

Formation, Nurture and Justice Team

POLICY NAME: Formation, Nurture and Justice Team	Date Approved: March 27, 2019
	Review date:
Purpose: To provide the terms of reference for the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team.	

Purpose

The Formation, Nurture and Justice Team of the East Central Ontario Regional Council shall, with other Teams, help the East Central Ontario Regional Council meet its responsibilities as outlined in The Manual C.2.

The Formation, Nurture and Justice Team shall operate under the guiding principle that all work will be informed and aligned with the East Central Ontario Regional Council mission priorities established annually, as well the ongoing priorities for youth ministry, intercultural and affirming ministries.

Membership

The Formation, Nurture and Justice Team shall consist of at least 8 members composed of:

- one member of the Assembly of Elders as appointed by the Assembly of Elders;
- five members of communities of faith and/or local clusters and networks, elected by the East Central Ontario Regional Council;
- at least one youth representative, preferably named by the Regional Council Youth Executive; and
- at least one United Church Women (UCW) representative, preferably named by the UCW.

The ECORC Minister for Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationships and Justice with All Ages, as well as the ECORC Minister for Respectful Relationship and Indigenous Justice are Corresponding Members and Staff Resource to the Team.

Meetings

The Formation, Nurture and Justice Team shall convene every other month and/or as required. The meetings may be in person, telephone conference call or web-based, or a combination thereof, recognizing the value of in-person meetings from time to time.

Duties

This Team will oversee the work outlined below, either as a Team, or by establishing sub-committees as needed.

General work shall include:

- i. promoting joining our collective hearts, voices and resources to witness to the gospel and vision of Jesus for a compassionate and just society, both in Canada and around the world;

- ii. promoting local, regional, national and global initiatives and partnerships (community, ecumenical, and interfaith) for ministry, mission and justice work;
- iii. ministry with people of all ages;
- iv. honouring and living into intercultural mission and ministry; and
- v. living in covenant with Mother Earth and All My Relations in the Earth community.

Supporting the East Central Ontario Regional Council Youth Executive by:

- i. organizing leadership, with and including youth leadership, to create an agenda for youth presence at annual meetings of the East Central Ontario Regional Council;
- ii. organizing leadership, with and including youth leadership, of any other youth gatherings deemed necessary by the Youth Executive of East Central Ontario Regional Council; and
- iii. supporting the work of the Youth Executive as needed.

Supporting work for right relations by:

- i. committing to on-going conversation and action toward living into right relations as treaty people; and
- ii. committing to explore new and on-going ways to be in relationship with local First Nations communities.

Supporting the work of clusters and networks by:

- i. promoting events and missions on the East Central Ontario Regional Council website;
- ii. maintaining lists and contact information for clusters and networks within the ECORC's bounds; and
- iii. providing communications support for meetings in special circumstances.

Participation in Denominational Life, by

- i. promoting and fostering direct dialogue between Communities of Faith and the General Council;
- ii. providing ongoing leadership training for ministry personnel and lay people; and
- iii. encouraging life-long learning.

Glossary of Terms

Intercultural

Within the United Church, a variety of cultural expressions of faith are affirmed and welcomed. Part of the vision of the intercultural church is to create a space where we can sustain our own cultural identities while also affirming those of one another.

Affirming

Affirm United/S'affirmer Ensemble works for the full inclusion of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities in the United Church of Canada and in society. The Affirming Ministries Program is a network of United Church of Canada congregations and ministries that declare themselves to be fully inclusive of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. And it asks each Ministry to take action.

Equity

to come (from Rev. Dr. Sharon Ballantyne)