

REPORT – REGIONAL COUNCIL TREASURER



Valerie Beckingham
Treasurer

The 2019 audited financial statements included in this workbook show the financial position of Prairie to Pine Region at December 31, 2019, and its financial performance during its first year of operation. During 2019, staff worked skillfully and hard to build a financial structure that will support the region in years to come. It has been a privilege to work with them.

We are now within three months of the end of 2020, Prairie to Pine's second year, and the 2019 financial statements seem like very old news. Of course they are, because they were meant to have been distributed in the workbook for the regional gathering last May. The COVID-19 pandemic has caused so many activities to be cancelled or delayed.

Our financial position at the end of 2020 is expected to be much the same as at the end of 2019. It may be better. But a budget surplus, should we have one, will not be only good news, because the reason our expenditures will have been lower than budgeted is that planned activities have been curtailed by the pandemic.

Beyond our annual income and expenditures, Prairie to Pine has been entrusted with the net financial resources of the former Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario and its six presbyteries. This money has not yet been used, partly because 2019 was the start-up year and 2020 restricted by the pandemic, but mostly because this one-time money, which a member of executive council aptly termed "grace money", represents both an opportunity for our future and a responsibility to donors to use the funds wisely. The executive has appointed a committee to study this matter and recommend guidelines for allocating the funds in ways that build our future and that honour the wishes of the former conference and presbyteries.

I have enjoyed my first year as Treasurer and look forward to continuing to work with Prairie to Pine executive and staff.

*Respectfully submitted,
Valerie Beckingham, Treasurer
Prairie to Pine Regional Council*