we can hold future joint retreats but consider a more modest venue.

**Motion 2024-05-28-03**

Ted Harrison/ Steven Loweth moved that the Pastoral Relations Commission support the September 2024 joint retreat with Shining Waters Regional Council this year with the understanding that our future participation is subject to review.

**Carried**

**Correspondence**

There was a bulletin provided from the Office of Vocation outlining Standards for Continuing Education for Ministry Personnel.

**New Business**

**Resource Teams** Pastoral Relations Liaisons

- There are currently 13 liaisons – 4 of them are active. This includes Fraser Williamson and Sandra Jenkinson who are working with congregations in Shining Waters Regional Council. A training event for new and current liaisons is planned for February 2025.
- There are a number of congregations that do not have a minister and are not actively searching for one.

LLWLs

- Interviews of LLWLs that are seeking relicensing is ongoing.
- The February 2024 educational event with Alydia Smith has been rescheduled for Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024. This event will focus on music and prayers for use in worship.
- Kathy McCallum currently conducting in-person LLWL training and Joy and George Bott are continuing their successful on-line training program.

Support to Ministry Personnel

- There will be a Zoom gathering with Adam Hanley on Wednesday June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 to review the new con-ed guidelines and the spending of con-ed money.
- The joint Ministry Personnel retreat with Shining Waters is on September 25<sup>th</sup> - 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at Fern Resort with Robin McGauley the theme is "Feeling Stuck in Ministry? Be Still. Be Snail"
- There will be a follow-up with Andrew Richardson about cooperative ministry on October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024 which will be held by Zoom.

**Announcements**

Rob Smith highlighted the following upcoming events:

- A M&P Committee check-in will be held on May 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. jointly with Shining Waters Regional Council.

**Consensus Packet**

The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting.

1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council receive the request by the Rev. Catherine Somerville (OM) for a change of pastoral relations with St. Stephen's-on-the-Hill United, Sudbury, ON, due to retirement effective December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024
2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the recommendation of the Licensed Lay Worship

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Leaders Resource and Support Team to re-license Lori Van Santvoort-Jansekovich, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2027.

3. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the recommendation of the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders Resource and Support Team to re-license Lorna Corzine, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2027.
4. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of First United, Wawa, ON to re-license Lorna Chiupka as a sacraments elder, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
5. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of Trinity United, Chapleau, ON to re-license Susan Lindquist as sacraments elder, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
6. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of Trinity United, Chapleau, ON to re-license Tim Cecile as a sacraments elder, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.

**Motion 2024-05-28-04**

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

**Carried**

**her Business**

**Pastoral Charge Supervisors Reports** We will ask Elaine Lush if she is willing to review the Pastoral Charge Supervisor reports as she has done in the past. The deadline for reports was March 31<sup>st</sup>, but a reminder letter has not been sent out yet. So far, only 2 or 3 out of 40 reports have been received. This topic will be added to Business Arising at the next meeting.

**Festival of Faith** Rob Smith asked PRC member to consider whether there should be a Ministry Personnel retreat held in conjunction with the Festival of Faith being held in the spring in Sudbury. There is also the possibility of having an ordination service as part of the Festival.

**Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:15 p.m. Ted Harrison will provide the opening and Janet Venton will provide the closing. Jane Graham provided her regrets for the June meeting.

**Journalment** Stewart Walker offered a prayer before the meeting was adjourned at 2.35 p.m.

---

Chairperson, Stewart Walker

The United Church of Canada  
Canadian Shield Regional Council

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CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting  
Held by Zoom  
May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2024

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**Appendix I**



Main Office: 395 Lakeshore Drive, North Bay, ON P1A 2C5  
Main Phone: 705-474-3350 | 1-833-236-0281  
Website: [www.canadianshieldrc.ca](http://www.canadianshieldrc.ca)

**May 29, 2024**

**Governing Body of Burk's Falls Pastoral Charge**

135 Younge St.  
P.O. Box 262  
Burk's Falls, ON P0A 1C0

**Dear Governing Body of Burk's Falls Pastoral Charge,**

I am writing to you on behalf of the Pastoral Relations Commission of the Canadian Shield Regional Council of the United Church of Canada. On December 18, 2023, I wrote to you expressing the Commission's concern that we did not have a pastoral charge supervisor for your community of faith. A pastoral charge supervisor is needed to ensure that you have quorum for the meetings of your governing board. Without a pastoral charge supervisor, or a duly appointed or called minister, this makes the community of faith vulnerable because it does not have the protection of the United Church of Canada and is therefore open to the potential risk of liability if something should go wrong.

I also wrote to you about the commission's concern that the Rev. Linda Newnham was offering her services as an independent contractor. An ordered minister within the United Church of Canada cannot fill the duties of a minister in a community of faith as an independent contractor or as "permanent pulpit supply." Once again, this makes Rev. Newnham vulnerable in relation to Canada Revenue and more importantly, she would not be covered by the insurance of the United Church of Canada if there was an incident. This puts the minister and the community of faith at great risk financially and spiritually.

I suggested at that time that you offer the Rev. Newnham an appointment or call to serve you. This would then negate the need for a separate Pastoral Charge Supervisor. Unfortunately, I have not heard directly from you about the Commission's concerns. I am happy to discuss with your governing board how we might find our way forward. The commission would like to have this issue resolved by June 30, 2024. If we have not officially heard from you by that time, we will then refer the matter to the Office of Vocation.

The Canadian Shield Regional Council is here to support you as you live into your calling as a community of faith. We also need to ensure that communities of faith follow our policies and procedures that are created for your protection and that our ministers are paid fairly and equitably. We look forward to talking with you soon. My prayers are with you as you continue to serve God and this United Church of ours in your community. Thank you for your faithful service.

**Blessings,**

Rev. Rob Smith  
Pastoral Relations Minister  
Canadian Shield Regional Council

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

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

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

**GUEST:** Gord Roberts

**REGRETS:** Bill Steadman, Susan Lindquist, David LeGrand

Chair Nancy welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

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

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

### INTRODUCTION AND CHECK-IN

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

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

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

### RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

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

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

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

*Email from Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa re: 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of UCC*

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

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

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

*Retirement email from Todd McDonald – SWRC Staff*

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

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

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

## **2024 REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING (RCM) RECAP**

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

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

- Sometimes the font size of the hymns and slides were hard to see; the presiding table needs their own monitor;
- For the most part, evaluations expressed a relaxed and positive experience.

### **HONORARIA POLICY FOR VOLUNTEERS/GUEST TO RC EVENTS AND MEETINGS**

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

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

### **PROPERTY COMMISSION**

- Proposed Policy Changes
- Proposed Governance Document Changes

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

*MOTION by Helen Smith/Stewart Walker*

*CS Exec 2025-04-25-*

*06*

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

**CARRIED**

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

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Jones**  
**30-04**

**CS Exec 2025-05-**

**That the CSRC Executive approve the Property Commission Chair and Member Job Descriptions, Terms of Reference, and the**



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**Property Commission addition to the Property Policy and Procedures document.**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION by Bill Jones/Susan Peverley                      CS Exec 2025-05-30-05**

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

**CARRIED**

### **GOVERNANCE DOCUMENT REVIEW TEAM**

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

**MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Lionel Ketola    CS EXEC 2025-05-30-06**

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

**CARRIED**

### **CSRC LOGO POLICY**

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

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

### **CAMPING UPDATE**

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

### **CSRC SUB-EXECUTIVE**

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

### **GCE SUMMARY MAY 2024**

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

## **EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (APPENDIX A)**

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

## **NEW BUSINESS**

*Spring 2025 CS Online RCM Date*

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

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

## **NEXT MEETING DATES:**

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

## **CLOSING**

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

## **APPENDIX A** **Executive Ministers Report** **May 2024**

### **RCM:**

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

### **GC45:**

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

### **Festival of Faith:**

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

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

Consider joining the UCC kick off celebration online via YouTube or in-person at Metropolitan United Church, Toronto, on June 9, 2024. Chair Rev. Nancy Ferguson, will



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attend the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary kick-off service following her attendance at Shining Waters RCM June 7-8, 2024.

**Staffing Update:**

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

**News from Shining Waters Regional Council:**

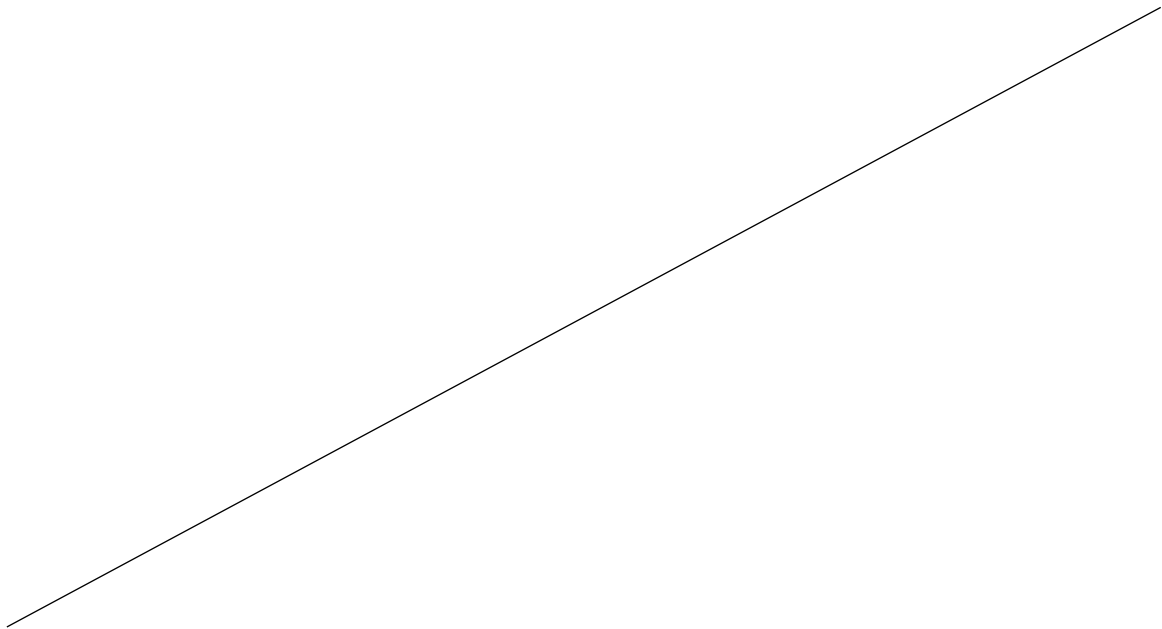
Todd MacDonald announced his retirement as of July 31, 2025. Glad we have one more year but both Regional Councils have benefited from his experience and advice as Rob Smith and others joined our team.

**Huntington University:**

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

**Executive Minister Health Update:**

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



## PROPERTY COMMISSION

### Minutes of a meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Property Commission Thursday June 13, 2024

The Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council met on Thursday June 13, 2024 by video conference. The meeting began at 10:00 a.m.

**Members Present:** Rob Ferris, Wayne Jeffkins, James Ko, Paul McAllister, Jack Page, Gordon Roberts (chair), Jan Ross

**Staff:** Melody Duncanson-Hales, Kathleen Jones, Diane Matheson- Jimenez

**Welcome and Opening** Gordon Roberts welcomed everyone to the meeting

#### Agenda

**MOTION** by Jack Page / Paul McAlister

**CS PC 2024 06 13**

**01**

that the agenda of the meeting of the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council dated June 13 2024 be approved as circulated

**CARRIED**

#### Minutes

**MOTION** by Wayne Jeffkins / James Ko

**CS PC 2024 06 13**

**02**

that the Minutes of the meeting of the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council dated May 9, 2024 be approved as circulated

**CARRIED**

The Commission made the following decision by email vote;

**MOTION** by Wayne Jeffkins / James Ko

**CS PC 2024 06 13**

**03**

that the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the sale of St. Andrew's United Church, Sault Ste. Marie 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, as seller and Nilay Patel and Hemuben Mistry as the buyer, at the price of \$600,000 with a closing date of August 5, 2024

**CARRIED**

#### **St. Andrews United Church, Sault Ste Marie**

Diane led the meeting's discussion on the sale of St. Andrews United Church, which was approved by an email vote. Diane provided updates, mentioning the sale was accepted

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late and subject to conditions. Jack questioned the decision-making process and the trustees' role versus the Church Council's, feeling the latter lacked final authority. Diane offered to resend relevant documents to address Jack's concerns about the rushed process and lack of information influencing his previous vote against the sale.

### **REPRESENTATIVE ON EXECUTIVE FROM PROPERTY COMMISSION**

**MOTION** by Rob Ferris / Paul McAlister

**CS PC 2024 06 13**

**04**

that the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council agree that Gordon Roberts will be the acting representative to the CSRC Executive, with Wayne Jeffkins acting as an alternate in Gordon's absence

**CARRIED**

### **SECOND REPRESENTATIVE TO COMMISSION CONNECTIONS**

Commission Connections will meet on June 26<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 2:30pm. Each Commission can be represented by two members. Gordon Roberts has agreed to be one of the members. If another member of the commission is willing to attend, please notify Gordon prior to the date to receive the zoom link.

### **WHAT/HOW DO WE RATIFY OUR DECISIONS/MINUTES AS THEY GO ON TO EXECUTIVE FOR INFORMATION**

It was agreed to meet as a Commission on Thursday August 22<sup>nd</sup> 10:00am prior to the CSRC Executive meeting on Thursday September 5<sup>th</sup>. The purpose of this meeting was to discuss events that had occurred over the summer and to ensure these were recorded and approved for the Executive meeting.

### **INCORPORATED MINISTRIES AND PROPERTY COMMISSION**

The role of incorporated ministries within the regional council were discussed. They clarified that these entities are at arm's length from the functioning of the regional council and that the United Church has no direct responsibility for them.

- Camp McDougall Inc, Thessalon
- Thunder Bay United Church Camp Incorporation (Camp Duncan)
- Emmanuel Village Non-Profit Homes, North Bay
- St. Andrew's Place, Sudbury
- St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation.

### **Bruce Mines United Church, Bruce Mines**

Diane reported that Bruce Mines was completed and the last piece of work, requiring an affidavit from Peter Hartmans, was successfully received by the lawyers.

### **Broadway United Church, Thunder Bay**

Diane shared that a real estate agent had been met with and an inspection was requested due to concerns about the building's structure. Paul added they were waiting for confirmation of the property's value. The congregation's priority was revealed to be getting

rid of the property, with future decisions about partnerships and worship to be made once that was accomplished

**Porcupine United Church, Porcupine**

Melody informed the Commission about a major renovation project at Porcupine United Church initiated by Reverend Bill Jones and Lester Cudmore. The project aims to address accessibility, safety concerns in the kitchen, and reduce the church's carbon footprint, with an estimated cost of \$77,000, and additional costs of up to \$123,000. The Commission discussed the importance of securing funding before starting the project and the need for a fully developed budget and timeline.

**MOTION** by Jan Ross / Jack Page  
**05**

**CS PC 2024 06 13**

that the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council endorses, in principle, the plan for development at Porcupine United Church, pending approval of funding from the Mission Support Grants Resource Team and final approval of the development plan from the Property Commission before work begins.

**CARRIED**

**St. Mark's United Church, Sudbury**

There will be a request for approval to list St. Mark's United Church to sell church property. The formal motion has not yet been made although there is a congregation meeting on Sunday June 23<sup>rd</sup>. The idea was addressed in April / May at the council of the whole congregation. The trustees were encouraged to meet with Real Estate professional. At the next meeting of the congregation, it is foreseeable that the trustees will be directed to seek approval to list the property.

**Next Meeting** –Thursday August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024 10:00 a.m.

**Closing** –Gordon closed the meeting in prayer



## **SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION**

### **Support to Communities of Faith Commission Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada ZOOM Meeting – Date: June 24, 2024 6:30 p.m.**

#### **Agenda**

**Welcome,**

**Opening Prayer: Diane Matheson Jimenez**

**Acknowledgement of Territory and Safe Space: Marilyn**

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Approval of Minutes:** May 21, 2024 Pages 284 - 287

#### **Business Arising:**

Reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments - update  
Pastoral Care Workshop for lay led communities of faith

#### **Correspondence:**

#### **Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:**

#### **Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

##### **1. Communities of Faith**

- a. St Mark's Sudbury
  - b. St Stephen's on the Hill and Lively – shared ministry discussions
  - c. St Andrew's Larch st Sudbury – minister resigned
2. Local regional cluster support: Sudbury meeting, North Bay
  3. Commission Joint working group; Meeting May 30, 2024 see below

#### **Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)**

- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team: camping grant
- Right Relations Resource Team –
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team –
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team –
- United in Worship Project –
- Social Justice Network:
- Growth Animator's work -

#### **Emergent Business:**

**Date of Next Meeting:** discussion before last Thursday in the month, not Monday or Thursday choir, timing early evening?

**Adjournment:** Closing Prayer Melody Duncanson Hales

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission**  
**Canadian Shield Regional Council – United Church of Canada**  
**ZOOM Meeting – Date: June 24, 2024 6:30 p.m.**

**Present:** Janice Brownlee, Susan Peverley, Mardi Mumford, Marilyn Schatzler, Crystal Greig, Ernie Epp, Desire Tiriwepi, Kathy Calverley

**Regrets:** Jim Jackson, Diane Matheson Jimenez

**Welcome**

**Opening Prayer:** Melody Duncanson Hales opened with prayer.

**Acknowledgement of Territory:** Susan Peverley used the resource Treaty Words to remind us that the 1<sup>st</sup> treaty was between the Earth and the Sky to work together. Treaties are not just words but agreements to share these lands with respect.

**Safe Space:** Marilyn read the Safe Space declaration.

**Approval of Agenda:**

**Moved: Crystal Greig    Seconded: Ernie Epp**

*That the agenda be approved as circulated.    Carried*

**Approval of Minutes:**

**Moved: Mardi Mumford    Seconded: Susan Peverley**

*That the minutes for May 21, 2024 Pages 284 – 287 be approved.    Carried*

**Business Arising:**

- Reviewing Annual Reports and Self-assessments: Melody Duncanson Hales will divide up the received Annual reports among the commission members to review using the template and send back to our secretary Mardi. This will be summer work for the commissioners.
- Pastoral Care Workshop for lay led communities of faith: A request for staff to do two sessions; in North Bay network area and Bonnie and Marilyn will see if there is a desire in Sault Ste Marie for staff to do a workshop.

**Correspondence:** none to report.

**Report from Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:** Meeting this week.

**Commission Business: (Standing Items)**

**4. Communities of Faith**

- a. St Mark's Sudbury: Approval for the sale of the building will be the responsibility of the Property Commission. They want to remain a congregation and our support will be needed.
  - b. St Stephen's on the Hill and Lively: shared ministry discussions with the support of Diane Matheson Jimenez are happening as St Stephen's on the Hill sells their building but remain a congregation and Rev. Catherine Somerville retires December 31, 2024.
  - c. St Andrew's Larch st Sudbury: Rev. David LeGrand has resigned effective October 6<sup>th</sup>. Support will be required. They have spent a year visioning under the leadership of Jill Strapp from Toronto Council of Churches.
5. Local regional cluster support:
- a. Sudbury meeting, Meeting on June 1<sup>st</sup> was well attended with 60 participant from most communities of faith. The facilitator was Jill Strapp from the Toronto Council of Churches. Another meeting is planned for the end of September.
  - b. North Bay: they will worship together on June 30 which is the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday. Melody Duncanson Hales will preach and focus on stewardship.
6. . Commission Joint working group; Meeting May 30, 2024 see Appendix 1. Next meeting is June 26 to continue to look for overlaps.

### **Resource Team Updates: (Standing Items)**

- Mission Support & Regional Council Grants Resource Team:
  - o Women's Retreat at Hannah Lake \$2500.00 (Trinity Lively will administer)
  - o Individual camping grant for \$290.00
  - o Powassan UC Church Modernization grant \$5000.00
  - o Pending for St Paul's Thunderbay
- Right Relations Resource Team
  - o 2 paintings were re-located from the Manitou Collection
  - o Work with Laurentian University in Sudbury continues to place a bench at the Cairn in memory of Maxine McVey and Art Solomon.
  - o Plans for a workshop for congregations looking to further their education
  - o Trinity Lively is screening Reckoning with the Wendigo Wednesday June 26, 2024
  - o Resources for the summer are on the CSRC website
- Affirming Ministry Resource Team
  - o Susan Marier was thanked for her many years of service as she retires from this group
  - o Service to officially declare Trinity Capreol and St Andrew's Sault Ste Marie Affirming were held in May.

- St Paul's Thunder Bay celebrated its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary as an Affirming congregation
- St Peter's is sponsoring a film at the queer North Film Festival in Sudbury.
- The Manitoulin Pride has been re-scheduled due to heavy rain on Saturday the 22<sup>nd</sup>.
- Youth & Young Adult Ministry Resource Team –
  - Two of our Climate motivators Blessing Tiriwepi and Lachlan Duncanson Hales are attending Rendez-vous Audacious Hope in July and Torrin Mogg is presenting a workshop.
- United in Worship Project – no report this month
- Social Justice Network:
  - Ernie reported that the group held a short meeting this month with a full meeting to come in November. Continued work to strengthen all Ontario regions membership is a priority.
  - There will be a July 30<sup>th</sup> meeting of Guaranteed Living Income Network.
- Growth Animator's work - Calin reported that work will be done at Rendez-vous. He is gathering information around clusters and asks that this committee keep him informed. The Growth animators are looking for more information around multi-cultural networks. For information, St Peter's Sudbury holds a French worship service once a month.

**Emergent Business:**

**Date of Next Meetings:** Wednesday August 21  
Wednesday September 18  
Wednesday October 16  
Wednesday November 20

**Adjournment: Moved by Ernie at 7:21p.m.**

Closing Prayer Susan Peverley lead the group in prayer

Appendix 1

Notes for Commission Connection Group  
Canadian Shield Regional Council  
May 31, 2024 4:00 p.m. by zoom

Present: Erin Todd, Jim Jackson, Gordon Roberts, Stewart Walker, Mardi Mumford

Staff Support: Rob Smith, Diane Matheson Jimenez

Regrets: Melody Duncanson Hales



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1. Rob opened with prayer
2. A brief history of this group was discussed. The purpose is to look for areas of overlap. Gord was asked to assess whether the new Property Commission needed to be part of this group. For Property, Gord felt that the appointment of supervisors and their role on as a Trustee would overlap as well as manse inspections and Manse Modernization grants. Training for supervisors will be necessary in this area.

This group gathers for information and has no decision-making powers. In the past, the group has organized a Gathering of Pastoral Charge Supervisors on zoom, has jointly created the Self-Assessment Checklist and worked on other workshops.

3. Supervisors: Pastoral Relations assigns and receives reports. Support to Communities of Faith Commission (SCoF) needs that information. It was suggested that once the Supervisor's reports are reviewed then any concerns would be sent to the SCoF commission. Rob will send out a request for Supervisor reports as the group saw the value in an annual report. It was also suggested that personal connection would be an added step. There has been a revision of the Supervisor's Handbook. Presently there are 3 Pastoral charges without supervision and it has been a challenge to find a strong, well-informed person for these assignments.
4. Pastoral Care Workshop for Lay Led Communities of Faith: One was done in Thunder Bay in the fall. Staff had planned one for April but that was postponed. The hope is that this fall there will be opportunity for a workshop for North Bay and area.
5. Let's Connect for Lay Leaders Series is being organized by staff of both Canadian Shield and Shining Waters. The first was on Conflict and guest leader was Betty Pries. The next, June 19<sup>th</sup> will be on Governance and Living Faith stories. These will continue monthly with other topics such as Collaborative Conversations, more on Conflict and perhaps Vulnerability as long as people come.
6. Next steps:
  - a. Notice out to all Supervisors with a link to the Supervisor's report
  - b. Request for Annual Reports and Self-assessment check lists to be done.
7. Next meeting: Wednesday June 26, 2024 at 3:00 p.m. by zoom.

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## PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

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Canadian Shield Regional Council  
Pastoral Relations Commission Meeting  
Held by Zoom  
June 25<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:15 p.m.

Welcome (1:20 p.m.)	Chair Stewart Walker welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order.
Attendance	Karen Gooch (Secretary), Joy Galloway, Ted Harrison, Steven Loweth, Cyndy Raby, Erin Todd, Janet Venton, Stewart Walker (Chair), John Watson, Fraser Williamson (10)
Staff Lead	Rob Smith
Guest	Calin Lau, Growth Animator
Regrets	Jane Graham
Check-in	Members of the Commission took some time checking in before beginning the meeting. People spoke about moving to a new home, taking a break to recharge for the fall, running a triathlon in the rain, visiting with family or spending time at the cottage. One congregation spent time on Canada Day with some new Canadians while the men of Trinity (North Bay) will introduce a new Canadian to canoeing. One member spoke about making a connection with a new church goer while wearing his collar in public.
Acknowledgement	Stewart Walker acknowledged that we gather on the land of Indigenous people who we thank for their stewardship of creation through the ages. We walk together with First Nation People in reconciliation, in learning and unlearning. As well, Stewart reminded us that all are welcome in this safe meeting space.
Opening	Ted Harrison offered a poem to open this meeting. He spoke about sending patients in the North Bay General Hospital well wishes electronically. Since there is a restriction on the size of the message, he quite often sends a poem called <i>The Avowal</i> by Denise Levertov. This poem reminds us of grace that surrounds us all. <a href="#">The Avowal by Denise Levertov - Famous poems, famous poets. - All Poetry</a>
Agenda	<b>Motion 2024-06-25-01</b> Fraser Williamson/ Joy Galloway moved that the agenda be approved as circulated. Carried
Minutes of Previous Meeting	<b>Motion 2024-06-25-02</b> Karen Gooch/ Janet Venton moved that the minutes from the May 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2024 meeting of the Pastoral Relation Commission be accepted with regrets from Joy Galloway added. Carried
Business Arising	
Burk's Falls	Rob Smith informed the PRC that he sent the letter to the Burk's Falls United Board (as agreed to at the last PRC meeting) and progress has been made to rectify the situation regarding their pastoral relationship with Rev. Linda Newham.

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- An agreement has been reached to appoint Linda to the Community of Faith. The paperwork should be ready for PRC approval at our September meeting. Thanks to Stewart Walker, who helped to negotiate this agreement.
- Rob has been acting as the PRC Liaison during this process. There was a question about whether a Pastoral Charge Supervisor (PCS) was needed until the appointment is approved. Technically yes. But since finding a supervisor has been a big challenge, it was agreed that things will remain as is until Linda is appointed.

Pastoral Charge Supervisor Reports      Several more Pastoral Charge Supervisor Reports have now been received. Rob Smith will send out a letter to remind PCSs that the reports are now due.

- Elaine Lush has agreed to review the reports and provide a summary to the PRC as she has done in the past.
- There was a question about whether these reports ever get back to the congregations involved. There is concern about how blunt a PCS can be with their comments. The assumption is that the reports do not get shared as there does not appear to be a link to congregational email addresses but Rob agreed to confirm this.

Correspondence      None

New Business

- Resource Teams      Pastoral Relations Liaisons
- The Liaisons have been working on a number of new appointments recently.
  - Kapuskasing Community Church is considering a remote appointment since many in the congregation attend worship online. This is an ecumenical church – a shared ministry with the Presbyterians.
  - Rob Smith is working with Trinity United in Magnetawan to hopefully establish a new ecumenical ministry agreement.
- LLWLs
- Interviews of LLWLs that are seeking relicensing is ongoing.
- Support to Ministry Personnel
- The Zoom gathering with Adam Hanley on Wednesday June 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 went well. There was positive feedback about the cooperative nature of working with northern Ministry Personnel which is not always found in other Regional Councils. Thanks was offered to the support team.
  - Planning has begun for a fall meeting with CSRC Executive Minister Peter Hartmans.
  - Rob announced that Dale Hildebrand, Pastoral Relations Minister from Shining Waters Regional Council will take on his workload while he is on sabbatical later this year.
- Consensus Packet      The Consensus Packet was circulated by email for review before the meeting. The following items were noted before voting on the motion:
- It was reported that of those requesting a change of pastoral relations, Rev. Catherine Somerville and Rev. Sylvia Poetschke will be retiring and Rev. David Legrand will be pursuing a different work opportunity.

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- Rob Smith requested that Marie Rimmie be added to this list of LLWLs who have applied for relicensing but have not yet been interviewed.
- 1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council receive the request from the Rev. Catherine Somerville (OM) for a change of pastoral relations with St. Stephen's-on-the-Hill United, Sudbury effective December 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024. Catherine is retiring.
- 2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council receive the request from the Rev. David Legrand (OM) for a change of pastoral relations with St. Andrew's United, Sudbury effective October 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- 3. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council receive the request from the Rev. Sylvia Poetschke (OM – ELCC) for a change of pastoral relations with Trinity United, Magnetawan United (shared ministry agreement) effective October 15<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
- 4. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the Admittand the Rev. Lawrence Muvunzi (OM) as having met the appointment requirements for admission to The United Church of Canada at a service of admission - the date and location to be determined.
- 5. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the re-appointment of Kim Inglis (Candidate) to Trinity Manitoulin United, Mindemoya, ON effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025 with the following terms:

Part-time (20 hours)

Community of Faith ADP Company Code	TCZC
Eligible Service (in years)	2
Step/Increment Category	Step 2
Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-time Salary	\$59,355.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$29,677.50
Additional Salary (in %)	0
Total Salary	\$29,677.50
Phone/Communications	\$480.00
Continuing Education	\$825.00
Other	\$0.00
Total Remuneration	\$30,977.50

- 6. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the appointment of Pamela Brown (Candidate) to Trinity Pastoral Charge, Capreol, ON effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2025 with the following terms:

Part-time (20 hours)

Community of Faith ADP Company Code	TCHD
Eligible Service (in years)	3
Step/Increment Category	Step 2
Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-time Salary	\$52,579.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$26,289.50
Additional Salary (in %)	0
Total Salary	26,289.50



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Phone/Communications	\$684.00
Continuing Education	\$820.00
Other	\$1,477.00
Other Details	

This is the amount that matches COL 2 which we were before.

It is an attempt to be fair.

Total Remuneration	\$30,977.50
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Adequate Administrative Assistance

Defined as part-time office administrator on site 6 hours a week

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 re-licence May Cameron as a sacraments elder, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
8. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the recommendation of the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders Resource and Support Team to re-license Cyndy Raby, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2027.
9. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the recommendation of the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders Resource and Support Team to re-license George Bott, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2027.
10. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the recommendation of the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders Resource and Support Team to re-license Vivian Hall, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2027.
11. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the recommendation of the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders Resource and Support Team to re-license John McDonald, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2027.
12. ... 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 July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024:
  - Cathy Bright
  - Robert Cosbey
  - Loma Chuipka
  - Wanda Wilding
  - Joy Bott
  - Marie Rimmie
13. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council appoint the Rev. David Zub as the Pastoral Charge Supervisor for St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge, Sault Ste. Marie, ON July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 until he is re-appointed as their short term supply appointment.
14. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council appoint Jan Venton and Mardi Mumford as the Pastoral Relations Liaisons to St. Andrews United, Sudbury, ON.

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**Motion 2024-06-25-03**

Erin Todd/ John Watson moved that each and every motion of the Consensus Packet be approved.

**Carried**

**Other Business**

**Festival of Faith Ordinations** We discussed the possibility of having an ordination service at the Festival of Faith to be held in Sudbury in the spring of 2025 since there are 2 or 3 people who may be eligible for ordination in the coming months. No one has made a formal request for ordination yet. There was general agreement that this can happen even though our usual practice is to hold such services at CSRC general meetings. Our next in-person CSRC meeting will not be until the spring of 2026. The PRC will need to consult with potential candidates well in advance of the Festival of Faith to ensure they would attend a service in Sudbury and that all requirements for ordination have been met. The date and location will need to be determined for a Service of Admission for Lawrence Muvunzi but there has not yet been a formal request.

**Summer Business** A question was asked about handling appointments that may be ready for approval before our September meeting. Most of them could be handled by email poll but if further discussion is required the Chair will schedule a Zoom meeting.

**Motion 2024-06-25-04**

John Watson/ Ted Harrison moved that any appointments that require approval during that summer will be handled by either an email poll or a short meeting at the discretion of the chair.

**Carried**

**Next Meeting** The next meeting will be held on Tuesday September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:15 p.m. which is one week earlier than originally scheduled due to the fact that Rob Smith (and perhaps others) will be attending the joint retreat with Shining Waters at Fern Resort. Erin Todd will provide the opening and Karen Gooch will provide the closing.

**Adjournment**

Janet Venton offered a prayer before the meeting was adjourned at 2.30 p.m.

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Chairperson, Stewart Walker

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Secretary, Karen Gooch

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## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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

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

**STAFF:** Peter Hartmans, Susan Whitehead

**REGRETS:** David LeGrand, Stewart Walker, Mastard Sakala

Chair Nancy welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

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

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

### APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

### CORRESPONDENCE

*Trinity UC in Thunder Bay*

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

### NOMINATIONS RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING GC45 COMMISSIONERS

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

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

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

**NOMINATION      RECOMMENDATION      REGARDING      ADDITIONAL  
COMMISSION MEMBERS**

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

*MOTION by Mardi Mumford/Kathie Smith*

*CS NOMS 2024-06-11-02*

*That the CSRC Nominations Committee recommend to the Executive that the PRC membership be increased from 9 to 10 members, plus the Chair and Secretary.*

**CARRIED**

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Susan Peverley**

**CS Exec 2024-06-25-03**

**That the CSRC Executive approve the Nominations Committee recommendation that the Pastoral Relations Commission membership be increased from 9 to 10 members, plus the Chair and Secretary.**

**CARRIED**

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

**MOTION by Gord Roberts/Jim Jackson**

**CS Exec 2025-06-25-04**

**That the CSRC Executive approve the election of Peter Haddow to the Support to Communities of Faith Commission, John Watson to the Pastoral Relations Commission, and Jack Page to the Property Commission.**

**CARRIED**

**2025 FESTIVAL OF FAITH (FOF) BUDGET**

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

**MOTION by Laurie Stevenson/Lionel Ketola**

**CS Exec 2024-06-25-05**

**That the budget for the 2025 Festival of Faith be \$30,000 for the Canadian Shield Regional Council's portion of the joint event with SWRC (50% percent of the total cost of \$60,000).**

**CARRIED**

**UPDATE REGARDING SHINING WATERS REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING**

Nancy and Peter shared their experiences at the Shining Waters Regional Council Meeting at North Bramalea United Church in Brampton, as Nancy represented the Canadian Shield Regional Council. Peter acknowledged Nancy's active participation, including her role as a communion server and her CSRC "flag-waving", and expressed his appreciation for the



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significance of her physical presence at the meeting, especially for the 100th celebration kickoff. Nancy shared her experience of attending a service with other high-ranking members of the United Church, highlighting the networking opportunities and the value of physical meetings. They both agreed that the event was a wonderful opportunity to witness, and Nancy shared she would include a link to the service recording in her reflection for future reference.

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

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

**MOTION by Lionel Ketola/Bill Steadman** **CS Exec 2025-06-25-06**

**That the CSRC Executive direct Executive Minister, Peter Hartmans, to commence with the hiring of a full-time accounting assistant to help with the transition in preparation for when Janet MacDonald leaves her position on June 30, 2025.**

**CARRIED**

**DISCUSS THE 100<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY AND LETTER FROM GC REGARDING \$2,000**

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

**EXECUTIVE MINISTER UPDATE**

Peter shared a good news health update with Executive members.

**NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

**NEXT MEETING DATES:**

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

**CLOSING**

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



**SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION**

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission  
Special Meeting – July 18, 2024 6:30 pm**

Present: Melody Duncanson-Hales, Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Jim Jackson, Peter Haddow, Susan Peverley, Kathy Calverley, Ernie Epp, Marilyn Schatzler, Janice Brownlee, Desire Tiriwepi, Crystal Greig

Regrets: Mardi Mumford

Melody opened with prayer

Jim offered words of welcome and explained the request from Fairview UC, Tehkummah

Moved by Crystal Greig, seconded by Marilyn Schatzler

That the Support to Communities of Faith Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council, on the request of the Trustees of Fairview United Church, Tehkummah approve a grant of up to \$10,000 from the Mustard Seed Fund to Fairview United Church, Tehkummah in order to complete a ground penetrating radar survey of Fairview United Church Cemetery.

CARRIED

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:46 pm

Desire closed with prayer



## PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

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Canadian Shield Regional Council  
Pastoral Relations Commission Email Poll  
August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

The following consensus motion was presented to the Pastoral Relations Commission members by email for a vote on August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The following people participated in the vote: Karen Gooch, Jane Graham, Ted Harrison, Steven Loweth, Cyndy Raby, Erin Todd, John Watson, Fraser Williamson (8). It was declared carried on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2024.

The following points of clarification were offered by Rob Smith.

- Elizabeth Brown is requesting formal association. A minister who is retired or between calls or appointments is required by the church to be in formal association with a Community of Faith in order to remain a minister in good standing. Elizabeth has not made any agreement to provide pulpit supply or preside over the sacraments at St. Andrew's (Massey).
- Linda Newnham is accepting a call which has no end date since Linda is ordained.
- In this motion, the location of the two point Onaping Falls Pastoral Charge is Levack, which is the listed mailing address.

Consensus Motion  
August 7<sup>th</sup>, 2024

1. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve Diane Tait (ordinand) as having met the appointment requirements for ordination on September 29<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
2. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the provisional appointment of Diane Tait (Ordinand) to Onaping Falls Pastoral Charge, Levack, ON, effective September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to August 31<sup>st</sup>, 2028 with the following terms:

Part-time (20 hours)

Community of Faith ADP Company Code	308B
Eligible Service (in years)	1
Step/increment category	A
Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$54,460.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$27,230.00
Additional Salary (in %)	0.00
Total Salary	\$27,230.00
Phone/Communications	\$600.00
Continuing Education	\$820.00
Other	0.00
Total Remuneration	\$28,650.00

3. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the call of the Rev. Linda Newnham (OM) to Burk's Falls Pastoral Charge, Burk's Falls, ON, effective September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 with the following terms:

Part-time (12 hours)

Community of Faith ADP Company Code	TL7F
Eligible Service (in years)	5
Step/increment category	C

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Is manse included	No
Minimum Full-Time Salary	\$65,074.00
Prorated Annual Salary	\$19,522.20
Additional Salary (in \$)	\$6,985.80
Total Salary	\$26,508.00
Phone/Communications	\$600.00
Continuing Education	\$492.00
Other	0.00
Total Remuneration	\$27,600.00

4. ... 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 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
5. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, New Liskeard, ON to re-licence Bonnie Moore as sacraments elder, effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025.
6. ... that the Pastoral Relations Commission on behalf of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of St. Andrew's United, Massey, ON to be in formal association with the Rev. Elizabeth Brown (OM – retired), effective immediately.

**Motion 2024-08-01**

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

**Carried**

**Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024 at 1:15 p.m.

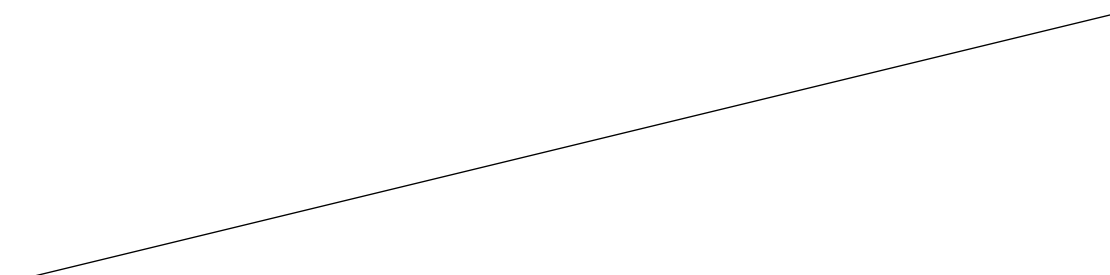
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Chairperson, Stewart Walker

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Secretary, Karen Gooch



## PROPERTY COMMISSION

### Minutes of a meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Property Commission Thursday August 22, 2024

The Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council met on Thursday August 22, 2024 by video conference. The meeting began at 10:00 a.m.

**Members Present:** Rob Ferris, Wayne Jeffkins, Paul McAlister, James Ko, Jack Page, Gordon Roberts (chair), Jan Ross

**Staff:** Melody Duncanson-Hales, Diane Matheson- Jimenez

**Regrets:** Kathleen Jones

**Welcome and Opening** Gordon Roberts welcomed everyone to the meeting

#### Agenda

**MOTION** by Paul McAlister / Rob Ferris **CS PC 2024 08 22 01**  
that the agenda of the meeting of the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council dated August 22 2024 be approved as circulated with an adjustment on the schedule of meetings for the fall.  
**CARRIED**

#### Minutes

**MOTION** by Paul McAlister / Wayne Jeffkins **CS PC 2024 08 22 02**  
that the Minutes of the meeting of the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council dated June 13 2024 be approved as circulated  
**CARRIED**

The Commission made the following decision by email vote;

**MOTION** by Wayne Jeffkins / Jan Ross **CS PC 2024 08 22 03**  
... the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the listing of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is PCL 7842 SEC SES; PT LT 6 CON 1 MCKIM AS IN LT44607 & PT 1 SR1168; S/T LT25019; GREATER SUDBURY PIN#c 735950115, GREATER SUDBURY A, and the municipal address of which is 47 Walford Road City of Greater Sudbury, ON, the terms of which are as listed below and the disposition of the proceeds arising from the transaction, to be held by Trustees of St. Mark's United Church in trust for the use and benefit of the congregation of St. Mark's United Church as a part of The United Church of Canada.

- Cathy Castanza of Royal LePage North Heritage Realty Ltd. Brokerage
- Exception: 2 listings to capture zoning; I, R2+2 (listed as institutional or residential) Irrevocable time to respond to offers 7days, no open houses
- Commission: 5%

- Listing Price: 849,900
- proposed listing date: July 16, 2024

**CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Jack Page / Paul McAlister

**CS PC 2024 08 22 04**

... that the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the sale of St. Andrew's United Church, Sault Ste. Marie 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, as seller and Granite Hospitality & Catering Inc. as the buyer, at the price of \$530 000 with a closing date of November 29th, 2024.

**CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Paul McAllister / Wayne Jeffkins

**CS PC 2024 08 22 05**

... the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the listing of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is LT 1-3 SEC 2 PL 826 SCHREIBER; SCHREIBER, and the municipal address of which is 710 Winnipeg Street, Schreiber, ON between the Trustees of St. Andrew's United Church, Schreiber, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, the terms of which are as follows:

- Wendy Krystia, Registered Realtor, Thunder Bay Real Estate Board and insured/Realtor with RE/MAX GENERATIONS REALTY, Thunder Bay, ON.
- Exception: None
- Commission: 6% (minimum \$3500.00, whichever is higher)
- Listing Price: \$45,000.00
- Property will be sold AS/IS with disclosure of NO Water, NO Hydro, MOLD present and foundation water damage from spring thaw
- proposed listing date: Quick

**CARRIED**

**MOTION** by Wayne Jeffkins / Jan Ross

**CS PC 2024 08 22 06**

... the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the sale of St. Mark's United Church, Sudbury, the legal description of which is PCL 7842 SEC SES; PT LT 6 CON 1 MCKIM AS IN LT44607 & PT 1 SR1168; S/T LT25019; GREATER SUDBURY PIN#c 735950115, GREATER SUDBURY A, and the municipal address of which is 47 Walford Road City of Greater Sudbury, ON, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of St. Mark's United Church, Sudbury, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, the terms of which are as follows:

- purchaser: Canadian Hard of Hearing Association – Sudbury Branch
- sale price: \$990,000
- deposit: \$100,000 (upon acceptance)
- balance due: \$890,000

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- conditional upon approval of St. Mark's United Church governing body and Canadian Shield Regional Council, until August 9, 2024
- scheduled closing date: 30 September 2024

**CARRIED**

**St. Andrews United Church, Sault Ste Marie**

The property is sold and they are working on clearing out the remains in the building and saying goodbye to the building.

**St. Andrew's United Church, Schreiber**

They have been trying for 5 years to sell their property. The church was gifted and therefore it was unclear to who had the authority to part with the property. The appropriate paperwork has been completed allowing St. Andrews to proceed with the sale. They have received two offers and the one they are bringing forward to the Commission is less in money although no conditions.

**MOTION** by Paul McAlister / Jack Page

**CS PC 2024 08 22 07**

the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the sale of St. Andrew's United Church, Schreiber, the legal description of which is LT 1-3 SEC 2 PL 826 SCHREIBER; SCHREIBER, and the municipal address of which is 710 Winnipeg Street, Schreiber, ON, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of St. Andrew's United Church, Schreiber, as seller and ExamPropTraining Inc. as the buyer, at the price of \$26,000.00 with a closing date of September 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**CARRIED**

**St. Stephen's on the Hill United Church, Sudbury**

Melody provided detailed information about the negotiations and terms of the sale, confirming that it would be a rent-back arrangement after the Restoration Church takes ownership. The sale was agreed to be covered as a charity-to-charity transaction, and the costs for Heather's services would be deducted from the sale proceeds

**MOTION** by Wayne Jeffkins / Jack Page

**CS PC 2024 08 22 08**

the Property Commission of Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the sale of St. Stephen's on the Hill United Church, Sudbury, the legal description of which is PLC 21707 SEC SES SRO LTS 23, 24, 25, 26, 27 PLAN M440, T/W PT LT 22 PLAN M440 SUBJECT TO 12932 CITY OF SUDBURY, and the municipal address of which is 1248 Lauzon Avenue, Sudbury, ON, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of St. Stephen's on the Hill United Church, Sudbury, as seller and Destiny International Church as the buyer, at the price of \$400,000.00 with a closing date of October 16<sup>th</sup>, 2024

**CARRIED**

**St. Mark's United Church, Sudbury**

Melody reported on the sale of St. Mark's in Sudbury to the Canadian Hard of Hearing Association, with the transfer of ownership scheduled for September 30<sup>th</sup>. She noted that

the charity purchasing the building won't start any major renovations or construction until 2025, providing St. Mark's community with a space to continue worshipping until Christmas.

**Porcupine United Church, Porcupine**

Melody provided an update on a project involving renovations and energy efficiency improvements at Porcupine, which has received a \$30,000 grant for its carbon footprint initiatives. The project, partially funded by the congregation through fundraising, is currently under review by the Grants team for financial support. Melody indicated that if approved, the next step would be to seek ratification from the Commission

**Fairview United Church, Tehkummah**

Mainline has been working on a ground-penetrating radar survey of the church cemetery. Fairview is awaiting a report from Mainline to assist with the severance project and hoped to uncover a comprehensive map of the cemetery. Once the report is complete it will be shared with the township of Tehkummah to help in the severance project.

**DATE OF EXECUTIVE MEETING**

Wayne Jeffkins will attend the Executive meeting on September 5<sup>th</sup>, 2024 if needed on Gordon Roberts behalf.

**SUB COMMITTEE for COMMISSION**

Most of the work over the summer has been done by e-vote, which seems to be working with the Commission

**FALL MEETING SCHEDULE**

Dates for the Commission to meet in the fall will be as follows

Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup> 10am – Rob Ferris and Melody Duncanson-Hales send their regrets

Thursday, October 31<sup>st</sup> 10am

Thursday, November 28<sup>th</sup> 10am

Thursday, December 19<sup>th</sup> 10am if needed.

**Next Meeting** – Thursday, September 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024 10:00 a.m. Paul McAlister will provide devotions

**Closing** –Gordon closed the meeting in prayer





**REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING – SEPTEMBER 17, 2024**

**MINUTES  
OF THE REGIONAL MEETING  
September 17, 2024**

The Online Fall Regional Council Meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council took place on September 17, 2024 via Zoom video conference.

Words of Welcome, Opening of Meeting and Constituting the Council

The Canadian Shield Regional Council gathered via Zoom video conference at 7:00 p.m. to begin the Fall Regional Council Meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council. Nancy Ferguson, Chair, welcomed all those participating and introduced herself.

Chair Nancy Ferguson 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.

Chair Nancy gave an acknowledgement of the land and shared a safe space statement.

Opening Meditation

Chair Nancy shared an opening meditation with the regional council.

Presentation of the Nominees List for GC45 Commissioners

Rob Smith, the Pastoral Relations Minister for the CSRC, and Bill Jones, the Chair of the Nominations Committee, presented the Nominees list for GC45 Commissioners.

Introduction of the Role of GC45 Commissioners

Rob Smith and Bill Jones presented the role of a GC45 Commissioner, followed by the vote from the regional council on GC45 Commissioners to represent the Canadian Shield Regional Council.

**MOTION by Susan Siczkar/David LeGrand CS FALL RCM 2024-09-17-01**

**That the Canadian Shield Regional Council approves the slate of Commissioners and an alternate for the 45<sup>th</sup> General Council as follows: Commissioners Rev. Bill Jones, Blessing Tiriwepi, Rev. Desire Tiriwepi, Peter Haddow, Laurie Kendall, Steven Loweth, Barbara Nott, Rev. Whitney Bruno, Rev. Joyce Fergus-Moore, Rev. Stewart Walker; and, Alternate Rev. Fraser Williamson.**

**CARRIED**

**MOTION by Lionel Ketola/Susan Siczkar CS FALL RCM 2024-09-17-02**

**That the electronic poll ballots from the GC45 Commissioner vote be destroyed.**

**CARRIED**

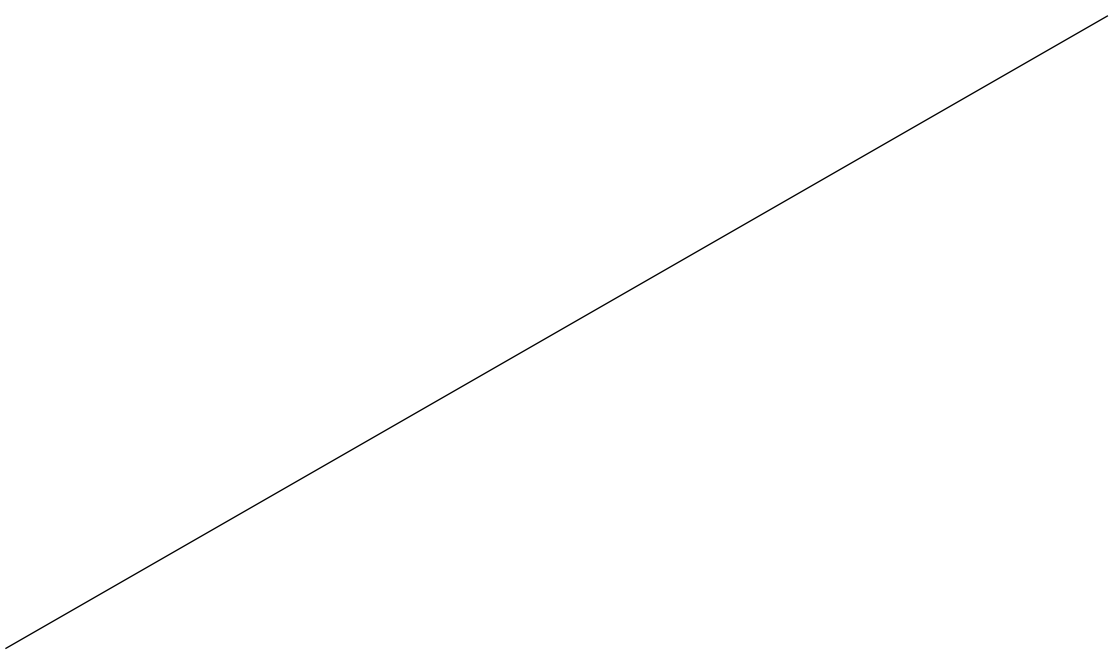
Adjournment

The Chair, Nancy Ferguson, declared the 2024 Fall Online Canadian Shield Regional Council Meeting be adjourned.

Blessing

Peter Hartmans, Executive Minister for the CSRC, offered a blessing before the region departed.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.



## **Appendix A**

### **OBITUARIES**

#### **The Rev. J. Stewart Bell (March 22, 2024)**

Stewart Bell was ordained in 1964 and would have celebrated his 60<sup>th</sup> anniversary of his Ordination this year. He served at St. Andrew's United Church, Matheson, and then left congregational ministry to accept a position at the then Toronto Conference. Stew returned north to serve as a staff field person in North Bay for Toronto Conference and then in 1975, Manitou Conference was born, where he served as the second Executive Secretary. His work also included constructing the Apology Cairn on the campus of Laurentian University in Sudbury, ON.

He was survived by his wife, Anne and daughters, Sheona, Morag, and Jocelyn, and 6 grandchildren.

#### **Ruby Vaughn (March 4, 2024)**

Ruby Vaughn was a life-long member of Echo Bay United Church. As well as singing in the choir, teaching Sunday School and acting as their UCW representative, Ruby also was their lay representative at Algoma Presbytery for many years.

Ruby was predeceased by her husband Cy, and survived by her children Lorna, Anne, Susan, Gerald, the late Jim Vaughn, Heather and Jackie and many grandchildren.

#### **Stuart Taggart (January 15, 2024)**

Stewart Taggart was a lay person from Trout Creek, ON. Over the years Stuart was involved with many committees including the CSRC Property Resource Team and as the Elected Regional Lay Representative for Trout Creek United Church. Before that he had been a presbytery lay rep and was on the Manitou Conference Finance Committee.

He was survived by his wife, Elva and children

#### **Rev. Murray Binsted (October 12, 2023)**

Murray Binstead was ordained in 1956 and retired in 1994. He served in Matheson (St. Andrew's UC), Cochrane (St. Paul's UC), Haileybury (St. Andrew's UC), and Iroquois Falls (Trinity UC) in Northern Ontario.

He was survived by his wife, Marion and children Karen, Kevin, Heather, and David and several grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

#### **Rev. Dawn Vaneyk (September 19, 2023)**

Dawn Vaneyk was ordained in 1984 and would have celebrated her 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary this year. She

served three pastoral charges on Manitoulin Island during her settlement and then moved to St. Peter's United Church for the rest of her career.

She was survived by her husband, Tim Lehman, and their son, Isaac.

**Rev. Diane Trollope** (July 5, 2023)

One of the first graduates of Center for Christian Studies, Diane Trollope celebrated 50 years of commissioned ministry in 2020. She served with Humbercrest United Church (Toronto), Calvary United Church (London), Naramata Centre, Kamloops-Okanagan Presbytery, Loring Pastoral Charge (Port Loring and Golden Valley) before retiring to Sudbury, where she was a beloved member of St. Andrew's United Church, Sudbury Presbytery, Manitou Conference and later, Canadian Shield Regional Council. From CSRC's beginning, Diane served faithfully as chair of the regional Grants Team.

Diane was survived by her brother Brian, the late Robert Trollope, as well as nieces.

**Violet Bradbury** (June 22, 2023)

Violet Bradbury was a lay member from Timmins, ON. She was a congregational representative to Cochrane Presbytery and Toronto Conference. She was the Local Arrangements Chairperson for the first meeting of Manitou Conference in Timmins and for the 25th Annual Meeting as well as many other conference or Neighbours Praising God events over the years. She went to the first meeting of Canadian Shield Regional Council as a visitor, because she wanted to see the journey through.

Violet was survived by her wife, Rev. Dale Young.

**Robert "Bob" Gardner** (March 3, 2023)

Robert Gardner became a Minister in The United Church of Canada in 1977 and then served as a Chaplain for many years in the Canadian Armed Forces. After retiring from the Forces, he served again as a Minister in various communities in Ontario. He first landed in Manitou Conference in 1996 serving at St. Paul's United Church in New Liskeard until 2001 and then returned to Manitou in 2004 to serve at Holy Trinity United Church in Elliot Lake for 13 years. When he retired in 2017, he moved back out to Nova Scotia where he was born.

He was survived by his wife, Reta and son David.

**Joan Van Every** (February 8, 2023)

Joan Van Every served at St. Andrew's United Church in Meldrum Bay (Manitoulin Island) as a long-time lay representative to Sudbury Presbytery and Manitou Conference and was active with the UCW.

Joan was predeceased by her husband Dale, children Cheryl, Scott, and Lynn, as well as 6 grandchildren.

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**Rev. Beverley Hill** (January 1, 2023)

Beverley Hill was ordained in 1972. She served in several conferences including Alberta Northwest Conference and Bay of Quinte Conference until she retired in 1995 and then she moved north to Richard's Landing on St. Joseph's Island in the Canadian Shield Regional Council.

Beverley was survived by her brother Richard and her nieces and nephews.

**William “Bill” Rowe** (December 25, 2022)

William Rowe was a lay member from Sudbury, ON. Bill served as the Chair of Council for St. Mark's United Church in Sudbury for many years and was one of their lay reps to the Canadian Shield Regional Council. He was also on the Huntington University Board and on the Manitou Conference Finance Committee.

He was survived by his wife, Roberta and children Marc and Jordie, and 3 grandchildren.

**Rev. Linda Saffrey** (August 1, 2022)

Linda Saffrey was ordained in 1992. She served at many pastoral charges including Onaping Falls in Levack, Burks Falls, Blackstock-Nestleton in Blackstock, and St. Mark's in Sudbury as well as various pastoral charges in the greater Toronto area. She retired in 2017.

Linda was survived by her husband, Eric and her children Kevin and Keirra, and 2 grandchildren.

**Rev. Bruce M. Thomson** (July 18, 2022)

Bruce Thomson was ordained in 1987 and served the three-point charge covering Burk's Falls, Katrine and Magnetawan, Ontario until 1991. He then practiced law in Bracebridge, Ontario. He recently retired and moved to Nova Scotia.

Bruce was survived by his wife, Antionette and children John, James, Alexander, Allison, and Mary.



**Appendix B**  
**DIGEST OF ACTIONS**  
**THE EXECUTIVE**  
**OF CANADIAN SHIELD REGIONAL COUNCIL**  
**FOR THE PERIOD November 26, 2023 – September 17, 2024**

**Decisions made by the Executive December 2, 2023**

1. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from October 31, 2023 be received, for information.
2. That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from October 24, 2023 be received, for information.
3. That the Canadian Shield Regional Council (6) Executive take the following actions:

**Camp McDougall Inc.**

... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the Camp McDougall Inc. 2021-2022 Board of Directors

Denise Berg  
Sherrill Dewar  
Kevin Harrison  
Kenny Hermiston  
Debbie Kirby  
Sharon Lane  
Mary A. Laundrie  
Rhea McAdam  
Steven Mullins  
Nancy Rouble  
Cleo Walker

This is based on the draft Annual Meeting minutes of June 6, 2021, the 2021 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

\*N.B. During follow up with this IM, it was discovered that no D&O policy was issued for the term December 1, 2020 to September 7, 2021 as the Hub office never received the D&O application due to the changes in leadership on the Camp's board. This has been corrected and D&O coverage was reinstated September 7, 2021 and on.

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\*N.B. This IM continues to struggle with submission of required documentation and Regional Council staff are following up.

4. There was consensus that a letter be drafted on behalf of the CSRC Executive from Peter and Nancy, indicating that the letter from Kathy Dahmer was received and has now been referred to the Pastoral Relations Commission for a more specific response to her concerns.
5. That the Executive of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the 2024 Budget with a total revenue of \$654,000 and total expenses of the same amount, as presented.

**Decisions made by the Executive February 1, 2024**

6. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from November 28, 2023 and the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from November 28, 2023 be received, for information.
7. That the CSRC Executive receive the 2022 CSRC Audited Financial Statements.
8. That the signing officers for all Bank Accounts at the Bank of Montreal and BMO Nesbitt Burns for the Canadian Shield Regional Council be Susan Whitehead, Janet MacDonald, Kathleen Jones, Diane Matheson-Jimenez and Kathleen Smith, effective February 1, 2024.
9. That the CSRC Executive approve the theme entitled "Upon This Rock" for the 2024 CS Regional Council Meeting to be held May 3-5, 2024.
10. That the CSRC Executive direct the 2024 CS RCM Planning Team to explore the possibility of charging an amount of money per delegate to help offset the cost of meals and for the planning team to report their recommendation back to the March 7, 2024 CSRC Executive meeting.
11. That in light of the current fiscal reality of Camp McDougall Inc., that the CSRC Executive direct the Camp McDougall Board to suspend operations for the 2024 camping season.

**Decisions made by the Executive March 7, 2024**

12. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from November 28, 2023 and the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from November 28, 2023 be received, for information.
13. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from January 23, 2024 and the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from January 30, 2024 be received, for information.

14. The CSRC Executive votes to remove the motion #CS Exec 2024-02-01-08 from the February 1, 2024 Minutes, as the Regional Council, through its Executive, does not have the authority to direct an Incorporated Ministry to take an action.
15. That the CSRC Executive approve the 2022 CSRC Audited Financial Statements.
16. That the CSRC Executive approve the 2024 Regional Council Meeting (RCM) Planning Team's recommendation to charge RCM delegates \$40 to help offset the cost of meals for the 2024 CS Regional Council Meeting.
17. That the CSRC Executive set the deadline of April 12, 2024 for the Canadian Shield Regional Council and GC45 Proposals reviewed at the 2024 CS Regional Council Meeting.
18. There was consensus from the CSRC Executive that Peter inform the Moderator that we cannot move the date of the 2025 Festival of Faith (FoF) and that the Moderator's Flourishing Event can happen the day/s before the 2025 FoF.

**Decisions made by the Executive March 7, 2024**

19. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from January 23, 2024 and the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from January 30, 2024 be received, for information.
20. The CSRC Executive votes to remove the motion #CS Exec 2024-02-01-08 from the February 1, 2024 Minutes, as the Regional Council, through its Executive, does not have the authority to direct an Incorporated Ministry to take an action.
21. That the CSRC Executive approve the 2022 CSRC Audited Financial Statements.
22. That the CSRC Executive approve the 2024 Regional Council Meeting (RCM) Planning Team's recommendation to charge RCM delegates \$40 to help offset the cost of meals for the 2024 CS Regional Council Meeting.
23. That the CSRC Executive set the deadline of April 12, 2024 for the Canadian Shield Regional Council and GC45 Proposals reviewed at the 2024 CS Regional Council Meeting.
24. There was consensus from the CSRC Executive that Peter inform the Moderator that we cannot move the date of the 2025 Festival of Faith (FoF) and that the Moderator's Flourishing Event can happen the day/s before the 2025 FoF.



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**Decisions made by the Executive April 25, 2024**

25. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from February 27, 2024 and the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from February 27, 2024 be received, for information.

26. That the Canadian Shield Regional Council (6) Executive take the following actions:

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

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

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

This is based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of February 11, 2024, draft board Meeting minutes of April 2, 2024, the 2024 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

\*N.B. During follow up with this IM, concerns were raised by National Service staff to Regional Council staff. Regional Council staff are working with this IM and can provide further information.

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

27. That the CSRC Executive receive Janet MacDonald's letter of resignation, effective June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2025, with extreme gratitude for all her work.

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

29. That after review by the CSRC Finance Resource Team, the CSRC Executive recommends the 2025 Draft Budget to the 2024 Canadian Shield Regional Council Meeting in Sault Ste. Marie, ON May 3-5, 2024.
30. Upon the recommendation of the CSRC Nominations Committee, that the election of the General Council 45 Commissioners be held at an electronic recall of the CSRC by September 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024.
31. That the CSRC Executive authorize the closure of the CSRC Thunder Bay Office, effective July 31, 2024.

#### **Decisions made by the Executive May 30, 2024**

32. That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from March 26, 2024 and the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from March 26, 2024 and April 23, 2024 be received, for information.
33. There was consensus that Peter will ask Kathie Smith and Helen Smith (as they were part of the Planning Team and Local Arrangements for this RCM) for their input on honoraria for guests and volunteers. Peter will work with them to draft a policy and will then forward that to the Finance RT.
34. That the CSRC Executive approve the Property Commission Chair and Member Job Descriptions, Terms of Reference, and the Property Commission addition to the Property Policy and Procedures document.
35. That a member of the Property Commission sit on the CSRC Executive and that the Property Commission Minutes be submitted to Executive, for information.
36. That the CSRC Executive create a Governance Document Review Team to include Barb Nott, Bill Steadman, John Watson, Jim Jackson, Susan Whitehead and one other member to be added by the Chair of Executive.
37. There was consensus that Peter and Susan would draft a policy for the use of the CSRC logo and report back at the September 5, 2024 meeting.
38. That the 2025 Canadian Shield Online Regional Council Meeting be on Saturday, May 3, 2025.

#### **Decisions made by the Executive June 25, 2024**

39. That the CSRC Executive adopt the Nominations Committee recommended Nominations and Election Process for Commissioners to General Council.

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40. That the CSRC Executive approve the Nominations Committee recommendation that the Pastoral Relations Commission membership be increased from 9 to 10 members, plus the Chair and Secretary.
41. That the CSRC Executive approve the election of Peter Haddow to the Support to Communities of Faith Commission, John Watson to the Pastoral Relations Commission, and Jack Page to the Property Commission.
42. That the budget for the 2025 Festival of Faith be \$30,000 for the Canadian Shield Regional Council's portion of the joint event with SWRC (50% percent of the total cost of \$60,000).
43. That the CSRC Executive direct Executive Minister, Peter Hartmans, to commence with the hiring of a full-time accounting assistant to help with the transition in preparation for when Janet MacDonald leaves her position on June 30, 2025.



## Appendix C

### REGIONAL MEETING ATTENDANCE – May 3-5, 2024

<b>Name (First)</b>	<b>Name (Last)</b>	<b>Connection to Region</b>	<b>Community of Faith</b>
Marilyn	Boileau	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Grace UC – Sudbury
Jean	Bott	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Paul's-Emmanuel Community Church - Kapuskasing
Janice	Brownlee	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Trinity UC – North Bay
Kathy	Calverley	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Peter's UC - Sudbury
Janie	Clayton	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Emmanuel UC – North Bay
Lois	Dorey	Elected Regional Lay Rep	First UC - Wawa
Darlene	Erskine	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Restoule UC - Restoule
Robert	Farris	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Trinity UC – North Bay
Joy	Galloway	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Covenant UC - Timmins
William	Gardner	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Emmanuel UC - SSM
Gail	Gjos	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Little Current UC – Little Current
Karen	Gooch	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Andrew's UC – North Bay
Jane	Graham	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Andrew's UC – Blind River
Peter	Haddow	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Omond Memorial UC – North Bay
Vivian	Hall	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Echo Bay UC – Echo Bay
Jim	Jackson	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Trinity UC – Thunder Bay
Wayne	Jeffkins	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Peter's UC - Sudbury
Philip	Jenkins	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Kapuskasing Community Church - Kapuskasing
Bonnie	Johnson	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Goulais River UC- Goulais River
Ann	Krikken	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Trinity UC – Iroquois Falls
Robin	MacLeod	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Cloudslee UC – Bruce Station
Donna	McNally	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Pinegrove UC – Thunder Bay
Barbara	McPherson	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Willowgrove UC - SSM
Ted	McPherson	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Willowgrove UC - SSM
Heather	Mitchell	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Stephens on the Hill UC - Sudbury
Faye	Moffatt	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Trinity UC - Capreol
Mardi	Mumford	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Trinity UC - Lively
Brian	Mundell	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Zion UC - Thessalon
Kathryn	Mutch	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Lyons Memorial UC – Gore Bay
Heather	Parr	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Harmony St. Mark's UC – Richard's Landing
Linda	Prodan	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Willowgrove UC - SSM
Cynthia	Raby	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Paul's UC – Thunder Bay
Nancy	Rouble	Elected Regional Lay Rep	East Korah Maxwell UC - SSM
Clifford	Shannon	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Andrew's UC - Matheson

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Norma	Shell	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Grace UC – Hilton Beach
Marjorie	Skorich	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Emmanuel UC - SSM
Kathie	Smith	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Andrew's UC – Sturgeon Falls
Heddys	Stevenson	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Central UC - SSM
Lynda	Todd	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Larchwood Memorial UC - Larchwood
Dawn	Yorke	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Espanola UC - Espanola
Lisa	Blais	Ministry Personnel	Trinity UC – North Bay
Pam	Brown	Ministry Personnel	Trinity UC – Capreol
Whitney	Bruno	Ministry Personnel	Little Current UC – Manitoulin Island
Sylvia	Carscadden	Ministry Personnel	St. Andrew's UC – Sudbury
Tracy	Davis	Ministry Personnel	Emmanuel UC – North Bay
Glen	Eagle	Ministry Personnel	Willowgrove UC – SSM
Ryan	Fea	Ministry Personnel	St. Peter's UC – Sudbury
Nancy	Ferguson	Ministry Personnel	Emmanuel UC – SSM
Ted	Harrison	Ministry Personnel	Trinity UC – North Bay
Laura	Hutchison	Ministry Personnel	Covenant UC – Timmins
Sandra	Jenkinson	Ministry Personnel	Sundridge/South River/Trout Creek PC
Bill	Jones	Ministry Personnel	Porcupine UC – Porcupine
Lionel	Ketola	Ministry Personnel	First-Wesley UC – Thunder Bay
James	Ko	Ministry Personnel	Trinity UC – Lively
William	Kunder	Ministry Personnel	Omond Memorial UC/Emmanuel UC – North Bay
Dave	LeGrand	Ministry Personnel	St. Andrew's UC – Sudbury
Steven	Loweth	Ministry Personnel	Westminster UC – Thunder Bay
Elaine	Lush	Ministry Personnel	St. Paul's-Emmanuel Community Church - Hearst
Torrin	Maag	Ministry Personnel	Zion UC – Thessalon
Kathleen	McCallum	Ministry Personnel	Trinity UC – North Bay
Lawrence	Muvunzi	Ministry Personnel	St. Andrew's UC – Iron Bridge
Susan	Peverley	Ministry Personnel	Manitowaning Tehkummah PC
Gordon	Roberts	Ministry Personnel	Trinity UC – North Bay
Lillian	Roberts	Ministry Personnel	Trinity UC – North Bay
Mastard	Sakala	Ministry Personnel	Harmony UC – Thunder Bay
Helen	Smith	Ministry Personnel	East Korah Maxwell UC – SSM
Caitlin	Smithers	Ministry Personnel	St. Andrew's UC – North Bay
Bill	Steadman	Ministry Personnel	Copper Cliff UC – Copper Cliff
Laurie	Stevenson	Ministry Personnel	Central UC – SSM
Desire	Tiriwepi	Ministry Personnel	St. Paul's UC – Thunder Bay
Erin	Todd	Ministry Personnel	Grace UC – Sudbury
Beverly	van der Jagt	Ministry Personnel	Espanola UC - Espanola

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Stewart	Walker	Ministry Personnel	St. Joseph Island PC
STAFF:			
Celio	de Andrade Santos Junior	Staff	
Melody	Duncanson-Hales	Staff	
Peter	Hartmans	Staff	
Kathleen	Jones	Staff	
Jody	Maltby	Staff	
Diane	Matheson-Jimenez	Staff	
Eun-Joo	Park	Staff	
Shawn	Redden	Staff	
Donna	Rutz	Staff	
Rob	Smith	Staff	
Susan	Whitehead	Staff	
OTHER:			
Andrew	Aitchison	Guest – Emmanuel College Exhibitor	
Diane	Bosman	Guest – GCO Member Engagement	
Steve	Caverley	Guest	
Bonnie	Kirk	Guest	
Nancy	Mundell	Guest	
Sue	Parr	Guest	
Gillian	Schell	Guest	
Michael	Shewburg	Guest – Five Oaks Centre	

### REGIONAL MEETING ONLINE ATTENDANCE – September 17, 2024

<b>Name (First)</b>	<b>Name (Last)</b>	<b>Connection to Region</b>	<b>Community of Faith</b>
Marilyn	Boileau	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Grace UC – Sudbury
Linda	Carrey	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. James in the Valley UC – Sudbury
Bev	Chapman	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Andrew's UC – Sudbury
Janie	Clayton	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Emmanuel UC – North Bay
Frances	Cronin	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Sheguianda UC – Little Current
Kim	Delarosbel	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Andrew's UC – North Bay
Lois	Dorey	Elected Regional Lay Rep	First UC - Wawa
Bette Ann	Elliston	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Paul's UC – Thunder Bay

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Susan	Finlay	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Peter's UC – Sudbury
Karen	Gooch	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Andrew's UC – North Bay
Georgina	Green	Elected Regional Lay Rep	First-Wesley UC – Thunder Bay
Peter	Haddow	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Omond Memorial UC – North Bay
James	Jackson	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Trinity UC – Thunder Bay
Wayne	Jeffkins	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Peter's UC – Sudbury
Philip	Jenkins	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Kapuskasing Community Church – Kapuskasing
Ann	Krikken	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Trinity UC – Iroquois Falls
Ted	McPherson	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Willowgrove UC – SSM
Faye	Moffatt	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Trinity UC – Capreol
Mardi	Mumford	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Trinity UC – Lively
Barb	Nott	Elected Regional Lay Rep	St. Stephens on the Hill UC – Sudbury
Nancy	Rouble	Elected Regional Lay Rep	East Korah Maxwell UC – SSM
Susan	Siczkar	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Harmony UC – Thunder Bay
Frank	Turnach	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Trout Creek UC – Trout Creek
Elizabeth	Brown	Ministry Personnel	St. Andrew's UC – Massey
Pam	Brown	Ministry Personnel	Trinity UC – Capreol
Whitney	Bruno	Ministry Personnel	Little Current UC – Manitoulin Island
Nancy	Ferguson	Ministry Personnel	Emmanuel UC – SSM
Susan	Ivany		Thunder Bay
Bill	Jones	Ministry Personnel	Porcupine UC – Porcupine
Lionel	Ketola	Ministry Personnel	First-Wesley UC – Thunder Bay
William	Kunder	Ministry Personnel	Omond Memorial UC/Emmanuel UC – North Bay
Dave	LeGrand	Ministry Personnel	St. Andrew's UC – Sudbury
Steven	Loweth	Ministry Personnel	Westminster UC – Thunder Bay
Gordon	Roberts	Ministry Personnel	Trinity UC – North Bay
Lillian	Roberts	Ministry Personnel	Trinity UC – North Bay
Mastard	Sakala	Ministry Personnel	Harmony UC – Thunder Bay
Helen	Smith	Ministry Personnel	East Korah Maxwell UC – SSM
Caitlin	Smithers	Ministry Personnel	St. Andrew's UC – North Bay
Bill	Steadman	Ministry Personnel	Copper Cliff UC – Copper Cliff
Laurie	Stevenson	Ministry Personnel	Central UC – SSM
Desire	Tiriwepi	Ministry Personnel	St. Paul's UC – Thunder Bay
Erin	Todd	Ministry Personnel	Grace UC – Sudbury
Stewart	Walker	Ministry Personnel	St. Joseph Island PC
STAFF:			

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Melody	Duncanson Hales	Staff	
Peter	Hartmans	Staff	
Jody	Maltby	Staff	
Diane	Matheson- Jimenez	Staff	
Donna	Rutz	Staff	
Robert	Smith	Staff	
Susan	Whitehead	Staff	
GUESTS:			
Laurie	Kendall	Guest – Nominee	Harmony UC – Thunder Bay
Janet	Venton	Guest – Liaison	First-Wesley UC – Thunder Bay



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**Appendix D**  
**REGIONAL MEETING REGRETS – September 17, 2025**

<b>Name (First)</b>	<b>Name (Last)</b>	<b>Connection to Region</b>	<b>Community of Faith</b>
Janice	Frame	Ministry Personnel	
Laura	Hutchison	Ministry Personnel	
Sandra	Jenkinson	Ministry Personnel	Trout Creek/South River/ Sundridge PC
Lynda	Todd	Elected Regional Lay Rep	Larchwood Memorial UC - Larchwood

## **Appendix E**

### **JUBILANDS**

The following ministers are celebrating significant anniversaries of their entry into ministry within The United Church of Canada:

56 years	Robert Jackson Douglas Joblin
55 years	Peter Wyatt Jack White Gailand MacQueen
45 years	Richard Thorne Glen Eagle
41 years	Richard Smith William Jones
40 years	Lillian Roberts
35 years	William Mayoros
26 years	Karen de Jong-Dermann Susan Ivany
25 years	David McLeish Laurie Stevenson Carl Triskle
20 years	Norine St. Jean
15 years	Edith (Lynn) Heeley
5 years	Susan Peverley Ryan Fea



## **Appendix F**

### **ORDINATION, COMMISSIONING & ADMISSION**

- **ORDINAND**

#### **Tracy Davis (she/her)**



As I journey towards Ordination within The United Church of Canada, I am grateful for the ways I have been shaped by the nurturing embrace of several communities of faith. Baptized and raised within Emmanuel United Church in North Bay, I learned early on the profound significance of belonging and community found within a spiritual family. The steadfast support of Emmanuel's Youth Group, provided me with strength and solace during difficult teenage years. Despite pursuing a career in social work and starting a family, the call to ministry tugged persistently.

Inspired by my parents' service as Staff Associates at St Andrew's-North Bay, I found a beacon of guidance in their example of selfless devotion.

For 15 years, I served the compassionate congregation of St Andrew's, contributing to team ministry and pastoral care, before transitioning to roles in hospital chaplaincy and Long-Term Care. Now, alongside my husband, I find myself once again in team ministry at Emmanuel United, where I am welcomed with open arms and a sense of belonging.

As Ordination approaches, I am filled with gratitude for the unwavering support of my faith community. My heart brims with eagerness as I envision the future of the United Church of Canada, excited to explore new avenues of creativity and openness to the Spirit, allowing us to serve and nurture in innovative and transformative ways.

#### **Helen Smith (she/her)**



I was born and raised in Little Rapids Ontario, the daughter of John and Peggy MacLean, with my sister Mary and a brother Peter. Growing up in Little Rapids United Church I always felt welcomed and safe. Surrounded by family and friends I was nurtured and encouraged to discover my faith. Part of my Sunday School years included what was then known as "the New Curriculum" and it left an impact on my understanding of God and God's world. I am married to Ray and we have two adult sons, Douglas and Richard.

We have been pleased to welcome daughters-in-law Jammie and Amanda to our family. We are the proud grandparents to Emily, Leah and Macie who make sure life is never boring.

I have been active at Congregational, Presbytery, and Conference levels in many varied

roles in The United Church of Canada. I graduated from Algoma University with a B.A. in History and English. I completed the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders program in 1998. In 2004 I began the Lay Pastoral Ministry Program at United Theological College in Montreal and completed that program in 2006. I was recognized as a Designated Lay Minister at London Conference in 2007. As an adult my family and I attended St. Andrew's United Church in Sault Ste Marie. I took a position as a Staff Associate at Willowgrove UC in 1999. In 2009 I accepted an appointment as the minister at East Korah Maxwell United Church and am still serving there.

In my mind, my call to ministry began the day I was baptized and evolved with each new opportunity that presented itself. It has been while serving as a minister that I truly discovered who I was meant to be.

## • COMMISSIONAND

### **Lisa Blais (she/her)**



I am the Faith Formation and Outreach Minister at Trinity United Church in downtown North Bay. I am of Haudenosaunee (Mohawk), French and Scottish descent. I bring my love of community, passion for right relations and my joy for teaching to my work at Trinity and the wider church community. Some of the highlights of my job include the creation of a successful Vacation Bible Camp program, a Children's Theatre Group, a yearly winter family retreat weekend and an active and vibrant Sunday School and Youth program. I am staff support for many groups and activities that take place at Trinity, including a busy Food Shelf program. I also currently serve as team lead on the Canadian Shield Regional Council's Right Relations Resource Team.

I moved to North Bay in 2000 to attend Nipissing University to complete my Bachelor of Education. Shortly after graduating I began working at Trinity as a Staff Associate. I continued my education attending the NEOS youth program at Five Oaks, as well as enrolling in the Licenced Lay Worship Leaders Course. I was recognized as a Designated Lay Minister in 2011. I consider myself to be a life long learner and enjoys participating in regular learning events.

I am grateful for the sustaining gift of reciprocity that comes from planting and nurturing the seeds of faith and watching them grow into new ways of being and understanding. I believe that our faith should never stop growing and evolving. I consider it a deep privilege to accompany people as they discover, nurture and develop their faith at all stages of their lives.



## **Appendix G**

### **RETIREEES**

#### **Brynn Carson**



Brynn Carson has had a very interesting career path that led her to ministry. She began as a teacher and then she felt the call to ministry and spent four years in theology at McGill University and then due to family issues, she left and didn't do her internship year. While pursuing other life pursuits, she still felt a call to ministry and supplied in the Ottawa Valley. When she moved to St. Thomas with new job, she continued to supply in the area around St. Thomas but she grew in her desire to enter ministry in a more intentional way and applied to go into the DLM stream. She applied to various places and then she saw an ad from Porcupine United and this sparked her to apply because she always wanted to be in the north. Since her family was from Timmins and her mother and grandparents were buried in Timmins she applied because they would accept a DLM student. To her great surprise and pleasure after her interview and before she got back down south, they had checked her references and offered the job.

For nine and a half years, Brynn was minister of Porcupine United and enjoyed every minute of her ministry there but due to health issues she was forced to retire. She says if her health had held up she would still be there. Brynn had a very positive ministry in Porcupine and during the pandemic, she phoned every member and adherent every week. She had wonderful mentors throughout her journey with a couple of ministers and a rabi who she was able to reflect with and gain the strength and knowledge that she needed in her ministerial journey. Some of her happiest moments were being a scout leader over the years and also as a scout chaplain.



## **Appendix H**

### **REPORTS**

#### **ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT**

#### **OF CANADIAN SHIELD REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE**

##### **Regional Council:**

Our regional meeting theme for this year is “Upon this Rock”. This Regional Council Meeting (RCM) is a wonderful opportunity to gather together in-person and online across our Regional Council. We join together as United Church to celebrate our Ministry together as communities of faith to seek encouragement from each other, as we share the gospel and most of all, to worship and give thanks! As a regional council, as communities of faith, as outreach ministry, we have returned to a more normal routine following lockdowns. Returning to a new normal has been slow for many communities of faith with the disruption of the pandemic challenging the foundation of many within our regional council. We hold each other in prayer.

As a region, as community, as individuals, we give thanks as we continue to be on a journey together; we celebrate the resilience of our churches; “Upon this Rock” in every way and the expression of the Gospel in many new and creative ways.

##### **Connecting within our Regional Council:**

Although this past year many of our communities of faith, outreach ministries, and camps have struggled figuring out our new normal, we have continued a ministry of caring and support in new and creative ways. Volunteers, music leaders, ministry personnel, camp staff, outreach staff, and congregational support staff have all worked tirelessly. Many communities of faith continue to offer ministry through online worship and gather for meetings virtually – a new and creative offering which was limited across the regional council, pre-pandemic.

As a northern regional council, distance remains a barrier to meeting in-person. The region’s primary tool for connecting continues to be online gatherings, for both Ministry Personnel and Lay Leaders for support, updates, and education. Our website/newsletter “Bedrock” 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, Teams and networks/clusters and informal gatherings of UCC folks and community members.

The regional council met together online in November, to honour our mutual ministry together and complete our administrative duties for the year.

##### **Festival of Faith:**

This past year, Spring 2023, the regional council (and many guests from outside the Region) were invited to gather together in mutual ministry at the Festival of Faith in North

Bay. This was the first time we gathered together in North Bay and offered an opportunity for folks across the region to join together as community to listen, learn, laugh, cry, and grow together in our mutual ministry. We put aside our administrative ministry, and as a regional council planned a gathering together focusing on fellowship and learning from across the region and including guests from across Ontario and Canada.

New in 2025, both the Canadian Shield Regional Council and Shining Waters Regional Council will join together, mutually planning another joint Festival of Faith for June 7-9, 2025 in Sudbury Ontario. More details are to come! See our regional council website for updates, following our spring RCM. We will not be meeting together in-person as a regional council, for our administration role in 2025, but rather online.

### **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 2025 budget will be presented at our Regional Council Meeting (RCM). This past year's spending reflects an unusual year following Covid travel restrictions. Staff travel was up in 2023, as staff re-connect in-person.

#### *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 RCM. It also gives you an idea of the monthly variety and work of our Executive. We have also added a link to our webpage which offers a close look at our finances, including audited statements as they are completed by the auditors, in one location.

### **Working towards Right Relations, Anti-Racism and Equity**

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 for reflecting, learning, re-learning history, theological reflection, and discussion working towards becoming an anti-racist Church and also working towards right relationship.

Both regional councils have encouraged equity conversations at the Executive level, commission and committee levels of the church. The regional council continues to lift up our commitment to equity across our work. We are beginning to live into our new pattern of equity being named by each commission. We continue to work and celebrate the

Canadian Shield Regional Council as an Affirming regional council and support community of faith conversations too!

**Staffing:**

In 2023/2024, we saw more transition of staff in our regional council. Rachael Howes transitioned into retirement at the end of May 2023. Jeffery Dale finished his work at the regional council and transitioned to local community of faith ministry in 2023. We have deeply appreciated their work with the regional council and they will be missed. We welcomed Shawn Redden as Justice and Faith Formation Minister, [sredden@united-church.ca](mailto:sredden@united-church.ca), who works part-time for the regional council. Melody Duncanson-Hales also has shifted part of her work to General Council, working 50 percent for the regional council.

In 2023/2024 we started a more intentional transition to shared staff between regional councils. Rob Smith transitioned from full time in CSRC to part-time, now supporting Ministry personnel in Shining Waters Regional Council. All four administrative staff (Susan Whitehead, Donna Rutz, Kathleen Jones, and Celio de Andrade Santos Jr.) have now officially transitioned to serving both regional councils to increase our support to program staff, with Susan Whitehead serving as the Executive Minister's Executive Administrative Assistant.

We continue to deeply appreciate working with Diane, Rob, Melody, Shawn, Celio, Donna, Susan, Kathleen and Peter. We are blessed with incredible staff who have worked tirelessly over the past year. Thank you! We are also grateful for our Past Chair Barb Nott and current Chair Nancy Ferguson, who have provided attentive leadership throughout this year. Thank you!

**UCC Strategic Plan:**

2023 marks the start and implementation of The United Church of Canada Strategic Plan (2023-2025). We welcome Calin Lau ([clau@united-church.ca](mailto:clau@united-church.ca) 1-800-268-3781 ex. 2047), General Council Growth Animator, supporting the Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Councils.

Sharing the introduction of the UCC strategic plan (found on the UCC website) 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.*



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*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)*

The strategic plan has much more detail. See [The United Church of Canada website](#) for the most up to date details.

### **100 Years!**

2024 marks the beginning of the 100th year celebration of The United Church of Canada with an online/in-person hybrid service, hosted by The United Church of Canada, at Metropolitan United Church in Toronto. Let's give thanks together for our mutual ministry for many years. [Click here for more details.](#)

### **Thanks**

We give thanks for the work of the regional council, outreach ministry, communities of faith, its many volunteers, Ministry Personnel, music teams, administrative staff, custodians, and treasurers to name just a few. May God continue to bless our ministry in 2024/2025.

With Gratitude and Prayer,

### **The Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive:**

Nancy Ferguson, Chair  
Peter Hartmans, Executive Minister  
Barbara Nott, Past Chair  
Jim Jackson  
Helen Smith  
Mastard Sakala  
Joy Galloway  
John Watson  
Susan Lindquist  
David LeGrand  
Stewart Walker  
Bill Steadman

## **PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION**

### **Canadian Shield Regional Council Pastoral Relations Commission Report – May 2024**

My roll as Chair of The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Canadian Shield Regional Council is coming to an end and it is time to pass the tiller of this ship to another. I am

proud to say that, as a region, we are leaders in finding new ways to be the church. This report sets out what we have done since we last reported to you and lists those individuals who have stepped up and taken on responsibility in the governance of the church. Thank you one and all for what you do.

***John Watson***

**Chair – Pastoral Relations Commission**

We give thanks for the faithful service of our Pastoral Relations Commission members – John Watson (Chair), Karen Gooch (Secretary), Joy Galloway, Jane Graham, Ted Harrison, Erin Todd, Janet Venton, Stewart Walker, Joy Bott, and Fraser Williamson.

**Pastoral Relations Activity Since the Last Regional Council Meeting in September 2022:**

**2022**

1. **St. James in the Valley, Sudbury, ON** – approved the re-appointed David Chuipka (Candidate) part time (20 hours) effective October 1, 2022 to September 30, 2024.
2. **First Wesley Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON** – approved the request for a change of Pastoral Relations from the Rev. Louise Hart (OM).
3. **Harmony Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON** – approved the call of the Rev. Mastard Sakala effective October 1, 2022.
4. **Wawa Pastoral Charge, Wawa, ON** – approved the change in the appointment of Minhyuk Hwang (Candidate) from 20 hours to 25 hours effective September 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023.
5. **Copper Cliff Pastoral Charge, Copper Cliff, ON** – approved the appointment of the Rev. William Steadman (OM – Retired) part-time (16 hours) effective December 1, 2022 to November 30, 2025.

**2023**

6. **Westminster Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON** – approved the appointment of Steven Loweth (DLM) full time effective March 1, 2023 to February 28, 2026.
7. **First-Wesley Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON** – approved the call of the Rev. Lionel Ketola (OM) part time (30 hours) effective March 1, 2023.
8. **Willowgrove Pastoral Charge, Sault Ste. Marie, ON** – approved the appointment of the Rev. Glen Eagle (OM – retired) part-time (20 hours) effective February 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023.
9. **Espanola Pastoral Charge, Espanola, ON** – approved the Shared Ministry Personal Agreement between St. George's Anglican Church and Espanola Pastoral Charge effective February 1, 2023.
10. **Blind River Pastoral Charge, Blind River, ON and Iron Bridge Pastoral Charge, Iron Bridge, ON** – approved the collaborative agreement effective May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2026.
11. **Blind River Pastoral Charge, Blind River, ON and Iron Bridge Pastoral Charge, Iron Bridge, ON** – approved the appointment of Laurence Muvunzi (OM – Admissions) full time effective May 1, 2023 to April 30, 2026.
12. **Trinity Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON and Pinegrove Pastoral Charge,**

**Rosalyn, ON** – approved the change of pastoral relations with David Colwell effective February 9, 2023.

- 13. Matheson Pastoral Charge, Matheson, ON and Iroquois Falls Pastoral Charge, Iroquois Falls, ON** – approved the change of pastoral relations with Laura Hutchison (DLM) effective June 30, 2023.
- 14. Covenant Pastoral Charge, Timmins, ON** – approved the appointment of Laura Hutchison (DLM) part time (20 hours) effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026.
- 15. St. Mark's Pastoral Charge, Sudbury, ON** – approved the extension of the appointment of Dian Tate (candidate) effective July 1, 2023 to August 31, 2024.
- 16. St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge, Sault Ste. Marie, ON** – approved the change of Pastoral Relations with the Rev. Eun-Joo Park effective July 31, 2023.
- 17. St. James in the Valley Pastoral Charge, Sudbury, ON** – approve the change of Pastoral Relations with David Chuipka (Candidate) effective June 30, 2023.
- 18. Approved the licensing of Aaron Palmer as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader.**
- 19. Approved the admission of the Rev. Byung Yun (James) Ko into the United Church of Canada.**
- 20. Trinity Pastoral Charge, North Bay, ON** – approved the re-appointment of Lisa Blais (DLM) part time (34 hours) effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026.
- 21. Wawa Pastoral Charge, Wawa, ON** – approved the change of pastoral relations with Minhyuk Hwang effective July 31, 2023.
- 22. Emmanuel Pastoral Charge, North Bay, ON** – approved the appointment of the Rev. William Kunder (OM – Retired) part-time 20 hours effective August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2026.
- 23. Emmanuel Pastoral Charge, North Bay, ON** – approved the appointment of Tracy Davis (DLM) part-time (15 hours) effective August 1, 2023 to July 31, 2026.
- 24. Trinity Manitoulin Pastoral Charge, Mindemoya, ON** – approved the appointment of Kim Inglis (Candidate) part-time (20 hours) effective July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024.
- 25. St. Stephen's on the Hill, Sudbury, ON** – approved the change of terms of the Rev. Catharine Somerville (OM) to 16 hours effective September 1, 2023.
- 26. Approved the creation of a benevolent fund for ministers in need.**
- 27. Porcupine Pastoral Charge, Timmins, ON** – approved the change of pastoral relations from Brynn Carson (DLM) effective November 10, 2023
- 28. Approved the admission of the Rev. Desire Tiriwepi (OM) to the United Church of Canada effective October 29, 2023.**
- 29. Manitowaning-Tehkummah Pastoral Charge, Manitowaning, ON** – approved the call of Susan Peverley (OM) part-time (30 hours) effective October 1, 2023.
- 30. St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge, North Bay, ON** – approved the appointment of Caitlin Smithers (Candidate) full-time effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2025.
- 31. Porcupine Pastoral Charge, Timmins, ON** – approved the appointment of the Rev. Bill Jones (OM – Retired) part-time (20 hours effective September 1, 2023 to August 31, 2026.
- 32. St. Paul's Emmanuel Community Pastoral Charge, Englehart, ON** – approved the re-appointment of the Rev. Elaine Lush (OM – retired) part-time (20 hours) effective January 1, 2024 to December 31, 2024.

33. **Willowgrove Pastoral Charge, Sault Ste. Marie, ON** – re-appointment of the Rev. Glen Eagle (OM – retired) part-time (20 hours) effective December 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026.
34. **St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge, Sault Ste. Marie, ON** – appointment of the Rev. David Zub (OM – retired) part-time (14 hours effective January 1, 2024 to June 30, 2024.
35. **Approved David Chuipka as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader effective December 1, 2023 to June 30, 2026.**

#### **2024**

36. **St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON** – approved the call of the Rev. Desire Tiriwepi (OM) full time effective February 1, 2024.
37. **Approved the request of the Rev. Lillian Roberts (OM – retired) to be in formal association with Trinity, North Bay, ON**
38. **Thessalon Pastoral Charge, Thessalon, ON** – approved the appointment of Torrin Maag (Candidate) part-time (20 hours) effective March 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025.
39. **Approved the ordination of Tracy Davis**
40. **Approved the ordination of Helen Smith**
41. **Approved the commissioning of Lisa Blais**
42. **Trinity, North Bay, ON** – approved the provisional call of Lisa Blais (Candidate) part-time (36 hours) effective May 6, 2024
43. **Emmanuel, North Bay, ON** – approved the provisional call of Tracy Davis (Candidate) part time (15 hours) effective May 6, 2024.
44. **East Korah/Maxwell Pastoral Church, Sault Ste. Marie** – approved the provisional call of Helen Smith (Candidate) part-time (20 hours) effective May 6, 2024.

#### **Pastoral Relations Liaisons**

The following people serve as Pastoral Relations Liaisons for our region:

Joy Galloway, Mercedes Hughes, Sandra Jenkinson, Mardi Mumford, Catherine Somerville, Jan Venton, Stewart Walker and Fraser Williamson.

This year we said goodbye to Sylvia Carscadden and Karen Brophey. We give thanks for their faithful service as pastoral relations liaisons over the years to the Canadian Shield Regional Council and to Manitou Conference.

Pastoral Relations Liaisons work with communities of faith to help them discern their ministry needs. We are blessed as a region to have such gifted and committed individuals who serve in this way.

If your community of faith is considering looking for a new minister or your current minister has requested a change in pastoral relations then contact our Pastoral Relations Minister, Rob Smith, and a liaison will be appointed to help you with the process.

We are looking for new liaisons. If you are interested, please let Rob know. A joint

training with Shining Water for new liaisons is being planned for February 2025.

### **Current Assignments**

1. Trinity, Thunder Bay, ON – liaison is Jan Venton – currently discerning future ministry needs.
2. Pinegrove, Thunder Bay, ON – liaison is Jan Venton – currently discerning future ministry needs.
3. St. John's Pastoral Charge, Marathon, ON – liaison is Stewart Walker – currently discerning next steps.
4. Wawa Pastoral Charge, Wawa, ON – liaison is Joy Galloway – currently discerning future ministry needs.
5. Willowgrove Pastoral Charge, Sault Ste. Marie, ON – liaison is Stewart Walker – currently searching for a full-time minister
6. St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge, Sault Ste. Marie, ON – liaison is Stewart Walker – still discerning future ministry needs.
7. Central Algoma Churches Community (CACC), Blind River, ON – liaison is Stewart Walker – currently discerning next steps
8. Onaping Falls Pastoral Charge, Levak, ON – liaison is Mardi Mumford – currently discerning next steps
9. Sturgeon Falls Pastoral Charge, Sturgeon Falls, ON – liaison is Sandra Jenkinson – currently discerning next steps
10. Loring Pastoral Charge, Loring, ON – liaison is Catherine Somerville – currently discerning next steps
11. Nipissing-Restoule, Nipissing, ON – liaison is Fraser Williamson – currently discerning next steps
12. St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, Cochrane, ON – Liaison is Joy Galloway – currently discerning next steps
13. Kapuskasing Pastoral Charge, Kapuskasing, ON – liaison is Joy Galloway – currently discerning their future.

### **Pastoral Charge Supervisors**

When a community of faith does not have a called or appointed ministry personnel The Manual requires that a pastoral charge supervisor be appointed. The Supervisor provides quorum for the meeting of the governing board. Pastoral Charge supervisors are also required when a ministry personnel is a student minister or an admissions minister.

In the Canadian Shield Region, a majority of our pastoral charges are without ministry personnel. We are dependent on pastoral charge supervisors. We are grateful for all those who serve in this way. Thank you. We appreciate your valuable and vital ministry.

We are always needing more people to be a pastoral supervisor. If you are interested and want to know more about this service opportunity, please contact Rob Smith [rsmith@united-church.ca](mailto:rsmith@united-church.ca)

1. All People's Pastoral Charge, Sudbury, ON – Barbara Nott

2. Blind River Pastoral Charge, Blind River, ON – Admissions Minister - Cory Vermeer-Cuthbert
3. Broadway Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON – Shane Judge
4. Burks Falls Pastoral Charge, Burks Falls, ON – vacant
5. Trinity Pastoral Charge, Capreol, ON – student minister – Lynda Todd
6. Carmichael Pastoral Charge, North Bay, ON – Sandra Jenkinson
7. Central Algoma Church Community, Bruce Mines, ON – Stewart Walker
8. Chapleau Pastoral Charge, Chapleau, ON – Susan Lindquist
9. Cochrane: St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, Cochrane, ON – Laura Hutchison
10. Coniston: St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge, Coniston, ON – Stewart Walker
11. Echo Bay Pastoral Charge, Echo Bay, ON, - Bruce McLeish
12. Espanola Pastoral Charge, Espanola, ON – Whitney Bruno
13. Goulais River Pastoral Charge, Goulais River, ON – Laurie Stevenson
14. Hearst: St. Matthew's and St. Paul's Pastoral Charge – Bill Jones
15. Hornepayne: Grace Pastoral Charge, Hornepayne ON – George Bott
16. Iron Bridge Pastoral Charge, Iron Bridge, ON – Admission minister - Cory Vermeer-Cuthbert
17. Kapuskasing Community Church Pastoral Charge, Kapuskasing, ON – Laura Hutchinson
18. Katrine Pastoral Charge, Katrine, ON – Fraser Williamson
19. Kirkland Lake Pastoral Charge, Kirkland Lake, ON – Elaine Lush
20. Loring Pastoral Charge, Loring, ON - vacant
21. Manitouwadge Pastoral Charge, Manitouwadge – Joy Bott
22. Marathon: St. John's Pastoral Charge, Marathon, ON – Jim Jackson
23. Massey Pastoral Charge, Massey, ON – Brian Bigelow
24. Mattawa-Rutherglen Pastoral Charge, Mattawa, ON – Richard Thorne
25. Mount Joy Pastoral Charge, Timmins, ON – Rob Galloway
26. Nipigon Pastoral Charge, Nipigon, ON – John Watson
27. Nipissing-Restoule Pastoral Charge, Nipissing, ON – Fraser Williamson
28. Phelps Pastoral Charge, Redbridge, ON – Ron Holotuk
29. Pinegrove Pastoral Charge, Rosslyn, ON – Christina Stricker
30. Schreiber Pastoral Charge, Scriber, ON – George Bott
31. St. James in the Valley, Sudbury, ON – David LeGrand
32. St. Mark's Pastoral Church, Sudbury, ON – Kathy Dahmer
33. St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, New Liskeard, ON – Peter Haddow
34. Sturgeon Falls Pastoral Charge, Sturgeon Falls, ON – Gordon Roberts
35. St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, Temiscaming, QC – Lillian Roberts
36. Thessalon Pastoral Charge, Thessalon, ON – Jane Graham
37. Trinity Pastoral Charge, Thunder Bay, ON – Christina Stricker
38. Trinity Pastoral Charge, Manitoulin, ON – Erwin Thompson
39. Val D'Or Pastoral Charge, Val D'Or, QC – Will Kunder
40. Wawa Pastoral Charge, Wawa ON – Helen Smith

### **Sacraments Elders**

1. George Bott – St. John's, Marathon
2. May Cameron – St. Andrew's, Massey

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3. Mona Campbell, All People's, Sudbury
4. Tim Cecile – Trinity, Chapleau
5. Marlene Chuipka – All People's, Sudbury
6. Stephen Collins – St. John's Marathon
7. Maxine Dale – St. Andrew's, Coniston
8. Phyllis Gauvin – Grace, Nipigon
9. Lori Jansekovich – Broadway, Thunder Bay
10. Susan Jansson – St. Matthew's and St. Paul's Anglican/United Church, Hearst.
11. Christine Mitchell-Kydd – St. Paul's, Cochrane
12. Kerttu Ladouceur – St. Matthew's and St. Paul's Anglican/United Church, Hearst
13. Susan Lindquist – Trinity, Chapleau
14. June McDougall – Knox, Manitowaning
15. Bonnie Moore – St. Paul's, New Liskeard
16. Diane Rust – Mountjoy, Timmins
17. Kathie Smith – St. Andrew's, Sturgeon Falls
18. Judy Tomlin – Hillview, New Liskeard
19. Glenda Woodbury – St. Paul's, Temiscaming, QC
20. Dawn Yorke - Espanola

A Sacraments Elder is appointed by the community of faith, trained by the region and licenced by the region to offer the sacraments to their community of faith where there are no available ministry personnel. They are licensed for one year and must be renewed annually by action of the community of faith.

We held a Sacraments Elder training in March 2023 facilitated by the Rev. Stewart Walker.

We are very grateful for the willingness of these people to serve their community of faith in this way.

**Licensed Lay Worship Leaders**

**West – Thunder Bay to Sault Ste. Marie**

1. **George Bott** (*Licensed until June 30, 2024*)
2. **Joy Bott** (*Licensed until June 30, 2024*)
3. **Cathy Bright** (*Licensed until June 30, 2024*)
4. **Lorna Chuipka** (*Licensed until June 30, 2024*)
5. **Robert Cosbey** (*Licensed until June 30, 2024*)
6. **Vivian Hall** (*Licensed until June 30, 2024*)
7. **Diane Hannaford-Wilcox** (*Licensed until June 30, 2025*)
8. **John McDonald** (*Licensed until June 30, 2024*)
9. **Cyndy Raby** (*Licensed until June 30, 2024*)
10. **Marie Rinnie** (*Licensed until June 30, 2024*)
11. **Lori Van Santvoort-Jansekovich** (*Licensed until June 30, 2024*)
12. **Nancy Vernon** (*Licensed until June 30, 2024*)
13. **Wanda Wilding** (*Licensed until June 30, 2024*)

**East – North Bay and Area**

1. **Karen Brophey** (*Licensed until June 30, 2025*)
2. **Linda Clarke** (*Licensed until June 30, 2025*)
3. **Rob Farris** (*Licensed until June 30, 2025*)
4. **Peter Haddow** (*Licensed until June 30, 2025*)
5. **Elizabeth Henderson** (*Licensed until June 30, 2025*)
6. **Ron Holotuk**
7. **Jennifer Moorlag** (*Licensed until June 30, 2025*)
8. **Brenda McLay** (*Licensed until June 30, 2025*)
9. **Frances Morris** (*Licensed until June 30, 2025*)
10. **Aaron Palmer** (*Licensed until June 30, 2026*)
11. **Linda Sarginson** (*Licensed until June 30, 2025*)
12. **John Sheridan** (*Licensed until June 30, 2025*)

**Central – Sudbury**

1. **Lorna Corzine** (*Licensed until June 30, 2024*)
2. **Jane Graham** (*Licensed until June 30, 2026*)
3. **David Chuipka** (*Licensed until June 30, 2026*)
4. **Shannon Duffus** (*Licensed until June 30, 2026*)
5. **Cindy Hebert** (*Licensed until June 30, 2026*)
6. **Marg Hiddleston** (*Licensed until June 30, 2026*)
7. **Ross Macleod** (*Licensed until June 30, 2026*)
8. **Faye Moffatt** (*Licensed until June 30, 2026*)
9. **Brian Mundell** (*Licensed until June 30, 2026*)
10. **Nancy Mundell** (*Licensed until June 30, 2026*)
11. **Judy Sears** (*Licensed until June 30, 2026*)
12. **Roger West** (*Licensed until June 30, 2025*)
13. **Dawn Yorke** (*Licensed until June 30, 2026*)

The Canadian Shield Regional Council is very blessed to be served by a group of very gifted Licensed Lay Worship Leaders. We are grateful for all the work that they do each and every Sunday.

We also have an excellent Licensed Lay Worship Leader Resource team who work hard to support our LLWL's. The members of the Resource Team are: Dawn Yorke, Susan Peverley, Janice Frame, Peter Haddow and Jane Graham.

We held a LLWL education event with Kellie McComb about boundaries on February 25, 2023.

We held a LLWL Check-in on Saturday, November 19, 2023.

In the fall of 2023, Kathy McCallum started a hybrid training for licensed lay worship leaders. The course includes both in person and zoom training. There are 12 people enrolled in the course.

We are also very blessed to have within the boundaries of our region the On-line Licensed Lay Worship Leaders training program directed by Joy and George Bott. We give thanks for their ministry not only to our region but to our entire denomination.



Another program that originates within our region but serves our entire denomination is the United in Worship Project which provides worship resources for churches. Check out their website: <https://www.united-in-worship.ca/>

### **Ministry and Personnel Wellness Team**

One of the roles of the Pastoral Relations Minister and of the Pastoral Relations Commission is to support the “health, joy and excellence” of our ministry personnel. The following ministers serve as the Ministry Wellness Team along with Rob Smith our Pastoral Relations Minister; Ted Harrison, Erin Todd, Nancy Ferguson, Caitlin Smithers, and Kellie McComb the Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Council Office of Vocation Minister. They are a great team.

We have continued to offer quarterly zoom gatherings for Ministry Personnel.

- Advent Check-in with Peter Hartmans on December 7, 2022
- January Check-in with Janice MacLean on January 26, 2023
- “Getting to Your Why” with Kellie McComb on May 10, 2023
- Advent and Christmas Check-in with Erin Todd – November 16, 2023
- Preparing for Lent with the Rev. Dr. William Steadman – January 31, 2024.

We also partnered with Shining Waters regional council in November 2023 to host a in person retreat at Fern Resort in Orillia. Our speaker was Rebecca Simon-Peter who spoke about how to rebuild our churches after surviving the pandemic.

We also held a retreat at Willowgrove in Sault Ste. Marie May 2-3, 2024 prior to the Regional Meeting with The Rev. Dr. Andrew Richardson on the “Competencies of Collaborative Ministry.”

## **SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION**

### **Activity Report for the period January 2023 to April 2024**

- The Commission consists of a chair, a secretary and six to nine (6-9) members.

### **General Description:**

This SCFC is responsible for the resourcing of mission and ministry in the Region. The SCFC is responsible for the Support of Communities of Faith, including clusters, networks and property matters; as well as supporting Communities of Faith in their life and work and articulating their mission and ministry. The work may be carried out in a variety of ways, including by staff, task groups for a limited time period. For a more detailed description, you are referred The Manual 2019, sections C.2.1, .2, .3 and G.1.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Support and encouragement to the development and life of clusters and networks;
- Develop and nurture Covenantal relationships with the Regional Council and other communities of faith;

- Resource and animate collaborative conversations like cooperative ministries, amalgamation, disbanding
- Resource for collaboration around mission (e.g. Joint youth ministry, senior housing, food banks;
- Provide support and advice to Communities of Faith in matters of property, archives, and development of worship resources particularly for lay led congregations
- Develop a strategy for service, support and oversight of Communities of Faith, seeking to strengthen the community to live their mission and ministry
- The work must be reported through the Executive Minister to the Executive of the Regional Council on a regular basis and to the Regional Council annually
- Five (5) Resource Teams are accountable to the SCFC: Affirming Ministry, Mission Support, Funding and Grant Review, Property, Right Relations, Youth and Young Adult. All of these Resource Teams report regularly to the monthly SCFC meetings

### **Activity for the period January 2023 to April 2024**

- Participated in the position description and hiring of the Growth Animator for CSRC and SWRC – Welcome Calin Lau
- Approved the Covenant between the CSRC and Korah Maxwell UC
- Approved the Ecumenical shared ministry in Espanola – St George Anglican Church and The United Church of Espanola
- Supported the North Bay cluster in their sharing ministry on the 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of the month
- Disbanding of Manitouwadge UC and approved sale of building
- Disbanding of Grace UC Hornepayne and approved sale of building
- Approved the sale of St. Stephen's UC Chelmsford
- Approved sale of Hillview Pioneer UC Temiskaming Shores
- Approved demolition of the building and sale of Sheguiandah property
- Approved the sale and disbanding of Elliot Lake UC
- Approved sale of Trinity UC Iroquois Falls
- Approved Trinity UC Magnetawan Governance Structure
- Ongoing work with Fairview – Tehkummah to sever the cemetery from the building property in order to sell the building.
- Heather Ketchie is a lawyer whose area of expertise is non-profit and charity law. She is well versed in the polity of the United Church of Canada. Heather has consulted widely with CSRC and SWRC Communities of Faith regarding property sales. Heather has been the lawyer of record for a few of our sales within the region.
- With the heaviness of closing Churches, we do have bright moments like funding for the Rainbow Camp and helping other Churches remain a Community of Faith, building or not.
- **Initiated the Mustard Seed project April 2023.** Two Biblical passages came to mind as we considered this project:
- *"...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."*

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*~Matthew 17:20 and*

- *“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*
- The establishment of a \$100,000 fund earmarked for the SCFC to use. The SCFC would use up to \$25,000 per year; \$5,000 for commission support and \$20,000 in a grant form to facilitate growth and new ways of providing worship
- **“The Commission Connection”** is a mutually established (2023) liaison body with the Pastoral Relations Commission which provides the opportunity to discuss mutual concerns, identify areas where both commissions may or should be involved, provides the SCFC the opportunity to tap input from Pastoral Charge Supervisors and allows the two commissions the opportunity to provide education and support to Pastoral Charge Supervisors and Communities of Faith. In 2023/24 an in-person event for the Thunder Bay cluster with presentations and involvement regarding Pastoral relations and Stewardship. Two Pastoral Charge Supervisor gatherings were held providing the opportunity to discuss issues and solutions that have occurred. A fourth gathering occurred to discuss Time, Treasures and Talent: When What you have feels like not enough. There are plans to provide the Pastoral Relations and Stewardship events for other cluster areas within the CSRC area in the foreseeable future.
- In April of 2024 the SCFC and the Property Resource Team established a small group with representatives from each body to review the possibility of establishing a Property Commission. This work was undertaken because the existing structure has been very frustrating when dealing with property transactions. By having the decisions for Property transactions within one body the process can be expedited, not delayed.

Thanks to all the members of the Support to Communities of Faith Commission; Mardi Mumford, Secretary, Ernie Epp, Susan Peverley, Marilyn Schatzler, Bonnie Johnson, Crystal Grieg, George Bott, Brynn Carson and Peter Haddow. Thanks also to Diane Matheson-Jimenez and Melody Duncanson-Hale who brought their expertise and down-to-earth advice to all our discussions. We also welcomed Calin Lau to our meetings starting in 2024.

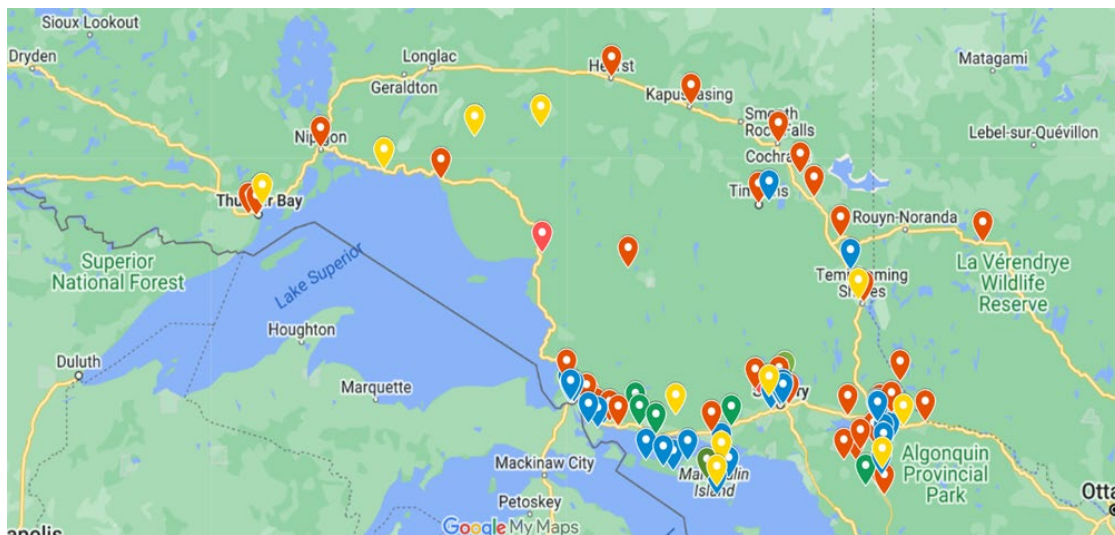
Respectfully submitted,  
Jim Jackson, Chair

### **PROPERTY RESOURCE TEAM/COMMISSION**

Ancient Egyptians believed that every person has 2 deaths – the first is a physical death and the second occurs the last time the person's name is spoken. Although it is the mandate of the Property Resource Team to support communities of faith through selling, buying, renovating, and mortgaging properties, we also acknowledge that members of this Team are keepers of the stories of congregations that have ceased to exist since we

became a Regional Council. It is a privilege to not simply hold the stories, but share them when and where ever we can.

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Respectfully submitted by:

Rev. Gordon Roberts, Chair of the Property Resource Team

**PRT Members for 2023-24:**

Bill Jones

Jack Page

Jan Ross

Paul McAlister

Don Haslam

Wayne Jeffkins

Gord Roberts

**Staff Support:**

Melody Duncanson-Hales

Diane Matheson-Jimenez

Kathleen Jones

**AFFIRMING RESOURCE TEAM**

The theme for this year’s CSRC AGM is “Upon this Rock”. It reminded me of a saying I read a while back it goes “If our house is built upon a rock with the brick and mortar of good works, it will withstand the storms”.

How appropriate that our Inaugural Regional Council meeting May 2019 happened to be in Sault Ste Marie. Each of us at that time were given a rock to bring back to our

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Communities of Faith. This year we are back in the Soo standing on the same rock where CSRC began.

I can't help remembering back to when it all started. When the Affirming Ministry Resource Team, first met we talked about the things we would like to do. We made up our goals and objectives and presented them to the CSRC...then there was Covid.

Yet as most of you know that when the waters get rough something wonderful happens to the rock. Over time the waters tend to smooth the rock. All those rough edges go away. We have survived the rough waters.

Once Communities of Faith were able to meet in person there has been more conversations about Affirming. We have seen a steady increase in those who have been attending our Affirming Town Hall meetings. In fact, a recent Zoom meeting had the most participants ever. We are very grateful to all those who attend our Town Hall Meetings and encourage others to join in our conversations. It is through open and honest discussions that barriers are broken down.

We are happy to announce that there are Communities of Faith in our Region that have started the discernment process to become Affirming. There is also one Community of Faith that will be getting their Affirming Designation at the end of May 2024.

Although we have made great strides recently in region there is more work to do. Recently there has been an increase of transphobia as well as protests against the 2SLGBTQ+ community domestically and globally.

We have had several discussions about the increase of "hate" emails etc. with other Affirming Regions, Communities of Faith and Affirming Leaders across Canada. The goal of these meetings is to help set up non-confrontational strategies to help deal with this. I can't help but think "WWJD" ... What would Jesus do? During these times when the sand feels like it is shifting it is so important that members of the 2SLGBTQ+ and Allies can find a safe place. That is why becoming an Affirming is so important.

The CSRC Affirming Ministry Resource Team is collaborating with our counterparts in Shining Waters to exchange ideas and resources to better serve everyone. We can help you start the conversation in your own Community of Faith.

The Affirming Ministry Resource Team is here for you.

Peter Haddow – Team Lead  
Caitlin Smithers  
Charles Bolduc  
Harry Stewart

Marilyn Schatzler  
Ryan Fea  
Susan Marrier  
Susan Peverley  
Whitney Bruno

Rob Smith – Regional Resource  
Celio De Andrade – Administrative Support

Thank you

### **RIGHT RELATIONS RESOURCE TEAM**

The Canadian Shield Regional Council's Right Relation Resource Team (RRRT) was created following the 2018 General Meeting. The RRRT carries on the work initiated by the Living into Right Relations Home Group and other reconciliation efforts initiated by groups from across our region. The purpose of the Right Relations Resource team is to develop, support and nurture just and respectful relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. To achieve this, we endeavour to do the following:

- Actively seek out ways to advocate and support the work of reconciliation throughout our region.
- Educate re: The Truth and Reconciliation Commission "Calls to Action" and the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and suggest ways to respond concretely.
- Share truth and endeavour to increase cultural competency about things such as: Canada's and the Church's role in the colonization of Indigenous Peoples; generational impacts of residential schools; systemic racism; restoration of language, culture, spirituality and treaties.
- Encourage the church's presence where and when Indigenous Peoples are seeking justice, celebrating, remembering, mourning, learning, protesting, rallying, praying...and show up!
- Research and share appropriate resources to build capacity, encourage local leadership development, and empower and equip the church to do this work

#### **Key projects that support this work since 2023 include:**

- Assisting Communities of Faith in obtaining resources to prepare for voting on the Remit to remove structural barriers to develop and sustain an autonomous indigenous church within the United Church of Canada.
- Maintaining and sharing content on the Right Relations Facebook page, website and email group on the reconciliation efforts locally and in our wider region



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- Preparing content (including videos and resource packages) on a variety of topics such as the Manitou Art Collection, Residential Schools, and more for the CSRC website
- Creating and distributing digital and print Minute for Right Relations, Summer Reading Lists, A podcast series on the United Church's role in Residential Schools, an Indigenous Music Playlist, and more
- Preparing and leading a presentation on Land Acknowledgement at the Festival of Faith in June 2023
- Providing oversight for the Manitou Art Collection paintings in the care of communities of faith in our region – In September 2022, the Right Relations Resource Team arranged to re-home an Untitled painting by Leland Bell to Emmanuel United Church, Sault Ste. Marie, ON

### **Right Relations Resource Team Membership Changes**

Carol Germa has been a long-time member of the Right Relations Team. Carol was part of the gathering: Living into Right Relations groups covenant at Pinawa, Manitoba in May, 2008 which led to the formation of the Manitou Conference's Living into Right Relations Group, the predecessor of the CSRC's Right Relations Resource Team.

This past year Carol retired from our team. Carol brought wisdom and knowledge to our work. She was generous with her time and talents and often it was easier to "ask Carol" than figure it out for ourselves. Thank you so much Carol for your time and dedication. You shared some of your own journey and helped us realize that we are all learning and growing in our awareness. Your work for Right Relations is most appreciated. We offer our deep gratitude, our love and our heartfelt blessings to Carol!

Linda Ambrose joined our team in 2021. She has been a tremendous asset to our team bringing a willingness to speak boldly with a compassionate heart and with much wisdom. Linda is stepping out of her role as a team member. We offer our gratitude and wish her many blessings.

### **Memorial Bench**

In January, 2022, Maxine McVey, a valued and much-loved member of the Canadian Shield Right Relations Resource Team, passed into Spirit. The CSRC Right Relations team would like to honour that legacy by installing a memorial bench at the site of the Apology Cairn, a sacred space that was so important to Maxine. We are in the process of arranging for the construction and installation of the bench at the site of the Apology Cairn. Look for more information later this spring.

### **The members of the team are:**

Lisa Blais (Team Lead), Whitney Bruno, Sylvia Carscadden, Janie Clayton, Lionel Ketola, Susan Lindquist, Brian Mundell, Melody Duncanson-Hales (Staff Resource)

### **MISSION SUPPORT AND GRANTS RESOURCE TEAM**

The CSRC Grant Team is pleased to report the awards made in 2023. Currently the Grant Team consists of five individuals of various backgrounds from across our region and include staff support from Melody Duncanson Hales and Diane Matheson- Jimenez. We meet nine times during

	<b><u>Number</u></b>	<b><u>Amount</u></b>
<b>Mission Support Grants -</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>\$58,000.00</b>
<b>United Church of Canada Capital Assistance Programs</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>\$19,425.20</b>
<b>Canadian Shield Regional Council Grants</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>\$16,500.00</b>
<b>Individual Bursaries</b>	<b><u>8</u></b>	<b><u>\$2,810.00</u></b>
<b>Total</b>	<b><u>28</u></b>	<b><u>\$96,735.20</u></b>

the year and feel blessed that we are able to provide support and assistance to churches and individuals across the region to facilitate such things as Outreach, Pastoral Charge Grants, Technology Support, Modernization, Community Partnerships, Clusters, Youth Events and Individual Bursaries.

We thank The United Church of Canada and the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive for their support to us for the following awards approved in 2023 –

#### **2023 Mission Support Grant Awards:**

**(approved at Regional Council Support to Communities of Faith Commission)**

*Mission Support Grants, funded by generosity to the Mission and Service of the United Church of Canada, are administered and awarded within each region to offer support to communities of faith and outreach ministries of the United Church. The Canadian Shield Regional Grants Team develops contextual criteria, invites applications, reviews information and offers award recommendations to the Support to Community of Faith Commission.*

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

##### *Pastoral Charge Grants*

Goulais River PC: \$5,000

Val D'Or Shared Ecumenical \$3,000  
19,500

Hearst Shared Ecumenical \$3,000

Total Pastoral Charge Grants: \$11,000  
\$47,000

##### *Social Outreach Grants*

Camp McDougall: \$22,500

Welcome Friends-Rainbow Camp

Elder Abuse Prevention Muskoka 5,000

Total Social Outreach Grants

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**Budget for Canadian Shield MSG:     \$60,000 total approved requests:     -**  
**58,000 Remainder held for emergent needs:     \$ 2,000**

**United Church of Canada Capital Assistance Programs**

*The purpose of the Capital Assistance Fund is to provide financial assistance for the renewal and development of congregations, camps, education centres, community ministries, and chaplaincies. Assistance is available in the form of loans and targeted grants for eligible pastoral charges/congregations and other ministries that would otherwise be unable to undertake or complete these projects. These programs include Technology Support Grants, Church and Manse Modernization Grants, and Capital Assistance Loans. The CSRC Grants team reviews applications and recommends awards from The United Church of Canada.*

- Trinity United Church, Lively \$565.20 Technology Support Grant supporting livestreaming equipment.
- St. Andrew's United Church, 111 Larch Street, Sudbury \$860 Technology Support Grant supporting webinar and virtual meeting technology.
- Mattawa-Rutherglen Pastoral Charge, \$5000 Church Modernization Grant, in support of roof repairs.
- Pinegrove United Church, \$5000 Church Modernization Grant, in support of roof repairs.
- Camp McDougall \$4000 Capital Assistance Grant in support of building and grounds maintenance.
- Camp Duncan \$4000 Capital Assistance Grant in support of building and grounds maintenance.

**Canadian Shield Regional Council Grants**

*A variety of modest grants to support faith communities and individuals in mission, outreach, faith formation, lay leadership development, youth and camping ministries, continuing education and support to networks and clusters are available to members of the Canadian Shield region. The Grants Team sets criteria for these programs, reviews requests and awards funds. If you have a project, a ministry, an event, or continuing education goal that could use financial support, please contact [Melody Duncanson Hales](#) or [Diane Matheson-Jimenez](#), staff support to the Grants Team.*

New Outreach Initiatives Grant:

- St. Andrew's UC, Sudbury \$3000 for community engagement;
- St. Paul's UC, Thunder Bay \$3000 for intercultural ministries;
- Trinity UC, Lively \$3000 for community partnership.

Network and Clusters Grant:

- North Bay area United Churches, \$2000 for 'United Together' project;
- Zion United Church, \$400 for Canadian Shield-Shining Waters 'Cross Border'

Cluster project;

- St. Andrew's UC, Sudbury \$2000 for partnership engagement.

Youth and Young Adult Event Grant:

- St. Peter's UC, Sudbury \$300 supporting Youth Climate Night event.

Lay Education Event Grant:

- First Wesley UC, Thunder Bay, \$2,800 supporting "Awaken Us" Cantata Event.

Individual Bursaries:

- 2 Right Relations and Intercultural bursaries for \$450 each;
- 2 Education for Ministry bursaries for \$500 each;
- 2 Lay Learning bursaries for \$100 each;
- 1 Youth Learning bursary for \$500;
- 1 Camper bursary for \$210

Dave Clarke, Chair

### **GENERAL COUNCIL 44 COMMISSIONERS**

Thank you for trusting us to represent you at the 44<sup>th</sup> General Council. It was an honour to serve. Let us share a bit about our experience.

We knew joy! Two commissioners rejoiced in our "big tent" of the United Church of Canada. Whitney writes, "My joy in serving as a commissioner for General Council 44 rests in the conversations had. I met people from around the country in the learning sessions and roundtables. I experienced how broad we are theologically, politically, and academically. I met people with experiences I never dreamed of. People were vulnerable with one another, shared, and received." Susan agrees, "It was wonderful to have the opportunity in small online discussion groups to share our experiences and sometimes different perspectives with people across Canada. It allowed us to learn

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from each other, and to recognize that we are not alone. Together we are stronger.” Fraser, too, enjoyed meeting everyone, “I was excited to participate as this was my first general council. I made new friends in my small online group.”

We celebrated our partnerships. Susan writes, “It was inspiring to hear from partners at home and abroad of the hope-giving work that they are able to do with the support of the UCC.” Joyce echoes Susan, “It was nice to hear from and talk with a few people I had not met before; I appreciated the inspiring words of some of our global partners, and it was good to have progress made towards the establishment of a self-directed indigenous church within the UCC. “

Peter writes his joy is from “all the conversations between the Elders and the delegates around creating an autonomous national Indigenous organization. Although as I am writing this, I have no idea what the outcome is for Remit #1. It still gives me hope that we as a church are walking in the right direction on the path of reconciliation.”

And yet, we were challenged too. Not from the reading or the time – but from much deeper issues.

We were challenged by issues such as the needs of rural communities of faith. Peter writes, “I found that although we did work on what a DLM is and their importance especially in regards to Northern communities of faith. We still need to work on how we can support rural & remote Communities of Faith with no accountable ministry. When we use the word Community of Faith what does it mean...is it the same every where?”

And we were challenged by global issues. Whitney writes, “I was challenged over our response to the requests to address the State of Israel regarding its treatment of Palestinians. Now, a year later, tensions are even higher. Reactions are intensified. A need for Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, and Daring Justice was, and is, dire.” Joyce feels similar, “I echo your concern, Whitney, about the very weak response to the petition from CSRC along with four other regional councils concerning the suffering of our Palestinian neighbours living under Israeli occupation. It is very disappointing to have our Church studying principles when urgent action is needed.” The same issue concerned Fraser, “One challenge or learning I had and was that there is so much division on the Israel Palestine issue. Since then, I have been reflecting on the side of the issue that I was not on during the debate. With what has happened since then, I am hoping for peace in this conflict and I am hoping for clarity on the United Church stance on the issue and conflict.”

Lastly, we were challenged by the ongoing COVID-19 Pandemic and how it affects relationships. Susan shares “The online format kept us safe (from Covid) and made it challenging to connect with other commissioners on a more personal level. The shared meals and discussions over the dinner table did not happen.” Joyce agrees, “I have found this rather difficult to write as I want to be truthful and yet respectful of the fact

that others may have had a different experience of GC44 than my own... GC44 was in general quite disappointing for me, so I found little joy in it. Holding the GC with over 200 participants online was extremely limiting. Having taken part in three previous General Councils, I really missed the in-person way of meeting. Talking with people face-to-face is a far richer experience, and there is much more opportunity to really learn about and understand various issues, in smaller groups, workshops, and in the plenary gathering.”

But we have hope!

Fraser looks to the future, “Having not experienced an in person General Council I am hoping that we will return to in person meetings so I can interact with more people than my focus group.

Peter dreams, “My hope for the future is that every Community of Faith will be Affirming. We would no longer have to struggle as 2SLGBT+ to feel safe anywhere in the United Church of Canada. Being Affirming should be like breathing we don't think about we just do it because it is who are.”

Whitney writes, “My hope is that GC45 will continue to listen to narratives from the margins, from the disempowered, and from the historically oppressed. I think we are making headway in addressing the church's racism against Indigenous peoples and spiritualities. But we can't slow down now. There is much to do; and dismantling racism from within will continue to be GC45's work.”

Joyce shares, “I live in hope that the Holy Spirit will prod our Church to move beyond nice-sounding but empty words and take the risk of living out our Christian mission without fear of ‘rocking the boat’ or upsetting the status quo.”

Susan summarizes the commissioners’ hope: Our hope is that “The UCC, together with their partners, and armed with bold discipleship, daring justice, and deep spirituality, continues to seek justice for the oppressed.”

May God bless you all in this Easter season of new life, love, and hope; thank you again.

#### **The Canadian Shield Regional Council Commissioners to General Council 44**

Whitney L. P. Bruno

Joyce Fergus-Moore

Peter Haddow

Laura Hutchison

Susan Siczkar

Fraser Williamson

**ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT TO THE REGIONAL COUNCILS FOR THE GENERAL  
COUNCIL EXECUTIVE AND GENERAL COUNCIL OFFICE**

This report is to supplement the following Accountability Report to Regional Councils for the General Council Executive and General Council Office, prepared by the General Secretary. I will offer my impression of the highlights of my first year on the GCE, while trying not to duplicate material in the General Secretary's report.

The GCE reviewed important issues to be dealt with by the 2023 annual meeting of General Council 44. These included: principles to guide the United Church's justice work, and proposals to eliminate functional distinctions between Designated Lay Ministers and Ordered Ministers.

The GCE sent a letter to the Prime Minister about the Israel-Hamas war in Gaza, in response to requests from partners in the Middle East and the GC44-adopted justice principles.

The GCE dealt with important budget matters. At successive meetings it approved principles to guide preparation of the 2024 budget (including COLA, grant reductions and planned deficit), and approved the 2024 budget based on those principles. It has begun preliminary work on the 2025 budget, exploring what it means to "live within our means" at a time of declining assessment revenue.

The GCE continues to explore Decolonizing Governance, including reducing the use of the word "mission", given the negative associations with damaging missionary efforts.

The GCE discussed the Pastoral Relations Equity Report, dealing with systemic challenges faced by equity-seeking ministry personnel. Proposals to address the issues revealed by this research are being prepared for future consideration.

The GCE received a report from the Board of Vocation. Most of the discussion focused on the admissions process, and the disappointingly large number of foreign-ordained ministers admitted to ministry in the United Church of Canada who have not been able to find a call or appointment, despite the large number of congregations without a minister.

The GCE has been briefed on plans for General Council 45, which will take place in Calgary August 7-12, 2025. The theme will be *Visions and Dreams* (Acts 2:17). Two online listening and discussion sessions for proposals will be held in June, with listening and discussion for the most challenging proposals to be in person in Calgary during GC45.

David Leyton-Brown

## **Accountability Report to Regional Councils**

*Origin: General Council Executive & the General Council Offices*

Greetings as you convene for your annual meeting. We pray that it will be a meaningful time of gathering and work as you visualize what it means to be evolving communities characterized by deep spirituality, bold discipleship and daring justice. We recognize the challenges to our collective ministries as we imagine the sustainability of the ministries of The United Church of Canada and acknowledge the necessity as leaders to be harbingers of hope. We join you in the journey.

The Executive and staff leaders in the church have committed to find ways to enable the ministries of the Communities of Faith. This report highlights four initiatives that will significantly impact our communities.

### **UCC Protect United**

This initiative is by far the largest financial commitment of the strategic plan, with a \$3 million loan funding a captive insurance program aimed at helping participating United Church ministries first reduce and then contain insurance costs. In addition to providing the start-up capital, the national church is also exposed to providing more capital in the event of particularly adverse claims results - especially if they happen in the early years.

The program was rushed into place for December 2022 to provide immediate premium relief, with a rollback of premium increases from 2020 and 2021. This meant premium reductions of 11-27% during a year when insurance premiums in the industry were going up by 15-30%. Even with a premium rate increase in December 2023, on an apples-to-apples basis, participants paid less for insurance than two years prior.

So far – repeat: so far – the program has been a success financially. Annualized premiums paid for 2021-2022 were \$10.1 million versus \$8.1 million for the first year of the program – a saving of almost \$2 million when adjusted for new business and closures/amalgamations. The interest on the start-up loan is being paid annually. Claims experience has been well within target levels, and with each additional year of reasonable claims experience, the captive insurance arrangement becomes more self-sufficient and the start-up loan potentially repayable.

Despite the very encouraging initial financial results, the customer service and administration has been very poor and caused much frustration for participants. Much of this was attributable to rushing the launch of the program to deliver the financial benefit, but our partner's existing systems and staff proved inadequate for the volume of queries that arose. Church-side decisions to deliver more savings also proved challenging administratively. There has been much remedial activity underway, and we expect to achieve proper service capacity by the second quarter of 2024. We will launch greater coverage flexibility and improved communications at the same time.



Everyone is reminded that this initiative will need to run just like a traditional insurance company, with claims administered accordingly. The difference is that we are all in it together to try to reduce risk and claims – and therefore premiums. This captive insurance arrangement exists solely to benefit participants.

### **Strategic Operational Plan Initiative - Growth**

All the Growth Animators are now in place, working actively with regions on their strategies for renewing and creating communities and inviting strong participation in The United Church of Canada. In January and February alone, Growth Animators met with:

- 71 Ministry Personnel
- 37 Governing Bodies (by phone, online or in person)
- 16 Communities of Faiths, and facilitated
- 31 conversations about Growth to some form of regional body.

The focus of these meetings has been visioning; collaboration with other Communities of Faith; exploration of neighbourhood profiles; creation of renewal or growth strategies, and exploring practices of discipleship and invitation. Staff continue to explore and develop possibilities in 40 possible sites for new Communities of Faith amongst migrant, diasporic and Francophone communities; close to 10 of these are sufficiently developed to have leadership contracts to support their continued progress.

### **Collaborative Ministry Models**

There are many different models of collaborative ministries that already exist in the United Church. Work is underway to develop and offer training programs for lay leaders and ministry personnel in collaborative ministries, and those who might be interested, including candidates for ministry.

### **Faithful Footprints**

To date, we have invested almost \$3M in this initiative to assist Communities of Faith in upgrading and renovating their heating/cooling systems and addressing issues of environmental sustainability and cost savings.

### **Other Updates:**

**Addressing Structural Opportunities:** These initiatives are a critical part of the ministry of the leadership team consisting of the Executive and staff leaders. We invite your continued engagement in these areas of work. There are several other initiatives to address some structural opportunities, and responses to emerging issues. We have established working groups to provide additional critical information as we address the challenges of sustainability. We established a Total Compensation Task Group to look at the issues relating to the church's compensation challenges. In keeping with the commitment to evaluating the 2019 structural changes in the church, a Steering Committee has been established to work alongside Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, the

staff lead for the project. Both groups will be reporting to the 45th General Council in 2025.

In keeping with The Manual requirement (D.4.1.6), the Executive has established a working group to review the role of the Moderator. Additionally, the Executive agreed to also include the role of the General Secretary in this review.

**The Ministry of Justice:** As we continue to live into the commitment to becoming an antiracist denomination, we have introduced a new initiative, *Equity, Diversity, and Anti-Oppression Education for Committees*.

To date, most committees have completed, or will soon be completing, their education sessions. From the feedback so far, we hope to offer similar programs more broadly to other leadership groups in the church. Together with the Indigenous Church, an *Indigenous and racialized youth gathering* is now into its second year. This now-annual gathering is firmly lodged as an emerging youth-oriented community of faith. It focuses on building understanding through mutual learning on experiences of racism and creative responses to antiracism in the United Church.

Finding ways to invite a deeper and a broader engagement in advocacy continues to be a challenge, especially when the church is not of one mind and often is unable to speak together in respectful ways across our differences. There have been two new hires in the General Council Office, a *Government Relations Officer* to help to build our capacity to engage with government as we deepen our advocacy efforts, and a *Program Coordinator, Global Advocacy 2SLGBTQ1A+*. In addition, we have developed a new advocacy tool to enable sign-on as part of any advocacy campaign. The Justice Principles adopted by the 2023 annual meeting of the 44th General Council has provided a framework for our advocacy particularity with the war in Gaza.

Together with the Indigenous Church, the work on justice and reconciliation continues as we attempt to address both the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's (TRC) Calls to Action and the Calls to Justice of the National Inquiry into Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women, Girls, and Two Spirit People. Communities of Faith are invited to witness for justice in this area; this includes the Moose Hide Campaign and our own *#SearchTheLandfill* social media campaign regarding the Brady and Prairie Green landfills in Winnipeg.

The Executive invited the *Theology and Inter-Church Inter-Faith Committee* (TICIF) in collaboration with the *Indigenous Church* and the *Anti-Racism Common Table* to examine the use of the word "mission," given the colonial history of the word and to bring recommendations; these were adopted in November 2023. (The proposal [GS 63 Recommendations re: Mission](#) is found on the [United Church Commons](#).) Following the request of the 44th General Council, a working group was established to engage the church in learning about and countering antisemitism, particularly within our

interpretations of Scripture, in worship, and in Christian education. More information and resources can be found on the [Countering Antisemitism page](#) on the United Church website.

**Centennial Celebration:** Planning for the United Church centennial is underway. There will be three streams:

1. Commemoration
2. External-focused communication and action plan
3. Fundraising/capital campaign.

June 9, 2024, will be the launch of the centennial year (online and in person) with a worship service at Metropolitan United Church, Toronto, a site close to the inaugural gathering at the former Mutual Street Arena. Every month, from June 2024 to June 2025, a key moment will be highlighted on social media to mark and share our history. The date for the Centennial service itself has been set for June 8, 2025. This will be the celebration to which we invite international guests.

The goal of an external-focused campaign is twofold: to introduce the distinctiveness of the United Church to those who have only a broad umbrella definition of “church,” and to reconnect with those who claim United Church identity but have lost connection. The Executive asked The United Church of Canada Foundation to lead a legacy campaign.

**Mission and Service:** Good news! We are grateful for your continuing support of the collective ministries of the Church. There is good news to report regarding the 2023 Mission and Service results: contributions by congregations, United Church Women (UCW), and special donations all exceeded budget. The totals for these three areas, sitting at \$17,090,056, were slightly over the 2022 actuals of \$17,062,694.

The total for Mission and Service from all areas was \$20,831,564. This compares favourably to the total budget of \$20,225,000, and is close to the 2022 actual amount raised of \$21,132,213. These are preliminary results, and you can expect a final tally and the Mission and Service Accountability Report in June.

Information and updates about the work of the Executive can be found on the [General Council 44 webpage](#).

### **SOCIAL JUSTICE NETWORK OF ONTARIO REGIONS (SJNOR)**

The Social Justice Network of the Ontario Conferences (now Regions) was created to collaborate and provide a collective presence of the United Church of Canada concerning socio-economic issues and concerns which impact Ontarians. The Network supports the work of the Interfaith Social Assistance Reform Coalition (ISARC) with which one of its members, the Rev. Susan Eagle, has long been involved. The Network has a tradition of

meeting in person at Church House twice a year. However, the COVID pandemic has driven the meetings onto the ZOOM platform.

Members of the Network met by ZOOM on January 24, 2023. The Canadian Shield Regional Council was represented by the Rev. Jeffrey Dale and by Dr. Ernie Epp; the latter served as Recorder. The meeting was quite short and was focused on the grant that the Network has been making for years to support the work of ISARC. (The Network's financial resources are based on annual contributions by Regional Councils.) After some discussion about the work of ISARC—as well as the Network—for new attendees, a grant of \$5,000 was approved. The Network also resolved to seek a contribution of \$1,000 from each Regional Council.

ISARC hosted its traditional annual gathering at Queen's Park on November 23, with presentations under the rubric, "Returning to Humanity: Human Rights and Dignity through Income Security and Housing." The speakers were Tom Cooper, Jeff Schlemmer, and Shannon Down. Rabbi Ryan Leszner offered the opening theological reflection. He serves Darchei Noam Reconstructionist Synagogue in Toronto. Mr. Cooper is the Director of the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction and co-founder of the Ontario Living Wage Network. Mr. Schlemmer is Executive Director of the Community Legal Clinic of York Region. And Ms. Down is Executive Director of Waterloo Region Community Legal Services.

The Network met again by Zoom on November 29, 2023. Dr. Epp represented the Canadian Shield Regional Council and served as recorder again. Reports were received from the various Regional Councils of Ontario. Dr. Epp's report for the Canadian Shield Regional Council included attendance by ZOOM at a meeting of the Manitou Intentional Learning Community on November 15, 2023. He also noted his participation in the United Church Guaranteed Livable Income Network, which spans the country. And he celebrated the work of Poverty Free Thunder Bay, where he represents the United Church, which had just been awarded a Community Wellness and Safety Award. (Thunder Bay was one of the Basic Income demonstration sites cancelled by the Ford Government soon after it came to power in 2018.) The Network made the customary grant of \$5,000 to ISARC. Members also agreed to meet early in the New Year to consider the Network's covenant, which calls for three representatives from each Region.

Respectfully submitted,  
Ernie Epp

## **STEWARDSHIP**



This QR code will take  
you to a digital filing  
cabinet of [stewardship  
resources](#)



I am delighted once again to bring news from the stewardship support team, Mission & Service, and the United Church Foundation to the good people of the Canadian Shield Region.

Over the past year I have had the honour of meeting with many of you, whether as participants in a *Called to be the Church: The Journey* program, at the last in person meeting in Sudbury, or through a phone conversation or town halls. If we haven't yet met, my role is to provide resources and support to individuals, communities of faith, and other ministries in the areas of generosity, congregational giving, Mission & Service, and the work of the United Church Foundation. If you have ideas, questions or inspiration to share, please get in contact [with me](#).

One way I would love to connect in 2024 and beyond is through the learning programs, [Called to be the Church: The Journey](#). We currently have 4 course offerings available on [churchX](#) that provide training and support for different parts of the stewardship journey. Whether you want to learn some stewardship-first principles, get resources to run a congregational Giving Program, or are hoping to set up a Legacy Giving Program in your community of faith, we have training options for you!! One participant provided this program feedback, *"I appreciate the leadership, the enthusiasm, the knowledge and the support of the leaders of this course. It was a lot of information, and was presented in a way that was not overwhelming. The recommendations are practical and doable."* You can learn [more here](#).

Speaking of gratitude for shared abundance, Mission & Service is our Church's most powerful vehicle for helping to transform lives, inspire meaning and purpose, and build a better world. Together we do more. Thanks to generous people like you, 2023 saw \$24 million raised, including Mission and Service givings totalling \$20.8 million as well as bequests and other planned gifts, and funds supporting emergency appeals for the people of Ukraine, the Middle East, Turkey and Syria.

Locally, Mission and Service fund

s supported a number of amazing ministries in Canadian Shield. Community partners like Rainbow Camp and Daisy-Chain Elder Abuse Prevention, camping ministries at Camp McDougall, and communities of faith like St. Matthew's St. Paul's Shared Ecumenical

Ministry in Hearst are just some of the transformative programs supported with your Mission & Service donations in 2023. Thank you!

Setting giving goals and sharing inspiring stories about Mission & Service are effective ways to hold up and celebrate this amazing work, and to encourage deeper generosity in your community of faith. New Stories of our Mission are [posted monthly](#). For those who utilize videos in worship, there are also [videos that tell personal stories of the life changing work of Mission & Service](#). If you want to bring more conversations about stewardship, gratitude, generosity and Mission & Service into your community of faith, consider signing up for the monthly newsletter [God's Mission, Our Gifts](#).

Finally, I want to draw your attention to the important work being done by the United Church Foundation. In 2022 the Foundation established [four priority areas](#): Anti-Racism, Reconciliation with Indigenous People, Climate Justice, and Communities of Faith. If your community faith has program ideas or is engaged in work that falls into one of these areas, there may be grants available. Additionally, the United Church Foundation is there to help you invest in the ministries you care about.

Thank you, Canadian Shield Region friends. I am so grateful for your spirit, creativity, generosity, and thoughtfulness. I look forward to learning together in 2024.

In gratitude,

**Melody Duncanson-Hales, Community of Faith Stewardship Support Staff for Canadian Shield Region**

[mduncanson-hales@united-church.ca](mailto:mduncanson-hales@united-church.ca)

705-618-3032 or 1-833-236-0281 Ext. 4

### **UNITED CHURCH WOMEN (UCW)**



Your CS UCW continues to work within Canadian Shield Region. While we have been witness to the closure of several UCW units in the last few years the Canadian Shield UCW retains enthusiasm and momentum.

We continue to contribute financially to Mission and Service and specific projects chosen from the GIFT catalogue. As well CS UCW members contribute to the National UCW five-year charity project, The Healing Fund, to help women, girls and families in need of support. Local charities in various communities also benefit from donations of monies and time of the individual UCW Units.

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Canadian Shield Regional Council

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In 2023 the CS UCW put out a request for volunteers for the position of president and vice president. When no nominations were forthcoming the executive was reorganized so that duties of these two vacant positions would be divided amongst the remaining executive members. The chairing of CS UCW executive meetings rotates among the executive members. Dawn Monroe will remain on the executive as past president for one year and then resume her former executive position as CS UCW Archivist.

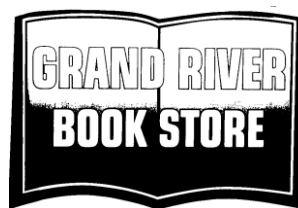
CS UCW continues to struggle with the geographical size of Canadian Shield Region. As many members begin to age, travelling long distance to meetings is not an option. The in person Annual General Meeting for 2023, which was to be held in Sault St. Marie, was cancelled due to lack of pre-registrations. Hope springs eternal as the CS UCW executive has for 2024 split the AGM into an online Business Meeting with online representatives from each UCW unit are invited to participate on May 1, 2024. The social aspect of the former in person AGM, with guest speakers etc., will be left up to each district, Algoma and Near North, to arrange and invite UCW members. The Near North district will invite the independent units up hwy 11 corridor and in the Sudbury area to participate with their social event. District gatherings will be advertised across CS UCW and on the CS UCW Facebook page so that members from all areas may register to attend any district UCW event. The executive leaves the idea of a full CS UCW gathering for future consideration. CS UCW continues to send two representatives to the annual National UCW meeting in Toronto in the early fall. News from all UCW units highlighted in the CS UCW newsletter. We also continue the distribution of the NUCW newsletter 'Keeping in Touch'.



Respectfully

Dawn Monroe, Past President  
dawnmonroe05@gmail.com

**GRAND RIVER BOOKSTORE**





Grand River Bookstore continues to be open to serve you. Please call us at 519-442-3366 or 1-888-668-0871. If we do not answer your call immediately, we will return your call as quickly as possible. You can email us for any of your book inquiries at [sales@grandriverbooks.com](mailto:sales@grandriverbooks.com)

Please visit our website [www.grandriverbooks.ca](http://www.grandriverbooks.ca) where we are working to provide resources on contemporary issues (such as anti-racism, aboriginal spirituality, worship, loneliness and loss, and spirituality) for good reading, book study and resource information.

If we do not have it here, we will do our best to get what you need.  
You can also come and visit us at Five Oaks at 1 Bethel Road, Paris, Ontario and take in this beautiful retreat centre.

Thank you,  
Pat Gilmore and Cindy Aniol

## **EMMANUEL COLLEGE**

### **Spring 2024**

Dear Friends:

On behalf of Emmanuel College, I want to bring greetings to your region as you meet this spring season. I pray that your meeting goes well and that you experience God's presence and blessing in this important work of the church. **My name is HyeRan Kim-Cragg and it is my privilege to bring you greetings as Emmanuel's Principal.** I hope to see you in person in the near future and share good news of Emmanuel College with you and hear good news of this region's wonderful ministry.

### *Faculty Compliment, Trauma Informed Pedagogy & Faculty on the Road*

Last year, we completed three significant faculty searches, marking historical milestones for the Toronto School of Theology (TST) of which we are a part. Rev. Dr. Glenn McCullough joined as assistant professor through a partnership with Knox, a first in TST's history. Dr. Jenny Bright became Emmanuel's first assistant professor of Buddhist Spiritual Care and Counseling. **The Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne will be appointed as the first assistant professor of United Church of Canada studies at Emmanuel** after completing her moderator's role in December 2025. Additionally, Néstor



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Medina was promoted to associate professor, and Pam McCarroll to full professor, holding the Jane and Geoffrey Martin Chair in Practical Theology.

This academic year, the faculty has engaged training in Trauma Informed Pedagogy (TIP), with monthly discussions involving faculty, staff, and Research Fellows. TIP emerged from student discussions in response to our EDIA stance, “DEAR” (Dignity, Equity Accountability, Responsibility) Declaration, and has been supported by grants from the Wabash Center and the Association of Theological Schools. We plan to host a TST-wide conference in May 2024 to share our insights and impact other theological schools.

The current faculty is keen to go out into different communities of faith to promote Emmanuel and share their scholarship and wisdom. Andrew Aitchison as Admissions Counsellor and Recruitment Coordinator will be a liaison connecting faculty with communities. Please let him know if your communities want to invite our Christian, Muslim or Buddhist faculty. That would be so wonderful.

#### *The Indigenous Healing Garden Project*

This project, which aligns beautifully with Victoria University’s sustainability strategic framework and Emmanuel’s commitment to right relations with Indigenous communities, is currently underway, thanks to an initial grant from the United Church Foundation’s Seeds of Hope. Brook McIlroy, the architectural firm, has been commissioned to redesign the courtyard which features the Crucified Woman Sculpture. The proposed designs have received approval from the project’s advisory committee in collaboration with the Indigenous Elder circle. We aim to begin construction this summer and anticipate project completion by 2025, as part of the UCC Centennial celebration.

#### *Major Celebrations at Emmanuel College*

In the next few years, there are several significant anniversaries we’re eagerly looking forward to celebrating! Firstly, in 2024-2025 we’ll be commemorating three remarkable milestones: the 10th anniversary of the Buddhist Focus in our Master of Pastoral Studies (MPS) program, the 15th anniversary of the Muslim Focus in the MPS program, and the grand 100th Anniversary of the United Church of Canada. In 2025-26 we will celebrate 30 years of the Committee on Asian/North American Asian Theologies (CANAAT). Then fast forward to 2027-2028, which promises to be another monumental period, marking the 20th anniversary of the Master of Sacred Music Program and the 100th anniversary of Emmanuel College itself. Stay tuned for more information about these celebrations to come.

I envision our celebrations will incorporate multiple fundraising opportunities to establish scholarships, enriching our offerings and supporting marginalized students. Notable progress has already been made in securing scholarships. We proudly unveiled our first named scholarship for Buddhist students in February 2024. Efforts are underway to

establish a Korean Scholarship, with an inaugural fundraising dinner held this past fall, and another planned as a music concert commemorating the 100th birth year of the Right Rev. Dr. Sang Chul Lee on October 26, 2024, at Willowdale Emmanuel United Church. Additionally, a special fundraising event is in the works to establish a scholarship for Queer students, scheduled for November 2 for Drag Show paid event, in collaboration with the Drag and Spirituality Summit, to be held at Emmanuel November 1 to 3, 2024.

### *Hybrid Master of Divinity Program*

Our Hybrid Master of Divinity (MDiv) program began this past year which allows for 2 years of a 3-year MDiv can be done online. We hope this will reach more prospective students outside of the Greater Toronto Area. [Read this story](#) about two folks who began the Hybrid MDiv this year.

### *Multi-faith Spiritual Life*

Spiritual and religious activities thrive, in person every week, Tuesday and Wednesday. These sessions are led by Buddhist faculty members, guest religious leaders and our dedicated student Spiritual Life Team (SLT), along with students from Christian worship/preaching and Buddhist ritual courses. This SLT is enrolled in a year-long course for credit called "Worship and Ritual Leadership Practicum." Our Wednesday Spiritual Life Gathering continues to be the heartbeat of our week and alternates between Christian Worship and a Multi-faith Gathering. These gatherings are streamed live on YouTube and are open to the public and all are welcome!

### *Faith Community Partnerships*

Over the past year and a half, we've been fortunate to receive community lunch sponsorships from various Christian, Muslim, and Buddhist faith communities. They've joined us at Emmanuel to share food, stories, and teachings about their faith traditions while learning from our students about their interfaith experiences. Addressing food insecurity is crucial today, and providing meals to our students in this manner has been a great blessing. If your church is interested in partnering with Emmanuel, please be in touch!

### *Financial Support*

**Emmanuel College continues to provide significant financial support to students.** Through the John W. Billes Fund, Emmanuel continues to provide 100% of tuition coverage to all domestic students who are registered full-time in the M.Div. program and who are engaged in The United Church of Canada's candidacy pathway process. All basic degree domestic full-time students are eligible for our **Entering Theological Education grant, which offers 50% tuition coverage to their first-year courses.** We also offer all (domestic and international) students who are registered in the Ph. D. program, 100% tuition coverage for four years. For more information about studying at Emmanuel College and about the financial support available for all Emmanuel programs,

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whether one is studying full-time or part-time, please contact Andrew Aitchison, [emmanuel.admissions@utoronto.ca](mailto:emmanuel.admissions@utoronto.ca).

**Emmanuel is offering an increasing number of Continuing Education events online.** These events are offered through the Centre for Religion and Its Contexts (CRIC). A list of upcoming offerings are found on the [Emmanuel College website](#). For further information about these events please contact Shawn Kazubowski-Houston: [ec.events@utoronto.ca](mailto:ec.events@utoronto.ca).

**Please follow us on social media:**

[Facebook:](#) @EmmanuelCollegeofVic

Instagram: @emmanuelcollegetoronto

[YouTube:](#) @EmmanuelCollege1

If you have questions or are seeking further information about Emmanuel College, please be in touch with us or explore Emmanuel: <http://bit.ly/exploremmanuel>.

Yours sincerely,



Rev. Dr. HyeRan Kim-Cragg,

Principal, Timothy Eaton Memorial Church Professor of Preaching  
Emmanuel College

### **ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE**

Dear friends in Christ,

Warm greetings from St. Andrew's College in Saskatoon! As we embark upon the year 2024, our hearts are filled with gratitude for the enduring support and prayers of our beloved community. Reflecting on the challenges we have collectively faced over the past several years we are reminded of the profound truth that we are stronger together.

It is with great joy and gratitude that we share the news of the deepening partnership between St. Andrew's College and our partners within the Saskatoon Theological Union. Through our Covenant of commitment, we continue to chart a path of collaboration and mutual support, transcending individual identities to embrace a shared vision of unity and purpose. While each institution retains its unique character and traditions, our collective

endeavours serve as a beacon of hope and inspiration for the wider community. We hope that our bold ecumenical strides will serve as a catalyst for similar partnerships within our denominational traditions, fostering greater unity and understanding among God's people.

At the heart of our mission lies a commitment to excellence in theological education, and I am thrilled to share the exciting developments in our academic programs. Building upon a foundation of shared values and mutual respect, the faculty of the Saskatoon Theological Union has finalised the renewal of our Master of Divinity and Master of Theological Studies degree programmes. These programmes, offered in an intensive format through a trimester model, provide students with the opportunity to pursue their studies without the need for relocation. We take great pride in being the first mainline seminary in Canada to offer such a pathway, emphasising ecumenism and interdisciplinary collaboration.

In addition to our degree programmes, we remain steadfast in our commitment to lifelong learning and professional development. Our Doctor of Ministry programme continues to thrive, attracting a diverse cohort of students eager to deepen their knowledge and enhance their ministry. Furthermore, even though General Council has decided to discontinue the Designated Lay Ministry programme, we are grateful for the opportunity to support the current DLM students as they complete their studies. The presence of our DMin and DLM directors and students enriches our community, fostering vibrant dialogue and mutual learning.

This past September saw the launch of our Lifelong Learning Pathway—a testament to our commitment to inclusive education and spiritual formation. Developed over the past two years, this innovative programme offers a flexible and personalised approach to theological and spiritual exploration. Whether one is a seasoned pastor seeking continuing education, a lay person committed to furthering their ability to support their own and their faith's community's journey, or a spiritually curious seeker embarking on a journey of discovery, our certificate programmes provide a space for growth, reflection, and transformation.

As we stand on the threshold of a new era, we are filled with a sense of excitement and anticipation. The challenges of recent years have not weakened our resolve but have instead ignited our imaginations and renewed our sense of purpose. We invite you to join us on this journey of compassion, hope, and justice—to support us, to pray for us, and to walk alongside us as we continue to navigate the ever-changing landscape of theological education in the twenty-first century.

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or if you wish to explore our academic or lifelong learning pathways further. We are here to serve and support you in any way we can. As well, do reach out if you have any questions at all, at

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principal.sac@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca. If you would like to know more about our academic or lifelong learning pathways, feel free to contact the College Recruitment Ambassador at shawn.sanfordbeck@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca.

And we would be more than happy to receive your financial support! Contact our College Secretary at collegesecretary.sac@saskatoontheologicalunion.ca for a list of development opportunities and ways to give.

May the Spirit continue to guide and bless us as we walk together in ministry.

Yours in Christ,  
Dea. Dr. Richard Manley-Tannis  
Principal, St. Andrew's College

### **ATLANTIC SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY**

Atlantic School of Theology serves Christ's mission by shaping effective and faithful ordained and lay leaders and understanding among communities of faith. We did this in a variety of ways in 2023. With students and alumni in every United Church of Canada Region, we bring together a community with an extensive understanding of the varied needs of the church. The Summer Distance MDiv continues to be the degree with the highest enrollment bringing students together for 6 weeks of intensive learning in the summer and online, synchronous, and asynchronous classes in the fall and winter. In addition to the MDiv degree, we have United Church of Canada Students enrolled in the MA as well as 3 diplomas and a wide range of continuing education options.

2023 saw the soft launch of our Bachelor of Theology degree which includes a "Ministry Specialization" stream. We were pleased to welcome 7 students in the fall and anticipate an increase in enrollment in 2024. This degree reduces the barrier for those without an undergraduate degree who feel called to serve the church and want academic excellence at a bachelor's level combined with opportunities for practical experience serving the church. We are excited about the ways this may meet the identified needs of our founding parties. We value our relationship with the Office of Vocation and Candidacy Boards across the country as we seek to respond to the educational needs of the church for shaping effective and faithful leaders.

The Rev. Dr. Rob Fennell concluded his tenure as Academic Dean on the 1st of July and I have taken over the role for the next 3 years. The Presidential search committee concluded their work, and the Rev. Dr. Heather McCance began serving as President on the 1st of August. Like all educational institutions, we face challenges and the road ahead

is not always clear, however, there is a spirit of optimism and a sense of renewal within our school community as we chart a path for the future.

It is a joy to work with United Church of Canada students as well as those who support them within the administrative structure of the church and individual communities of faith. We welcome your input as we seek to serve the ever-changing needs of the church.

With the Deepest Respect and Gratitude,

Susan MacAlpine-Gillis

Rev. Dr. Susan MacAlpine-Gillis  
Academic Dean  
Atlantic School of Theology

### **UNITED CHURCH RURAL MINISTRY NETWORK**

#### **UNITED CHURCH RURAL MINISTRY NETWORK**

<https://ucrmn.ca/wp-content/uploads/2020/09/ucrmn-banner402x-3-768x354.jpg>

#### **2024 REPORT FOR ANNUAL MEETINGS OF REGIONAL COUNCILS**

The United Church Rural Ministry Network (UCRMN) is a national network, that connects electronically sharing stories and news of rural communities across Canada (and around the world), by networking with lay and clergy leaders of rural communities of faith. Find us on website [ucrmn.ca](https://ucrmn.ca).

Let me walk with you through some of the resources on the UCRMN website. Peter Chynoweth (Cochrane, AB) is the web minder. The 'Network' connection includes a partner Atlantic Canada network called Rural Roots Through the Holy which has sponsored conferences in the Maritimes for 3 years. In the Prairies is highlighted the ecumenical Centre for Rural Community Leadership and Ministry (CiRCLe M) which has connections to Saskatoon Theological Union. CiRCLe M is hosting a conference, Experiencing the Rural Culture of the Alberta Foothills, June 18-21.

Then there are 'Resources'. I would like to recommend to all 'Tech Resources'. Martin Dawson, from Cornwall, PEI, and web minder Peter Chynoweth write thoughtfully, with humour and matters of ethical consideration of computers. They discuss the use of inexpensive software, like the free Jitsi meet instead of Zoom, refurbishing old and tired

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computers using open-source software – in short, ‘tech for scarce budgets’ with an eye to keeping our tech out of landfills.

Next comes practical and helpful information on Collaborative Ministry, ways for congregations and communities of faith to work in partnership with others.

Then there are interviews that Martin hosts: With Peter on Open Software as an Ethical Alternative; with George Bott on Rural Connect; with Catherine Smith on her views of rural ministry and initiatives in the Maritimes; with Catherine Christie and Eric Skillings on the founding and workings of UCRMN. (These interviews are also found on Short-Wave Radio stations, a huge love of Martin’s).

The next area is Workshops, with information about the quarterly Zoom workshops that UCRMN has hosted through the years. During this Regional Council year, 2023-24, workshops have been: on April 18 - Social Media in the Rural Church, facilitated by United Church Digital Team, Cara Czech, Stephen Fetter and Aaron Gallogos; Feb. 15 – Life Long Learning facilitated by St. Andrew’s College staff, Dr. Bernon Lee and Shawn Sanford Beck; Nov. 16 – Pastoral Care to the Rural Church, led by Kathy Douglas of Antler River Watershed; Sept. 21 – further discussions on Collaborative Ministry; June 22 - Radically Welcoming and Rural, the opportunities of Diversity in the Rural Church.

Then there is ENews, with an archive of all the past ENews, from 2020 to 2024. We print 9 editions of UCRMN ENews during the year. Events happening throughout the Church are publicized, advertising from regions and committees, the regular column on Tech Advice, a regular column from Joyce Sasse’s Gleanings of a Prairie Pastor, reports from Conferences, and most importantly, stories from congregations of community action and ministries. We love to have stories shared. If you have something to tell, send an article (about 300 to 500 words) to [editor@UCRMN.ca](mailto:editor@UCRMN.ca).

There are over 400 members of UCRMN across the country and in most Regional Councils. As a Network, UCRMN asks for financial support from each Regional Council. We thank those who have given support from their Networking funds. Our suggestion is \$300 from each RC - UCRMN wishes to support all the Regional Councils in their rural ministries. (70% of United Church congregations across the country are in rural or small towns, therefore a relevant cost to each Regional Council.)

UCRMN members are taking part in the “Rural Townhall” by Edge Network for Ministry Development, to hear peoples’ thoughts about what is going on in rural churches, and how rural ministries can be supported.

We are a grassroots initiative for Rural Ministry in the United Church of Canada. Our goal is to connect the many Rural Ministry initiatives across Canada.

**Respectfully submitted by UCRMN Board:**

Catherine Christie, President UCRMN, Abbey, SK, Living Skies RC

Eric Skillings, Secretary/Treasurer UCRMN, Merlin, ON, Antler River Watershed RC

Shelley Roberts, Vice President UCRMN, Lanark ON, Eastern Ontario Outaouais RC

Donna Mann, Officer UCRMN, Elora ON, Western Ontario Waterways RC

Yvonne Terry, Officer UCRMN, Milestone SK, Living Skies RC





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# Canadian Shield Regional Council 2025 Draft Budget

CSRC - Draft Budget		2022 Actual			2023 Actual			2024 Budget			2025 Draft Budget			1st quarter 2024	
Income															
National Grants															
Assessment		325,000			325,000			325,000			300,000				
M&S Grant		240,000			240,000			180,000			180,000				
Other		47,876			9,375										
Salary		99,000			99,000			99,000			99,000				
			711,876			673,375			604,000			579,000			
HST recovered			2,688			17,129									
Investment Income		- 48,363			81,794			25,000			90,000			39,116	
Miscellaneous		25			4,734										
Festival of Faith					11,531						5,000				
Regional Meeting		2,494												2,349	
Youth Income		5,000			28,858										
Pastoral Relations Income		16,820			15,886						15,000			2,070	
Sale of Property/Residual Accounts		16,345			289,707			35,000						201,628	
Total Income			706,885		1,123,014			664,000			689,000			245,163	
Expenses															
Archives															
Bookstore Support		1,800			1,800			1,800			1,800			1,800	
Clusters and Networks					925										
Committees		1,000						1,000							
Congregational Support		5,100													
Corporation Overview		2,000			2,300			3,000			2,500				
Executive		552			7,938			5,000			8,000				
Festival of Faith					33,659						18,000				
Finance		16,412			24,948			17,500			17,500			1,183	
Grants		55,000			58,000			55,000			55,000				
Legal Fees		1,741			668			10,000			5,000				
Reserve Fund		125,000													
Miscellaneous		2,703			2,331			3,700						294	
Office Expenses		21,771			31,795			25,000			30,000			3,470	
Pastoral Relations		26,013			22,610			15,000			25,000			4,377	
Regional Meeting		54,698			300			35,000			17,700			5,402	
Retail Sales Taxes		13,386			14,207			1,000			1,000			776	
SJNOR		1,000			1,000			1,000			1,000			1,000	
Staff Team															
Cell Phones		2,990			3,101			4,000			4,000			277	
Continuing Education		1,504			2,507			7,500			7,500			468	
Internet		2,161			2,263			2,000			2,500			153	
Moving					4,192			-			-				
Salaries		410,711			436,397			435,000			450,000				
Travel		17,765			26,892			20,000			20,000			2,677	
Resources		114			534			2,500			2,500				
			433,084			475,886			471,000			486,500			3,575
SWRC/CSRC Shared Expenses		9,188				10,223			9,000			10,000			344
Youth (CSJ)						28,858									
Youth		7,081			5,419			10,000			10,000				
		777,530			722,867			664,000			689,000			22,221	
Income over Expenses		- 70,645			400,147			-			-			222,942	
Notes															
Bank Account	763,708													969,866	
Investments	1,479,907													1,518,573	

Designated Funds	31-Dec-23	
Affirming Ministries	13,455	
Archives	9,063	
Camping Fund	311,490	
Clusters and Networks	55,984	
Congregational Support	100,000	
General Fund	137,963	
Health Joy and Excellence	213,105	
Lay Education	37,607	
Legal Reserve	25,000	
LLWL Program	41,126	
New Outreach Initiatives	65,683	
Preparing for Ministry	39,111	
Right Relations	103,536	
Youth Programs	<u>67,528</u>	
		<u><u>1,220,651</u></u>



## **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. Your commitment to serving the region and all the communities of faith within the region is discipleship in action.

We are looking for people who reflect the diversity of the Canadian Shield Regional Council, including but not limited to, cultural and ethnic background, gender, sexual orientation, physical ability, geography and age. We seek people who can offer fresh perspectives and insights; those who bring knowledge and experience from being active in local communities; people who can see the big picture; people who are interested in innovative ministry; people with a keen eye for details.

Are you looking to serve? Nominations can help you get involved. We have several opportunities where you can share your gifts, wisdom and passion as you serve the region. Whether you love administration, policy development, caring for and helping others (communities of faith, youth), or you have a passion for justice and advocacy – checkout the Nominations section of the Canadian Shield Regional Meeting page on the region's website. You may find a place where your discipleship journey will be enriched. Most certainly, you will find others who share your passions.

We are encouraging folks to submit their nominations electronically using the following link <https://canadianshielddrc.ca/about/nominations/>. Nominations will remain open until noon on Saturday May 4, 2024. The team is hopeful that most of the nominations will be received prior to the meeting. A laptop will be available at the business and agenda table for nomination submissions should the spirit move folks while attending the meeting.

At the May 3-5, 2024 meeting the region will be electing a Chair Elect from nominations received. We are hoping all nominees for the position will have an opportunity to introduce themselves and share their gifts and hopes for the region with the court.

As The United Church of Canada heads into its 45th General Council, it is time to elect commissioners. If you feel moved to serve the region in this capacity, please visit our website

On behalf of nominations and the entire region we say 'Thank You' to those who have served and are moving on to other ministries in their lives and communities. We have been blessed and well served. May God bless you to be God's hands in your community.

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

## Peace and Blessings

The Nominations Committee is currently served by:

Barb Nott, St. Stephens on the Hill, Sudbury (Chair)

Kathie Smith, St. Andrew's United, Sturgeon Falls

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)



**Appendix I**  
**PROPOSALS**

**PROPOSALS TO CANADIAN SHIELD REGIONAL COUNCIL**

There were no Proposals to the 2024 CSRC RCM.

