

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on December 4, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Nancy Ferguson (Chair), Stewart Walker, Jim Jackson, Bill Jones, Gordon Roberts, Susan Peverley, Susan Lindquist

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

REGRETS: Dave LeGrand, Peter Haddow

Chair Nancy welcomed everyone back to the meeting of Executive, after meeting in the morning at the Joint Executive Meeting with the Shining Waters Executive.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Gord Roberts/Jim Jackson CS EXEC 2025-12-04-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as presented.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There were errors on Page 2 (add an "L" to Lionel's name), Page 2 (change "to" to "the"), Page 4 (change "a" to "at"), and Page 5 (add "be").

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Jones CS EXEC 2025-12-04-02
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on November 6, 2025 be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Bill Jones/Gord Roberts CS EXEC 2025-12-04-03
That the Minutes for the Support to Communities of Faith Commission from October 15, 2025 and the Minutes of the CSRC Property Commission from October 30, 2025 and the Minutes of the Pastoral Relations Commission from September 23, 2025 and October 29, 2025 be received, for information.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES

Property Commission Policy Changes Update

Gord Roberts indicated that there is no update for this policy and one will be forthcoming from the Property Commission for the February 2026 Executive meeting.

GOVERNANCE STRUCTURE DOCUMENT AND PROCEDURE & POLICY MANUAL UPDATES (ATTACHED)

After an extended discussion about the updates to the Governance Structure Document and the Procedure and Policy Manual, Executive decided to postpone their discussions until the new year.

**MOTION by Gord Roberts/Susan Peverley CS EXEC 2025-12-04-04
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive defer further discussion and decision on the updated 2021 Governance Structure Document and the 2024 Policy and Procedure Manual until the next Executive meeting in 2026.
CARRIED**

2026 RCM PLANNING

Diane shared that the Moderator of The United Church of Canada has agreed to attend the 2026 CS Regional Council Meeting (RCM) in Sault Ste. Marie and expressed an interest in also attending the Ministry Personnel Retreat, if she was invited.

Sarah Charters indicated an interest in attending RCMs at the Joint Executive Meeting this morning (Dec. 4, 2025). It was suggested that when we consider General Council Office (GCO) staff to attend our meetings, we might consider her. Another suggestion was to invite someone from the Statistics Department.

Executive moved to discussions about the theme for the 2026 RCM, as well as choosing people for the Planning Team.

Brainstorming about possible theme ideas included:

- “Tilling Stony Ground”
- “No Stone Left Unturned”
- Breaking barriers to collaboration
- Trees growing out rock cuts and thriving
- Islands appearing when the water recedes and trees find life there
- What we do doesn’t always produce

Cameron Fraser will be the guest at the Ministry Personnel Retreat in 2026 prior to the RCM in SSM; Executive thought maybe he could also attend the RCM and do a presentation.

Chair Nancy shared that she received an email from the Team Lead of the Affirming Ministries Resource Team, Peter Haddow, indicating he and the team would like time on the RCM agenda for a learning event. She also suggested that we ask Bill Steadman to be the Parliamentarian for the meeting.

Executive chose names for the Agenda and Business Committee to include:

- Peter Hartmans (Executive Minister)
- Diane Matheson-Jimenez (as Acting EM and Staff Lead)
- Susan Whitehead (admin support)
- Nancy Ferguson (Chair of Executive)

- Bill Jones (Chair-Elect)
- Stewart Walker

Executive members discussed possible names for the 2026 RCM Planning Team and the Local Arrangements Team. Possible names to consider local to SSM are Helen Smith, Glen Eagle, and no names were brought forward for a Planning Team. Chair Nancy and Diane will meet before the January 2026 Executive Meeting to prepare possible people to approach for the Planning Team.

The discussion turned to Equity Support people for the RCM. Diane suggested we connect with Commissioners who attended GC45, where they were part of a model of equity we may want to duplicate. Another suggestion was to reach out to Torrin Maag, who was an Equity Supporter at GC44.

A final suggestion was perhaps the Planning Team could reach out to Desire Tiriwepi in Thunder Bay with regards to the African Choir they have at their church possibly attending the RCM.

NEW BUSINESS

Camp McDougall's Outstanding Loan

Diane gave a brief update on the history of Camp McDougall's loan awarded in 2023 in the motion below:

MOTION by John Watson / Stewart Walker

CS Exec 2023-08-16-01

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

MOTION

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

Diane also shared that in 2024, the Grants and Mission Resource Team awarded a grant to Camp McDougall to help with start up costs for the 2025 season after they closed for a "rebuilding" year in 2024. Recently, the board of Camp McDougall met with the Grants Team to thank them for their grant and to share that the summer of 2025 was very encouraging and well-attended. They had budgeted to pay back the loan that was borrowed from the Region and wondered if it could be forgiven for them to have seed money for 2026, as they did not have enough campers to break even. A motion will be forthcoming from their board.

MOTION by Gord Roberts/Jim Jackson CS EXEC 2025-12-04-05

That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive establish a payback plan for Camp McDougall's \$5,000 loan given in 2023, and that the loan be paid back over the next 5 years interest-free at a rate of \$1,000 payout each year due December 1, 2026 with a final payout due on December 1, 2030.

DEFEATED

**MOTION by Gord Roberts/Susan Peverley CS EXEC 2025-12-04-06
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive forgive the
\$5,000 loan given to Camp McDougall on August 16, 2023.
CARRIED**

Executive directed the Chair and Executive Minister to write a letter to the board of Camp McDougall commending them on their 2025 camping season, wishing them well, and letting them know we support their 2026 season.

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU) WITH SWRC

After the Joint Executive Meeting discussion and updates that were made to the MOU, the Executive directed the Chair to sign it. Susan will forward the finished document to GCO.

**MOTION by Stewart Walker/Jim Jackson CS EXEC 2025-12-04-07
That after reviewing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)
between the Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional
Councils, the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive direct
the Chair to sign the MOU, effective December 4, 2025.
CARRIED**

NEXT MEETING DATES:

Thursday, January 8, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

Thursday, February 5, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

Thursday, March 5, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

Thursday, April 2, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

Thursday, May 7, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

Thursday, June 4, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom (if needed)

2026 RCM June 5-7, 2026 In-Person at Quattro Hotel in SSM

CLOSING

Nancy read a poem from Rev. Sarah R. Speed entitled, "There Is Room," and then wished Executive members a Christmas blessing, and adjourned the meeting at 3:15 p.m.

