

SUPPORT TO COMMUNITIES OF FAITH COMMISSION

Activity Report for the period June 2025 to May 2026

SCFC 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 Resource Teams report regularly at the monthly SCFC meetings. Reports from these Resource Teams are found elsewhere in this Annal Report.

Reports also come from the Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils Committee.

The Growth Animator's work is reported on by Calin Lau who participates in our regular meetings.

Staff report on the activities of local cluster groups in Sudbury and North Bay. Commission members also report on activities related to their local area.

An Ad Hoc group known as the "**Commission Connection**" meets several times a year. Staff Support and two members of the Support to Communities of Faith Commission meet with two members from each of the Pastoral Relations Commission and the Property Commission to discuss common issues and possible solutions.

Activity Highlights since June 2025

- Property Commission established
- Review of Annual Reports.
 - o Developed a January reminder identifying information that is required in Annual Reports.
 - o Developed and used a template for individual commissioners to review a portion of reports submitted
 - o Sadly saw the end of United in Worship in June 2025
 - o Approved the Congregational Disbanding for Bruce Mines UC and All Peoples UC, Sudbury
 - o Approved the Amalgamation of Sheguiandah UC and Little Current UC

- Established a subgroup to review submitted and revised Community of Faith Governance documents
- Used the Mustard Seed fund for:
 - Golden Valley SEM \$3000 Feb. 2025
 - Hearst Manse repairs \$15,000 February 2026
- Supported the Thunder Bay Youth Gathering March 2025
- Appointed a Camp McDougall Accreditation team April 2025
- Supported Camp McDougall with a Grant of up to \$50,000 which would allow the camp to become operational for the 2025 operating season
- Invited Helen Gavard to do a presentation for the Center for Christian Reflection and Dialogue located in Cardenas Cuba and support their fund raising attempts.
- Supported staff for a road trip in October 2025 along the Hwy 11 corridor to provide workshops on Pastoral Care, Stewardship & Financial Management, Property, Strategic Planning & Vision, Models of Ministry and Governance, Collaboration, Cooperation and Ecumenism
- Spent time during a meeting reflecting on **Towards 2035** and then submitting a response to the Canadian Shield Regional Executive for their consideration
- Continue discussions regarding a **Covenanting Process** between the Canadian Shield Regional Council and its Communities of Faith

I would like to thank the following Commission members and the staff that meet monthly to deal with decisions in the life of congregations across the CSRC.

Members: Jim Jackson, Desire Tiriwepi, Peter Haddow, Janice Brownlee, Ernie Epp, Crystal Greig, Mardi Mumford, Susan Peverley, Kathy Calverley, Marilyn Schatzler, Bonnie Johnson
Staff Support: Melody Duncanson Hales, Diane Matheson Jimenez, Shawn Redden
 Growth Animator: Calin Lau

Respectfully submitted,

Jim Jackson
 Chair, Support to Communities of Faith Commission