
East Central Ontario Regional Council
Meeting of the Assembly of Elders
Friday, February 7, 2020 – 9:00 a.m.

Vision of the Assembly of Elders by which we evaluate progress based on:

- Supporting and enhancing the life of Communities of Faith where ministry takes place
- Nurturing Social Justice and Outreach programs
- Building Communications

IN ATTENDANCE

Rev. Paul Reed	Chair
Rev. Jean Wilson	Past-Chair
Nancy Sutherland	Member
Marilyn Fortin	Member
Rev. Ryan McNally	Member
Steve Coles	Member
Ted Meyers	Member
Rev. Steve Spicer	Member
Rev. Phil Wilson	Member
Shannon Marsellus	Member
Brian James	Corresponding Member - Financial Administration
Louise Slobodian	Corresponding Member - Communications and Administration Assistant
Sharon Hull	Corresponding Member - Minister for Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationship and Justice for all Ages
Rev. David Timpson	Corresponding Member, Pastoral Relations Minister
Rev. Rosemary Lambie	Member, Executive Minister
Joel Miller	Corresponding Member, Program Assistant to Executive Minister, Recording Secretary

REGRETS/ABSENT

Rev. Rodney Smith-Merkley	Corresponding Member - Minister for Respectful Relationship and Indigenous Justice
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Opening Devotions and Recognize the Land – Jean Wilson led opening devotions with a small reflection on how we use our words. Closed devotion time with a prayer.

Acknowledgment of the Land – Paul reminded us that we are on indigenous land and thanked indigenous peoples for the stewardship of the land, and encouraged us to join in this stewardship; and today in particular, as the pipeline project in BC will go ahead despite protests across the country.

Circle Time of Sharing – All were invited to share.

Appointment of Equity Monitor for this Meeting – Phil Wilson

Agenda

2020-02-07-012 MOTION (J. Wilson/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

Minutes of January 10, 2020

2020-02-07-013 MOTION (S. Coles/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the Minutes of January 7, 2020 as circulated. **Carried**

Correspondence:

- a) January 27, 2020 Rev. Patti Evans, conflict resolution facilitator assigned to Emmanuel United Church, Peterborough re concerns for ministry personnel (*for action III c*)
- b) January 28, 2020 John Kiemele, Brooklin United Church Council Chairperson re sabbatical plans and request for Rev. Anne Meredith (*for action III e*)
- c) January 29, 2020 Rev. David Timpson received a request from Rev Patti Armstrong and the Congregation of Mark St United Church, for the East central Ontario Regional Council to accept the end of the pastoral relationship between them effective Jan 30th 2020. (*for action III c*)
- d) February 5, 2020 Lynda Allair, Chair, Millbrook-Cavan UC Board re Combining two separate cemetery properties into one property under ownership of the “Gardiner Cemetery Millbrook” and Incorporating cemetery holdings under “Gardiner Cemetery Millbrook” (*for information pending response of General Council*)
- e) February 6, 2020 Diana Hacker, GCO Church in Mission re Application for mission grant money which needs to be in compliance with CRA: a written agreement is required with ECORC and UNJPPI? (*for action*). – see template of written agreement as **appendix A**

Business arising

Building Communications

I. Communications - Louise

- Website, newsletter – 680 people who get the newsletter, 50% open rate; LLWLs have a meeting coming up, looking to create a sign-up sheet so that a list can be created and circulated. Creating a public directory on the website that can be administered by the LLWL Forum; suggestion to also create a separate list (pulpit supply list) of retired supply and other ministry personnel that may be available. Suggested to use LLWL Presbytery lists to get started, David Timpson will confirm who LLWL are using said Presbytery lists; An Association of Ministers has asked for page on the website and Louise will help. Sydenham Street U.C. has responded re hosting Fall meeting, there needs to be a liaisons, and a list needs to be created for any potential host church that list requirements. Broadview (work in progress insert – see **appendix B**) – it was suggested that (in order to avoid extra costs) that pdf be included on website and congregations encouraged to post on their own bulletin boards. There has been a request from the Equity Leadership Team to place the Affirm logo onto every page of website, newsletter, correspondence.

2020-02-07-014 MOTION (S. Coles/ R. McNally) that The East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders agrees to include the Affirm logo on webpages, newsletter and correspondence.
Carried

Discussion: Exactly how the logo will be used still needs to be determined; Louise will look into how other RC are including logo, and further conversation with Affirm (seeking guidance) can be had.

II. RC Meeting

- Pickering Village United Church (300 Church Street, Ajax) – Paul has spoken with Pickering and folks are looking forward and preparing to receive the Regional Council Meeting. Facilitation Team will meet next week to prepare.
- Set up Friday May 22
- Formal meeting Saturday May 23 and Sunday May 24
- Planning team: local arrangements: space required, meals & refreshments, worship, content for agenda, recommended accommodations

III. Covenanting Support Team

- a) Team progress report – Assembly of Elder representatives – Meets on a by-monthly basis, have not met since last Assembly of Elders meeting. Next meeting to take place in early March. Work continues. Question: what is unfolding regarding Ordination (how are Ordinands being informed – this is something the Facilitation Team will look at)? Answer: Karen Valley (Office of Vocation) can provide more information; i.e. a complete list of Ordinands. It was suggested that reports come from the Office from Vocation Minister. Paul will initiate conversation about getting more information on a regular basis. It was mentioned that March 15th was the timeline to receive names in order to prepare for Ordination Service. Question: What do congregations do to find people to help with pastoral care needs? Answer: It was suggested that a resource be created to help provide names. In the city of Kingston, there could be up to 10 pastoral charges declaring vacancies over the next 12 months.
- b) Report from Supporting Staff member
- c) Changes:

1. Mark St United Church Peterborough

2020-02-07-015 MOTION (S. Coles/S. Spicer) that The East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accepts the request of Rev. Patti Armstrong and the Mark Street United Church Peterborough to end the pastoral relationship between them Feb. 1st 2020, all the terms of the legal agreement having been executed. **Carried**

2. Amalgamation: Fairview and Greenwood United Churches

2020-02-07-016 MOTION (P. Wilson/T. Meyers) that The East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders having received the request of Fairview and Greenwood United Churches to amalgamate which is supported by the unanimous consent of both congregations, as voted in recent congregational meetings, approves the amalgamation of Fairview United Church and Greenwood United church both in Peterborough. The new entity being Greenwood United Church. Effective Feb 7th 2020. **Carried**

3. New Liaisons

2020-02-07-017 MOTION (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) that The East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoints Kathleen Whyte of Peterborough and Rev Richard Hamilton, Westminister Belleville to be Liaison Officers within the East Central Ontario Regional Council. **Carried**

- b) Items from Liaison Forum (Pastoral Relations)

Trinity Providence Pastoral Charge Bobcaygeon, ON

2020-02-07-018 MOTION (J. Wilson/S. Coles) that having received the properly completed form on Church Hub the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Call of Rev. Andrew MacPherson, Ordained Minister to Trinity Providence Pastoral Charge, Bobcaygeon, Ontario full time from 01/07/2020. **Carried**

Eldad-Hampton Pastoral Charge

2020-02-07-019 MOTION (S. Coles/S. Spicer) That having received the properly completed form on Church Hub , the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. James Feairs, Retired supply Ordained Minister, to the Eldad- Hampton pastoral charge, Hampton, Ontario, Part Time 24 Hours per Week supply ministry from 01/03/2020 to 06/30/2020. **Carried**

Wooler United Church

2020-02-07-020 MOTION (T. Meyers/P. Wilson) that upon Receipt of the properly completed form on Church Hub, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev Kathy Edmison, Ordained Minister, to Wooler United Church Pastoral Charge, Northumberland, Ontario, Part Time 20 hours per week ministry from 01/01/2020 to 30/06/2020. **Carried**

St Marks, Whitby

2020-02-07-021 MOTION (S. Marsellus/P. Wilson) that Upon Receipt of the properly completed form on Church Hub, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev Patti Armstrong, Ordained Minister, to St Mark's Whitby Pastoral Charge, Whitby, Ontario, Full Time ministry from 03/01/2020 to 30/06/2020. **Carried**

Trinity United Church, Omemee Ontario

2020-02-07-XXX MOTION (/) that upon receipt of the properly completed form, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Rev. Don Green, Retired supply Ordained Minister, to Trinity Omemee United church, Omemee Ontario, Part Time 20 Hours per Week ministry from 07/01/2020 to 30/06/2021.

Discussion: direct this back to Liaisons.

2020-02-07-021 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders table the above motion definitely to the next meeting of the Assembly of Elders. **Carried**

Provisional Call: Greenbank Seagrave Pastoral charge

2020-02-07-022 MOTION (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) that upon Receipt of the properly completed form, On Church Hub, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the provisional call of Stephanie Richmond, to Ordained Ministry, to Greenbank Seagrave Pastoral Charge, Ontario, Full Time ministry from date of ordination service (May 24th 2020). **Carried**

c) Sabbatical

2020-02-07-023 MOTION (S. Coles/N. Sutherland) that having received the request of Brooklin United Church Council re sabbatical plans for Rev. Anne Meredith, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the plan a three-month sabbatical attached to one month of summer vacation. The dates are July 21, 2020 to November 9, 2020. (This is after Vacation Bible Camp and before Advent).

d) Conflict resolution facilitator assigned to Emmanuel United Church

2020-02-07-024 MOTION (S. Coles/S. Spicer) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received the report from Rev. Patti Evans, conflict resolution facilitator assigned to Emmanuel United Church, refer said report to the Office of Vocations Remedial Committee for action, and request a response as to what that action will be, so that the Regional Council can support the congregation during said action. **Carried**

- e) LLWL – there is a request for remuneration for two secretaries (\$700 per year) for record keeping and flow of information around the list for the LLWL Forum and the Liaisons Forum.

Discussion: The Covenant Support team will report back (i.e suggested job descriptions). Currently there is nothing in the 2020 budget for remuneration. Next budget is set in November 2020.

IV. Mission through Property and Finance

- a) Potential Sale for Orono UC: there is an offer and paperwork is pending for our approval. Has Covenant support team completed its work (as per motion on December 6th)?

2019-12-06-243 MOTION (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that the Assembly of Elders of the East Central Ontario Regional Council gives its consent to the listing of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is 105 Church St N Plan CG Hanning Blk M Lot 3 Clarington Municipality and 111 Church St N Plan CG Hanning Blk M Lot 1& 2 Clarington Municipality, both properties in Orono, Ontario L0B 1M0. Said property to be list with Royal LePage Real Estate, agency Liz Rankin with an asking price of \$1,090,000. Carried

- b) Highland Hills UC:

2020-02-07-025 MOTION (T. Meyers/S. Coles) that having received the request of Highland Hills United Church re begin a project involving the purchase and installation of an elevator type lift to provide accessible access to three levels of the church building. This access would meet the current mobility needs of the congregation as well as the requirements of the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act 2005 before the compliance deadline of 2025.

The initial approval is the expenditure of up to \$2000 for the concept design and drawings, money to be drawn from the restricted capital funds from the sale of 12 Mile Lake church building (2009) and/or from the anticipated sale of Zion United church building; (Current 12 Mile Lake Capital Fund stands at \$117,000.). **Carried**

- c) Deseronto: The Deseronto UC part of the Deseronto/Napanee PC would like to speak to someone who can advise them on selling their church building. What is the role of Covenant Support (i.e., have discussion re amalgamation taken place between Deseronto UC and Grace UC?) – Covenant Support Team will send someone to engage in conversation.

Discussion: How can regional Council help to prepare/ help congregations begin conversation of closing, amalgamating, etc? Through Covenant Support Team? Through Philanthropy Unit (Trisha Elliott)?

- d) St James (Peterborough) UC Renovations: sanctuary renovations were approved in principal for creating a revenue generating space for theatre productions. More details pending.
- e) Princess St. UC – There will be follow up on investments and the accuracy of the article
- f) Funding assistance: Employment Services Development Canada (ESDC), the Trillium Foundation if building is being used for non-church activities, The John Patterson Foundation, Jim Patterson through the Toronto United Church Council, the Rick Hanson Foundation... we are gathering information to share sources beyond the UCC and posted these and other grants on the RC website.
- g) Paperwork is in the process to have CRA change the name from Bay of Quinte, and we hope to know that all former funds have been transferred.

V. Governance – nothing new at this time

Nurturing Social Justice and Outreach programs
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VI. Formation Nurture and Justice

- a) Team Progress report – Assembly of Elder representatives – have not met since last Assembly of Elders meeting; meeting again at end of February.

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- b) Report from Supporting Staff Members - Report of the Minister for Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationship and Justice for all Ages – See **appendix C** – March 21st workshop; Rendezvous (offer of bus trip to Calgary); EL Salvador Trip had information session and expression of interest form has been created; VIBE vacation bible school in Lindsey have questions regarding funding: Presbytery gave \$10,000 and \$7,000, for 2019 and are asking if they can keep funds to use this year to pay wages for 2020.

2020-02-07-026 MOTION (S. Coles/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders confirm that VIBE be allowed to retain the remaining funds that came from Presbyteries in 2019, to pay for costs in 2020 while waiting for grant money expected at the end of the summer. **Carried**

Equity Leadership Team – will provide Facilitation Team with equity suggestions for general meetings in Spring and Fall.

Affirm – Bruce Hutchinson will bring information to next Assembly of Elders and lead worship

- c) Truth and Reconciliation Report – Report of the Minister for Respectful Relationship and Indigenous Justice – See **appendix D**
- d) Mission Priority Grants
2020-02-07-027 MOTION (S. Coles/T. Meyers) That in order to process the approved grant **2019-12-06-252 MOTION** (M. Fortin/J. Wilson) *That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the Doing Mission Together grant to Walking Together, Sharing the Information, Advocating for Palestinian Farmers for \$5,000.00. Carried*, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders agrees to written one-time agreement with UNJPPI (see written agreement as **Appendix E**) **Carried**

VII. Additional Reports

a) Nominations

2020-02-07-028 MOTION (P. Wilson/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders affirms the recommendations of the Nominations Team that Nancy Payne and Patricia Tesky be appointed to the Visioning team. **Carried**

Discussion: Paul Reed will work with Nominations Team as representative from the Assembly of Elders.

b) Equity Report – see **appendix C**

VIII. New Business:

- a) Further conversation about what decisions the Teams should be able to make (i.e. Nominations, Pastoral Relations, etc.) Look more in depth at how the term Regional Council is defined. It would be helpful to have the Team indicate what they would be comfortable with making decisions on, and when should it come to Assembly of Elders? Encourage receiving reports from Leadership Team
- b) Teams make presentations by Zoom once or twice a year to all interested members of the Regional Council.

Opening worship for next meeting – Bruce Hutchinson, Affirm

Adjournment

The Chair declared the meeting adjourned at 12:27p.m.

Closing Prayer – David Timpson

Equity Monitor Report – smooth meeting, nothing more to report.

Next Meeting Dates: Thursday March 12, 2020 10 am – 2 pm at TBA (Kingston)?
Friday April 3, 2020 9 am- 12 ZOOM
Friday May 8, 2020 9am-12 ZOOM
Friday May 22 – Sunday May 24 RC meeting Pickering Village UC, Ajax

Rev. Jean Wilson
Interim Speaker

Rev. Rosemary Lambie,
Executive Minister

Appendices

Appendix A	Template of Funding agreement	Page 21
Appendix B	ECORC Broadway Insert	Pages 22-29
Appendix C	ECORC one-time funding agreement with UNJPPI	Pages 30-31
Appendix D	Report from Minister for Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationship and Justice for all Ages	Pages 32
Appendix E	Report from Minister for Respectful Relationship and Indigenous Justice	Pages 33

The United Church of Canada
L'Église Unie du Canada

East Central Ontario Regional Council
Meeting of the Assembly of Elders

February 7, 2020
Zoom teleconferencing

Appendix A

FUNDING AGREEMENT
Between
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
And
NAME OF PARTNER ORGANIZATION

For the year 2020

The United Church of Canada works with others to achieve this global vision of a just and equitable world.

Description of the program supported by The United Church of Canada:
Complete description

2020 Funding Commitment

Name Of Partner Organization

CAD\$xx, ,000.00

This program work fits within the following priorities established by the Executive of the General Council of The United Church of Canada:

- Nurturing faith
- Pastoral care and accompaniment
- Faithful leadership Development

These funds will be transferred according to the following schedule

FEBRUARY

CAD\$xx, ,000.00

In accepting these funds, at the end of the year, the Bahamas, Turks and Caicos Islands Conference agrees to report to The United Church of Canada, through the Church in Mission Unit, on how these funds are used to support the designation provided.

Signed for The United Church of Canada

Signed for the Name of the organization

Rev.

Name (please print)

Name (please print)

Position (please print)

Position (please print)

February 3, 2020

Date

Date

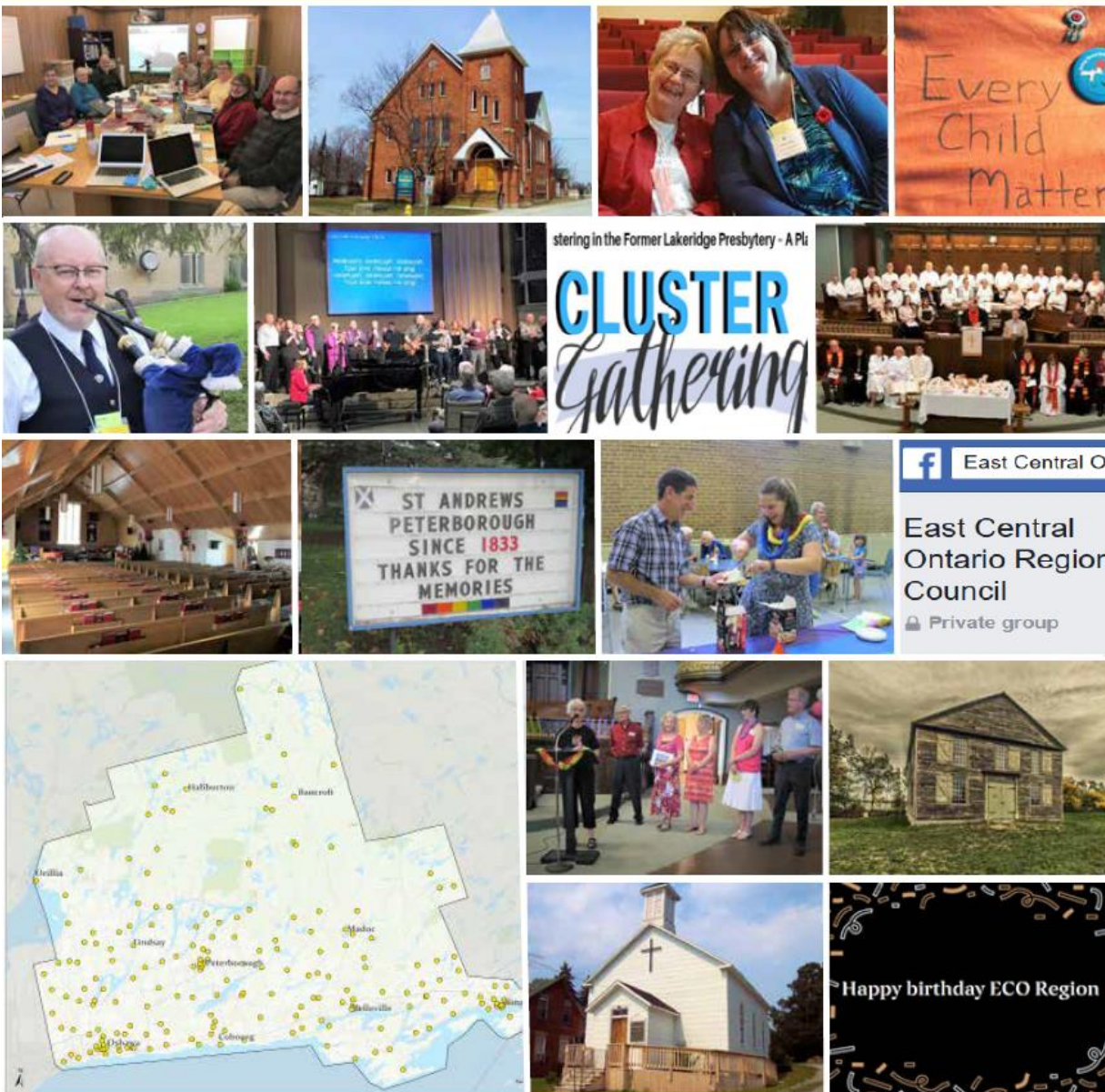
Appendix B



**East Central Ontario
Regional Council**
of the United Church of Canada

UPDATE

United Church Observer insert for the East Central Ontario Regional Council of the United Church of Canada



East Central Ontario Regional Council

The executive minister on reaching out

The Good News reaches us in many ways. Today the radio played the Amanda Marshall's song, "I Believe in You." It was almost like listening to a hymn as she sings "somewhere someone's reaching ..."

Friends, it has been a year of reaching for something – something new, something exciting, something different (though that wasn't the point) -- something that has the potential of being good news for all. We are finding ways of living faithfully in our changing church, with both new and familiar faces joining around our tables.

I have been blessed with passionate volunteers on the Transition Commission and Assembly of Elders and others who have begun stepping into leadership team roles. The changes have offered opportunity to engage staff who are focussed on helping you connect, learn, achieve goals and explore the realities and potential of your local ministries. I am gradually having opportunities to meet more of you, and see where "home" is for you and your ministry. I've been encouraged this past year as many of you are beginning to reach ... together? back? towards each other? ... knowing that we believe in a loving Creator who will give us the strength, courage and wisdom to move forward.

There have been, and will continue to be, challenges. One of the biggest for me is trying to be present. Anyone who has:

- parented multiple children (I have four),
- ministered to a multi-point charge (my settlement charge in 1982 had five churches),
- taught in a classroom with students of various abilities (I taught grades one to four before ministry), or
- supervised candidates or other staff (now I have 16 between three regional councils)

will know that each person needs attention and respect, and at times, more than those around them. The same is true for communities of faith... approximately 500 in my care. Given the size of the project and the stretch of the geography, I sincerely ask you to do the reaching out. Please, take the initiative. Feel free to communicate ideas, interests, questions, concerns or need for care. Know, in return, that the team providing leadership will endeavour to respond in a timely and respectful manner.

Reverend Rosemary Lambie is the senior staff and Executive Minister of the East Central Ontario Regional Council, as well as the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council and Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council.



Please complete the COMMUNITY OF FAITH SURVEY

This survey is intended to be a word "snapshot" of every community of faith within our Regional Council. Already 96 entries have been received -- *thank you!* That leaves about half to come. Elected reps please ensure your community is included.

www.ecorcuccan.ca/infosurvey



The United Church of Canada

I believe that we have turned a corner

The Speaker reflects on the Regional Council

We have entered into the second year of transition. I acknowledge that transition is not complete – but we have come a long way and I believe that we have turned a corner.

The Very Reverend Peter Short described our church as “rich in history and great in faith.” That has been accurate in the past year. We held the history of two conferences and seven presbyteries and the faith to journey into the unknown. I give thanks for the daring creativity of those who served on the Transition Commission. I give thanks to those who have taken the tentative steps of leadership in this new structure. I give thanks to those who, with patience, have asked the right questions. Slowly policies evolved, the ChurchHub became operational, the Office of Vocation and our Leadership Teams began to meet; it leaves me optimistic that as we enter this second year we may be less focused on structure and more on the mission and ministry to which we are called. Together we are the story keepers and story makers.

I am writing this seated alone in the dome car of the westbound VIA Train #1. It is the darkest hour of the night and, without cellphone connection, I don't know where I am. As the train curves the headlights illuminate the path ahead and I get glimpses of where we are going. In the same way, I have a glimpse of what our Regional Council is becoming. Planning has begun for our next face-to-face meeting May 22-24 at Pickering Village United Church in Ajax. I stress the *our* in that sentence. It is *our* work and we on the Assembly of Elders, the executive, hear from *our* communities of faith. I hope that we can find together the closeness, the camaraderie and the support of our former presbyteries; I hope we find the courage and capacity of the former conferences.

Between now and then the Nominations Team will be receiving expressions of interest to leadership roles, the Leadership Teams providing accountability reports and the Assembly of Elders holding the interests of the whole at heart. In this context of nominations that I honour Reverend D'Thea Webster who served on the Assembly of Elders until her untimely death this fall.

It has been and is a privilege to have been entrusted with this exciting work. It feels good to walk in hope and faith towards a vision that is always just a bit more. Rich in history, great in faith. Story Keeper, Story Maker.

Reverend Paul Reed is the Speaker of the East Central Ontario Regional Council's Assembly of Elders.



From top: Reverend Paul Reed; Stones youth decorated at the inaugural meeting; Spouses Maureen O'Neill and Reverend D'Thea Webster (right) who were killed in a car accident in the fall; fall meeting ruminations.



East Central Ontario Regional Council

This is your Regional Council

So much great stuff is going on and you'll want to read it all

Camp Quin Mo Lac

No

Young adult perspective

**Look for these
articles on our
website**

ecorcuccan.ca/broadview

East Central Ontario Regional Council

Indigenous Justice

Focus on Youth

ominations

United Church Women

The United Church of Canada

'the very real privilege of ... building a new way of being the United Church of Canada'

As I look back over the first year of the East Central Ontario Regional Council 2019 there are a few things that I would highlight. The year has been very busy and the development of policy and the governance structure has been important work. The committee structure has been developed and the committees are getting into the swing of the work. I am today working with some of the best constructed committees of my career. Our nominating committee is doing exceptionally good work. There are some great examples of cooperation that can be seen this year both between pastoral charges who are working together in new ways to attract clergy and in pastoral charges working closer with other entities to support ministry in new ways. Yet, we are faced today with the results of many years of declining membership. We today live in a time of change and the support of local congregations is, if anything, more complex as expenses raise. Of course the real answer is more membership. We have to find a way to change the way we talk about churches. Particularly where the struggle has taken centre stage. Too often it is our fear for the future that people see rather than a living faith.

I could share the real exhaustion of a fall in which my down time has been rather limited and the work has been all encompassing. OR, I can talk about the very

real privilege of being here on the ground building a new way of being the United Church of Canada in East Central Ontario Regional Council. I could speak about the deep faith of folks as they find their way into new relationships. About the all too real work of the new pastoral relations system which is, I am fully convinced, leading to better pastoral relationships. I can speak about a new freedom to gather in new ways as clusters and networks. Where, while we can not force others into action, we can invite people, find common ground, share resources and make new things happen. Think about the paragraph and tell me what is more attractive, more likely to draw people in: my exhaustion or my excitement?

I do see the strong church that we are building. It is no accident that each church is expected to spend time and energy in each year on the consideration of your ministry. The living faith story that is required for the HUB is an opportunity to speak and write about who you are, what you are doing and what you hope to accomplish. This is, at its best, an opportunity to do a similar shift in our thinking from maintenance to mission. It does not mean that the struggles will disappear but it does mean that we can find our way to build energy and look for the God-given opportunities that

are real and present in every community.

The last year has seen many changes and it can be hard to keep up. The policies of the Regional Council are on our website <https://ecorcuccan.ca> most are under the fall meeting info and materials button, and the policies of the national church are on the national site <https://www.united-church.ca> published in both, the manual, and many different handbooks. As a rule any document of the church with a date earlier than 2019 should be checked against the national website and the latest one should be downloaded. If you are dealing with a national United Church handbook that does not have a date it is out of date. The search button in the upper right corner of the screen on the national site is very helpful.

As I turn to the Year ahead 2020 I will be interested to see where the new possibilities of our new system will take us. For I am convinced that God is still at work in us.

*Reverend
David
Timpson is
the Pastoral
Relations
Minister
for the East
Central
Ontario
Regional
Council*



The United Church of Canada

How we communicate

Let us count the ways!

Communication has been one of the three priorities of the Regional Council in its first year. Strong effort is being made to ensure that information is shared in two directions and that everyone who is interested can stay informed and in touch.

**Website**
ecorcuccan.ca

Launched in the spring, the website is called East Central Ontario Regional Council or ecorcuccan.ca. All of the policies of the Regional Council are posted and there are pages for ministries and clusters. The meeting dates and minutes of the Assembly of Elders (executive) are also posted, as is news and contact information for staff. You are also welcome to post your own community of faith event on the website. That gives you a website link you can use to share and advertise.

Faith community
reps

Every community of faith is entitled to at least one elected representative on the Regional Council. They are the ones who attend the Regional Council fall and spring meetings, have a vote and have not only updates but context for what is emerging.

E-news

Currently 681 people receive the biweekly e-news. The news is particularly related to Regional Council business and includes some wider church updates. Anyone can sign up but those most urged to receive the e-news are Regional Council reps, those who create congregational bulletins and those interested in Regional Council goings on. You can subscribe on every page of the website (on the bottom right!)

Facebook

There is a private Facebook group for Regional Council members. If you wish to be part of the group, look for East Central Ontario Regional Council with Facebook and click on the Join button. About 200 people belong and share news.

Other social
media

The Regional Council has an Instagram and a Twitter account though they have been neglected of late. Expect activity to resume ere long.

Direct contact

You have phone numbers and email addresses for Regional Council staff and committees. You're welcome to use them.

Meetings

The Regional Council is scheduled to meet twice a year. In 2019 the inaugural meeting was held in Lindsay in May, followed by a business meeting in Belleville in November. Meetings for 2020 are scheduled for Ajax in May and Kingston for the fall. Clusters also meet and connect.

ECORC Executive Assembly of Elders

Speaker (Presiding Officer): Reverend Paul Reed • Norland

Treasurer: Brian James • Peterborough
Steve Coles • Bowmanville
Marilyn Fortin • Belleville
Shannon Marsellus • Whitby
Ted Meyers • Uxbridge
Nancy Sunderland • Peterborough
Reverend Ryan McNally • Cannifton
Reverend Stevan Spicer • Wellington
Reverend Jean Wilson • Castleton/
Grafton
Reverend Phil Wilson • Yarker

Corresponding members

Executive Minister Reverend Rosemary Lambie

Recording Secretary: Joel Miller (Program Assistant to the Executive Minister)
All ECORC staff

The East Central Ontario Regional Council of the United Church of Canada acknowledges that its buildings and ministries, from coast to coast to coast, are on traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples.



East Central Ontario Regional Council STAFF CONTACTS

Executive Minister

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Minister for the Office of Vocation

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Minister for Respectful Relationship and Indigenous Justice

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The United Church of Canada
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www.ecorcuccan.ca

Appendix C

**FUNDING AGREEMENT
Between
THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
And
UNJPPI**

For the year 2020

The United Church of Canada works with others to achieve this global vision of a just and equitable world.

Description of the program supported by The United Church of Canada:

Complete description

An invitation has been extended to and accepted by Fayez Taneeb and a family member, Palestinian Organic Farmers, to visit Canada on a speaking tour. Fayez will connect with congregations and farmers in 4 regions of Canada. He will visit Nova Scotia, Southern Ontario, Manitoba and British Columbia in June of 2020. This application is to cover the costs of the Ontario leg of the journey. The invitation was extended by former Ecumenical Accompaniers (EAs) from the United Church of Canada, Mission and Service sponsored World Council of Churches initiative and members of United Network for Justice and Peace in Palestine and Israel (UNJPPI). The Ecumenical Accompaniment Program in Palestine and Israel (EAPPI) was started in 2002, upon request from Jerusalem Christians wanting support to access worship. UNJPPI was formed in 2012 as a cross-country network of people connected to the United Church of Canada working for peace and justice in Palestine and Israel. The network has done much education around human rights issues. There are UNJPPI groups across Canada, including Toronto, who organize activities and educate regarding this issue. Each year there is a gathering of UNJPPI members, the location changes each year, to discuss and promote their goals.*

Fayez and his family member will speak to the connection to earth when he describes his methods of sustainable and organic agricultural. By doing so the connection to each other will be apparent: each participant will realize that he/she is not alone in their struggles. The program will include members of the First Nations communities so as to facilitate dialogue regarding the challenges of reconciliation and healing that both parties face. It is important in our United Church that we, "reach out to others so all the world can see." This proposal meets four of the Priorities identified in the annual meeting of the region: Truth and Reconciliation; Calls to Action, A Place at the Table: affirming, Racial justice, Rural Ministry, Care of Creation.

In each region, Fayez and his family member, will meet with and discuss his innovations in Organic Farming and Sustainable Food development. Of course, farming under the Occupation brings about its own challenges. He will tour farms, agricultural institutions and churches in order to educate others, as well as, learn from them through an exchange of ideas. The involvement of our First Nations is important in all regions as both parties share the fact of living under settler and colonial rule. Through the sharing of strategies and areas of learning, both parties will work towards a sense of reconciliation. In this way, the discussions participate in "God's work of healing and mending."

In the Ontario region, Fayez will be speaking to the Durham Region Organic Farmers Union. In process, confirmation from Curve Lake and Scugog Indigenous Communities as well as the Sustainable Farming departments of Guelph and Durham College. It is anticipated that an open invitation will be extended to the public at large.

The United Church of Canada
L'Église Unie du Canada

East Central Ontario Regional Council
Meeting of the Assembly of Elders

February 7, 2020
Zoom teleconferencing

2020 Funding Commitment

Name Of Partner Organization

CAD\$5,000.00

United Network for Justice and Peace in Palestine and Israel (UNJPPI).

This program work fits within the following priorities established by the Executive of the General Council of The United Church of Canada:

- Nurturing faith
- Pastoral care and accompaniment
- Faithful leadership Development

These funds will be transferred according to the following schedule

FEBRUARY

CAD\$5,000.00

In accepting these funds, at the end of the year, the East Central Ontario Regional Council agrees to report to The United Church of Canada, through the Church in Mission Unit, on how these funds are used to support the designation provided.



Signed for The United Church of
Canada

Signed for the Name of the
organization

Rev. Rosemary Lambie
Name (please print)

Name (please print)

Executive Minister
Position (please print)

Position (please print)

February 25, 2020
Date

Date

Appendix D

Report from Minister for Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationship and Justice for all Ages
February 7, 2020

- Meeting-Small group of Formation, Nurture and Justice meeting- Spring event and Fall Advance, - see Rodney's report for more details
- Zoom Meeting of YAYA leaders
- Zoom meeting of Clusters and Networks
- Attended Hills and Shores UCW Presbyterial (since I missed them last year)
- Attended a Kairos blanket exercise in Brighton
- Worshiplude on computer
- Registration for March 21 workshop- almost complete- waiting for confirmation of date needed for food prep. Brian - payment
- Rendezvous - Expression of Interest Google Form- had an offer for a pilgrimage, have been talking to other regions to share the cost and looking into funding,
- VIBE- Attending a meeting in Lindsay-Questions about backup funding (in case the government grant doesn't come through)
- El Salvador Trip March 2021- Wanda held an information session and has released an Expression of Interest Form

Appendix E**Report from Minister for Respectful Relationship and Indigenous Justice**
February 7, 2020Notes from Indigenous Justice and Respectful Relationship Working Group

Met by Zoom on Dec. 16, 19 from 2-3pm. Rodney Smith-Merkley, Sharon Hull, Helmut Enns, Elaine Kellogg.
 Regrets: Marilyn Fortin
 Check-in and opening prayer.

1. Discussion around bringing a network together. 2 gatherings annually, one in Spring, one in fall. Potential to meet in between on-line, see who might be interested at first gathering? First gathering may be at Curve Lake Apr. 25th or May 2nd. A national staff person such as Lori Ransom can come and present on behalf of National Church program "Being Good Relations". Sharon will follow up with EDGE on sharing stories on-line through a youtube channel.
2. Rodney and Sharon plan to be involved at WAMPUM July 21-26. Some monies budgeted for recruiting? A year work plan submitted as a "Doing Mission Together" grant prior to April 15th. Sharon will check minutes and with Brian James if additional monies are available from former Presbyteries (possibly for first event).
3. Discussion around T2R2 (Travelling Toward Right Relations) youth experience. Decision was to focus on shorter term opportunities within our region at this point. Alderville in 2021?

Next meeting Tues. Jan. 28, 1:45-3pm. Shelley Knott Fife from Curve Lake will join us.

Broadview Newsletter:

Greetings! I am grateful to share some news around Indigenous Justice and Respectful Relationship. It has been good to meet with Helmut Enns, Rev. Elaine Kellogg, Sharon Hull, and Marilyn Fortin from the Faith Formation, Nurture and Justice Team to do some planning for the year. That group, along with Shelley Knott Fife from Curve Lake, would like to invite those who are passionate about Truth, Reconciliation, and "Being Good Relations" to consider joining us on Apr. 25th at Curve Lake for a day of listening, learning, and sharing best practices. Stay tuned for more information.

Many congregations are engaging in this work. Kairos Blanket Exercises have happened Jan. 25th in Greenbank and Feb. 2nd in Brighton. This is a workshop that explores the nation-to-nation relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada. Furthermore, Edith Rankin UC in Kingston is hosting a "Get to Know Your Neighbour" fundraising event/dinner on April 18th for "Shannen's Dream", named in loving memory of Shannen Koostachin. This is about making sure that First Nations children and youth have the same education opportunities as others but in ways that respect their language and culture. The event begins at 3 and includes a meal catered by Carol Anne Maracle. Look for the poster on the webpage, but tickets are \$25 and can be reserved by sending a cheque to Margaret Merkley a 613 384-8490.

If your congregation is looking for a learning opportunity over Lent, you might consider checking out www.moosehidecampaign.ca, a grassroots movement of Indigenous and non-indigenous men and boys who are standing up against violence towards women and children. Or visit www.fncaringssociety.com to find 7 Free Ways to Make a Difference (campaigns) through the First Nations Child & Family Caring Society. Into the spring, you may want to consider being part of a Sacred Water Walk around Pigeon Lake (in the Kawarthas), May 8-10th. I would be pleased to offer more information about this, and other opportunities. Contact me at 1 800 268-3781 x6164 or RSMerkley@united-church.ca