

GENERAL MEETING
Saturday, November 9th 2019

The East Central Ontario Regional Council of The United Church of Canada held its General Meeting at Eastminster United Church in Belleville, Ontario, on Saturday, November 9th.

THE FOLLOWING REGISTERED THEIR ATTENDANCE AT THE BUSINESS MEETING

Ministry (71)

Aruna Alexander, Stephen Ambury, Mark Arnill, Sharon Ballantyne, Kristiane Black, Mary-Margaret Boone, Alan Boyd, Michelle Brotherton, Audrey Brown, Nancy Clarke, Steven Davis, Tim Dayfoot, Jeff Doucette, Larry Doyle, Deborah Elliott, Judith Evenden, Brad Ford, Bruce Fraser, Caroline Giesbrecht, Carol Gillard, Margaret Goodwin, Cathy Gradante, Donald Green, Katy Gregory, Elaine Hall, Mary-Jane Hobden, Pamela Holmes, Thomas Holmes, Cordelia Karpenko, Lionel Ketola, David King, Leslie-Elizabeth King, Meggin King, Norman Long, Anne MacDermaid, Joanna MacQuarrie, Bob Matheson, Susan McAllister, David McMaster, Ryan McNally, Anne Meredith, Allan Miller, David Moore, Kerrie Perry, Dick Prince, Michael Putnam, Joe Ramsay, Paul Reed, Ian Robb, Christine Sloan, Karen Smart, Stevan Spicer, Janet Stobie, Calvin Stone, Wanda Stride, Robin Thomson, Brenda Timpson, Mary Anne VanHeuvelen, Dorinda Vollmer, Max Ward, Lynne Watson, Audrey Whitney, Barb Willard, Jean Wilson, Phil Wilson, Jamie York, John H. Young, Dan Yourkevich, Marilyn Zehr, Elizabeth Macdonald, Bob Root.

Lay (78)

Cliff Ballantyne, Ken Begbie, Donna Bignell, Paul Binkley, Joanne Brown, Freda Burns, Elaine Casselman, Ed Caton, Leah Clancy, Steve Coles, Kimberly Collins, Paul Cornish, Penny Culverson, Margaret Curtis, David Dundas, M C Bud Dunlop, Sharon Eagleson, Derek Elion, Phyllis Elvidge-Bell, Helmut Enns, Doug Ferris, Ian Finlay, Marilyn Fortin, Deb FortinBrown, Donald Gibson, Sharon Goulding, Sherry Green, Darlene Hallett, Grant Hedges, Donna Henderson, Tina Hiddink, Sue Hogan, Dave Holmes, Carolyn Holmes, Chris Ingersoll, Deb Jeffrey, Carol Johnson, John Johnson, Teresa Jordan, Elaine Kellogg, Carl Kimmett, Paul Kneebone, Kimberley Lawrance, Patricia Long, Joan Macklin, David Mantle, Dianne McCracken, Gayle McKinnon, Cheryl McMurray, Ted Meyers, Lisa Morasse, Marie Northey, Glenn Owen, Shirley Penny, Beth Pereman, Roberta Plunkett, Amy Porter, Elaner Pound, John Purdon, Jim Rainey, Brian Reid, Norman Rice, Stephanie Richmond, Marilyn Rodger, Karen Rynard, William Sheaves, Tom Smart, Arthur J. Smith, Juliet Sturney, Floyd Sutherland, Nancy Sutherland, Shirley Taylor, Patricia Teskey, Joanne Traczuk, Andrew Vanwyk, Linda Walt, Richard Weigand, Ruth Wood.

Youth (4)

Isaac Finlay, Shannon Marsellus, Rachel Vollmer, Sarah Vollmer.

Regional Council Staff (8)

Rev. Rosemary Lambie (*voting clergy*), Joel Miller, Rev. David Timpson (*voting clergy*), Karen Valley, Sharon Hull, Louise Slobodian, Rev. Rodney Smith-Merkley (*voting clergy*), Rev. Trisha Elliott.

Guests of the Regional Council (non-voting privileges) (8)

Garry Culverson, Sadie Lorberg Glover, Jenny Penny, Tom Stobie, Janet Enns, Bruce Hutchinson, Patti James, Kathleen Whyte.

Quorum

This meeting had quorum.

Registration (8:30)

Delegates received nametags, meal confirmations, voting cards and table group assignment.

Gathering Music (9:30)

George Couperus led music on the piano and all were invited to sing the following hymns “Part of the Family” VU 395 and “Behold, I Make All Things New” (MV 115).

Welcome from Eastminster United Church (9:45)

Rev. Paul Reed, Assembly of Elders Speaker, welcomed all to the meeting and introduced Rev. David McMaster, Minister at Eastminster United Church; Rev. McMaster welcomed delegates attending the Regional Council General Meeting, provide some historical and background information for Eastminster United Church, and informed of some housekeeping instructions, i.e., where elevators, washrooms were located, and where food will be served.

Meeting begins by Acknowledging First Nations territory

Rev. Rodney Smith-Merkley, Regional Council Staff member welcomed delegates of the Regional Council to the land of the Mohawks of Bay of Quinte, and gave thanks for the stewardship of the land. Rev. Smith-Merkley also provided a historical background of the Haudenosaunee Peoples, and invited all to stay during the lunch break for a presentation of Rodney’s attendance at the opening of the Big House on Heiltsuk First Nation territory in British Columbia.

Duty of Care/Behavior Covenant

Rev. David Timpson reminded the court of its duty to respect and care for one-another. He explained that all church meetings must be places of safety for everyone present. To live in right relations, there is zero tolerance for words and actions that are not appropriate. Rev. Phil Wilson, Equity Monitor for the meeting (along with Rev. Sharon Ballantyne, reminded all to speak into microphones that are available, and to be in contact with him or Sharon should any equity concerns arise.

Worship (10:00)

Led by Rev. Rosemary Lambie, Steve Coles, Rev. Mary Anne Van Huevelen and Shannon Marcellus. Rev. Lambie acknowledged the service of military men and women and gave thanks. This was followed by the singing of hymn “O God, Our Help in Ages Past” (VU 806), a Reflection on the word ‘sacrifice’, the reading of John 15:12-17 and a video presentation (Terry Kelly - A Pittance of Time). All were invited to share in a prayer of commitment, which was followed by the singing of hymn “Spirit God, Be Our Breath” MV 150 and a closing prayer.

Call to Order (10:15)

Rev. Paul Read, Speaker of the Assembly of Elders of the Regional Council, called the meeting to order “In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, the only Sovereign head of the Church, and by the authority of the 1st Inaugural Meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council of the United Church of Canada, I hereby declare this general meeting duly constituted and to be in session for conducting the business which will properly come before it.”

Agenda

2019-11-09_230 MOTION (S. Ambury/M. Goodwin) That the agenda as circulated be adopted. **Carried**

Scrutineer/Stewards/Parliamentarians

2019-11-09_231 MOTION (R. Wood/S. Marcellus) that the following people serve as Scrutineers/Stewards: Max Ward, Bruce Fraser, Mary-Margaret Boone, Patti James, Brad Ford, Bill Sheaves, Floyd Sutherland, Helmut Enns, Deb Brown. And that the following people serve as Parliamentarians: Rev. Steven Davis, Rev. Alan Boyd, and Rev. Judith Evenden. **Carried**

Minutes from the Inaugural Meeting

2019-11-09_232 MOTION (J. Ducette/D. King) That the minutes of the East Central Ontario Regional Council Inaugural Meeting of May 31st – June 2nd 2019 be accepted as corrected. **Carried**

Corrections:

- Change to correct spelling “Armill”
- Record point of privilege (Rev. Audrey Brown)
- Add family name “Heinrichs” to Svinda’s surname initial

Introduction of New Staff Member

Paul introduced new staff member Louise Slobodian, Communications and Administration Assistant.

Governance Structure Presentation

Paul highlighted the addition to the Governance Handbook, which was a description of the governance structure of the Regional Council – p. 6 - 10 (**appendix A**), in particular the relationships between Assembly of Elders, Teams and Forums. Paul responded to feedback received during the spring meeting over the use of the name ‘Elders’ and explained that the word had its origins within the Church, and its use should be interpreted as the Church going back to its roots.

Consensus Motions

- Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (LLWL) Forum
- Retirees Forum
- Formation, Nurture and Justice Leadership Team
- Equity Leadership Team
- Mission through Property & Finance Team

2019-11-09_233 MOTION (D. King/B. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the terms of reference for the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (LLWL) Forum, the Retirees Forum, the Formation, Nurture and Justice Leadership Team, the Equity Leadership Team, and the Mission through Property and Finance Team. **Carried**

- Equity Monitor Policy
- Community of Faith ‘Filling Internally’ Practice and Policy

2019-11-09_234 MOTION (P. Wilson/S. Ambury) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the Equity Monitor Policy and the Community of Faith ‘Filling Internally’ Practice and Policy. **Carried**

Report and presentation from Covenanting Support Team

Rev. Jean Wilson introduced members of the Covenant Support Team and Steve Coles provided an oral report on the work of the team. Jean also introduced members of the Liaisons Forum, Retirees Forum and Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (LLWLs) Forum. Jean highlighted a LLWL policy had been created and would be posted on the Regional Council website soon. The Covenant Support Team reported that it pulled out three common points from the feedback it had received during the Inaugural Meeting and responded to why the team chose ‘Covenant Support’ as its name, the size of its membership (twelve members) and how relicensing of LLWL will take place. Afterwards the Team heard questions from the floor, in particular, how it was maintaining a sense of diversity of its membership.

Report and presentation from Mission through Property and Finance Team (2019 Budget and Actual to date; -2020 Budget)

Bruce Hutchinson introduced members of the Mission through Property and Finance Team, presented the team's report (see **appendix B**), and invited questions from the floor. Ted Meyers, Chair and Brian James, Regional Council Treasurer were thanked in abstensia for putting the report together.

The hymn "Will Your Anchor Hold" (VU 675) was sung following this presentation.

The hymn "All are Welcome" (MV 1), was sung, which was meant to be sung immediately after the report from the Covenant Support Team.

Report and presentation from Faith, Formation, Nurture and Justice Team

Rev. David Moore, Chair, presented an oral report on behalf of the Faith Formation Nurture and Justice Team, and presented all of its members. Sharon Hull, Minister For Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationships And Justice With All Ages presented an oral report highlighting, clustering activities, calling on Communities of faith to share their stories and highlighting available grants through the Regional Council. Reverend Rodney Smith-Merkley, Minister for Respectful Relationship and Indigenous Justice presented an oral report highlighting various resources that are available for learning more about justice issues and noted some upcoming events that all were invited to attend.

The hymn "Spirit Open Our Hearts" (MV 79) was sung following this presentation.

Equity Team

Rev. Phil Wilson presented on behalf of Rev. Sharon Ballantyne, Chair and the members of the team, an oral report on behalf of the Equity Team, and highlighted that the team is working closely with the Affirm Forum; and invited delegates to participate in an accessibility survey.

Rev. Larry Doyle, General Council Executive member, updated that the General Council has adopted the equity monitor concept and policy that was presented at General Council 43. The White Privilege Task Group will give a report at the next General Council Executive meeting, to ask for an extension and broadening of their mandate. The Anti-Racism task group has been created to begin bridging and focusing the work of the various tasks group working on specific mandates (i.e., White Privilege, Intercultural Church, Right Relations & Reconciliation), this to develop a Community of Faith based approach to anti-racism.

As an equity issue, a request was made that materials for meetings be available sooner.

The hymn "Halle, Halle, Halle" (VU 958) was sung and signed following this presentation.

Nominations Report

Rev. Wanda Stride, Chair named members of the Nominations Team, and presented on behalf of the team, highlighting its work of filling vacancies (in particular for the Affirm Forum and the Equity Team). An invitation was made to visit the Expression of Interest form on the website, as well as to forward names of people who may be interested or have specific talents and gifts to share.

The hymn "I the Lord of Sea and Sky (Here I am Lord)" (VU 509) was sung following this presentation.

Philanthropy

Rev. Trish Elliott, Stewardship & Gifts Officer, Philanthropy Unit, highlighted the 2018 Mission and Service dollars donated by the Regional Council in 2018 (\$275, 596), resources such as "Gifts With Vision" and "I Intend" Handbook, which is a joint venture between the United Church of Canada and the Anglican Church of Canada; <http://www.stewardshiptoolkit.ca/whole-life-stewardship>, and ways for inspiring generosity (offering our

time, talents and gifts). Trisha invited all to view the upcoming newsletter for more details, as well as mandate magazine.

Announcements

- Presentation through the lunch break – The opening of the Big House on Heiltsuk First Nation territory in British Columbia
- Table group facilitator assignments to be picked up at the front of sanctuary
- Table group distribution list is being circulated.

Grace Before Meal

The hymn “God Bless to Us Our Bread” (MV 193) was sung as the Grace before meal.

Lunch (12:00)

Lunch was prepared by members of Saint-Matthew’s United Church and served by members of Westminster United Church.

Racial Justice Workshops – Two New Modules

Karen Valley, Office of Vocation Minister, announced that new modules of Racial Justice workshops are now being offered through United in Learning (and two more are soon to be added as well) - <https://united-in-learning.com/index.php/rj-workshop>. Lay people are invited to participate in these workshops, they are not solely intended for Ministry Personnel.

Confirm 2020 Mission Priorities (13:30)

Rev. Paul Reed, Assembly of Elders Speaker outlined the mission priorities using the responses collected during the Inaugural Meeting (see **appendix C**). Receive responses from Networks and Clusters

- Truth and Reconciliation - Calls to Action
- A place at the table - affirming, racial justice
- Rural Ministry
- Children and Youth
- Care of Creation

Discussion: Rev. Reed acknowledged that the mission priorities for 2021 will be set at the spring meeting in 2020. It was expressed that more thought would be given to finding other ways for determining priorities in the future, such as, separating lists of mission priorities. This list could be divided between supporting local churches - supporting clergy, congregational life and communities of faith – and a list of broader mission priorities that focus on the church in the world. The suggestion was made to consider a different method for creating any list, so that it would be more unified and collectively generated by the Regional Council.

Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils

Helmut Enns provided background information for the Social Justice Network of Ontario, and introduced the Covenant of the Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils of The United Church of Canada & The Social Justice Network Of Ontario Conferences – SJNOC (see **appendix D**). Table group time was allotted to discussing the agreement.

NOTICE OF MOTION That the East Central Ontario Regional Council accept the recommendation of the Assembly of Elders to commit to enter into a relationship with Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils (SJNOR), request that the Nomination Leadership Team search for representatives, and adjust budget accordingly.

Vision Statement (used to be Living Mission)

Rev. Jean Wilson presented the Vision Statement (see **appendix A**, p. 11-12), thanking Carol Johnson for her collaborative work to edit the original version (Living Mission) and invited question from the floor. Table group time was allotted to discussing the Vision Statement.

NOTICE OF MOTION (J. Wilson/C. Johnson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the Vision Statement as printed in the Governance Handbook.

Direct to Table Groups for Policy Discussion (13:45)

Rev. Reed, Speaker instructed attendees to break off into their table groups to begin discussing proposed changes to the Governance Handbook. Comments would then be collected and submitted to the Reflection Group at 14:30.

Reflection Group (14:30)

The Reflection Group collected and reviewed table group comments and prepared proposals to be presented later in the meeting. The Reflection Groups were formed using members from the table groups;

Table Groups Reflect on Additional Items (SJNORC, budget) (14:30)

While the Reflection Groups worked to prepare proposal based on comments from the Table Groups, the Table Groups then turned their focus to the agreement between the Social Justice network of Ontario and the Regional Council, as well as the proposed 2020 budget.

Refreshment Break (15:00)

Refreshments were provided by Saint-Matthew's united-Church and served by members of Westminster United Church.

Gathering Music (15:15)

George Couperus led music on the piano and all were invited to sing the following hymns: "We Are Marching" (VU 646) and "You Shall Go Out With Joy" (VU 884).

Office of Vocations

Karen Valley, Office of Vocation Minister provided an update on the Candidacy Board, elaborating on the process, highlighting that the board is a Commission, and gave thanks to many of the host churches who have volunteered their space so interviews could take place. Karen recognized the following candidates: Stephanie Richmond, Kimberley Lawrence, Daniel MacDonald and Marilyn Zehr.

The hymn "I Have Called You By Your Name" (MV 161) was sung following this presentation.

Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils

2019-11-09_235 MOTION (J. Evenden/H. Enns) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council accept the recommendation of the Assembly of Elders to commit to enter into a relationship with Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils (SJNOR), request that the Nomination Leadership Team search for representatives, and adjust budget accordingly. **Carried**

Discussion: The wording "to commit to enter into a relationship" refers to the fact that the Regional Council requests more precision in the use of language by the Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils ,especially when referring to membership (that it should be three members of the Regional Council and one member could be a Regional Council staff member) and when referring to contributions made by the regional council (that a dollar amount be given).

A point of privilege was raised, over the use of offensive language during this discussion.

Associations of Ministers

Rev. Max Ward reported that in October, fifteen (15) Ministers gathered in Brighten, Ontario to share their experiences in ministry and to explore what an association of Ministers might look like. This gathering was in response to a motion that was passed by the General Council Executive, giving power to each Regional Council to create an Association of Ministers. Conversation and planning ensues, and a steering group comprised of Rev. Max Ward, Rev. Nancy Wilson, Rev. Christopher Wright, Rev. Michelle Brotherton, Rev. Lynn Watson, Rev. Isaac Mundy and staff support person Rev. David Timpson.

Reflection Group presentation and decision making (15:20)

Rev. Steve Spicer and Rev. Ryan McNally presented the proposed amendments to the Governance Handbook based on the comments collected from the table groups. Here are the decisions taken:

- *Vision Statement*

2019-11-09_236 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer)

In regards to the Vision Statement:

1. That ECORC operate with the Vision Statement as written, until such time as it is revised by the Regional Council.
2. That ECORC refer the Vision Statement as written, and all feedback received, to a task group to further develop the Vision Statement, Statement of Mission, Values and Mission Goals.
3. That the nominations team be asked to populate a Task Group of eight members to undertake the above work.
4. That the Task Group provide a report to the May 2020 meeting of ECORC for adoptions. **Carried**

- *Assembly of Elders*

2019-11-09_237 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer)

In regards to the Assembly of Elders, that the following text be added to its structure:

“The Leading Elder is elected as part of the triennial election of members of the General Council from the East Central Ontario Regional Council, at the meeting of the regional council held in the year before the year of the face-to-face meeting of the General Council. The Leading Elder will serve a three-year term.”

“The speaker can communicate to the Regional Council on behalf of the Assembly of Elder”

“When filling a vacancy, the Assembly of Elders will consult with the nominations team”.

And delete the paragraph :

“In the absence of a Speaker ... term (for the time being).” **Carried**

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- *Nominations Leadership Teams*

2019-11-09_238 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer)

In regards to Nomination Leadership Team, that the following text be added to the terms of reference:

Add the words “and/or election” after the word “appoint”

Add responsibility to nominate persons to serve on the General Council (formerly called Commissioners).

Carried

- *Covenant Support Leadership Team*

2019-11-09_239 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the amended terms of reference for the Covenant Support Leadership Team. **Carried**

- *Liaisons Forum*

2019-11-09_240 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the amended terms of reference for the Liaison Forum. **Carried**

- *Affirming Forum*

2019-11-09_241 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the amended terms of reference for the Affirming Forum. **Carried**

- *Policy Regarding Funding Requests at the Regional Meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council*

2019-11-09_242 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the amended Policy Regarding Funding Requests at the Regional Meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council. **Carried**

- *Marriage Practice and Voluntary Associate Minister (VAM) Policy*

2019-11-09_243 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the amended Marriage Practice and Voluntary Associate Minister (VAM) Policy. **Carried**

- *Community of Faith Supervisors Practice and Policy*

2019-11-09_244 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the amended Community of Faith Supervisors Practice and Policy, to take effect January 1st 2020. **Carried**

- *Pastoral Relations Liaison Officer Practice and Policy*

2019-11-09_245 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the amended Pastoral Relations Liaison Officer Practice and Policy, to take effect January 1st 2020. **Carried**

- *Policy Regarding Proceeds from the Sale of Property*

2019-11-09_246 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the Policy Regarding Proceeds from the Sale of Property. **Carried**

- *East Central Ontario Regional Council Travel Policy*

* see Motion 2019-11-09_247 directly below

- *Policy Regarding Travel Compensation to be paid by Communities of Faith*

2019-11-09_247 MOTION (J. Wilson/J. Evenden) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve in principle the travel policies, and refer to the Assembly of Elders to be written into one concise policy and presented at the May 2020 General Meeting. **Carried**

- *Policy for Electing Commissioners to serve at the General Council*

2019-11-09_248 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council refer back to the Assembly of Elders the Policy for Electing Commissioners to serve at the General Council, for further work. **Carried**

- *Property & Finance Community of Faith Conflict Review Funding Policy*

2019-11-09_249 MOTION (R. McNally/S. Spicer) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the Property & Finance Community of Faith Conflict Review Funding Policy. **Carried**

Budget Presentation (16:30)

Budget presentation and motion reflecting any changes resulting from actions taken

2019-11-09_250 MOTION (J. Ducette/R. Wood) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council adopt the Financial Report and 2020 budget as presented. **Carried**

Thanks and Appreciation

Thanks and appreciation were extended to Saint-Matthew's United Church for preparing meals and refreshments and to Westminster United Church for hosting this Regional Council meeting.

Other Business

United Church Women

2019-11-09_251 MOTION (C. Stone/G. Culverson)

WHEREAS the United Church Women (UCW) continues to be a major supporter and contributor to the work of the Church with East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC);

WHEREAS they do not have an official voice/representation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Bay of Quinte UCW ECORC be invited to have representation on the East Central Ontario Regional Council as a voting member. **Carried**

Closing Motions

2019-11-09_252 MOTION (R. Lambie/S. Ambury) that following the rise of the general meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council, all powers of the Regional Council be granted to the Assembly of Elders until the next General Meeting. **Carried**

2019-10

The United Church of Canada
L'Église Unie du Canada

East Central Ontario Regional Council
General Meeting

November 9, 2019
Eastminster United Church,
Belleville, Ontario

Theological Reflections

Rev. Alan Boyd provided a short theological reflection, taking into account the events of the day – “We are witnessing the beginning of something new.”

Adjournment

2019-11-09_253 MOTION (M. J. Hobden/R. Lambie) that the meeting be adjourned at 5:32 p.m., and that the Speaker declares this general meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council duly concluded. **Carried**

The hymn “We Shall Go Out” (VU 586) was sung following adjournment.

Rev. Paul Reed
Speaker

Rev. Rosemary Lambie
Executive Minister

Joel Miller
Recording Secretary

Appendices:

Appendix A	Revised Governance Handbook (Nov. 9, 2019)
Appendix B	Notes, 2019 Budget with Actual to date, and 2020 Budget,
Appendix C	Mission Priorities Feedback from Inaugural Meeting
Appendix D	Covenant of the Social Justice Network Of Ontario Regional Councils of The United Church Of Canada & The Social Justice Network Of Ontario Conferences - SJNOC)

The United Church of Canada
L'Église Unie du Canada

East Central Ontario Regional Council
General Meeting

November 9, 2019
Eastminster United Church,
Belleville, Ontario

Appendix A

See Regional Council website for latest version of the Revised Governance Handbook (Nov. 9, 2019):
<https://ecorcuccan.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/12/ECORC-Governance-Handbook-November-9-2019.pdf>

Appendix B**ECORC Budget 2020 Notes**

The budget is presented in two areas, Administrative and Mission based on the way monies are allocated by the General Council Office.

Revenue:

Administrative costs are covered by the fixed money transferred and referred to as discretionary Assessment Revenue. This is supplemented by money to fund part of the costs of the Executive Minister and her assistant salary and benefits.

Mission costs are covered by the Mission Support Allocation. This is used to pay for Mission staff, Mission Support Grants and other mission activities.

These funds are fixed, and the budget must be set within these limits. The 2020 allocation of funds is the same as the 2019 allocation.

Expenses:

The expense category was set up based on the best estimate of where money would need to be allocated during the inaugural year of the Regional Council. Over the course of the year additional line items were added to better explain the allocated the funds and to respond to needs not originally considered.

The major categories are:

Executive Minister Shared Expenses: – these are expenses shared across the three regions of responsibility of the Executive Minister. Expenses specific to a Regional Council are allocated to that Regional Council.

Staff: - Expenses for the operation of the Regional Council Staff are allocated here. These include salaries and benefits, travel, office operation etc. The Personal Minister costs are allocated to Administrative while the Spiritual Nurture and Respectful Relationships Ministers' costs are allocated to Ministry.

Region 11 Office: - The Conference Office was rented for one month while files, etc., were re-located off site. There is not a physical office at this time, so no cost is allocated for 2020.

Regional Council Executive: - Travel, honorarium, administrative costs, etc., of the Regional Council are allocated under the Administrative revenue. Extensive use of e-mail and electronic gatherings help keep travel costs to a minimum.

Regional Networks: - Covers travel and incidental costs for regional networks, clusters etc. This is under review to determine which gatherings should be supported. This activity is funded from the Mission allocation.

Pastoral Relations: - Covers activities related to joint activities of the Regional Council and Communities of Faith and is funded from the Administrative allocation. This includes some liaison travel, emergency paroral care, conflict resolution and reviews of Communities of faith. Policies are being developed to define which costs are shared with the Regional Council and

which activities should be funded by the Community of Faith. Observer inserts were funded for 2019 but due to a three-month lead times for submitting articles the regular new letters are timelier and more relevant.

Mission Support Grants: - These are allocated based on applications received by the end of August, needs and funds available. They are generally short-term activities over year or few years and are funded from the mission allocation.

Other Mission Related: - These are grants allocated for ongoing support for longer term activities which are funded for many years and are funded from the Mission Allocation.

Other Administrative Services – These are generally administrative and similar costs necessary for providing the services of the Regional Council and are funded from the Administrative allocation.

The budget was set up with revenue slightly more than expenses to provide some contingency funds.

Funds from the Bay of Quinte Conference and some Presbyteries have not been fully transferred and some restrictions on the funds have not all been communicated so these funds are currently unknown to some extent and unavailable.

[illegible]

East Central Ontario Regional Council 2020 Budget with 2019 Actuals to Sept. 28									
Administrative				Mission				Total	
Grand River Spiritual								\$ -	\$ 10,000
Rehabilitation Centre Non-profit				\$ -		\$ -		\$ -	\$ 1,000
Total Mission Support Grants				\$ 41,500		\$ 27,375		\$ 21,250	\$ 6,125
Other Mission Related									
Ontario Oak-McNic				\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000	\$ 32,000
Ontario Oak-McNic				\$ 25,000	\$ 18,750	\$ 18,750	\$ -	\$ 18,750	\$ -
Attending Ministers				\$ 5,000	\$ 3,750	\$ 3,750	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,750	\$ 5,000
Old Hwy Bay Church				\$ 6,200	\$ 4,650	\$ 6,200	\$ 6,200	\$ 4,650	\$ 6,200
Women Work				\$ 50,000	\$ 37,500	\$ 37,500	\$ 50,000	\$ 37,500	\$ 50,000
Mission Priorities				\$ 118,200	\$ 96,650	\$ 96,650	\$ 118,200	\$ 96,650	\$ 118,200
Total Other Mission Support									
Other Administrative Services									
Activities	\$ 30,000	\$ 22,500	\$ 22,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 22,500	\$ 30,000
Administrative Services	\$ 8,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 8,000
Telephone	\$ 960	\$ 720	\$ 108	\$ 612	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ 720	\$ 612	\$ 960
IT	\$ 7,500	\$ 5,625	\$ 1,653	\$ 3,972	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 3,972	\$ 7,500
Accounting	\$ 20,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 6,250	\$ 8,750	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,750	\$ 20,000
Email	\$ 1,200	\$ 900	\$ 900	\$ 600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 900	\$ 1,200
Website	\$ 5,000	\$ 3,750	\$ 2,385	\$ 1,470	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,470	\$ 5,000
Professional Services	\$ -	\$ 10,071	\$ (10,071)	\$ 12,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,000	\$ -
Office	\$ -	\$ 38	\$ (39)	\$ 200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 200	\$ -
Total Other Admin Services	\$ 72,660	\$ 54,495	\$ 22,900	\$ 31,995	\$ 81,300	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 81,300
Total Expenses	\$ 301,310	\$ 208,770	\$ 229,244	\$ 69,505	\$ 306,150	\$ 205,925	\$ 130,414	\$ 124,141	\$ 306,150
Net Income	\$ 10,440	\$ (4,770)	\$ 64,736	\$ (69,500)	\$ 5,880	\$ 20,100	\$ 10,825	\$ 78,936	\$ (124,741)

Appendix C

Mission Priorities 2020 (2019 in bold)

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A place at the table - affirming, racial justice	63
esp mental health issues	4
Rural Ministry	57
Children and Youth	66
Care of Creation	58
esp climate change	6
water	3
cluster and network promotion	11
clergy support/renewal/retreats	11
emergency financial support for clergy	4
retirees	3
Women in Ministry	2
Faith formation	10
healthy community of faith development	9
innovative ministries/alternate worship/arts	8
UCW	7
community outreach/ engaging events	6
healthy care/ ministry for elderly/seniors	6
homelessness/ shelter/hospice/affordability	6
basic income/economic justice	5
evangelism/spiritual growth	5
intercultural actions with other faiths	5
poverty reduction (in rural areas)	4
bridges out of poverty/Bedford House	4
refugee /immigrant support & advocacy	4
food banks/community gardens	4
mission awareness/trips/global ministries	4
small church communities (not rural)	3
making churches accessible	3
church closures	3
sex trade/human trafficking	3
creative and joyful worship / local love	2
revitalization	2
life long learning funds	2
Christian camps	2
Mission and Service	2
financial support for small cof from amalgamations, sales of property	1
policies about use of Funds for ALL communities of faith	1
social justice	1
inner city	1
affordable housing	1
urban ministry esp St Vincent Kitchen, Osh	1
drug-safe injection sight/rehabilitation	1

The United Church of Canada
L'Église Unie du Canada

East Central Ontario Regional Council
General Meeting

November 9, 2019
Eastminster United Church,
Belleville, Ontario

proclaiming JC, prayer, grounding in scripture	1
building partnerships	1
new ministries	1
youth employment in church	1
VIBE	1
Thursdays in Black	1
Nursing homes/home bound	1
Fresh Expressions	1
support for emerging technologies	1
our theology	1

Appendix D

COVENANT
of the
SOCIAL JUSTICE NETWORK of ONTARIO REGIONAL COUNCILS
of The United Church of Canada

(formerly the Coordinating Committee of Ontario Conferences – CCOC

& the Social Justice Network of Ontario Conferences - SJNOC)

I. COVENANT MEMBERS

Those represented within the Covenant:

- Regional Councils of The United Church of Canada located within Ontario

Corresponding members:

- staff from the Church in Mission Unit of the General Council Office

II. PURPOSE

Regional Councils of The United Church of Canada, whose boundaries lie within the Province of Ontario, hereby covenant together to form the Social Justice Network of Ontario Regions (SJNOR):

- to collaborate and provide a collective presence of The United Church of Canada concerning socio-economic issues and concerns which impact Ontarians.

III. MUTUAL ACCOUNTABILITY

Member courts will fulfill this covenant by:

- Appointing 2 representatives and 1 regional staff person
- Making a financial contribution based upon an annual assessment

APPENDIX A

SOCIAL JUSTICE NETWORK OF ONTARIO REGIONS NETWORK OPERATIONS

A. THE SJNOR WILL:

Examine the social justice issues that exist in the Province of Ontario with reference to their implications for the United Church of Canada, its people and the wider community;

Prayerfully discern what actions to take towards deeper understanding, redress of injustices and just alternatives;

Seek to work with government or non-governmental organizations to develop action plans and make recommendations for just, healthy, environmentally nurturing solutions.

B. OPERATING PROCEDURES

Convenorship for the SJNOR will be vested in co-chairs who will serve two-year terms. Co-chairs should have their respective terms staggered to ensure continuity. Any co chair can serve for a maximum of two consecutive terms.

The SJNOR will meet a minimum of twice yearly. Meetings may be conducted by means of video conference.

Agendas will usually include time for sharing of Regional Council social justice activity and reports from coalitions and task group representatives related to the SJNOR.

Policy decisions rest within the member courts of the church. Representatives to the SJNOR will be communication links with those courts.

Strategizing and decision-making within the SJNOR

(i.e. formulation and implementation of church policies and SJNOR's actions) will be by consensus with an understanding that consensus will not necessarily mean complete agreement but insufficient disagreement to block the decision.

Tasks (such as recording, duplication, distribution, agenda preparation, meeting arrangements, research, analyses, resource development and collection, supervision support) will be undertaken by SJNOR members on a shared basis.

Decision-making between meetings will be undertaken by consulting all member courts' representatives for feedback. Any action will take into account this consultation.

Any Regional Council is free to act unilaterally but should take into account the potential effects upon other member courts. Unilateral action will not imply action on behalf of others.

An orientation to the SJNOR's history, covenant, operating procedures and current activities will be provided for new representatives.

Collection, disbursement, recording and reporting services for operating funds will be provided by the General Council's Mission Through Finance Unit.

C. COLLECTIVE ACTION

The SJNOR will take joint social justice action: This could be accomplished in any of the following ways:

- a) the member courts may endorse and support one regional council in taking a particular initiative;
- b) the member courts may agree on more than one regional council on a joint study or action of vital interest; or
- c) the members may agree to work and speak together, through the SJNOR.

The SJNOR may consider the initiative of one Regional Council but decide not to endorse or support the effort leaving that Regional Council free to take its own action.

The SJNOR will provide leadership representatives on behalf of The United Church of Canada in Ontario for occasions related to SJNOR's social justice agenda.

The SJNOR will designate representation to ecumenical social justice coalitions and task groups functioning within the province of Ontario, such as the Inter-Faith Social Assistance Reform Coalition (ISARC) or KAIROS. Arrangements for support such as orientation, expenses, supervision, accountability and communication mechanisms with the SJNOR, etc. will be undertaken.

D. COMMUNICATION

The SJNOR will facilitate the sharing of The United Church of Canada's social justice policy.

The SJNOR will provide an annual report to each member court. These reports are to contain actions taken, future agenda items and financial operations.

E. REGIONAL COUNCIL CONTRIBUTIONS

Each Regional Council will appoint two representatives to the SJNOR. Each Regional Council will clarify the terms of that appointment. In addition, it is hoped that there would be a staff person from the member court.

Each Regional Council will make an annual financial contribution to the SJNOC.

Through their representative(s), member courts will share information, analyses and strategies related to their social justice issues, concerns and activities.

Member courts will assume primary responsibility for SJNOR tasks within their resource capacity on a rotating basis.

APPENDIX B

THE SOCIAL JUSTICE NETWORK OF ONTARIO REGIONAL COUNCILS

DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF REGIONAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES

Representatives will contribute their unique gifts to the work of the SJNOR as a proactive participant.

Representatives will act as an essential communication link between their member court and the other member courts by means of:

- a) attendance at SJNOR meetings
- b) regular reports at SJNOR meetings
- c) reports to the SJNOR between meetings of relevant concerns and actions
- d) regular SJNOR reports to their Regional Council including an SJNOR annual report.

Representatives will relay their member court's social justice concerns to the SJNOR's agenda.

Outgoing representatives will brief their successors of the SJNOR's covenant, communication needs with the member court, and the member court's responsibilities.