

**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), 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 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.”*

- Opening Worship** Erica Wiebe read a reflection.
- Check-In** We checked in by sharing if we have ever experienced what seemed to us to be divine intervention.
- Agenda** We reviewed the agenda.
- 049 – 2021/2022** **It was agreed by consensus:
That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approves the agenda as distributed.**
- Approval of Minutes** We reviewed the minutes from March 3, 2022.
- 050 – 2021/2022** **It was agreed by consensus:
That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approves the minutes of March 3, 2022, as distributed.**

BUSINESS ARISING

- Correspondence**
- Resignation from Barbara Brown

REPORTS

- Finance** Heather Dootoff reported.
- 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.
- 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.
- We are still waiting to receive new financial information from General Council for 2022, so there is update to the financial statements.
- Nominating Committee** A Nominating Report was submitted for information.
- 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.
- The Executive expressed thanks and appreciation to Betty Kelly for all the work she has done as Chair of the Nominating Committee.
- Equity & Diversity Committee** There was nothing to report from the Equity and Diversity Committee.
- Diane Dwarka assumed the chair.

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 26th 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 24th 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 7th 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 overage 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.



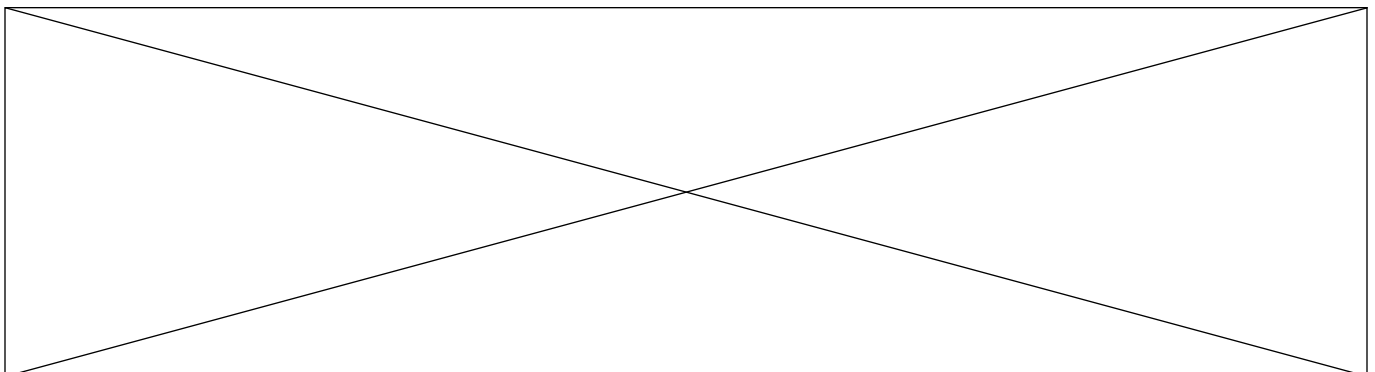
Patricia Bird, Co-Chair



Diane Dwarka, Co-Chair



Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister



April 7, 2022 P2P Nominating Report to Executive

P2P Nominating Committee met March 15 and April 5, 2022, and forwards the following items to the P2P Executive for their information.

There are NO Proposals that requires approval by the P2P Executive at this meeting:

For Information And Consideration Only:

Yearly Recruitment for the vacancies due to people completing their terms at the rise of the annual meeting, and filling vacant positions is in its very final stages. The full slate will be submitted in the workbook for approval at the Annual Meeting.

What we did:

- We checked with each person whose term is expiring on a committee to get their feedback and to ask if they wish to let their name stand for a second 2 year term. If necessary, we sent a second reminder.
- We sent an email to each person who attended last year's annual meeting, encouraging people to volunteer for a committee that they would find interesting and rewarding, and to encourage others to share their gifts as well.
- We made a second personal email contact to approx. 90 of Prairie to Pine members, again encouraging them to consider volunteering, often to a specific committee.
- Additional specific contacts were made to about a dozen members.
- We have continually stressed that balance and diversity is important.

What we heard:

- Many people shared that they are tired, that returning to in person worship and work is more exhausting that they anticipated, that they are already volunteering outside of their local congregation, that maybe in a year or two, that they miss connecting at in person annual meetings, and at the former Presbyteries.
- BUT 7 more individuals have put their names forward to be part of the Regional work, and many people have said they enjoy the work from their first term and are pleased to continue for another term. Overall, the slate of regional volunteers for the coming year is strong. We have been less successful achieving balance.

What happens next:

- The Regional slate will be sent to Cherry Abad for the workbook on early next week. There are still vacant spots, but fewer than in previous years.

- We don't intend to take nominations from the floor of the Annual Meeting but will continue to encourage people to fill out the nominating form if they are interested in a position. Our next Nominating committee meeting is scheduled for June 7, and we will consider any further names at that time. These names will then come to the Executive for approval.
- The Annual meeting planning committee for 2023 is already being listed in our current recruitment bulletins and will be a priority.
- We encourage the Co-chairs and the current annual meeting planning team to 'talk it up' this work and encourage people to volunteer during the annual meeting. With the widespread interest in a face-to-face meeting, we are hopeful.

Finally, I am pleased to let you know that Joey Dearborn will be stepping into the Chair of the Nominating committee. Joey will be attending Executive meetings as the Chair of Nominating after the annual meeting.

I have appreciated the opportunity to attend P2P Executive meetings as a corresponding member for these past several years. Each member of Executive is clearly committed to making decisions that will strengthen and benefit the full region. On behalf of Nominating, I send a collective thank you for all you do, it is important work.

Submitted by
Betty Kelly

On behalf of the P2P Nominating Committee:

Teresa Melnychuk Joey Dearborn Frances Flook
Anna Stewart Betty Kelly

**Report of Committee on Community of Faith Support to Prairie to Pine Regional
Council Executive,**

April 7, 2022

The Committee on Community of Faith Support has received and reviewed the following Covenant and presents this proposal:

That Prairie to Pine Regional Council receive, accept, and celebrate at the Regional Council meeting on May 7, 2022, the completed Covenant of Mutual Commitment, Accountability and Support between the Prairie to Pine Regional Council and **Emmanuel Church, Ignace, a Shared Anglican & United Community of Faith**, and

That the Regional Council receive, accept, and celebrate on May 7th 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 Support prior to that date.

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 24th 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 CCFS will bring proposals about disbanding once the congregations have completed their necessary work.

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April 6, 2022

To Whom it May Concern:

**Re: Letter of Good Standing
Knox United Church, Emo, ON
BN 107303679 RR 0001**

I write to confirm that Knox United Church, BN 107303679 RR 0001, part of Emo-Devlin Patoral Charge, is a long standing congregation of The United Church of Canada as provided for in The United Church of Canada Act of 1925 <https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/42-1/bill/S-1003/third-reading>. The related updates to The United Church of Canada Act were ratified by Parliament on April 2, 2019 (<https://www.parl.ca/DocumentViewer/en/42-1/bill/S-1003/royal-assent>).

Knox United Church is governed by the provisions of that act, and is in good standing with the United Church of Canada.

Our congregations are bound by the bylaws of The United Church of Canada found in The Manual <https://united-church.ca/sites/default/files/2021-12/the-manual-2022.pdf>. The same documents outline the role of church trustees who are duly authorized under The United Church of Canada Act to deal with real property and financial matters as set out in The Manual. Lending authority is set out in section G.4.2.3

Pursuant to The United Church of Canada Act of 1925, the church property is owned by Knox United Church for so long as it exists as a congregation of The United Church of Canada and in the event of dissolution, the property would revert to The United Church of Canada. Title is held in the name of the Trustees of Knox United Church who are duly authorized to deal with property matters as set out in The Manual.

Government bodies and financial institutions often assume that our churches will have their own governing documents. This is often not the case. Virtually all United Church congregations are not incorporated and consequently often do not have letters patent and some of the usual documentation expected of incorporated bodies. Our churches are internal divisions of the national incorporated body but maintain individual charitable status.

I hope this confirmation is sufficient to support their application for assistance. If you have questions, please contact me at emathiesen@united-church.ca or 416-231-7680 x4022.

Yours sincerely,

Erik Mathiesen
Chief Financial Officer,
The United Church of Canada