

**Prairie to Pine Executive Minutes**  
**April 7, 2022 via Zoom**

- Present** Pat Bird (Co-chair), Diane Dwarka (Co-chair), Erica Wiebe (Co-chair Elect), Valerie Beckingham (Treasurer), Craig Miller.
- A quorum was present.
- Corresponding Members** Betty Kelly (Chair, Nominating Committee), Heather Lea (Committee on Community of Faith Support), Donald Schau (Committee on Ministry Personnel Support), Emma Seamone (Chair, Equity and Diversity).
- Regrets** Joey Dearborn, James DeBeer, Julia Antonyshyn (YAAY), Marissa Smirl (YAAY), Grant Queskekapow.
- Staff Present** Shannon McCarthy (Executive Minister), Judy Hare (Pastoral Relations Minister), Heather Dootoff (Finance Administrator), Jamie Mckay (Executive Assistant & Recording Secretary).
- Call to Order** Pat Bird opened the meeting at 4:00 PM.
- Resignation** Barbara Brown submitted her resignation. The Executive thanks Barbara for the work she has done for the regional council.
- Land Acknowledgement** As we change in our work and understanding of justice and being in right relations, Diane Dwarka read the following Treaty Land Acknowledgement:
- “Prairie to Pine 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), Anishininewak (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 they 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.”*

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| <b>Opening Worship</b>                  | Erica Wiebe read a reflection.   |
| <b>Check-In</b>                         | We checked in by sharing if we have ever experienced what seemed to us to be divine intervention.  |
| <b>Agenda</b>                           | We reviewed the agenda.  |
| <b>049 – 2021/2022</b>                  | <b>It was agreed by consensus:<br/>That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approves the agenda as distributed.</b>   |
| <b>Approval of Minutes</b>              | We reviewed the minutes from March 3, 2022.  |
| <b>050 – 2021/2022</b>                  | <b>It was agreed by consensus:<br/>That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approves the minutes of March 3, 2022, as distributed.</b>  |
| <b>BUSINESS ARISING</b>                 |  |
| <b>Correspondence</b>                   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Resignation from Barbara Brown</li></ul>   |
| <b>REPORTS</b>                          |  |
| <b>Finance</b>                          | <p>Heather Dootoff reported.</p> <p>We received a draft copy of the audit but there are a few lines we need clarification on. We will share the final copy after we have answers to the questions we asked.</p> <p>Since there may not be enough time to call an additional Executive meeting before the regional meeting in May, we agreed to hold an email vote to accept the final draft of the 2021 Audit.</p> <p>We are still waiting to receive new financial information from General Council for 2022, so there is update to the financial statements.</p> |
| <b>Nominating Committee</b>             | <p>A Nominating Report was submitted for information.</p> <p>Betty Kelly has finished her role as Chair of the Nominating Committee. Joey Dearborn will be stepping in as Chair and Betty will continue for one more year as Past Chair.</p> <p>The Executive expressed thanks and appreciation to Betty Kelly for all the work she has done as Chair of the Nominating Committee.</p>   |
| <b>Equity &amp; Diversity Committee</b> | <p>There was nothing to report from the Equity and Diversity Committee.</p> <p>Diane Dwarka assumed the chair.</p>   |

**Annual Meeting Planning**

Emma Seamone reported.

The Annual Meeting Planning Committee has decided on the theme of Remembering, Reconnecting, and Revisioning. The committee envisions a time to talk, reconnect, and revision. The meeting will be short, beginning Friday evening and finishing Saturday afternoon. Currently, 80 people have registered.

The committee has been meeting bi-weekly for the last couple of months and will continue to do so until the regional meeting at the end of May.

*2023 regional meeting location*

The 2023 regional meeting is planned to be in-person and will likely be Winnipeg during the first weekend in June.

We noted that we want to make sure the date we set for the 2023 regional meeting will not overlap with the Indigenous Ministries Spiritual Gathering.

Pat Bird resumed the chair.

**Executive Minister's Report**

Shannon McCarthy reported.

*Strategic plan*

The Executive Ministers are assigned to teams at General Council to work on the strategic plan. Right now, they are at the point where they have begun to bring in other staff to help sort out what pieces will be a priority.

*Tri-regional staff meeting*

Staff from the three regional councils met with staff from Church in Mission. The goal was to get to know other staff, their roles, and how to connect staff of all levels with congregations.

*Traveling again*

Travel has slowly started again. Executive Ministers are meeting after Easter to re-write job descriptions for consistency and format.

**Incorporated Ministries**

There was nothing new from incorporated ministries.

**PASTORAL RELATIONS**

Judy Hare reported.

There will be one Celebration of Ministry event with the potential of two admittands and one ordinand. The planned date is June 26<sup>th</sup> at Knox United Church in Kenora, Ontario.

Our first arrangement of collaborative ministry for Indigenous Ministries is finally in place. We hope to get approval for what we are calling the Northwest Keewatin Circle Ministry Sharing Arrangement. It will involve Nelson House, South Indian Lake, and Thompson Outreach and will provide full-time equivalent employment for one minister Indigenous minister.

There are several staff changes in ministry and employment. There are events coming up with ministry personnel and pastoral charge supervisors which are in the Events addition of the Weekly News.

**Committee on  
Community of Faith  
Support**

Heather Lea reported.

Two congregations, Kildonan in Winnipeg and Central in Brandon, will be having their final worship services a week after Easter. Kildonan is on Sat. April 23 at 2 p.m. and Central is on Sun. April 24<sup>th</sup> at 3 p.m. At Kildonan, masks and proof of full vaccination may still be required. Central has given no indication of any Covid-related expectations.

Both buildings have been sold and the Committee on Community of Faith Support will bring proposals about disbanding once the congregations have completed their necessary work.

Heather Lea submitted two proposals.

**051 – 2021/2022**

**It was agreed by consensus:**

**That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive accepts the recommendation from the Committee on Community of Faith Support that Prairie to Pine Regional Council receive, accept, and prepare to celebrate at the regional council meeting on May 6-7, 2022, the complete Covenants of Mutual Commitment, Accountability and Support with the following Community of Faith:**

- **Emmanuel Church, Ignace – a shared Anglican and United Community of Faith**

**052 – 2021/2022**

**It was agreed by consensus:**

**That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive accepts the recommendation from the Committee on Community of Faith Support that Prairie to Pine Regional Council receive, accept, and celebrate on May 7<sup>th</sup> the Covenant of Mutual Commitment, Accountability and Support with ANOLA PASTORAL CHARGE, subject to receipt of additional governance structure information by the Committee on Community of Faith prior to that date.**

**Justice &  
Communications**

There was nothing to report from Justice and Communications. We will hear from Julie Graham after the regional meeting.

**Knox United Church in  
Emo**

We received an application for an Ontario grant from Knox United Church in Emo, Ontario. We provided them with proof of insurance and a letter that the General Council gives to congregations when they need letters of incorporation.

Knox United Church also requested a motion from the regional council to approve the grant to cover coverage expenses, if needed. The Property Commission is also aware of the request.

**053 – 2021/2022**

**It was agreed by consensus:**

**That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approves the grant application made by Knox United Church in Emo, Ontario, and agrees to cover any related coverage expenses, if needed.**

**Structure document**

Pat Bird reported.

The structure document will not be ready for the regional meeting in May, but it's realistic that it will be ready for use starting in September 2022. The outstanding pieces have been identified and the task group is working on getting those in.

Once the regional meeting is finished, Julie Graham has offered to help get the document into a standardized format.

**Norway House Survivor's Circle**

Diane Dwarka, Pat Bird, Irene Greenwood, and Julie Graham continue to work on setting up a listening circle for Norway House residential school survivors. It will be a long process but work will continue.

**ACTION FOR NEXT MEETING**

**We need to name a local signer in Regina to replace Tricia Gerhard, who is moving to Winnipeg.**

**Next Meeting(s)**

The next meeting of the Executive will be following the regional meeting and decided by the incoming Executive members.

**Closing Prayer**

Erica Wiebe said a prayer to close the meeting.

**Adjournment**

Diane Dwarka adjourned the meeting at 5:23 PM.

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Patricia Bird, Co-Chair

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Diane Dwarka, Co-Chair

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Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister

