

**Prairie to Pine Executive Minutes
November 4, 2021 via Zoom**

Present	Pat Bird (Co-chair), Diane Dwarka (Co-chair), Erica Wiebe (Co-chair Elect), Valerie Beckingham (Treasurer), Julia Antonyshyn (YAAY), Marissa Smirl (YAAY), Barbara Brown, Joey Dearborn, James deBeer, M Chorney, Craig Miller. A quorum was present.
Corresponding Members	Ken DeLisle (Equity and Diversity Committee), Jamie Miller (Equity and Diversity Committee), Betty Kelly (Chair, Nominating Committee), Heather Lea (Committee on Community of Faith Support), Donald Schau (Committee on Lay Ministry Support), Jan Van Aertselaer.
Regrets	Grant Queskekapow.
Staff Present	Shannon McCarthy (Executive Minister), Judy Hare (Pastoral Relations Minister), Julie Graham (Justice and Communications Minister), Heather Dootoff (Finance Administrator), Jamie Mckay (Executive Assistant & Recording Secretary).
Call to Order	Pat Bird opened the meeting at 4:00 PM.
Treaty Land Acknowledgement	Pat Bird read the following Treaty Land Acknowledgement for Prairie to Pine Regional Council, developed by the Equity & Diversity Committee: <i>“Creator. Eternal Spirit. God of all. We gather tonight on your land. We gather on land some called Turtle Island and others call Canada. We acknowledge that the lands of the Prairie to Pine people are covered by Treaties 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 9. The Prairie to Pine office is located on Treaty 1 land. These are the traditional lands of many Indigenous peoples, including Anishinaabe, Ojibway, Cree, Oji- Cree, Saulteaux, Dakota, Swampy Cree, Muskegoik, Dene, and the Metis nation. We acknowledge that as settler people, we have not lived up to the promises of the Treaties with respect to the people or the land. We wish to do better, and particularly in the Prairie to Pine region, we aim to be part of the reconciliation efforts.”</i> <i>* A revised land acknowledgement statement is currently being drafted. The above land acknowledgement statement will be updated to reflect the new one when it becomes available.</i>
Guiding Principles	Diane Dwarka reminded us of the guiding principles we follow during our meetings.
Opening Worship	Joey Dearborn led us in worship and read a story called ‘The Leaky Bucket.’
Check-In	We checked in by sharing what things might lead us to have holes in our own buckets, and despite any holes, what are the things that give us hope.

Agenda	We reviewed the agenda.
022 – 2021/2022	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approve the agenda as distributed.
Approval of Minutes	We will review the minutes of October 7, 2021 when they are received.
BUSINESS ARISING	A lot of work is in progress, and we will hear more as we go through the meeting.
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Letter from the University of Winnipeg: history of training administrators for residential school and colonization work.
REPORTS	
Finance	<p>Valerie Beckingham reported.</p> <p>A financial report ending September 30, 2021 (Appendix A) was provided for information.</p> <p>We reviewed the 2022 Draft Budget (Appendix B).</p> <p>Since the pandemic began in 2020 and changed the way we work, as well as 2019 being a transition year, we still have not had a normal budgeting year.</p> <p>In the governance budget, grant amounts match what we projected and budgeted. Other income in governance is mostly interest. Office rent figures still need to be finalized.</p> <p>If the annual meeting is moving to an in-person meeting every three years, we think it would be a good idea to budget for the annual meeting on a year-by-year basis.</p> <p>Heather Dootoff noted the amortization amount should be removed.</p> <p>Valerie Beckingham will send out an amended draft that eliminates the amortization amount of \$20,780 for the 2022 Budget.</p>
023 – 2021/2022	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive accepts the <i>Prairie to Pine Regional Council 2022 Draft Budget (Appendix B)</i>, as presented.
Co-chairs	<p>Pat Bird reported.</p> <p>Pat represented Prairie to Pine Regional Council at the Commissioning of Sam Ross as a Designated Lay Minister which was held in Cross Lake, Manitoba on October 17th. It was a long wait for Sam to receive his recognition and certificate.</p>

Pat and Diane Dwarka attended a General Council 43 meeting and received reports on the Anti-Racism Action Plan and the United Property Resource Corporation. There has been a push to consider our land acknowledgments so they may lead us into a deeper understanding of the people we live with.

**Prairie to Pine
Structure document**

The task group met on October 18, 2021 and continued the 'Who We Are' portion of the structure document. Committee reports will be incorporated into the document as they are received.

The next task group meeting will be November, a date to be determined.

**Executive Minister's
Report**

Shannon McCarthy reported.

New office space

The Prairie to Pine Regional Council office will be downsizing and relocating to the Centre for Christian Studies (CCS). We have begun the process of packing and sorting through supplies and furniture that have accumulated over the past years. We are renting three offices in the basement and are assessing what we need to take, what we have space for, and if we need additional storage.

The office relocation came out of staff working at home during the COVID-19 pandemic. It was decided that we could continue to effectively work as a team and stay connected digitally. Downsizing the office will result in overall savings in rent and costs.

General Council work

The General Council has been holding learning sessions every Tuesday evening on various topics, some of which have been:

- Changes to pension and benefits
- Israel / Palestine
- Love and Justice Conference

**Incorporated
Ministries**

*Fred Douglas
Foundation dissolution*

We are in the process of working to dissolve Fred Douglas Society as an incorporated body in the United Church of Canada.

Prairie to Pine can still name two people to their board.

024 – 2021/2022

It was agreed by consensus:

That Prairie to Pine Regional Council agrees that the Fred Douglas Foundation be dissolved, and the funds held be dispersed to Fred Douglas Society Inc. to be restricted for use as directed by the donors.

PASTORAL RELATIONS

Pastoral Relations Minister Judy Hare submitted a *Pastoral Relations Minister Report* for information (Appendix D).

Pastoral Relations Commission See the *Pastoral Relations Minister report* (Appendix D).

Pastoral Relations Liaisons Additional reporting on Pastoral Relations Liaisons can be found in the *Pastoral Relations Minister Report* (Appendix D).

Committee on Community of Faith Support Heather Lea brought forward the names of Communities of Faith who have completed their Covenant of Mutual Commitment, Accountability and Support.

025 – 2021-2022 **It was agreed by consensus:**
That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive accepts the recommendation from the Committee on Community Faith Support that Prairie to Pine Regional Council receive, accept, and prepare to celebrate at a date yet to be determined, the complete Covenants of Mutual Commitment, Accountability and Support with the following Communities of Faith:

- **Atlantic-Garden City United Church**
- **Kenton-Shiloh Pastoral Charge**
- **Oak River United Church**
- **Pine Falls United Church**
- **St. Mary’s Road United Church**
- **Stony Mountain United Church (Stony Mountain Lilyfield Pastoral Charge)**
- **Lilyfield United Church (Stony Mountain Lilyfield Pastoral Charge)**

Committee on Lay Ministry/Lay Leadership Support Donald Shau brought forward the *Licensed Lay Worship Leader/Pulpit Supply Policy* (Appendix E), for approval.

Additional reporting on the Committee on Lay Ministry/Lay Leadership Support can be found in the *Pastoral Relations Minister Report* (Appendix D).

026 – 2021/2022 **It was agreed by consensus:**
That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive accepts the Licensed Lay Worship Leader / Pulpit Supply Policy as submitted by the Committee on Lay Ministry/Lay Leadership Support.

Committee on Ministry Personnel Support Additional reporting on the Committee on Ministry Personnel Support can be found in the *Pastoral Relations Minister Report* (Appendix D).

Justice and Communications Julie Graham submitted a Justice and Communications report (Appendix E) for information.

At the October meeting, Grant Queskepow shared some stories about his experience with residential schools. After further conversation with Julie Graham,

Grant would like to move forward on creating talking and listening circles in Norway House for survivors of residential schools.

We had a discussion on who might bear witness to these stories and agreed this proposal needs further conversation.

Annual Meeting Planning

Shannon called a meeting with the chairpersons of all three regional councils to discuss common issues. One topic they discussed was the balance of virtual and in-person meetings across the three regional councils.

It was agreed that we would begin a three-year cycle of two virtual meetings and one in-person meeting a year, with the in-person meeting rotating between the three regional councils (Living Skies and Northern Spirit).

Diane Dwarka and Pat Bird will suggest a date for the 2022 regional meeting.

The Nominating Committee will be waiting to hear on the date for the 2022 Regional Meeting.

Another thing to consider as we decide on a date and assemble a planning committee is any nominations for Moderator that may arise from this regional council.

Grants Committee

Pat reported submitted a report on *Mission and Support Grant Applications for 2022* (Appendix F).

Four Outreach Ministries have submitted grant applications for the 2022 funding year, we have a budget of \$126,000 to administer, and that total grant requests were \$150,500, the Grants Committee has the following grant recommendations:

	Ask	Recommendation
1JustCity	\$ 130,500	\$ 103,500
Counselling Centre	\$ 10,000	\$ 8,500
Rock Lake United Church Camp	\$ 6,000	\$ 10,000
Wellman Lake United Church Camp	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000
TOTAL	\$ 150,500	\$ 126,000

027 – 2021/2022

**It was agreed by consensus:
 That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive accepts the following
 recommendations of the Grants Committee for 2022 Mission Support Grant
 amounts:**

	Recommendation
1JustCity	\$ 103,500
Counselling Centre	\$ 8,500
Rock Lake United Church Camp	\$ 10,000
Wellman Lake United Church Camp	\$ 4,000
TOTAL	\$ 126,000

Land Acknowledgement

We were joined by Jan Van Aertselaer for our land acknowledgement discussion.

We reviewed the proposed Land Acknowledgement statement for Prairie to Pine Regional Council.

The process in writing the draft land acknowledgement included:

- Including the English and Indigenous spelling of Indigenous communities.
- Including language to acknowledge settler people are part of the colonization of Canada.

We discussed the proposed land acknowledgement statement. There were many concerns about the language used, some of which were:

- The use of the word 'we' which suggests a group of people extending to another, yet who does 'we' include?
- The use of the word 'settler' to describe the entirety of the regional council, yet not everyone within the regional council can be described as 'settler.'
- The importance in using the word 'truth' along with reconciliation.
- If this statement is to be used by anyone within the regional council, the language speaks from the perspective of settler people, and could not be used by newcomers or Indigenous communities.

We thanked M Chorney, Diane Dwarka, and Stewart Hill for tackling the re-writing of the land acknowledgment. Another draft will be submitted in December 2021.

Next Meeting(s)

The Executive agreed to meet on the first Thursday of each month at 4:00 PM with the next meeting dates:

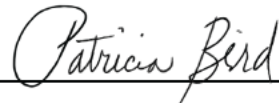
- December 2, 2021

Closing Prayer

Joey Dearborn said a prayer to close the meeting.

Adjournment

Diane Dwarka adjourned the meeting at 6:15 PM.



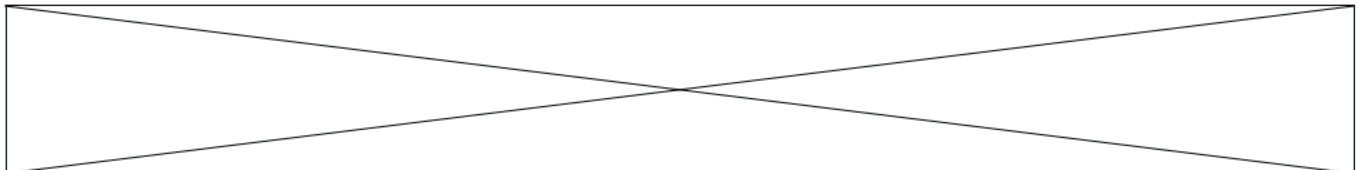
Patricia Bird, Co-Chair



Diane Dwarka, Co-Chair



Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister



PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL
Financial Report September 30, 2021

	From audit stmt 2020	2021	2021
	Actual	Budget	to September 30
GOVERNANCE			
Grants:			
Governance and shared services (from assessments)	325,000	325,000	243,750
GC Ex Minister and Asst Salary Grant	67,000	67,000	50,250
Total grants	392,000	392,000	294,000
Other income Governance	44,794	20,000	18,958
TOTAL GOVERNANCE INCOME	436,794	412,000	312,958
Expenses: Governance			
Office Expenses			
Office rent/maintenance	47,419	42,000	33,891
Caretaker	10,248	11,500	8,993
Office costs (insurance, supplies, phone, wifi etc.)	13,027	12,000	8,998
Shared services General Council	9,383	11,505	11,018
Website	1,128	1,000	1,046
Archive Costs	5,568	4,500	6,770
Audit	10,475	10,330	10,853
	<u>97,248</u>	<u>92,835</u>	<u>81,568</u>
Shared staff costs			
Shared EM, Asst and Finance Staff	88,089	90,027	68,020
Shared staff office (office space, other office costs)	10,074	12,500	3,086
Shared staff travel	1,119	7,000	1,116
	<u>99,281</u>	<u>109,527</u>	<u>72,223</u>
Staffing			
Regional staff - Governance	162,744	166,324	123,741
Staffing related costs	1,565	8,000	952
	<u>164,309</u>	<u>174,324</u>	<u>124,693</u>
Governance: committee and structure			
Regional gathering	8,862	35,000	6,990
All other Governance costs	4,239	30,630	2,839
	<u>13,102</u>	<u>65,630</u>	<u>9,829</u>
TOTAL GOVERNANCE COSTS	373,940	442,316	288,313
Amortization (not recorded monthly)	19,947	20,780	15,585
NET INCOME (LOSS) GOVERNANCE	42,907	(51,096)	9,060
MISSION AND MINISTRY			
Grants			
Other income Mission and Ministry (mostly donations)	289,000	240,000	227,089
	99,745	10,000	12,368
TOTAL MISSION AND MINISTRY INCOME	388,745	250,000	239,457
Expenses Mission and Ministry			
Salaries and benefits	128,667	135,000	101,089
Mission support grants	128,000	126,000	126,000
Affirm membership/other membership	2,100	1,000	1,100
Clusters and events	4,167	16,600	945
Contribution to Winnipeg Free Press	1,305		250
Mission and Ministry committee costs	144	5,000	3,901
TOTAL MISSION AND MINISTRY COSTS	264,382	283,600	233,285
NET INCOME (LOSS) MISSION AND MINISTRY	124,363	(33,600)	6,172
RESTRICTED FUNDS			
Restricted Fund Income	46,933		4,925
Restricted Fund Expenses - Bursaries	(3,168)		(4,000)
NET INCOME RESTRICTED FUNDS	43,766	-	925
NET INCOME (LOSS) ALL FUNDS	211,036	(84,696)	16,157