

MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on February 6, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

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

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

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 by wishing everyone a Happy New Year and centered everyone by reading Psalm 121. He then opened the meeting with prayer.

CHECK-IN

Chair Nancy asked Executive members to share as they felt moved, the glimmers of light that they see or have been experiencing.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Several items were added to the agenda including the LSRC Complaint Team results, which will be in-camera, 100 table initiative, adding the new mailing address for financial transactions, and dealing with communities of faith (CoF) in transition under new business.

MOTION by Bill Jones/Bill Steadman CS EXEC 2025-02-06-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Peter Hartmans CS EXEC 2025-10-06-02
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council
Executive held on December 3, 2024 be approved, as presented.
CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Gord Roberts/Lionel Ketola CS EXEC 2025-02-06-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Property Commission from November 21,
2024 and December 13, 2024 be received, for information.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Resignation Letter from Mastard Sakala

Executive received the letter of resignation for the Executive from Mastard Sakala as he gets ready to start his new journey as a staff member of the Shining Waters Regional Council. The Chair sent a thank you letter to Mastard for his time and skills on the Executive.

Letter from LSRC Complaint Team

The is will be addressed later in the agenda.

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

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

Nancy circulated a Caucus on Vision/Future Using Appreciative Inquiry that involved Executive, Ministry Personnel, and Lay Leaders and Executive shared their views of the inquiry. Executive received the comments and discussed. Next steps will include:

- Nancy and Diane will then categorize the information (communications, training, SCoFC, PRC, PC, etc.) and will report back to Executive in the future;
- Staff needs the opportunity to engage with the material; need to be able to support the commissions and talk through it first;
- Staff will then have all the information to devise who needs to be at the table for the conversation; for example, have Donna reach out to the commissions to have a task group on communication; have Diane reach out to the Chair of SCoFC to get a task group on issues related to the SCoFC, etc.

Peter will forward the notes to Jennifer Henry from GCO, who works on the Strategic Plan and Towards 2035 after Nancy and Diane have completed their categorization of the notes.

Follow-up on Decision re: Future Chair Installations after 2025

The installation of the next Chair-Elect will be happening at the Festival of Faith in June 2025. The discussion about future installations in non-in-person meeting years will be discussed at a future meeting.

LIVING SKIES REGIONAL COUNCIL (LSRC) UPDATE

Investigator's Report, Supporting Documents (Text Messages), Letter to Executive
Chair Nancy stated that this conversation needs to move in-camera.

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Jim Jackson CS EXEC 2025-02-06-04
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive move in-camera to receive and discuss the report of the Investigator in the Living Skies Regional Council complaint.
CARRIED

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Dave LeGrand CS EXEC 2025-02-06-05
That Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Staff Lead from Canadian Shield Regional Council be added to the in-camera session with the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive.
CARRIED

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Bill Jones CS EXEC 2025-02-06-06
That Susan Whitehead, Executive Assistant to the Executive Minister, join the confidential in-camera session to take notes, if needed.
CARRIED

MOTION by Dave LeGrand/Susan Peverley CS EXEC 2025-02-06-07
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive move out of in-camera.
CARRIED

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Lionel Ketola CS EXEC 2025-02-06-08
That the CSRC Executive, the responding body, on the recommendation of the Complaint Review Team, receive the findings of the investigator, John Watson, for CSRC on behalf of LSRC in the report dated Jan. 10, 2025 and accept the findings of a thorough

investigation of the allegations and further agree that there are no probable nor reasonable grounds for The United Church of Canada to proceed with a formal hearing of the complaint and that the CSRC Executive will take no further action.

CARRIED

Nancy thanked the Complaint Review Team for all their time on this complaint and sent prayers to all involved that they may receive the results with grace and that it may lead to some healing.

2025 ONLINE RCM DISCUSSION

Peter shared that the conversation needs to start regarding the 2025 Online RCM and asked Diane to present. Diane shared that the next RCM will be on Saturday, May 3, 2025 and it will be held virtually (online only). She requested that the admin staff at the regional office need to have a draft Agenda for the meeting so they can get started on their background work to ensure that people participate in the meeting.

Diane also inquired whether Executive would like to continue with a theme that stretched over a Chair's 2-year term, as this was something that was done in Shining Waters RC and gave the President a chance to really unpack a topic; it was agreed that this would happen in the future. The 2025 RCM theme would be "Upon This Rock," a continuation of the 2024 theme.

ADDING MERANDA MACDONALD AS SIGNING OFFICER FOR INVESTMENTS AND MOVING FINANCIAL HEADQUARTERS TO THE GUTHRIE OFFICE

Adding Meranda MacDonald as Signing Officer for Investments

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Peter Hartmans **CS EXEC 2025-02-06-09**

That the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council add Meranda MacKenzie, Accounting/Assistant Bookkeeper, as a signing officer to all financial accounts, including all accounts with BMO (Bank of Montreal) and BMO Nesbitt Burns.

CARRIED

Moving Financial Headquarters of CSRC to the Guthrie Office

MOTION by David LeGrand/Lionel Ketola **CS EXEC 2025-02-06-10**

That the Executive of the Canadian Shield Regional Council change all financial correspondence from the Canadian Shield Regional Council office at 395 Lakeshore Drive, North Bay, ON P1A 2C5 to the Shining Waters Regional Council Guthrie Office at 59 Line 4 North, Oro-Medonte, ON L0L 2L0.

CARRIED

CSRC NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Nominations Motion to Approve Members

The CS Nominations Committee sent a recommendation to the Executive:

MOTION by Mastard Sakala/Janice Brownlee

CS NOMS 2024-12-10-03

That the CSRC Nominations Committee recommend that Laurie Kendall be appointed to the Property Commission, that Ruth Kamo be appointed to the Mission Support Resource Team and that Lawrence Muvunzi be appointed to the Finance Resource Team.

CARRIED

Executive discussed the motion from the CS Nominations Committee and passed the following motion.

MOTION by Gord Roberts/Susan Peverley CS EXEC 2025-02-06-11
That the Executive of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the CSRC Nominations Committee recommendation that Laurie Kendall be appointed to the Property Commission, that Ruth Kamo be appointed to the Mission Support Resource Team and that Lawrence Muvunzi be appointed to the Finance Resource Team.
CARRIED

Executive needs to appoint a member from the CSRC Executive to the CSRC Nominations Committee.

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Susan Peverley CS EXEC 2025-02-06-12
That the Executive of the Canadian Shield Regional Council appoint Laurie Stevenson to the CSRC Nominations Committee.
CARRIED

100TH ANNIVERSARY LETTER – ONE-MINUTE VIDEO CONVERSATION

Peter reminded Executive about the letter from Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa regarding the one-minute video request from the GCO from each regional council for the 100th Anniversary of The United Church of Canada. Nancy will work with Celio to make the GCO video.

Diane and Melody were tasked with working on the grants request related to the \$2,000 we received from GCO for the 100th Anniversary, to disburse it to each community of faith (CoF) in the region – which works out to \$50 per CoF. Diane asked if Executive would approve of the region topping up that money to make \$100 per CoF for the 100th anniversary, for an approximate total budget of \$6,000, allowing CoF to participate in a way that feels meaningful to them.

Calin Lau, Growth Animator for the UCC, will be sending an email regarding the 100 Tables Initiative, inviting congregations to use the 100th Anniversary as a way to celebrate by having a picnic table on your site and having conversations with your neighbours.

CONFIDENTIAL INTERIM INTERNAL REPORT OF TOWARDS 2035

The United Church of Canada started working on a caveat in November 2024 on the Strategic Plan and is trying to engage with regional councils in advance of a conversation in March 2025 and then again in August at GC45. They have created an interim draft report that is to be circulated to elected people, specifically Executives. Peter indicated that this conversation will be continued at the March 6, 2025 meeting of Executive where members can take some notes and send them back to the GCO.

Before Executive left this conversation, a point was brought up that a member of Executive is still conscious of the fact that there are no representatives on the General Council Executive (GCE) from the CSRC and other regions and are therefore, not directly represented in these conversations. Peter will bring that to the attention of the GCE.

POLICIES UPDATE – HONOURARIA, RCM LOCATION, AND LOGO

Executive reviewed the final Honouraria, RCM Location and Logo policies.

MOTION by Bill Jones/Jim Jackson **CS EXEC 2025-02-06-13**
That the Executive of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the Honouraria Policy, as presented.
CARRIED

MOTION by Stewart Walker/Dave LeGrand **CS EXEC 2025-02-06-14**
That the Executive of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the Regional Council Meeting Location Policy, as presented.
CARRIED

MOTION by Stewart Walker/Dave LeGrand **CS EXEC 2025-02-06-15**
That the Executive of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the CSRC Logo Policy, as presented.
CARRIED

GRANT RESOURCE TEAM PRESENTATION

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Jim Jackson **CS EXEC 2025-02-06-16**
That the Executive of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of the Grants Resource Team to top up the \$2,000 from The United Church of Canada (UCC) to provide \$100 to each communities of faith to acknowledge the 100th Anniversary of the UCC and the Grants Resource Team will organize the distribution.
CARRIED

EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (APPENDIX A)

Peter shared his report with Executive.

NEW BUSINESS

Acknowledging Church Closures, Disbanding, and Sales of Property and Transitions

Jim Jackson shared that the CSRC has had quite a number of closures and sales of property in the last several years and the regional council acknowledges this at the RCMs and/or at the Celebration of Ministry Services. Jim is suggesting that perhaps we need to include CoF in transitions to the list of acknowledgments. Sometimes a CoF sells their building and disbands but several people are still celebrating together as church but don't attend the RCMs anymore; we must remember and celebrate them. Chair Nancy asked that the SCoFC and Property Commission have a working team to get a list to the regional office in time for the next RCM.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

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

CLOSING

Nancy shared "Blessing in the Chaos" by Jan Richardson, offered a closing prayer, and then declared the meeting adjourned at 3:47 p.m.

**APPENDIX A
Executive Ministers Report
February 2025**

**Executive Minister Report – Canadian Shield Regional Council
February 2025**

Happy New Year! My report is a little briefer, as it reflects the Christmas period.

GC 45:

Major preparation continues for General Council 45 starting in the new year, with an in-person meeting August 7-12, 2025. The regional council offered an orientation time for GC 45 Commissioners on January 21, 2025. The Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Council Commissioners were briefed on upcoming meetings and the work of GC45. For the second half of the meeting, the two regions separated into two regional groups to connect locally. Youth Forum is also in the late planning stages and will send a number of youth to GC45 in Calgary.

100th Anniversary June 8th 2025

The June 2025 UCC 100 celebration will take place on Sunday June 8th in Newfoundland. We have been invited to consider how we use the \$2,000 grant, for the 100th anniversary celebration. Executive Ministers have been invited to attend the service in-person. We have also been invited to produce a one-minute video too.

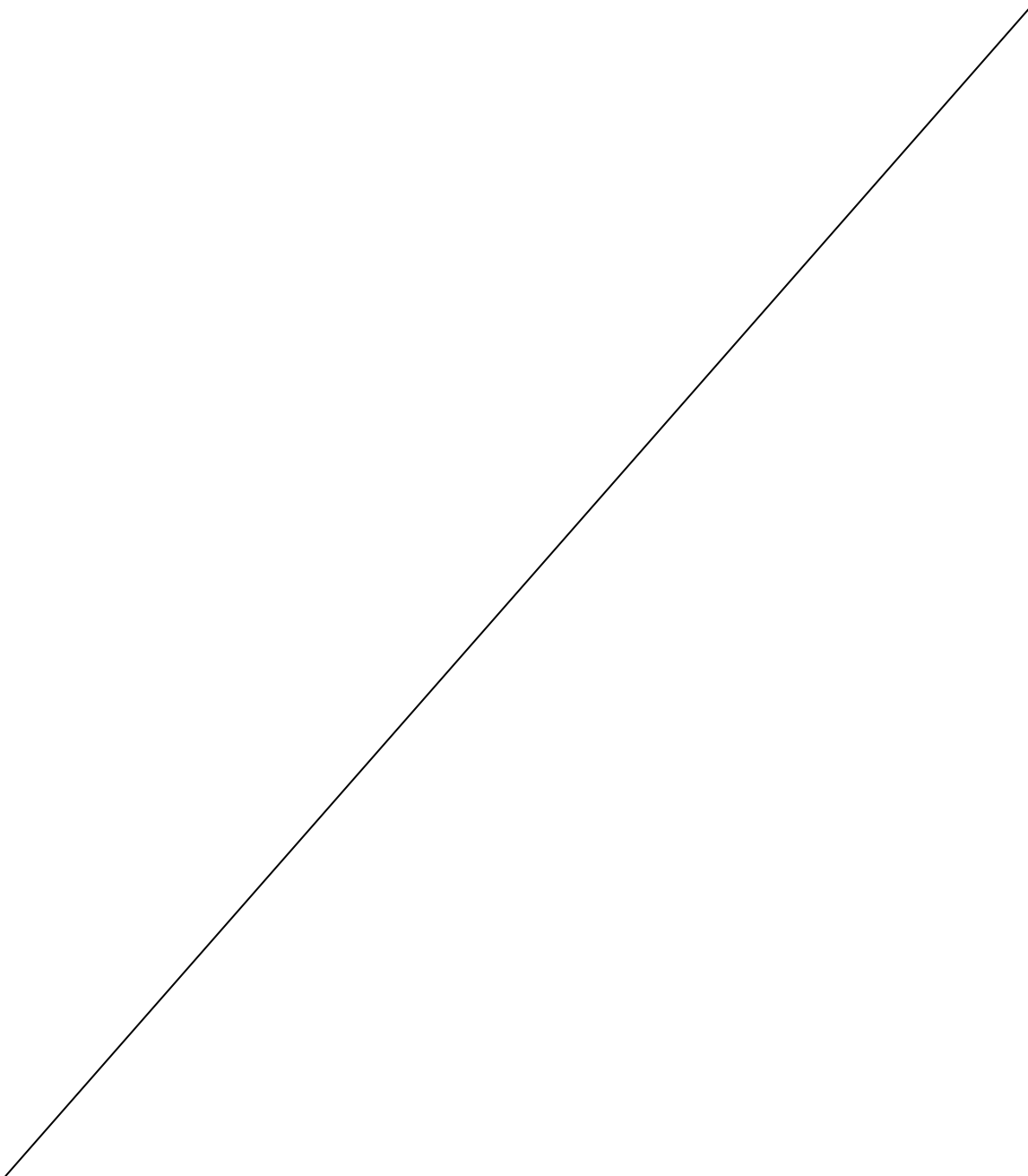
With the recent decision of the Regional Council Executive to promote regional gatherings to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of The United Church of Canada, the Grants Committee, in partnership with the Support to Communities of Faith Commission, are reaching out to communities of faith within the regional council, to invite folks to apply for small grants to support and promote gatherings of neighbours for 100th anniversary worship “watch parties” in June of 2025. The Grants Committee have discussed the grants and will offer a brief report and recommendation at the February Executive for consideration.

Festival of Faith:

Planning continues for our CSRC and SWRC Festival of Faith in 2025. Hotel space has been booked and the planning team is been working on programming and a draft agenda for the event. John Bell will be providing key leadership for the Festival of Faith! He is a Scottish hymn-writer, a Church of Scotland minister, a broadcaster, a former student activist, and he is a member of the Iona Community. He works throughout the world, lecturing in theological colleges in the UK, Canada and the United States, but is primarily concerned with the renewal of congregational worship at the grass roots level. The festival will also include a number of workshops and key leadership from within the United Church too. Registration for the Festival of Faith will begin in March. The Moderator will also attend the Festival of Faith, 2025 and hopes to provide a flourishing event, in advance of the FoF on June 12, 2025.

Huntington University: We have made some progress with Huntington University! They reached out in the new year. We are in the process of scheduling an in-person or zoom meeting with President Kevin.

Sabbaticals: Rob Smith went on Sabbatical on November 1, 2024 returning February 1, 2025. Dale Hildebrand will provide coverage for Rob for part of his absence and started December 1, 2024 and will end his contract February 18, 2025.



MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on March 6, 2025 at 12:30 p.m. online via Zoom.

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

STAFF: Peter Hartmans, Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Kathleen Jones, Jody Maltby

ABSENT: Susan Whitehead

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.

As a lot of people are thinking about the beginning of Lent and the trade war with the USA, Peter shared something Melody Duncanson Hales had written in at beginning of Lent in February 2022, about the time when the pandemic hit. Peter then opened the meeting with prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Items added to the agenda include the thank you letter from Living Skies Regional Council under Correspondence, and a Nominations Committee request under New Business.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Lionel Ketola CS EXEC 2025-03-06-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was an error noted in the February 6, 2025 Executive Draft Minutes – motion #11 was not added and consequently, this set of Minutes will not be approved. Susan will correct this error and both the February 6, 2025 Draft Executive Minutes and the March 6, 2025 Draft Executive Minutes will be up for approval at the April 3, 2025 Executive meeting.

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Dave LeGrand/Susan Peverley CS EXEC 2025-03-06-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission
from November 20, 2024 and December 4, 2024 be received, for information.
CARRIED

OMNIBUS MOTION: INCORPORATED MINISTRIES

MOTION by Bill Jones/Peter Hartmans CS Exec 2025-03-06-04
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council (6) Executive take the following
action(s):

a) **Camp McDougall Inc.**

... based on the guidance received from General Council Staff, pursuant to
the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve

Bylaw No. 1 as approved by the members on October 8, 2024 of the incorporated ministry known as Camp McDougall Inc.

... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the Camp McDougall Inc. 2024-2025 Board of Directors

**Sherrill Dewar
Rayna Evoy
Sylvia Hanniman
Debbie Kirby
Mary A. Laundrie
Amy Lawson
Brian Lawson
Anita Mitchell
Steven Mullins
Nick Sinclair
Lauren Towell
Eric Verbonac**

These are based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of October 8, 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.

This is the first annual meeting held since 2021. Board members, Regional Council and General Council staff have spent many hours getting this camp up to date with the IM and Duty of Care Policies of The United Church of Canada. Camp McDougall is now in compliance.

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 2025-2026 Board of Directors

**James E. Bidnall
A. Ernest Epp
Dave Hammond
Linda Hammond
Gerhardt F. Jansekovich
Lori Jansekovich
Shane Judge
Steve Kranyak
Ross McCubbin
Ken Moffatt
Kathy Neill
Richard Paterson
David White**

This is based on the draft Annual General Meeting minutes of February 16, 2025, the 2025 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

N.B. Information - ONCA deadline for by-laws has passed and updated by-laws have been received by all incorporated ministries. Thunder Bay United Church Camps, Incorporated (Camp Duncan) is working on its by-laws but they were not ready for the Annual Meeting.

CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Email from Ricci Family re: LSRC Investigation

Executive discussed the response received from the Plaintiff's family and Peter stated that he shared the learnings from the investigation with the Office of Vocation with the intent to help inform the church with guidelines regarding a potential employee's gifts and skills as a leader within the church.

Peter thanked Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Stewart Walker, and the Executive for their work on this issue.

Letter from SJNORC

A letter was received from the Social Justice Network of Ontario Regions, a body that was created to offer one voice of the Ontario regional councils around issues of justice and often time, political issues.

MOTION by Lionel Ketola / Susan Lindquist

CS EXEC 2025-03-06-04

That the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request for \$1,000 in support of SJNORC for the 2025 year.

CARRIED

GC45 PROPOSAL: A CALL FOR FULL INCLUSION AND PASTORAL SUPPORT FOR INDIVIDUALS ACCESSING MAID UNDER TRACK TWO

Executive received and reviewed the GC45 proposal entitled, "A Call for Full Inclusion and Pastoral Support for Individuals Accessing MAID under Track Two."

MOTION by Dave LeGrand / Bill Steadman

CS EXEC 2025-03-06-05

That the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council forward the proposal "A Call for Full Inclusion and Pastoral Support for Individuals Accessing MAID Under Tract Two" to the General Council, with concurrence.

CARRIED

1 Abstention – Lionel Ketola

INTERIM INTERNAL REPORT OF TOWARDS 2035 DISCUSSION

Peter shared a PowerPoint presentation from the GCO on Toward 2035 with Executive. After the presentation, it was decided that Peter would report back to the April Executive meeting with more details after an upcoming meeting with the GCO regarding Towards 2035.

2025 ONLINE CSRC RCM UPDATE

There will be a continuation of the theme "Upon This Rock" for the 2025 CS Regional Council Meeting (RCM) as a two-year theme. Agenda planning is going ahead and there will be more details at the April Executive meeting.

POSSIBLE CATEGORIES FOR RC FEEDBACK

Nancy shared that Diane has recognized 10 connecting points of feedback that were identified across the region. Under each of those 10 categories, there are a few questions listed that arose from those shared connectors. The next step in this process would be to look at the 10 connecting points as a regional Executive and discern which group, either a Commission or a staff person, can go back to that category and questions and brainstorm ideas to bring back to the next Executive meeting. Executive discussed the 10 connecting points and which group would be responsible for them:

1. **Communications and Tech (hybrid)** – Staff (Donna and Celio) and SCoFC
2. **Hybrid Connections** – Dave LeGrand (MILC, St. James ITV) and SCoFC
3. **Connection Between Regional Council and Communities of Faith** – Commission Connections Group and Regional Reps
4. **Connecting Ministry Personnel** – Health, Joy and Excellence Team
5. **Connecting Lay Leaders** – LLWL Resource and Support Team and SCoFC
6. **Fostering Ecumenism** – PRC
7. **Pastoral Charge Supervision** – PRC
8. **Relationship to Shining Waters Regional Council/General Council Office** – Executive
9. **Theology of Space and Place** – PC, Commission Connections
10. **Networks and Clusters** – SCoFC and MILC

This list will be distributed to each group above with the intent that the groups will take time to discuss at their next meeting and report back to Executive at the June meeting.

EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (APPENDIX A)

Peter shared his report with Executive.

NEW BUSINESS

CS Nominations Committee Request

Bill Jones shared that with Fraser Williamson moving from an alternate GC45 Commissioner to the actual Commissioner position after someone stepped down, we now have no alternates. Bill is asking Executive to tap people they know to become alternates, both Lay and Ministry Personnel. Dave LeGrand offered to put his name forward.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

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

CLOSING

Nancy read a blessing from a book by Janet Richardson entitled, "Where the Breath Begins," then gave a closing prayer and adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m.

APPENDIX A Executive Ministers Report March 2025

GC 45

Major preparation continues for General Council 45 starting in the new year, with an in-person meeting August 7-12, 2025. The regional council offered an orientation time for GC45 Commissioners January 21, 2025. The Canadian Shield and Shining Waters Regional Council Commissioners were briefed on upcoming meetings and the work of General Council 45. For the second half of the meeting, the two regions separated into two regional groups to connect locally. Youth Forum is also in the late planning stages and will send a number of youth to General Council 45 in Calgary.

100th Anniversary June 8th 2025

The June 2025 UCC 100th celebration will take place on Sunday June 8th in Newfoundland. We have been invited to consider how we use the \$2,000 grant for the 100th anniversary celebration. Executive Ministers have been invited to attend the service in-person. We have also been invited to produce a one-minute video.

With the recent decision of the Regional Council Executive to promote Regional gatherings to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of The United Church of Canada, a motion regarding granting \$100 to each community of Faith was forwarded to the Grants team and community of faith Ministers, Diane and Melody.

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Jim Jackson

CS EXEC 2025-02-06-16

That the Executive of the Canadian Shield Regional Council approve the request of the Grants Resource Team to top up the \$2,000 from The United Church of Canada (UCC) to provide \$100 to each communities of faith to acknowledge the 100th Anniversary of the UCC and the Grants Resource Team will organize the distribution.

CARRIED

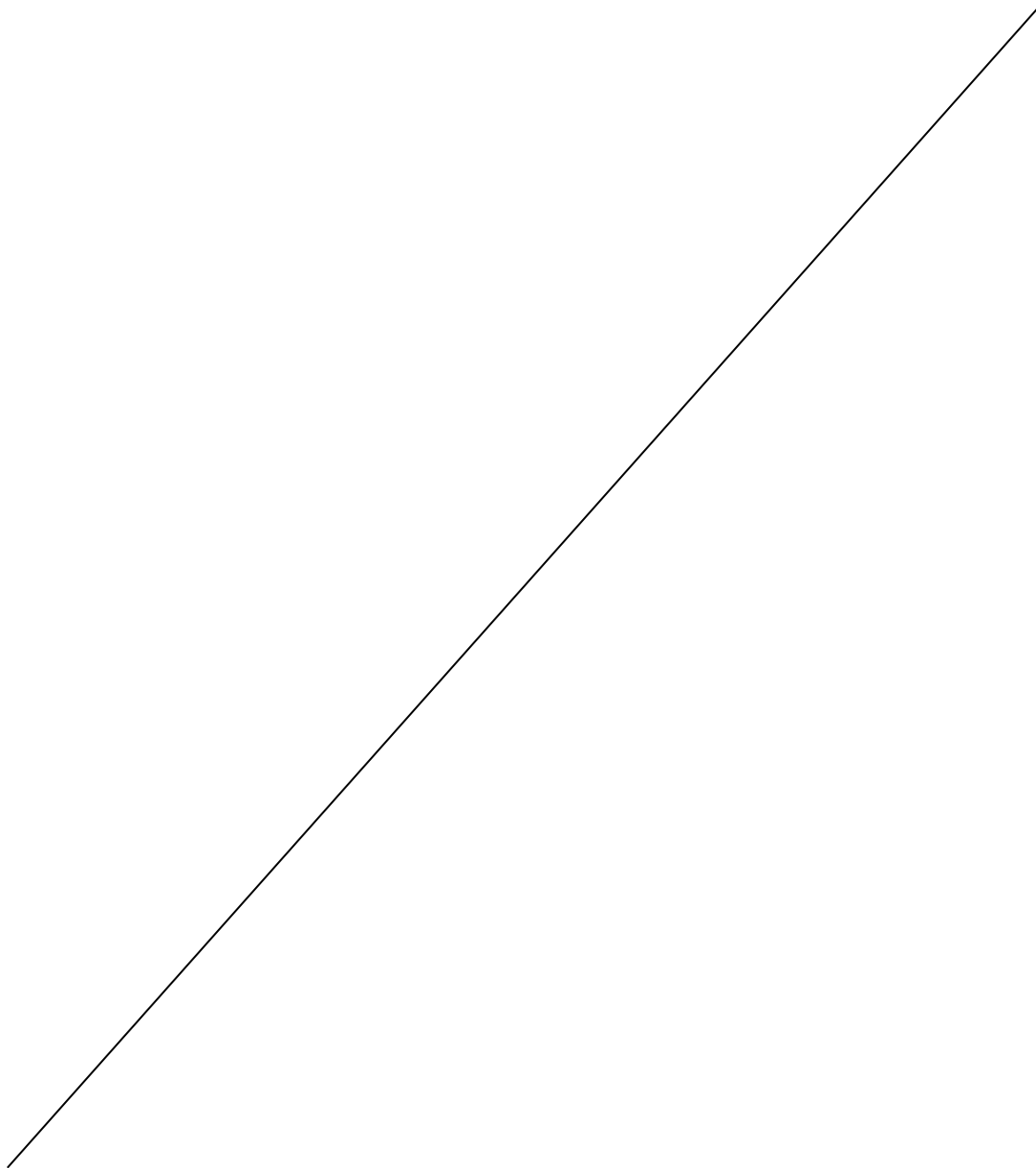
Festival of Faith

Planning continues for our CSRC and SWRC Festival of Faith in 2025. Hotel space has been booked and the planning team is been working preparing a draft agenda. John Bell will be providing key leadership for the Festival of Faith! He is a Scottish hymn-writer and Church of Scotland minister. He is a member of the Iona Community, a broadcaster, and former student activist. He works throughout the world, lecturing in theological colleges in the UK, Canada and the United States, but is primarily concerned with the renewal of congregational worship at the grass-roots level. The festival will also include a number of workshops and key leadership from within the United Church too. Registration for the Festival of Faith will begin the first week of March. The Moderator also hopes to attend the FoF and will provide some workshops.

Huntington University

We have made some progress with Huntington University. They reached out in the New Year and we are in the process of scheduling an in-person or zoom meeting with President Kevin. I would like to add to the April Executive meeting a conversation around

how we could expand or improve our relationship with Huntington University, as prioritize we ministry to Youth and Young adults in our UCC 2035 vision.



MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on April 3, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

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

STAFF: Peter Hartmans (Executive Minister), Susan Whitehead (Administrative Support)

GUESTS: Sarah Charters (UCC Foundation), Shawn Redden (CS and SW Staff), Melody Duncanson-Hales (UCC Philanthropy Staff)

ABSENT: Dave LeGrand, Susan Lindquist

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 shared a devotional reading from the “Art of Listening” and then shared a video entitled, “Lord, Listen to your Child Praying.” Peter then opened the meeting with prayer and sent prayers out to Dave LeGrand and his family as they walk with his brother during serious illness.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Bill Jones added Nominations to the Agenda and Peter moved the Huntington University conversation to his Executive Minister Report.

MOTION by Susan Peverley/Lionel Ketola **CS EXEC 2025-04-03-01**
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Bill Steadman/Jim Jackson **CS EXEC 2025-04-03-02**
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on February 6, 2025 and March 6, 2025 be approved, as presented.
CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Bill Jones/Gord Roberts **CS EXEC 2025-04-03-03**
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from October 29, 2024 and the Property Commission from January 23, 2025 and February 27, 2025 be received, for information.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Email from Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa re: Toward 2035 (see below under Towards 2035 Discussion Continued).

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE FEBRUARY AND MARCH MINUTES

Update on One-Minute Video for the 100th Anniversary

Nancy shared that Celio and she are working on the CSRC video and that the deadline is May 10th, 2025.

Update from Grants Resource Team re: Monies to CoFs for 100th

Peter recapped that the Grants Resource Team are overseeing the dispensing of money to anyone who applied for the \$100 grants to help assist their community of faith's plans to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of The UCC and will report back with the number of people who utilized the money. Executive members shared what their communities of faith were doing for June 8th.

UCC FOUNDATIONS – SARAH CHARTERS

Peter welcomed Sarah Charters to the meeting, President of the UCC Foundation. Sarah shared news, priorities, and projects from the UCC Foundation and Melody Duncanson-Hales joined the meeting to discuss the Philanthropy Unit in the UCC.

NUCLEAR-FREE NORTH – SHAWN REDDEN

Shawn Redden, Justice and Faith Formation Minister, joined the meeting to give an interim update regarding the Nuclear-Free North letter received from Gary Kenny from the We the Nuclear Free North group.

There was consensus that the CSRC Executive request the Nuclear-Free North working group draft a statement regarding the We the Nuclear-Free North resolution and return it back to the CSRC Executive for approval.

TOWARDS 2035 DISCUSSION CONTINUED

Nancy shared an email received from Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa where each regional council is invited to identify two (2) Commissioners at GC45 who will be in Calgary to remain for an extra day for follow-up conversations regarding Towards 2035. Bill Jones offered to stay the extra day. Peter and Nancy will find one more Commissioner who would be willing to stay an extra day.

The draft of Towards 2035 should be available in mid-May and the region will offer a town hall between May 3rd and June 1st and then the final report comes out from GCO for GG45 for a vote. The suggestion was made that this be put on the agenda for the CS Regional Council Meeting (RCM) in May to give people a heads up.

2025 RCM UPDATE

2026 Draft Budget for RCM

The Finance Team is preparing the 2026 Draft Budget to be presented at the CS RCM in May. Prior to that, the budget will be presented to Executive and then sent to the RCM for approval. The Business and Agenda Committee have been working on the Agenda for the online RCM. Peter, Diane and Susan will travel to Sault Ste. Marie to be with Nancy

CS Executive Accountability Report

MOTION by Susan Peverley/Stewart Walker

CS Exec 2025-04-03-05

That the CSRC Executive approve the CS Executive Accountability Report to the 2025 Regional Council Meeting Workbook.

CARRIED

NOMINATIONS COMMITTEE

Bill Jones shared with Executive that there is a real need to motivate people to join commissions/committees/resource teams as well as GC45 Alternate Commissioners.

Jim Jackson, as the Past-Past Chair took the Chair to complete the motions.

MOTION by Stewart Walker/Bill Steadman **CS Exec 2025-04-03-06**
That the CSRC Executive approve the present Chair's term be extended by one year (2026) to allow the incoming Chair installation to occur at an in-person Regional Council Meeting.
CARRIED
1 Abstention – Bill Jones

MOTION by Peter Hartmans/Bill Steadman **CS Exec 2025-04-03-07**
That Nancy Ferguson be named an GC45 Alternate Commissioner.
CARRIED

Nancy returned to the Chair.

2025 FESTIVAL OF FAITH UPDATE AND TRAVEL GRANT

Peter and Susan shared a FoF update with Executive, indicating that there are over 120 registrations and that there is an even split of registrants between both regions. Planning is getting down to the wire and the Planning and Local Arrangements Teams are hard at work getting this event ready for June.

CAMP MCDOUGALL UPDATE

Nancy shared that Camp McDougall is getting ready for the 2025 camping season. They have advertised on Facebook that they have hired new employees and are sharing a bit of their story there.

MARCH 2025 GCE REPORT

The March 2025 GCE Report was shared with Executive.

EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (Appendix A)

Peter shared his Executive Minister Report with Executive.

CSRC GC45 Accountability Report

Peter worked on the CSRC Accountability Report that will be sent to GC45 on behalf of the region and shared it with Executive. It was agreed that Peter would forward the report to GCO for GC45 on behalf of the region.

Huntington University Update

Peter had a meeting with the President of Huntington University, Dr. Kevin McCormick, and Scott Darling, Chair of the Huntington Board. Peter shared that he asked them if they were interested in continuing a relationship with The United Church of Canada and they say absolutely yes, they would. With regards to the Memorandum of Understanding, their lawyers will be looking at the agreement next week and they will get back to us. Peter talked to them about UCC membership on the Board and they are open to this, with people that are the right fit.

Nancy and Peter have previously discussed that this may be an opportunity to have a chaplaincy at Huntington/Laurentian University. Peter talked with Jennifer Henry from the GCO recently and inquired whether there might be funding for such a project and she said yes there may be if we were interested in pursuing it. While talking with Kevin and Scott, Peter mentioned this seed of an idea and they were very open to it. Peter then spoke with Melody Duncanson Hales about the possibility to partner with a community of faith/s in the Sudbury area and then he approached Shawn Redden to inquire what her thoughts were as her portfolio with the region is around youth.

Peter indicated that Barb Nott would be invited to the next conversation with Huntington to help facilitate. Susan Peverley offered to help if needed.

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

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

CLOSING

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

APPENDIX A

Executive Ministers Report

April 2025

GC 45:

Major preparation continues for General Council 45 starting in the new year, with an in-person meeting August 7-12, 2025. For the second half of the meeting, the two Regions separated into two regional groups to connect locally. Youth Forum gathering in early March between a Regional gathering in both Thunder Bay and Southern Ontario with SWRC Youth traveling to Guelph, a central location. The event included both CSRC and SWRC youth forum folks, along with our three Ontario Western Regions. The event was an excellent opportunity to prepare for General Council and also youth were able to get to know each other, and to share and plan for August. Shawn Redden was able to travel to Thunder Bay and I attended in Guelph, with many other leaders. Both groups met virtually between Guelph and Thunder bay.

General Council Executive and Staff leaders:

The General Council Executive met March 7th to 9th, 2025 in London and Staff Leaders meet March 7th, 2025. Staff leaders primarily discussed the draft document Towards 2035. The General Council Executive had a very full agenda. One highlight was the 150th Anniversary of the Presbyterian Church in Canada (PCC) with the Executive agreeing to a proposal to acknowledge the history and partnership of the PCC and take opportunities of upcoming gatherings of both denominations to join in celebration, inviting communities of faith and regional councils to also participate. With General Council 44 ending, a nominations request was circulated for General Council Executive reps. Both Regional Staff, Regional leaders and national staff reached out to potential SWRC folks to consider letting their names stand for nomination to the General Council Executive from 2025-2028.

100th Anniversary June 8th 2025

The June 2025 UCC 100th celebration will take place on Sunday June 8th in Newfoundland. With the recent decision of the Regional Council Executive to promote regional gatherings to celebrate the 100th anniversary of The United Church of Canada, the Mission Grants Committee are reaching out to Communities of Faith within the regional council to invite folks to request small grants to support and promote gatherings of neighbours for 100th anniversary worship "watch parties" in June.

Huntington University:

Dr. Kevin McCormick has requested a meeting with me for Monday March 31. Conversations will continue Regarding local Regional Council partnership with Huntington University. I also chatted with the General Council about the possibility of considering funding for a Chaplaincy, they are open to the idea. Conversations will continue both Regionally, with UCC and eventually Huntington.

Festival of Faith:

Planning continues for our CSRC and SWRC Festival of Faith (FoF) in 2025. John Bell will be providing key leadership for the Festival of Faith, which will also include a number of workshops and key leadership from within the United Church too. The Moderator also

hopes to attend the Festival of Faith but will not host a Flourish Event prior do to a scheduling conflict. A pre-Clergy event is also be planned for CSRC folks before the Festival of Faith. Staff have been working at supporting carpooling with regional travel grants. Registration has started with equal registration so far from both regional councils.

DRAFT

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

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

STAFF: Peter Hartmans (Executive Minister), Susan Whitehead (Administrative Support), Diane Matheson-Jimenez (Staff Lead)

GUESTS: Jody Maltby (Minister, Finance and Property), Rob Smith (Pastoral Relations Minister), Melody Duncanson Hales (Minister, Community of Faith Support)

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 read from Acts 9:3 and the transformation of Jesus seeing the light. He touched on the current political issues of today and linked it to the reading of Acts.

CHECK-IN

Nancy asked Executive to do a quick check-in time, focusing how we might be witnesses to God's light in our lives.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There is one correction – the Support to Communities of Faith Commission Minutes should be listed as February 19, 2025 and March 5, 2025 (not March 3, 2025).

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Jones

CS EXEC 2025-05-01-01

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

CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

MOTION by Bill Jones/Lionel Ketola

CS EXEC 2025-05-01-02

That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on April 3, 2025 be approved, as circulated.

CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Susan Peverley/Dave LeGrand

CS EXEC 2025-05-01-03

That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from February 19, 2025 and March 5, 2025 be received, for information.

CARRIED

MOTION by Gord Roberts/Bill Steadman

CS EXEC 2025-05-01-04

That the Minutes of the CSRC Property Commission from March 27, 2025, be received, for information.

CARRIED

MOTION by Stewart Walker/Jim Jackson **CS EXEC 2025-05-01-05**
That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from February 25, 2025 and March 25, 2025, be received, for information.
CARRIED

CORRESPONDENCE

Port Nelson UC re: Housing

Executive discussed a petition related to homelessness that was forwarded to the region. The team decided to share the petition with the region and refer it back to Shawn Redden for further action. There was also a discussion about a potential need for a Resource Team to handle justice issues, with some members suggesting that the existing resource teams could handle these issues.

2026 CSRC DRAFT BUDGET

Jody presented the 2026 CSRC Draft Budget. The Finance Resource Team has recommended the 2026 Draft Budget to Executive for approval:

MOTION by Michael Wesa / Dave Clark *CS FRT 2025 04 10 04*
That the Finance Resource Team of Canadian Shield Regional Council recommend the 2026 draft Budget to the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive for approval.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Jones **CS EXEC 2025-05-01-06**
That after review by the CSRC Finance Resource Team, the CSRC Executive recommends the 2026 Draft Budget to the 2025 Online Canadian Shield Regional Council meeting May 3, 2025, for review.
CARRIED

EXECUTIVE MINISTERS REPORT (Appendix A)

Peter shared his Executive Minister Report with Executive. Peter made a revision to his report regarding Towards 2035 and Executive discussed it.

NEW BUSINESS

Nominations Committee Motion

At the November 12, 2024 meeting of the CSRC Nominations Committee, a motion was passed to add new members to the Mission Support Grants Resource Team but that motion has need been put before Executive.

MOTION by Kathie Smith/Mardi Mumford *CS NOMS 2024-11-12-01*
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Nominations Committee recommend that Sarah Drouin and Allister Cruthers be appointed to the Mission Support and Grants Resource Team.
CARRIED

MOTION by Bill Jones/Susan Peverley **CS EXEC 2025-05-01-07**
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive approve the recommendation of the Nominations Committee to appoint Sarah Drouin and Allister Cruthers to the Mission Support and Grants Resource Team.
CARRIED

NEXT MEETING DATES:

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

CLOSING AND ADJOURNMENT

Nancy gave a closing prayer.

MOTION by Jim Jackson

CS EXEC 2025-05-01-08

That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive Meeting on May 1, 2025 be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 2:38 p.m.

Executive Ministers Report May 2025

GC45:

Major preparation continues for General Council 45, with an in-person meeting August 7-12. Commissioners will have had their National orientation on Sunday April 27th. Note the following dates for GC45:

Sunday, April 27, 2025 (online) 4:00 - 7:00 p.m. ET: Orientation to GC45, meeting technology and travel planning.

Sunday, June 22, 2025 (online) 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. ET: Opening of General Council

Saturday, June 28, 2025 (online) 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. ET: Learning and discussion
4:00 to 7:00 p.m. ET: Learning and discussion

August 7-11, 2025 (in person and online)

General Council worship, business, election and installation of the 45th Moderator

Logo and Theme: General Council 45



Moderator Nominee's for General Council 45 (As of April 24, 2025):

-Rev. Dr. Samuel V. Dansokho (he/him)

Ordained Minister, nominated by Nakonha:ka Regional Council

-Rev. Dr. John Pentland (he/him)

Ordained Minister, nominated by Chinook Winds Regional Council

-Rev. Dr. Cheri DiNovo, CM (she/her)

Ordained Minister, nominated by Shining Waters Regional Council

-Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath (she/her)

Ordained Minister, nominated by Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council

-Rev. Sungmin Jung (he/him)

Ordained Minister, nominated by Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council

For More information please see: <https://generalcouncil.ca/councils/general-council-45/moderator-nominees-gc45>

100th Anniversary June 8th 2025

The June 2025 UCC 100th celebration will take place on Sunday June 8th in Newfoundland.

I had the privilege of attending The United Church of Canada United Church Unveiling of The Last Supper for 100th Anniversary, on Holy Thursday, April 17. The photographic reimagining of The Last Supper, marked a significant moment in its centennial celebrations this year. Revealed for the first time at Metropolitan United Church in Toronto, this reinterpretation challenges traditional depictions of the iconic scene and affirms the United Church's belief in an all-encompassing love that embraces each person as their authentic self. See link for more information and to see the photograph.

<https://united-church.ca/news/united-church-unveils-bold-reimagining-last-supper-100th-anniversary>

To see the most update to date information for the United Churches 100th anniversary, which includes local events in CSRC see: <https://united-church.ca/100years>

Huntington University:

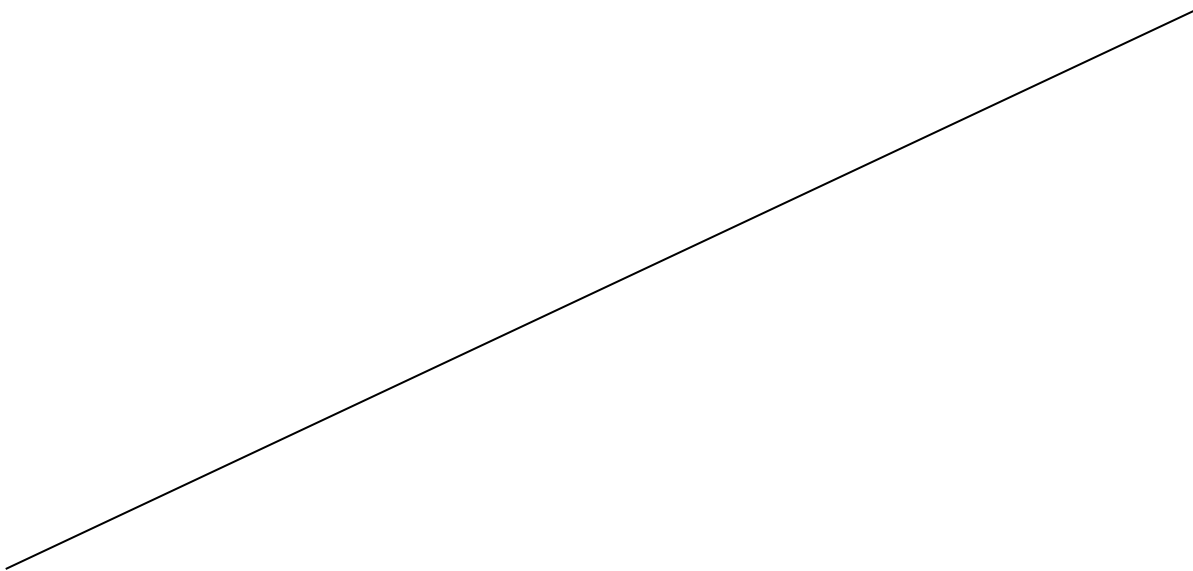
Dr. Kevin McCormick has requested a meeting with me for Monday, March 31. Conversations will continue regarding local regional council partnership with Huntington University. I also chatted with the General Council about the possibility of considering funding for a Chaplaincy, they are open to the idea. Conversations will continue both Regionally, with UCC and eventually Huntington.

Festival of Faith:

Planning continues for our CSRC and SWRC Festival of Faith in 2025. John Bell will be providing key leadership for the Festival of Faith and the festival will also include a number of workshops and key leadership from within the United Church too. The Moderator also hopes to attend the Festival of Faith. A pre-Clergy event is also be planned for CSRC folks, before the Festival of Faith. Online registration has started for the FoF and staff have been working at supporting carpooling with regional travel grants. Registration has started with equal registration so far from both regional councils.

Toward 2035:

The United Church of Canada is currently working on an update for its strategic planned called Toward 2035. A draft version of the report will be circulated publicly Mid-May. We are planning a joint Townhall Meeting for the evening of June 17, to present and get feedback for the material before General Council 45. A joint regional planning team will prepare for the event and our hope is that the Commissioners hear the feedback. One major advantage of hosting a joint townhall is that both regional commissioners can hear feedback from both regions. The joint townhall also afford the opportunity to hear similar themes and struggles. Leaving it to the planning team, my sense is the event will have an opportunity for CSRC and SWRC to connect as separate regional councils as well.



MINUTES of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on June 5, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

PRESENT: Nancy Ferguson (Chair), Stewart Walker, Jim Jackson, Bill Jones, Gord Roberts, Laurie Stevenson, Susan Lindquist

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

GUESTS: Shawn Redden (Justice and Faith Formation Minister – CSRC)

REGRETS: Peter Hartmans (Executive Minister), Dave LeGrand, Lionel Ketola, Susan Peverley

Chair Nancy welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Gord Roberts CS EXEC 2025-06-05-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as presented.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was one error in the minutes; Dave LeGrand was noted twice as being present.

MOTION by Bill Jones/Jim Jackson CS EXEC 2025-06-05-02
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional
Council Executive held on May 1, 2025 be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Stewart Walker/Laurie Stevenson CS EXEC 2025-06-05-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith
Commission from April 23, 2025 be received, for information.
CARRIED

MOTION by Gord Roberts/Susan Lindquist CS EXEC 2025-06-05-04
That the Minutes of the CSRC Property Commission from April 24, 2025
be received, for information.
CARRIED

OMNIBUS MOTION: INCORPORATED MINISTRIES

MOTION by Bill Jones/Gord Roberts CS EXEC 2025-06-05-05
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council (6) Executive take the following
action(s):

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

... based on the guidance received from General Council Staff, pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve Constitution and By-Laws as approved by the members on May 4, 2025 of the incorporated ministry known as Thunder Bay United Church Camps, Incorporated

This is based on the draft minutes of Members Virtual Vote of May 4, 2025, and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

CARRIED

Executive is directing Peter and Diane to ask the Incorporated Ministries (IM) department at the General Council Office that future Omnibus motions from the IM regarding constitutions, by-laws or anything related to incorporated ministries, in the form of an Executive Summary, be included in the pre-approval package to this body in order for it to make an informed decision.

CORRESPONDENCE

Letter Received by Harry Oussoren

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Laurie Stevenson CS EXEC 2025-06-05-06
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive receive the letter, for information, from Harry Oussoren on behalf of the Justice for Palestine Network, dated May 15, 2025 regarding peace in Palestine and Israel.

CARRIED

Diane explained that this is not the official work of this Executive but it is, however, the work of our Justice and Faith Formation Minister. Shawn has sent out correspondence around to the region to encourage communities of faith of our region to consider the materials and how they might engage with them.

CELEBRATION OF MINISTRY SERVICE OUTSIDE THE RCM

There will be a Celebration of Ministry Service outside our Regional Council Meeting (May 3, 2025) on the weekend of the Festival of Faith event.

MOTION by Gord Roberts/Stewart Walker CS EXEC 2025-06-05-07
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive approve the Celebration of Ministry Service celebrating Ordinands in our region on Sunday, May 15, 2025 at 11:00 A.M. in Sudbury, ON.

CARRIED

5-10 YEAR CAUCUS REMINDER

After conferring with Executive, Ministry Personnel, and Lay Leaders, we have come up with 10 overarching themes with questions that were sent out to the Commissions, Committees, and Resource Teams for feedback. The Support to Communities of Faith Commission stated in their minutes that they had discussions about it; the Property Commission Chair informed Executive that they will have discussed it and will be forwarding some information to Executive in the fall; the Pastoral Relations Commission Chair informed Executive that it has discussed and will forward their information in the fall. Executive will need to send a message out to all Commissions, Committees and Resource Teams asking for some specific feedback for September.

REMOVE JANET MACDONALD AS SIGNING AUTHORITY AS OF JUNE 30, 2025

Janet will be retiring from her position with the region as of June 30, 2025. Executive will send a note to Janet to thank her for all her work, with gratitude from Executive.

MOTION by Gord Roberts/Bill Jones CS EXEC 2025-06-05-08
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive approve the removal of Janet MacDonald as a signing officer on all financial accounts, including all accounts with BMO (Bank of Montreal) and BMO Nesbitt Burns, effective June 30, 2025, due to her retirement and extend Executive's deep gratitude for her faithful and diligent service.
CARRIED

ACKNOWLEDGE NEW EXECUTIVE – BILL STEADMAN

Noting that Bill Steadman has completed his term effective the last Regional Council Meeting in May 2025, Executive would like to extend their deep gratitude for his wisdom, guidance, and faithful service to the Executive and the region.

NOMINATIONS E-VOTE MOTION FOR CONSIDERATION

Bill Jones shared that the CSRC Nominations Committee passed an e-vote motion on May 27, 2025:

That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Nominations Committee Recommend Peter Haddow to The CSRC Executive.

MOTION by Bill Jones/Susan Lindquist CS EXEC 2025-06-05-09
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive name Peter Haddow to the CSRC Executive, upon the recommendation from the CSRC Nominations Committee.
CARRIED

NUCLEAR WASTE CONVERSATION

Executive welcomed Shawn Redden to the meeting where she discussed the Nuclear Free North letter received by Garry Kenny back in November 2024, where he asked the region to sign on a resolution against the development in Northern Ontario. A working group was established including our regional representatives to the Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils, along with representatives from the Right Relations Resource Team and this group has met several times. Shawn gave an update of this working group to Executive.

MOTION by Laurie Stevenson/Jim Jackson CS EXEC 2025-06-05-10
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive respond to the letter received by Garry Kenny and “We the Nuclear Free North” on November 11, 2024, using the text of the draft letter provided by Shawn Redden (CSRC Justice and Faith Formation Minister) and the working group, and gives thanks for the working group’s thoughtful consultation and grounding in “Principles-Based Justice.”
CARRIED

JUSTICE NETWORKING

Diane shared that justice networking within our region is a conversation that needs to continue. Shawn is working at organically growing networks just by keeping an ear to the ground about what justice work is happening and helps folks to make connections with one another. This is a work in progress and will continue.

TOWARDS 2035 CONVERSATION CONTINUED

There will be a joint town hall with CSRC and SWRC that will be held on June 17, 2025 to discuss Towards 2035. The intention is to have anyone who has an interest in Towards 2035 to attend to discuss and to get clear information to as many people as we can.

FESTIVAL OF FAITH UPDATE

Susan updated Executive about the Festival of Faith (FoF) and shared that there are 180 participants. 15 extra people applied for the day passes. The planning team is feeling really good going into the event and are excited about people coming to Sudbury. The Celebration of Ministry Service is all planned and people in the region are planning to come even if they do not attend the FoF. John Bell is ready to travel from Scotland; the Uganda Martyrs UC choir is ready to attend.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UCC

Diane shared the 100th Anniversary video that Nancy and Celio created for the 100th Anniversary that was shared with the wider church. In addition to the national celebration in Newfoundland, there are all kinds of local celebrations that are happening.

With regards to the 100th anniversary granting opportunity that the Executive offered of \$100 per community of faith (CoF) that applied (monies which came from the GCO's offer of \$2,000 for the President/Chair to travel to Newfoundland), there were 44 of 86 CoFs that applied. Diane has asked that they send in pictures and stories of how they celebrated the 100th.

HUNTINGTON UNIVERSITY UPDATE

Nancy shared that Peter met with Dr. Kevin McCormick on March 31, 2025 and that conversations would be ongoing. Diane shared that meeting did happen and that during that time, Peter shared the idea of involving a chaplain in the life and work of Huntington University. We will wait for a response from Kevin.

EXECUTIVE MINISTER REPORT (APPENDIX A)

Diane shared Peter's Executive Minister Report with Executive.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Susan Lindquist CS EXEC 2025-06-05-11
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive receive the
Executive Minister Report.
CARRIED

NEW BUSINESS

There was no new business.

NEXT MEETING DATES:

Thursday, September 4, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom
Thursday, December 4, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

CLOSING

Nancy gave a closing prayer and adjourned the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

APPENDIX A Executive Ministers Report June 2025

GC 45:

Major preparation continues for General Council 45 starting in the new year, with an in-person meeting August 7-12. Note the following dates for GC 45:

Sunday, June 22, 2025 (online) 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. ET: Opening of General Council

Saturday, June 28, 2025 (online) 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. ET: Learning and discussion
4:00 to 7:00 p.m. ET: Learning and discussion

August 7-11, 2025 (in person and online)

General Council worship, business, election and installation of the 45th Moderator

Moderator Nominations, General Council 45 (As of May 29, 2025):

Currently we have 5 candidates for Moderator. The deadline for nominations is June 22 at Midnight. Please pray for the Moderator nominee's as they discern with the Church and encourage/pray for folks who are still considering submitting a nomination.

- **Rev. Dr. Samuel V. Dansokho (he/him)**

Ordained Minister, nominated by Nakonha:ka Regional Council

- **Rev. Dr. John Pentland (he/him)**

Ordained Minister, nominated by Chinook Winds Regional Council

- **Rev. Dr. Cheri DiNovo, CM (she/her)**

Ordained Minister, nominated by Shining Waters Regional Council

- **Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath (she/her)**

Ordained Minister, nominated by Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council

- **Rev. Sungmin Jung (he/him)**

Ordained Minister, nominated by Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council

For More information please see: <https://generalcouncil.ca/councils/general-council-45/moderator-nominees-gc45>

100th Anniversary June 8th 2025

The June 2025 UCC 100th Anniversary celebration is taking place in Newfoundland on Sunday June 8th. Chair Nancy, in partnership with Celio De Andrade, has created a video to bring greetings to The United Church of Canada from the Canadian Shield Regional Council. Many regional events are happening throughout the CSRC and we have been encouraging folks to include on the 100th Anniversary website. See link to event map: https://united-church.ca/events?event_type=All&focus=308 Please consider adding your event to the map!

June 10th, 2025: National Listening event

As part of the Centennial, The United Church of Canada invites you to a special collective listening event on Tuesday, June 10, 2025. This unique initiative is an opportunity to simply listen without judgment or advice, fostering genuine connection in our communities.

Ministers are invited to set up a "welcome table" outside their church building on June 10, with a sign inviting people to sit and talk. This dedicated space offers the gift of pure listening.

While you can participate anytime that day, we encourage a synchronized moment of collective listening across Canada:

3:30 pm NT, 3:00 pm AT, 2:00 pm ET, 1:00 pm CT, 12:00 pm MT, 11:00 am PT

This shared time allows us to experience the power of listening together, knowing we're all engaging in this meaningful act. See below video for more information:

<https://united-church.ca/events/intentional-listening-centenary-campaign>

Huntington University

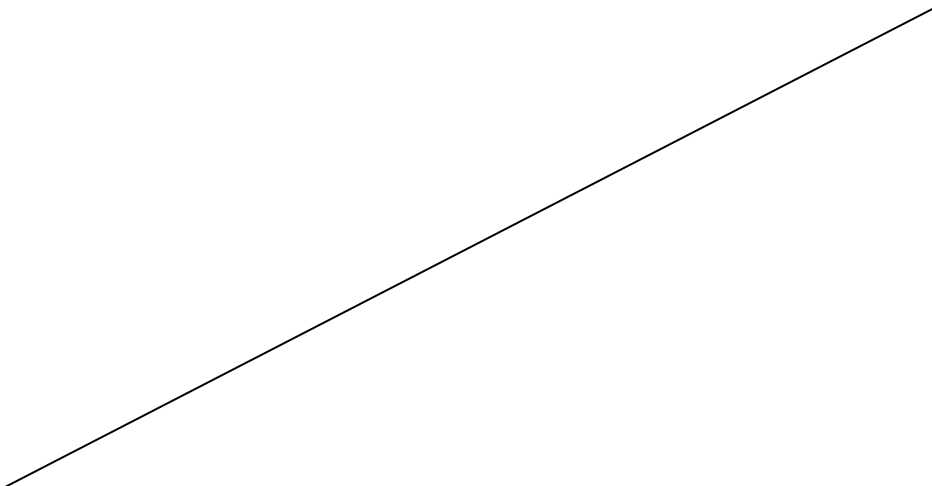
Dr. Kevin McCormick had requested a meeting with me for Monday, March 31, 2025. Conversations will continue regarding local regional council partnership with Huntington University. I also chatted with the General Council about the possibility of considering funding for a Chaplaincy, they are open to the idea. Conversations will continue both regionally, with UCC and eventually, Huntington.

Festival of Faith

Planning continues for our CSRC and SWRC Festival of Faith in 2025. Over 160 folks have registered. The planning team have also created day passes, so local folks can attend for part of the event. John Bell will be providing key leadership for the Festival of Faith and will also include a number of workshops and key leadership from within the United Church too. The Moderator will be attending the Festival of Faith as well. <https://canadianshielddrc.ca/about/festival-of-faith-2025/> There is also a pre-Clergy event has been planned for CSRC folks, before the Festival of Faith.

Toward 2035

The United Church of Canada is currently working on an update for its strategic planned called Towards 2035. A draft version of the report will be circulated publicly very soon. We are planning a joint Townhall Meeting for the evening of June 17, 2025 to present and get feedback for the material before General Council 45. A joint regional planning team will prepare for the event and our hope is that the Commissioners hear the feedback. One major advantage of hosting a joint townhall is that both regional GC45 Commissioners can hear feedback from both Regions. The joint townhall also affords the opportunity to hear similar themes and struggles. Leaving it to the planning team, my sense is the event will have an opportunity for CSRC and SWRC to connect as separate regional councils too.



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

PRESENT: Nancy Ferguson (Chair), Stewart Walker, Jim Jackson, Bill Jones, Gord Roberts, Laurie Stevenson, Susan Lindquist, Susan Peverley, Peter Haddow

STAFF: Peter Hartmans (Executive Minister), Susan Whitehead (Administrative Support)

REGRETS: Dave LeGrand, Lionel Ketola

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 welcomed everyone back to the first day back from the summer and shared Ecclesiastes Chapter 3. He then led in an opening prayer.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Susan Peverley CS EXEC 2025-09-04-01
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as presented.
CARRIED

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

There was an error on the first page of the minutes – the date of the meeting should be June 5, 2025.

MOTION by Bill Jones/Susan Lindquist CS EXEC 2025-09-04-02
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on June 5, 2025 be approved, as amended.
CARRIED

E-MAIL VOTE: JULY 16, 2025

Dates of the Next In-Person CS RCM in 2026 & 2028

- The dates will be as follows: June 5-7, 2026 and June 2-4, 2028, both at the Quattro Hotel and Conference Centre in Sault Ste. Marie.

RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS

MOTION by Gord Roberts/Peter Haddow CS EXEC 2025-09-04-03
That the Minutes of the CSRC Support to Communities of Faith Commission from May 21, 2025 and the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from April 29, 2025 and May 27, 2025 be received, for information.
CARRIED

OMNIBUS MOTION: INCORPORATED MINISTRIES

Peter shared that it would be good to have Jody Maltby and Linda Gray come to Executive in October to discuss the process of the Incorporated Ministry.

MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Jones CS EXEC 2025-09-04-04
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council (6) Executive take the following action(s):

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

... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the St. Paul's United Church Non-Profit Housing Corporation 2025-2026 Board of Directors

**Lynne Curran
Laurie Forbes
Gail Henderson
Linda Hietanen
Terry Hietanen
Don Macdougall
Doreen Macdougall
Bert Rowson
Ray Quinn**

This is based on the draft minutes of Annual General Meeting of May 20, 2025, the 2025 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

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***Update on by-laws: St. Paul's current by-laws are from 2020 and therefore not necessarily compliant with ONCA but the board is in the process of reviewing.***

**CARRIED**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

***Thank You Letter from St. Paul's UC TB***

Executive received the thank you letter from St. Paul's UC regarding a grant they received for family camp. Nancy would like a copy of this letter to be sent to the Mission and Grants Support Resource Team that dealt with the grant.

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES**

***Incorporated Ministries Conversation – Presentation from IM Department in October***

Executive discussed the Incorporated Ministries and Peter will invite Jody Maltby and Linda Gray to the October Executive meeting to discuss the motions.

## **GENERAL COUNCIL 45**

Peter Hartmans, Peter Haddow, Bill Jones, and Stewart Walker shared some of the business and their experiences at GC45. With regard to the Canadian Shield proposal, it

did proceed with edits. Business at GC45 was not completed so there will be an online meeting on Saturday, September 13, 2025 to complete it and then there can be a meeting of all those CSRC people who attended (perhaps in October), including youth reps.

Peter shared that there was a lot of conversation right after GC45 about Towards 2035 and Executive discussed having a CSRC gathering to discuss Towards 2035 in the near future, perhaps with SWRC.

### **5-10 YEAR CAUCUS – FEEDBACK FROM COMMISSIONS/COMMITTEES/ RESOURCE TEAMS REMINDER**

This will be on the agenda for the October 2025 Executive meeting.

### **2024 CSRC M&S CONTRIBUTIONS**

Nancy shared the CSRC received a Certificate of Thanksgiving from Mission & Service indicating that the CSRC gave \$478,537 and Executive shared their thanks.

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

Peter shared the Executive Minister Report with Executive.

**MOTION by Peter Haddow/Jim Jackson CS EXEC 2025-09-04-05  
That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive receive the  
Executive Minister Report.  
CARRIED**

### **NEW BUSINESS**

*Joint CS/SW Executive Meeting*

Nancy shared that we could do an online meeting this year or next, to be determined.

*New Moderator Visit to CSRC*

Nancy suggested that we ask the new Moderator, the Right Rev. Dr. Kimberley Heath, If she would like to attend the 2026 CS RCM on June 5-7, 2026 in Sault Ste. Marie.

### **NEXT MEETING DATES:**

Thursday, October 9, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

Thursday, December 4, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

### **CLOSING**

Nancy gave a closing prayer and adjourned the meeting at 2:50 p.m.

## September 2025

### **GC 45:**

The GC45 in-person meeting happened this August in Calgary. Most travel and accommodation went well and we were able to avoid the Air Canada strike. All our Commissioners were able to attend in-person or online and I was grateful for the leadership of our all Commissioners. The meeting days were long with very full agendas.

The Council did not complete its summer agenda, so a special online meeting for Saturday September 13, 2025 has been added. The council is still working through some of SWRC's proposals and I will give an update in October. Our new Moderator is Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath. See link a 3minute video introduction to her:

<https://www.youtube.com/@unitedchurchcda>

### **Festival of Faith:**

The Festival of Faith was a great success. Participants deeply appreciated the leadership of the planning team, local arrangements and many other volunteers who supported local arrangements, Sunday morning and outstanding props/decorations. Deep gratitude to all participants and volunteers. Over 160 folks registered and attended. The planning team also created day passes, so local folks can attend for part of the day. John Bell provided key leadership for the Festival of Faith! The festival also included a number of workshops and key leadership from within the United Church too, which were very well attended. We are so grateful for their leadership and shared experience. The Moderator also attended as well and it was wonderful for her to offer theological reflection and workshop leadership and her presence with us. Again, we are so grateful for the leadership of the planning team and local arrangements. Key pieces to consider in the future: Location of the Next Festival of Faith? Funding for the Next Festival of Faith?

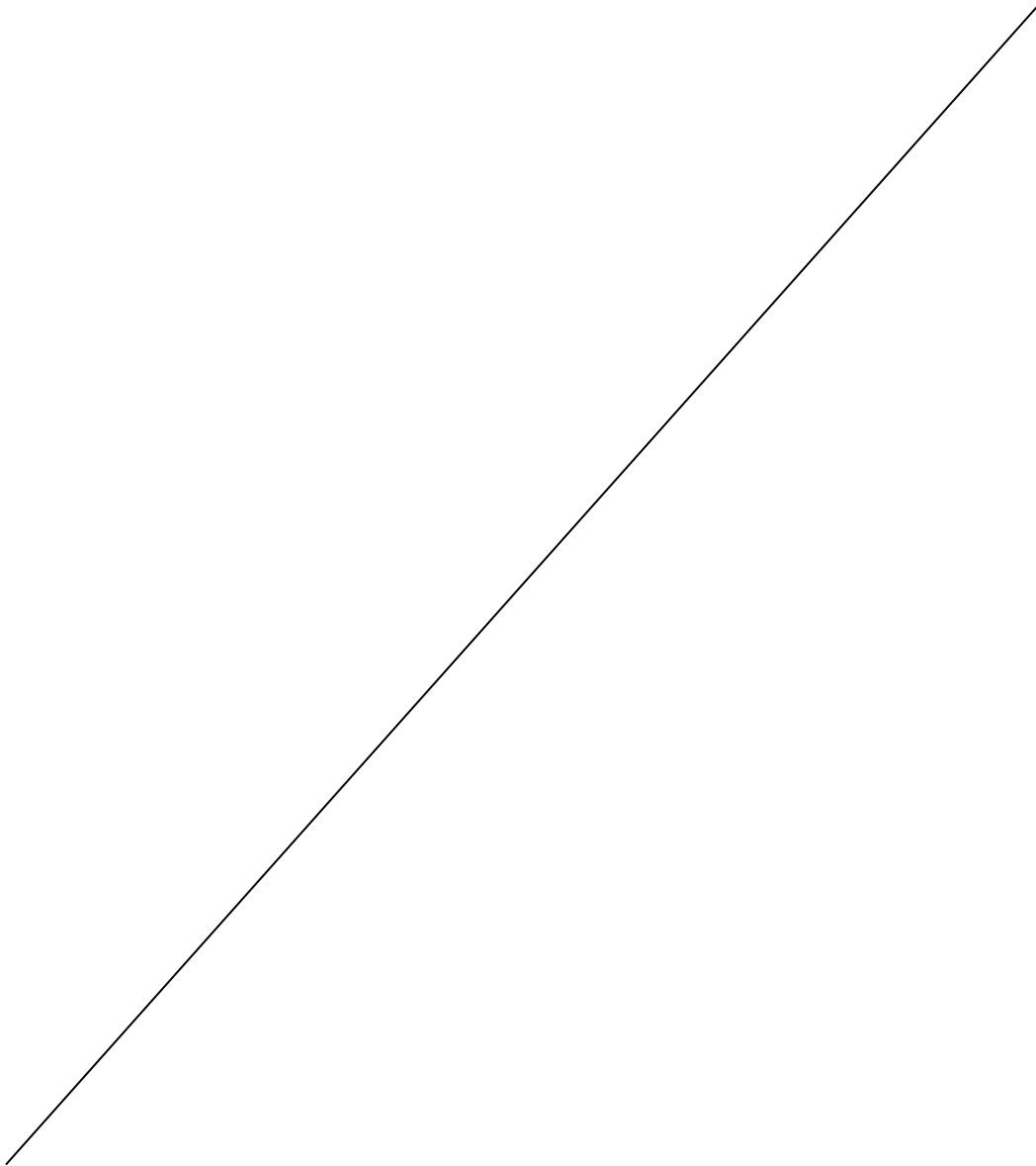
### **Toward 2035:**

The United Church of Canada is currently working on an update for its Strategic Plan called Towards 2035. A draft version of the report will be circulated publicly very soon. We had a joint Townhall Meeting for the evening of June 17, to present and get feedback for the material. Our hope was that the Commissioners would hear the feedback and discuss it at our August GC45 meeting. One major advantage of hosting a joint townhall was that both regional Commissioners could hear feedback from both regions. The joint townhall also invited the opportunity to hear similar themes and struggles. The townhall meeting was very well attended. In addition, following General Council in Calgary, the UCC hosted a special meeting of key leaders from across the UCC to continue the conversation around the Toward 2035 conversation. SWRC and CSRC folks gathered during lunch to discuss our Regional Council specifically. We look forward to continuing the conversation at our Regional Council Executive and beyond.

### **Incorporated Ministry:**

Questions arose at the June Executive meeting regarding the role and responsibilities of the Executive with regard to Incorporated Ministry, specifically the Executives role as it relates to oversight. Considering this question and concern over the summer, I propose we

invite both Jody Maltby, Linda Grey, who provide primary administrative support and Nicole Treksler (legal Counsel) to future Executive meeting (ASAP). In the case of Jody and Nicole, to address questions with regard to the Incorporated Ministry policy/responsibilities on behalf of the United Church of Canada and in the case of Linda Grey, for an outline of her work and role, on behalf of Regional Councils.



**MINUTES** of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on October 9, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

**PRESENT:** Nancy Ferguson (Chair), Stewart Walker, Jim Jackson, Bill Jones, Gord Roberts, Susan Lindquist, Susan Peverley, Peter Haddow

**STAFF:** Peter Hartmans (Executive Minister), Susan Whitehead (Administrative Support), Diane Matheson-Jimenez (Staff Lead, CSRC and Minister of CoF Support), Jody Maltby (Minister of Finance, CSRC/SWRC and Staff Lead, SWRC)

**GUESTS:** Beverlea Renwick (Program Coordinator Duty of Care and Incorporated Ministries – GCO), Linda Gray (Program Assistant National Incorporated Ministries – GCO)

**REGRETS:** Dave LeGrand, Lionel Ketola, Gord Roberts

Chair Nancy welcomed everyone to the meeting of Executive.

Executive welcomed guests Beverlea Renwick and Linda Gray from the Incorporated Ministries department at the General Council Office. Executive did a quick introduction of themselves.

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

Peter welcomed Linda and Beverlea again to the meeting and observing a Thanksgiving theme, he highlighted that we have many gifts from within our ministry as Church and that we be mindful of all we are thankful for. He then led the team in an opening prayer.

## **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Peter Haddow      CS EXEC 2025-10-09-01**  
**That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as presented.**  
**CARRIED**

## **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Susan Peverley      CS EXEC 2025-10-09-02**  
**That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on September 4, 2025 be approved, as amended.**  
**CARRIED**

## **RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS**

**MOTION by Bill Jones/Susan Lindquist      CS EXEC 2025-10-09-03**  
**That the Minutes of the CSRC Pastoral Relations Commission from June 24, 2025 and July 15, 2025 Email Poll, the Minutes for the**

**Support to Communities of Faith Commission from June 18, 2025 and July 30, 2025 and the Minutes of the CSRC Property Commission from May 15, 2025 be received, for information.**  
**CARRIED**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence.

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES**

*Update Joint CS/SW Executive Meeting*

This is being addressed in the Executive Minister Report.

*Update on New Moderator Visit to CSRC*

Peter will ask the new Moderator to visit the CSRC at the 2026 Regional Council Meeting in June 2026.

**MOTION by Peter Hartman/Susan Lindquist CS EXEC 2025-10-09-04**  
**That the Canadian Sheild Regional Council Executive extend an invitation to the new Moderator of The United Church of Canada, the Right Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath, to attend the next in-person CSRC Regional Council Meeting on June 5-7, 2026 at the Quattro Hotel and Conference Centre in Sault Ste. Marie, ON.**  
**CARRIED**

## **ORDER OF THE DAY - INCORPORATED MINISTRIES CONVERSATION WITH BEVERLEA RENWICK AND LINDA GRAY**

The Chair welcomed Beverlea Renwick and Linda Gray to the meeting. Linda and Bev gave a presentation about National Incorporated Ministries that affect the CSRC.

Nancy thanked Beverlea, Linda, and Jody for joining the meeting today.

## **EQUITY WORK IN THE REGION**

Peter and other GC45 Commissioners shared their GC45 experiences around Equity and the leadership of Franklin James and Adele Halliday. They modelled equity and equity conversations in a really engaging way as an invitation around different leadership styles, listening styles, and sharing styles to help us be aware of different dynamics in the room, both socially and racially. Peter informed Executive that Adele has offered her services to both Executive and the Regional Council to continue to work at equity.

Stewart Walker shared that Torrin Maag (student Ministry Personnel) was an Equity Monitor at the last General Council and our region could use his experience in the Regional Council.

Peter Haddow shared that there were some neurodiverse people who had issues with the lights in the room and when those people asked for the spotlights to be turned off, the tec team granted their request/need to help make their experience at the meeting positive. He also inquired if when there are proposals from the Indigenous Church to our region, we could recognize them first in order to be intentional about reconciliation.

Chair Nancy shared that having one or two equity monitors at every in-person and online meeting of the Region would be invaluable for the full participation of the court. It was shared that we do have this already but that there is no mechanism for them to reflect back to the court what they are hearing or witnessing in real time. Diane shared it would be valuable to have time build into the agenda to have an equity monitor share just like we do with a theological reflector. This is now flagged for our planning of the next Regional Council Meeting.

### **CAUCUS CONVERSATIONS CONTINUED**

Diane Matheson-Jimenez shared that we have gathered feedback from the Commissions/Committees and Resource Teams and they have had conversations. The common theme seems to be they are having too much and not enough; too many churches don't have ministry personnel and not enough Pastoral Charge Supervisors to go around; there are too many communities of faith (CoF) that are not yet in formal covenantal relationship with the regional council and the Support to Communities of Faith Commission hasn't yet had a break to look at what that means and what is to be done about it. With this great feedback, what is the next logical step in the process?

Diane wondered if since 2026 is not a General Council year and we are meeting in-person in Sault Ste. Marie, would it perhaps be a good opportunity to meet at the Regional Council Meeting (RCM) in June 2026 and meet in table group time to do some deep-dives into what our hopes are and what are the concrete next-steps we can take to be working towards those hopes. Executive agrees with this concept and the Chair and staff will make plans for it at the next RCM.

### **GC45 SUMMARIES AND UPDATE ON SEPT. 13, 2025 MEETING**

Executive had the opportunity to review the GC45 summaries as well as the recall of GC45 on September 13, 2025. Peter shared that at that recall meeting, the CSRC proposal was reviewed (GS45 WF16 CS01: Full Inclusion and Pastoral Support for Individuals Assisting MAID Under Track 2) and it was passed with comments and edits after the discussion groups at GC45.

### **GCE UPDATE – DAVID LEYTON-BROWN, GCE MEMBER**

David shared the GCE update he wrote with the General Secretary, Michael Blair.

### **LAURIE STEVENSON LEAVING EXECUTIVE**

Nancy shared that Laurie Stevenson accepted a position as a Pastoral Support Minister serving Antler Watershed, Horseshoe Falls, and Western Ontario Waterways Regional Councils and will be leaving Executive. Nancy thanks her for her time and dedication and Executive wishes her well.

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

Peter shared the Executive Minister Report with Executive.

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Peter Haddow      CS EXEC 2025-10-09-05**  
**That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive receive the**  
**Executive Minister Report.**  
**CARRIED**

## **NEW BUSINESS**

The Nominations Committee will now need an Executive Representative to Nominations from this team.

**MOTION by Bill Jones/Peter Haddow                      CS EXEC 2025-10-09-06**  
**That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive elect Susan**  
**Peverley to serve on the Canadian Shield Nominations Committee as**  
**the Executive representative.**  
**CARRIED**  
**1 Abstention – Susan Peverley**

### *Clergy Celebration Month and Blessing*

Diane shared that October is Clergy celebration month. On behalf of all lay folks, Diane would like to extend gratitude to not only those who pastor congregations but also to those who Chair Commissions and Committees and Regional Councils and those that serve as Executive Minister of Regional Councils. She asked that the team lay virtual hands on those in our circle who are called to serve the church in pastoral ministry.

Diane gave a blessing from Nadia Bolz-Weber called “A Blessing for a Pastor’s Heart.”

## **NEXT MEETING DATES:**

Thursday, November 6, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. via Zoom

**Joint Executive Meeting** - Thursday, December 4, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom

## **CLOSING**

Chair Nancy adjourned the meeting at 3:40 p.m.

## **Executive Minister Report - Canadian Shield Regional Council October 2025**

### **GC 45:**

The GC45 in-person meeting in Calgary in August had many successes. The meeting continued into September and our CSRC proposal was considered in at that online recall of GC45. I am grateful for the leadership of all our Commissioners. The meeting days were long with very full agendas. For a summary of our Canadian Shield Regional Council Proposal along with other GC Proposals please see below link:

<https://generalcouncil.ca/news/gc45-recall-meeting-sept-13-2025>

The CSRC Commissioners will meeting in the next week to plan a townhall meeting for October 16, 7:00 -8:30 p.m., to discuss GC45 and answer questions.

Our new Moderator Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath. See link a 3-minute video introduction:

<https://www.youtube.com/@unitedchurchcda>

### **Toward 2035:**

The Funding for Towards 2035 was passed a General Council. The following proposal was passed:

#### *GC45 WF33: GCE04 Funding Strategic Growth Initiatives for Summer 2025*

Most groups supported this proposal, naming the priority of pursuing growth in a variety of expressions, including creating new ministries and renewing and strengthening existing communities of faith. Some groups were curious about how to ensure that this work does not only occur in some parts of the country but is present in all Regional Councils. Other groups name the importance of ongoing reporting. This reporting already occurs in the annual strategic plan reporting and in the General Secretary's reporting to the General Council Executive. As in other proposals about allocating resources, participants name the continuing value of global partnership in our Mission and Service giving. Therefore, the Way Forward Team proposes:

- That, in response to GCE04 Funding Strategic Growth Initiatives, the 45th General Council, 2025 Authorize 10% of Mission & Service givings over the course of the 2025-2028 triennium as follows - 5% in 2026, 7.5% in 2027 and 10% by 2028 - be earmarked for new, renewing and emerging ministries, and
- direct the General Secretary to develop and communicate the criteria and process for how the funds will be expended, and direct the General Secretary that implementation should:
  - include initiatives from all three streams of the growth initiative – renew, create, invite;
  - consider setting proportional targets for diverse intercultural ministry expressions;
  - consider accessibility and engagement by rural, remote and other communities;
  - Prioritize First Third Ministry;

- Consider equity across Regional Councils; and,
- invite Regional Councils to identify resources within their bounds (e.g., revenues from property, sales or bequests) which they can use to contribute to regional initiatives.

The United Church of Canada is currently working on an update for its strategic plan called Towards 2035 to be circulated. In the near future, a completed version of a Congregational tool kit will be shared with Communities of Faith. We completed a joint Townhall Meeting for the evening of June 17, to present and get feedback for the material. The townhall meeting was very well attended. In addition, following General Council in Calgary, the UCC hosted a special meeting of key leaders from across the UCC to continue the conversation around the Towards 2035 conversation. SWRC and CSRC folks gathered during lunch to discuss our Regional Councils specifically. We look forward to continuing the conversation at our Regional Council Executive with a special joint meeting of our Executives (SWRC and CSRC) in December of 2025, with additional conversations at the Commission level.

#### **Staff Update:**

I wanted to share upcoming retirements: Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, Senior Governance Support Lead and my direct supervisor, will retire Spring 2026 and Alan Hall, Executive Minister for Shared Services will retire December 2025. I have been approved for a Sabbatical in advance of C-S's retirement, January 2026 - March 2026. Jody Malby and Diane Matheson-Jimenez will provide coverage. Diane has been approved for a Sabbatical for Summer 2026 and Jody and I will cover.

#### **Incorporated Ministry:**

Questions arose at the June Executive meeting regarding the role and responsibilities of the Executive with regard to Incorporated Ministry, specifically the Executives' role as it relates to oversight. I have invited Jody Maltby, Linda Gray, and Bev Renwick, who provide primary support to Incorporated Ministries within The UCC. We will introduce Bev and Linda, who will make a presentation regarding our role and the role of The UCC, as it relates to Incorporated Ministry. In the case of Jody, she will be able to address questions with regards to the Incorporated Ministry policy/responsibilities on behalf of the Regional Council.

#### **Huntington University:**

As Huntington University asked for a pause in our conversation about our relationship and partnership with Huntington University until fall, we look forward to continuing the conversation. Barb Nott and myself have been invited to the October convocation at Huntington on Thursday, October 23, 2025. Honorary Doctorate's recipients include distinguished community leaders from Greater Sudbury: Mr. Ralph McIntosh, Mrs. Judith Straughan, Ms. Mary Elizabeth Warwick, and Mr. Daniel Xilon. I will not attend as the Convocation conflicts with the Shining Waters Regional Meeting. However, Barb Nott will represent the Canadian Shield Regional Council.

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**MINUTES** of the Executive of Canadian Shield Regional Council held on November 6, 2025 at 1:00 p.m. online via Zoom.

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

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

**GUEST:** Jody Maltby (Finance Committee Staff Resource)

**REGRETS:** Peter Hartmans (Executive Minister), 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. She welcomed Jody Maltby to the meeting, as she will share a financial report with the team.

Diane shared an opening worship talking about the “dash” between our birth and death and what sort of dashes we experience in our lives. She then led in an opening prayer.

### **CHECK IN**

Executive did a brief check-in since the last time we met and shared a “dash” moment that has happened in the last week for them.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Gordon Roberts CS EXEC 2025-11-06-01**  
That the agenda for the meeting be approved, as presented.  
**CARRIED**

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MOTION by Peter Haddow/Susan Peverley CS EXEC 2025-11-06-02**  
That the Minutes of the meeting of the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive held on October 9, 2025 be approved, as presented.  
**CARRIED**

### **RECEIVE MINUTES FROM COMMISSIONS**

**MOTION by Peter Haddow/Stewart Walker CS EXEC 2025-11-06-03**  
That the Minutes for the Support to Communities of Faith Commission from September 17, 2025 and the Minutes of the CSRC Property Commission from September 29, 2025 be received, for information.  
**CARRIED**

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

*Email from Lionel Ketola Re: Leaving Executive*

Nancy shared Lionel's email and noted that it can be very difficult to coordinate time for extra involvement when one is balancing multiple part-time ministries. Nancy sent a letter on the Executive's behalf, thanking him for his time on Executive.

**MOTION by Bill Jones/Jim Jackson                      CS EXEC 2025-11-06-04**  
**That the CSRC Executive receive Lionel Ketola's resignation email**  
**correspondence, with regret.**  
**CARRIED**

## **BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE LAST MINUTES**

*Moderator's Visit to CSRC*

Diane shared that our new Moderator, the Right Reverend Dr. Kimberly Heath, will be joining us for our in-person 2026 CS Regional Council Meeting (RCM) in Sault Ste. Marie in June 2026. Moderator Kimberly may be able to join Ministry Personnel at the retreat before the RCM; staff will coordinate with her admin and will keep us updated.

## **FINANCIAL UPDATE – JODY MALTBY**

Jody Maltby shared the 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financial Statements for the region. Jody will circulate the statements to Executive.

**MOTION by Bill Jones/Susan Peverley                      CS EXEC 2025-11-06-05**  
**That the CSRC Executive receive, for information, the year-to-date**  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter Financial Statements.**  
**CARRIED**

## **PLANNING FOR THE JOINT EXECUTIVES MEETING – DECEMBER 4, 2025**

Peter will meet with the President of SW and Chair Nancy to plan the joint portions of the meeting. Some possible topics suggested by Executive were:

- Sharing of supervision of CoFs across the boundaries of both regions;
- Towards 2035;
- Property Commission Policy glitches to share with SW – are they having the same issues, etc.;
- Roadblocks to amalgamations;
- How to talk about change to buildings when the main space is called a sanctuary; and,
- Festival of Faith – stay joint between both regions; to continue the event, etc.

## **FUTURING: FESTIVAL OF FAITH**

Executive discussed the future of the Festival of Faith, including considering whether it will be a joint event again with SWRC and where a possible location will be. Executive decided to discuss it at the Joint Executive Meeting with SWRC in December.

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

Diane shared the Executive Minister Report with Executive.

**MOTION by Jim Jackson/Bill Jones                      CS EXEC 2025-11-06-06**  
**That the Canadian Shield Regional Council Executive receive the**  
**Executive Minister Report.**  
**CARRIED**

**NEW BUSINESS**

*Property Commission Policy Review*

The Chair of the Property Commission, Gordon Roberts, named a gap in the current property policies of Canadian Shield Regional Council. After extensive discussion, Executive advised Gordon to go back to the Property Commission and draft an addition to the current property policy that extends to churches that have sold their church property and intend to continue as a worshipping community.

**NEXT MEETING DATE:**

**Joint Executive Meeting** - Thursday, December 4, 2025 at 10:00 a.m. via Zoom

**CLOSING**

Nancy shared a reading by Rumi, gave a closing prayer and adjourned the meeting at 3:03 p.m.

## **Executive Minister Report - Canadian Shield Regional Council November 2025**

### **General Council Commissioners Town Hall Meeting October 5, 2025:**

About 33 people attended the town hall meeting focusing on the work of the August 2025 General Council meeting. We reviewed a number of key elements of General Council including assessment formula for the next three years (<https://generalcouncil.ca/document/gc45-wf24b-gce05-assessment-funding-rate-2026-2028-summer-2025>), our CSRC proposal focusing MAID, and Bill Jones offered an excellent summary of the 2035 material. The Commissioners spoke about their experiences and we had a period of Q and A. Susan Whitehead attended the town hall to offer tech support. I am grateful to Susan and our Commissioners for an excellent presentation.

### **Toward 2035:**

The funding for Towards 2035 was passed at General Council. The following proposal was passed:

#### ***GC45 WF33: GCE04 Funding Strategic Growth Initiatives for Summer 2025***

Most groups supported this proposal, naming the priority of pursuing growth in a variety of expressions, including creating new ministries and renewing and strengthening existing communities of faith. Some groups were curious about how to ensure that this work does not only occur in some parts of the country, but is present in all Regional Councils. Other groups name the importance of ongoing reporting. This reporting already occurs in the annual strategic plan reporting and in the General Secretary's reporting to the General Council Executive. As in other proposals about allocating resources, participants name the continuing value of global partnership in our Mission and Service giving. Therefore, the Way Forward Team proposes that, in response to GCE04 Funding Strategic Growth Initiatives, the 45th General Council 2025:

- Authorize 10% of Mission & Service givings over the course of the 2025-2028 triennium as follows - 5% in 2026, 7.5% in 2027 and 10% by 2028 - be earmarked for new, renewing and emerging ministries;
- direct the General Secretary to develop and communicate the criteria and process for how the funds will be expended, and
- direct the General Secretary that implementation should:
  - include initiatives from all three streams of the growth initiative – renew, create, invite;
  - consider setting proportional targets for diverse intercultural ministry expressions;
  - consider accessibility and engagement by rural, remote and other communities;
  - Prioritize First Third Ministry (people in the first 1/3 of life – ages up to 30);
  - Consider equity across Regional Councils; and,
  - invite Regional Councils to identify resources within their bounds (e.g., revenues from property, sales or bequests) which they can use to contribute to regional initiatives.

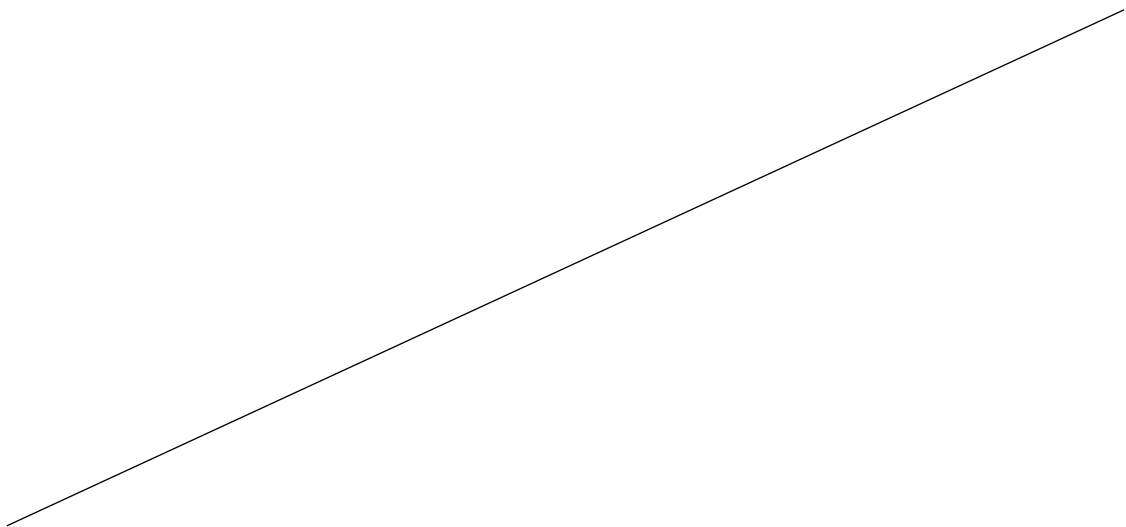
The United Church of Canada is currently working on an update for its strategic plan called Towards 2035, to be circulated. A completed version of a Congregational Tool Kit will be shared with communities of faith in the near future. We completed a joint Townhall Meeting on June 17, 2025 to present and get feedback for the material. The townhall meeting was very well attended. In addition, following General Council in Calgary, The UCC hosted a special meeting of key leaders from across The UCC to continue the conversation around the Towards 2035. SWRC and CSRC folks gathered during lunch to discuss our Regional Council specifically. We look forward to continuing the conversation at our Joint Regional Council Executive meeting with Canadian Shield in December of 2025. This joint meeting will be longer than normal, starting at 10:00 a.m.

**Staff Update:**

I wanted to share upcoming retirements: Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, Senior Governance Support Lead and my direct supervisor, will retire Spring 2026; Alan Hall, Executive Minister for Shared Services, will retire in December 2025. I have been approved for a Sabbatical in advance of Cheryl-Ann's retirement, from January to March 2026. Jody Malby and Diane Matheson-Jimenez will provide coverage as Acting Executive Minister. Diane has been approved for a Sabbatical for the summer 2026 and Jody and I will cover for her.

**Huntington University:**

We will begin our conversation with Huntington University this fall. Barb Nott attended the October convocation at Huntington on Thursday October 23, 2025. Honorary Doctorate's recipients include distinguished community leaders from Greater Sudbury Mr. Ralph McIntosh, Mrs. Judith Straughan, Ms. Mary Elizabeth Warwick and Mr. Daniel Xilon. I did not attend as the Convocation conflicted with the Shining Waters Regional Council Meeting. However, Barb Nott represented the Canadian Shield Regional Council. With Convocation complete and SW RCM finished, I will reach out to Huntington to continue our conversation.



**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.

