

**Prairie to Pine Executive Minutes
December 2, 2021 via Zoom**

Present	Pat Bird (Co-chair), Diane Dwarka (Co-chair), Erica Wiebe (Co-chair Elect), Valerie Beckingham (Treasurer), Marissa Smirl (YAAAY), Barbara Brown, James deBeer, M Chorney, Craig Miller. A quorum was present.
Corresponding Members	Jamie Miller (Chair, Equity and Diversity Committee), Betty Kelly (Chair, Nominating Committee), Heather Lea (Committee on Community of Faith Support), Donald Schau (Committee on Lay Ministry Support).
Regrets	Joey Dearborn, 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	Diane Dwarka opened the meeting at 4:00 PM.
Treaty Land Acknowledgement	Diane Dwarka read a Treaty Land Acknowledgement.
Opening Worship	M Chorney read a reflection on harm reduction written through an anti-oppression and anti-racism lens.
Check-In	We checked in by sharing if we enjoy Christmas movies, and if so, which are our favourites.
Agenda	We reviewed the agenda.
028 – 2021/2022	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approve the agenda as distributed.
Approval of Minutes	We reviewed the minutes from October 7, 2021. We will review the minutes from November 4, 2021 at our next meeting.
029 – 2021/2022	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approves the minutes from October 7, 2021, as amended.
BUSINESS ARISING	
Correspondence	There was no correspondence.

REPORTS

Finance

The balance sheet and equity statement were shared for information.

There are some increased costs that came after the 2022 Budget was approved in November. The rent for the new office space was higher than expected and there is an increase in shared staff salaries.

Co-chairs

The co-chairs had nothing to report.

Nominating

Betty Kelly reported.

Nominating has begun to recruit members for the annual meeting planning team by posting to the newsletter and the website. It is hoped that the Executive can soon provide specific dates and times plus general clarification on details such as the balance of business, program, and worship.

Annual nominating recruitment for the 2022/2023 slate of volunteers begins in January. The Nominating Committee suggests that committees include succession planning in their January and February agendas and share that information with the committee.

Nominating also suggests that the Executive include time on the agenda to support and exchange information with our three General Council 44 Commissioners.

Betty Kelly brought forward one name for appointment as a representative to the Winnipeg Free Press Faith Page Advisory Committee.

030 – 2021-2022

It was agreed by consensus:

That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approves the recommendation of the Nominating Committee that TERESA MOYSEY be appointed as the Prairie to Pine representative to the Winnipeg Free Press Faith Page Advisory Committee.

Equity & Diversity

We had a meeting with the affirming ministries which was a really good time to connect and have very rich discussion. People who attended said they would like to meet again.

National Affirming/Pie Day is March 14, 2022. PIE = Public. Intentional. Explicit. This year's theme is "Everyone Gets a Slice!"

Executive Minister's Report

Shannon McCarthy reported.

Office move

The Prairie to Pine regional office is closing at the end of December. Staff are busy packing their offices and helping to sort through what still needs to be packed, what will be tossed, and what we will try to sell or give away.

The movers are scheduled for December 7th and we are having a public open house the following weekend. We are hoping to sell or give away as much as possible to reduce the amount of furniture and supplies to haul out by the end of the month.

Judy Hare and Cherry Abad will each hold office space within the Centre for Christian Studies. Shannon McCarthy and Jamie McKay will now officially work from home.

Office closed for Christmas break

Staff will be out-of-office for Christmas break at varying times beginning on December 9th. The regional office building itself will close and be vacant on or before December 31, 2021.

GC changes

General Council Executive has approved to eliminate the clergy salary schedule, and retain the lay equivalent salary schedule, resulting in an increase in salary for staff who were on the clergy salary schedule.

Vicki Nelson

Vicki Nelson, Stewardship Animator, has been made permanent staff.

Incorporated Ministries

There was nothing to report from incorporated ministries.

PASTORAL RELATIONS

Pastoral Relations Minister

We will hear from the Pastoral Relations Minister at the meeting in January.

Committee on Community of Faith Support

Heather Lea brought forward three proposals for action.

031 – 2021/2022

**It was agreed by consensus:
That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approves the recommendation of the Committee on Community of Faith Support to receive, accept, and prepare to celebrate, at a date yet to be determined, the completed Covenants of Mutual commitment, Accountability and Support with WALLACE PASTORAL CHARGE.**

032 – 2021/2022

**It was agreed by consensus:
That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive, whereas Ochre River United Church has ceased to be an active community of faith and have dispersed their assets, archived their records, and transferred membership as per regional council expectations, approves to disband the OCHRE RIVER UNITED CHURCH community of faith, effective December 31, 2021.**

033 – 2021/2022

**It was agreed by consensus:
That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive, whereas a request has been received from TRANSCONA MEMORIAL UNITED CHURCH and discussed by the**

Committee on Community of Faith Support on Nov. 30th, and whereas Committee concerns were addressed to Shannon McCarthy and responded to by Cynthia Gunn on Dec. 1st, and whereas the congregation would like to act on their request at their annual meeting which may be prior to the next meeting of the Committee on Community of Faith Support, approves Transcona Memorial United Church to take the following actions:

- **To test, between now and the time of their next self-assessment report to the Regional Council, or until their 2022 Annual meeting held in early 2023 (whichever is later), some alternative governance practices related to the filling of vacancies on their governing body; and**
- **That, as part of the experiment, there be provision made to address the concerns raised by the Committee on Community of Faith Support in an email to Jeff Cook on November 30, and by Cynthia Gunn in a December 1 email to Shannon McCarthy; and**
- **That a revised governance document be submitted to Regional Council for approval following the testing period.**

Annual Meeting

We had a discussion on the annual meeting and the annual meeting planning committee.

2022 Annual meeting dates

It was proposed that the 2022 Prairie to Pine Regional Meeting take place on May 6-7, 2022.

Annual meeting planning committee

The Nominating Committee will try to get some of the committee members in place during the Christmas break. A confirmed date and format will help with the recruitment process. It is expected that one co-chair will be part of the planning committee.

Keewatin Circle

We need to contact someone within Keewatin Circle so they are join in the planning.

Rick Hebert is acting as the Community Capacity Development Coordinator. Julie Graham and Betty Kelly can connect with Judy Hare on contacting Rick.

Justice and Communications

Ice art competition

Julie Graham submitted a proposal for *Love Your Neighbour*, a regional council ice and snow art/snow castle competition. The winter-long event is an opportunity for everyone of all ages to have fun, get creative, and do something within their communities. The event will also encourage people to and interact with the regional council by having fun and sharing photos.

The First Nations Child and Family Caring Society of Canada would be happy if we attached their 'Every Child Matters' messaging to this event.

034 – 2021/2022

It was agreed by consensus:

That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approves the proposal, *Love Your*

Neighbour, an ice art competition project to build and hold community.

Intentional Listening Circle

The conversation has started with Grant Queskekapow on beginning an intentional listening circle. We believe this work of right relations and reconciliation will require a longer term of 2-3 years.

Land Acknowledgement

Two land acknowledgement statements were provided for consideration (Appendix A). One statement lists Indigenous communities in their Indigenous language with an English translation, and the other does not name any specific communities.

We had a discussion on which statement to use. We agreed that we preferred the statement that includes Indigenous names out of respect to those communities, but also as a learning opportunity to become familiar with Indigenous language from seeing and reading it aloud.

It is very important to note that the statement remains a living document that can change and grow. We will welcome correction and knowledge from Indigenous people and peoples.

035 – 2021/2022

**It was agreed by consensus:
That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive agrees to use the Land Acknowledgement – Proposed Statement #2 (Appendix A) as its Land Acknowledgement Statement, noting that the statement remains a living document that can change and grow as we do.**

Next Meeting(s)

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


- January 6, 2022

Closing Prayer

M Chorney said a prayer to close the meeting.

Adjournment

Pat Bird adjourned the meeting at 6:10 PM.



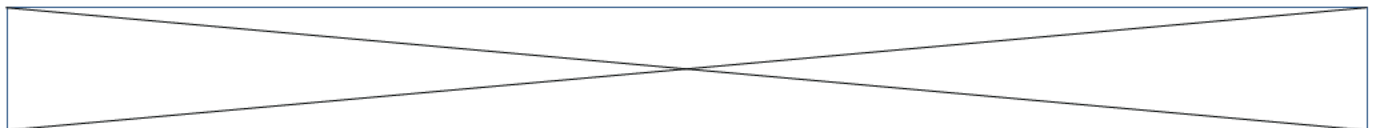
Patricia Bird, Co-Chair



Diane Dwarka, Co-Chair



Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister



Land Acknowledgement - Proposed Statement #1

The Prairie to Pine Regional Council is located on the traditional and ancestral lands of many Indigenous Peoples, including Treaties 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 9; and the homelands of the Metis Nation.

Treaties created relationships between Treaty partners and the agreements that they made were intended to be mutually beneficial. The Treaties are living documents that include all of us and so we are all Treaty People.

As Indigenous and non-Indigenous people who call this land home, we know that the mistakes which are part of our history of colonization have caused deep and lasting harm.

We affirm that the Sovereignty and distinct Nationhood of Indigenous Peoples needs to be upheld and that the sustaining connection to traditional and ancestral lands must support in practical ways this Sovereignty and Nationhood.

We commit ourselves to the truth-telling that needs to continue to happen as we seek reconciliation and healing and as we work toward a better future.

Land Acknowledgement - Proposed Statement #2

The Prairie to Pine people Regional Council is located on lands covered by Treaties 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 9. These are the traditional and ancestral lands of many Indigenous peoples, including Anishinaabeg (Ojibwe/Saulteaux), Nehethowuk (Rocky Cree), Ininiwak (Swampy Cree), Nehiyawak (Plains Cree), Anishinewak (Ojibwe-Cree), Dakota, Dene; and the homelands of the Metis Nation.

Treaties created relationships between Treaty partners and the agreements that they made were intended to be mutually beneficial. The Treaties are living documents that include all of us and so we are all Treaty People.

As Indigenous and non-Indigenous people who call this land home, we know that the mistakes which are part of our history of colonization have caused deep and lasting harm.

We affirm that the Sovereignty and distinct Nationhood of Indigenous Peoples needs to be upheld and that the sustaining connection to traditional and ancestral lands must support in practical ways this Sovereignty and Nationhood.

We commit ourselves to the truth-telling that needs to continue to happen as we seek reconciliation and healing and as we work toward a better future.