

2021

**Annual General Meeting
Report Book**



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

June 4-5, 2021

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Living Mission of The East Central Ontario Regional Council

Vision

Strengthened by God's grace and refreshed by the Spirit, we follow the way of Jesus in healing our world.

Mission

Grounded in the teachings of Jesus to love our neighbours as ourselves, we nurture and engage our Communities of Faith, including all ministry personnel, members and adherents, staff and lay leadership, joining our hearts and voices in sacred covenant.

In gratitude for our abundant blessings and in the service of this call, we pledge to be faithful stewards of our resources and aspire to be agents of God's love, compassion and justice on earth as it is in heaven.

Recognizing our churches' participation in historic injustices, we reach out with particular love and care, as Jesus did, to those who have been ignored, excluded, condemned, silenced or erased. We seek to uphold high standards of equity and Affirming, and to encourage these same standards in our Communities of Faith.

Valuing diversity and differences as gifts, we support the full participation of all people in the life and work of our church and in wider society. We publicly, intentionally and explicitly celebrate and seek justice for people of every age, gender, racialized experience, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental and physical health and ability, economic circumstance or any other diversity.

We promise to walk with, and learn from, Indigenous ministries and Communities of Faith within our church, and to reach out to all Indigenous Peoples. We support and encourage all Communities of Faith to walk this path with us. As we are called by God to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others and to seek justice, so we are called to respect the deep spirituality of traditional Indigenous teachings of Mother Earth and All My Relations in the Earth community.

Further acknowledging that cultural prejudices have prevented us from seeing all people as equally worthy of God's love and compassion, we invite Communities of Faith to join our vision of becoming an intercultural church, participating in ecumenical, intercultural and interfaith ministries, partnerships and initiatives in their local communities and in wider society.

As Jesus gathered children in his arms and spoke of their leadership and spiritual gifts, we commit ourselves and our Communities of Faith

to nurturing and supporting children, youth and young adults,
learning from them and celebrating their presence
and participation in everything we do.
Hearing God's call for open hearts and unity in the body of Christ,
we commit to uniting the Communities of Faith and individuals in our Region,
inviting all to participate in this Vision and Mission.
Recognizing that meaningful communication is essential to unity,
we will respect all voices, share information and listen for the Spirit's prompting,
that all may be embraced in this work of Love.

Diverse, yet One in Christ,
we seek to serve and support our Communities of Faith
as they faithfully serve a broken and hurting world.
Nurtured by our heritage and strengthened by God's grace,
we witness to the healing power of Christ's love, compassion and justice
on earth as it is in heaven.

Vision of The Assembly Of Elders By Which We Evaluate Progress Based On:

Guiding Principles

We are accountable to all people of the East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC) in living out our vision and mission in ways that can be measured over time. We will know we are doing so when we can say "yes" to these statements, which are presented by theme rather than by priority or importance:

- All Communities of Faith participate in ECORC meetings and initiatives.
- Clergy, lay leaders and communities of faith express satisfaction with the support, development opportunities and communication they receive.
- We hold events every year related to outreach and social justice within our region.
- Reports from equity monitors and meeting notes give evidence of a growing awareness of equity standards.
- The number of church buildings in our region that are accessible is increasing.
- The number of Communities of Faith designated as Affirming continues to increase.
- There is evidence that inclusive language is becoming the norm in the life and work of our church throughout our Region, especially inclusive language and images of God in worship.
- We observe increasing use of land acknowledgments and more participation in learning opportunities related to Respectful Relations and Indigenous Justice.
- An increasing number of Communities of Faith, along with ECORC and the Assembly of Elders, are developing plans to increase their environmental stewardship.
- We can document specific actions we have taken to become intercultural.
- Children, youth and young adults are represented on all decision-making bodies.
- There are events planned for and by children, youth and young adults every year. A significant number of these events provide children, youth and young adults with leadership opportunities.
- Those involved in any way with ECORC demonstrate awareness of our Vision and Mission statements, and express a feeling of connection to and commitment to the work of ECORC.
- People in all roles and capacities within ECORC are aware of Council decisions and policies, and know where to find the information they need.
- ECORC events take place in a variety of geographic locations within our Region throughout the year.

Responsive Reading adapted from the East Central Ontario Regional Council Statement of Vision, Mission and Guiding Principles

One: Strengthened by God's grace and refreshed by the Spirit,
All: we follow the way of Jesus in healing our world.

One: Grounded in the teachings of Jesus to love our neighbours as ourselves,
All: we nurture and engage our Communities of Faith, joining our hearts and voices in sacred covenant.

One: In gratitude for our abundant blessings,
All: we pledge to be faithful stewards of our resources

One: Called to be agents of God's love, compassion and justice,
All: we aspire to be faithful servants on earth as it is in heaven.

One: Recognizing our churches' participation in historic injustices, we reach out with particular love and care, as Jesus did,
All: we reach out in love to those who have been ignored, excluded, condemned, silenced or erased.

One: We seek to uphold high standards of equity and Affirming ministry,
All: as individuals and in our Communities of Faith.

One: Valuing diversity and differences as gifts, we support the full participation of all people in the life and work of our church and in wider society.
All: We publicly, intentionally and explicitly celebrate and seek justice for people of every age, gender, racialized experience, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental and physical health and ability, economic circumstance or any other diversity.

One: We promise to walk with, and learn from, Indigenous ministries and Communities of Faith within our church,
All: and to reach out to all Indigenous Peoples and to encourage others to walk this path with us.

One: As we are called by God to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others and to seek justice,
All: so we are called to respect the deep spirituality of traditional Indigenous teachings of Mother Earth and All My Relations in the Earth community.

One: Further acknowledging that cultural prejudices have prevented us from seeing all people as equally worthy of God's love and compassion,
All: we strive in our communities of faith to become an intercultural church, participating in ecumenical, intercultural and interfaith ministries, partnerships and initiatives in our local communities and in wider society.

One: As Jesus gathered children in his arms and spoke of their leadership and spiritual gifts,
All: we commit ourselves and our Communities of Faith to nurturing and supporting children, youth and young adults, learning from them and celebrating their presence and participation in everything we do.

One: Hearing God's call for open hearts and unity in the body of Christ, and recognizing that meaningful communication is essential to unity,

All: we will respect all voices, share information and listen for the Spirit’s prompting, that all may be embraced in this work of Love.

One: Diverse, yet One in Christ, we seek to serve and support our Communities of Faith as they faithfully serve a broken and hurting world.

All: Nurtured by our heritage and strengthened by God’s grace, we witness to the healing power of Christ’s love, compassion and justice on earth as it is in heaven.

- From the ECORC Statement of Vision, prepared by Nancy Payne & Patricia Teskey and passed at the ECORC AGM, September 2020

At Your Service
Questions may be directed to...

- Speaker of Assembly of EldersRev. Paul Reed
- Alternate Speaker during AGM Steve Coles
- Chair of AGM Planning Team.....Rev. Paul Reed
- Chair of Nominations..... Rev. Wanda Stride
- Facilitation Team Rev. Rosemary Lambie, Rev. Paul Reed, Steve Coles, Rev. Phil Wilson, Karen Wilson, Sharon Hull, Joel Miller
- Equity Team..... Rev. Phil Wilson, Rev. Sharon Ballantyne, Deb Brown, Sharon Hull (Equity Team members will also be meeting observers)
- Recording Secretary.....Joel Miller
- Tech TeamRev. Phil Wilson, Karen Wilson, Sharon Hull, Joel Miller
- Worship LeadershipRev. Caroline Giesbrecht and Rev. Ian Robb.
- Registrars Karen Wilson
- ScrutineersMembers of Tech Team
- Discernmentarian/Parliamentarian..... Rev. Jean Wilson
- Chaplain Rev. Isaac Mundy

East Central Ontario Regional Council Staff

Rev. Rosemary Lambie

Executive Minister

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6147

Email: rlambie@united-church.ca

Rosemary's focus is to provide leadership, counsel and support for the governance and oversight of the administration of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, for East Central Ontario Regional Council, and Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council. She supervises staff, and engages the regional council in the priorities and decisions of the General Council of the United Church of Canada. General Council deployed staff of the Office of Vocation, the Community Capacity Development Officer and the Philanthropy Unit will work in parallel relationships with all three regional councils. She communicates and interprets the decisions and perspectives of the regional councils and the Executives to the General Council, other regional councils and communities of faith, and fulfills the duties outlined in The Manual (2019) Section C.3.4.

Joel Miller

Program Assistant to the Executive Minister

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6152

Email: jmiller@united-church.ca

Joel's staff responsibilities include daily, high level, ongoing administrative support to the Executive Minister, recording secretary for the Assembly of Elders and Annual General Meetings of each of the three Regional Councils; prepares report books for general meetings, manages wedding licences in Ontario and Quebec: new and temporary applications, transfers from other Regional Councils, annual updates as required provincially, responds to phone, email and in-person enquiries by providing information and referring enquiries to colleagues as appropriate.

Rev. David Timpson

Pastoral Relations Minister

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6116

Email: dtimpson@united-church.ca

David's staff responsibilities are to assist the East Central Ontario Regional Council to serve, support and provide oversight, and pastoral relations support to the Communities of Faith, and for encouraging and supporting Ministry Personnel toward health, joy and excellence in ministry practice.

Sharon Hull

Minister for Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationships and Justice with All Ages

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6165

Email: shull@united-church.ca

Sharon's focus is to promote/resource/support ECORC priorities around faith formation, ecumenical and inter-faith relationships, regeneration and new ministries, lifelong education, and social justice with all ages and stages. Sharon will animate and support Children and Youth participation in the ECORC Inaugural Meeting. Sharon will support Clusters and Networks for one-time and ongoing gatherings and events within the ECORC and beyond. Sharon is engaged to work 4 days/week which can have flexible hours to allow weekend events. Sharon works from a virtual office.

Rev. Rodney Smith-Merkley**Minister for Respectful Relationship and Indigenous Justice (part-time)**

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6164

Email: rsmerkley@united-church.ca

Rodney's focus is to promote/resource/support East Central Ontario Regional Council priorities around Truth and Reconciliation; and support Clusters for one-time and ongoing gatherings and Networks (including the Network formerly known as Dancing the Circle of Right Relations). Rodney is passionate about re-imagining relationships between Indigenous Peoples, Settlers, and the Land. Rodney is engaged to work 1 day/week which can have flexible hours to allow for weekend events

Karen Wilson**Communications and Administrative Support (half-time)**

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6146

Email: kwilson@united-church.ca

Karen's primary responsibilities are to be a supporting role as a communication/social media specialist for East Central Ontario Regional Council (11) and expand community engagement and connections, particularly (but not exclusively) through use of the website, various social media platforms and publications. Other responsibilities include offering some administrative support (updating community of faith, leadership teams, cluster and network lists; emails, website, and newsletters, annual meeting preparation).

Karen Valley**Minister for the Office of Vocation**

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6107

Email: kvalley@united-church.ca

Karen's focus is the Candidacy Pathway and the oversight and discipline of ministry personnel for East Central Ontario Regional Council, Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council and Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council.

Tim Hackborn**Minister for the Indigenous of Vocation**

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 2223

Email: thackborn@united-church.ca

Tim's focus is the Indigenous Spiritual Formation and the oversight and discipline of ministry personnel for the Indigenous Church within all of the Regional Councils.

Rev. Roger Janes**Stewardship & Gifts Officer**

Tel: 1-800-268-3781 extension 6107

Email: rjanes@united-church.ca

Roger supports churches and individuals in all areas of stewardship whether that be setting and reaching mission and service goals, developing an annual budget or leaving a legacy gift.

AGENDA

******Note that this agenda is current as of the time of circulation,
but last minute changes may develop**

Friday June 4 Evening Session

6:15 pm	ZOOM meeting space opens
6:30 pm	Land Acknowledgement
	Elder Teaching
7:00 pm	Call to Order
	Gathering Worship
	Memorials and Recognitions
7:40 pm	Consent document
	Motion to adopt Consent
	Document
	Introductions
8:00 pm	Bio break
8:10 pm	Message from Moderator
	Office of Vocation
8:30 pm	Affirm Presentation
	Motion to become
	Affirming
9:00 pm	Session Closes

Saturday June 5 Morning Session

8:45 am	Zoom meetings space opens
9:00 am	Opening
9:10 am	Report of Priority Setting
	Motion to adopt
	Anti-Racism Policy
	Motion to adopt Policy
9:40 am	Nominations Report
	Motion to receive report
	Bio Break
	Interim Financial Report
	Roger James
	Stewardship and Gifts
	Office
11:10 am	Q&A, Comments
	Questions of Team
	Reports
	Comments on work completed
	sharing from breakout rooms
11:40 am	Covenanting with
	Volunteers and new staff, GC 44 comm
11:50 am	Concluding Motions
12:00 noon	Adjournment

THE RULES OF DEBATE AND ORDER**1. Presiding Officer**

The function of the Presiding Officer is to preside, with all that that implies. The Presiding Officer should not attempt to control the decision of the Court, but may express opinions on any matter before the Court. If the Presiding Officer wishes to introduce a motion or to present a report, the Presiding Officer shall ask another member to preside, and while out of the Chair shall be an ordinary member of the Court and must not assume the chair until the matter is disposed of. The Presiding Officer does not vote except in the event of a tie.

2. Questions of Privilege and Order

(a) A point of order may be raised while a matter is pending or while another member has the floor. When a point of order is raised it must be dealt with by the Presiding Officer without debate. If a member has the floor when a point of order is raised by another member, that member must yield the floor until the Presiding Officer has made a ruling.

(b) Any member of the Court may appeal from a ruling of the Chair, but only at the time when the ruling is made. But where a ruling is a precedent the general question of its correctness may be brought up later when there is no business pending, but cannot then affect the business transacted under the ruling.

(c) When an appeal from a ruling is made, the Presiding Officer should state the point at issue, and may give reasons for the ruling. The Secretary shall then put the question in the following form: "Is the ruling of the Moderator (or such other title by which the Presiding Officer is known) sustained?" If the vote is a tie, the Presiding Officer is sustained. The Secretary shall declare the result.

3. Orders of the Day

(a) When an agenda has been adopted that does not specify the time for its items, such items are considered without time limit, unless the Court decides otherwise by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those voting.

(b) When an agenda has been adopted that specifies the time for particular items, such time shall be strictly adhered to, unless the Court decides otherwise by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those voting.(2010)

4. Order of Priority on Motions

(a) To close (2010)

(b) To fix the time to adjourn.

(c) To adjourn.

(d) To take an immediate vote (two-thirds (2/3) vote required).

(e) To limit or extend limits of debate (two-thirds (2/3) vote required).

(f) To postpone definitely.

(g) To commit or refer.

(h) To amend.

(i) To postpone indefinitely.

(j) To deal with main motions.

5. Procedures on Motion

(a) A member of the Court proposes a motion.

(b) It is seconded. If there is no seconder, the motion fails.

(c) When the motion is duly moved and seconded, the Presiding Officer states the motion and declares it open for discussion. If the mover has not already done so, the mover has the right to introduce the discussion.

(d) A motion is out of order when it conflicts with a resolution previously passed at the same session unless it is a motion to reconsider.

- (e) Without the permission of the Court, no member may speak more than once on any motion or on any amendment thereto.
- (f) The mover of a motion has the right of reply before any vote is taken thereon or on any amendment thereto. Even when the Court has directed that an immediate vote be taken on a motion, the mover still has the right of reply.
- (g) When a motion has two (2) or more clearly defined parts or points of issue, and any two (2) members request that it be divided, a separate vote must be taken on each part.
- (h) Any motion may be withdrawn but only with the consent of its mover and seconder.
- (i) After a motion is under consideration a question of order cannot be raised against it unless the motion is ultra vires.

6. Procedure on Amendments

- (a) Any member except the mover or the seconder of the motion may move a relevant amendment thereto.
- (b) An amendment must be seconded, and if there is no seconder it fails.
- (c) A motion is amended by striking out certain words or clauses, adding certain words or clauses, or striking out all after the word “Resolved” (or the word “that”), and inserting another motion that will dispose of the matter. An amendment that merely negatives a motion before the Court is out of order.
- (d) There may be an amendment to the amendment, provided it has been duly seconded.
- (e) There is no limit to the number of amendments, but at any one time there can be before the Court only the motion, the amendment, and the amendment to the amendment.
- (f) When an amendment is disposed of, other relevant amendments may be proposed.
- (g) The discussion is always on the immediately pending question, and it must be voted on first. When a motion, an amendment, and an amendment to the amendment are before the Court, the two first named are “pending questions” and the last is the “immediately pending question.” When the immediately pending question is disposed of, the one above it then becomes the immediately pending question, until the whole matter is disposed of.
- (h) When an amendment carries, it is not thereby adopted as the finding of the Court, but only changes the proposition under discussion.
- (i) When a motion, an amendment, and an amendment to the amendment are before a Court, three (3) separate votes including “for” and “against” must be taken. The first determines whether the amendment shall be amended, the second determines whether the motion shall be amended, and the third determines whether the motion, in whatever form it is then before the Court, shall be adopted or rejected.

7. Procedure on Voting

- (a) A vote is generally taken viva voce or by a show of hands. The Presiding Officer may ask for a standing vote. Upon motion duly passed, the vote shall be taken by ballot. In all actions of Church Courts regarding membership in the Order of Ministry requiring voting procedure, the vote shall be taken by ballot unless waived by unanimous consent; that is, on motion to waive, no dissenting vote is cast. See also sections C.5.7 and D.4.4 of the bylaws.
- (b) In the event of a tie, the Presiding Officer shall cast the deciding vote.
- (c) An affirmative vote on a motion does not validate any motion that is ultra vires of the Court, or that contravenes a decision of a higher Court.

(d) In the conduct of United Church business, voting by proxy or by mail-in ballot is not permitted. Voting by telephone or by email is permitted only when it occurs during a meeting that is held in a manner that allows all of the persons participating to communicate with one another simultaneously and instantaneously.(2010)

8. Procedure on Motion to Reconsider

(a) A motion to reconsider may be made at any time when the floor is vacant; but the actual reconsideration has only the same priority as the motion to be reconsidered.

(b) A motion to reconsider must be moved by a member who voted with the majority. Any member may second.

(c) If a motion to reconsider is dealt with at the same meeting in which the original motion was adopted, it will fail unless two-thirds (2/3) of those voting are in favour thereof. If a motion to reconsider is dealt with at a subsequent meeting of the Court, a majority of those voting determines the question.

(d) When any motion to reconsider has been duly seconded, all action on the original motion is suspended until the motion to reconsider has been disposed of. No motion to reconsider can be entertained by the Court where action has already been taken under the original motion.

(e) A motion cannot be reconsidered twice unless materially changed on the first reconsideration. If a motion to reconsider has been lost, it cannot be repeated.

(f) A motion to reconsider is debatable only when the motion to be reconsidered is debatable. It cannot be amended, postponed indefinitely, or committed.

9. Motion to Refer

A motion to refer is debatable, but only as to the wisdom and manner of the proposed referral. It requires only a majority of those voting.

10. Motion to Postpone Indefinitely

A motion to postpone indefinitely, when in order, must be put without debate. If the motion is lost, it cannot be repeated or reconsidered. If carried, the motion along with all amendments is removed from debate. At any time it may be brought back before the Court by motion duly seconded and carried. In such case the question is before the Court in exactly the position it held at the time it was removed from debate. A motion to postpone indefinitely can have no conditions attached to it. If a time is specified, it immediately ceases to be a motion to postpone indefinitely and becomes a motion to postpone definitely and is debatable.(2007)

11. Motion to Take an Immediate Vote

If a motion to take an immediate vote (for which a two-thirds (2/3) vote is required) is carried, the vote shall be taken immediately. The mover of the main motion, however, shall have the right to reply before the vote is taken. If such a motion fails, debate on the main motion shall continue. A motion to take an immediate vote is not debatable.

12. Motion to Adjourn

A motion to adjourn is intended to suspend a meeting until another time. A motion to adjourn is in order only if there is already an agreed-upon time and place for resuming the meeting, or if the motion specifies a time and place for resuming the meeting. A motion to adjourn requires a seconder. Only the conditions attached to the motion to adjourn, such as time and place for resuming the meeting, are debatable; the wisdom of adjourning is not debatable.(2010)

13. Closing a Meeting (2010)

(a) A motion to close is intended to terminate a meeting. A new meeting may commence, at a future time, by previous agreement or by call. There can be no conditions attached to a motion to close. A motion to close requires a seconder. A motion to close is not debatable.(2010)

(b) When all the business and purposes of a meeting have been attended to and the Presiding Officer is satisfied that there is no further business before the Court, the Presiding Officer may declare that the meeting is closed, without the need for a motion to close.(2010)

14. Committee of the Whole

(a) Any Court, for greater freedom of discussion, may, on motion duly made, seconded, and carried, move into a Committee of the Whole. Any such motion is neither debatable nor amendable, except only as to the scope of the subject to be discussed. The motion is not in order if there is a pending motion to adjourn the meeting or to postpone discussion on the subject.(2007)

(b) The first act of the Committee of the Whole is to appoint a chairperson and a secretary. A separate minute of the proceedings is taken.(2007)

(c) The ordinary limitations of debate do not prevail in the Committee of the Whole. The chairperson restates the matter(s) to be considered. Discussion is then opened and is conducted informally. Motions need not be seconded. Unless the resolution creating the Committee of the Whole imposes restrictions, there are no restrictions, within reason, on the number of times a member may speak or on the length of speeches, except that priority is given to a member who has not yet spoken.(2007)

(d) When the deliberations of the Committee of the Whole are concluded, the Committee will dispose of a motion that the Committee rise and report; this motion does not require seconding and is neither debatable nor amendable. When this motion is passed, a report is prepared and submitted to the chairperson of the main meeting, who reconvenes the main meeting.(2007)

(e) A Committee of the Whole can neither adjourn nor terminate; it only can report back to the main meeting. It can, of course, recess briefly to prepare its report.(2007)

15. General

(a) When a member utters language that another member considers offensive, the latter may require that the words be taken down. The speaker is then allowed to proceed. When the speaker yields the floor, the words complained of may be considered and dealt with. Such words may not be privileged.

(b) Members of any Court should at all times therein conduct themselves with dignity, fairness, and understanding. The prime concern should be the good order and welfare of the church.

(c) In any point not covered in The Manual, the parliamentary rules accepted in Canada (Bourinot) shall be followed.

ENABLING MOTIONS

1. Regional Council Roll:
That the Ministerial Roll of the Regional Council and the non-Ministerial Roll of the Regional Council thus constituted be now taken as read.
2. Other Delegates:
That anyone who has a role to play at the General Meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council (e.g. members of the Regional Council Assembly of Elders, Chairs of Leadership Teams and who has not been appointed as a delegate by her/his Community of Faith, be a full delegate with all the privileges of other delegates, and that the youth and young adult representatives from each Community of Faith be full delegates.
3. Corresponding Members:
That the students serving this Regional Council; the candidates for Ordination, Commissioning and re-Admission, those present as invited guests of this Regional Council, staff, resource persons, all who have registered for the Youth and Young Adult Event and other guests recognized by this court, be invited to sit as corresponding members of the Court.
4. Minimum Number of Members at Meetings:
That the minimum number of members for any session of this Regional Council is present (C.4.3, The Manual 2019).
5. Agenda:
That the agenda as printed and circulated, the reports, and the daily Agenda, be adopted as the Agenda for this meeting, subject to such changes as may be approved by this Court.
6. Procedures for Reports:
That the following procedure with respect to reports being presented at the Regional Council be adopted.
 - a. Reports and any attendant recommendations be dealt with in the allotted time.
 - b. If action has not been completed in the allotted time, then the Regional Council may:
 - i. Request that additional time on the Agenda be arranged by the Business Leadership Team
 - ii. Refer the report with its recommendation(s) to the appropriate body or bodies concerned, along with power to issue
 - iii. Refer the report with its recommendation(s) to the Assembly of Elders of the Regional Council for such action as the Assembly of Elders deems appropriate.
7. Meeting of the Assembly of Elders:
That the Assembly of Elders (which is empowered to act on behalf of the Regional Council between the meetings of the Court) be empowered to meet, if necessary, during the sessions of this Regional Council meeting and report those matters which require the approval of this Court.
8. Inclusive Language:
It is recommended that every attempt be made to use inclusive (non-sexist) language in all worship, reports, petitions and discussions in this Court.
9. Business Leadership Team:
That the *Business Leadership Team* be members from the Facilitation Team

10. Scrutineers/Stewards:
That the *Scrutineers/Stewards* be members of the tech team.
11. Financial Policy to address requests for unbudgeted expenses:

Policy Regarding Financial Appeals at Annual Meetings

POLICY NAME: Policy regarding Financial Appeals at the Annual Meeting of the Regional Council	<i>Date Approved: February 25, 2019</i>
	<i>Review date:</i>
Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to clarify limits of the budget process. The Manual C.2.5.	

Preamble

This document outlines the East Central Ontario Regional Council's policy and best practices regarding requests for funding outside of the approved annual budget at the annual meeting.

Policy

It is the policy of East Central Ontario Regional Council to affirm and uphold the use and function of the Business Committee for matters coming to the floor of the Annual Meeting of the Regional Council.

It is the policy of East Central Ontario Regional Council that any motion committing the East Central Ontario Regional Council to the expenditure of non-budgeted sums of money be required to have a budget attached;

It is the policy of East Central Ontario Regional Council that any motion committing the East Central Ontario Regional Council to non-budgeted expenditures which are presented during the Annual Meeting be automatically referred to the Assembly of Elders who may request input from the Mission through Property Leadership Team first before making the decision;

It is the policy of East Central Ontario Regional Council that in the interests of fairness and justice, requests for funding of projects or groups not covered in the existing financial budgets be subject to conditions and criteria similar to those that are currently expected of requests for Mission Support, and other funds available within the Regional Council.

Retirees

Rev. Tim Dayfoot



I am very happy, and deeply grateful, to be celebrating my retirement with you this year after a rich and rewarding career in two different types of ministry – 23 years in long-term pastoral ministry and 12 ½ years in short-term supply and intentional interim ministry. My long-term positions started in 1985 in London Conference’s Lambton Presbytery, then Middlesex Presbytery, and ended when I left my third pastoral charge in Toronto Conference’s York Presbytery in 2008. Moving to supply ministry in Aurora United Church was the beginning of my transition into intentional interim ministry with six different pastoral charges in Oshawa Presbytery, Living Waters Presbytery, and East Central Ontario Regional Council. And now I have too many amazing and wonderful stories to tell in a brief reflection such as this.

However, the story I would most like to tell at this time is also much too long. It is the story of my diagnosis in 1993 of bipolar disorder. Living and working in ministry with a mental health disorder has been, to put it mildly, a significant spiritual and practical challenge for me and for my ever-supportive spouse, Leta. The stories of ministers who live and work with mental health illnesses are not often heard. And since the stories are so rare, the ones we do hear can be misconstrued and misunderstood. During my ministry I chose to keep my own mental health story mostly under wraps. But now that I am retired I want to join the conversations about mental wellness that are becoming more common in the church and in society.

The full story of my experience with mental illness would end with me saying that the world and the church are changing. We are more ready to explore what authenticity and healthy boundaries are for all of us. In 2019 I joined the General Council’s Working Group on Mental Health and the report that came out of this group goes to the next meeting of General Council. The report seeks to help in the church’s effort to provide more support for mental wellness in new and exciting ways. The National United Church’s newly formed Mental Health Network is another way our church will keep this conversation going.

I cannot tell you what I always thought retirement would mean to me. But now that it has started I am discovering that it continues to be a time when God infuses us with the courage and the desire to ask the questions that can lead us to new and abundant life. Thanks be to God.

Rev. Judith Evenden

The first verse of Ecclesiastes, chapter 3, tells us that: “For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven”, except when you’re living in the midst of a pandemic. If nothing else, what the last fifteen months has taught many, if not most, of us is that plans must be flexible, expectations soft, and patience at a premium.

For those of us trained in the 1980s, there was nothing in the practice of ministry curriculums that came anywhere close to how to be a minister in the midst of a pandemic. Regardless of age or years of experience, I don’t think there is a clergy colleague on this planet who ever imagined we would be doing what we have been doing for the last year. Preparing and providing Online worship over Facebook, YouTube, Zoom, RingCentral, and probably a whole host of other platforms that I’ve never even heard of, we’ve also mailed printed services to members who have no other means to participate and engaged in extended phone and video chats as the only means of offering

Pastoral Care. All of this brought about because of the COVID-19 virus that has been circling the globe since December 2019. And now, even with no clear date for us to return to our sanctuary, I am planning for a November 1st retirement. Wow!

33 years have come and gone since I graduated from the now closed Queen’s Theological College, and 21 since I was ordained by the former Bay of Quinte Conference. (Is there a message in all those endings?) In the intervening years I have served 12 pastoral charges as candidate supply, settled, regular supply, Intentional Interim, and done contract work in the areas of pastoral care, congregational and community development. I am currently in a Call to Crossroads United, the only congregation to have ever called me into their midst without me having been already appointed their supply minister. During these years I have also served at all levels of governance in our Church, including four years on the General Council Executive, and the National Nominations Committee, and as a three-time Commissioner to General Council. Like the rest of the Commissioners from GC 43, including our Moderator, the pandemic has meant an extra year before that work is also done.

My spouse, Eleanor, has faithfully been by my side during these last 3 decades as I sought opportunities to minister to a church that was not always ready to have a lesbian minister and her spouse in full public view. This journey has taken us to Toronto, Waterloo, Northbrook, Delta-Toledo, Carlton Place, and Kingston. There have been many breaks in employment that left me questioning if the bold step taken the Bay of Quinte Conference - I was the first openly “gay” person ordained - was out of step with the rest of the church. For those who held fast with us through all of the ups and downs, thank you. You will never know just how important your friendships have been to us, especially in the lean times.

What will retirement bring? Well, as I said at the beginning, my plans will be flexible, my expectations soft, and my patience at a premium. One of my favorite mugs, a gift from a dear friend who followed me around the province, showing up at least once at almost all of the churches I served, describes well my plans. It says, I am going to do “Whatever I want”, and “Live in the MEOW-MENT”, with special attention to the wants and needs of me and my family, which includes a wise cat named Princess Sophia! May it be so! Amen!

Rev. Nan Hudson

Nan is grateful to God for the varied opportunities to serve and minister that she has had over her lifetime, beginning with personally transformational time in India as a volunteer with Mother Teresa and the Missionaries of Charity, and unfolding ever since. Before entering seminary, she worked in international relief and development work with World Vision in Cambodia and the Philippines for over 4 years. She then did a joint degree in Divinity and Social Work while at Emmanuel College & U of T, and was ordained directly to outreach ministry in Parkdale, Toronto, focussing on food security solutions. Asia remained on her heart, however, and she then served as the Area Secretary for East Asia with the former Division of World Outreach for almost a decade, before moving to Kingston and joining the former Bay of Quinte Conference staff as Minister for Stewardship and Mission.

During that time, Nan was asked to become involved in two volunteer roles outside of the church, which remain dear to her to this day. She was appointed to the ‘shadow Board’ that was able to de-amalgamate Women’s College Hospital in Toronto from Sunnybrook, and then served 3 terms on the official Board during the years of demolition and rebuilding that created the wonderful state-of-the-art hospital that it is today. She also joined and is still serving with the Board of Transforming Faces, a Toronto-based global NGO that trains and equips medical teams around the world to treat children born with cleft lip and palate.

Following BQ, Nan worked as the Executive Director of the Canadian Institute of Cultural Affairs in Toronto for five years, returning to full-time life at home in Kingston in 2014. She always joked that ‘perhaps she would be called to congregational ministry in her “old age”’, and sure enough, following an offer to help out for “a week or two” at Faith United in Kingston when their minister fell suddenly ill, she is now retiring from almost 7 wonderful years as their Minister. During this time, she worked with the congregation to consider what purposes God might have for the piece of unused land that Faith didn’t use when they decided years ago they would prefer to rent rather than build. This resulted in the creation of ‘Walking the Path of Peace Together’ with members of the local Indigenous community, an initiative that is now Indigenous-led and anticipated to lead to the repatriation of that land to an Indigenous non-profit organization.

In retirement, Nan is looking forward to spending a lot more time with her partner of over 25 years, retired minister Elizabeth Macdonald, and catching up to her in discovering how wonderful retirement can be, visiting beloved friends and family as this pandemic wanes. The only thing that is left on her calendar is her ongoing commitment to Transforming Faces, which she cherishes, and she’s happy to have nothing more on that calendar for now. She believes that God has always opened new doors worth waiting for, and she wishes her fellow retirees a healthy and joy-filled retirement as they also step down from their years of ministry.

Rev. David Moore



I have lived my entire life within the United Church of Canada. I am a child of the manse; my father Rev. William Moore was a United Church Minister and my mother, Eileen, had been a medical missionary prior to marriage. My Grandfather, George Moore, came to Canada as a Methodist Circuit Rider to Northern Ontario early in the 20th Century. As a third generation, my retirement closes over 100 years of continuous service to the church.

My first experience of call came while attending the Ontario Youth Parliament in 1977. Four years later I entered the Candidacy process and began ministry as a Student Supply Minister at the Millbank Pastoral Charge in what was then Huron-Perth Presbytery in London Conference from 1982-1986. I was placed at St. Andrew's United Church in St. Thomas, Elgin Presbytery, London Conference in 1986 as Candidate Supply and was settled there upon ordination in 1987. In 1992 I accepted a call to Trinity in Cobourg where I served until 1995.

I remember clearly sitting in a restaurant with then chair of Cobourg Presbytery, Rev. Paul Putman and discussing call and the emerging needs identified in downtown Oshawa. To answer this call would mean a long-term ministry as the city was about to undergo a profound change. I arrived in Oshawa in the summer of 1995 with my family and embarked on a ministry that has been both pastoral and prophetic. Working with members of the congregation at Simcoe Street United Church, I founded the Back Door Mission in 1997. The Back Door Mission for the Relief of Poverty was incorporated in 2012 as a United Church of Canada Charity.

My prophetic ministry focussed on helping the local and regional governments deal with the increased poverty and concentration of homelessness in Oshawa. In 1995 with a group of downtown based agencies we created the Street Safe Committee to advocate for the most vulnerable in the city, liaising with police, social services, and support agencies. This initiative grew to become the Durham Advisory Committee on Homelessness (DACH), made up of Agencies and government representatives, formed in 1998. I am the last remaining original member!

As the pandemic begins to wind down, I am convinced that my own ministry is complete. It is time for the congregation to become something new as well, and for me to pass the torch. I am grateful for my 39 years in active ministry with the immense privilege that I have been afforded to accompany the people in the congregations I have served in ministry and so many of the important times of their lives. I look forward to whatever God leads me into now.

I have served the wider church as well in various capacities over the years. I have chaired Presbytery, chaired committees and divisions at Conference and National levels. I worked with the Planning Team for General Councils in London in 1990 and Oshawa in 2018 and created the Festival of Faith for GC43. Along with my wife and life partner Wendy, we have raised our three children, Avala, Eric and Justin.

Rev. Dr. Jean Stairs



The Rev. Dr. Jean Stairs was ordained in 1982 within the Baptist Convention of Ontario and Quebec (the 5th woman to be ordained in its history) and admitted in 1998 by (then) Bay of Quinte Conference to The United Church of Canada. This will represent 40 years of ordained service in October 2022.

Jean is a well-known author and her book *Listening for the Soul: Pastoral Care and Spiritual Direction* (2000) continues to be a best-seller and textbook for pastoral courses in theological schools in Canada, The USA, Britain, New Zealand, Spain and Australia. Her recent book *Soul Sisters: Re-Imagining Women's Groups* (2015) addresses the question of what vibrant women's groups in Protestant churches look like now and in the future. She is a theological educator who, from 1991-2011 served as Associate Professor and from 2001 to 2011 as the first female Principal of the Queen's School of Religion (formerly Queen's Theological College) at Queen's University. She taught courses in Preaching, Spiritual Care, Multi-cultural Care and Counselling and Feminist Theology. During her twenty years in theological education she served as Chair of the Association of Theological Field Education (ATFE), Chair of an Accrediting Commission for the Pacific School of Religion, and member of the

Association of Theological Schools' Commission on Accrediting.

Prior to her involvement in theological education, her service in congregational ministry included pastorates at Acton Baptist and Tyneside Baptist churches. Following her relinquishment of service in theological education and a year-long deferred sabbatical, she returned to full-time congregational ministry. From 2012 to 2019 she flourished as the Minister of Christian Education, Pastoral Care and Outreach at Edith Rankin Memorial United Church in Kingston, Ontario. During this time she developed a dynamic partnership between Edith Rankin Memorial United Church and Iglesia Bautista Emmanuel, San Salvador, which established a scholarship fund that annually supports the work of Collégio Bautista Emmanuel.

In 2018 she was the recipient of the Kingston YMCA's "Peace Medallion" in recognition of her work in forming the West Kingston Refugee Partnership. This collaboration between five west-end United churches, The Islamic Society of Kingston and community members brought three Syrian refugee families to Kingston. Post-retirement, in 2019-2020 she initiated a further collaboration with Habitat for Humanity's Kingston chapter. This led to a new 3-bedroom townhome for the first Syrian family that had arrived in Kingston.

She is married to the Rev. Dr. Wayne Soble, has two step-sons and a 14 year old granddaughter. Jean and her spouse Wayne ceased full time ministry on June 30, 2019. Thus far, retirement has been defined primarily by Covid and its necessary restrictions. However, as we know, Covid has facilitated its own strange blessings. She has deepened her appreciation for attending to the interior life, spends more time in nature and making music, the latter primarily through a long-awaited return to "tinkling the ivories" on a regular basis. She participates weekly in virtual pilates classes, cycles, belongs to a women's book club, tends her floral and vegetable gardens while preserving the produce generated, reads voraciously, reflects and writes, enjoys the company of her spouse and miniature schnauzer puppy, zooms (for worship, theatre, fitness and familial, local and global connections) and continues to support the Syrian parents and children that became extended families.

Memorials**Rev. Norman Esdon
June 24, 1944 – December 31, 2020**

Norm graduated from Queen's University with degrees in chemistry, math and physics in 1967, followed by a teacher's certificate at the Ontario College of Education in 1968. He taught chemistry at Royal York Collegiate in Etobicoke from 1967-1974, and then Twin Lakes Secondary School in Orillia until 1977. Norm felt the call to ministry and attained his Masters of Divinity from Emmanuel College, and was ordained as a minister in the United Church of Canada in 1980. He ministered at Gagetown-Grand Lake in New Brunswick for five years, followed by Adolphustown-Conway in Ontario for another sixteen years. He was well-loved and respected as an inspiring preacher and a gentle, compassionate pastoral care giver. He had always been an avid photographer with a lifetime collection of over 50,000 images. He was talented at capturing the essence of all that he photographed--be it mountains or prairies, lakes and oceans, flowers and leaves, or animals and birds. All of Creation was a wonder to him. His poetry was an extension of his photography--how he saw the world. His poems were, and still are, messages of grace. He published two books of poetry reflecting his ministry, and photography, the first being 'Poems for God Questors' and the second, 'Questing for God through poetry', which he wrote and compiled during his long illness. Norm

had a significant impact on the United Church as a whole. He was a strong and thoughtful advocate for the inclusion of all people regardless of sexual orientation in or ministry. He also used his artistic talents as a contributor to the Bulletin Advisory Committee, later becoming the Chair of the committee. Because of his wonderful ability to communicate profound truths through poetry, preaching and photography, Norm received the 2016 Queen's University School of Religion Theology Alumni Achievement Award. In 2020, Sydenham Street United Church bestowed him with the title of 'Poet Laureate. He wanted to thank the staff at the Cancer Centre of Eastern Ontario who took such great care of him for the last two years. A celebration of Norm's life will be held at Sydenham Street United Church in Kingston when Covid-19 has been controlled. Norm's books of poetry can be acquired through Sydenham Street United Church at sydenham@kos.net or 613-542-9616.

...pure light goes before us, A pillar of fire shining forth in the night; Till shadows have vanished from light into light.

Rev. Theodore Snelgrove
Jan. 26, 1927 – Feb 18, 2021

Ted was born on Jan. 26, 1927 in Grates Cove, Newfoundland to Joshua and Minnie Martin.

Ted studied for the ministry at Pine Hill Divinity Hall in Halifax, graduating in 1958. He was ordained in Newfoundland Conference.

The first pastoral charge he served at the following pastoral charges in Newfoundland: Moreton's Harbour, Kings Point, Fort Blandford, and West Cape.

In 1963 he moved to Prince Edward Island and served the church at West Cape for three years.

After that he made the big move to Ontario, serving first in Newtonville and then at the Rawdon-Springbrook pastoral charge in 1974. He Retired in 1980 from the Rawden Springbrook Pastoral Charge. Where they remember him as great minister and all round good man. He was retained on the roles of Belleville Presbytery and the Kingston Presbytery which became Four winds.

My memories of Ted go back to 2013 when I began as Pastoral Relations Minister and talked to all of the retired ministers of the Bay of Quinte Conference. He fondly remembered his young life in Newfoundland and was fierce in his struggle for independence some thing that was in question at that time. He wished me well in the new job and reminded me to be careful not to get lost in the work, to be intentional about the things of faith. Clearly, his pastoral skills were strong and maintained even as so many things where fading.

Theodore Snelgrove was faithful in active of the United Church of Canada ministry for 22 years. In him we may remember a good and faithful servant.

Rev. Malcolm Douglas Stienburg
November 19, 2020 – November 19, 2020



Mac graduated with a BA from Mount Allison University in 1959; B.Div from Queens in 1961; and M.Div in 1966. He was a champion of the downtrodden and oppressed, always willing to go above and beyond to lend a helping hand to those in need. He served during the late 50's and early 60's in the Mission fields in Alberta, Saskatchewan and Quebec. Mac was an ordained minister in Saskatchewan and Ontario for over 50 years. As well as enriching the communities with his faith, he also actively participated and pursued his passion for softball and hockey, where he pitched and played goal.

He was appointed Chaplain at Collins Bay Institution in 1968, and later worked as a Parole Officer in Kingston. He was appointed Regional Secretary, Member, and then Senior Member of the National Parole Board, where he retired from in 1993. Mac settled in the Kingston area after retirement, and enjoyed continuing with ministering by assisting local churches whenever there was a need (usually in exchange for a home-baked pie). Mac was an active retiree in the life of Kingston Presbytery serving many churches in the Kingston area during times of

transition.

Mac had a difficult struggle with Alzheimer's and dementia, but he continued to maintain his tremendous wit and sense of humour. The numerous stories shared over the past several years about how Mac has impacted the local community and individual families, has been a source of strength and pride for the family.

Rev. Robert Golston Wallace
Nov 22, 1926 – Mar 9, 2021



Rev Robert (Bob) Died at home in Tweed on March 9th 2021. Bob was Ordained to United Church of Canada in 1965. He came to ministry after working as a machinist, and metalworker, working on the fabrication team for the Avro Arrow where many life long friend friendships were forged. Ministry took him across Ontario with ministry at Burkes Falls, in Hamilton and the on the Roblin Enterprise Pastoral charge. Family was a central feature in Bob's life he was predeceased by his wife of 66 years Olive.

Bob spoke fondly of his years in ministry and is remembered fondly as a kind and courageous minister. He was proud of the home he built for Olive and retirement in Tweed. A home that was furnished with furniture that he loved to build and work on. Our conversations talk about the future of the United Church and of course of the days working on the Arrow.

Murray Whetung, DLM
1921 – February 26, 2021

The Michi Saagliig Community of Curve Lake First Nation Lost a mighty and wonderful elder February 26th at age 99. Born in 1921 two years before the signing of the Williams treaty, Murray with his late wife Elva raise 13 children among his progeny are granddaughter Emily Whetung, Curve Lakes current Chief and son James who has been spearheading the restoration of wild rice in the Kawarthas.

There is a common denominator among his children that has come from his life long commitment to giving back. Murray was a signalman in the Canadian Armed forces during the Second World War, part of the horrific assaults on Normandy. Later he was by times a bush worker, a hunter, a small-engine mechanic, a gardener, a band councillor, a Designated lay Minister of the United Church of Canada.

We remember Murray across the United Church as part of the first group of DLMS to graduate from the Frances Sandy Theological Center. He was involved in the beginning's the All Native Circle Conference, the beginning's of a self-determining Indigenous Church. Murray has been one of the Indigenous Leaders who called us to account for past and ongoing abuses, leading to the historic 1986 apology.

Known for his strong commitment to both Christian and Anishnaabe Spirituality he was once asked how he held the two together, his response "They are both the same thing." For him it was self evident. Murray knew well the endless struggles against colonial oppression ye he seldom let his frustration show. He under stood the healing power of humour.

In this body we remember his years of service with the Alderville church and the long association with the Curve Lake Church his home. In Murray we have lost one of the strong partners in our search for reconciliation. He will be missed even as his voice is woven in to the fabric of the United Church in a way that will eco across future generations.

2020-21 Summary of Actions by Assembly of Elders

2020-10-02_115 MOTION (S. Coles/P. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accepts the following participants as corresponding members: Beth Symes the Reviewer and from Chalmers, Bob Little, Joan Simeon, Al Fletcher, Monika Holzschuh, Lynne Clarke, and out-going members of the Assembly of Elders: Ryan McNally, Jean Wilson and Steve Spicer. **Carried**

2020-10-02_116 MOTION (R. Lambie/T. Meyers) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives the Review Report prepared by Ms Beth Symes and verbal response of Chalmers United Church (Kingston). **Carried**

2020-10-02_117 MOTION (S. Coles/L. Watson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Rev. David King as Pastoral Charge Supervisor. **Carried**

2020-10-02_118 MOTION (D. McLean/I. Robbs) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders agree to meet on October 9th 2020 at 9 a.m. to further discuss and decide on the recommendation of the review of Chalmers United Church. **Carried**

2020-10-09_119 MOTION (L. Watson/T. Meyers) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders make Stevan Spicer, Jean Wilson and Ryan McNally corresponding members. **Carried**

2020-10-09_120 MOTION (L. Watson/P. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the minutes of October 2, 2020 as received. **Carried**

2020-10-09_121 MOTION (P. Wilson/N. Sutherland) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders resolve:

That the Regional Council appoint:

- a. A minister for pastoral care, continuing education and worship for a period of one year and potentially extended for a second year;
- b. That the congregation of Chalmers United contract with Faith Care;
- c. That the mandate of the facilitation/mediation service be to determine whether there is a congregation at Chalmers United of sufficient number and financial viability that is committed, flexible, and willing to accept the outcome of a restructuring and revisioning of the congregation without limit;
- d. That the facilitation/mediation leadership report its conclusion to the Assembly of Elders within 3 months of initiating the work;
- e. That Coordinating Council of Elders (CCE), with the assistance of the Pastoral Charge Supervisor, continue with the administration of Chalmers for three (3) months;
- f. That Chalmers United be responsible for the remuneration of the appointed minister and administrators and for all costs associated with the remedial process.

Carried

2020-10-23-122 MOTION (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoints Paul Reed as the Speaker until the rise of the next Regional Council gathering. **Carried**

2020-10-23-123 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Sharon Hull as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **Carried**

2020-10-23-124 MOTION (B. James/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

2020-10-23-125 MOTION (R. Lambie/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the Minutes of September 11, 2020 as circulated. **Carried**

2020-10-23-126 MOTION (R. Lambie/N. Sutherland) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approved the Minutes of October 9, 2020 as circulated. **Carried**

2020-10-23-127 MOTION (M. Fortin/D. McLean) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives with gratitude the gift of Responsive Liturgy from Cheryl Mound and will encourage it being used throughout the Regional Council (see **appendix A**). **Carried**

2020-10-23-128 MOTION (S. Coles/ B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Rev. Meggin King as pastoral charge supervisor for Smithfield-Carmen Pastoral Charge as of November 1, 2020. **Carried**

2020-10-23-129 MOTION (S. Coles/ I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Rev. Kathy Russell-Duggan as pastoral charge supervisor for Consecon Pastoral Charge as of November 1, 2020. **Carried**

2020-10-23-130 MOTION (S. Coles/ I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the appointment of Bryan Ransom, ordained minister, to retired supply ministry (20 hours per week) at Emmanuel United Church, Peterborough from October 22, 2020 to November 30, 2020. **Carried**

2020-10-23-131 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders acknowledges receipt of the correspondence dated October 22, 2020 from Nancy Payne and Debbie Sherwin regarding communication breakdown with Licensed Lay Worship Leaders, and request a review of a mandate of the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders Forum. **Carried**

2020-10-23-132 MOTION (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received the requests of Cressy United Church and Glenora United Church to amalgamate; becoming a united entity as of January 1, 2021, do so give approval. **Carried**

2020-10-23-133 MOTION (K. Whyte/I. Robb) in accordance with Section C.2.9 of The United Church of Canada Manual (2019), the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of St. Stephen's United Church, Oshawa, Ontario, that Michelle Hofman, Diaconal Minister be licenced to administer the Sacraments within the boundaries of the community of faith, effective immediately and for the duration of her call, and furthermore, that her Ontario wedding licence continue under the same terms. **Carried**

2020-10-23-134 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent

1. to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Concession 1, Pt Lot 16 19R-1525, Pts 1-3, Algonquin Highlands, and municipal address which is an un-numbered lot on East Road, pursuant to an agreement between the Board of Trustees of Highland Hills United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as seller, and Judy Titus, as purchaser, dated the 15th day of October, 2020, and subject to Regional Council approval, the terms of which are as follows:
 - Purchaser - Judy Titus who is planning to build a single-family home on the property
 - Sale Price - \$81,054
 - Deposit of ten thousand dollars on acceptance of the offer
 - Closing - Nov 20, 2020
 - Balance of purchase price, subject to adjustments, to be paid on closing
 - Conditions - solely the approval of UCC

2. to the following disposition of the proceeds arising from the transaction: To transfer 10% of the proceeds, net of the selling costs, to the United Church of Canada Indigenous Ministries and to invest the balance in secure investments. Income generated by investments will be used for operations. Any principal will be used for capital works or other substantial projects to the benefit of the pastoral charge only on the approval of The United Church of Canada.
3. The Real Property referred to in the above resolution is within the bounds of Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council;
4. The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of Highland Hills United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada and part of the Highland Hills Pastoral Charge, in trust for Highland Hills United Church as a part of The United Church of Canada;
5. The said congregation and pastoral charge are subject to the oversight of the East Central Ontario Regional Council. **Carried**

2020-10-23-135 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its approval to the application for a national Modernization grant for the furnace at the manse, in the amount of \$3373.14. **Carried**

2020-10-23-136 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that having received the request of Glenora United Church to list the church property, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent to

1. to the listing for sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is part lot 7, concession 1, south of the Bay of Quinte, North Marysburgh, as in NM2711 except 47R6767 PE119823 Prince Edward , and the municipal address of which is 230 County Road 7, Picton, Ontario, KOK 2T0, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Glenora United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as seller, and ReMax Realty, Kevin Gale, as realtor, dated the 5th day of October, 2020, and subject to Regional Council approval, the terms of which are as follows:
 - Kevin Gale - ReMax Quinte Ltd. Brokerage
 - Exceptions to be decided
 - Commission rate - 5% plus HST
 - Asking price - \$499,000.
 - Possession date - Before December 31, 2020
2. to the following disposition of the proceeds arising from the transaction: To transfer 10% of the proceeds, net of the selling costs, to the United Church of Canada Indigenous Ministries and to invest the balance in secure investments. Income generated by investments will be used for operations. Any principal will be used for capital works or other substantial projects to the benefit of the pastoral charge only on the approval of The United Church of Canada.
3. The Real Property referred to in the above resolution is within the bounds of the East Central Ontario Regional Council;
4. The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of Glenora United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada and part of the Cressy/ Glenora Pastoral Charge, in trust for Glenora United Church, as a part of The United Church of Canada;
5. The said congregation and pastoral charge are subject to the oversight of Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council. **Carried**

2020-10-23-137 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent to

1. to the sale of certain Real Property, known as Miller Memorial Church and Hall, the legal description of which is Lt4 RCP 553, Kawartha Lakes and the municipal address of which is 88 Algonquin Road, Little Britain,

Ontario, pursuant to an agreement between the Trustees of Little Britain United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as seller, and Pleasant Point Cemetery Trustees, as buyer, dated the 15th of July 2020 terms which are as follows:

2. for a sale, the terms would include the purchases, the sale price, the deposit, the balance due, the terms of any mortgage bank, conditions, warranties, the scheduled closing date:
\$1.00 to be paid to the Little Britain United Church General Fund
3. The Real Property referred to in the above resolution is within the bounds of Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council;
4. The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of Little Britain United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada as a part of The United Church of Canada;
5. The said congregation and pastoral charge are subject to the oversight of Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council. **Carried**

2020-10-23-138 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the request of Bridge Street United Church to use \$13,190.27 of their own funds to support renovations re feeding the social disadvantage and hungry in Bellville. Total project \$204,417 of which \$175,000 was received from a John M. & Bernice Parrott Grant Application. **Carried**

2020-10-23-139 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accepts the recommendation of the Mission through Property and Finance Leadership Team for the following Mission Support grants for 2021 as amended: under Doing Mission Together, under 2020, the total is \$23,800 (see **appendix E**). **Carried**

2020-10-23-140 MOTION (B. James/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received the request of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Leadership Team for additional funds to support special COVID19 worship projects, decide that an additional \$40,000 be allocated to Doing Mission Priority Grants budget (currently \$26,200) from surplus revenue in the 2020 budget. **Carried**

2020-10-23-141 MOTION (M. Fortin/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received the request to support the ministry of Iglesia Bautista in El Salvador, particularly challenged because of COVID-19, agree to support fund-raising efforts to honour the long-standing relationship developed with many ECORC Communities of Faith (see **appendix J**). **Carried**

2020-10-23-142 MOTION (B. James/Ted Meyers) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Don McLean to join with the Affirm Forum, Ian Robb join with Covenant Support Team, Kathleen Whyte to join with Formation Nurture and Justice Team, and Nancy Sutherland to join the Equity Team as representatives. **Carried**

2020-10-23-143 MOTION (D. McLean/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Steve Coles, Ted Meyers, Brian James and Rosemary Lambie to form part of the search team for Communication

2020-10-23-144 MOTION (S. Coles/K. Whyte) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 12:38 pm. **Carried**

2020-11-27-145 MOTION (D. McLean/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Marilyn Fortin as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **Carried**

2020-11-27-146 MOTION (S. Coles/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

2020-11-27-147 MOTION (S. Coles/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of October 23, 2020 as circulated. **Carried**

2020-11-27-148 MOTION (T. Meyers/L. Watson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approved the Minutes of email poll closing November 18, 2020 as circulated.

2020-11-18_001 MOTION (B. James/T. Meyers) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is SW PT Lot 31- Con 9 Dummer Township, County of Peterborough and the municipal address of which is 3000 County Road 6 and pursuant to an agreement between the Board of Trustees of Carmen-Zion United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as seller, and Carol Larain James and Kenneth John Marvin Armstrong, as purchaser, dated the 12th day of November 2020, and subject to Regional Council approval, the terms of which are as follows:

- Sale Price - \$100,000
- Deposit of \$10,000 on acceptance of the offer
- Closing - Nov 30, 2020

2.to the following disposition of the proceeds arising from the transaction:

10% of the proceeds to the United Church of Canada Indigenous Ministries,

10% to Toronto United Church's Sustainable Energy Loan Fund,

20% to East Central Ontario Regional Council;

20% to United Church of Canada Mission and Service and

40% to local charitable purposes as per the following distribution

Camp Quin-mo-lac 10%

Duoro Dummer Fire Department 20%

Lakefield Community Care 10%

Lakefield Foodbank 10%

Lakefield Legion Branch 77 10%

Norwood Legion Branch 300 10%

Peterborough Regional Health Centre 30%

3.The Real Property referred to in the above resolution is within the bounds of Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council;

4.The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of Carmen-Zion United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada and part of the Warsaw Pastoral Charge, in trust for Carmen-Zion United Church as a part of The United Church of Canada;

*5.The said congregation and pastoral charge are subject to the oversight of the East Central Ontario Regional Council. **Carried***

Carried

2020-11-27-149 MOTION (S. Coles/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the recommendation of the Covenant Support Team who have received the properly completed Form on Church Hub for the Call of Rev. Cheryl McMurray, Ordained minister to full time ministry (40 Hours per week) on the Stirling Pastoral Charge July 1st 2021 (07/01/21). The terms include 2 days a week work from home and the Sunday after Christmas of as additional holiday. **Carried**

2020-12-27-150 MOTION (S. Coles/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the recommendation of the Covenant Support Team who have received the properly completed form on Church Hub for the appointment of Rev. Karen Croxall, Ordained minister as United Supply minister, Part Time (20 Hours per week) on the Uxbridge Pastoral Charge Nov 26th 2020 to June 30th 2021. **Carried** (Ted Meyer abstains)

2020-11-27-151 MOTION (S. Coles/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the recommendation of the Covenant Support Team who have received the properly completed form on Church Hub for the appointment of Rev. Kirby Breithaupt, Retired Supply Ordained Minister to Part Time ministry (24 Hours per week) on the Marmora Pastoral Charge, 01/01/2020 to 06 /30/2021. **Carried**

2020-11-27-152 MOTION (S. Coles/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the recommendation of the Covenant Support Team who have received the properly completed form on Church Hub for the appointment of Rev. Anja Guignon, Retired Supply Ordained Minister to Part Time ministry (20 Hours per week) on the Port Hope Pastoral Charge, 01/01/2020 to 06 /30/2021. **Carried**

2020-11-27-153 MOTION (S. Coles/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the recommendation of the Covenant Support Team who have received the properly completed Form on Church Hub for the appointment of Rev. Lynda Hodgins, Retired Supply Ordained Minister to Part Time ministry (20 Hours per week) on the Westdale Pastoral Charge, 01/01/2021 to 06 /30/2021. **Carried**

2020-11-27-154 MOTION (S. Coles/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives for information the working spread sheet of communities of faith. **Carried**

2020-11-27-155 MOTION (L. Watson/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the recommendation of the Covenant Support Team, based upon the request of the Springbrook United Church, to separate the Rawdon - Springbrook Pastoral charge into two separate communities of faith, effective 01-01-2019. **Carried**

2020-11-27-156 MOTION (L. Watson/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders disband Rawdon United Church, effective 01-01-2019. **Carried**

2020-11-27-157 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders authorizes Price Waterhouse to conduct a Review Engagement for the Regional Council finances of 2019 and 2020. **Carried**

2020-11-27-158 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives the Mission through Property and Finance Leadership Team Control Log for information. **Carried**

2020-11-27-159 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that having received the request of Westdale United Church to list the church property, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is PCL 7-11, SEC 45-C12-NMO-PET; PT LT 8, CON 12 (N MONAGHAN), PTS 1 & 2 45R5027; SECONDLY PT LT 8, CON 12 (N MONAGHAN), PTS 6 45R5027, described in the offer as the vacant parcel of land comprised of approximately 3/5 acres more or less, and being part of Lot 8, Concession 12 (North Monaghan); and the municipal address of which is 1509 Sherbrooke St, Peterborough, ON, pursuant to an agreement between the Board of Trustees of Westdale United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as seller, and Moloney Project Developments Inc., as buyer, dated the 20th day of October, 2020.

- i) The purchaser of the said Real Property would be the Moloney Project Developments Inc.
- ii) The sale price would be \$305 000 per acre, for approximately 3.5 acres, resulting in a sale price of approximately \$1,067,500.00.
- iii) The deposit would be \$50 000.00, resulting in a balance due of \$1,017,500.00.
- iv) There is no existing mortgage on the property, nor has there ever been one.

- v) Warrantees include all relevant and standard warrantees, as set out in the Agreement of Purchase and Sale, including Schedule A.
- vi) The scheduled closing date on the sale would be 30 days after the removal of the buyer's conditions, as set out in the Agreement of Purchase and Sale.

Carried

2020-11-27-160 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that regarding the disposition of proceeds of Westdale United Church, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent to

1. To transfer 10% of the proceeds, net of the selling costs, to The United Church of Canada Indigenous Ministries and
2. For the remaining 90% of the proceeds, the vision of the congregation is to use proceeds from the land sale to eventually open a much needed infant and child care centre on the property. There are numerous steps to be taken before this would be possible, and in the meantime, the funds would be invested in the United Church Investment Portfolio. Should obstacles to opening a infant/childcare centre prove insurmountable, there is a secondary vision of opening a Seniors/Community recreation centre, possibly in conjunction with a Seniors Centre in the area, as a satellite centre. Appropriate steps to obtain ECORC's approval for use of the funds will be taken once a final plan has been determined;
3. The Real Property referred to in the above resolution is within the bounds of Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council;
4. The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of Westdale United Church, a congregation of The United Church of Canada;
5. The said congregation is subject to the oversight of East Central Ontario Regional Council

Carried

2020-11-27-161 MOTION (K. Whyte/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accepts the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the Special Covid 19 Doing Mission Together grants as listed in the chart below of 25 applicants for a total of \$66,760. **Carried**

2020-11-27-162 MOTION (K. Whyte/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accepts the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the Special Covid 19 Doing Mission Together grants to use \$560 from the 2021 Doing Mission Together grants to fund the total of \$66,760. **Carried**

<i>Special Covid 19 Grant Applications</i>				
	Applicant name	Grant Amount	Town/City	Notes
1	Haliburton United Church	3500	Haliburton	
2	Highland Hills United Church	3110	Minden	
3	Bethany United Church	3500	Bethany	
4	Tonyat Grace United Church	1000	Peterborough	
5	Cambridge Street	0	Lindsay	Rec'd \$10,000 in 2019
6	Dunbarton Fairport	2500	Pickering	
7	St. Paul's United Church	2970	Ajax	
8	Westminster United Church	2880	Whitby	
9	Northminster United Church	3095	Oshawa	
10	Faith United Church	2500	Courtice	
11	Trinity United Church	3500	Cobourg	
12	St. Paul's United, Warkworth	3070	Warkworth	
13	Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church	2500	Brighton	
14	Trenton United Church	3500	Trenton	
15	Bloomfield United	2750	Bloomfield (PEC)	
16	Cressy United Church	3000	Stella (PEC)	
17	Eastminster United Church	3000	Belleville	
18	Newburgh/Centreville PC	600	Newburgh	production - already paid
19	Selby Pastoral Charge	3000	Selby	
20	Trinity United Church	3500	Napanee	
21	Grace United Church	785	Napanee	
22	Glenburnie United Church	3500	Kingston	
23	Sydenham Street UC (SSUC)	2500	Kingston	
24	St. Andrew's by-the-Lake UC	3500	Kingston	
25	Port Perry Prince Albert PC	3000	Port Perry	
	Total Requested	66760		
	Budget	66200	Take \$560 from 2021 Budget	
<i>Doing Mission Together Grants 2021</i>				
1	Bridge Street UC	5000	Belleville	
	Total Requested	5000		

2020-11-27-163 MOTION (K. Whyte/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accepts the recommendation of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team for the Doing Mission Together grant to Bridge Street UC, Belleville for \$5,000.00 **Carried**

2020-11-27-164 MOTION (P. Reed/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders add Joyce Payne to the Affirm Forum as a corresponding member. **Carried**

2020-11-27-165 MOTION (I. Robb/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders acknowledge that Lynn Watson will represent the Assembly of Elders on the Equity Leadership Team. **Carried**

2020-11-27-166 MOTION (B. James/T. Meyers) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 11:52 a.m. **Carried**

2021-01-29-001 CONSENSUS MOTION That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Sharon Hull as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **Carried**

2021-01-29-002 MOTION (B. James/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as amended (new motion under pastoral relations re liaisons). **Carried**

2021-01-29-003 MOTION (M. Fortin/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders welcome Bruce Hutchison, Joyce Payne and Rev. Elizabeth Macdonald from the Affirming Ministry as corresponding members for a presentation (O.D. 10 am). **Carried**

2021-01-29-004 MOTION (k. Whyte/L. Watson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of November 27, 2020 as circulated. **Carried**

2021-01-29_005 MOTION (I. Robb/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approved the Minutes of email poll closing December 05, 2020 as circulated.

2020-12-05-001 MOTION (B. James/M. Fortin) As a result of the amalgamation of Baltimore and Bethesda South United Churches in 2016 becoming Rural Faith United Church the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the name change of the pastoral charge from Baltimore Pastoral Charge to Rural Faith Pastoral Charge effective 12/05/20. **Carried**

Carried

2021-01-29_006 MOTION (B. James/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approved the Minutes of email poll closing December 16, 2020 as circulated.

2020-12-16-001 MOTION (P. Wilson/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoints Credence and Co to conflict resolution work at Young's Point, along the lines of the "Assessment Proposal Young's Point UC" that has been received. The traditional 50/50 cost sharing between Lakefield Young's point Pastoral charge and East Central Ontario Regional Council in place. **CARRIED**

2020-12-16-002 MOTION (P. Wilson/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders having received the appropriate form on church hub appoints Rev Sharon Ballantyne Ordained Minister to Grace United Church Peterborough full time, Jan1 2021 to June 30th 2021. **CARRIED**

Carried

2021-01-29-007 MOTION (I. Robb/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receive the report submitted by the facilitations Team and instruct that the proposals contained therein be put into motion. **Carried**

2021-01-29-008 MOTION (S. Coles/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly Elders agree not to include inserts in Broadview Magazine. **Carried**

2021-01-29 009 MOTION (B. James/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives the draft document "Forums or Networks" for discussion and refers the Terms of Reference for the Forums be sent to the Covenant Support Team for refinement. **Carried**

2021-01-29 010 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the recommendation of the Covenant Support Team who have received the properly completed Form on Church Hub for the Call of Rev Catherine Gradante to Bridgenorth United Church (Peterborough) full time ministry 40 hours per week May 1st 2021. **Carried**

2021-01-29 011 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the recommendation of the Covenant Support Team who have received the properly completed Form on Church Hub for the appointment of Rev. Bryn Ransom, Retired Supply, to Emmanuel United Church, Peterborough, part time ministry. 20 hours per week. Dec. 1 2020 to Feb 28 2021. **Carried**

2021-01-29 012 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the recommendation of the Covenant Support Team who have received the properly completed Form on Church Hub for the appointment of Rev. Margaret Goodwin to College Hill United Church, Belleville, part time ministry. 8 hours per week. Pastoral Care. Dec 1, 2020 to March 31 2021. When the incumbent Minister is medically able to return to work, the appointment is terminated. **Carried**

2021-01-29 013 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the recommendation of the Covenant Support Team for the following Pastoral Charge Supervisors:

- Rev Jeff Doucette to Eldad Hampton Pastoral Charge Jan 21,2021
- Rev Calvin Stone to Rural Faith Pastoral charge (Baltimore) Jan 1st 2021
- Rev Mary-Margaret Boone to the United Community Ministries Jan 6th 2021
- Rev Andrew Macpherson to Dunsford United Church Jan 21 2021
- Rev Richard Hamilton to Odessa Pastoral Charge Jan 21st 2021

Carried

2021-01-29 014 MOTION (K. Whyte/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoints Susan Patterson to the role of Pastoral relations liaison with in the East central Ontario Regional Council. **Carried**

2021-01-29 015 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives for information the working spread sheet of communities of faith. **Carried**

2021-01-29 016 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders affirm the continued work of the Covenant Support with seven pastoral charges in the Kingston area. **Carried**

2021-01-29_017 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that regarding the disposition of proceeds of Glenora United Church, the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent to the Cressy Glenora United Church.

1. To transfer 10% of the proceeds, net of the selling costs, (\$56,800) to The United Church of Canada Indigenous Ministries and
2. For the remaining 90% of the proceeds, authorize the Mission through Property and Finance to work with the Trustees on their plan including local charitable distribution of \$50,000 with whom there is a historic record of support. Proposed are
 - HUB Child and Family Services (daycare and parental help especially for those in essential services and children's supplies) 107858540 RR 0001
 - Reaching For Rainbows (four year program for ages 6-9)at-risk girls 704599513 RR 0001
 - Recreational Outreach Centre (ROC) (High risk youth programs and supplies)
 - Alternatives For Women (shelters for women and their children at risk) 106704620 RR 0001
 - Foodbanks – details required
 - PEC Residential Hospice (end of life clients, grief counselling, outreach) Services all free, minimal funding from Province

The balance (\$416,200) will be invested with The United Church Foundation and the Toronto United Church Council Investing in Ministry Fund to help support the on-going ministry plan of the Cressy Glenora Pastoral Charge, which includes full time ministry for CGPC, a \$6,000 capital expenditure to purchase audio-visual equipment for the Cressy Glenora church building and other capital expenditures to be approved in the future, as outlined in the proposal and as permitted by the ECORC Policy.

Carried

2021-01-29_018 CONSENSUS MOTION that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 12:05 p.m. **Carried**

2021-02-26_019 MOTION (B. James/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

2021-02-26_020 MOTION (I. Robbs/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders welcome Karen Valley, Office of Vocation during the Covenant Support LT report. **Carried**

2021-02-26_021 MOTION (T. Meyers/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of January 29, 2021 as circulated. **Carried**

2021-02-26_022 MOTION (S. Coles/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accepts the retirement of Reverend Nan Hudson effective June 30, 2021 with appreciation for her years of ministry, most recently with Faith United Church in Kingston. Her ministry will be recognized officially in the Celebration of Ministry later this year. **Carried**

2021-02-26_023 MOTION (S. Coles/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of the Reverend Robin Thomson for a change in pastoral relations, ending the relationship with Cambridge Street United Church, Lindsay on June 30th 2021. **Carried**

2021-02-26_024 MOTION (K. Whyte/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of the Reverend Don Uhryniw for a change in pastoral relations, ending the relationship with Emmanuel United Church, Peterborough effective Feb 28th 2021, with salary continuance for 6 months. **Carried** (B. James abstains)

2021-02-26_025 MOTION (B. James/I. Robbs) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives for information the working spread sheet of communities of faith. **Carried**

2021-02-26_026 MOTION (S. Coles/I Robbs) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders commission Rev. David King, Rev. Larry Doyle and Rev. Kristianne Black to take on the role of governing body (with the exception of the work of the trustees) at Chalmers United Church, expenses to be paid by Chalmers, with regular reporting to the Covenant Support Team, and a full a report to be submitted to the Assembly of Elders by the 15th of September 2021. **Carried**

2021-02-26_027 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of Four Winds Presbytery Development Corporation (FWPDC) to negotiate a transfer of:

- a. monetary investments including outstanding loans,
- b. property and
- c. liabilities

to the Toronto United Church Council (TUCC) by the end of 2021. Guidelines related to the use and ministry supported by the transferred assets to be negotiated with TUCC. **Carried**

2021-02-26_028 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the request from The Ridge Pastoral Charge, Coe Hill, St Ola to a short-term lease agreement for the manse. **Carried** (*K. Whyte abstains*)

2021-02-26_029 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders acknowledges the necessity of naming Trustees who will be the Trustees for the property of the former Centre Congregation of The United Church of Canada, originally the Wesleyan Methodist Church in Canada, located on the corner of East County Rd. 23 & Victoria Rd. Ameliasburgh, ON (the “Property”). The Trustees are authorized to enter into and execute an Agreement of Purchase and Sale to sell the Property, and such agreement as may have been signed in advance of this resolution is hereby ratified and confirmed, and all other documents relating to it in their capacities as Trustees appointed under the Trusts of Model Deed annexed as Schedule A to The United Church of Canada Act, S.O. 1925, chapter 125 (as amended) and not in their personal capacities and that such Trustees shall have no personal liability pursuant to the Agreement. The East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Cynthia Gunn, Kathy McDonald and Rosemary Lambie as Trustees, with Cynthia Gunn and Kathy McDonald having full signing authority for all the Trustees. **Carried**

2021-02-26_030 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give its consent to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is PT LT 76 CON 2 Ameliasburgh as in AM1922; Prince Edward County located on the corner of East County Rd. 23 & Victoria Rd. Ameliasburgh, ON, pursuant to an agreement between THE TRUSTEES OF THE CONGREGATION OF THE WESLEYAN METHODIST CHURCH IN CANADA, as seller, represented by the Trustees for the property of the former Centre Congregation of The United Church of Canada, and Johnny Pearl as purchaser, dated the 23rd day of February 2021, and the terms of which are as follows:

- d. Sale Price - \$20,000
- e. Deposit of \$2,500 on acceptance of the offer
- f. Closing – April 1, 2021

The disposition of the proceeds arising from the transaction will be in a recommendation from the Mission through Property and Finance Leadership Team at a later date. **Carried**

2021-02-26_031 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the document for circulation “Disbanding: Steps for Closing Well” – see **appendix B**. **Carried**

2021-02-26_032 MOTION (M. Fortin/L. Watson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives the draft documentation of an ECORC Anti-Racism Policy for discussion at the next meeting. **Carried**

2021-02-26_033 MOTION (S. Coles/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives the documentation entitled, “Walking the Paths of Peace Together” (see **appendix F**) and further, affirms its purpose and direction, including the repatriation of this land to an indigenous non-profit body, and take steps to ensure that this United Church of Canada land is protected from sale by the United Church of Canada and designated in perpetuity by the United Church of Canada for the use of the Kingston Indigenous Community in the spirit of right relations and true reconciliation. **Carried**

2021-02-26_034 MOTION (B. James/T. Meyers) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 12:45 p.m. **Carried**

2021-03-26_035 MOTION (T. Meyers/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Marilyn Fortin as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **Carried**

2021-03-26_036 MOTION (M. Fortin/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

2021-03-26_037 MOTION (M. Fortin/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders welcome Guests from Anti-racism Interfaith/Intercultural Forum: Dr. Aruna Alexander, Rev. Lionel Ketola, Rev. Meggin King and Rev. Marilyn Zehr for a presentation on the Anti-Racism Policy (OD 10 am). **Carried**

2021-03-26_038 MOTION (B. James/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of February 26, 2021 as circulated. **Carried**

2021-03-26_039 MOTION (I. Robb/M. Fortin) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives the draft documentation and affirm the work of Anti-racism Interfaith/Intercultural Forum, and requests a draft policy with a strategic implementation plan be developed to share with the Regional Council. **Carried**

2021-03-26_040 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation on Church hub approves the re-appointment of Rev. Patricia Armstrong to the St Marks Pastoral Charge Whitby full time 40 hours per week, June 1, 2021 to August 31, 2021. **Carried**

2021-03-26_041 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation on Church hub approves the Call of Rev. Patricia Armstrong to the Castleton Grafton Pastoral Charge part time 24 hours per week effective September 6, 2021. **Carried**

2021-03-26_042 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation on Church hub approves the re-appointment of Rev. Bryan Ransom to the Emmanuel Pastoral Charge, Peterborough Part time 20 hours per week, March 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021. **Carried**

2021-03-26_043 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation on Church hub approves the Call of Rev. Pieter La Roux to the Picton Pastoral Charge part time 20 hours per week, July 1, 2021. **Carried**

2021-03-26_044 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation on Church hub approves the Call of Rev. Pieter La Roux to the Prince Edward South Pastoral Charge part time 20 hours per week, July 1, 2021. **Carried**

2021-03-26_045 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation on Church hub approves the Re-appointment of Rev. David King Intentional Interim minister to the Bridge Street Pastoral Charge full time 40 hours per week, July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023 – this represents a need to give additional time for Interim work delayed by the Pandemic **Carried**

2021-03-26_046 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of Sydenham Street United Church for their capital projects (roof 200k & windows 70k) and recommend the application of a bridge loan of \$125K for the roof work from TUCC. **Carried**

2021-03-26_047 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of St Mark's UC, Whitby to have the restriction removed on use of funds from the manse sold 20 yrs. ago (\$250,000) to spend for two capital projects: 1. driveway restoration with a collapsing retaining wall between neighbours; estimated cost \$80 000. 2. ceiling/wall repairs and painting in the sanctuary from moisture issues in the past (roof has been renewed); estimated cost \$20,000. Surplus of \$150 000 maintained in reserve as the policy requires. **Carried**

2021-03-26_048 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the request of the Sandford and Zephyr United Churches to the listing for sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is Part of Lot 25 Concession 3 Township of Scott, and the municipal address of which is 12835 Durham 39, Zephyr, ON L0E 1T0, pursuant to an agreement between the Board of Trustees of Sandford and Zephyr United Churches, a congregation of The United Church of Canada, as deed holder, and [other party, unknown at this time], as purchaser, terms as follows: (1)

- a) Agent: Nancy Hill, K.R. May Real Estate Limited
- b) A list/asking price of \$699,900.00
- c) Commission rate of 4% plus HST of the selling price. From the 4% commission half (2%) is paid to the Brokerage that brings in the buyer. If the successful buyer has no Agent and wishes K.R. May Real Estate Ltd. to represent them and act as a dual agent, the commission would be reduced from 4% to 3%.
- d) Proposed possession date of June 1st.

(2) Sandford and Zephyr United Churches, a congregation of The United Church of Canada and part of the Sandford Zephyr Pastoral Charge agrees to follow the Manse Fund Policy of Eastern Central Ontario Regional Council and agrees to work with the Regional Council Mission through Property and Finance Leadership Team to determine an investment plan that best fits their community of faith. **Carried**

2021-03-26_049 MOTION (S. Coles/K. Whyte) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders declare support for the passing of Bill C-6, an Act of Parliament to ban Conversion Therapy, in its final reading and formally request the Members of Parliament for constituencies contiguous with the boundaries of the East Central Ontario Region to vote 'yea' in favour of passing Bill C-6 into law during this third reading. **Carried**

2021-03-26_050 MOTION (D. McLean/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders in partnership with the General Council of The United Church of Canada to reaffirm that the love of God is for all LGBTQ2SIA+ people, to reiterate the support of same-sex marriage and the church's blessing upon the same, and that both the East Central Ontario Regional Council and the General Council produce written public statements and publicise - to this effect that as we affirm the theology in our New Creed and Song of Faith and our ECORC Mission Statement, and live out in the actions of our Christian witness, we are called to "Build a house where love can dwell, and all can safely live, and where the love of Christ ends divisions. A place where all are welcome!" (Words in quotation marks by Marty Haugen). **Carried**

2021-03-26_051 MOTION (T. Meyers /B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders confirms the process for those members seeking reappointment to various Leadership Teams go through the Nominations process. **Carried**

2021-03-26_053 MOTION (D. McLean/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 12:22 pm.). **Carried**

2021-04-23_054 MOTION (T. Meyers/Steve Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

2021-04-26_055 MOTION (B. James/K. Whyte) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of March 26, 2021 as circulated. **Carried**

2021-04-26_056 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation on Church hub approves the call of Rev. R. Christen Matheson to the Westdale Pastoral Charge, Peterborough, full time ministry from 08/01/2021. **Carried**

2021-04-26_057 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation on Church hub approves the Call of Rev. Leslie Hamilton to the New

Hope Pastoral Charge and the Rural Faith Pastoral Charge, both of Northumberland County, full time ministry from 07/01/2021. **Carried**

2021-04-26_058 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation on Church hub approves the Call of Rev. Elisabeth Cunningham to the United Community Ministries, consisting of St-Andrews, Beaverton; Trinity United, Cannington; Woodville-Peniell Pastoral Charge; Cambray Community Pastoral Charge, and Oakwood Pastoral Charge, full time ministry from 07/01/2021. **Carried**

2021-04-26_059 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation on Church hub approves the appointment of Rev. Kirby Breithaupt retired supply minister to the Marmora Pastoral Charge, part time ministry 24 hours per week from 07/01/2021 to 06/30/2022. **Carried**

2021-04-23_060 MOTION (T. Meyers/K. Whyte) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders acknowledge receipt of correspondence dated April 9, 2021 from Gary Gaudreau, Chairman, Board of Trustees of Carlow United Church, which was sent to the Pastoral Relations Minister, and attests that the actions of the Board of Trustees of Carlow United Church are not in conformity with United Church polity, instructs the Executive Minister to formalize a response, copying Erik Mathieson, Chief Financial Officer of The United Church of Canada, and the Office of Vocation, and directs the Pastoral Relations Minister to meet with Carlow United Church, with consideration of formalizing conducting a review of Carlow United Church, part of the Bancroft/Carlow Pastoral Charge. **Carried** (*L. Watson abstains*)

2021-04-23_061 MOTION (M. Fortin/K. Whyte) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receives the ECORC Anti-Racism Policy and recommends it to the Regional Council. **Carried**

2021-04-23_062 MOTION (M. Fortin/K. Whyte) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders extend the deadline to receive Doing Mission Priority Grants applications to September 15th. **Carried**

2021-04-23_063 MOTION (L. Watson/N. Sutherland) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, on the recommendation of the Equity Team, emphasize that all videos that are used in ECORC meetings or produced by teams/forums for the Regional Council YouTube channel, must be subtitled/captioned. **Carried**

CONSENSUS MOTION that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 12:30pm.

2021-05-21-064 MOTION (S. Coles/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

2021-05-21-065 MOTION (B. James/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of April 23, 2021 as circulated. **Carried**

2021-05-21-066 MOTION (B. James/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the agenda for June 4-5. **Carried**

2021-05-21-067 MOTION (S. Coles/K. Whyte) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders recommend to the Regional Council the Mission Objective priorities for the balance of 2021 and through 2022;

CONSENSUS MOTION That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Forums and Networks and Clusters document for inclusion in the Governance Handbook, withstanding the examples of Networks in the Regional Council.

2021-05-21 068 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation on Church hub approves the call of Rev. Catherine Elsdon to Sydenham Street United Church, Kingston halftime ministry 20 hours per week from September 7, 2021. Sydenham Street is required to form a Joint M&P committee with Faith United Church Kingston. **Carried**

2021-05-21 069 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation on Church hub approves the Call of Rev. Catherine Elsdon to Faith United Church, Kingston halftime ministry 20 hours per week from September 7, 2021. Faith United Church is required to form a Joint M&P committee with Sydenham Street United Church in Kingston. **Carried**

2021-05-21 070 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation on Church Hub and confirmation from the office of vocation approves the appointment of Aaron Miechkota candidate supply to Cressy-Glenora Pastoral Charge (Prince Edward County), full time student ministry, 40 hours per week from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2023. This is a SME appointment. **Carried**

2021-05-21 071 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation through Church Hub approves the reappointment of Rev. Audrey Whitney Retired Supply to Trinity-Madoc pastoral charge halftime ministry 20 hours per week from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. **Carried**

2021-05-21 072 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation through Church Hub approves the reappointment of Rev. Brad Ford Retired supply to the Bath Morven Pastoral Charge halftime ministry 20 hours per week from July 1, 2021 to June 30, 2022. **Carried**

2021-05-21 073 MOTION (S. Coles/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received proper documentation through Church Hub, with the staff support of Rev Heather Sanford, Pastoral Relation Minister Eastern Dawn Regional Council, approves the appointment of Rev. Margret Goodwin to College Hill part time United supply ministry 8 hours per week from April 1, 2021 to July 15, 2021. This appointment may conclude with the settled Ministers completed return to work under the LTD plan of the United Church of Canada. **Carried**

2021-05-21_074 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receive the 2019 ECORC draft 3 financial statements be received and that the excess income be transferred to operations or other funds for ministry which the endowment terms support. **Carried**

2021-05-21_075 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the appointment of Price Waterhouse Copper (PwC) for the 2021 review engagement. **Carried**

2021-05-21_076 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give permission to Kingsview United Church, Oshawa to proceed with the replacement of asphalt in the parking lot, curbing, sidewalks, removal of waste and placing of engineered fill to a maximum of \$300,000. Construction is expected to commence summer of 2021. **Carried**

2021-05-21_077 MOTION (B. James/S. Coles) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders give permission to Trinity United Church, Uxbridge for a Church Modernization and Improvement Grant for \$5,000.00 to replace roof on Bell Tower total project is \$23,132. Donations raised to date are \$7,200 and the balance of \$10,931 to be bridged by TUCC loan and fund-raising campaign. **Carried** (*T. Meyers abstains*)

2021-05-21_078 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders elect Arthur Smith and Rev. Mary-Margaret Boone as the representatives to the Toronto United Church Council Corporation for 2021/2022 and to attend the June 10th Annual Meeting. **Carried**

2021-05-21_079 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the request from Trinity United Church, Cobourg to allocate \$50,000 from their restricted reserve to the capital fund raising project to restore the stained-glass windows at the church. Total project is estimated at \$150,000. Fund raising campaign has raised \$20,000 to date. **Carried**

2021-05-21_080 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders support the intent to demolish the manse at the Trinity St Andrews United Church, Brighton. **Carried**

2021-05-21_081 MOTION (B. James/P. Wilson) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve Trinity United Church, Uxbridge request to make application to TUCC for a loan of \$20,000 for the repairs to the Furnaces at the church properties. The loan will come from the TUCC SELF Fund (Sustainable Energy Loan Fund). **Carried** (*T. Meyers abstains*)

2021-05-21 082 MOTION (D. McLean/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders endorse the ECORC Affirming Forum's updated Purpose and 2021-22 Action Plan and refer these to the ECORC Annual Meeting for approval. **Carried**

2021-05-21 083 MOTION (I. Robb/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders agrees to the request of the Covenant Support Team to expand its membership by and additional two people. **Carried**

2021-05-21 084 MOTION (B. James/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders set the date for the Fall General meeting on October 16th and 17th and ask members of the Regional Council to reserve the date. **Carried**

CONSENSUS MOTION that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 12:34 PM.

Reports

Executive Minister

It has been a very challenging year as we have continued to live into our new reality but with all the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. Monthly meeting dates were set for the year, as everyone has become proficient on zoom. The work never slowed down but shifted as we endeavored to support communities of faith dealing with buildings closed for worship, cancelled meetings and financial challenges. Quite a few have decided to sell their church buildings and support other local churches, as they are able. There have been some tough and sad decisions, but the proceeds from the sales are certainly being used to support other local ministries and the wider community of The United Church, for which we are deeply grateful.

Joel and I have the privilege to work with three very different Regional Councils, and it is similar to having three different families, with varieties of passion and energy. It allows us to share ideas that are working well in one area, to at least encourage solutions and ideas in another.

With the on-going pandemic there is no 'normal', but there have been many opportunities to connect using technology. Wonderful examples of shared worship are broadcast weekly, and relationships with neighbours far and near have developed. Worship and study groups with others across the nation and in some cases, with church partners around the world, have inspired us to appreciate being the body of Christ.

The Celebration of Ministry was unlike anything before in our history. There were limited in-person invitations, everyone screened at the entrance, special red masks made for all participants, a solo singer or by those watching from home. The words were presented in sign language and we all learned to sign "Halle, halle, halle" for celebrating each minister. A blessing of Holy Water replacing Holy Communion. It was a sacred time for all, proving that we are learning to roll with the punches of reality.

Almost every day or every meeting, there are Internet challenges, power outages and frozen screens. Of greater concern, is the deep fatigue for those providing leadership and our hope that communities of faith can provide time for appreciation and for M&Ps to ensure rest time is created for those providing leadership. There have been steep learning curves. We are also aware of fear and expectations for the future around the capacity to offer both on-line and in-house worship. The lists of required resources to help and encourage is a work in progress.

Ministry is about relationship, and together we need to find ways to continue to build those relationships. David, Sharon and Rodney are each resourcing different ways of doing ministry.

Communication continues to be a challenge. Karen keeps the website updated, as well as a bi-weekly newsletter, monitoring the Facebook group and sending regular mailings to all ministry personnel and lay people. It may feel like information overload some days as we are spending so many hours glued to our computer screens or tablets. We still rely on all those receiving to pass along messages to others so that hopefully everyone has access, in some way to the information. Thank you all for being a part of the 'sharing information' ministry.

I am deeply grateful to the dedicated work of our staff team who are also learning through the pandemic: David, Joel, Karen, Rodney and Sharon, as well as the Assembly of Elders and many volunteers who serve on the Teams, Forums and Networks. Each one contributes many hours to enrich our ministry together.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Rosemary Lambie, Executive Minister

Moderator and the General Secretary

To: Report to East Central Ontario Regional Council

From: The Moderator and the General Secretary

Dear Friends:

Summing up the year since your last regional council meeting is both simple and weighted with detail. Suffice to say, it has been quite a year. We have all had the experience of sitting in a car, bus, train or plane and seeing the vehicle next to us moving, but for a few moments, we cannot tell if it is they or we. When we finally see either the front or back move by us, we know, it is they, yet we had all the sensation of being in a moving object. As we look back, we have come so far, done so many things differently and yet have the strange sensation of standing still.

The Moderator and I are immersed in many things but three main areas come to mind. The Anti-Racism and Equity work that is crucial to transforming the denomination in the 21st century, the Strategic Planning process that will set the direction of the General Council Office work for the next three years and where we will live after 2023. Our lease at our west-end Toronto offices is up that year and we have several options: to extend the lease and then move into the new offices that are part of the Bloor Street United development closer to downtown Toronto on Bloor Street, or make an intermediate move. In any event, when our move to that location is complete, we will be sharing the space with the denominational offices of the Anglican Church of Canada and the Presbyterian Church in Canada. We are very excited to be able to live into an ecumenical experience, daily.

From the end of the 43rd General Council meeting in Oshawa until now, the work on Anti-Racism and Equity has evolved from several smaller and it seemed overlapping working groups, into a single common table that is developing the Anti-Racism action plan. Adele Halliday, a General Council Office staff person and educator is now the Anti-Racism and Equity Lead. She will work on the plan's implementation after the Executive has approved it or a version of it in the fall of 2021. The position of Equity Monitor, suggested by the 43rd General Council is still under consideration. The role of Equity monitors is now part of the regular General Council Executive meetings, the annual General Council commissioners' meetings and in many regional councils. A research project with people serving as equity monitors, has led to the development of a series of best practices to share across the church. It is a developing field, and we learn more and more from each person and after every meeting.

In living into the commitment to be an anti-racist denomination, all General Council and Regional Council staff, are taking training in the areas of anti-racism and equity. the education sessions will take place between 2021-2023. In April, staff started engaging with anti-racism education. Other modules will include racial harassment and violence prevention (2021), Calls to the Church; sexual orientation and gender identity (2022), disabilities and accessibility; mental health (2023).

The Strategic Planning process is a high-intensity effort by a few people in a short timeline. Jennifer Henry, the former executive director at Kairos, is the project manager and the pace of consultations and surveying is fast, but thorough. Beyond the small group input from the March 6, 2021 General Council Executive/National Indigenous Council session, consultation to date has included an in-depth survey and focus groups with staff leadership, and a survey of the full staff (GCO/RCO). In April, May and June, five Moderator's Town Halls, four Indigenous Church Circles, a series of surveys and focus groups with smaller groupings in the church (related to either function or identity), and conversations with ecumenical and global partners are underway. Work is also being done on the financial framework, expected to dovetail with other elements (mission, vision, strategic objectives) in June, so that the work of drafting of the plan can be initiated. In addition, we are beginning to create templates for yearly operational planning which will ultimately link up with the strategic plan in the implementation phase. The draft report will go to the General Council Executive in September 2021 and the 43rd General Council Commissioners will vote on it at their October meeting.

All the church's governance documents and reports are housed in the United Church Commons, and if you wish more details on any of the church's business, we encourage you to go there. It may not be the most exciting presentation, but once inside, you will find a richness of thought and theological rationales for the work we all undertake together. The Moderator is also sending regional council annual general meetings his own video greeting, but joins me in this short report.

Blessings on this meeting and all the work you do to further God's mission in the world.

Michael Blair Richard Bott (The Right Reverend)
General Secretary, General Council Moderator

Assembly of Elders

The role of the Assembly of Elders is not to initiate work but to provide oversight of the Leadership Teams. To complete this task the assembly of Elders receives monthly reports from the Teams and members of the Assembly of Elders attend Team meetings as observers and participants to ensure full communication between Teams and the Assembly of Elders and between Teams. It is an important role of the Assembly of Elders, as a central point of communication, to ensure relevant information passes from one Team to another.

The monthly reports of the Covenant Support Team have been extensive. Our Regional Council upon inception received many communities of faith in pastoral relations processes. Transitions that had to accommodate new processes in a new structure. There is only now perhaps light at the end of that tunnel.

The Ministry through Property and Finance Team responded to communities of faith faced with complex grant applications and wide swings in financial abilities. At the same time community of faiths in transition has often meant tough property decisions.

It is perhaps the Equity Team and the Formation Justice and Nurture Team that have carried the mandate and mission objectives forward. As more and more churches were going on-line the Formation Justice and Nurture Team sought and received from the Assembly of Elders permission to pivot and offer technology grants to assist in the purchase of necessary equipment to support the online presence. Always a leader in the denomination the Equity Team with support from the Affirm Forum continued to prepare the Regional Council to make a meaningful decision to be Affirming. Aligning with the denominations declaration to work towards being anti-racist the Equity Team has brought together dedicated and passionate leadership who have begun the process of developing policy and plans to guide us.

Across the Church individuals are rightfully working and watching close to home to protect local Communities of Faith during the pandemic. The processes of the Nomination Team have been changed and changed again as they endeavour to ensure we go forward with strong leadership on our Teams. Despite the struggle the Nominations Team has upheld the act of prayerful discernment and careful attention to equity and diversity.

Lock down orders and closed buildings have made face to face gatherings impractical when not impossible. And so we express deep gratitude to the volunteers on these Teams who have continued to find ways of functioning and furthering the work of the Regional Council.

To this gathering of the Regional Council the Assembly of Elders

- ✓ Recommends the reports of the Teams and their affiliated Forums;
- ✓ A decision to become a full Affirming Regional Council; and,
- ✓ The Policy regarding Anti-racism.

and finally, we have said goodbye to Louise Slobodian in the communications role. Louise departed to provide fulltime support to immigrants and refugees. We are blessed to be able to welcome Karen Wilson into this role. To all the staff we say thanks for your grace and commitment.

The Assembly of Elders

Office of Vocation

Faithful, well-equipped and effective ministry personnel.

The Office of Vocation (for which the Board of Vocation has oversight) has many facets; as we continue to live into our new structure, it may be helpful to shine a light on some of these pieces.

The Candidacy Pathway Policy and Procedures allow for more equity as each person is treated as an individual, as opposed to an ‘exception to the rule’. The culture shifts are experienced in several ways. For example, Candidates are assessed for Readiness for Commissioning, Ordination and Recognition at all times of the year, based upon when their pathway progress indicates that they have completed their requirements and are ready for their final interviews.

During the past year, through 29 interviews, the Quebec and East Ontario Candidacy Board has:

- found Promise with eight applicants;
- authorized Candidacy for seven individuals, and,
- authorized Readiness for Supervised Ministry Education for eight Candidates.

The Candidacy Board and the Office of Vocation has Francophone support and resources to support applicants, candidates and ministry personnel as needed.

ChurchHub continues to evolve and have increased functionality – here’s a few examples of what’s new!

- All of the Board of Vocation’s committees and boards are using it as they collaborate in their work.
- Records of calls/appointments/reappointments are automatically added to the digital personnel files upon regional council approvals, along with copies to the Communities of Faith, ministry personnel and the regional council.
- Status of Professional Requirements, including Completed Requirements.
- New applicants for ministry complete their first applications within ChurchHub’s Candidacy Pathway portal.
- Existing Candidates are being migrated over to ChurchHub’s Candidacy Pathway portal in the coming weeks/months.

Sadly, the round of staff cuts in July 2020 resulted in the loss of the program coordinator for recruitment position. The Office of Vocation Ministers report several discernment conversations a month from individuals considering their call to formal ministry leadership and they are developing news ways to provide discernment opportunities.

After a hiatus in clearing the credentials of applicants in 2019 until the new process was established and an Admission Board appointed, the new processes which include an accompanier from the time of expressing interest in applying, are proving helpful. The Admission Board is very racially diverse and is effectively determining readiness for appointment within the United Church.

The Office of Vocation has 85 designated intentional interim ministers and 419 designated educational supervisors. Two of the Office of Vocation Ministers have twice offered annual on-line training for Ministry of Supervision. A

recent Interim Ministry Refresher was offered in partnership with First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council and a community (national) of practice for intentional interim ministers is meeting regularly.

A new module in the Personal and Professional Boundaries for Church Leaders series was released in November 2020: *Retiring With Grace* for those who are about to retire, or have already retired. Watch for updated modules this fall and new modules to be developed and added.

Yours in Christ,

Karen Valley, Office of Vocation Minister, Quebec and East Ontario

Pastoral Relations Minister

As we look forward from this meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council, we can see that the challenges of the past year are not quite at an end. Our Churches continue to face pandemic restrictions from health authorities. Yet, this time of year is also full of reasons for hope. Most of us draw comfort from the new life of spring. Many of us see hope in the progress of the vaccination programs, particularly with a return to a steady supply of vaccines in our area this week.

Perhaps it is time to look back over the year and begin to consider the things that we have learned as we begin to look past the pandemic. I think this has been a time for the consideration of what really is at the center of who we are as a people of faith. What have we missed that we have not been able to do? What has carried us through this year? What have we found that needs to continue? What steps, do we need to take to make these things continue?

I know that many Charges have been blessed with clergy and other staff who have made huge jumps in technological understanding, enabling online worship and have been spending many hours at the behind the scenes editing and uploading. For these things to be taken from emergency response into regular practice there will need to be some accounting for ongoing time expenditure's, be that additional staff time or volunteer effort.

Of course, one of the other observations from here is that very few of us are operating as our best selves just now. We are collectively under stress. We need to hang onto the graciousness that belongs in church activities. This is not the time to be addressing long time irritants hoping that folks who have not shared your perspective for years will now be more likely to reach agreement now, is just not sensible.

That said many congregations have found it necessary to reach out for supports to government programs or have been forced to deplete reserves, or frankly, have done both. I know this is not comfortable for many and I would be quick to underline that none of this is miss management, rather these have been the necessary faithful steps in response to the un anticipated conditions of the pandemic.

Finally, this would seem to be a time for thinking about new possibilities for ministry. In many places we have been holding off necessary conversations about partnerships. Perhaps, the time has come for new conversations and new partnerships. It is my hope that we may find our way on to the complex path solidifying the church for the future. know that this Regional Council will support to the best of its ability our search for opportunities in this time and space.

As always it has been a privilege to be about the work of the East Central Ontario Regional Council this year.

Respectfully Submitted by Rev. David Timpson, Pastoral Relations Minister.

Minister for Indigenous Justice and Respectful Relationships

Where to begin this report as your minister for Indigenous Justice and Respectful Relationships? As the always-changing guidelines of the pandemic have challenged many ministries, it has challenged my one-day-a-week ministry which compliments my ¾-time ministry at the Buckhorn Pastoral Charge, Wesley and Curve Lake. Perhaps the best place to begin is with last year's annual meeting, which featured a plenary session that St. Paul's (Bowmanville) Circle of Indigenous Friends and Advocates hosted with Lee Maracle and Murray Sinclair. This was a great talk, and part of a larger on-line event this group hosted. Over the course of this year I have continued to accompany this Circle as they discern how to learn about the Truth and work towards Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples. They have taken on a number of projects, including building relationships with their nearest Indigenous neighbours at Scugog Island First Nation. As part of my work I've been supporting the three Indigenous Communities of Faith in our Regional Council: Curve Lake, Alderville, and to a lesser degree this year, Hiawatha. Rev. Dorinda Volmer and Alderville have been very active in finding their way forward as the church.

Working with our IJRR Forum, we hosted our own webinars, beginning with 2 webinars around the theme of Being Good Relations. Forum member Shelly Knott Fife offered leadership in these sessions, as did National staff person Lori Ransom. We then moved into partnership with the Anti-racism Forum with a series of talks around the "Fragile Gift of Indigenous Language". These zoom webinars were well attended and contained great content. As I write this report I continue to reach out to others to help me edit and post these videos on the ECORC YouTube channel.

Many congregations are doing good work in the area of IJRR. Churches in Kingston are working together with 44 participants in a Reconciliation Reading Group that has read four books over the last year. I know other communities of faith have done similar book studies. Also from Kingston, Faith United Church continues with their "Walking the Path of Peace Together" project, with the goal of returning (repatriating) a vacant building lot to Kingston's Indigenous community. You can read more about this project on the IJRR section of the ECORC webpage (under resources). The web page also tells part of the story of another ministry out of Kingston's Catarqui UC, "Friends of the North".

Moving west across our Region, I have supported conversations with the racial justice group made up of churches in the Newburgh/Napanee/Belleville area as they reach out and make/deepen connections with Tyendinaga Mohawk Territory. Another exciting development was when Trinity St. Paul's in Brighton continued a Lenten virtual walk with an across-Canada trek, learning about the First Peoples who inhabited the lands and waters they travelled through. By the time you read this report you should be able to watch some webinars with the people they met along the way on the ECORC YouTube channel. These webinars were framed around the basic question "what should we know as we virtually travel through your territory?"

So far we've learned about threats to Micmac waters, attempts to translate the Bible into Mohawk, the way Toronto Urban Native Ministry has grown over the pandemic, and about Treaty 6. At this year's Regional meeting we look forward to hearing again from Curve Lake member Dorothy Taylor to welcome us to the territory, and encourage us in our sacred relationship with water.

I know there are many more good initiatives happening in Communities of Faith across our Regional Council. Keep up the good work and let me know if I can support you in any way. I'm not alone in this work and would like to thank and acknowledge Shelley Knott Fife, Elaine Kellogg, Sharon Hull, secretary Helmut Enns, and co-chair Marilyn Fortin for working with me in the IJRR Forum. Part of our work has been in developing a terms of reference for our group. We are hoping welcome another member or two into our Forum, and as Murray Sinclair invites "continue to find courage to climb the mountain of reconciliation"!

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Rodney Smith-Merkley, Minister for Indigenous Justice and Respectful Relationships

Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationships and Justice with All Ages

When we had our meeting online in September we didn't think that we would be having another meeting online for spring 2021. We are thankful that we have been able to gather on zoom and the teams and forums have done so much work since our last meeting.

Formation, Nurture and Justice Team - see report

Doing Mission Together Grants

- Add another round of grant applications for 2021 - deadline of September 15, 2021 (Information will be on the ECORC Website and in the newsletter).

Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils (SJNORC)

- Online meetings in September, November and April to share updates with the other RC's

Children, Youth and Young Adults (First Third Ministry- up to age 30)

It has been a challenging time to get youth or young adults to gather online since they are already spending so much time online for school learning. We did have some from our Regional council (RC) participate in online events. (See more in the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team report).

Ways to connect and receive information:

- First Third Ministry Leaders (Leaders in Ministries for those up to the age of 30) please add your name and information to a new mailing list that also asks for your preference on becoming part of a contact list to be shared with other leaders.
- Updates in the ECORC weekly newsletter- sign up if you haven't already
- Join the First Third's Ministry Forum - a group of both youth, young adults and leaders who will meet together a couple times a year to dream and plan ECORC events.
- Updates on the ECORC website - <https://ecorcuccan.ca/>

Quin Mo Lac

- **See Report** and look to their website for further updates <http://quin-mo-lac.org/>

VIBE

- approved for the Government Summer job grant - preparing for program online- purchased the GO project curriculum

UCW

- Holding meetings and Presbyterials on zoom and finding ways to continue with outreach
- AGM held on May 6th went well online, voted to be an Affirming Ministry
- Ongoing sales of masks with UCW crests being made by Marilyn with the funds going towards the UCW 60th Anniversary project "Change for Women of Zambia" which ends in July 2022- see newsletter for more information

Networks and Clusters:

We need your help! Are you part of a cluster or network? What are you passionate about and want to connect with others to collaborate together.

ECORC currently has the Guaranteed Livable Income network that has formed and we are trying to set up the Long Term Care Crisis and Care of Creation networks.

What other Networks are you interested in? Do you need help connecting to others? Is there an interest in reforming clusters?

Clusters and Networks are independent but some staff support is available to help start them, please contact Sharon Hull at shull@united-church.ca.

Equity Team- *see Report*

Affirming Forum - *see Report*

I have connected with some of you during the many online zoom gatherings that we have held since the September meeting. I have been doing a lot of training on zoom and some training on You tube, dynamics and the website. I have also completed some UCC training - Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities (AODA) and Racism #3 and 4.

It has been a blessing to be able to connect with other Regional Councils to share resources and hold joint gatherings. I am looking forward to the rest of 2021 and dream of a time when we can safely gather together again in person.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Hull, Minister for Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationships and Justice with All Ages

Communications and Administration Assistant

Since I started my role of Communications and Administrative Assistant in November 2020, I have spoke with and met some wonderful people (over zoom of course). I have also been very blessed by the support, dedication and encouragement that I have received from my fellow staff members, the Assembly of Elders, volunteers to the various Regional Council teams and of course, all of you whom I have connected with. You have all made my transition into this roll much easier.

Here is what I have accomplished since I started in November:

- Working with the members of the Retiree's Forum, we looked at their page on the ECORC website to determine how it should be and what to include. It has now been updated with the volunteers photographs and includes more information and any events/stories to be shared. You can also find links to both the "WNDY" project as well as "Java with Jean" on the website as well as in the newsletter.
- Working with Rodney Smith-Merkley, we discussed ideas on how to update the Indigenous Justice and Respectful Relationships Forum's webpage. It has now been updated and has a lot of information including events, stories and more.
- The ECORC newsletter has moved from bi-weekly to weekly. This allowed more room for me to add more news, events, information and anything of interest to our subscribers. This has been well received.
- I have been working on the ECORC website to clean up broken links, add more information as needed and you can now find News and Events on the Home page.
- I worked with the following Teams, Forums and Networks in creating registration forms, helping with events (both setting up and being part of the Tech Team), creating and/or updating webpages as well as discussing best ways to share the information and events:
 - The Facilitation Team

- The Nomination's Team
 - The Affirming Forum
 - The Guaranteed Livable Income (G.L.I) Network
- In regards to training, I have taken the following courses:
- Dynamics 365 (D365) which is a database program (multiple courses)
 - Racial Justice Training – 2 courses with 2 more to follow later this year

In the coming year, I look forward to the continuous learning of this position and I plan to continue working on the website and keeping you up to date on all the happenings around our Region. I am excited about my continuous work with Teams, Forums and Networks. And I look forward to meeting more of you – whether it be by phone, zoom or email.

Thank you all again for your continuous support.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Wilson

Communications and Administration Assistant

Nominations Report

Members: Helmut Enns, Caroline Giesbrecht, Svinda Heinrichs, Tom Smart, Bill Smith, Wanda Stride, with Paul Reed serving as Assembly of Elders rep.

Greetings from your nominations team! As the people who assume responsibility for seeking out, discerning and encouraging participation in the life and mission of Christ in our region, we are honoured to be submitting this report in 2021.

The rhythm of nominations work tends to flow from regional council meeting to meeting. We began our work in earnest, early this year, by organizing a nominations process and timing through email. We came together mid-March to receive reports from each team leader on whose term was ending with the rise of the June meeting, and discerned what skills, life experience and worldview would balance and enhance the existing team, from an equity standpoint. With the help of the communications person for ECORC, we designed expression of interest forms, wrote team descriptions and brainstormed how best to inform and encourage members of the regional council to express interest in the open positions.

Expressions of Interest were open from April 1 to April 23 (that includes a one-week extension because of low response), and we received 19 expressions of interest to fill 15 positions. The team came together on April 30 to discern those names, pray about them, and make recommendations to the regional council (those motions are attached).

With next year being a General Council year, we were also tasked with the responsibility for receiving expressions of interest for those willing to serve as commissioners in 2022. We had 15 openings, and were hoping to receive enough applications to have alternates. We received 13 applications, and hope to reserve the remaining places for people under the age of 30. At the April 30 meeting we vetted all applicants to ensure they were eligible to attend General Council as commissioners.

Because this is the first time we have had to receive nominations for GC under the new structure, without the benefit of presbyteries nominating people locally, the assembly of elders requests that we distribute biographies of all those

letting their names stand to be commissioners. Regional council members had the opportunity to study those biographies from May 5 until May 12, when the regional council held a special meeting by Zoom, giving the regional council an opportunity to meet the candidates. At the end of that meeting attendees were encouraged to rank their choice of who to send to GC44. Nominations used those rankings, as well as our equity lens, to discern a slate of names to recommend to the regional council at the June meeting.

Two things we wish to highlight from this nominations process.

- 1) There was an unusually high interest in the Covenant Support Team, which was looking for only two members. After consultation with the chair of that team, we determined there may be need for additional members with increased workload post-Covid. Our motion to the regional council names four volunteers instead of two, subject to the approval of the assembly of elders.
- 2) We also noted that with a new recommended appointment to the nominations team, five of the six members would be clergy or retired clergy. Three of the six members are also former Bay of Quinte Conference staff. We recognize this anomaly, and will encourage the assembly of elders to consider this when assigning a representative to nominations.

Motions concerning Regional Council Appointments

Motion 1)

Nominations received expressions of interest from April 1 until April 23 and advertised widely through ECORC newsletters, the web site and Facebook group, inviting people to express interest in the work of our regional council. Once nominations closed, each member of the nominations team received a full list of all applicants for regional teams, the assembly of elders and GC44 commissioners. We discerned those names for a week, then came together on Friday, April 30 on Zoom, 11am to 2:00 p.m., where we discerned, team by team, whether applicants were eligible, and whether they were a good fit from an equity stand point. We prayed over each person, giving thanks for their willingness to serve, and asked God to bless the particular ministries and relationships.

After this process, we, the Nominations Team recommend to the East Central Ontario Regional Council the appointments of the following people:

Moved by: Wanda Stride; seconded by Svinda Heinrichs

Assembly of Elders – 3 year terms ending 2024

- Ted Meyers
- Rev. Paul Reed
- Margaret Curtis
- Bill Sheaves

Formation, Nurture and Justice – 2 or 3 year terms

- Rev. Wendy Bulloch
- Rev. Isaac Mundy
- Helmut Enns

Equity Team - 3 year terms ending 2024

- Stacey Tremblay
- Rev. Paul Reed
- Rev. Nancy Wilson

Affirm Forum

- Joyce Payne
- Wilde Ferris
- Michelle Down

Mission Through Property – 2 or 3 year terms

- Bruce Hutchinson

- Brian James
- Ian Deslauriers
- Ted Meyers

Nominations Team – 2 or 3 years

- Mary-Jane Hobden

Prayer Shawl Ministry

- Cheryl Mound

Motion 2)

Subject to the approval of the Assembly of Elders and in consultation with the Covenant Support Team we put forward this slate of 4 nominees for the Covenant Support Team (for terms of 2 or 3 years).

Moved by: Wanda Stride; seconded by Helmut Enns.

- Stephen Coles
- Lisa Monsma
- Freda Burns
- Rev. Cheryl McMurray

Covenant Support Team

As guided by its terms of reference, the CST meets regularly to consider and make decisions respecting those matters referred to it by the Liaisons, LLWL, and Retiree forums, and by our Region's Pastoral Relations Minister.

Further to this work, CST has also been intentional in giving thought to how the Region might better respond to anticipated or emerging pastoral relations matters that would benefit from a concerted and expeditious response. The upcoming year will provide further opportunity for continued discernment.

The CST acknowledges, with deep regret, that the COVID-19 pandemic has posed, is posing, and will likely continue to pose, real challenges for all our communities of faith, in one way or another.

The CST is truly grateful for those many and varied leaders who are 'keeping on, keeping on' by holding to the certain hope that, even in the midst of this difficult time, God *is* calling us to a new thing!

Ours is the task of figuring out what that new thing is, and how we will companion it to fruition, all the while continuing to minister to the at-hand needs of God's people within our Region.

Respectfully submitted by G. David King (The Rev.), Chair – Covenant Support Team

Mission Through Property & Finance Team (P&F)

The Mission through Property Team of the East Central Ontario Regional Council shall assist the East Central Ontario Regional Council meet its responsibilities as outlined in The Manual C.2. The Mission through Property Team shall exercise specific responsibilities to serve, support and provide oversight of the financial responsibilities of the East Central Ontario Regional Council and of the financial viability and property matters of the Communities of Faith. Details of these responsibilities can be found on the ECORC website as the Property and Finance Policy.

These past few months have been very busy times for our Team, brought on in part by the financial stresses of Churches closing because of the COVID Pandemic. As Community of Faiths (COF's) look for every possible way to generate funds to cover expenses whether that be utilizing reserves from historical sales of properties and manse funds, current sales of Property, manses and surplus lands, the Mission through Property team have worked with many COF's providing support as they wrestle with various options available to them. It has been rewarding, satisfying and concerning as we work closely with the COF's to help them with their current struggles. Processing the Canadian Emergency Business Account (CEBA) \$40k plus \$20k and the General Council \$10k loans are just one example of funding options. Just over 20 COF's took advantage of these loans.

As COF's plan for reopening, still not knowing when it will be possible, Churches will continue to have significant financial stresses on them and this along with declining numbers and aging buildings are causing some COF's to consider other options like amalgamations, permanent closings and possibly new ways to carry out their missions. A few COF's have engaged with United Property Resource Corporation (UPRC) to explore alternatives that they provide rather than just selling off assets to unknown developers and living from the investment income from these sales to continue and prolong their traditional way of doing Church. A new way of reaching out to the young demographic group (25 – 45) is necessary if we are to survive as a Church in the long term.

The Mission Through Property team is in the early planning phase of establishing a Restricted Fund to be held by Toronto United Church Council (TUCC) for the purpose of providing, from the investment proceeds, grants and various types of loans to COF's to assist them with emergency property issues and mission work requiring upgrades and repairs to the physical Churches. There are several restricted funds, which the Region inherited and now administers when the new Regional structure was established. In many cases we know about these funds but have little or no understanding of the restrictions or intentions for these funds established by the old Presbyteries or Conferences. By establishing a new fund, we can set a new set of guidelines for use and get these funds out helping with the mission work and ongoing needs of our COF's. Our intention is to bring a plan back to the fall Regional meeting. As we look forward, we anticipate that the allocation of funds from the General Council may be reduced. This could mean that we may not be able support Mission grants at the same levels. It is time for us to plan for additional funds from within and this new restricted fund may be one such resource.

Let us all pray for a speedy resolution to COVID pandemic so we can get our COF's back to some degree of normalcy.

Respectfully submitted by Ted Meyers, Chair

Formation, Nurture and Justice Team

From the ECORC website: "The Faith Formation, Nurture and Justice Team serves the Regional Council in areas of global and local mission partnerships, ministry with all ages, honouring and living into in cultural mission and ministry and living in covenant with Mother Earth and All My Relations. This team supports the work of the ECORC youth executive, supports the work for right relations, as well as clusters and networks. This team also fosters dialogue between various levels of church governance.)

Needless to say, this past year has been a year of unprecedented challenges. COVID and its restrictions have changed the way we met as a committee, and changed the face of the work we did, in a number of ways. Through it all, our Team members have been passionate in their commitment to live out the mandate set out in our ECORC website.

Truth and Reconciliation: (Rodney Smith-Merkley) Highlights around the Truth and Reconciliation work included a session at the Fall 2020 Regional meeting, with online sessions of keynote speakers Lee Maracle and Murray Sinclair, and continued with an ongoing webinar series about the Truth and Reconciliation process. Webinars concerning the fragile nature of Indigenous languages were well-received, and well-attended. Much appreciation is sent to those who took part in these gatherings. Ongoing work of the IJRR Forum includes the Path of Peace project

in Kingston, and a virtual Walk Across Canada with Trinity-St Paul's in Brighton, travelling the country and experiencing the concerns of First Nations' people from coast to coast.

A Place at the Table: (Meggin King) During this time of COVID there is a concern for those whose place at the cyber table is not assured, for those who have little or no internet access. This includes the materially impoverished, and those who live in rural communities. In terms of our church families, this has made outreach challenging. It also means that those who depend on our church families and buildings for outreach help, there are even more obstacles to their receiving needed contacts and social services. As we enter a second year of isolation, another needy place at the table has become apparent in those who are losing their housing to COVID evictions. This is a situation that demands our attention. In our Region, and even more so in Toronto and Ottawa there are outreach groups addressing this problem. We are called to reach out as best we can, and also fight this situation.

Anti-racism: (Aruna Alexander) The anti-racism interfaith/ intercultural forum has been extremely busy this past year, working on a draft policy for our Regional Council. We have sponsored some webinars featuring local communities, and have been pleased to note that quite a few communities of faith in our Regional Council have been home to study groups focusing on anti-black racism, as well as racism against our Indigenous communities. At this time we are pleased to be able to bring our proposed Draft Policy to the ECORC Regional Spring Meeting, and hope very much that it will be approved by the assembled members. The next step in the process will be an implementation plan, and the team is looking forward to doing this important work.

Children and Youth: (Sharon Hull) Through out the year, six regional councils have joined efforts to offer webinars for children, youth, and adults leaders. Topics included online safety, anti-racism, and other areas of interest. ECORC had over 30 attendees for the online version of Rendezvous in August. All agreed it was an excellent event. They are participating in the GO project, which has created a new United Church of Canada curriculum for children and youth. In the fall, some of our youth and young adults attended the Pathways to Awareness & Understanding (Bowmanville) online events, and in November took part in the Pacific Mountain Regional Council's "Evolve" event. Currently, we are forming a First Thirds Ministry Forum to bring some youth, young adults and leaders together to plan ECORC events, and planning is also underway for General Council 44 events.

Our Church and Community Partnerships group (David Moore) continues its outreach, and notes that the Back Door Mission in Oshawa and Bridge Street Meal Program in Belleville continues their work despite the restrictions of COVID. We note that this past year has seen a wonderful outpouring of financial and other support across the region, as well as the country, in helping to supply the needs of the homeless and the materially impoverished. A "Locker" project for homeless people has been started in Ajax, as a follow-up to some ground-breaking initiatives in Oshawa. This provides a secure place for people to store their possessions, as well as provides an address for people, in order that they can receive mail.

"Doing Mission Together" grants have been dispersed this year, including a special grant made possible for communities of faith looking to upgrade their technical and physical structures in order to make ministry during COVID more effective. A record number of applications was received, and with close discernment, we were able to supply funding for everyone who needed it.

We note that the new "Guaranteed Livable Income Network" has been initiated, as well as "Care of the Earth" (a national network), and a National Network for the Long Term Care Crisis. One of our forum members is part of the GLI network and we are hopeful that we can find some folk who would be interested in serving on the other two networks, as well.

We also continue to be an active part of the Social Justice Network of Ontario.

Respectfully submitted,

Meggin King, Secretary, Formation, Nurture and Justice Team.

Equity Team

Come learn more about equity. Let's chat about equity in your contexts! what it means and how we continually learn and live into equity. Have you wondered about what is equity? What is an equity monitor? How to speak about "elephant in the room?" situations, service animals, equitable practices...? Check out our latest project of sharing videos to help us all continue to grow in our learning. Go to Equity and Accessibility playlist on the ECORC YouTube channel at https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCDMfs-C4Mov-My_hTtMjqqQ/playlists

Share our song "Take Time to Listen" April 2021 from Wanda Stride and friends, an equity message.

Consider using our resource booklets ABCs of Equity, 52 offerings in 2 parts. Each link offers 26 selections.

<https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/equity-abc-pt1.pdf>

<https://www.united-church.ca/sites/default/files/equity-abc-pt2.pdf>

Our Equity team has met four times this cycle, by Zoom October 2020 to May 2021. Members have participated as equity monitors for various events, video creation, connecting with teams and forums within our regional council, offering resources to other regional councils, connecting with the national church about equity monitors and creating more equitable GC, working with Anti-Racism Equity Officer, Adele Halliday and the GC44 planning team.

Our duties as identified in our equity policy include:

- 1) Advise the Assembly of Elders and the Executive Minister on all matters concerning equity, privilege and accessibility.
- 2) be a resource to the East Central Ontario Regional Council to follow our priorities below and call the East Central Ontario Regional Council into account if we fail to live up to our commitment;
- 3) celebrate the participation of diverse individuals and communities in our life and work;
- 4) seek justice for all who are marginalized. Identify and dismantle barriers with regard to full participation of marginalized individuals and groups in Christ's ministry;
- 5) name and address ableist, heterosexist and white supremacist comments, attitudes and actions, recognizing how these undergird and perpetuate ableism, racism, homophobia and transphobia;
- 6) improve and provide resources for communication among Regional groups, and Communities of Faith, including digital communication;
- 7) live into being an Affirming Ministry that seeks to create safe and welcoming space for all;
- 8) provide opportunities for educational and training initiatives;
- 9) continue our journey of healing, reconciliation and embracing relationships with First Nations communities;
- 10) practice radical hospitality as church and in conversation with other faith communities;
- 11) be a resource for any regional meetings/events;
- 12) support the volunteer Equity Monitors; and
- 13) receive concerns about and suggestions to revise the Equity Monitor checklist. See info on ECORC website.

Respectfully submitted by: Rev. Sharon Ballantyne, PhD, Equity Team chair

Affirming Forum

The 11 person Affirming Forum, generously, skillfully and resourcefully supported by ECORC Staff, Sharon Hull, (Thank you, Sharon!!) met virtually (due to Covid) sharing this commitment (from the ECORC Mission Statement): "We seek to uphold high standards of equity and affirming and to encourage these same standards in our Communities of Faith. Valuing diversity and differences as gifts, we support the full participation of all people in the life and work of our church and in the wider society. We publicly, intentionally and explicitly celebrate and seek justice for people of every age, gender, racialized experience, culture, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental and physical health and ability, economic circumstances or any other diversity."

Following the ECORC Regional Council in September, 2020 the Affirming Forum welcomed New Members, Maggie Allin and Kimberly Collins; Corresponding Member, Joyce Payne; Assembly of Elders Liaison Don McLean and welcomed back Doug Ferris. Elizabeth Macdonald and Doug Ferris were reinstated as Co-Chairs.

From November to April, the Affirming Forum hosted 4 region-wide ZOOM webinars to provide education and resources on several issues including micro-aggression, dominant culture privilege, use of preferred pronouns, intersectionality; to create space for 2SLGBTQIA+ and Friends to gather separately; and to prepare for the Regional Council vote to become permanently Affirming. Useful feedback came out of all these webinars and has been incorporated into the Affirming Forum's 2021-2022 Action Plan.

A working group reached out to the ECORC Staff, Assembly of Elders, Teams and Forums and met with several to explore implications for and needs of particular groups as they live into becoming fully Affirming. This working group recommends that this work continue in the coming year.

Another working group began to develop Measurable Goals for wide distribution and implementation in the coming year.

Looking ahead, in 2021-22, the ECORC Affirming Forum is committed to:

- Continue to consult and work with ECORC Staff, Assembly of Elders, Teams, and Forums to deepen and broaden understanding in all the ECORC leadership groups by holding, at minimum, an annual learning event. New members will be offered a separate educational session on Affirming principles and practices. The broader objective is to increase understanding of what it means to be an Affirming Ministry across East Central Ontario Regional Council;
- Facilitate, encourage and support a Network of Affirming Ministries within and across East Central Ontario Regional Council;
- Using an intersectionality lens with the commitment of working with other groups, including but not limited to those focusing on anti-racism, Indigenous justice and equity; assess interest and need; and provide appropriate opportunities for education on diversity and inclusion across the Regional Council;
- Define and implement Measurable Goals using the Guiding Principles that follow the ECORC Mission Statement;
- Annually prepare budget; renew AU/SE membership; review, evaluate and update this Action Plan.

Respectfully submitted by caretaking-Chair, Elizabeth Macdonald

ECORC Mid 2021 Financial Update

The ECORC finances are overseen by the Mission Through Property and Finance Team who prepare the budget based on input from the various teams. The 2021 budget was approved by the Assembly of Elders and presented to the Regional Council members at the fall meeting. The funding for the Regional Council comes from the General Council Office which determines the funding available for the year. The 2021 funding remained the same as the 2020 funding for Administration at \$350,000 plus some cross regions support funds which cover part of the Executive Minister expenses. Unfortunately, the funding for Mission activities was reduced to \$239,870 from \$289,000 in 2020.

The year-to-date income is significantly ahead of budget due to unbudgeted church property sales and El Salvador fundraising activities. The actual income for assessment revenue shows slightly below budget due to when funds are actually transferred. Similarly, the mission support grants given are above budget as the second quarter payments have been made but the budget allocation is for only four months.

Staff expenses are below budget primarily due to minimal travel and associated costs this year. Regional Networks, Retires Forum, Regional Council AGM and Pastoral Relations are below budget again due to minimal travel and the extensive use of Zoom virtual meetings.

The mission support grants are on budget. Many of the grants are paid quarterly while some, like camps, are paid in one payment in the spring. Doing Mission Together grants have yet to be allocated or paid.

The other Administrative services show above budget and they have not yet been invoiced. The invoices tend to come later in the year.

Overall, we are showing a surplus of \$115,739 to the end of April. As invoices for various administrative services come in the surplus will be reduced over the summer.

The transfer of funds from the Bay of Quinte Conference and their Presbyteries are nearly complete. There have been significant challenges in determining the use of the various funds held by the Conference as necessary documentation has not been provided.

The funds from church property sales are increasing and the Mission Through Property and Finance Team is investigating ways the funds can be made available to communities of faith through low or no interest loans and possible grants. Once all the funds under the Bay of Quinte are fully determined and their use defined, we will be investing excess cash so investment income can be used to the benefit of communities of faith in the Regional Council. GICs held by the Bay of Quinte have been cashed and will be part of these investments.

Regional Council Assets at the end of April

Bank Account \$890,807.

United Church Foundation \$667,089.

Respectfully submitted by Brian James, Regional Council Treasurer

	A	B	C	L	M	N	O	P	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AG	AI	AJ
				Administrative	YTD	2021 YTD	Difference	3	Annual	YTD			4	Total	Total	Total
1	East Central Ontario Regional Council 2021 Budget vs Actuals to April 30, 2021			Budget	Budget	Actual	Over (Under) Budget		Mission	Mission			2021 Budget	2021 YTD	2021 YTD	Difference
2																
3																
4																
5	Revenue			2021 Budget	YTD Budget	2021 YTD Actual			2021 Budget	YTD Budget			2021 Budget	2021 YTD Actual	2021 YTD Actual	Difference Over (Under) Budget
6	Secretary Assessment Revenue			\$ 325,000	\$ 108,333	\$ 102,750	\$ (5,583)									
7	Safety Support Grant			\$ 34,170	\$ 11,390	\$ 11,667	\$ (223)									
8	Cross Region Support			\$ 34,170	\$ 11,390	\$ 11,667	\$ (223)									
9	Other Region Support			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -									
10	Mission Support Allocation			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -									
11	Other Mission Related			\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -									
12	Theological College			\$ 3,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ (1,000)									
13	Other Designated GTS			\$ -	\$ -	\$ 152,882	\$ 152,882									
14	Total Revenue			\$ 396,340	\$ 132,213	\$ 289,126	\$ 157,013									
15																
16	Expenses															
17																
18	Exec Minister Shared Expense															
19	Exec Minister															
20	BM Admin															
21	Telere (EM/EA)															
22	Phone Cell Share (EM/EA)															
23	Comptrol															
24	Conrd															
25	Workshops															
26	Office															
27	Total EM Shared expenses															
28																
29	Staff															
30	Regional Personnel Minister															
31	Finance/Investment															
32	Communications/Administrative 50%															
33	Social/Nature Minister															
34	Respectful Relationships Minister															
35	Travel															
36	Cell Phones															
37	Conrd															
38	Other															
39	Total Staff Expenses															
40	Regional Council Executive															
41	Regional Chair															
42	Travel															
43	Administrative															
44	Communication															
45	Shared expenses															
46	Total Region Executive															
47																
48	Regional Networks															
49																
50																
51	Retires Forum															
52																

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	A	B	C	L	M	N	O	P	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF
	East Central Ontario Regional Council 2021 Budget vs Actuals to April 30, 2021																
1				Annual Administrative	YTD Administrative	2021 YTD Actual	Difference Over (Under) Budget	4	Annual Mission	YTD Mission	2021 YTD Actual	Difference Over (Under) Budget	4	Total	Total	Total	Total
4				2021 Budget	2021 YTD Budget				2021 Budget	2021 YTD Budget							
51	Practical Relations	Urbans etc.															
52		Government Support Travel		\$ 1,500	900		(500)	54									
53		Urbans Travel		\$ 1,500	900		(500)	55									
54		Emergency Pastoral Care		\$ 1,000	333		(333)	56									
55		Conflict Resolution Professional		\$ 3,000	1,000		(2,000)	57									
56		Review of Community of Faith		\$ 8,000	2,667		(5,333)	58									
57		Openers meet						59									
58								60									
59								61									
60								62									
61								63									
62	Regional Council Admin	Regional Council Admin		\$ 50,000	16,667		(33,333)	64									
63		Social Arrangements						65									
64		Social Arrangements						66									
65		Social Arrangements						67									
66		Food						68									
67		Programming						69									
68		Service of Observation						70									
69		Respectability						71									
70		Total		\$ 50,000	16,667		(33,333)	72									
71								73									
72	Mission Work	Respectful Relations Travel						74									
73								75									
74	Mission Support Grants	Mission Support Grants						76									
75		Menden Food Bank						77									
76		Faith United						78									
77		Greenwood - Bedford House						79									
78		Greenwood - Bedford House						80									
79		Places for People (Redburn Core) Non-profit						81									
80		Quinte Healthcare Corp - Chelmsley						82									
81		Abey Retreat Centre						83									
82		Abey Retreat Centre						84									
83		Five Oaks Christian Worker Centre						85									
84		COVID-19 Grants						86									
85		Total Mission Support Grants						87									
86								88									
87								89									
88	Three Year Commitment Grants (2019 - 2021)	Three Year Commitment Grants (2019 - 2021)						90									
89		Camp Qu-Mo-Lac						91									
90		Quinte Deal						92									
91		Affirming Ministries						93									
92		Old Hwy Bay Church						94									
93		Total Three Year Commitment						95									
94								96									
95	Doing Mission Together Grants	Doing Mission Together Grants						97									
96		Bring Good Relations						98									
97		Working Together						99									
98								100									
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	A	B	C	E	M	N	O	P	X	Y	Z	AA	AB	AC	AD	AE	AF
1	East Central Ontario Regional Council 2021 Budget vs Actuals to April 30, 2021																
3				Annual Administrative	YTD Administrative	2021 YTD Actual	Difference Over (Under) Budget	3	Annual Mission	YTD Mission	2021 YTD Actual	Difference Over (Under) Budget	3	Total	Total	Total	Total
4				2021 Budget	2021 YTD Budget	2021 YTD Actual	Difference Over (Under) Budget	4	2021 Budget	2021 YTD Budget	2021 YTD Actual	Difference Over (Under) Budget	4	2021 Budget	2021 YTD Budget	2021 YTD Actual	Difference Over (Under) Budget
147	Agmt 12/0			Fees from the General Council Office													
148	Mission 32			Communications staff costs are split between Admin and Mission													
149	Mission 95			Yet to disburse planned disbursements													

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Prayer Shawls Ministry Report

Activities over the last few years include providing prayer shawls for new staff at the inaugural ECORC general meeting, providing prayer shawls to new ordinands, commissionands and admissionands for two years and to all retiring ministers for two years. In addition, extra shawls have been given to David Timpson for use in pastoral care. Shawls have been collected from across the region with attempts to having those for new ministers from the area of their community of faith. A description for the ECORC webpage and report for annual meeting have been provided. Several groups have received assistance with setting up or aspects of their prayer shawl ministry. As anticipated, some costs were covered in May of the initial start up year (when 20 shawls were required on fairly short notice) but since then donations from contributors of shawls/their groups across the region have covered all costs.

I am happy to continue to coordinate this ministry, but also happy to work with another person who might want to be involved in a leadership role as well.

Respectfully submitted, Cheryl Mound

Camp Quin-Mo Lac

The Quin-Mo-Lac Board of Directors is continuing to suspend our program based on the guidance from Canadian Health Officials and our own risk mitigation standards. We will be excited to have you back at QML when everyone has their vaccination and it's clearly safe to do so. Thankfully, we are beginning to see the other side of the pandemic and there are glorious days on Moira Lake ahead!

Thank you to everyone who has helped us survive so far during this complicated time. We are so appreciative to everyone who has donated to QML over the last year, and we want to be careful about asking for too much from our community. This year, we will not have an insurance claim or donations from cancelled registrations, but we are still benefiting from the wage subsidy and have received funding from the United Church comparable to a standard summer. Even still, we will need to find \$140,000.00 to make ourselves whole as we look toward 2022 and the renovations camp will require to operate safely. We are pursuing grant opportunities as much as possible, and dreaming up fun, new ways to raise funds for the camp. We have a few compulsory projects on our plate (Ministry of Environment required septic upgrades, new pool safety cover, waterfront safety fence and upgrading our First Aid Station to reflect changing health standards) so anyone who would like to contribute is welcome to reach out to camp and learn more about how you can support these capital requirements.

Many of you have asked how you can donate to QML. Donations can be made by cheque, e-Transfer, and credit card! Now, you can even set up monthly credit card donations through our canadahelps.ca page or by signing up for the United Church's PAR program. Most people contribute \$10-\$50/month. Please contact the camp if you want to learn more about making donations: kids@campqml.org

To keep our leaders up-to-date, we will be offering a 10-week Online QML Leadership Master Class for those 15/16 year olds who would have been eligible for training in 2020/21. We will be sending an email to everyone who has expressed an interest in our leadership program, but please share this with anyone who you think would enjoy participating in our Leadership Master Class. The fee will be \$250 and each participant will receive a parcel with the required tools needed for our activities throughout the summer. Please contact us if you have any questions or require help with cost of this program.

We wish things were shaping up differently for this summer, but we never want to risk the health of our campers, their families and our local communities. Help us honour QML's legacy of outstanding leadership by putting your

efforts towards being a part of the solution. Please look to our website <http://quin-mo-lac.org/> where we will update you all if there is a turn of events this summer and rental opportunities become possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

Trevor White, Director, Camp Quin-Mo-Lac, Email: kids@campqml.org, Phone: 613-473-2877

**Emmanuel College
of Victoria University in
The University of Toronto**

Dear Friends,

I pray for God's blessings on your regional meeting and bring greetings from Emmanuel College. As the end of my term as Principal approaches, I write to share some exciting developments at the College.

The COVID-19 pandemic has handed us the unexpected opportunity to dive head-first into online teaching and learning. We are currently discerning a distance model for the Master of Divinity (MDiv) program, which may interest candidates in your region, for whom moving to Toronto would have been an obstacle. Students starting the program this fall can expect access to online courses, with opportunities for community and spiritual life both online and in person. Our John W. Billes Grant affords 100% tuition support for United Church of Canada members enrolled full-time in the MDiv and engaged with the candidacy pathway process. We also offer ample bursary support, which has been bolstered during the pandemic by Annual Fund gifts from generous alumni donors.

Emmanuel College recruits and educates leaders to be attuned to the changing context and mission of the church in Canada. We have broadened ways that courses, continuing education, and community life implement the calls to action delineated by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. With the appointment of Jonathan Hamilton-Diabo as Special Advisor on Indigenous Issues and teaching-stream Assistant Professor of Theology, the College now offers courses on Indigenous theological worldviews; Indigenous ways of relating to faith, church, and the community; and the legacy of residential schools. We have also increased the presence of Indigenous Elders in ceremonies and as guest lecturers. New Canadian faculty have joined us, with expertise in postcolonial and decolonial theories and practices. As a result, we have instituted an innovative curricular requirement in Coloniality and Power for all basic degree students. Our pluralistic context and our multireligious Master of Pastoral Studies program also enhance the MDiv. Students become more deeply rooted in their own religious and spiritual traditions as a result of engaging one another across difference. Each of these distinctive emphases prepares our UCC candidates for contemporary ministries.

Our continuing education partnerships with the United Church emphasize leadership in diverse settings. We are currently co-sponsoring a multi-year

Innovative Ministry project with the Toronto United Church Council. In early March, General Secretary Michael Blair delivered our Gandier Lecture, addressing the current reality of anti-black racism, the church's historic complicity with practices of exclusion, and the UCC's commitment to transformative discipleship as the beloved community. This summer, our Centre for Religion and Its Contexts will gather a preaching symposium, and we will also host the second annual Christian Left Conference with Trinity St. Paul's UCC, EDGE, and other sponsors. Please consider joining us at these events, online and free of charge. Future initiatives will integrate the training of candidates for ministry with workshop opportunities for ministers, including a series of workshops that draw on the College's strengths in mental health education.

Our faculty contribute theologically to the United Church of Canada. We are thinking through emergent theological issues that matter to congregations and their ministers. Recent publications include Pamela McCarroll's volume, *Christian Theology after Christendom: Engaging the Thought of Douglas John Hall*; and *Postcolonial Preaching: Creating a Ripple Effect* by Timothy Eaton Memorial Church Professor of Preaching, HyeRan Kim-Cragg. Our faculty and students continue to join your congregations as guest preachers via Zoom.

Looking back over my three years as Principal, I have been grateful to participate in each of these facets of our engagement with the United Church of Canada. I look forward to new ways of connecting after June 30, under the leadership of our soon-to- be-announced Interim Principal. On a personal note, I look forward to continuing my journey as a member of the Emmanuel College faculty and as a person in ministry in the Admission process with the UCC.

This concludes my report to you as Principal, but it is not "goodbye." Yours in Christ,

Rev. Dr. Michelle Voss Roberts Principal and Professor of Theology

Centre for Christian Studies

A Year of Imagining Everything Differently

Pandemic - *The pandemic (re)shaped everything in 2020...*

Spring - onset

With the pandemic onset in Canada, within days we went from wondering whether our plans would be impacted to making the decision to move all circles and events online. Our staff began working from home as cities shut down. It was a time of enormous uncertainty. Students and staff plunged into online life. Our spring learning circles were creatively and quickly adapted for online gathering. Our Banquet and Annual Service of Celebration in person events were cancelled, and graduation instead marked with a Virtual Tea.

Summer – space to breathe

Online learning continued with the Relationship learning circle. Our Learning on Purpose circle was cancelled; and new students were invited to participate in a LOP-Lite orientation program. Woodsworth House re-opened to staff.

Fall – second wave

Staff continued to flex working from home or at the school. Our learning circles continued to be online, including: Integration Year, Ministry as Listening, Eco-Justice, Ministering by Word and Example. Some students proceeded with field placements, while others focused on external courses, which were widely available online.

Progress – *Sometimes just pressing on felt like progress, but we did more...*

Education

We continued to innovate online pedagogy. In April we held a series of pandemic responsive workshops on topics such as Online Annual Meetings and Trauma Informed Pastoral Care. We held 10 Learning Circles online, including three new one circles: Power and Privilege Circle, Eco-Theology Circle and Ministering by Word and Example Circle. We continued with free-of-charge public workshops with our CCS Fridays series, exploring topics including Queer Biblical Interpretation, Apocalypticism and (the still popular) Online Annual Meetings. Members of our learning community presented and participated at conferences including the Christian Left Conference (Emmanuel College), Competency Based Theological Education Conference (Competency Based Education Network) and Liberating Our Bodies: Sexual Politics, Queer Resistance and Religious Alliance Today (Jakarta Theological Seminary).

Justice

2020 started with Indigenous blockades of rail lines that brought an early silence Winnipeg from absent railcars. A deeper silence accompanied the first months of the pandemic, along with stark truths about who was vulnerable in our society. The silence was broken in the summer by Black Lives Matter protests raging against George Floyd's murder. CCS renews our affirmation that Black Lives Matter, our commitment to right relationship with Indigenous Peoples and stands against anti-Asian racism and violence.

Transformation

In the midst of change, challenge and response, we learned more about the resilience of field based education – students have continued to learn with local committee and in local context, including field education. Our networks of connection were strong and flexible enough to hold us together through isolation. We found this to be true for our staff team as well – practices of connection with out-of-province staff proved invaluable when everyone was dispersed and isolated at home.

Our new social media partnership with Strategic Charm has refreshed our online presence, connecting us with old friends and reaching new folks.

One of our actions arising from our commitment to #BlackLivesMatter has been revising assigned reading lists with an anti-racist, decolonial lens. We are more stringently assessing the whiteness of our assigned authors, and making changes, circle by circle.

Planning - while trying to plan for the future in 2020 often felt like gazing into a foggy crystal ball, some things became crystal clear...

Recruitment

Theological schools can no longer rely on a steady intake of students being identified and encouraged through denominational processes of call and discernment. We will be moving forward with hiring a part time Recruitment Coordinator in 2021 to connect with potential diploma, certificate and continuing education learners.

Sustainability

A longterm future for the Centre must include financial sustainability. Denomination funding is decreasing. CCS donors remain committed to diaconal education, and blessed us with extraordinary generosity in 2020. Our investment in Development education resulted in large fundraising increases.

Partners

We are blessed with collaborative, generative partners, including:

- Anglican and United Churches
- Diakonia of the United Church of Canada
- Anglican Deacons
- Diakonia of the Americas and Caribbean
- Diaconal Mentors, Field Placements, Learning Facilitators, Local Committee members, Council and Committee volunteers
- St Andrew's College
- St Stephen's College
- Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre
- Strategic Charm (social media managers)

Our Year Book, Financial Statements and Annual Report may be found at: <http://ccsonline.ca/event/ccs-annual-general-meeting-2021/>

United Theological College

UTC is above all about preparing students for ministry. On Wednesday, May 5, 2021, four students will be graduating – three with an M.Div., and one with a Diploma in Ministry. We are proud of each of them and pray for the realization of their vocation and dreams. At the same time, we look forward to welcoming a new cohort of students who will be contributing to UTC’s exceptionally diverse community of learning. We celebrate the continuing life and mission of the college.

Six months ago, in the Fall of 2020, UTC was facing the necessity of selling our building, following an intense period of self-study, mission renewal, and financial reckoning. In the midst of this crisis, our goals were:

1. To continue building our capacity to fulfill our mission, to form people for ministry in the distinctive context of Quebec;
2. To offer a sustainable and integrated program model that would allow movement from an easily accessible entrance level to structure and certified course work at an intermediate level, to an M.Div. or Diploma in Ministry at the third level, leading to a UCC Testamur;
3. To create a stable financial base to make it all work.

In the Spring of 2021, we can now say that we have found a path forward in each of these areas that will make it possible to realize our mission, offer a varied and integrated program, and move in the direction of financial stability.

Strategic Alliance with Montreal Diocesan Theological College

As of the spring of 2021, the UTC is entering into a 12-month period of strategic alliance with our Anglican neighbours, Montreal Diocesan Theological College (or “Dio”), sealed by a Memorandum of Agreement that was approved by the Boards of both colleges on April 22, 2021.

As of July 1, 2021, the two colleges will be coming together under one roof and under one principal, while our boards jointly plan and determine a viable and sustainable future as a combined United-Anglican college in Montreal.

At the time of writing, the sale of the building has been finalized at a good price, movers are arriving to relocate us down the street, where for the next year we will be known as “UTC at Dio.” The Rev. Dr. Jesse Zink will become the principal of the combined entity, and Maylanne Maybee will be retiring as Interim Principal of UTC at the end of June 2021.

The alliance arose out of a recognition of the alignment of our colleges’ core vision, mission, and values in key areas. Both colleges place a high value on theological education that:

- combines academic rigour and contextual ministry placements within an ecumenical context;
- serves both lay and ordained people in the church;
- is enriched by diversity, including gender, ethnicity, national origin, immigration status, sexual identity, and economic background;
- takes place in an environment that is open to and affirming of LGBTQ+ students;
- values French and bilingual education and prepares students for ministry informed by the cultures and context of Quebec.

United Church Studies

A United Church program of study will continue as part of the new entity. Alyson Huntly will continue at “UTC at Dio” with the title of Director of United Church Studies with a mandate to maintain a robust United Church ethos in the combined entity and to lead United Church educational programming.

Angelika Piché will continue in her role as *Directrice de formation en français* through an Agreement between Dio and the General Council of The United Church of Canada, liaising with *la Table des ministères français*, and ensuring the provision of French-language and bilingual programming for theological education.

UTC's integrated program of study will be overseen by a United Church Studies Council responsible for United Church academic and formation programming, assisting with recruitment strategies, and the ongoing development of French language programming.

A Promising Future

We see this alliance as a unique opportunity to ensure the continuity of our mission, enriched by ecumenical collaboration, and adapted to the evolving context and role for theological education in Quebec and beyond. Geographically, UTC is the only theological college for United Church students between Emmanuel College in Toronto and the Atlantic School of Theology in Halifax. We are the only United Church theological college in Canada that supports French and bilingual ministry formation.

We celebrate the continuity of this presence that promises a robust future for United Church theological education in Quebec, built around these distinctive elements:

- accessible learning and cutting-edge pedagogy for a diverse student body;
- the capacity to offer spiritual sustenance in the United Church tradition to Quebec francophones through bilingual and French language learning at a degree level as well as continuing education;
- a learning environment and institutional culture that is intentionally respectful and welcoming of diverse constituencies both within and beyond Canada's borders;
- an ecumenical vision that embraces deep engagement with another Christian tradition, interchurch and interfaith dialogue, and responsiveness to the spiritual and social and environmental justice issues of our day.

Respectfully submitted,
Maylanne Maybee, Interim Principal

Atlantic School of Theology

As it did for every other organization under the sun, 2020-21 brought many challenges for Atlantic School of Theology. The shift to online-only learning in our summer, fall, and winter terms required us to stretch and grow our technological and pedagogical muscles. Our students also worked with great faith and diligence to adapt. It was especially difficult for those with pastoral charge and family responsibilities, or with healthy challenge. We're very proud of them and grateful for them. We all did our best to support one another and to keep in touch. Nothing about "ALL THIS" has been easy! Yet we persevere, in the hope that our attention to and cooperation with God's leading will help us to make good decisions and to continue to serve faithfully.

AST's total enrolment was down slightly, to about 180 students, but the total number of courses taken by those students was up. We decided to wind down our Diploma in Youth Ministry program due to a lack of demand, but we are about to launch our new Diploma in Missional Leadership. The first cohort of this part-time program will begin in June and travel together as learners for two years. Warm thanks to the General Council Office and the United Church Foundation for their support and partnership in this new initiative.

After 12 years of exemplary teaching, research, and leadership, Rev. Dr. Susan Willhauck has decided to retire at the end of June. We shall miss her very much! She has been a very inspiring and encouraging professor and colleague. In July, we will welcome Drs. Susan MacAlpine-Gillis, Andrew O'Neill, and Evangeline Kozitza Dean into tenure-track faculty positions. We're excited about what each of them will bring (and continue to bring) to AST's mission of learning and faith.

With lockdowns and limited movement the norm in so many places, we offered several series of online Continuing Education programming, including "Field Notes" and "Decolonizing Theology." As the summer term approaches,

we will once again have all our courses online. Several of them are available to lifelong learners, including “Transitional Ministry Skills,” “Mysticism and Monasticism in Context,” “Evangelism Rediscovered,” “Dying, Death, and Bereavement,” and more. We would be delighted to welcome you to these online programs in June and July of this year. Similarly, we invite you to discover our emerging Leadership Learning Initiative and its promising array of programming.

It is an honour to share the work of theological education with the many supervisors and lay support teams who work with our students across Canada and beyond. As one of the theological schools of The United Church of Canada, we remain committed to sharing in mission with all the congregations, regions, and the General Council. Thank you for your support and friendship.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Dr. Rob Fennell, Academic Dean, www.astheology.ns.ca

Our Affirmation of Faith

We are not alone,
 We live in God's world.
We believe in God :
 who has created and is creating,
 who has come in Jesus,
 the Word made flesh,
 to reconcile and make new
 who works in us and others
 by the Spirit.
We trust in God.
We are called to be the Church
 to celebrate God's presence
to live with respect in Creation
 to love and serve others,
 to seek justice and resist evil,
 to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
 our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
 God is with us.
We are not alone.
Thanks be to God.