East Central Ontario Regional Council Meeting of the Assembly of Elders April 2, 2024 Zoom Teleconferencing

East Central Ontario Regional Council Meeting of the Assembly of Elders Tuesday, April 2, 2024 – 1:00 p.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. Wanda Stride Member, Speaker, Leading Commissioner, 44th General Council

Commissioner

Stephen Coles Member Rev. Kevin Fitzpatrick Member

Rev. Eric Hebert-Daly Member, Executive Minister
Brian James Member, Financial Administration

Patricia Long Member Ted Meyers Member

Rev. Kaitlyn Ostrander Member (Youth)

Joyce Payne Member
Rev. Paul Reed Member
William (Bill) Sheaves Member
Rev. Edward (Ned) Wells Member

Sharon Hull Corresponding Member - Minister for Spiritual Nurture,

Respectful Relationship and Justice for all Ages

Rev. Darren Liepold Corresponding Member, Pastoral Relations 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 Rev. Lynn Watson Member

This meeting received updates from the Facilitation Forum in regards preparations for the upcoming annual general meeting and its draft agenda; received updates in regards to the March 2024 benchmarks set out in the strategic plan; received updates in regards to the regional council's governance handbook; received the minutes of March 19th from the Covenant Support Leadership Team, as well as recommendations in regards to changes made to the Licensed Lay Worship Leader Handbook, appointments, a sabbatical, Fenelon Fall United Church and pastoral charge supervision; received recommendations from the Mission Through Property Leadership Team, in regards to Hampton United Church lease agreement with Discovery Church, Emmanuel United Church use of investments for capital project, amalgamation of St. Andrews United Church (Beaverton) with Trinity United Church (Cannington), closing Tory Hill United Church, closing Newtonville United Church, and changes signatories on the ECORC United Church of Canada Foundation Investment Fund; received an update in regards to the number of pastoral charges who have not yet submitted their vote on Remit 1: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization; received a recommendation from the Facilitation Leadership Team regarding using SharePoint; received a Nomination report; discerns a proposal in regards to Sacred Film Festival; discerned the possibility of creating an El Salvador forum; considered where copies of the Mohawk translation of the Bible could be distributed; and considered location for the in person Assembly of Elders meeting on May 7th.

Land Acknowledgement & Opening Devotions – Brian James acknowledged the land, recognizing the current treaty he finds himself living under, and gave thanks to First Nations Peoples for the continued stewardship of the lands. Brian highlighted the story of Jesus's resurrection and appearance to his disciples on the beach, just after having making breakfast for them. Brian emphasized that God is to be discovered in the ordinary, commonplaces.

Circle Time of Sharing – All were invited to contemplate places where they encounter the Holy on a regular basis.

Appointment of an Equity Monitor for this Meeting

2024-04-02-001 MOTION (W. Sheaves/ J. Payne) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders appoint Steve Coles as Equity Monitor for this meeting. **CARRIED**

* The equity score card can be used following this meeting and submitted to the Equity Leadership Team: https://ecorcuccan.ca/resources/accessibility/

Minutes of March 5, 2024

2024-04-02-002 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders approves the Minutes of March 5, 2024, as circulated. **CARRIED**

Business Arising - none.

Agenda

2024-04-02-003 MOTION (P. Reed/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders accept the agenda as circulated. **CARRIED**

Incoming Correspondence

- a) February 21, 2024, Rev. Aaron Miechkota, re Mini Film Festival proposal (see section a under new business);
- b) February 27, 2024, Brian James, regional council treasurer, re ECORC UCC Foundation Investments (*for action under V1e*)
- c) March 6, 2024, John Payne, re removal from the position of Trustee at Hampton United Church (*for information*);
- d) March 11, 2024, Harry Fraser, member of Moscow United Church, re conflict within the church (*for information*);
- e) March 14, 2024, Heather White, re concerns about disruptions experienced by property owners near Bridge Street United Church (*for information*);
- f) March 26, 2024, Sarah Charters, President, The United Church of Canada Foundation, re special Mission and Service request (*for information*);
- g) March 26, 2024, John Tibando, City Of Oshawa, Municipal law Enforcement, re Graffiti at 66 Simcoe Street South (*for information*);
- h) March 26, 2024, Robin Brunelle BFA (Hons), MLIS, Community of Faith Archivist, Ontario Regional Councils, The United Church of Canada Archives, re Archival records from Trinity United Church, Bowmanville signed letter of full acknowledgement for these records (*for information*).

Outgoing Correspondence

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- a) March 6, 2024, Rev. Darren Liepold, Pastoral Relations Minister, to John Payne, re Assembly of Elders decision to appoint a commission to take over the governance and trustees of Hampton United Church (for information);
- b) March 6, 2024, Rev. Darren Liepold, Pastoral Relations Minister, to John Payne, responding to mail sent on March 6, 2024, inquiring about removal from the position of Trustee at Hampton United Church (for information);
- c) March 15, 2024, Rev. Darren Liepold, Pastoral Relations Minister, to Heather White, re email sent on March 14, 2014, expressing concerns about disruptions experienced by property owners near Bridge Street United Church (for information);
- d) March 24, 2024, Ted Meyers, Chair, Mission Through Property, to Gwen Galbraith, re approval of Ingoldsby United Church Offer to Purchase (for information);
- e) March 24, 2024, Ted Meyers, Chair, Mission Through Property, to Bruce McClennan, re approval of decisions re Highland Hills Sale of Manse (for information).

Eric Highlighted that correspondence has arrived today and will be deferred to next meeting.

Business arising grouped according to confirmed Guiding Principles

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

Facilitation Forum update – Rev. Paul Reed

See AGM (draft) Agenda as Appendix A

Wondering if there might be some proposals addressing social justice issues coming to the meeting (i.e., Gaza, Haiti, Ecology) as there had been historically. Forum is trying to balance space and time for fellowship, learning and discussions.

- a) Dates of future meetings (for information):
 - April 19th 20th, 2024 Annual Meeting, Spring, Lindsay, ON
 - November 16th, 2024 Fall Meeting, Brighton, ON
 - May 23rd 24th, 2025 Annual Meeting, Spring, St. Paul's United Church, Bowmanville, ON
 - October 25th, 2025 Fall Meeting, Location TBD
- II. Clergy, lay leaders and communities of faith express satisfaction with the support, development opportunities and communication they receive
- 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
 - a) Strategic Plan Updates Rev. Eric Hebert-Daly highlighted in the report the benchmarks for March 2024
 - See ECORC Monthly Goalposts on the Path to Strategic Plan Implementation as Appendix B

It still needs to be determined whether 'Communications' will exist in the future as a Forum of the Assembly of Elders

- IV. <u>People in all roles and capacities within ECORC are aware of Council decisions and policies, and know</u> where to find the information they need
 - i) Governance Handbook Update Rev. Paul Reed highlighted items within the report.
 - See *Report of Governance Review* as **Appendix C 2024-04-02-004 CONSENSUS MOTION** That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the proposals presented in the Report of the Governance Review Working Group and agree to bring them to the annual general meeting in April 2024.

An information session is scheduled for the evening of April 16th

Break (2:15 PM) – 5 mins.

- ii) Covenant Support Leadership Team (CST)
 - see CST minutes of March 19, 2024 as Appendix D

a) Recommendations

a. Changes to Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL) Handbook
 2024-04-02-005 MOTION (W. Sheaves/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the recommendation of Covenant Support Leadership Team for the following change in the LLWL Handbook:

That if a faith community cancels its service because of inclement weather, the LLWL does not receive payment regardless of whether material has already been prepared. If the LLWL is unable to lead worship because of illness, hazardous road conditions or for any other reason, but provides a full liturgy that is read by a member of the congregation, the LLWL should be paid in full for the work involved.

CARRIED

b. Appointments

2024-04-02-006 MOTION (W. Sheaves/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the recommendation of Covenant Support Leadership Team, that having confirmed eligibility on ChurchHub, to approve the reappointment of the Rev. Bryan Ransom, retired supply to the Newcastle community of faith with the following terms: March 1st to December 31, 2024 – 50% time, all items according to The United Church of Canada Manual. **CARRIED**

2024-04-02-007 MOTION (W. Sheaves/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the recommendation of Covenant Support Leadership Team, that having confirmed eligibility on ChurchHub, to approve the reappointment of Brian Nicholson, retired supply to the Picton community of faith with the following terms – dates April 19th 2024 – June 30, 2025, 50% time, all items according to The United Church of Canada Manual. **CARRIED**

2024-04-02-008 MOTION (W. Sheaves/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the recommendation of Covenant Support Team, that having confirmed eligibility on ChurchHub, the Covenant Support Leadership Team

recommend to the Assembly of Elders that it approve the call of the Rev. Sharon Campbell Raymont to the Cambridge Street (Lindsay) Community of Faith with the following terms; Start date April 1st 2024, full time, all items according to The United Church of Canada Manual. **CARRIED**

c. Sabbatical

2024-04-02-009 MOTION (W. Sheaves/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the recommendation of Covenant Support Leadership Team to approve the sabbatical of the Rev. Kevin Derry from the Northminster Peterborough Community of Faith from July 1st 2024 to August 15th 2024 and July 1st 2025 to August 15th 2025 adequate pastoral care and pulpit supply have been for that time. **CARRIED**

d. Fenelon Falls United Church

2024-04-02-010 MOTION (W. Sheaves/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders upon the request of Covenant Support Leadership Team, write a letter to the Fenelon Falls community of faith to tell them to follow United Church polity. **CARRIED**

Eric will prepare the letter.

e. Pastoral Charge Supervisor

2024-04-02-011 MOTION (W. Sheaves/S. Coles) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the recommendation of Covenant Support Leadership Team to appoint Brian Nicholson as Pastoral Charge Supervisor to the Rev. Douglas Carter, Ordained Supply, minister to the Wellington Community of Faith, until Rev. Carter completes his admission process within The United Church of Canada. **CARRIED**

- V. <u>The number of church buildings in our Regional Council that are accessible is increasing. There is faithful stewardship of property and finances</u>
 - 1. Mission Through Property Ted Meyers
 - a) Hampton United Church Lease Agreement with Discovery Church
 - See Hampton United Church Lease Agreement as Appendix E

2024-04-02-012 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the recommendation of Mission Through Property Leadership Team to approve the Lease between Hampton United Church and Discovery Church (5454 Old Scugog Road, Hampton, Ontario, L0B 1J0.) **CARRIED**

- b) Emmanuel United Church Odessa Use of Investments for Capital project
 - **2024-04-02-013 MOTION** (T. Meyers/) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the recommendation of Mission Through Property Leadership Team to grant permission to Emmanuel United Church Odessa to use from funds from their investments for a capital project to make roof repairs at a cost of \$68,847 plus HST. **CARRIED**
- c) Amalgamation of St Andrews United Church Beaverton with Trinity United Church Cannington effective April 1st 2024
 - See Distribution Plan for St. Andrews United Church Assets as Appendix F

2024-04-02-014 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the recommendation of Mission Through Property Leadership Team to approve the amalgamation of St Andrews United Church, Beaverton with Trinity United Church, Cannington effective April 1st 2024.

And that the distribution plan for St Andrews United Church assets (\$183,350) following the current ECOR guidelines for amalgamating COF's be approved.

And that the plan for the remaining balance of the Andy's Bequest (\$39,030) be held by the amalgamating congregation "in Trust" as a separate account to be managed by the Trustees. Be approved. See attached Distribution plan.

CARRIED

d) Tory Hill United Church Closed

2024-04-02-015 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the recommendation of Mission Through Property Leadership Team to recognize that Tory Hill United Church has officially amalgamated with Cardiff Paudash United Church (effective June 5, 2023). **CARRIED**

Newtonville Shiloh Closed

2024-04-02-016 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders concur with the recommendation of Mission Through Property Leadership Team to recognize that Newtonville Shiloh United Church closed November 28, 2020. **CARRIED**

e) ECORC UCC Foundation Investments

2024-04-02-017 MOTION (T. Meyers/B. James) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders remove Rev. Rosemary Lambie as signatory for the ECORC UCC Foundation Investments Fund and Add Rev. Eric Hebert-Daly as signatory. **CARRIED**

Additional notes for information

- Working on Lease with the Friends of Wesleyville
- Ongoing Sale activity re Peniel United Church
- Working towards the sale of Plainville United Church property surplus to needs after amalgamation with Camborne United Church of the Cold Springs Pastoral Charge
- Mark Street United Church update re agreement with Kindred Works Expect an email poll early next week.
- 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
- VIII. We observe increasing use of land acknowledgments and more participation in learning opportunities related to Respectful Relations and Indigenous Justice
 - a) **Remit 1: Establishing an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization (Vote update) -** Rev. Eric Hebert-Daly informed that 80% of Pastoral Charges have voted across the country. Final tallies will be available on April 10th.

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- See 2024-03-25 Remit ECORC List Not yet voted as Appendix G
- 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
- 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
 - a) Equity Leadership Team & SharePoint There is a cost associated to this (approx. \$500). It was agreed to bring this question to a future meeting. There needed to be a better sense of what kind of precedent this would create and if the Regional Council is prepared to shoulder such costs or find other options.
- 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

New Business –

- a) **Nominations**
 - See Nominations Spring Report 2024 as Appendix H It was shared that Rev. Paul Reed's, Ted Meyer's, William (Bill) Sheaves' and Margaret Curtis' term on the Assembly of Elders end at the rise of the Annual Meeting and that Rev. Wanda Stride was stepping down from her role.
- b) Discernment: Sacred Film Festival Proposal for funding
 - See 2024-02-20 Mini Film Festival Proposal as Appendix I

2024-04-02-018 MOTION (P. Reed/K. Ostrander) That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders receive with gratitude the expression of interest in the formation of a mini film network and that Rev. Eric Hebert-Daly arrange for an outreach to Aaron Miechkota to assist on moving forward. **CARRIED**

c) Discernment: El Salvador (Forum?)

2024-04-02-019 CONSENSUS That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders name Rev. Paul Reed, Past-Speaker to Chair this part of the meeting. **CARRIED**

The Assembly of Elders expressed its support to request the creation of an El Salvador Forum and a desire to find staff support for it. A fuller report in order to better assess needs and resources will be forthcoming. It was suggested that Faith Formation Nurture and Justice support the El Salvador project as a network or forum.

2024-04-02-020 CONSENSUS That the East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders restore Rev. Wanda Stride, Speaker to Chair the remainder of the meeting. **CARRIED**

d) Mohawk Bibles

It was suggested to consult with the Indigenous Justice & Respectful Relationships Forum and receive recommendation on how to distribute the Bibles.

e) Location of in Person Assembly of Elders Meeting on May 7th

Potentially Westminster United Church, 1199 Wallbridge Loyalist Rd, Belleville, ON K8N 4Z5 (Karen will follow up with the church and confirm).

Equity Monitor Report – Steve Coles all went well, reminder to indicate location of churches when referring to them in motions.

The Chair declared that all of the business having come before this meeting of the Assembly of Elders was duly concluded at 3:58 PM.

Closing Prayer – Brian James

Next Meeting Dates	- Tuesday, May 7, 2024 (time to be confirmed) in person - Tuesday, June 4, 2024 (1 PM) Zoom		
Rev. Wanda Stride Speaker	Rev. Eric Hebert-Daly Executive Minister		

ECORC Assembly of Elders - Participation Roster

	Opening worship/Land ack/closing	Equity Monitor	
	prayer	Roles	
May 7 2024	Kaitlyn Ostrander	Kevin Fitzpatrick	
June 4 2024	Lynn Watson	Kaitlyn Ostrander	

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Appendice	es

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Appendix G	2024-03-25 Spreadsheet ECORC List- Pastoral	Page 50
	Charges Not Yet Voted on Remit 1: Establishing	
	an Autonomous National Indigenous Organization	
Appendix H	Nominations Spring Report 2024	Pages 51-52
Appendix I	Sacred Film Festival Proposal	Pages 53-54

Appendix A

AGM Draft Agenda (April 19-20, 2024)

Day	Time	Activity	Leadership	Notes	Projections
Friday	Morning				
	9:00	Registration			
	9:45	Gathering Music			
	10-10:45	Acknowledging the Territory Welcome from 1st nations	Wanda Stride Rodney Merkley Smith Chief Knott		
	10:45	Welcoming, Words of Constitution,	Wanda Stride: Speaker	I would suggest a "passing of the peace" greeting one another as a stretch break before worship	
	11:00	Opening Worship including Communion	Wanda Stride and Worship Team	communion served in the pews Offering for Mission and Service	Worship Material
	12:15	Holy Manner DRAMA behavioural covenant consent document	Eric and Wanda	Highlight virtual behavioural Motion include recognition of Chaplain, equity monitors, Discernmentarian	Holy Manners Consent Motion
	12:30	Lunch break			
Friday	Afternoon				
	1:20	Gathering Music			

1:30 - 1:40	Convening		?? greetings from mayor or councillor; greetings from church,	
1:40 - 1:50	GC Message	Alydia	introduction of Alydia Moderator Welcome GC News	Video
1:50-2:35	Presenters	Roger - Stewardship Tori- Animator ?? - kindred Works	each 15 minutes to introduce self and their programming, invite to workshop	l
2:35 - 2:45	Assembly of Elders Accountability	Wanda	perhaps introduce Communications proposal and goverance review	
2:45 - 2:55	Stategic Planning Implementation report	Eric	update, Q&A, Network suggestion	
2:55-3:15	Then let us sing	Alydia	Introduction Music selections invite to workshop	
3:15-3:30	Concluding Friday Session greetings from Display groups	Speaker: Wanda Stride	Pat Gilmore Jan Stobie	
3:30	Bio Break			
4:00	Education Session 1	Then Let us Sing Stewardship Kindred works Transforming ministry	Choir room Upper Room Lower Hall Parlour or Sanctuary	
4:30	Education Session 2	Then Let us Sing Stewardship Kindred works Transforming ministry		
5:00	Dinner Break			

Friday	Evening			
	6:15	Ministry of Celebration Rehersal	particpants	if necessary
	7:00-8:30	Celebration of Ministry Service with Recognitions, memorials and retirees		Communion served in the pews offereing for Student Bursury Fund
	9:00	Scheduled meet and Greet		location to be determined
Saturday				
	8:50	Gathering Music		
	9:00	Call to Order Morning Worship Ritual to acknowledge church closures	Speaker: Wanda Stride	
	9:30	Acknowledge the land Response and Teaching	Teaching from Dorothy T	aylor
	10:15 - 10:45	Covenant Support	Bill Sheaves	Q&A Healthy Connection Forum Community self asssessments
	10:45	Al Salvador Mission invite to Bio Break		
		Bio Break		

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		Bio Break		

4:00 PM Adjournment

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Appendix B

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Monthly Goalposts on the Path to Strategic Plan Implementation

March

ECORC Strategic Plan Goalposts Report to Assembly of Elders

Stream 1 – Self-Assessment Tool shaped and shared with Covenant Support Team for feedback (Darren)

1. Self Assessment Tool for congregations- I have run a draft copy of the assessment tool through Tori Mullin, some of my colleagues in the Pastoral Relations Circle, and through the Covenant Support Team (twice), to get their feedback. I am now comparing their comments and the assessment tool will be introduced to the Regional Council meeting in Lindsay.

Stream 2 – Document that expresses options communities of faith can consider (Darren)

Collaborative Shared New Ministry Resources- I have been codifying the work used in our Ministry Through Changing Times Team in our workshop sessions that we have used across the region. We provide communities of faith with various examples of ministry collaborations take place now- fee for service, part time, co-operative ministry, shared ministry, and ecumenical shared ministry. We also are putting together the gist of our workshops, SWOT analysis, concentrating on strengths, recognizing barriers, and enabling conversations about how we can support one another- from timid first steps, to more area wide initiatives, to actual working together.

Stream 3 – Disbanding and Amalgamating resources collected (Darren)

Amalgamating and Disbanding Resources - Ted Meyers and Elizabeth Cunningham have already prepared a resource on amalgamations. The disbanding well document is already on the ECORC website but needs some amendments (I have a proposed re-writing of the opening section strengthening the part of congregations leaving a living legacy and considering the selling of a building not as the end, but just one phase in a continuing ministry). We have also identified that while the resources are already on the website, they need to be easier to find so have conversed with Karen Wilson about getting this topic its own tab on the ECORC website.

Stream 5 – Calendar of justice subjects created for May 2024 to April 2025 (Sharon)

- Discussion of the calendar at the Formation, Nurture and Justice Team meeting on March 7th
- Follow up email to be sent on April 2nd
- Calendar to be ready by April 19th

Stream 6 – Media Strategy drafted (Karen/Wanda/Éric)

- Presentation to Assembly of Elders at March 5th meeting including initial draft plan.
- Currently recruiting for participation in that plan.

Stream 7 – List of communities participating in Faithful Footprints and Greening Sacred Spaces (Karen)

- List is currently compiled.
- Two stories have already been submitted for use in upcoming newsletters.

Stream 9 - Send notes to those who identified an interest in the Climate Forum, await formal recognition at RC meeting (Sharon)

- Appeal for interest in the Forum was sent out in MarchE
- to get more responses the deadline to be extended until Wednesday April 10th
- follow up with those who asked for more information
- email those who are interested before April 18th
- it is a forum (no need for formal approval) an update to be provided for the Spring RC meeting

Stream 12 – Healthy Connections Forum terms of reference approved by Covenant Support Team (Darren)

Healthy Connections Forum- this area needs a bit of work. It is obvious in preliminary conversations that folks do not understand what this is. So I will be developing a powerpoint which I will share with Covenant Support Early April and will be shared with the Region at the Regional Meeting. Also we will divide the region in areas and begin the work of identifying connectors. Training events will be held in May.

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Appendix C

Report of Governance Review

Submitted to the Assembly of Elders for information, April 2, 2024

Mandated with the task of reviewing the Governance Structure established in 2019 and the Governance handbook compiled following the inaugural meeting, we are pleased to provide an accounting of our work.

The review has been guided by the lived experience of five years, the accumulated questions and consultation with the Team Leaders. While this report will largely identify items to change, and items missing from the documentation, it is important to acknowledge the affirmation of the underlining pinning of the ECORC Regional Council Structure.

The governance structure sought to address two significant complaints that are common to governance. Voices external to the governance structure perceive that everything is done and decided by a powerful few. From those engaged in the structure came the complaint that endless meetings and cascading appointments left little time and energy to exercise the gift they sought to share.

We affirm that those who are knowledgeable, experienced, and committed, and best able to support the purpose and ministry of the Regional Council, whether individually or gathered as a Forum, should do so unencumbered to the extent possible.

But also affirm the importance and necessity of oversight, accountability and transparency and that those undertaking the work and recommending direction and course of action, be guided and accountable to Leadership Teams that are representative bodies of the Regional Council.

The governance review is making the following proposals.

Assembly of Elders

1. It is proposed: that the executive committee of the Regional Council be known as the Council Elders and that the presiding officer relating to the General Council be called the Lead

Commissioner.

There has been an unease with language that might be confused with terms used by the Indigenous Church. It is proposed that we continue to use the title Elders, respecting the historic language but make these changes to ensure a distinguishing from the Indigenous Church.

2. It is proposed: that annually an individual be elected by the Regional Council to serve a three-year term as Speaker elect, Speaker, past Speaker. This proposal provides greater engagement by the Regional Council in the naming of its executive body and provides a more predictable and greater continuity in the leadership.

Leadership Teams

- 3. It is proposed: that terms of reference of the Formation Nurture Justice, Covenant Support, Nominations, and Mission through Property Team be revised for consistency, accuracy and thoroughness by:
 - a. Confirming the number and role of elected (voting) members) determined through the Nominations process and distinguishing from the non-elected, non-voting corresponding members serving by appointment.

- b. Including within the Terms of Reference sections describing and answering questions relating to Purpose, Accountability, Membership, Meetings, Quorum (50% elected members plus 1), Role of Members, Chairperson (selected from elected members), Vacancies, Forums, Duties, Mandate.
- c. Removing sections that are solely descriptive of process (how to) and expanding upon those that describe outcome (the what).

This proposal seeks to answer a number of uncertainties in the practice of the Teams (ie: what is Quorum) and to ensure consistency in practice throughout the Regional Council structure.

4. It is proposed: that the Terms of reference of the Nominations Team be revised to clarify that the Team is not responsible of naming Team Chairs and Forum Members:

This proposal decides and limits the responsibility of the Nomination Team. The revised Terms of Reference would add leadership qualities as one of the criteria for consideration but define the responsibility for choosing a chair as being internal to the Leadership Teams. This policy would identify that the Leadership Teams are responsible for the selection and appointment of members of Forums, but the Nominating Team may support a Team by soliciting expressions of interest and determining eligibility.

5. It is proposed: that the Facilitation Team become a Forum accountable to the Assembly of Elders.

This proposal brings the structure in alignment with practice. The Facilitation Team was established at the inaugural meeting of the Regional Council without specific terms or with full understanding of the respective roles of the Regional Council Teams and Forums. The work and membership of facilitation is task oriented by knowledgeable and experienced individuals for the sole purpose of preparing and supporting the meetings of the Regional Council. This fits the description of a Forum that supports the executive body in preparation of meetings.

6. It is proposed: that the Equity Team become a Forum accountable to the Assembly of Elders.

The Equity Team was established at the inaugural meeting of the Regional Council and initially assigned oversight responsibility for Accessibility, Affirming, and Racial Justice. The work of Affirming and Racial Justice migrated to become Forums accountable to the Formation, Nurture Justice Team. The work of Equity has narrowed and focused on the tasks of ensuring equitable and accessible best practices and is reliant on knowledgeable and task-oriented membership. It becomes better use of resources for this to become a Forum accountable to a leadership Team than to be structured as a two-level Equity Team and Equity Forum. It is proposed that this be aligned and overseen by the Assembly of Elders as the practice of equity pertains to all bodies of the Regional Council

7. It is proposed: that the Covenant Support Team have Commission powers for specific matters, namely,

- a. The appointment of Liaison Officers
- b. The appointment of Pastoral Charge Supervisor
- c. The approval of a vacancy and the initializing of a search when the needs of the Community of Faith/Pastoral Charge have not changed.
- d. Approval of a Call when it matches the terms set out by the approved Search.

These powers do not extend to any circumstance that emerges from conflict, uncertainty or deviates from precedent.

This proposal allows for timely action to meet the needs of Communities of Faith and Pastoral Charges during periods of transition.

8. It is proposed: that the Mission through Property and Finance Team have commission powers to conclude the sale of Property declared surplus by the executive body of the regional council when the sale meets any imposed criteria and falls within 20% of the proposed sale price.

This proposal allows for Real Estate matters to be concluded quickly as is often required in response to an presented offer to purchase.

Forums

- 9. It is proposed: that terms of reference of all Forums be revised for consistency, accuracy, and thoroughness by:
 - a. Including within the Terms of Reference sections describing and answering questions relating to Purpose, Accountability, Membership, Meetings, Role of Members, Responsibilities.
 - b. Removing sections that are solely descriptive of process (how to) and expanding upon those that describe outcome (what).

This proposal seeks to answer several uncertainties in the practice of the Forums

- 10. It is proposed: that the following specific changes to Forums be made:
 - a. That the membership of the LLWL (Licensed lay Worship leaders) Forum be limited and appointed by the Covenant Support Team and to be inclusive of both LLWL and others.
 - b. That the accountability of the Affirming Forum be a Forum of the Formation Nurture and Justice Team.

This proposal seeks to bring the written terms of these Forums in line with practice.

Policies

- 11. It is proposed: that Policies be established to reflect the current practice and expectations pertaining to:
 - a. **Regional Meeting Guidelines -** to name objectives
 - **b. Reimbursement of costs -** incurred by leadership required to be physically present at Regional Council Meetings.
 - c. Investment guidelines- addressing ethical investment practices.
 - **d.** Use of investment funds sustaining the present activities and protecting future resources
 - e. **Use of surplus properties** balancing land and financial options
 - **f.** Conflict of Interest and Perception of Bias Policy referencing but expanding upon the denomination policy to relate to specific expectations of the Regional Council

And those current policies be reviewed

- **g.** Travel reimbursement updated to reflect approved budget
- h. **VAM** separate from Marriage Policy
- i. Marriage separate from WAM Policy
- **j.** Retired Ministers provide guidance for engagement in communities of faith.

k. Policy for Electing Commissioners – to reflect practice

This proposal would ensure continuity of knowledge and practice and provide a resource of consistent information for those seeking guidance.

Recommendations

- 12. It is proposed: that the Covenant Support Team ensure that the terms of Call/Appointment include.
 - a. within the position description, expectation of participation within the Regional Council, local Clusters and Networks, and that it reflect an appropriate percentage or hours of time:
 - b. within the terms of renumerations and support, community of faith responsibility for costs to attend Spring and Fall meetings of the Regional Council be included.

This policy would help ensure both the requirement and expectation of Community of Faith and Ministry Personnel for the Regional Council connection and responsibility.

13. It is Proposed: That the Regional Council respond to the request of the Indigenous church to avoid the use of the word 'mission', replacing it as appropriate with alternatives such as 'purpose' or 'ministry'.

This proposal responds to the knowledge that the word 'mission' may be a trigger word associated with colonialism, seeking respectful relationships and desiring to cause no harm we encourage use of alternate language.

Implementation of changes

- 14. It is Proposed: that the governance review task group
 - a. make all changes required and consistent with the adopted proposals made this day.
 - b. That the requested policies and policy revisions be presented to the Regional Council Fall 2024 or Spring 2025 for adoption.
 - c. That the Governance Handbook be edited for ease of use and relevance
 - d. That implementation of changes be coordinated with the Leadership Teams and the Nominations Team.

This proposal is to ensure the timely and coordinated adaptations over the next two meetings of the Regional Council and the with the support of the nominations process.

East Central Ontario Regional Council Meeting of the Assembly of Elders April 2, 2024 Zoom Teleconferencing

Appendix D

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East Central Ontario Regional Council Covenant Support Team Meeting Minutes Tuesday March 19, 2024 by Zoom 2:30 PM

Present: William Sheaves (Chair), Lisa Monsma (recording), Darren Liepold, Cheryl McMurray, Paul Kneebone, Kate Gregory, Donna Bignell, Anne Meredith, Stephanie Richmond, Steve Coles, Ted Meyers, Randy Scott, Caroline Giesbrect

Regrets: Lynn Watson, Sue Hogan, Phil Hobbs

- 1. Welcome by the Chair, Bill Sheaves
- 2. Opening Prayer, by Paul Kneebone
- 3. Additions to the Agenda by consensus
- 4. Approval of the Agenda by consensus
- 5. Approval of the Minutes from Feb 20th, 2024 by consensus
- 6. Business arising from the minutes: none

7. Forum/Team Reports:

a) Liaison: (Steve Coles)

- Greenbank-Seagraves needs a PCS; Donna Bignell volunteered (Darren to provide training)
- Grace (Napanee) needs a PCS by end of June
- Faith United needs a PCS by end of June
- Liaison has approved the Living Faith Profile of Heritage (Salem)
- Port Perry's Living Faith Profile has been approved
- Simcoe Street; last service in April
- St. Andrews & St. Paul's (soon to be an ecumenical site) are in need of new technology. Darren to find out if there are monies. Later in meeting, Ted Meyers mentioned "Seeds of Hope" will provide up to 1/3 of a project of tech funding.

b) LLWL: (Cheryl McMurray)

- LLWL met February 27 and will meet next mid-April. There will be training workshop May 4.
- Cheryl has resigned from LLWL forum, effective June 30, 2024. Will need a replacement.
 - 1. **Motion:** by Cheryl McMurray, second by Donna Bignell "That the CST recommend to the Assembly of Elders the following change to the LLWL Handbook: That if a faith community cancels its service because of inclement weather, the LLWL does not receive payment regardless of whether material has already been prepared. If the LLWL is unable to lead worship because of illness, hazardous road conditions or for any other reason, but provides a full liturgy that is read by a member of the congregation, the LLWL should be paid in full for the work involved." Carried√

If approved by the Assembly of Elders, this will be added to the LLWL Handbook under the payment section.

c)Retirees: (Caroline Giesbrecht)

No report

d)Mission through Property: (Ted Meyers)

- Hampton/Discovery Church: hopefully the lease will be approved by tomorrow
- Bowmanville; Montessori School lease needs new lease, hopefully sorted soon
- St. Andrews/Beaverton/Cannington; to come together, April 1, 2024
- Recommendation is to drop "Director's & Officers Insurance" from personal policy to use the UC blanket coverage (there will be a link in the next Regional Newsletter)

8. ECOR Information (Darren Liepold): Motion of Appointments

- 2. Motion: by Cheryl McMurray, seconded by Donna Bignell "That upon confirming eligibility on church hub, the Covenant Support Team recommend to the Assembly of Elders, that it approve the re-appointment of the Rev. Bryan Ransom, retired supply to the Newcastle community of faith with the following term March 1st to December 31, 2024 − 50% time, all items according to the UCC Manual." Carried√
- **3. Motion:** by Steve Coles, seconded by Stephanie Richmond "That upon confirming eligibility on church hub, the Covenant Support Team recommend to the Assembly of Elders, that it approve the re-appointment Brian Nicholson, retired supply to the Picton community of faith with the following terms dates April 19th June 30, 2025, 50% time, all items according to the UCC Manual" Carried √
- **4. Motion:** by Steve Coles and seconded by Paul Kneebone "That upon confirming eligibility on church hub, that the Covenant Support Team recommend to the Assembly of Elders that it approve the call of Rev. Sharon Campbell Raymont to the Cambridge Street (Lindsay) Community of Faith with the following terms; Start date April 1st, 2024, full time, all items according to the UCC Manual" Carried√

Sabbatical

5. Motion: by Stephanie Richmond, seconded by Randy Scott "That the Covenant Support team recommend to the Assembly of Elders that they approve the sabbatical of the Rev. Kevin Derry from the Northminster Peterborough Community of Faith from July 1st, 2024 to August 31st, 2024 and July 1st 2025 to August 31st 2025 (additional time made up from holidays) adequate pastoral care and pulpit supply have been for that time." Carried√

Discussion

- Fenelon Falls: Need some intervention in this situation
- **6. Motion:** by Anne Meredith, seconded by Steve Coles "That the Covenant Support Team ask the Assembly of Elders to write a letter to the Fenelon Falls community of faith to ask them to follow United Church polity" Carried√

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- The Hampton Commission: Patti James/Tom Smart/ Steve Coles/Lynn Watson working with this church. Some powerplay. Most people are happy the Region is involved. Hopefully, they will soon start to craft a new governance model.
- Darren is updating the PCS list
- PEC: an eye is being kept on some happenings. A PT minister is trying to work behind the scenes to find a FT job, not in an appropriate way.

New Business

- Succession planning; give it some thought. The CST is going to need a new secretary and Chair.
- DOCS will be introduced at the Regional meeting and then will be available on the Regional Website
- Asked if there is a Liaison data base; the new list is being created and will be shared in the next few days

Next Meeting

April 16th, 2024

Feb-1/23.

April 2, 2024 Zoom Teleconferencing

Appendix E

LEASE

THIS LEASE made this

add date

BETWEEN:

The Trustees of HAMPTON UNITED CHURCH

(the "Landlord")

-and-

The Trustees of DISCOVERY CHURCH

(the "Tenant")

SUMMARY

PREMISES:

5454 Old Scugog Rd,

Hampton, Ontario

LOB 1JO

COMMENCEMENT DATE:

Sunday, November 20th, 2022

BASE RENT:

\$1,000.00 per month

PARTIAL RENT:

Prorated rent for month of November 2022 (\$500.00

payable on December 1, 2022)

RENT TO BE PAID:

ON THE 1st DAY OF EVERY MONTH

FIRST RENT DUE ON:

December 1st, 2022

TERM:

1 year

LEASE END DATE:

TENANT MUST MAINTAIN INSURANCE ON THE TENANT'S CONTENTS AND THIRD-PARTY

LIABILITY INSURANCE.

THE LANDLORD DOES NOT MAINTAIN INSURANCE ON THE TENANT'S CONTENTS.

TERMS OF THE LEASE:

WHEREAS The Landlord occupies those lands and buildings municipally know as:

Part Lot 18, Concession 5, Village of Hampton, Ontario, as recognized by the Municipality of Clarington (the "Lands");

AND WHEREAS THE Landlord has agreed to lease to the Tenant business premises within the Landlord's building on the Lands which premises are located (the "**Premises**") and **attached** hereto as Schedule A, all upon and subject to the terms and conditions contained herein:

NOW THEREFORE WITNESS THAT IN CONSIDERATION of the mutual covenants and agreements herein contained, other good and valuables consideration and the sum of two dollars (\$2.00) now paid by each of the parties to the other (the receipt and sufficiency whereof is hereby acknowledged), the parties hereto covenant and agree each with the other as follows:

SECTION 1 DEFINITIONS

1.1 Definitions

Whenever used in this Lease or in the Schedules to this Lease, the following words or expressions have the meanings hereinafter set forth:

- "Building" means the building owned by the Landlord and located on the Lands including, the Premises, the Common Areas, and Common Facilities;
- (ii) "Common Areas" means all those areas of the Building from time to time that are designated by the Landlord for the common or joint use or benefit of the tenant, its employees, customers and other invites, together with all others entitled to the use and benefit of such areas, including, without limitation, the parking areas, entrances, exits and walkways;
- (iii) "Common Facilities" means all facilities and utilities of the building from time to time, that are designated by the Landlord for the common or joint use of the Tenant and all other lessees and occupants of the Building and includes, without limitation, all electrical, heating, ventilating, plumbing, mechanical, lighting, and drainage systems, equipment and installations which are not for the exclusive use of a single tenant.
- (iv) "Lands" means that lands owned by the Landlord located at 5454 Old Scugog Road, Hampton, Ontario.
- "Lease" means this Agreement and all Schedules attached hereto and includes any
 modification of amendments hereafter agreed to in writing by the parties or their
 successors and assigns;

- (vi) "Premises" means those business premises described as the Premises attached hereto as Schedule "A." The Premises shall include the Systems and Equipment. The Premises shall not include the Structure;
- (vii) "Structure" means the foundation, roof (including the roof-deck and the roof-membrane), exterior wall assemblies, including weather-walls and bearing-walls, subfloor and structural columns and beams of the Premises, all plumbing and drainage equipment leading up to, from and under the Premises and any other portions of the Premises normally considered to be part of the structural portion of a building or where the repairs or replacements thereto are normally considered a major capital expenditure;
- (viii) "System and Equipment" mans the electrical, heating, ventilating and water systems, equipment and inhalations serving Premises; and
- (ix) "Term" means the period described in Section 3 below.

1.2 Schedules

The following Schedules are attached hereto and form part of this Lease:

(i) Schedule "A"- Premises Areas: Shared spaces include: C.W. Wing (including stage), Kitchen, Washrooms, Sunday School Hallway, Story Table Room, Art Room, Movie Theater, Nursery, Centennial Room.

SECTION 2 DEMISE

2.1 Demise

The Landlord hereby demises and leases the Premises to the Tenant and the Tenant hereby leases same from the Landlord during the Term, in accordance with the covenants, obligations and agreements contained in **this Lease**.

2.2 Tenant's Use of the Premises

The Tenant shall use the Premises for the operation of Discovery Church gatherings, including but not limited to holding worship services and other church-related functions and for no other uses except as the Landlord in its absolute and unfettered discretion, may approve in writing. Any use of the Premises which has not been approved by the Landlord in writing shall constitute a default under this lease.

2.3 Rights with Respect to Common Areas and Common Facilities

In connection with the Tenant's use and occupation of the Premises, the Landlord grants to the Tenant, during the Term and any extension thereof, a non-exclusive right to the use and have the benefit of all Common Areas and Common Facilities as they may exist from time to time in common with all others entitled thereto.

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2.4 Quiet Enjoyment

The Landlord covenants that the Tenant shall have quiet enjoyment of the Premises.

SECTION 3 TERM

3.1 Term

The Premises will be leased by the Landlord to the Tenant for an initial term of 1 YEAR (the "Term") commencing on November 20, 2022 (the "Commencement Date") and expiring on November 19, 2023, unless terminated earlier in accordance with the provision of this Lease.

3.2 Renewal

Following the conclusion of the Term, the Tenant is hereby given the right to renew this **Lease** year by year up to a maximum of five (5) years following the end of the Term, by giving the Landlord notice of the Tenant's intent to renew in each subsequent year following the completion of the initial Term not less than ninety (90) days prior to the end of the Term and each year thereafter (i.e. On or before August 22, 2023) and each renewal year thereafter).

3.3 Overholding

Should the Tenant remain in possession of the Premises after the last day of the Term hereby created or after the last day of any Extension Term, as defined herein, without any special agreement, the Tenant shall be as a month-to-month tenant only and subject in all other respects to the terms and provisions of this **Lease**.

SECTION 4 RENT

4.1 Base Rent

During the Term, the Tenant shall pay the Landlord a monthly rent of \$1,000.00, inclusive of all tax(es), which shall be payable on the first day of each and every month commencing on the Commencement Date.

4.2 Partial Rent

Prorated rent of \$500.00, shall be paid for the month November 2022 (based on usage for two Sundays), inclusive of all tax(es), which shall be payable on December 1, 2022.

SECTION 5 REPAIRS AND MAINTEANCE

5.1 Landlord Repair - Generally

The Landlord covenants to operate, maintain, manage, repair, replace and rebuild the Building and its Common Areas and Common Facilities in a first-class and reputable manner, as would a prudent owner of a similar building having regard to size, age and location including, without limitation, including the following:

- promptly remove debris, standing water, foreign objects and refuse from the Lands;
- (ii) maintain all landscaping on the Lands:
- (iii) maintain, clean and repair (including replacement, when necessary) the Common Areas and Common Facilities:
- (iv) maintenance and repairs, including replacement, to the Structure in order to maintain the Structure in good repair and condition;

All maintenance, repairs and replacement to be performed by the Landlord under this Lease shall be done in a good and workmanlike manner and without unreasonably interfering with the business operations of the Tenant or its ingress to or egress from the Premises.

5.2 Landlord Repair - Glass

The Landlord shall, at its own cost and expense, promptly replace, in case of breakage, all glass windows and other glass forming part of the Premises with glass of the same kind and quality as that which may be damaged or broken, save and except where such damage or breakage has been occasioned by the negligence of the Tenant or those for whom the Tenant is in law responsible. In the case of default by the Landlord, the Tenant may replace same and may deduct the cost thereof from the rent payable to the Landlord under this Lease.

5.3 Landlord Repair - Systems and Equipment

The Landlord shall repair, maintain, keep in good working order and replace, when necessary, the Systems and Equipment serving the Premises. In conjunction with this obligation, the Landlord shall, at least once annually, clean and adjust the heating and cooling apparatus serving the Premises and as often as may be required, change all filters.

5.4 Tenant Repair and Exceptions

Subject to Sections 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3 above, the Tenant shall be responsible for maintaining and keeping the interior of the Premises in good repair, save and except for:

- (i) reasonable wear-and tear;
- damages by fire, lightning, tempest, the elements, explosion, riot, impact by aircraft or vehicles, water leakage, malicious damage, act of God or the King's enemies;
- (iii) any injury, loss, or damage to the Premises resulting from any perils in respect of which the Landlord is or ought to have been insured under the terms of this Lease;

- (iv) any injury, loss or damage to the Premises resulting from any act, omission, negligence, fault or default of the Landlord or such other person for whom it is legally responsible;
- (v) any injury, loss or damage to the Premises resulting from any breach by the Landlord or those for whom the Landlord is in law responsible of any of its obligations under the Lease or any other agreements with respect to the Building;
- damage or injury to the Premises caused or resulting from defects or weakness to the Structure; and
- (vii) damage or injury to the Premises caused by, or resulting from, the faulty original construction of the Premises or the use of defective or faulty material in the original construction of the Premises or the Building.

The Landlord covenants to repair promptly the Premises upon the occurrence of any of the above-noted situations.

5.5 Rules and Regulations

The Tenant agrees to observe the following rules and regulations:

(i) Cleanliness.

The Tenant, shall not perform any act or carry on any practice which may injure the Lands or Premises; shall keep the interior of the Premises at all times orderly and tidy; shall keep the interior of the Premises reasonably clean and free from rubbish and dirt, and store all trash and garbage within the Premises and shall not otherwise obstruct the Common Areas adjacent to the Premises or overload the floors in the Premises.

(ii) Signs.

The Tenant shall erect and maintain an identification sign of a type and in a location which the Landlord has approved, and shall not erect, install, inscribe, paint or affix a sign, lettering, or advertisement upon or above the exterior of the Premises or building, including the exterior glass surface of the windows or doors, without in each instance first securing the written approval of the Landlord. If the Tenant installs, displays, inscribes, paints or affixes a sign, lettering or advertisement to or upon the interior of any walls or door without the prior written approval of the Landlord, and if the sign proves objectionable to the Landlord, it shall be removed immediately by the Tenant upon written request of the Landlord. Should the Tenant fail to comply, in a timely manner, with the Landlord's written request for removal, then the Landlord shall be at liberty to remove such sign at the Tenant's expense.

(iii) Installations.

The Tenant shall not install any exterior lighting or plumbing fixtures, shades or awnings or any exterior decorations or do any exterior painting or build any fences nor install radio or television antennae, sound amplifiers, or any mechanical, electrical, or other means of sound reproduction or similar devices, except with the advance written consent of the Landlord or unless they are furnished by the Landlord.

(iv) Nuisance.

The Tenant shall not cause or permit any unusual or objectionable noises or odors to emanate from the Premises.

(v) Obstruction of sidewalks.

The Tenant shall not obstruct, encumber or use for any purpose other than ingress to and egress from the Premises the sidewalks, entrances or common areas of the Building, and shall not sell, advertise or conduct business anywhere on the Lands or within the Building except in the Premises.

(vi) Dignified display.

The Tenant's display and advertising in connection with its business must be done in a dignified manner and in conformity with the highest standards.

(vii) Shipping, deliveries, and parking.

The Tenant shall receive ship, take delivery of, and allow and require suppliers or others to deliver or take delivery of merchandise, supplies, fixtures, equipment, furnishing, wares and merchandise only through the double rear doors of the Building located on Millstream Lane. The Tenant shall not at any time park its trucks or other delivery vehicles belonging to suppliers and persons making deliveries to or receiving shipments from the Premises, for extended periods of time or during the Landlord's use of the parking lot for a scheduled event.

(viii) Use of Premises for sleeping.

The Tenant shall not use the Premises for lodging or sleeping.

(ix) Further rules and regulations.

The Tenant shall observe such other and further rules and regulations as the Landlord may make for the operation, reputation, safety, care or cleanliness of the Building and the Premises, the Operations and maintenance of the Buildings and equipment, the use of Common Areas and facilities, the hours of business, the lighting of premises, the display of signs visible outside the Premises and other matters affecting the operation of the Building, and the establishing and maintaining of a suitable "image" to the community, provided such rules and regulations as reasonable and consistent with the provisions of this lease.

5.6 Liability and Indemnity of Landlord

It is agreed between the Landlord and the Tenant as follow:

(i) The Landlord shall not be liable for any loss, injury or damage caused to persons using the Common Areas or to vehicles or their contents or any other property on them, or for any damage to property entrusted to its or their employees, or for the loss of any property by theft The United Church of Canada L'Église Unie du Canada

or otherwise, and all property kept or stored in the Premises shall be at the sole risk of the Tenant.

- (ii) The Landlord shall not be liable for any loss, injury or damage to person or property resulting from falling plaster, steam, electricity, water, rain, snow or dampness, or from any other cause. The Landlord shall not be liable for any loss or damage cause by acts or omissions of other tenants or occupants, their employees or agents, or any persons not the employees or agents of the Landlord, or for damage caused by the construction or any public or quasi-public works, and in no event shall the Landlord be liable for any consequential or indirect damages suffered by the Tenant.
- (iii) The Tenant shall indemnify the Landlord against all liability, claims, damages or expenses due to or arsing out of any act or neglect by the Tenant or its servants, employees, agents, invitees or licensees on the and about the Premises and Common Areas or due to or arising out of any breach by the Tenant of any provision of this lease, including liability for injury or damages to the persons or property of the Tenant's servants, employees, agents, invitees or licensees.

SECTION 6 DAMAGE AND DESTRUCTION

6.1 Obligation to Rebuild

If at any time during the Term or any extension thereof, the Premises or any other portion of the Building shall be damaged or destroyed by fire, lightning, tempest, explosion or other violent cause, except as otherwise provided below, the Landlord shall, at its own cost and expense, commence promptly to repair, rebuild, replace or otherwise restore the Premises and the Building to as good a condition as same was immediately prior to such damage or destruction.

6.2 Abatement of Rent

During any such period that the damage and destruction is such as to render the use of the Premises impossible or, in the Tenant's sole discretion, impractical, all Rent payable by the Tenant shall abate from the date of the damage or destruction until the Tenant recommences its business operations from the Premises after repair and restoration. Provided, however, that should the Tenant continue its business operations from the Premises or a portion thereof after the damage or destruction, rent shall be paid in proportion to the amount and value of the Premises and the Common Areas and Common Facilities available for the Tenant's use so that there shall be a fair apportionment of the Rent.

SECTION 7 INSURANCE

7.1 Landlord's Insurance

The Landlord shall, at its sole cost and expense, take out and maintain in full force and effect at all times throughout the Term and any extension thereof the following insurance for the Building:

- Insurance against "All-Risks" of physical loss or damage in an amount not less than the full replacement value of the Building but excluding the replacement value of footings, foundations and pavements of the Building;
- (ii) Insurance against mechanical breakdown, explosion, rupture or failure of boilers, pressure vessels, heating, ventilating and air-conditioning equipment, electrical apparatus and other like apparatus owned by the Landlord in an amount no less than full replacement value;
- (iii) Comprehensive general liability insurance, all inclusive for legal liability for personal injury or property damage resulting from each occurrence and including coverage for products and completed operations, blanket contractual liability, owners' and contractors' protective liability, employees as additional insured's, contingent employers' liability, non-owned automobile liability and cross liability clause;

Such insurance coverage shall be in reasonable amounts and with reasonable deductibles as would be carried by a prudent owner of a similar building, having regard to size, age and location. Without limiting the generality of the foregoing, but for greater clarity, the Landlord shall at all times, maintain such insurance as will be sufficient to allow it to rebuild the Building, including the Premises, to a state that will permit the Tenant to reoccupy, install its trade fixtures and chattels and carry-on business. The Landlord shall furnish evidence of such insurance in the form of certified copies of the policies or at the Tenant's option, certificates of insurance prior to the Lease commencement Date and upon renewal of the insurance policies thereafter during the Term. All such policies of insurance shall name the Tenant as an additional named insured and shall provide for at least thirty (30) days prior notice in writing to the tenant of cancellation termination or adverse change thereto. No review or approval of any such insurance policy or certificate by the Tenant shall derogate from or diminish the Tenant's right or the Landlord's obligations contained in this Lease.

7.2 Tenant's Insurance

The Tenant shall maintain throughout the Term and any extension thereof "All-Risks" insurance with respect to property damage for leasehold improvements, fixtures, stock and equipment. The Tenant shall also maintain its own comprehensive general liability insurance policy for bodily injury or death or damage to property of others.

7.3 Waiver of Subrogation

Wherever this Lease obligates one party's insurance policy to name the other party as an additional insured, such party's insurance policy must contain a waiver of subrogation clause in favour of the additional named insured party.

7.4 Landlord's Indemnity

Save and except for any loss, costs or damage arising from the negligent act or omission of the Tenant or its directors, officers, agents, contractors, servants, employees, invitees and licensees or any person for whom it is at law responsible, the Landlord agrees to indemnity and save harmless the Tenant from and against any and all claims, actions, damages, demands and losses (the "Claims") including, without limitation, all Claims for loss or life, personal injury or property damage to third parties arising from any act or omission of the Landlord or any agent,

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contractor, servant, employee, invitee or licensee of the Landlord and those for whom the Landlord is at law responsible and from and against all costs, counsel fees (including legal fees on a solicitor-and client basis), expenses and liabilities incurred in connection with any such Claims or any action or proceeding brought thereon. If the Tenant is, without fault on its part, made a party to any litigation commenced by or against the Landlord, then the Landlord will protect, indemnify and hold the Tenant harmless and pay all expenses and reasonable legal fees incurred or paid by the Tenant in connection with such litigation. This Indemnification shall survive any expiry or other termination of this lease.

7.5 Tenant's Indemnity

Save and except for any loss, costs or damage arising from the negligent act or omission of the Landlord or its directors, officers, agents, contractors, servants, employees, invitees and licensees or any person for whom it is at law responsible, the Tenant agrees to indemnity and save harmless the Landlord from and against any and all claims, actions, damages, demands and losses (the "Claims") including, without limitation, all Claims for loss or life, personal injury or property damage to third parties arising from any act or omission of the Tenant or any agent, contractor, servant, employee, invitee or licensee of the Tenant and those for whom the Tenant is at law responsible and from and against all costs, counsel fees (including legal fees on a solicitor-and client basis), expenses and liabilities incurred in connection with any such Claims or any action or proceeding brought thereon. If the Landlord is, without fault on its part, made a party to any litigation commenced by or against the Tenant, then the Tenant will protect, indemnify and hold the Landlord harmless and pay all expenses and reasonable legal fees incurred or paid by the Landlord in connection with such litigation. This Indemnification shall survive any expiry or other termination of this lease.

SECTION 8 LANDLORD'S REMEDIES

Re-entry

(i) Failure to pay rent or observe covenants.

If the Tenant fails to pay an installment of rent when due, or fails to perform any of the other covenants, conditions or agreements contained in this lease:

- (a) the rights of the Tenant shall be immediately suspended; and
- (b) the Lease may, at the option of the Landlord, be terminated.
- (ii) Default cured by diligence.

If any default by the Tenant can only be cured by the performance of work or the furnishing of materials, and if the work cannot reasonably be completed or such materials reasonably obtained and utilized within ten days, the default shall not be deemed to

continue if the Tenant proceeds promptly with such work as may be necessary to cure the default and continues diligently to complete it.

(iii) Removal of Tenant or occupant

If any default by the Tenant is not cured, or if the Tenant abandons the Premises, or if this lease is terminated for any cause, the Landlord may re-enter and remove from the premises the Tenant or other occupant of the Premises.

- (iv) Landlord's rights on re-entry or termination. If the Landlord re-enters or if this lease is terminated:
 - (a) rent shall immediately become due and be paid up to the time of re-entry or termination together with the reasonable expenses of the landlord;
 - (b) the Landlord may relet the Premises or any part of them either in the name of the Landlord or otherwise for a term or terms which may, if the Landlord chooses, be less or greater than the balance of the term of this lease and may grant reasonable concessions in connection therewith;
- (v) In the event of breach or threatened breach by the Tenant of any of the covenants or provisions of this lease, the Landlord shall have the right to invoke any remedy allowed at law or in equity, including injunction, as if re-entry, summary proceedings and other remedies were not provided for, and mention in this lease of any particular remedy shall not preclude the Landlord from using any other remedy at law or in equity.

8.2 Distress against Tenant's Property

In the event of any default of the Tenant's covenants, the Landlord shall be entitled to seize for any amounts owing to the Landlord against the Tenant's property.

SECTION 9 DISPOSITION

9.1 Assignment and Subletting

The Tenant shall not assign this Lease not sublet all or any portion of the Premises without the Landlord's prior written consent. The Landlord's consent, if requested by the tenant, may be unreasonably withheld. The Landlord shall advise the Tenant of its consent or refusal with ten (10) days of receipt of the request, failing which consent shall be deemed to have been given. If the Landlord's consent is granted the Tenant shall reimburse the landlord for reasonable legal, administration or other costs incurred by the Landlord with respect to the transaction.

9.2 Attornment by Tenant

The right of the Landlord under this Lease may be mortgaged, charged, transferred or assigned to a purchaser or to a mortgagee or trustee or bond holders. Should the Landlord sell the Building or the Lands or should the Landlord default under its mortgage, trust deed or trust indenture and the purchaser, mortgagee or trustees, as the case may be, enter into possession

of the Building or the lands then, provided that person shall assume the obligations of the Landlord under this Lease, the Tenant shall attorn to and become the Tenant of that respective purchaser, mortgagee or trustee under the subject to the provisions of this Lease.

9.3 Subordination of Lease

This lease is subject and subordinate to all mortgages, trust deeds or trust indentures which may now or at any time hereafter affect in whole or in part the Lands or the Building and whether or not any such mortgage, trust deed or trust indenture shall affect only the Lands or the Building or shall be a blanket mortgage, trust deed or trust indenture affecting other lands as well. This Lease shall also be subject and subordinate to all renewals, modifications, consolidations, replacements and extensions of any such mortgage, trust deed or trust indenture.

9.4 Tenant's Certificates

The Tenant shall upon request by the Landlord at any time and from time to time, promptly execute and deliver such certificates, acknowledgments, confirmations of attornment or subordination and statements relating to the status of this Lease (collectively the "Certificates") which the Landlord may reasonable require in order to give effect to Sections 9.2 or 9.3 above or in conjunction with any sale assignment or mortgaging of the Building or the lands. Any Certificates requested by the Landlord shall be prepared by the Landlord, at no cost to the Tenant.

SECTION 10 ALTERATIONS

10.1 Tenant Alterations

The Tenant shall not make any alterations, additions or changes, structural or otherwise, in and to the Premises, without the Landlord's prior written consent. The Landlord's consent, if requested by the Tenant, is not to be unreasonable withheld or unduly delayed. Further, the Landlord shall advise the Tenant of its consent or refusal within ten (1) days of receipt of the request, failing which consent shall be deemed to have been given. Any alterations, additions or changes so approved shall be conducted at the Tenant's own expense. The Tenant agrees that all alternations made by it will be made in a first-class workmanlike manner. The Tenant shall not have the obligation at the end of the Term to remove the alterations nor restore the Premises to the condition they were originally.

10.2 Landlord Alterations

The Landlord shall not, at any time during the Term of any extension thereof, without the Tenant's prior written consent, permit any construction, alteration, signage, addition or change to the Building, including the Premises, or its Common Areas and Common Facilities which would:

- (i) interfere with ingress to or egress from or the loading or service areas of the Premises;
- (ii) interfere with the business operations of the Tenant;
- (iii) derogate from any of the right, privileges and benefits conferred on the Tenant by this Lease; and

(iv) weaken or endanger the Structure of the Building, including the Premises.

The Tenants' consent, if required, is not to be unreasonable withheld or unduly delayed. Further, the Tenant shall not make any charge to the Landlord for its consent. The Tenant shall advise the Landlord of its consent or refusal with ten (10) days of receipt of the request, failing which consent shall be deemed to have been given.

10.3 Fixtures and Personal Property

All trade fixtures, equipment and other property owned by the Tenant shall remain the property of the Tenant with regard to the means by which, or the person by whom the same are installed in or attached to the Premises and the Landlord agrees that the Tenant shall have the right at any time from time to time, to remove from the Premises any and all of the said trade fixtures, equipment and other property, including by not limited to counters, shelving and showcases. The Landlord agrees not to mortgage, or pledge said trade fixture, equipment and other property. In the event that the Tenant elects to remove any such trade fixtures, equipment or other property, it shall make good any damage caused to the Premises by such removal.

SECTION 11 NOTICES AND PAYMENTS

11.1 Communications

Any notice, demand, request, or consent ("Communication") required or permitted to be made under this Lease shall be made in writing, duly signed by the party giving such notice and delivered personally, by email or sent by prepaid registered mail as follows:

(i)	addressed to the Landlord at: 54	54 Old Scugog Road, Han Email Address:	npton, Ontario LOB 1JO
(ii)	or addressed to the Tenant at: _		Hampton, Ontario
		Email Address:	

Or to such other address or addresses of which either party may from time to time notify the other in writing. The Communication shall be deemed to have been received if delivered personally or by email, when receipt is acknowledged and if mailed by registered mail, then on the third (3rd) business day after the day of mailing thereof. In the event of an actual or threatened disruption of postal delivery service, and Communication shall be personally delivered or delivered by email.

11.2 Payments

All payments required to be made to the Landlord under this Lease shall be payable by cheque to the order of the Landlord and shall be forwarded to the Landlord at its address shown in Section 1.1.

The United Church of Canada

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SECTION 12 SPECIAL PROVISIONS

12.1 Operating Hours

Space usage associated with weekly Sunday Services:

- (i) Sunday Service start time is 9:30 a.m. starting November 20, 2022 to August 27, 2023
- (ii) Sunday Service start time between September 3, 2023 and November 19, 2023 will need to be adjusted to accommodate a landlord service start time of 9:15 a.m.
- (iii) Access to the building for set-up will generally happen every Saturday prior to the Sunday Service

12.2 Arrangements for Shared Space

The following provisions apply to shared space usage:

- (i) All usage of the shared space outside of the hours of Sunday Services, is to be coordinated and approved by the Landlord's Booking Coordinator
- (ii) Notification is to be made by email at hucbookings@gmail.com at least 3 days prior to usage date, for all requests for meetings, church events, general programming, short or long-term use.
- (iii) It is the responsibility of the Landlord and Tenant to provide a named booking coordinator. Space usage will be coordinated by the named personnel and posted on a shared google calendar.

12.3 Parking

Parking at the church on any day other than Sunday has no restrictions.

Parking Lot Usage on Sunday

- (i) Parking spaces designated for Music Director and Minister to be left available for Landlord
- (ii) Tenant parking is limited to the back spaces of the parking lot and street parking
- (iii) Parking lot front roadside spaces to be left available for the Landlord as well as spaces along the street adjacent to the church building.

12.4 Snow Removal

The Landlord will be responsible for snow removal in the parking lot. The Tenant is responsible to clear and sand rear entry sidewalks to allow safe entry to the building while in use by the Tenant.

12.5 General Maintenance

The following general maintenance activities are the responsibility of the Tenant after usage of the shared space:

- (iv) Sweeping hard surface floors in all areas used and washing floors if necessary to leave them in the same conditional as prior to arrival. Includes entrance, hall, stage, kitchen, and bathroom floors.
- (v) Removal of garbage accumulated during use.
- (vi) Leaving kitchen in a clean and orderly fashion.

12.6 Spring and Fall Cleanup

Upon request, the Tenant will assist the Landlord with removal of leaves in the fall and spring cleanup of the shared spaces. Assistance with activities such as washing windows, deep cleaning floors and entrance area, paint repairs may be requested.

SECTION 13 SPECIAL PROVISIONS

13.1 Spillage of Hazardous Materials

Then Tenant shall be responsible for all costs associated with the cleanup and /or removal of any hazardous materials or other environmental contaminates spilled, leaked, released, dumped or otherwise deposited on the properly by the Tenant, or any of his employees, agents, contractors, guests or other invitees, or deposited in any other manner related to the operation of the Tenant's business.

SECTION 14 GENERAL PROVISIONS

14.1 Headings

The Section heading of this Lease are inserted as a matter of convenience and for reference only, and in no way confine, limit or proscribe the scope of any Section of this Lease, no way affects this Lease.

14.2 Modification to Lease

No modification, alteration or amendment of this Lease shall be binding unless in writing and executed by the parties hereto or their respective heir, successors, and assigns.

14.3 No Partnership

The Landlord and the Tenant are not and shall not be considered joint ventures nor partners and neither shall have power to bind or obligate the other except as set for in this Lease.

14.4 Entire Agreement

This Lease, including all Schedules and other attachments hereto, contain the entire agreement between the parties relating to the subject matter hereof. All prior agreements,

representations, statements, negotiations, and undertaking, whether oral or in writing, are superseded in their entirety by the provisions of this Lease.

14.5 Severability

The Landlord and Tenant agree that all the provisions of this Lease are to be construed as a covenants and agreements as though the words importing such covenants and agreements were used in each separate paragraph hereof. Should any provision or provisions of this Lease be illegal or not enforceable, it or they shall be considered separate and severable from this lease and its remaining provisions shall remain in force and be binding upon the parties hereto as though the said provision or provisions had never been included.

14.6 Acting Reasonably and in Good Faith

The Landlord and the Tenant, in making a determination, designation, calculation, estimate, conversion or allocation under this Lease, will act reasonably and in good faith and each accountant, architect, engineer or surveyor or other professional person employed or retained by the Landlord, or the Tenant will act in accordance with the applicable principles and standards of the person's profession.

14.7 Impossibility of Performance

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, failure or delay in performance by any party, excluding the inability to perform because of financial difficulties or lack of funds, shall be excused to the extent caused by an event beyond such party's reasonable control which no foresight could have avoided, provided the party prevented from or delayed in rendering performance notifies the other party in writing immediately, and in detail, of the commencement and nature of such a cause, and provided further that such party used its best efforts to render performance in a timely manner utilizing to such end all resources reasonably required in the circumstances.

14.8 Governing Law

This Lease shall be governed by and construed in accordance with the laws of Ontario.

14.9 Time

Time shall be of the essence of this Lease.

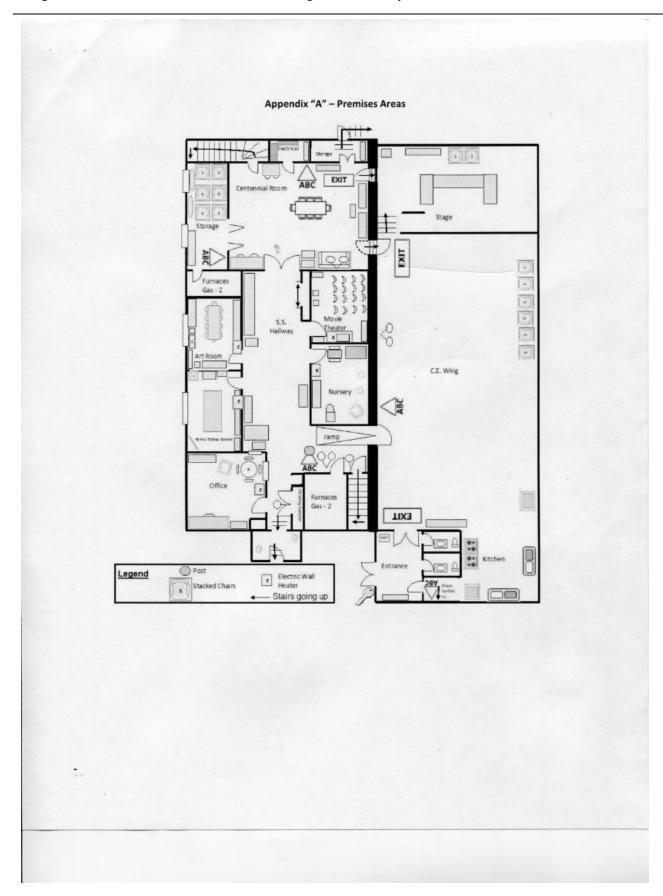
14.10 Ensurement

This Lease and everything herein contained shall, upon final execution, ensure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successors and permitted assigns. The parties hereto agree to undertake such further acts and execute such further documents as may be necessary or expedient in order to conduct the purpose and intent of this Lease.

14.11 Entire Agreement

This Lease, including all Schedules and other attachments hereto, contain the entire agreement between the parties relating to the subject matter hereof. All prior agreements, representations, statements, negotiations, and undertaking, whether oral or in writing, are superseded in their entirety by the provisions of this Lease. IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this Lease as of the day and year first above written. WITNESS: LANDLORD PER: TENANT PER:

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Appendix F

St. Andrew's Disbursement Team

Review and Recommendations

March 11, 2024

Team Mandate

- To make recommendations for the disbursement of all physical items not required by the TUCC in its endeavour to rent / lease the Church
- To execute disbursement based on the approved recommendations

Guiding Principles

- All recommendations made by this committee are NOT done lightly; careful consideration has been given for every recommendation in this document
- To make donations to organizations from the Andy's bequest that align with the intent of Andy's
- Considering the age and volunteer shortage, use external help when needed to facilitate the large body of work this team is tasked with

Physical Item Disbursement

- The team went through the entire building including the balcony, bell tower, church, board room, entire basement
- We designated items that we thought should be separated into 3 categories:
 - 1. destined for garbage (which can be refuse or recycled)
 - 2. donate or put out for congregants,
 - 3. items that might be used by our Amalgamation partner or UCM members
 - 4. Items to be kept for church rental / usage
- Inventory list was created for items with their designation
- A company has been engaged for the items in category 1

Financial Disbursement

Two separate and distinct financial areas were looked at:

- a) St. Andrew's
- b) Andy's Bequest

Financial Disbursement

a) St. Andrew's Liquid Assets

Total Holdings:	\$241,649.09
Less: Forecasted Operating Closing Expenses	
*Total Operational Closing Costs	\$58,300.00
* includes but not limited to 2024 UCM commitment, document and goods disposal, Stone Cemetery costs, celebration costs	
Balance after Operational Expenses	\$183,349.09
Less: 30% to United Church of Canada	\$55,004.73
Remaining after Disbursement for Amalgamation Partner:	\$128,344.36

Financial Disbursement

b) Andy's Bequest - recommended donations

Total Amount Remaining	\$89,030.93
Recommended Disbursements:	
Lakeview Manor Ladies Aux	\$5,000.00
Healthy Snacks for Students	
Brock High	\$10,000.00
Beaverton Public	\$5,000.00
Holy Family	\$5,000.00
Brock Food Bank and UCM Member Foodbanks	\$5,000.00
Continuing Andy's 2.0	\$20,000.00
Sub total:	\$50,000.00
Remaining Balance:	\$39,030.93

Financial Disbursement

- b) Andy's Bequest recommended future state
- We recommend that the remaining balance of the Andy's Bequest be held by the amalgamating congregation "in Trust" as a separate account to be managed by the Trustees; we also recommend that any monies used in the future from this trust be used in the spirit of Andy's
- After careful consideration, thorough research and examination of St
 Andrews history around food security we deemed the schools in the area to
 be of greatest need for help. Both public schools and high school shop and
 prepare food for children daily. For years St Andrews, was the hub for
 preparing healthy snack program for our schools.
- We recommend giving to our foodbank, as well as our UCM foodbanks (which also serve our Beaverton clients)
 - we recognize the person who left the bequest was not a resident of Beaverton but benefitted from Andy's socially
- Since Lakeview Manor has donated food to allow us to run Andy's for years, we were advised by the Manor to donate to the Auxiliary in thanks for their help

Appendix G

Apsley Pastoral Charge Bloomfield Pastoral Charge **Brechin Pastoral Charge** Claremont-Brougham Pastoral Charge Cobourg: Trinity Pastoral Charge College Hill Pastoral Charge Cooke's-Portsmouth Pastoral Charge **Dunbarton-Fairport Pastoral Charge Emmanuel Pastoral Charge** Frankford-Batawa Pastoral Charge Kendal Pastoral Charge Little Britain Pastoral Charge Newtonville Pastoral Charge Northminster Pastoral Charge Prince Edward North Pastoral Charge Prince Edward South Pastoral Charge Rawdon-Springbrook Pastoral Charge Roblin-Enterprise Pastoral Charge St. Matthew's Pastoral Charge St. Matthew's Pastoral Charge Stockdale Pastoral Charge Tory Hill Pastoral Charge Wolfe Island Pastoral Charge Wooler Pastoral Charge

The United Church of Canada E L'Église Unie du Canada

April 2, 2024 Zoom Teleconferencing

Appendix H

Nominations Spring Report 2024

Nominations Team

Rev. Caroline Giesbrecht, Rev. John Young, Stephen Coles, Rev. Svinda Heinrichs, Rev. Wanda Stride (Assembly of Elders rep), Karen Wilson (staff)

Greetings from the Nominations Team.

As everyone in the Region is aware, the majority of the work of the East Central Ontario Regional Council's ministry is accomplished through the dedication and passion of many volunteers. It is the work of this Team to encourage participation in the ministry of the Region, to seek out those who would like to volunteer, and then to discern how best to deploy the gifts offered.

The rhythm of our work follows this basic timeline:

In early February we meet to evaluate how many new members each Team needs. Then we check-in with the chairs of each of the Teams to ensure we have the correct information and, importantly, to find out from them the particular gifts they are looking for in new members in order to round out the skill-set required to live into their Team's mission most fully.

Nominations were open this year from March 1 to March 15 and, in that time, we received 14 expressions of interest to fill 20 positions. Once the forms were collated, the Team met by Zoom on March 19 to do our work of discernment.

In our discernment process, we consider several factors for each candidate and Team, with the aim of achieving a balance with who is already on the team, what gifts people bring to the role and recognizing a diversity of life experience and geographic location. An important next step is to pray. This time we prayed over each name in silence. Our Team members found the time of silent prayer to be a very powerful experience.

Some comments from this year's process:

- 1) All members of the team expressed concern over the low numbers of applications.
- 2) The team discerned that there is no conflict of interest among the applicants.
- 3) We were curious as to why only men applied for Mission through Property and only women for Faith, Nurture, and Justice.

A wondering: How do we as a Region encourage more people to participate in the ministry of the Region?

A recommendation: We recommend that each chair of each Team plan for their succession.

Motion: After prayerful discernment, the Nomination Team recommend that the East Central Regional Co	uncil
appoint the following people for a term from 2024-2027:	
Moved by Svinda Heinrichs; Seconded by	

Assembly of Elders

Rev. David King Dr. Sheila Mae Young Brian Nicholson

Mission Through Property Team

Jeff Julian Rev. Isaac Mundy Ron Trewin

Covenant Support Team

Patti James

Rev. Cheryl McMurray

Formation, Nurture, and Justice Team

Patricia Teskey Rev. Kaitlyn Ostrander Rev. Wanda Stride

Equity Team

Rev. Nancy Wilson

Nominations Team

Rev. Svinda Heinrichs Rev. Wanda Stride

Concluding notes:

- 1) The Nominations Team offer our thanks for the leadership and wealth of information given by Ted Meyers over the years, and give thanks that he is willing to remain on this team a year past his term during succession planning.
- 2) We encourage more people to let their names stand for Teams that still have vacancies. Please consider this a nudge for discernment. The Teams needing more members are:
 - a. 1 for the Assembly of Elders;
 - b. 2 for Nominations Team;
 - c. 1 for Faith, Nurture, and Justice Team;
 - d. 3 for Equity Team.
- 3) If you feel yourself called to serve the National Church, nominations to serve as a commissioner to General Council 45 will be open this Spring and will close in September.
- 4) Nominations is also suggesting that the Facilitation Forum plan a regional information night outlining what is required of members and committee members.

The Nominations Team thank all those who have offered their gifts for the ministry of the East Central Regional Council. We particularly thank Mary-Jane Hobden for her work on Nominations. She unfortunately had to step down as chair unexpectedly this winter.

May we continue to live into all that God calls this Region to, knowing that God gives us what we need as we need it.

Respectfully submitted by Svinda Heinrichs, interim chair

East Central Ontario Regional Council

April 2, 2024 Zoom Teleconferencing

Appendix I

The United Church of Canada

L'Église Unie du Canada

MINI FILM FESTIVAL IDEA

February 21, 2024

https://aaronmontreal.wixsite.com/mini-film-festival

This is Aaron writing to you from Prince Edward County, on Lake Ontario, ancestral lands of the Algonquin (Anishinaabe) and Mohawk (Haudenoshone) people. Grace and peace to you, Wanda and Assembly of Elders. Greetings to our colleagues in the Regional Council.

I'm writing about my "Mini Film Festival" idea. Below, I share about the original vision for the festival for context, followed by my dreams for collaboration with the Regional Council. Then, I share how the festival could be financially self-sustaining while being of service to other United Churches. To finish, I share a longer-term vision for the festival. Let's jump in.

Background

So far, we've had one Mini Film Festival, in January 2024. The event was a gathering of ten United Church ministers who make creative, short, shareable videos (similar to YouTube videos) that speak to themes of faith, spirituality, social justice and community-building from a United Church perspective. My goal for the first gathering was to gauge interest, test the format and get a sense of the amount of work that would go into planning an event of this nature.

Format of the Event

Each presenter set up the context of their video, they showed their video, then we talked about how it connected to our faith, theology, spirituality, and so on. In other words, these weren't talks about technology, techniques or process. Rather, it was about exploring spirituality, faith, social justice and community-building through the medium of creative short-videos.

What was involved in organizing the first gathering?

I kept things very simple and manageable. I reached out to individuals and on Facebook for submissions and to invite viewers. I created an email list and sent them the zoom info. I collected the video links and created a program for the event, which I sent to the presenters in advance. At the event, I facilitated the conversation. I prepared and sent out a survey to gather feedback afterwards. Since the event was successful, I quickly created a website in order to share about the idea with others.

Learnings for Future

My biggest take-away was in the format. At the event, I facilitated the conversations. In future, I think it would be good to have more voices by pairing up creators to interview each other.

Visions for the Future

Currently, the festival has a purpose and a format (which I just mentioned), an email list and a website. Here's some visioning: I envision this as a 5-year project (from 2023-2028). One gathering per year, on the 3rd Monday of January from 3-5pm ET on Zoom. There would be four communications per year: mid-May, September; in mid-November, and in early January. From the survey I passed out after the first festival, there was a request to receive messages in an analogue way, which we would do by sending these communications by Canada Post.

Collaboration Proposals with Key Timings

Here are my dreams for collaborations with the Regional Council and the United Church:

1. Collaboration with Regional Council

- funding the web domain for 5 years cost tbd (by April 2024)
- funding for two dozen postage stamps \$40 (by April 2024)
- funding for scholarships/prize for three favourite videos submitted by United Church Youth or Youth Groups (\$400) (1 x \$200 prize, 2 x \$100 prize, available by December 2024)
- have access to a RC Zoom link and a support-person for the event (by January 2025)
- have RC help to know if this idea is already in progress elsewhere (March 2024)
- have opportunity to share about the network and the event in the ECORC e-Newsletter in May, Sept, Dec 2024 and Jan 2025

2. Create a new Network (by April 2024)

· Create the "Network of Creative-Types" (by April 2024)

3. Find a new name (by April 2024)

Currently the gathering is called "Mini Film Festival." My dream is that it could be called "United Church Network of Creative-Types Short Film Festival"... How would I do that?

4. Medium Term Idea: Create a Self-Funding Network

Bring to life the idea to make the Festival/Network self-funding and of service to the church. The idea is to prepare a curated "film festival package" for United Churches to hold film festivals of their own, in their churches or spaces. The host community of faith would pay a fee for the package which they could use as a fundraiser, as a faith-building activity, etc. The fee collected would go toward making the network and festival self-sustaining. Once costs are covered, extra funds could be divided between Mission and Service, the creation of scholarships, and perhaps, humbly, the support of my ministry.

5. Long Term: Build Up a Full Festival

The long-term vision is to build up an expansive annual festival, similar to the online Festival of Biblical Storytelling or the Festival of Homiletics. A United Church Film Festival would speak to two needs in our church: (1) a opportunity for short-video makers to gather, to share and enrich our faith and spirituality through video as an tool of self-expression; and, (2) an opportunity for folks to learn about the tech aspects of creating videos. In both cases, guest speakers could be invited, and so on. This would certainly take a team to organize...

There is so much potential in this idea. But this is the starting point. For now, I'll keep moving toward the January 2025 event. My first communication is planned for mid-May, so it is my hope that we could work toward that time in our discussions together too. Thank you kindly for considering this idea.

Here is the address for the webpage: https://aaronmontreal.wixsite.com/mini-film-festival

From, Aaron Miechkota