

**Prairie to Pine Executive Minutes
October 4, 2022 via Zoom**

Present	Pat Bird (Co-chair), Erica Wiebe (Co-chair), Diane Dwarka (Past Co-chair), James deBeer, M Chorney, George Meggison (YAAY),
Corresponding Members	Heather Lea (Community of Faith Support), Don Schau (Lay Leadership Support), Julia Antonyshyn (YAAY), Joey Dearborn (Nominating), Lilja Best (YAAY).
Regrets	Grant Qeskekapow, Craig Miller, Tammy Bleue
Staff Present	Shannon McCarthy (Executive Minister), Julie Graham (Communications & Justice Minister), Heather Dootoff (Finance Administrator), Judy Hare (Pastoral Relations Minister)
Call to Order	Erica Wiebe called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm and led us in our Land Acknowledgment. Erica Wiebe led our opening reflection and prayer.
Agenda	We reviewed the agenda as distributed.
Minutes 015– 2022/2023	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approve the September 6, 2022 minutes as distributed.
BUSINESS ARISING	
Treasurer	Nominations hasn't found anyone yet. Encourage people to look for people that you think would be good. Important position, so any leads please pass them on to Nomination.
Free Press advisory board	We still need to connect with Teresa Moysey to see if this is worth the amount we put in the budget. Julie spoke to Teresa, she hasn't been to a meeting of the full group, they don't meet very often. Teresa indicated that she will contact Julie once they have a meeting. Elizabeth Brown is also there as a Congregational representative and raised some concerns.
Structure Document	The document was shared with everyone last meeting. Are people ready for it to be approved? Pat will check with each of the committees/commissions to see if it accurately reflects their basic structure. The Structure document committee will meet again to clarify the purpose of the document and if there are further documents needed.
NEW BUSINESS	
Draft Budget	Heather Dootoff reported:

We reviewed the draft budget. Still not clear on what the cost of living increase will be, 3.2% or 3.4%. The current travel rate for Regional Council work is \$0.30 per km. The General Council rate is going to be \$0.55 in 2023.

Mission Support

The Mission Support Grant Committee members received grant applications from 5 applicants for the 2023 funding period.

All applications were from groups we have funded in previous years and almost all have asked for funding similar to previous years. Our struggle this year was 1Just City's application, which had a significantly higher funding request due to rising staffing needs.

West Broadway Community Ministry has recently come under the Incorporated umbrella of 1Just City administration.

Our budget for each funding year has stayed fairly consistently at \$126,000. This does not allow us to increase funding to any applicants without taking away from others.

After much discussion, our recommendation to the Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive is:

- 1) That the funding budget be increased to \$129,000
- 2) That funds be awarded to each applicant in these amounts:
 - Rock Lake Camp \$ 5,500
 - Wellman Lake Camp \$ 4,000
 - The Counselling Centre \$ 8,000
 - Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre \$ 1,500
 - 1Just City \$110,000

Respectfully submitted Anna Stewart, Anne Duncan, Joan Neumann, Pat Bird

016-2022/2023

It was agreed by consensus:

That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approve that the Mission Support amount for 2023 be \$129, 000.

017-2022/2023

It was agreed by consensus:

That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approve the Mission Support grants as follows:

- Rock Lake Camp \$ 5,500**
- Wellman Lake Camp \$ 4,000**
- The Counselling Centre \$ 8,000**
- Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre \$ 1,500**
- 1Just City \$110,000**

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Co-Chairs report

Erica and Diane attended the service of remembrance for the Queen at the Anglican Cathedral on behalf of the Regional Council. There was a smudge outside of the church by an Indigenous Elder. They asked one of the Chiefs to do the opening remarks and land acknowledgement.

Nominations

Is working on filling a variety of vacancies, will hopefully have names for November

Community of Faith Support

Heather received an invitation from a United/Anglican shared ministry in Neepawa to bring greetings. Is anyone interested in attending on behalf of the Regional Council? Pat Bird is interested in attending with Heather.

Equity & Diversity

The Equity and Diversity Committee has not yet been able to meet this fall; chair Jamie Miller has had to temporarily step back for health reasons, and Cathey Day has stepped in. They hope to meet mid October.

YAAY

Yaay had their first in person meeting since Covid began. Planning is happening for the Alf meeting.

Sharing Across Cultures retreat happened for BIPOC youth, there were about 20 participants. Cultural games, food from five different cultures was shared. Youth learned how to prepare the food and then they ate it for meals. There were cultural dancing and drumming. It is hoped that we can have another event again next year.

Lilja attended the World Council of Churches Assembly as a steward. It was an exciting and interesting experience. Connected with a lot of youth from around the world.

STAFF REPORTS

Executive Minister

Shannon McCarthy reported:

A Tri-Regional Staff Gathering happened in September. It was good to have all the staff in one place and to talk about some larger vision pieces.

Shannon also attended an Executive Minister's gather and the Senior Leaders gathering in Toronto.

The job posting for Shannon's admin support position is posted and closes towards the end of October.

Pastoral Relations Minister

Judy Hare reported:

Our Regional Council has a new OV Minister: Laura Fohse

We currently have a high number of retired ministers who are palliative or have died recently.

Sending out information about gathering together to active ministry personnel and retired personnel to see if they would like to gather, despite ongoing pandemic.

Shifted to online training for search committees.

Currently have 8 churches in the city of Winnipeg searching for Ministry Personnel.

Pastoral Relations Ministers are gathering in Montreal in November. Looking forward to connecting. One of the areas of particular focus is regarding the Admissions process.

**Justice &
Communications
Minister**

Julie Graham reported:

The Canadian Press has distributed a [helpful article from the Brandon Sun](#) on recent education work on the Brandon Indian Residential School, and related community education work in Winnipeg. It's an important reminder of the travelling exhibit offered by United Church members in Brandon. We will post an update on continuing work in Brandon in the next newsletter.

Norway House has begun the process of [searching for unmarked burials](#) on the grounds of [the former United Church-run residential "school"](#) and it would be important for the Region to contact Grant Queskekapow and perhaps members of the congregation to see how they are. Agreed that Pat and Diane will call.

The survivors circle requested by Grant last October has not met because the process is on hold. However, if a date that works for Grant can be found, they will meet as a Regional / non-Indigenous group to get to know each other and meet Grant this fall.

Adjournment

Erica closed the meeting with prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 7:40

Next meeting is November 1st.



Patricia Bird, Co-Chair



Erica Wiebe, Co-Chair



Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister