

**East Central Ontario Regional Council**  
**Meeting of the Assembly of Elders**  
**Friday, April 1, 2022 – 9:00 a.m.**

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

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

**IN ATTENDANCE**

Rev. Paul Reed	Speaker
Marilyn Fortin	Member
Brian James	Member - Financial Administration
Rev. Don McLean	Member
Ted Meyers	Member
Ian Robb	Member (joined meeting at 10:55 AM)
William (Bill) Sheaves	Member
Rev. Wanda Stride	Member, Leading Commissioner, 44 <sup>th</sup> General Council Commissioner
Rev. Phil Wilson	Member
Kathleen Whyte	Member (Departed at 11 AM)
Sharon Hull	Corresponding Member - Minister for Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationship and Justice for all Ages
Rev. Rosemary Lambie	Member, Executive Minister
Joel Miller	Corresponding Member, Program Assistant to Executive Minister, Recording Secretary
Karen Wilson	Corresponding Member - Communications and Administration Assistant

**REGRETS/ABSENT**

Margaret Curtis	Member
Nancy Sutherland	Member
Rev. Lynn Watson	Member
Rev. Rodney Smith-Merkley	Corresponding Member - Minister for Respectful Relationship and Indigenous Justice
Rev. David Timpson	Corresponding Member, Pastoral Relations Minister

**Opening Devotions and Recognize the Land** – Rev. Phil Wilson acknowledged the land and gave thanks for its stewardship by First Nations Peoples throughout the centuries. Phil acknowledged that on this morning, the Pope made an apology to First Nations People of Canada. Phil acknowledged the war in Ukraine and asked for a moment of silence. Phil led those in attendance through the Statement of Faith and New Creed. Phil referred to the Lenten series called 'Full to the Brim' a led a call and response.

**Circle Time of Sharing** – All were invited to share.

**Appointment of an Equity Monitor for this Meeting**

**2022-04-01-001 CONSENSUS MOTION** That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Phil Wilson as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **CARRIED**

**Agenda**

**2022-04-01-002 MOTION** (M. Fortin/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the amended agenda as distributed. **CARRIED**

**Minutes of February 25, 2022**

**2022-04-01-003 MOTION** (B. James/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of February 25, 2022 as distributed. **CARRIED**

**Minutes of March 5, 2022 email vote**

**2022-04-01-004 MOTION** (M. Fortin/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of email vote completed March 5, 2022.

*2022-03-05-001 MOTION (I. Robb/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received the confirmation of eligibility through Churchhub, approves the Call of Rev. Andrew Macpherson to Grace United Church, Peterborough full time beginning July 1st 2022 with the commitment that Rev. Macpherson will reimburse the Bobcaygeon Pastoral Charge a portion of his moving expenses as compensation for leaving before the three-year expectation. CARRIED CARRIED*

**Minutes of March 15, 2022 email vote**

**2022-04-01-005 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/ T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of email vote completed March 15, 2022.

*2022-03-15-001 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders gives consent:*

*(1) to the sale of certain Real Property, the legal description of which is PT LT 15 CON 3 KINGSTON; PT LT A W OF LOUGHBOROUGH RD PL 60; BLK D N OF LT 10 W OF LOUGHBOROUGH RD PL 60; PT LT 10 W OF LOUGHBOROUGH RD PL 60 AS IN FR128302 and the municipal address of which is 965 Sydenham Road, Kingston, Ontario, pursuant to an agreement between the Board of Trustees of Cataraqui Congregation a disbanded congregation of The United Church of Canada, as seller and St. Gregory of Nyssa Orthodox Mission, as buyer, dated the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February 2022, and subject to Regional Council approval, the terms of which are as follows:*

*Property listing was made with Re/Max Rise Executives, and broker Mat Clancy recommended an asking price of \$299,000. at a 4% commission rate.*

*The actual listing was published at \$299,900. and the agreed sale price was \$305,000.00 revised to \$290,000.00 (after an inspection identified structural concerns an abatement was brought forward) made by St. Gregory of Nyssa Mission, with a deposit of \$75,000. The balance is due on the closing date of June 15, 2022.*

*(2) The following describes the planned distribution of proceeds from the sale of Pursuant to the "Policy regarding Proceeds from the Sale of Property" (2021)*

*Proceeds from Sale 290,000.000*

*Less 4% Real Estate 11,600.00*

*Less Land Survey Cost N/A*

*Less Legal Fees TBD*

*Balance 278,400.00*

*Recommended Distribution:*

*10% United Church of Canada for Indigenous Ministry*

*10% Toronto United Church Council's Sustainable Energy Loan Fund*

*30% East Central Ontario Regional Council – Mission Strategy*

*30% United Church of Canada – Mission & Support*

*20% equally disbursed to "Impact Hope" and "Project North"*

*Note: "Impact Hope" (formerly known as "Missionary Ventures Canada") and "Project North" have been outreach programs that the Cataraqui United Church members have historically supported. Support has been directed towards Impact Hope projects involving projects in the communities of Maphungwane and Phonjwane, and in Nebaj, Guatemala. It would be the recommendation of the Board of Trustees to seek approval for the disbursement of funds to equally support Impact Hope and Project North.*

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

*4. The said Real Property is held by the Trustees of Cataraqui United Church a disbanded congregation of The United Church of Canada and part of the Cataraqui Pastoral Charge, in trust for Cataraqui United Church as a part of The United Church of Canada;*

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

### **Correspondence**

- a) March 3, 2022 Nicolette Mitchell, Treasurer of Coe Hill-St Ola-The Ridge Pastoral Charge re request for a change in Pastoral Charge Supervisor (*Covenant Support*).
- b) March 3, 2022 Rev. Steve Spicer, Liaison with Cold Spring Pastoral Charge re request for more assistance with process (*referred to Rev. Dan Hayward*)
- c) March 4, 2022 Marie Northey re Amalgamation of Trinity, Roslin and Thomasburg (*for action*)
- d) March 4, 2022 Mary Ellen French, Chair, M&P, Trinity United Church, Cobourg re sabbatical plans for Rev. Kristine Black (*for action*)
- e) March 4, 2022 Rev. Max Ward re that the congregation of Maple Lake United Church Disband as of February 28, 2022, and that all matters after that date be administered by the Trustees with the support of the East Central Ontario Regional
- f) March 7, 2022 Janet Dowson, Broker, Right At Home Realty Inc., Brokerage Oshawa, re Backdoor Mission at Simcoe Street UC (*for action*)
- g) March 16, 2022 Rev. Max Ward re Maple Lake United Church further detailed work of Trustees and proposed closing date (*for action*)
- h) March 21, 2022 Rev. Dr. Larry Doyle, Faith United Council re sabbatical August 15, 2022 to November 13, 2022 (*for action*).
- i) March 31, 2022 Rev. Calvin Stone re intention to retire effective June 30, 2022 (*for action*)
- j) March 31, 2022 Cindy Malachowski, Owner, Lord Simcoe Place, Oshawa on behalf of local merchants re copied on letter to Moderator regarding conditions at Simcoe Street UC (*for action*)

### **Business arising grouped according to confirmed Guiding Principles**

#### **I. All Communities of Faith participate in ECORC meetings and initiatives**

**Facilitation Team report** – Karen highlighted results of the post meeting March 22<sup>nd</sup> gathering. Paul highlighted that the team is now focused on planning for the Spring meeting. Paul highlighted some of the details of the agenda, and asked if the Assembly of Elders would take an active role in the opening worship. Currently looking for facilitators for breakout rooms. Tentative date for fall meeting is in October (possibility of all-day meeting, in person).

#### **II. Clergy, lay leaders and communities of faith express satisfaction with the support, development opportunities and communication they receive**

**Communications** – Karen Wilson highlighted items in her report, see **appendix A**. Karen highlighted potential logo. Members of the Assembly of Elders provided feedback and appreciation.

**2022-04-01-006 MOTION** (P. Wilson/W. Stride) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approve the suggested logo distributed, to be used in its variety of ways. **CARRIED**

It was suggested to begin using the logo immediately. Karen was asked to provide a brief description of all the elements of the logo.

**III.** 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

**IV.** People in all roles and capacities within ECORC are aware of Council decisions and policies, and know where to find the information they need

**i) Governance**

- See Policy Regarding Anti-Racism as **appendix B**

**2022-04-01-007 MOTION** (M. Fortin/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the revised version of the *Policy Regarding Anti-Racism* for inclusion in the Governance Handbook, and recommend to the Regional Council spring meeting on April 29<sup>th</sup>. **CARRIED**

It was noted that a flat rate can be negotiated with United in Learning if many folks register. Funds can be made available and could be budgeted every year (suggested that \$3,500 as budget line).

For logistics, it was suggested that course be offered twice a year through the Regional Council.

**ii) Pastoral Relations –**

a) Covenanting Support Team – Change in Pastoral Relations

**Mark Street Pastoral Charge (Peterborough)**

**2022-04-01-008 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Church Hub, approves the Call of Rev. Edward Wells to Mark Street Pastoral Charge (Peterborough), full time effective September 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. **CARRIED**

**2022-04-01-009 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders, having received confirmation of eligibility through Church Hub, approves the appointment of Rev. Alan Boyd, retired, to Mark Street Pastoral Charge (Peterborough) as Christian Education Minister, 10 hours/week July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2023. **CARRIED**

**Sabbaticals**

**2022-04-01-010 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Rev. Kristiane Black and Trinity United Church, Cobourg for her sabbatical from May 29-Aug 29, 2022. Coverage arrangements have been made. **CARRIED**

**2022-04-01-011 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Rev. Dr. Larry Doyle and Faith United Church for a

sabbatical August 15, 2022 to November 13, 2022. Coverage arrangements have been made.  
**CARRIED**

### **Retirement**

**2022-04-01-012 MOTION** (W. Sheaves/T. Meyers) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with the request of Rev. Calvin Stone to retire from ministry effective June 30, 2022. **CARRIED**

### **iii) Covenant Support Team Chair**

- See minutes (March 22, 2022) of Covenant Support Team as **Appendix C**
- a) Report from Liaison Forum – see appendix
- b) Licensed Lay Worship Leaders Forum –
- c) Retirees Forum – nothing to report at this time.

Discussion: **Pastoral Charge Supervisors** in Fenelon Falls and Bobcaygeon are needed; suggested to ask Rev. Elisabeth Cunningham in Fenelon Fall; it was suggested that Paul Reed act as Supervisor in Bobcaygeon.

Discussion: **Ebenezer-Maple Grove** – Ebenezer wants to become a single point pastoral charge, Maple Grove does not (cannot financially). It was suggested that they become a shared ministry (sharing a minister). Minister there now is currently a retired-supply appointment ending June 30<sup>th</sup>.

It was noted that the Assembly of Elders had previously requested a written plan by June 30<sup>th</sup>.

The topic of bullying of ministers by people in congregations was discussed. The resource: *Put on Your Own Oxygen Mask First* by William M. Easum, was suggested. Another resource was also suggested: *Well-Intentioned Dragons: Ministering to Problem People in the Church* by Marshall Shelley.

In the past the Assembly of Elders has nominated appointees to meeting, has suspended a board, provided mentoring, and asked Liaisons to provide some leadership when skills had been appropriate.

It was reiterated that outgoing ministers are expected to undergo an exit interview, which helps inform of any issues that may require a new minister to be aware of.

Suggested that each congregation draw up a plan describing a 2/3-1/3 shared ministry, detailing what this looks like. Moreover, it needs to be emphasized that a shared ministry appears the best arrangement as one cannot simply abandon a partner community of faith.

**2022-04-01-013 MOTION** (W. Stride/B. James) That the Assembly of Elders concurs with the recommendation of the Covenant Support Team that Ebenezer-Maple Grove join together in a shared ministry and that a shared ministry plan is to be submitted by May 30<sup>th</sup>. **CARRIED**

### **iii) Supporting the life of Communities of Faith where ministry takes place**

NEW:

#### **a) Maple Lake United Church**

**2022-04-01-014 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receive the request of Maple Lake United Church located on Lot 31, Con 5 in Algonquin Highlands, Haliburton County to disband as of February 28, 2022. Recognizing the history of

amalgamation on the Pastoral Charge, the process is to deal with the community of faith in the manner of a financial amalgamation. All matters after that date be administered by the Trustees with the support of the East Central Ontario Regional Council. A closing service will be planned for July 17, 2022 at 2 pm.  
**CARRIED**

**2022-04-01-015 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with request of Maple Lake United Church to name Trustees Deloris Bailey, Beverly Upton and Rev. Max Ward as accountable to the East Central Ontario Regional Council for completing the administrative tasks. **CARRIED**

**2022-04-01-016 MOTION** (M. Fortin/P. Wilson) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders refers the completion of this work to the Mission Through Property and Finance Team working with the three Trustees named. **CARRIED**

Notes:

Maple Lake is requesting financial assistance and guidance for the sale, as the MLUC funds are limited, the MLUC Trustees feel that the prospects of...

1. selling the land without severing and selling the building as a church only are beyond the bank balance limitations.
2. selling the severed land etc. is beyond the bank balance limitations.
3. selling the building only to be moved or scrapped may be within our means even if donating the land to Algonquin Highlands.
4. demolishing the church and donating the land to Algonquin Highlands may be the only viable option given limited funds.

b) **Trinity, Roslin and Thomasburg**

**2022-04-01-017 MOTION** (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with request of the two churches, currently known as the Roslin Thomasburg Pastoral Charge, Trinity United Church Roslin and Thomasburg United Church to amalgamate and be known as the Roslin Thomasburg United Church effective January 1, 2022. The request is further to close Roslin church with a deconsecrating service on April 24, 2022 and all will attend Thomasburg church. **CARRIED**

The Regional Council requires further details about the plans for the real property known as Trinity United Church Roslin.

Discussion: Supplemental information needs to be provided to this congregation. Ted Meyer's will follow up.

c) **Simcoe Street United Church**

**2022-04-01-018 MOTION** (T. Meyers/W. Stride) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concurs with request of the Back Door Mission for the Relief of Poverty to amend the By-laws re Composition of the Board of Directors to (1) expand the current Board of Directors from 7 to 9 members and (2) that the provision that the majority of Directors be affiliates with Simcoe Street United Church be replaced with a provision that a minority of 3 directors be affiliates with Simcoe Street United Church. **CARRIED**

**2022-04-01-019 MOTION** (P. Wilson/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders having received a complaint correspondence written to the Moderator, and redirected

to the Regional Council, acknowledges the responsibility of an investigation into the operating relationship between Simcoe Street United Church and the Back Door Mission for the Relief of Poverty which operates in the church. A meeting will be arranged with the governing body of the church before responding to the local merchants who have laid the complaint. **CARRIED**

Discussion: It was suggested to encourage local United Churches to get involved in helping Simcoe Street in this mission (as many have already expressed interest in joining together to do mission work).

d) **Coe Hill-St Ola-The Ridge Pastoral Charge and Bancroft-Carlow Pastoral Charge**

**2022-04-01-020 MOTION** (W. Stride/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders acknowledges receiving a variety of complaints addressed to staff, to the Speaker and to the Covenant Support team. The common theme of the complaints include that certain communities of faith are not wanting to accept the assigned Pastoral Charge Supervisor, may be refusing to pay assessments, and generally are not following the guidance of the Regional Council and The United Church Manual. These communities of faith are being heavily influenced by a retired minister. Therefore, the Assembly of Elders directs Rosemary to write a letter to Rev. David Watson requesting him to refrain from involvement with Coe Hill-St Ola-The Ridge Pastoral Charge and Bancroft-Carlow Pastoral Charge, effective immediately, and further that the pastoral charges and Pastoral Charge Supervisor be advised on this decision. **CARRIED** (P. Wilson abstains)

**2022-04-01-021 MOTION** (B. James/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders request a review be done of Bancroft-Carlow Pastoral Charge and Coe Hill-St Ola-The Ridge Pastoral Charge. **CARRIED** (K. Whyte abstains)

Discussion: It was noted that one reviewer was needed for both pastoral charges

ON-GOING concerns:

e) A Spring Brook United Church – pending

**Mount Pleasant United Church** - pending new Trustees

NOTICE OF MOTION (/) That whereas the former Hills and Shores Presbytery of Bay of Quinte Conference entered into a rental agreement with Mount Pleasant United Church, enabled a lease of \$1200 per year until 2028, and required the naming of four Trustees, and whereas the East Central Ontario Regional Council is the successor council responsible for naming those same Trustees, and whereas the original four Trustees are no longer willing or able to serve, therefore the East Central Ontario Regional Council the Assembly of Elders appoints \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ and \_\_\_\_\_ as Trustees to the Mount Pleasant Church property.

Further, to arrange for the rent to be deposited in the ECORC accounts.

f) Chalmers – pending

g) Carlow-Bancroft, now North Hastings and Haliburton area – process in progress with Rev. Paul Reed

h) Lakefield and Young's Point – process in progress with Rev. Dan Hayward

i) Roblin-Enterprise U. C.

j) Sunderland – being addressed by Covenant Support

k) Centennial Albert – being addressed by Covenant Support

V. *The number of church buildings in our Regional Council that are accessible is increasing. There is faithful stewardship of property and finances*

**Mission through Property and Finance –  
Trinity United Church Bowmanville**

a) **St Mark's Whitby**

**2022-04-01-022 MOTION** (T. Meyer/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders gives consent to St. Mark's United Church, Whitby:

(1) to the offer of sale of certain real property, the legal description of which is PIN 26494-0095, description PT Lot 35 Con 1 Town of Whitby, the municipal address which is 1605 Dundas Street West, pursuant to an agreement between the Board of Trustees of St. Mark's United Church, Whitby, a congregation of the United Church of Canada as Owner, and the Regional Municipality of Durham in the capacity of Municipal Road Authority, dated (dd/mm/2022 TBD) and subject to the Regional Council approval, the salient terms of which are as follows:

- a 6.75 m severance along the entire 30.5m road frontage as surveyed by the Region of Durham
- a proposed closing dated April 30, 2022
- the Region of Durham to pay legal fees and other costs associated with the sale
- a cash purchase price of \$61,600 to be paid on closing

(2) to the following disposition of the proceeds of the sale:

- the payment of any accumulated debts associated with the property
- 30% of the net proceeds to be submitted to The United Church of Canada in accordance with ECORC policy dated November 26 2021
- The remainder to be utilized by the St. Mark's United Church pastoral charge in accordance with the above ECORC Policy. **CARRIED**

b) **Dunbarton Fairport** – Ted updated on process with United Property Resource Corporation (UPRC), enthusiasm for Dunbarton Fairport to continue to work with UPRC.

c) **Melrose Certificate Amalgamation**

**2022-04-01-023 MOTION** (T. Meyer/W. Sheaves) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders extend Rev. Marg Goodwin term as Supervising Minister to Melrose, effective February 1<sup>st</sup> 2022. **CARRIED**

d) **Trinity UC Peterborough** UPRC versus selling to private developer. Trinity's Congregational Meeting to vote on the Agreement to Purchase and Sale with the Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network will take place on Sunday April 3, 2022

**2022-04-01-024 MOTION** (W. Stride/I. Robb) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders acknowledge receipt of an invitation from Trinity United Church, Peterborough (received March 31, 2022), indicating a Congregational Meeting to vote on the Agreement to Purchase and Sale with the Peterborough Poverty Reduction Network to take place on Sunday April 3, 2022. A response will be sent expressing the concerns of the Regional Council, and the lack of compliance with Policy. It will further highlight that United Church properties are encouraged to be retained by The United Church of Canada. **CARRIED**



**2022-04-01-025 MOTION** (P. Wilson/E. MacLean) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders reviews and compensate Rev. Svinda Heinrich invoice to Bancroft-Carlow. Pastoral Charge. **CARRIED**

e) **Equity Concern**

Discussion: The concern was raised in regards to equity when choosing Supervisors.

**VI.** *ECORC events take place in a variety of geographic locations within our Region throughout the year*

**VII.** *We hold events every year related to outreach and social justice within our Regional Council*

i) **Formation, Nurture and Justice –**

- a) Team Progress report – Assembly of Elders representatives
  - See minutes (March 10, 2022) of Formation, Nurture and Justice Team as **appendix D**

**2022-04-01-026 MOTION** (D. Mclean/M. Fortin) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receive the following reports as outlined in the March 10, 2022 minutes of the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team: Doing Mission Together Priority Grants, Cluster and Networks, Affirm Forum, First Third Ministry and Youth and Young Adult Ministry. **CARRIED**

Discussion: Marilyn noted that this would be her last meeting, as her term on the Assembly of Elders.

- b) Report from Supporting Staff Member - Report of the Minister for Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationship and Justice for all Ages, see **appendix D**
- c) Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils – EVENT: Social Justice Round table meeting on Zoom, May 1<sup>st</sup> 7-9 PM

ii) **Doing Mission Together Priority Grants – see appendix D**

iii) **Clusters and Network News – see appendix D**

iv) **Affirm Forum – Assembly of Elders representative – Report of the Minister for Spiritual Nurture, Respectful Relationship and Justice for all Ages, see appendix D**

**VIII.** *We observe increasing use of land acknowledgments and more participation in learning opportunities related to Respectful Relations and Indigenous Justice*

**Report of the Minister for Respectful Relationship and Indigenous Justice – Rev. Rodney Smith**  
Merkley provided a written report:

In addition to information shared through the weekly ECORC newsletter, and the FNJ report that the following was reported:

1. Following the ECORC mission priorities session Rodney has been in contact with the Castleton/Grafton Pastoral Charge around supporting them on an journey of education and action. Rodney also renewed a contact with St. Paul's in Bowmanville.

2. Rodney plans to meet with a group at Cambridge St. in Lindsay in the coming weeks to accompany them on their journey and to prepare for a presentation in morning worship through a pulpit exchange. Rodney has also had initial conversations with the Arden Pastoral Charge about the Kairos Blanket Exercise: perhaps a regional event.
3. Rodney has been in conversation with Aruna Alexander about the June 4<sup>th</sup> Pentecost service in Peterborough.

**IX.** Children, youth and young adults are represented on all decision-making bodies

**X.** 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

### **First Third Ministry**

### **Youth and Young Adult Ministry**

Report from Supporting Staff Member, see **appendix D**

**XI.** There is evidence that inclusive language is becoming the norm in the life and work of our church throughout our Regional Council, especially inclusive language and images of God in worship

**XII.** Reports from equity monitors and meeting notes give evidence of a growing awareness of equity standards

**Equity Team** – Phil commented, highlighting that the Team recently met, a few vacancies have been declared within the team and the Team is looking at its terms of reference.

**XIII.** The number of Communities of Faith designated as Affirming continues to increase

**XIV.** An increasing number of Communities of Faith, along with ECORC and the Assembly of Elders, are developing plans to increase their environmental stewardship

**XV.** We can document specific actions we have taken to become intercultural

**Nominations** – Rev. Wanda Strides reported that the Nominations Team has received one nomination from a youth (therefore one-year term) to sit on the Assembly of Elders. Currently, there will be vacancies remaining on the Assembly of Elders following the Spring meeting.

### **New Business –**

#### **a) Commission a Review of Regional Council Structure**

It was noted time was coming to commission a review of Regional Council structures (Teams, Forums, Networks), updating Terms of Reference and Policies within the Governance Handbook.

#### **b) Support for Ukraine or refugees arriving in Canada** – There have been questions regarding best approach, interest and ability to centralize donations for helping Ukrainian families etc. Suggestions: Need approval from Canada Revenue Agency (CRA); therefore, update missions to include supporting Ukrainian refugees can enable church to issue tax receipts in this regard. Brian was asked to prepare a checklist of what congregations can do to support Ukrainian refugees from the standpoint of finances

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and issuing tax receipts. Suggested to collaborate with Doing Mission Together Grants to see where additional funding can come from.

**Opening worship for next meeting** – Rev. Wanda Stride

**Equity Monitor Report** – noting to report.

**Gratitude** and appreciation were extended to Rev. Paul Reed for his work as Speaker during his term.

**Motion to adjourn**

**2022-04-01-027 MOTION** (I. Robb) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders adjourn this meeting at 12:148 PM. **CARRIED**

**Closing Prayer** – Rev. Phil Wilson shared music and recited the Affirmation of Faith.

**Next Meeting Dates**

- Friday April 29 - Saturday April 30 ECORC RC
- Friday May 27 9:00 to noon ZOOM
- Friday June 24 9:00 to noon ZOOM
- Friday September 23 9:00 to noon ZOOM
- Friday Oct 28 - Saturday Oct 29 ECORC RC - save the dates
- Friday November 25 9:00 to noon ZOOM

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Rev. Paul Reed  
Speaker

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Rev. Rosemary Lambie,  
Executive Minister

**Appendices**

Appendix A	Communications Report	Pages 94-98
Appendix B	Revised Policy Regarding Anti-Racism	Pages 99-100
Appendix C	Minutes (March 22, 2022) of Covenant Support Team	Pages 101-112
Appendix D	Minutes (March 10, 2022) of Formation, Nurture and Justice Team	Pages 113-120

## Appendix A

**Assembly of Elders Meeting - Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup> at 9am - Communications Summary Report****Meetings Attended in March:**

- GC All Staff meeting on March 1<sup>st</sup>
- March 1<sup>st</sup> - Communications meeting with my colleagues, Anita Jansman and Judy Coffin where we had Jayne King join us for some training in Dynamics 365 (D365) and we have a follow up session with Jayne on Tuesday, April 12<sup>th</sup>
- Part of the Tech Team for our Information Session on March 22<sup>nd</sup>
- Facilitation Team meeting on March 4 and 29<sup>th</sup>
- Sharon, Phil and I met and edited/captioned some videos which have now been uploaded to ECORC's YouTube channel

**Communications:**

- Continuing to open Zoom meetings for Covenant Support Team, Liaison's as well as weekly Clergy Check In
- Continuing work on the Regional Directory – It is close to being completed! I am now adding in and updating information I have received from Community's of Faith.
- Feedback form was sent out for the March Information Session and what has been received thus far as been shared with the Facilitation Team
- I met with Sharon Hull and Adele Boy and discussed updates Adele would like to see on the Palestine Network webpage – still to be completed
- Working with Paul Kneebone, we have done a lot of updates to both the LLWL Forum and Network webpages
- Weekly newsletters as well as any others that are time sensitive
- Nominations form is now closed and all information has been sent to the Nomination's Team for review

**Logo:**

- The Affirming Forum has contacted me in regards to the new logo, so Sharon and I brainstormed some ideas based on suggestions I had received from those in the Region. I then designed both a banner logo as well as a smaller, stand-alone logo, which will be sent separately. You will find two banner logos' as well as three smaller logos for your review.

*Karen Wilson*

Banner which can be used in newsletters, on social media pages etc.



Stand-Alone idea that could be used for letterhead, webpages etc.



# MAKE A JOYFUL NOISE

## ECORC's Annual Spring General Meeting

Friday, April 29th from 6:30 - 9:15pm  
Saturday, April 30th from 9am - 12:30pm



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To register, please visit our webpage

at

(insert link)

or contact Karen Wilson

kwilson@united-church.ca

or by phone

1-800-268-3781 Ext 6146

## Appendix B

**Policy Regarding Anti-Racism**  
**East Central Ontario Regional Council**

POLICY NAME: Policy regarding Anti-Racism	Date Approved: June 5, 2021 <b>Revised:</b> <b>April 2022</b>
	Review date:
Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to ensure behavior compliant with The UCC's declaration to becoming an Anti-Racist Denomination of October 2020	

**Preamble**

This document outlines the East Central Ontario Regional Council's policy and best practices regarding respect for the dignity and worth of every person and a commitment to eliminating racism in the life and ministry of the East Central Ontario Regional Council. This includes all communities of faith and those leading and attending gatherings of clusters, networks, staff-led training, and partner events

**Policy**

It is the policy of East Central Ontario Regional Council to acknowledge that racism exists and further, to enact its obligation to principles of procedural fairness and justice as defined by Church and protected by the Human Rights Code of the Province of Ontario. The Regional Council acknowledge and reinforce that each person has the right to live, worship, receive services, and participate fully in an environment free of discrimination and harassment based on bias, bigotry or prejudice against a race or racialization of an individual or a group within Church and Canadian society. Racism will not be tolerated in ECORC and its member communities of faith. We are committed to eliminating racism.

**Definitions and Understandings**

**The Institution/Structure** – refers to The East Central Ontario Regional Council of The United Church of Canada.

**Race** - shall include: race, ancestry, place of origin, colour, ethnic origin, citizenship and religions, in accordance with The United Church of Canada's Anti-Racism Statement and the prohibited grounds of Ontario's Human Rights Code.

**Racism** - is alive in Church and Society; we begin by acknowledging that racism exists. It is a learned behaviour based on fear and ignorance of the unknown and personalized perceptions and assumptions. Racism can be blatant, subtle, hidden or internalized and is often denied. It can be practiced culturally, environmentally, structurally, and institutionalized

**Impact of Racism** - It is our understanding that Racism will destroy the fabric of our pluralistic, multicultural society we live in, if it remains unchallenged and it is not stopped. ECORC faces its obligation to principles of procedural fairness, and Justice as defined by Church and protected by the Human Rights Code of the Province of Ontario.

To strengthen Church and Community awareness of the existence of racism in all its forms, in Ontario, in order that we can eliminate it; and

To provide a model through behaviour and education, thereby creating the framework for all United Church of Canada members and adherents to work together in achieving the Strategic Directions of this Policy.



**ECORC Commits to:**

- recognize racist attitudes and behaviours at all levels of the organization
- recognize attitudes, language, humour that encourages racism
- confront denial and micro aggressions in appropriate ways
- address the issues of Anti-Racism and implicit bias at all levels of ECORC life (Regional Council, Teams/Forums, Communities of Faith, etc.)
- unlearn racism
- unite against racism
- eliminate racism
- Admit to and address the lack of knowledge of Canadian and Newcomer religious and cultural diversity

**Implementation**

The cost of the following ECORC anti-racism training will be covered with a line item in the ECORC yearly budget.

- a. All licenced lay worship leaders serving communities of faith within ECORC be required as part of their training to take a United Church of Canada provided anti-racism course (an anti-racism course provided by The United Church of Canada or the ECORC) prior to their licensing, and
- b. That all leaders serving on the East Central Ontario Regional Council governing body be mandated to attend a United Church of Canada provided anti-racism course (an anti-racism course provided by The United Church of Canada or the ECORC), within 6 months of their election and
- c. That all leaders serving on the governing body of a community of faith as well as all committee and board chairs be strongly urged to attend a United Church of Canada provided anti-racism course (an anti-racism course provided by The United Church of Canada or the ECORC) within 6 months of their election.



## Appendix C

**Covenant Support Team Minutes**  
**Friday March 22, 2022 by Zoom**

Present: Bill Sheaves (Chair), David King, Darlene Hallett, Donna Bignell, Ian Robb, Kathleen Whyte, Steve Coles, Cheryl McMurray, Katy Gregory (recording), Freda Burns, Ted Myers (Chair of Mission through Property), Lisa Monsma, Craig Donnelly,  
 Regrets: David Timpson, Sue Hogan  
 Corresponding: Rosemary Lambie

Agenda**1. Welcome by the Chair**Action needed  
& Motions**2. Opening Prayer –****3. Additions to the Agenda by consensus****4. Approval of the Agenda by consensus****5. Approval of the Minutes** from January 20<sup>th</sup> 2022  
by consensus**6. Business arising from the minutes**

a) Northminster- David King.....

-All team members asked to consider this situation and steps going forward

**7. Forum/team reports:**

a) Liaison – Steve Coles.....

- Liaison needed at Sunderland Pastoral Charge
- Bobcaygeon Pastoral Charge – will need a Pastoral Charge Supervisor
- Pastoral charge supervisor needed at Eldad Hampton

b) LLWL – appointments.....

**Motion** regarding Grace United, Peterborough and the Rev. Andrew MacPherson- carried**Motion** regarding Mark Street United, Peterborough and the Rev. Ned Wells – pending paperwork being seen by Bill Sheaves

c) Retirees – Ian Robb.....

See Appendix A

d) Mission through Property – Ted Meyers

**8. ECOR information**

Cedar Dale: Keith Pike retiring; Cedar Dale disbanding; 2022-17

March 22, 2022

**9. Pastoral Charge Updates:****Motion:** Don Wilmer will be liaison; Mission Support through Property will step in with possibilities for redevelopment

Trinity Bobcaygeon - Steve

Bill Sheaves to meet with the minister there

Cedar Dale .....

**Motion** to approve Marg Goodwin as Pastoral  
Charge Supervisor at Melrose**Motion** to approve the amalgamation of Melrose,  
Shannonville and Emmanuel, Foxboro

Dunbarton-Fairport.....

Fenelon Falls – Pastoral Charge Supervisor needed –  
Bill Sheaves to ask Assembly of Elders for suggestions  
– Craig Donnelly to ask Alan Boyd

Smithfield Carman - Cheryl

Motion to support shared ministry

Melrose.....

Phil Wilson appointed Pastoral Charge Supervisor

Bill Sheaves will report the situation to the Elders

Bill Sheaves will take the situation to the Assembly of  
Elders**Motion** to recommend to Elders to send a letter.

Fenelon Falls.....

Bill Sheaves will ask Elaine about being Pastoral  
Charge Supervisor

Ted Myers to speak to the minister

Ebenezer Maplegrove.....

in need of Supervisor, suggestions made  
to be done – Bill Sheaves, Joel Miller, Rosemary  
Lambie

Roblin Enterprise .....

Coe Hill.....

Bancroft Carlow.....

Scugog.....

March 22, 2022

Maple Lake closing.....

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Eldad Hampton.....	Appendix B – please read
Dunsford.....	
<b>10. New Business</b>	Action needed: Bill Sheaves, Rosemary Lambie
a)-Resignation Craig Donnelly	April 19, 2022 –2-4 p.m. --Zoom
b)--Ian Robb re: Ukrainian refugees.....	Katy Gregory, 5:00 p.m.
c)-Appointments renewal.....	

**11. Next meeting.....****12. Motion to adjourn.....****1. Welcome by the Chair****2. Opening Prayer – Craig Donnelly****3. Additions to the Agenda by consensus – David King re: Northminster, Oshawa; Steve Coles re: renewal of appointments****4. Approval of the Agenda by consensus****5. Approval of the Minutes** from February 18, 2022 by consensus - approved**6. Business arising from the minutes****a) Northminster United Church**

David King reported regarding his conversation with the acting Chair of the Board of Northminster United Church in Oshawa, Gary Cubit. He holds 7 chairs in their governing structure, which is a complex and challenging one. David King stated that this team needs to do something because they are not doing what they should vis- a- vis the division regarding ministry personnel and a lack of money to carry on – they want to dip into investments of \$180,000.00. He added that it will take a skilled practitioner to work through this.

Some other notes:

-22 people attend worship

March 22, 2022

2022-19

-\$30,000 done in upgrades

-incumbant took a sabbatical in 2021 – stopped the sabbatical, took the other two months at her discretion in 2022 – not according to polity

-all staff are part time

-we will all consider this and what can be done

-longstanding issues

Steve Coles added that Simcoe Street United is in the same situation and he can't get them to talk to each other.

**7. Forum/team reports:****a) Liaison Forum**– Steve Coles**Appointment of Liaisons & Pastoral Charge Supervisors**

- Ted Myers said, re: Sunderland Pastoral Charge – Wes Hills is over 71 and on a call and has asked to have his hours reduced to under 50% - therefore he has to take 13 weeks break and there has to be an updated profile done- Liaison needed
- Paul Reeves appointed as Liaison at Bobcaygeon Pastoral Charge – will need a Pastoral Charge Supervisor
- Rev. Richard Parker has agreed to be appointed as Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Centennial Albert, Oshawa
- Pastoral Charge Supervisor needed at Eldad Hampton Pastoral Charge, Scugog. Cheryl suggested Rev. Leslie Hamilton for this position

Steve reminded us of the work being done to make a template for how half time is set up –it's going to be daunting but worthwhile.

**b) Licensed Lay Worship Leaders Forum** – Cheryl McMurray reported that Licensed Lay Worship Leaders will be appointed/reappointed in the fall.

**c) Retirees Forum** – Ian Robb

See **Appendix A** for Ian Robb's report

This Forum would like a bit more support from retirees – not many are participating of the 150-160 who could be -many comment on the Facebook page  
-topics are various and many

**d) Mission Through Property Team** – Ted Meyers

Highlights of what they are tracking in common with this team:

The United Property Resource Corporation (UPRC) is a new corporation created by The United Church of Canada to bring professional real estate expertise to communities of faith to provide them with all of the information needed to make faithful decisions about their real estate.

-responsible for development of properties when they become surplus through disbanding, amalgamation  
-running into challenges

**March 22, 2022**

2022-20

**Bowmanville** – UPRC active there

-they won't have the funds to support the building after they disband  
so UPRC and East Central Ontario Region will look after this  
-trying to do not-for-profit housing

**Uxbridge**, Trinity United- letter of agreement signed, working on a 5 or 6 storey building, with church incorporated

**Epson Utica** – property issues – amalgamated a long time ago, and did not get rid of their excess property  
**Cedar Dale, Ebenezer, Maple Lake** all as per the list below

**8. East Central Ontario Region information** (Rosemary)

Bill received a motion on or around March 1:

**Motion Re: Grace Pastoral Charge, Peterborough**

Moved by Kathleen Whyte

Seconded by Steve Coles

**Moved** that the Covenant Support Team of The East Central Ontario Region, having received confirmation of eligibility through ChurchHub, approves the call of the Rev. Andrew MacPherson to Grace Pastoral Charge, Peterborough, full time, effective July 1, 2022.

**Carried****Motion Re: Mark Street United, Peterborough and the Rev. Ned Wells**

It was observed that the following motion ought to have been made 28 Feb., 2022

**Moved** that the Covenant Support Team of The East Central Ontario Region, having received confirmation of eligibility through ChurchHub, approve the call of the Rev. Ned Wells to Mark Street United Church, Peterborough, as of 1 Sept., 2022.

Vote is **pending** the Chair seeing the paperwork on ChurchHub**9. Pastoral Charge Updates:**

**Trinity, Bobcaygeon** – Paul Reeves appointed as Liaison at Bobcaygeon Pastoral Charge; will need a Pastoral Charge Supervisor

**Cedar Dale, Oshawa** – Craig Donnelly reported that he'd been in conversation with the minister there, Keith Pike. They had a meeting, talked about disbanding; Keith Pike announced his retirement. Craig feels they aren't acknowledging his position (therefore this team) and noted that they have decided to go straight to disbandment therefore no update of faith profile required. Don Wilmer will stay on there and step into the liaison place – Craig Donnelly is happy with that.

Ted Myers noted that the Mission Through Property Team is waiting for the Covenant Support Team to give the okay and they'll move in—had been in conversation with Keith Pike— the property has a small footprint but a redevelopment could extend upward for as many as 10 storeys

March 22, 2022

2022- 21

Donna Bignell asked if the congregation was being sufficiently supported. Craig Donnelly feels the 10-20, aged 80+ people are comfortable with disbanding when Keith Pike retires-- 6 people get out on a Sunday

Steve Coles reminded the team that Craig Donnelly was to be there to make sure the spirituality of the closure was intact.(February minutes) Someone does need to “hold their hands” and see that they get the care they need. All the churches in Oshawa are in transition.

**Motion re: representatives at Cedar Dale, Oshawa:**

Moved: Craig Donnelly

Second: Cheryl McMurray

Be it **moved** that Bill Sheaves ask Don Wilmer to be the representative of the Covenant Support Team at Cedar Dale United Church, Oshawa.

## **Carried**

**Dunbarton Fairport** –Bill Sheaves will meet with the minister, Rev. Deb Foster; Ted will be on Zoom with them

## **Smithfield Carman and Heritage**

Cheryl attended the annual meetings, presented about shared ministry; they agreed and they elected representatives to this –Karen Bates, a LLWL of the congregation, is providing leadership

**Melrose--** going for sale – Ted waiting for our yes, their paperwork

email from Marg Goodwin to Bill Sheaves

-amalgamating with Emmanuel United Church in Foxboro

-they need to provide the signed agreement, financial arrangements, names of trustees

-Ted Myers will follow up

Rosemary has been in contact with them

## **Motion**

Moved by Ian Robb

Seconded by David King

Moved to appoint Rev. Marg Goodwin as Pastoral Charge Supervisor at Melrose United Church Feb. 1- June 30, 2022

## **Carried**

## **Motion**

Moved by Darlene Hallett

Seconded by Cheryl McMurray

that the Covenant Support Team recommend to the Assembly of Elders that they grant approval to the amalgamation of Emmanuel United, Foxboro and Melrose United, Shannonville.

## **Carried**

**Fenelon Falls-** Bill Sheaves was talking to people there and they request a Pastoral Charge Supervisor. They had Walter Murray but he's leaving.

March 22, 2022

2022-22

Suggestions?

Darlene Hallett- wasn't Alan Boyd connected? Yes, but he's no longer associated there

Bill will take it to the Assembly of Elders to make a suggestion for

Craig will talk to Alan Boyd to see what the state of work is there and he might do it

## **Ebenezer Maplegrove--**

Bill Sheaves reported that he asked the Assembly of Elders for advice on how to help Ebenezer Maplegrove. The situation is that Ebenezer want to be a single point charge, while Ebenezer does not want to go single.

Bill Sheaves asked Maplegrove to check with Eldad Hampton to see about being a 3-point pastoral charge or consider sharing a minister

Steve Coles noted that that is what they had before, and couldn't "play nice in the sandbox" at that time

-they can't afford a full time minister on their own

-they want to find a part time minister

-they're ready to put their profile on ChurchHub

Ted Myers commented that Mission through Property has received their financial reports and find that they can't support full time

-Ebenezer hopes to get members from Trinity and Bowmanville

-churches can't count on the urban growth to grow their numbers

-their minister is leaving at the end of June

-David King began a discussion about the wisdom of allowing these or any small churches to separate when they clearly can't afford to; suggests that we make this our team's position.

-Craig Donnelly's made the point that these congregations are grieving, and we need to help them

### **Motion**

Moved by Steve Donnelly

Seconded by Donna Bignell

That the Covenant Support Team of East Central Ontario Region support Ebenezer United Church in forming a shared ministry with Maple Grove United Church.

### **Carried**

Opposed: Ian Robb, David King

Abstention: Craig Donnelly

Futher discussion: Carol Gillard- appointed here

-given the history, are we setting them up for failure?

**Roblin Enterprise** – Phil Wilson has been appointed as Pastoral Charge Supervisor, as Rev. Nancy Clark was not attending meetings

**Bancroft Carlow** Kathleen Whyte reported that Svindra Heinrich, as Pastoral Charge Supervisor, has asked for direction from the Covenant Support Team. This is a 2 point charge- Carlow wasn't to separate from Bancroft – problems with Rev. Lynn Watson who is on restorative care– Carlow feels they have enough money to do it on their own – but Bancroft needs their money

Svinda was asked not to grace their doors again – they didn't want her intervention

Craig Donnelly-says this is very like Kirkhill-Lakefield

March 22, 2022

2022-23

Rev. David Watson worked with them to do their profile, but he wasn't appointed by the Region. He is providing pulpit supply twice a month. He's not working within the structure.

David King reminds us that we have the authority to rein in congregations that are not following polity.

Steve Coles: Maybe office of vocation should be entering here re: David Watson

Bill Sheaves will take this to the Assembly of Elders to take a stronger stand on this.

### **Motion**

Moved by Cheryl McMurray

Seconded by Ian Robb

That the Covenant Support Team of East Central Ontario Region recommends to the Assembly of Elders that a letter be sent to the Bancroft Carlow Pastoral Charge, outlining the polity of the United Church of Canada, and the need to accept the authority of the Pastoral Charge Supervisor duly appointed.

### **Carried**

**Coe Hill St. Ola** -correspondence received by Bill Sheaves. Trouble with supervision of Svinda Heinrich overstepping her bounds, being over- zealous. Request for a different supervisor-David Watson or another option. Bill Sheaves will take this to the Assembly of Elders and see what they think. Cheryl McMurray spokeabout the need to achieve a fit of personalities.

**Scugog** - Ned wells is leaving there, Steve Coles contacted the Chair of the Board to get a name for a liaison but as of the end of May there needs to be a Pastoral Charge Supervisor appointed. The last time their Pastoral Charge Supervisor was Elaine. Bill Sheaves will ask her.

*(Freda Burns left the meeting.)*

**Maple Lake** closing – no surprise to the Assembly of Elders. News release was sent out. Ted Myers commented that a long time ago, more than 10 years, Maple Lake was a part of Zion—disbanding is not the right financial decision. Ted Myers thinks they should complete the amalgamation that didn't happen before. Would be a good financial decision. Ted Myers would like to join Paul Reed in taking this position. He's going to have a conversation with the current minister.

**Dunsford PC** Darlene Hallett reported that Dunsford needs a Pastoral Charge Supervisor. Kathleen Whyte is their liaison. They have a pulpit supply and an Liscensed Lay Worship Leader filling in. Required by East Central Ontario Regopm to do a financial assessment, required to take the Stewardship course. Andrew MacPherson, Pastoral Charge Supervisor, is leaving soon. Darlene Hallet suggested Kim Falls, Craig Donnelly suggested Mary Margaret Boone as possibilities.

*(Craig Donnelly left the meeting)*

## 10. New Business

**March 22, 2022**

**2022-24**

**a) Resignation:** Craig Donnelly announced that he has to step down from his position on the Covenant Support Team. He finds that he is overwhelmed on the work front. The Covenant Support Team wished Craig all the best, with our understanding, thanks and support.

**b) Ukrainian Refugees – Ian Robb - See Appendix B**

**c) Appointments Renewal**

Steve Coles: reminders to congregations that they need to renew their appointments, someone has to send these out – how to make up the list? Joel Miller will have a master list –Bill Sheaves will see about that and perhaps Rosemary Lambie can send them out.

**Prayer for Ukraine to close meeting – thanks to Ian Robb**

## 11. Next meeting

April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2-4

## 12. Motion to adjourn

### **Appendix A.**

REPORT TO COVENANT SUPPORT TEAM re: Retirees

Forum and Network.

This is a report of The Retirees Forum activities over the



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past month or so which is a collaboration of our thoughts and comments.

"Retiree Forum members are a diverse group who are bringing a wide range of experiences and perspectives to the work of supporting and engaging retired ministry personnel across East Central Ontario Regional Council."

The key event of the Retirees Network was held by Zoom on the 10th. of this March month and allowed and promoted discussion on the subject of: "Things That Are Weighing On Me." We had 12 people attending and the results of the discussion in Breakout Rooms made interesting listening.

The theme scripture was Matthew 11:28

"Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest." A lively discussion ensued, the attendees being engaged with the topic, however disappointing in their numbers. We all have our burdens to bear, yet in the immortal words of Professor Leo F. Buscaglia: "Worry never robs tomorrow of its sorrow, it only saps today of its joy."

A further contribution we have, and are attempting to make on behalf of retired clergy, is a Facebook page in which we have the opportunity to highlight ECORC coming events as March 22, 2022

2022-25


well as other subjects which are of delight or concern to us.... and all areas in between. We thank those who have seen fit to add their contributions to the page and in this, special thanks goes to Karen Wilson who has contributed many hours of her work week to establish Facebook as part and parcel of the Retirees Network.

Spring has sprung and the signs of new growth are appearing in gardens and woodlands across the Province. Let us hope that this stirring of the Created world will be seen in and through United Church of Canada ministry in an era, post COVID-19, which has cast its dark shadow across the World in which we live. As a Retirees Network we try to bring that light; that re-birth into other people's lives through our ministry. We remain convinced it is vital that we keep Retired Ministers on the radar screen of the Covenant Support Team, Assembly of Elders and wider ECO Regional Council.

To echo this thought, our next meeting of the Retirees Forum Leadership Team is on Monday April 4th. at 10.00 a.m. The Retirees Network/Ministry (which welcomes ALL retired clergy to gather monthly for just 1.1/2 hours) meets once again on Thursday 14th. April at (2.00 p.m. to 3.30 p.m.) If this meeting time is not convenient for you then please make your

suggestions (whether morning or evening would be better for you) to our secretary, Caroline Giesbrecht at rev.carolineg@xplornet.ca who will be pleased to hear your thoughts and ideas.

Blessings to you all.

The Retirees Forum 

(consisting of: Caroline Giesbrecht, (Secretary), Wayne Hilliker, Elizabeth MacDonald, Robert LePage, Judy Ann MacGillivray, Ed Bentley, Ian Robb)

## Appendix B

Hi Bill and Kate and all. The article which I produced, along with copy from the United Church website will I hope encourage others to become involved in making something happen locally to help the displaced peoples of Ukraine, and in particular, the over one million children who have been so affected. There is so much to say and yet words alone will not halt the despair and ruin which is happening in a country whose people live with biblical intentions through their Orthodoxy.

I leave it with you for comment.

Ian

The opening words from the United Church regarding Ukraine are these:

Published On: March 2, 2022

March 22, 2022

2022- 26

“The United Church of Canada condemns the invasion of Ukraine by President Putin of Russia. This act of aggression contravenes the Charter of the United Nations (UN) and represents a serious violation of international law. We call on all parties to immediately cease hostilities and to undertake action to restore peace, including through the negotiations underway in Belarus.”

Now we all know that these words do not adequately cover the urgent and constantly emerging need of the people of Ukrainian cities who have fled from their homes, leaving their worldly possessions behind, and seeking shelter and safety in adjoining countries. They are, in all their profound words, a statement of fact. 3 to 4 million people have been displaced due to this conflict as well as countless others who remain in Ukraine living with severe restraint in home and family. It is heartbreaking to see children and infants so touched by this war; children and infants, over 1M of which have walked to comparative safety.

What can we as a country do to alleviate some of the suffering? To give context to the problem at hand, the population of Canada is 38 million people.

The population of Ukraine is 43 millions of which more than 60% follow a religious belief of some sort or another.

Supposedly, we have opened our borders to those who are fleeing Ukraine.

There are over 27,000 religious buildings across Canada, some of which are United Church Buildings. There are approximately 2,700 United Church Congregations.

It seems to me that the United Church of Canada should be encouraging congregations to provide, not only funds to organizations like the Red Cross, but should be encouraging congregations to-- either separately or together-- provide accommodation for those who have lost their homes and country due to the Putin War on their country. Several years ago, this was done successfully for others by the United Church.

Our personal donation to the Red Cross of a 3-figure sum is insignificant unless.... unless it is backed up by organizations who can apply pressure, perhaps through church channels, to activate for stoppage of war and a de-escalation of the conflict.

Our United Church of Canada is fronting this appeal to all its members and adherents. I ask you to think on and pray on the picture of adult and child together.

March 22, 2022

2022-27

## Ukraine Crisis

### Breadcrumb

1. [Home](#)
2. [Social Action](#)
3. [Act Now](#)
4. Ukraine Crisis

**Support those most affected by the growing crisis.**

### [Donate Now](#)

ACT Alliance member Hungarian Interchurches Aid is working at the Hungary/Ukraine border to provide relief to Ukrainian refugees.

*Credit: Hungarian Interchurch Aid/ACT Alliance*

The invasion of Ukraine is costing precious lives and creating a humanitarian crisis as people flee to safety. The United Nations reports that a growing number of over a million people, displaced from their homes, are seeking refuge in neighbouring countries. Many have lost friends, loved ones, and property; struggle to meet their basic needs, and face an uncertain future.

United Church Mission & Service partners are responding to the rapidly unfolding crisis.

You can help. Right now, people urgently need shelter, clean water, food, and medical attention.

Please show your support by making a gift today.

March 22, 2022

2022-28

### **Donate Now**

Online via our [secure donation page](#).

Phone 416-231-5931 or toll-free 1-800-268-3781 ext. 2738 and use your Visa or MasterCard.

Send a cheque or money order to:

The United Church of Canada

Philanthropy Unit - Emergency Response

3250 Bloor Street West, Suite 200

Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4

Please be sure to note "Emergency Response—Ukraine" on the face of your cheque.

Note: As part of the United Church's Emergency Response Fund, 100% of your donation goes directly to emergency relief, with 85% of your donation responding to this designated emergency and 15% responding to

future emergencies that do not receive intense media coverage. Donations to Mission & Service enable the United Church to cover all of the costs of emergency response work without deducting any fees from your donation.

## Appendix D

**ECORC Formation, Nurture, and Justice Team**  
**Minutes for March 10, 2022**

**In Attendance:** Meggin King (chair); Isaac Mundy (recording secretary); Marilyn Rodger; Sharon Hull; Wendy Bulloch; Helmut Enns; Aruna Alexander; Adele Boy; Rodney Smith-Merkley, Sharon Woodrow

**Regrets:** Derek Marsellus; Marilyn Fortin

**Welcome, Opening Worship, and Land Acknowledgement****Roll Call****Appoint Equity Monitor**

Marilyn Rodger volunteered to act as equity monitor

**Motion:** Approval of minutes of the last meetings on January 13 and email vote between January 19<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> (Moved: Aruna/Seconded: Adele) **Carried**

**Additions to Agenda:** None

**Action Items:**• **Clusters/Networks:**

- - Guaranteed Living Income- Isaac
  - See report
  - Sharon: Work ongoing on web page
- - Palestine Network- Adele
  - See report
  - Thanks from Adele for support and to Sharon for tech support
  - Speaker from webinar will come to Canada in June to speak about organic farming
- - Affirming Network
  - See report
- - Care of Creation
  - See Sharon's report
  - Need reps for national work from ECORC
- - Long Term Care Crisis
  - See Sharon's report
  - Need reps for national work from ECORC
- - Rural Connect
  - See Sharon's report
  - Ryan McNally was part of pre-meeting work

• **Forums:**

- Anti-Racism Interfaith Intercultural Forum – Aruna, Wendy, Meggin
  - See report
  - Conflicting scheduling issues for June 4<sup>th</sup> Peterborough event in the process of being resolved with IJRR event in Napanee
  - Point added in addition to written report: Each week Black History Month resources were sent to the Region through the weekly email blast
- Affirming Forum – Sharon W
  - See report
  - Working on bringing an Affirming network into being; more information to be shared soon
- First Thirds Ministry Forum– Sharon H, Derek
  - See report
  - Thankful for 2 youth interns with availability for 3 more
  - Sharon outlined activities taking place with children and upcoming planning with youth
  - Conversation around recruiting a youth member for Faith, Nurture, and Justice
- IJRR Forum – Marilyn F, Helmut, Rodney
  - See report
  - Rodney: highlighted the promotion of bursary program to support Indigenous students in early childhood education; land acknowledgement workshop; reminder about Napanee event
  - Aruna: Asking about possibilities for coordination around events so that overlap doesn't take place. Would a common calendar be helpful?
  - Sharon: Suggesting sending out a save the date notice
  - **Action Item: Sharon will ask Karen about whether the Regional calendar can be shared in Google Calendar, and whether we can subscribe to that calendar**
- Fair Trade and Mask Update- Marilyn R
  - See report
  - Four Winds UCW Presbyterial and Edith Rankin Memorial United Church UCW in Kingston, Ontario will both be dissolved in late April 2022.
  - The 60th Anniversary project is called " Women for Change Zambia".
  - The UCW 60th Anniversary will see Women from across Canada and Bermuda gather from July 11th., to 15th., in Sydney, Nova Scotia. To celebrate. Special guests are expected from Zambia and Cuba.
- Doing Mission Together Grants
  - Updated grant numbers now posted on the ECORC web site
- SJNORC update
  - Meggin: Planning spring meeting
  - Sharon: A meeting took place at end of January; upcoming event planning around poverty reduction in relation to Ontario spring election - May 1 2022

**Business Arising:**

**Any other New Business:**

Terms of reference for the FNJ Team- give to a sub group?

- IJRR will share terms of reference for their forum
- Asking for volunteers for FNJ to help with terms of reference planning
- ECORC event on March 22- it is on the ECORC goals and objectives – they want input from teams- maybe forums- on which goals have been worked on- trying to determine if enough time has been given to these goals that were set for 2021/2022- should we continue with them for 2023, add some, remove some
- Everyone is invited to come to this event for the mission goals for the East Central Ontario Regional Council

**Action Items**

- **Sharon:** Sharon will ask Karen about whether the Regional calendar can be shared in Google Calendar, and whether we can subscribe to that calendar
- **Rodney and Helmut:** IJRR members will coordinate to look at possibilities for a different date
- **Meggin, Wendy, + 1 volunteer:** commencing work on terms of reference for FNJ
- **Helmut:** will send terms of reference to Isaac for circulation to other forums

**Date of next meeting:** To be determined following the next Regional meeting

**Closing Prayer:** Meggin

**Adjournment:** 4:20 PM

**Reports submitted:**

**Networks:**

**Guaranteed Living Income Network:**

20220309 GLI Report

This month our group was excited to complete and launch the PowerPoint slide program for communities of faith so that those with overhead projection for worship would be able to have brief synopses of some of the key aspects of Guaranteed Livable Income as they relate to the life of faith. We also provided longer, minute for mission style texts, to accompany the slides. These texts could also be used as standalone resources.

We held two online sessions in February to help introduce this information to representatives in congregations around our Region.

These resources have ended up being shared across the United Church by our national GLI network as well as other social justice networks in the United Church of Canada.

Our hope in the spring as we approach the next election is to do further advocacy work in raising awareness about GLI as an election issue.

Respectfully Submitted: Isaac Mundy, March 9, 2022

**Palestinian Network:**

The Taste of Palestine webinar facilitated by ECORC was well attended on February 24 th. 60 people were registered from across Canada, Europe (Norway, Denmark, Netherlands) and Indonesia .Many thanks to Sharon Hull for facilitating tech and registration. It would not have been possible otherwise.

I feel we reached an audience that was mixed, new to the subject but also those who were aware. The comments received were positive and supportive. Thank you to those who were able to attend. Your presence, support and feedback were appreciated.

Adele Boy.

**Affirming Network:**

First network event was held in January – see more information in Affirming Forum report.

**Care of Creation Network:**

Sharon to connect with National staff to see if there are any upcoming events- need volunteer co-ordinators for this network.

**Long Term Care Crisis Network:**

Sharon to connect with National staff to see if there are any upcoming events- need volunteer co-ordinators for this network.

**Rural Connect Network:**

Sharon is working with Rev. Ryan McNally. Information was shared at the ECORC meeting on Feb 22. A recording of that will be edited and added to the ECORC website. More information will be added to the ECORC webpage.

**Forums:****IMPACT ON CHURCH AND COMMUNITY REPORT: ANTI-RACISM INTERFAITH INTERCULTURAL FORUM 2021-2022:**

1. Church and Community Leadership event with the Chief of Police, Belleville - April 2021.
2. Leadership Summit with Institutional Leaders on Anti-Racism - December 1, 2021.
3. Creation of Implementation Plan for ECORC'S Anti-Racism Policy.
4. Proposal submission to the Region's Assembly of Elders - re: anti-racism training for leaders at all levels of Governance and Operations (Committees etc. etc.).
5. Training event on Unconscious Bias, and, Microaggressions through the anti-racism lens, held February 2022.
6. Regional Pentecost celebration of our Anti-Racism Policy and Implementation Plan. JUNE 4, 2022. In-person. SAVE THE DATE!!
7. Preliminary analysis of our Survey results from 52 congregations show requests for Training, Dialogue, and Resources.

Respectfully

submitted,

Aruna

Alexander

ECORC Anti-racism Interfaith Intercultural Forum



**ECORC Affirming Forum Report to FFN&J Team Mtg – Mar 10/22**



To date in 2022, the ECORC Affirming Forum has held one full meeting and hosted one regional council event. On January 12/22, the ECORC Affirming Forum (AF) met in and reported back as working groups focusing on the four goals of the 2022 AF Action Plan :

- Continuing to work with ECORC Assembly of Elders, Teams and Forum in support of ECORC living into becoming a fully Affirming Regional Council;
- Networking among Affirming Ministries across ECORC
- Intersectionality;
- Measurable Goals

On January 29/22, the ECORC Affirming Forum hosted a two hour Networking ZOOM Gathering for those ministries across ECORC that are already Affirming or are in process or are interested. The meeting was attended by: 23 registered participants, 8 Affirming Forum members and 1 ECORC Staff. The purpose of this gathering was to establish an exchange of ideas and resources and to build a network of contacts for Affirming Communities of Faith within ECORC. There was lively discussion within breakout groups and the plenary. Thanks to the AF for this gathering and continued interest in Affirming Networking were expressed.

Possible follow-up includes:

- A participant's follow-up survey was prepared and circulated. Results will be discussed at upcoming AF meeting
- An ECORC Affirming Newsletter
- Future Networking workshops on Theology with creative with use of language, e.g.: "What pronouns would Jesus use?"
- Reminder through ECORC Newsletter to submit pictures of PIE celebrations with Mar 28/22 deadline
- Explore possibility of ECORC Affirming Network FaceBook page
- Recruit Affirming Network administrators both inside and outside of AF

A new email address has been set up for the Affirming Forum: [AffirmngECORC@gmail.com](mailto:AffirmngECORC@gmail.com)

The next full meeting of the ECORC Affirming Forum is set for Tuesday, March 15/22.

### **First Third's Ministry (children, youth and young adult)**

- Connecting with youth, young adults, children and youth leaders
- Ongoing- using the ECORC website to gather more children, youth and young adult leaders in our RC, including permission to create a contact list to share
- Ongoing work to form a First Third's Ministry Forum - with both youth, young adults and leaders
- Quin Mo Lac - Planning for the 2022 season. Fundraising is ongoing. AGM is Saturday March 26, 2022
- Another webinar offered twice each (day and evening) with First Third Ministry leaders from across Ontario - resources sent out after each set of sessions.
- Revised- Youth Forum (youth intern) Our RC has 2 youth interns so far- Olivia from Bowmanville and Ellia from Lindsay.
  - added the revised Information to the newsletter and on FB about the youth intern- paid positions for General Council 44 (youth ages 15 - 19). each RC can have up to 5 youth interns- we will continue to look for additional interns.
  - There will be several online components to Youth Forum:
    - June 16-18 - General Council 44 discernment and discussion
    - July 4- August 26 - Youth Forum delegates summer employment
    - July 21-25 - General Council 44 decision-making
    - August 7 - Moderator service of installation



## Indigenous Justice And Respectful Relationship Forum (IJRR)

A ZOOM meeting was held on March 9, 2022 at 2:30 (Hence the late report)

Three items discussed were;

### 1. Bursary/award in memory of Dixie Shilling –

Shelley Knott-Fife is meeting with the Fleming College Director tomorrow. Curve Lake Church is taking leadership right now, and will initiate the fund. Then it will be available for others to donate. It could be a bursary or an award for an Indigenous student in the ECE program. It will be managed by Fleming College.

### 2. The Land We Reside On

144 households participated in a 15 hour course with Jack Hoggarth over the past 6 weeks, including many from our regional council. The course was hosted on zoom by the Truth and Reconciliation Community in Bobcaygeon ([www.trcbobcaygeon.org](http://www.trcbobcaygeon.org)) with technical support from Sharon Hull. The course is being offered again through a library. Details are below, and deadline to register is March 19th.

# LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT WORKSHOPS

5 Virtual Zoom Meetings  
Weekly Beginning March 23rd

Creation Story Spirituality  
Treaties Assimilation  
Residential Schools  
Truth and Reconciliation Commission  
Contemporary Issues  
Land Acknowledgements

**LEAD BY JACK HOGGARTH,**

CULTURAL ARCHIVIST & YOUTH ENGAGEMENT OFFICER  
CURVE LAKE FIRST NATION CULTURAL CENTRE

**NOMINAL FEE TO JOIN**

PLEASE REGISTER BY EMAILING [K.TUCKER@NORTHKAWARTHLIBRARY.COM](mailto:k.tucker@northkawarthlibrary.com)  
BY MARCH 19 IF YOU WISH TO PARTICIPATE

Jack is a humble and sincere teacher who is a very good storyteller. The last session involves creating your own land acknowledgement. This course is excellent as both an introduction and a deepening of understanding around the story of Indigenous Peoples on Turtle Island.

Land Acknowledgement tips from Jack:

*\*when possible, invite an Indigenous person to bring a Territory Welcoming, especially at larger gatherings of many communities*

*\*try to use the names Indigenous Peoples call themselves (eg. Anishnaabe over Ojibway)*

*\*be as inclusive as possible (for me it involves acknowledging that the Michii Saagiig and Chipewa peoples had agreements to share the land with Haudenosaunee and Wendat people over time)*

*\*mention treaties (both Treaty 20 and Williams Treaty in my case)*

*\*be personal and specific, talk about your relationship with the land and water and all of Creation, and your gratitude for those who have been caretakers of this land (the land needs to be acknowledged!)*

In working with schools, rather than using the same words day after day, Jack encourages people to share an unscripted Land Acknowledgement from the heart. A step churches may take in getting there is to have a number of individuals craft their own acknowledgement, and those be shared in a rotation.

**3.** Update from Elaine Kellogg on the spring feast in the Napanee area, bringing together local settlers and Indigenous people. The planning committee has been very cautious to plan an in-person event, but now they are aiming for early June, possibly June 4. If there is extra space after a deadline has passed for local potential participants to register, Elaine will send out an invitation.

### **Fair Trade Report:**

I greet you today with this question. Did you know that Bananas, Chocolate and Coffee are the top Fair Trade products purchased by we the Consumer?

There is a constant battle between the Rich Co Op owners and the Small Farm Co Op owners.

Camino is a Canadian workers owned Co Operative who support the Small Farm Co Op owners.

This Camino Company was founded several years ago in the basement of a United Church in Ottawa. It has struggled and grown to become a very prominent workers company known across Canada. I am proud to work with them in making their products available to you through my Fair Trade Sales as it continues to represent the heart of Fair Trade and it's goal of building markets for the Small Farmer from the beginning.

But the Big Corporations and Large Plantations now threaten the integrity of this movement.

Camino workers, work very hard for Justice for Indigenous Women and Men who day after day work the land to feed their Families and Communities.

Working closely with these small farm partners They are able to better understand each other's needs.

The result is a trusting relationship which produces the delicious products which we support and enjoy.

**Blessings to All.** Marilyn Rodger. Fair Trade Advocate UCC

### **Red Dress Pin:**

These beautiful 4 1/2" Red Vinyl Red Dress Pins with a locking clasp will be offered for sale at \$10.00 each plus shipping beginning March 31st., 2022. All proceeds going to "Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls". From [marilynrodger@aol.com](mailto:marilynrodger@aol.com) e transfer available. Looking forward to your order.



**Doing Mission Together Grants:**

- Update posted in the Newsletter and the ECORC webpage for 2021 and 2022 grants