



**PRAIRIE TO PINE
REGIONAL COUNCIL**
The United Church of Canada



2026 ANNUAL MEETING

**May 28-31, 2026
Selkirk United Church
202 McLean Ave, Selkirk, MB**

<https://prairietopinerc.ca/>

60 Maryland Street, Winnipeg, MB R3G 1K7

IN MEMORIAM . . . *those who have served as ministry personnel*

Rev. Norman Velnes

November 22, 2024

Edie Joan Crossley

(President of the former Conf. of MNWO,
1996-1997)

December 16, 2024

Rev. James (Jim) Penhale

December 19, 2024

Elaine Sue Obee

(Audio Visual Education Library (AVEL)
Resource Librarian of the former
Conf. of MNWO)

March 30, 2025

Rev. Leslie Joan Poulin

(Minister with Morris Rosenfeld ESM,
E.L.C.I.C. and UCC)

May 2, 2025

Rev. Jack Alexander Busby

April 27, 2025

Rev. Alan Armstrong

June 10, 2025

Rev. Ross Bruleigh

October 7, 2025

Rev. Jerry South

January 29, 2026

Rev. Robert Paul Hamlin

January 30, 2026

Rev. Jean Carruthers

March 3, 2026

Rev. Harvey Hurren

March 23, 2026

Rev. Virginia (Ginny) Coleman

(General Secretary of the General Council
(Fall of 1994-2002); Exec. Secretary of the former
Conf. of MNWO (Sept. 2002-Feb. 2005)

April 3, 2026

Rev. John Thompson

April 30, 2026

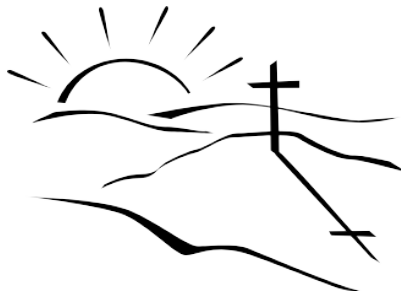


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8th ANNUAL PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING ENABLING MOTIONS

1. **Roll of Regional Council:** that the Roll of the Regional Council for the purposes of the 8th Annual Regional Council meeting be:
 - i. the members of the Order of Ministry within the bounds served by the regional council; and
 - ii. Other ministry personnel in a covenantal relationship with a community of faith within the bounds of the regional council
 - iii. Lay members of the regional council are members of the United Church who are not ministry personnel and who are elected by communities of faith. (Manual 2026, C.1.1 and C.1.2)
 - iv. members-at-large, lay members within the Regional Council who have been appointed members as necessary for the work of the Regional Council by the Regional Council Executive and who have not been elected by their community of faith.
2. **Corresponding Members:** that all invited guests, registered visitors, and staff be corresponding members of this regional council meeting, with voice but no vote.
3. **The Bounds of the Council:** that the Bounds of the Regional Council meeting be the virtual meeting room and the telephone connections to that meeting space.
4. **Minimum Number of Members at Meetings:** The regional council may meet only if a minimum number of members is present. If there are 60 or more members, at least 20 members must be present; and there must be at least one ministry personnel and one lay member who is not ministry personnel present. Corresponding members are not counted for this purpose. (Manual 2026; C.4.3)
5. **Limits to Debate:** that without the permission of the Council, no member shall speak more than once on any proposal or amendment; and that speeches be limited to two minutes per person on each proposal, except at the discretion of the President.
6. **Agenda Committee:** that the Agenda Committee for this Regional Council meeting be the members of the Regional Council Meeting Planning Committee, plus one person designated as Parliamentarian.
7. **Rules of Debate and Order:** that the rules of debate and order for Parliamentary debate be those spelled out in Appendix of The Manual 2026 (pages 192-195); and that any point not covered in such Appendix, the parliamentary rules accepted in Canada (Bourinot) shall be followed.
8. **Unfinished Business:** that unfinished business be referred to the Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive.
9. **Minutes:** that the Minutes of the 7th Annual Meeting of the Prairie to Pine Regional Council be approved as distributed in the online workbook.
10. **Reports:** that the verbal and written reports be accepted as presented.
11. **Proposals:** that proposals that are received and edited prior to the Docket deadline will be included in the Docket. Proposals that have not been received and edited prior to the Docket deadline will be referred to the Executive for decision-making.
12. **Budget Implications:** All motions having significant budget implications for the Region (defined as \$2000 or over) shall be considered “in principle only” and, if adopted, be referred to the Executive for consideration within adopted budgetary constraints.

A WHOLE PEOPLE'S COVENANT

Each of us comes as a pilgrim to this gathering of siblings in Christ. Each of us comes with our own cultural values, assumptions, and world views. Each one of us, and the cultures we represent, are God's living letters of faith, hope, love, and beauty. Therefore, we embrace the following Christian virtues that honour God and promote right relationship between us as we gather together and learn from one another:

We promise to relate to one another with

- respect;
- humility;
- patience;
- open-mindedness;
- courage; and
- the spirit of grace and forgiveness we have received in Christ Jesus.

We acknowledge the land that we stand upon by

- remembering that Indigenous peoples have walked these paths;
- understanding that we are one part of God's creation; and
- honouring future generations by preserving this land as they find their own paths.

In our Christian love for one another we will

- invite the Spirit into both our worship and business;
- attend to others with our whole selves: our physical senses, intuition, imagination, and intellect;
- speak for ourselves in the spirit of truth and gentleness, avoiding unhelpful generalizations and racial stereotypes;
- not interrupt when others are speaking;
- be mindful of language that is not inclusive;
- affirm the deep wisdom of silence and pause, as necessary, to ponder what others have said;
- seek to understand rather than win arguments and assume best intentions;
- hold our beliefs and opinions lightly; and
- hold one another in prayer.

Today this pilgrimage will lead us to becoming a whole people. With God's help, I will leave behind what I must to make this journey. Thanks be to God.

HOLY MANNERS

The Very Reverend Marion Pardy introduced Holy Manners as a resource for the 38th General Council 2003. Holy Manners has been used as resource for the conduct of meetings by subsequent General Councils and their executives. It has been adapted here for use as a resource by all councils and church bodies.

We will

- keep God at the centre of everything we do;
 - each speak for ourselves;
 - speak for a purpose;
 - separate people from problems;
 - allow for full and equitable participation;
 - attend to others carefully without interruption;
 - welcome the conflict of ideas;
 - take a future orientation;
 - demonstrate appreciation;
 - honour the decisions of the body;
 - commit to holding one another to account when we do not keep our holy manners;
 - keep the discussion at the table;
 - be mindful of our body language;
 - check in about good use of time;
 - allow the quiet people to speak, with an invitation to speak; and
 - sincerely say what we really feel.
-

MEETING PROCEDURES

*(Numbering in this section is from the 2026 Manual Appendix pg. 192-193
and only includes sections relevant to this meeting)*

3.1 The Chair

The chair keeps a meeting of the council on track and may make rulings on procedure and the conduct of the meeting.

All members must be able to participate fully and comfortably.

Every voting member makes decisions on the basis of their own understanding of scripture and of the ethos of the United Church, in the light of Christian experience, and under the guidance of the Holy Spirit at work in the meeting of the council.

Any member of the council may bring to the attention of the chair any concerns about how a motion is being dealt with.

When an agenda has been adopted that specifies the time for particular items, such time shall be strictly adhered to, unless the council decides otherwise by a 2/3 majority of those voting.

The chair does not participate in the discussion or vote except in the case of a tie. If the chair wants to express an opinion, then they move aside from the role and ask another member to chair until the matter is disposed of.

3.2 How to Conduct a Meeting

3.2.1 Process

A council may set its own process for conducting business. If the council has not set its own process, it follows the parliamentary rules accepted in Canada (Bourinot's Rules).

3.2.2 Motions

A council may only pass motions for which it has the authority and which do not contradict the decision of a higher council.

A motion contradicting a motion already passed at the same meeting is out of order, unless it is a motion to reconsider.

3.2.3 Challenging Rulings

A voting member may challenge a ruling of the chair at the time the ruling is made. The chair restates the ruling and may give reasons. The secretary then calls the vote without any discussion on whether the chair's ruling is sustained.

3.3 How to Amend a Motion

When a motion has been made and is open for discussion, any motion to amend must be dealt with before dealing with the original motion.

When all motions to amend have been dealt with, the council may deal with the final form of the original motion.

Any voting member, except the mover and seconder of the original motion, may make a motion to amend the original motion.

A motion to amend fails if there is no seconder.

A motion to amend may not change the intention of the original motion.

A separate vote must be taken for each motion to amend.

3.5 Motions That Interrupt the Meeting

At any time during a meeting, any voting member may make a motion to

- a) close discussion without a vote on the motion;
- b) fix the time to adjourn;
- c) adjourn;
- d) take an immediate vote (2/3 vote required);
- e) limit or extend limits of discussion (2/3 vote required);
- f) postpone discussion and decision on the motion to a definite time;
- g) refer the motion to another body or commission;
- h) amend/change the motion; or
- i) postpone discussion and decision on the motion indefinitely (without a specified time).

An original motion may be interrupted by any of the above motions.

While these motions are being dealt with, they may only be interrupted by a motion above it in the list.

3.6 How to Reconsider a Motion

A motion to reconsider a motion already passed may be made if no motion is under consideration. A motion to reconsider has the same priority as the motion to be reconsidered.

Only a voting member who voted “yes” for the original motion may move the motion to reconsider. This motion must be seconded by a voting member.

A motion to reconsider in an ongoing meeting must be approved by 2/3 of the voting members present.

The revised motion may be reconsidered if a motion is changed on reconsideration and passed.

A motion on which action has been taken may not be reconsidered.

3.7 Additional Procedures

In any point not covered in The Manual, the parliamentary rules accepted in Canada (Bourinot’s Rules) will be followed.

OTHER:

Divide a Motion (seriatim)	This is a request to vote on a motion in parts rather than in total. A seconder is required. If two persons ask, the chairperson <u>must</u> grant the request.
Point of Information	Any person can go to a microphone, interrupt debate and ask for information. For example, "What page is this on?" or "Who is speaking?".
Point of Order	Any person can interrupt to challenge or question procedures. For example, "We didn't vote", or "President, we are debating this motion to table and we shouldn't be."
Point of Privilege	Any person can interrupt debate to raise point of privilege. For example, "Our table group doesn't have copies of this motion" or "Could you please repeat the motion, I didn't hear it."

BASIC RULES for DEBATE on PROPOSALS

1. Prior to the Regional Council Meeting, proposals are received for information and consultation by the Regional Council Meeting Planning Committee. The Committee may make editorial suggestions to the proposing body to promote accurate understanding of the proposal by the people at the Regional Council Meeting. The Committee will communicate these suggestions to the proposing body and the proposing body may, or may not, take the suggestions.

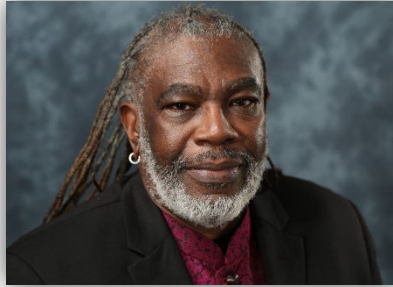
Proposals that are received and edited prior to the Workbook deadline will be included in the Workbook (ROP Volume I). Proposals that have not been received and edited prior to the Workbook deadline will be provided in written form at the Regional Council Meeting.

The proposals will be available in a variety of ways: typed hard copy, via screen sharing, and read aloud at the time of decision-making.

Due to limitations of electronic online meetings any proposals received during the meeting or prior to the listening session one week prior to the meeting will be automatically referred to the Regional Council Executive.

2. All proposals will be presented in the following manner:
 - i. The Convenor will indicate which proposal is being dealt with.
 - ii. A representative from the proposing body will be given 3 minutes to present the 'issue' described in the proposal and their proposed action to address the issue (Listening).
 - iii. Questions for clarification only may be asked at this time.
 - iv. All proposals will be 'Listened to' before discussion happens.

THE GENERAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE and GENERAL COUNCIL OFFICE



Rev. Michael Blair
General Secretary, The United Church of Canada

On behalf of the Moderator, the Executive of the General Council and the General Council Office, it is my pleasure to share some of the highlights of the ministry of the administrative work of the Church.

Towards 2035

The 45th General Council Executive, in November 2025, approved a 10-year strategic direction describing a preferred future –

In 2035: In The United Church of Canada, inspired, resilient, and diverse contextual communities of disciples seek to continue the story of Jesus by embodying Christ's presence in the world. The church is present and deeply connected, coast-to-coast-to-coast in rural and urban settings, and in ecumenical and global relationships. Guided by hope-filled, adaptive, and effective ministry leaders, the denomination is increasingly multigenerational, multiracial, and intercultural.

In the broadest of terms, and in diverse expressions across the country, inspired communities embody all aspects of the denominational Call: Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, and Daring Justice. Resilient communities have sufficient stability and sustainability to prevent them from being just one or two crises away from closure. There is a sense of having and being “enough.”

This whole church initiative has become the priority for both national and regional ministry.

The goal of Toward 2035 as a whole church conversation is to orient the collective imagination of The United Church of Canada towards a future that we may join in co-creating, with “God who has created and is creating” and who “has called [us] to witness in love and justice to the liberating, healing Christ risen in this place and time.” Toward 2035 leads us to a hope-filled strategy for a bolder future.

GCO and Regional Council staff and Executive Ministers, and leaders have begun to engage and collaborate around the Toward 2035 (T2035) strategic direction and its priority initiatives. The implementation of the initiatives will begin in 2035.

We encourage you to engage the resources that have been provided and participate in following God in God's call to be a transforming presence in the world.

The Church we are becoming:

Reconciliation Toward 2035

The National Indigenous Elders Council (NIEC) has approved a new Reconciliation plan for 2026-2028, including some exciting educational and public witness events in April and May. On May 14, communities of faith across the country are invited to take a stance for justice and against racism by participating in the [Moose Hide Campaign](#), mobilizing against the ongoing national crisis of violence facing Indigenous women, girls, and 2S-LGBTQIA+ people. You can [learn more](#) about virtual and local events, marches and fasts across the country.

Leadership Counts

The church's continued equity commitments are at a time when broader conversations around diversity, equity and inclusion (DEI) have been under attack. As corporations and other institutions cancel their DEI initiatives, or scale them back dramatically, it is becoming clear that engaged work on equity and diversity in church and society is essential.

In this context, the end-of-term [Leadership Counts](#) is now available. Leadership Counts is an ongoing voluntary identity survey for ministry personnel and members of denominational committees. It is based on the United Church's equity commitments. Designed to inform the United Church's strategic plan and anti-oppression work, it reveals the diverse identities of people in leadership roles. This data can help the church consider how it can meet its equity commitments more effectively.

Since the mid-term report was released in 2023, the Leadership Counts staff team held conversations with several groups, gaining insight from data specific to those groups. The report compares identity data from the Leadership Counts surveys and the 2021 Canadian Census. For example, 41% of committee members hold one or more equity identities. For ministry personnel respondents, 46% identify as women (cis & trans), 39% identify as men (cis & trans), and 2% identify as non-binary or gender-queer (no data available for the remaining 12%).

Becoming an Intercultural Church

As part of the 20th anniversary of the church's commitment to becoming an intercultural church, we are [offering a course](#) in partnership with the Rev. Dr. Hyuk Cho (VST). This will be an excellent space for to explore intercultural engagement, diversity, theology and what this might mean for their local churches!

Centennial Legacy Campaign

As part of the centennial celebrations in partnership with the United Church of Canada Foundation, we launched [a legacy campaign](#); we celebrate that, to date, more than \$19M in has been pledged for communities of faith.

Kairos Palestine II – A Moment of Truth: Faith in a Time of Genocide

In February, the Executive of the General Council endorsed Kairos Palestine's [challenge](#) to the global church representing the call and the cry of Palestinian Christians, who are "living in a time of genocide, ethnic cleansing, settler colonialism and forced displacement." United Church of Canada people,

Communities of Faith and theological schools are urged to engage with Kairos Palestine II for action. [Read the full manifesto](#) on Kairos Palestine's website.

46th General Council

The 46th General Council will be hosted by Horseshoe Falls Regional Council and will be held at Brock University in St. Catharines, ON, from July 31-Aug. 4, 2028, with July 30-31 set aside for pre-events and Aug. 5 for post-event. June 3, 10, 17, 2028, have been identified for possible online sessions. Rev. Debora Laforet is chair of the GC46 planning committee. Rev. Dr. Kenji Marui is appointed as Chair of Business, and Rev. MiYeon Kim is Chair of Worship.

National (Denominational) Office

Despite the news from the Anglican Church of Canada that they are withdrawing from the lease to share space, the Executive has committed to continuing the process of moving to 300 Bloor Street, Toronto (the redeveloped site of Bloor Street United Church). It is anticipated that the new office will be ready for occupancy by the spring of 2027. Given that staff are working remotely, and to reduce costs, the decision was made to leave 3250 Bloor Street West, and to share space with the Presbyterian Church in Canada at 50 Wynford Drive until the move into 300 Bloor St.

General Secretary Retirement & Recruitment

I have informed the Executive of my intent to retire as soon as a new General Secretary can be appointed. The process is being developed by the Executive to start a search. Moderator Kimberly Heath will chair the search committee with the support of a recruitment firm, selected through an RFP process.

Cross-Country Check-Ins

The Executive of the General Council meets 4 times annually, February, May, September and November. The Annual Meeting of the General Council happens in October. After each Executive and Annual meeting, you are invited to join with members for the Executive to be in conversation about their decisions. You can find the dates [here](#).

Register on [CHURCHx](#).

Rev. Michael Blair
General Secretary General Council

REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE CHAIR



Dawn Rolke
Chair

It is with great anticipation that I write my report for the 2026 Prairie-to-Pine in-person meeting. Soon, we will gather in Selkirk as first time attendees, relative newcomers and long-time church volunteers and staff. The meeting we have planned looks wonderful (to me!) and I hope, as one member of the executive and the planning team, that you will drink deeply the opportunities that await you.

For the past six months, along with other Prairie-to-Pine volunteers, I've been living with our 2026 Regional meeting theme: *Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship and Daring Justice*. Now granted, this theme is not new. It is the vision, the purpose and the strategic plan of our United Church, coined a few years ago. But how do we give these words life? We will hear how the Rt. Rev. Kimberley Heath plans to animate these statements during her term as the United Church of Canada moderator.

I'm also eager to discuss Toward 2035 again. It has been approximately one year since the T2035 material was released. During that time, I've been in many conversations and workshops about it. You may recall the excellent presentation by Cam Fraser at the 2025 P2P Regional meeting (still available online). I believe that the T2035 vision is helpful, energizing and life-giving to us as a church. I anticipate Shannon McCarthy's presentation at our meeting, where she will share some of her sabbatical learnings and weaves them into the T2035 material.

As for workshops, worship and singing... well, your participation at our Regional meeting will bring all these elements to life.

I want to thank our staff for their commitment and presence over the past year. Whether they are in a lead role or supportive one, each person brings expertise and willingness. They give much of themselves and we are blessed that they keep choosing us, the Prairie to Pine Region, as the place they want to work. We are especially grateful to the staff who have returned from medical leave; our prayers remain with those who are off work for medical reasons.

I also want to thank the P2P Regional Executive for their faithfulness over the past year. It can be less than thrilling to attend a zoom meeting at the end of the day, but our executive does just this. They arrive at meetings prepared and ready to serve God and their church in a quiet, understated, but very important way. Thank you, thank you for your service.

Finally, I want to thank you, the rest of the church. You bring heart to your local faith communities; you volunteer in the regional church and I'm pretty sure you serve in other ways, too. What would we do without you!

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Rolke

Chair

Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive

OFFICE of VOCATION MINISTER



Rev. Laura Fohse
Office of Vocation Minister
Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and
Prairie to Pine Regions

This past year has been full... holy work, complicated work, and work that continues to shift as the church itself is changing. At the heart of it all is a simple but important question: *how is God calling people and how do we as a church, notice, nurture, and support that call?*

Candidacy Pathway – Walking with Those Exploring Call

In 2025, **the Prairie Candidacy Board engaged in 28 interviews** with individuals travelling the Candidacy Pathway. There were 30 applicants and candidates connected to the Prairie Candidacy Board – 8 from Northern Spirit, 10 from Living Skies, 4 from Prairie to Pine, and 8 from other regions. Two candidates were engaged in Supervised Ministry Education.

These numbers only tell a small part of the story. Along with each candidate for ministry is a group of committed, faithful people offering support, encouragement, challenges and, sometimes, evaluations. This includes Educational Supervisors, Learning Facilitators, Community of Faith Connections, Lay Support Groups, Circles of Accompaniment, mentors, teachers, and communities of faith.

This is a good time to say a **great, big, love-filled thank you** to those who serve on the Prairie Candidacy Board.

- **Northern Spirit:** Wayne Youngward (co-chair), Kimberly Roy, Mary Annan, Hugh MacGregor
- **Living Skies:** Rick Burton, SunDo Hyun, Aurora Espenant, Keith Hall
- **Prairie to Pine:** Tammy Bleue, Chewe Mulenga, Damber Khadka, Rob Smith (Co-Chair)

Across the wider church, this work continues to evolve. We're seeing more people coming from other denominations, more second-career applicants, people exploring bi-vocational ministry, and many who are newer to the United Church and still finding their way.

The Bigger Picture – A Church in Transition

The Office of Vocation is working behind the scenes to adapt to the realities we're living in.

- There is ongoing work to rethink Supervised Ministry Education, as fewer congregations are able to host traditional placements and new models of ministry are emerging.
- A pilot project exploring cooperative (lay-led, clergy-supported) ministry is underway, recognizing that leadership is becoming more shared and collaborative.
- Immigration challenges are significantly impacting ministers coming from other countries, affecting communities waiting for leadership.

All of these points to a church that is adapting in real time... not always easily, but with intention.

Supporting Ministry Personnel

In addition to candidacy work, I **continue to walk alongside ministry personnel** in many ways: answering questions, navigating transitions like retirement or sabbatical, and helping people find their way through ChurchHub.

I also host a monthly online gathering for candidates and a monthly communion gathering for ministry personnel across the three regions. These spaces are simple but meaningful. They remind us that we are not alone and help connect those being called and journeying as disciples of Jesus.

General Council – A Personal Note

This past year, I had the opportunity to attend General Council in Calgary as a volunteer. It was a gift to be part of that wider gathering... to listen, to learn, and to witness the church trying to discern its way forward together.

One of the important pieces shaping our work right now is the document *Vocations of the Whole People of God*. It reminds us that vocation doesn't begin when someone enters ministry... it begins in baptism. That means ministry is not just something a few people do, leadership is not limited to ordered ministers, and discernment is something the whole church is invited into. This is deeply connected to *Toward 2035* and the future we are trying to imagine together.

Looking Ahead – Vocational Discernment

A piece of my work moving forward will be focused on **vocational discernment**—and you’ll hear more about that in next year’s report. For now, I’ll simply say this: there is growing energy and curiosity about how we can better **encourage and support people as they wonder about their lives, their gifts, and how God might be calling them**. Not just into ministry roles, but into lives of meaning, service, leadership, and love.

If we can become a church that is really good at noticing gifts, encouraging people, and walking with them into **deeper discipleship and love**... I believe we will live more fully into being the church we are called to be.

Gratefully submitted,



Rev. Laura Fohse
Vocational Minister

GROWTH ANIMATOR



Rev. Jordan Cantwell
Growth Animator
Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and
Prairie to Pine Regions

I am delighted to be joining your Regional Gathering again this year as your Growth Animator. My role is to support communities of faith who want to strengthen their invitation, deepen their discipleship, and grow their ministries. I partner with regional staff to address regional priorities and identify potential areas for growth and cooperation. I also respond directly to invitations from communities of faith who want to explore how they can become more effective at attracting and welcoming newcomers, deepening discipleship, and partnering with others in their community.

In 2025, I met with folks from 25 communities of faith in Prairie to Pine. Those engagements took many forms, including conversations with a minister or key lay leader about the future of their congregation, meeting with church leadership teams to identify areas where they could strengthen their invitation and

connection with the wider community, workshops with communities of faith to clarify their vision and purpose as they plan for the future, gatherings with clusters of churches to explore opportunities for collaboration, and more. I also worked with seven communities of faith in Prairie to Pine to support them in participating in the 100 Tables project. This is an initiative of the United Church of Canada to mark our 100th anniversary and promote community engagement and public outreach at the local level. You can learn more about this initiative and see some of the amazing and creative ways communities of faith connected with their neighbours by following [this link](#). (Scroll down on the page to find stories from individual communities of faith – including three from Prairie to Pine.)

One of the great privileges of my job is that I get to hear about all the faithful and creative ministry that communities of faith are doing and offer support, encouragement and resources to strengthen these ministries. Here is just a small sample of some of the beautiful things that are happening in Prairie to Pine region.

In the southwest corner of Manitoba, the congregations that make up Cornerstone Pastoral Charge are involved in food security initiatives, raising money for the community, operating a thrift store, and providing pastoral support for members of the wider community, as well as church members. They do all of this as lay-led communities of faith. They are currently exploring potential collaboration with other churches in their area to grow and strengthen the ministry they are offering.

Gordon King Memorial in Winnipeg identified a need for a safe outdoor space in their neighbourhood where people could come together for conversation, community meals and ceremony. In consultation with community members, they designed and built a community sharing circle on their property beside the church. This space is intended as a gathering space for the whole community.

St. Paul's in Beausejour is intentional about equipping younger generations for leadership in the church. They understand this requires nurturing a church culture that allows for change and new ways of doing things. They are challenging themselves to become more invitational towards their neighbours, with whom they already generously share their building.

Nine communities of faith in the central part of Winnipeg have been in conversation for over a year about how they can collaborate to serve their neighbours more effectively and robustly. They are practicing a posture of openness and curiosity towards the Spirit, listening for the new thing(s) that God is inviting them to do and be together.

Knox United in Kenora is interested in expanding the ministry they offer with unhoused people in their city. They are exploring creative possibilities for the role their building can play in meeting the needs of this population.

God is calling the United Church to deep spirituality, bold discipleship, and daring justice for the sake of the world God loves. This call is an invitation to imagine a future for the church where inspired, courageous and empowered clergy and lay leaders nurture hope-filled, diverse and resilient communities of disciples to continue the story of Jesus by embodying Christ's presence in their local context, while remaining deeply connected across the denomination. I am inspired by all the ways communities of faith in Prairie to Pine are answering this call.

It has been an incredible privilege to work with so many of you and to hear about what God is already doing through you and the dreams you have for growing the impact of your ministry. As we continue to journey together, I hope that God will expand the number of communities of faith engaged in this work of renewal and growth. I look forward to learning about your ministries, the joys and struggles you are experiencing, the opportunities and challenges facing your community of faith, and where the Spirit is calling you to a future of deep spirituality, bold discipleship, and daring justice.

In faith, hope and love,



Jordan Cantwell

Growth Animator – Prairie Regions

jcantwell@united-church.ca

COMMUNITY of FAITH STEWARDSHIP SUPPORT STAFF



Sarah Giles

***Community of Faith Stewardship Support Staff
Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and
Prairie to Pine Regional Councils***

Shalom! My name is Sarah Giles, and I serve as the Stewardship Staff person for Prairie to Pine.

Though I have only recently joined the team, covering for Vicki Nelson while she is away on leave, I have been inspired by the commitment, trust, and innate sense of hope that many stewardship committee members share with their Communities of Faith by participating in intentional stewardship conversations and programming.

My role is to serve you and your Community of Faith, and I hope to meet many more of you in the coming months. If you are concerned about the financial viability of your Community of Faith, are dreaming about growing your ministry, or are realizing you haven't spoken about money or generosity in worship for a while, I would love to get to know you! You will be surprised when going through the stewardship resources at how many times you will think "We can do that!" or "I wish I'd known that earlier!"

My contact information is at the bottom of this report—please feel free to reach out any time. Or, if you're ready to dive in, here are some ongoing programs we offer:

Getting Started in Stewardship – A 90-minute webinar introducing key stewardship best practices, helping participants view generosity as a spiritual practice rather than an unpleasant chore.

Stewardship Best Practices – An in-depth, multi-week, team-based exploration of current stewardship best practices. This program includes practical suggestions, customizable resources, and concludes with a detailed stewardship plan and ongoing coaching to help Communities of Faith achieve their goals.

Set Up Your Congregational Giving Program – A two-session program designed to help Communities of Faith plan and carry out a successful stewardship campaign.

Bequests and Estate Giving – Two sessions where participants will learn how to establish a Planned Giving program in their church. The sessions cover how to inspire and invite various planned gifts, and how to identify the best ways to express gratitude for these contributions.

You can read more and register for any of these programs on CHURCHx. We also offer congregational stewardship resources, digital and paper, in the following areas: Mission and Service, Congregational Stewardship, United Church Foundation and Planned Giving.

You are invited to explore these materials and opportunities on your own, or to contact me so we can set a time to talk about your Community of Faith's context. You won't regret taking some time to focus on generosity. One participant shared this feedback about the program:

"This course gave me renewed energy to look at Stewardship more broadly and some tools for doing so. Topics were engaging and thought-provoking."

Thank you, Prairie to Pine Region friends. I am so grateful for your spirit, creativity, generosity, and thoughtfulness. I look forward to learning together in 2026.

In gratitude,

Sarah Giles,
Community of Faith Stewardship Support Staff
for Prairie to Pine Region
SGiles@united-church.ca



PROFILE- RETIREES**Patricia Chabluk**

My mother encouraged me when I was a youth to seek a faith community where I could feel I belonged. With that support, I visited Protestant, Anglican, and Catholic churches—learning from each tradition and listening for where God might be calling.

At Oakbank United Church, I found a spiritual home: a place to ask questions, grow in faith, and feel accepted for who I was. Over the years, I was married here and baptised along with our son. This church community created a space where inclusion was lived out, and where I was encouraged to learn about other faiths and cultures. Here, I found a community that celebrated people for who God created them to be.

When Oakbank United Church hired a youth minister, I served on the selection committee and volunteered to help with the youth group. After the youth minister's departure, I collaborated with a volunteer team to keep the youth group going. This experience helped me recognize a call to youth ministry. In 2006, I began serving as Youth Minister, supporting youth locally, across Selkirk Presbytery and the Manitoba Northwestern Conference. Here, I worked with the YAAY committee on conference youth retreats and helped strengthen youth events throughout the presbytery.

In 2009, I became Church Administrator at Trinity United Church in Winnipeg, while continuing as Youth Minister at Oakbank United. In 2011, I resigned from Oakbank UC and took on the Youth Minister role at Trinity United, serving there until summer 2016. During these years, I also worked as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader for Selkirk Presbytery.

In 2016, I began serving in Northwestern Ontario for St Andrew's United Church in Keewatin and Lake of the Woods Chapel in Sioux Narrows. While here, I lived in the Keewatin manse while my partner, Tony, maintained our home near Oakbank, Manitoba, with frequent travel between the two communities. Along the way, these congregations supported my continuing education and celebrated in June 2023 at commissioning.

As my ministry developed, I studied through the Centre for Christian Studies in the Diaconal Ministry program. Field placements included pastoral care at Trinity United in Winnipeg, my social justice year, I connected with the UCC Halfway House for Men and completed my field placement for Christian education while serving as a student minister at St Andrew's in Keewatin.

After a significant health interruption in 2018, I returned to ministry and was commissioned as a Diaconal Minister in The United Church of Canada in June 2023. Family and friends gathered to celebrate, along

with friends from the Center of Christian Studies and members and ministers from the churches I had served, Oakbank United Church, Trinity United, St Andrew's United Church, and Lake of the Woods Chapel. I am blessed to have such a wonderful circle of friends who will always be part of who I am.

In 2024, my family and I agreed it was time for me to return to Manitoba. I completed my time in Keewatin and returned to Manitoba in July 2025 without a new congregational appointment. I soon saw another example of how the spirit puts us where we need to be. In late August, Tony had surgery, and I became his caregiver while he recovered. Another example that I should trust where God leads us.

My ministry has been enriched by many people, cultures, and communities. Along the way, there have been Sunday school gatherings and pageants, youth retreats, and study groups, fundraising and fellowship, worship and choir, and the sacred moments of baptisms, weddings, funerals, laughter, and tears. These experiences have shaped my life and service.

Recently, a member of my home congregation in Oakbank shared "The Bird's Lesson," by George MacDonald—a reminder that even when we feel small, we make a difference. The poem ends with these words: *"I hope my little girl will learn a lesson from that bird, and try to do what good she can, not to be seen or heard. This birdie is content to sit unnoticed by the way and sweetly sing his Master's praise, from dawn to close of day. So live, my child, to do some good, let life be short or long: Though others may forget your looks, they'll not forget your song."* As I journey forward, I welcome a time to learn a new song. A new way to continue to serve others, knowing we are never alone. May each of us continue to share our songs and share our blessings wherever God leads us.

*Respectfully submitted,
Patricia Chabluk*

Susan Evans

Date of retirement: May 31, 2026



Noel A. Suministrado

Endings are beginnings, and beginnings are endings; they belong to each other.

In those 42 years of being a minister, I can say that presence and relationships defined the ministerial calling, discovering through the years that to be a pastor is to go beyond baptisms, weddings, funerals, and pastoral visits.

But comes a time for the curtain to fall, and it can be said that I am on the way out; each shift of time I have, there is a feeling of abruption, a tearing away of part of myself. There will be no one like us when we are gone, and when we are gone, they cannot be replaced. They leave a void no one can fill, for all of us are unique individuals, to find our own path, to live our own life, to die our own death.

I cannot pretend I am without fear moving on, but what fills my heart is one of gratitude. I have been given much, and I hope to have given something in return. Above all, I have been loved and been gifted with so much in this life and journey, and that in itself has been an enormous privilege and adventure.

And with this, I constantly remind myself that to be called by Jesus is to echo this: **to do what is just, to love continuously, and follow God in humility**. And to do whatever we can to help others, to hold them when they are hurting, to listen carefully to their stories and the ways they are attempting to make sense of a world that has gone mad. To speak kind words and not forget the dawning miracle and grace of the Wholly Other as it appears in front of us, and to be faithful to the end.

Perhaps this is the most radical gift that we can all give and receive.

Respectfully submitted,
Noel A. Suministrado

PROFILES – COMMISSIONAND and ADMITTAND



**Hyerim Park
(Commissionand)**

I was born and raised in South Korea, where the church was part of my life from an early age. I studied Christian Education at Korea Baptist Theological University, later earned a master's degree in education in Oklahoma, and returned to Korea to work as an educator. As I came to understand my sexual orientation more fully, I became distant from the church, where LGBTQ+ people were often met with judgment and exclusion. Still, I continued to sense God's presence in my life. When I met my spouse, Yeseullyn Lee, we longed for a place where we could live freely, safely, and fully as ourselves. That search brought us to Canada: Yeseullyn arrived in 2016, and I followed in 2018.

After coming to Canada, I came to know the United Church of Canada and discovered a church that seeks to live out love, justice, peace, and radical welcome. Through the United Church, I was led to the Centre for Christian Studies and later to St. Andrew's College, where my understanding of diaconal ministry deepened and my call became clearer. My formation has been shaped by feminist, minjung, liberation, queer, ecological, and Indigenous theologies and spiritual wisdom. These traditions helped me understand faith not only as personal belief, but as a way of seeking justice, healing, reconciliation, and transformation.

Studying and building a life in Canada was not easy. As an Asian queer woman, an immigrant, and a person whose first language is not English, I had to keep discerning myself and my calling through many layers of challenge. It has taken about six and a half years to arrive at this moment of commissioning, and through this long journey, I have come to trust that God has been present in each step.

Korean Rainbow United has also become an important part of my journey. I founded this loosely connected group of Korean LGBTQ+ people and allies in 2021. Together, we have created safer spaces, translated resources, offered education, shared stories, and supported communities across Korea and North America.

I am now serving as minister at Westminster United Church in Humboldt, Saskatchewan. I am deeply grateful to journey with this faithful, warm, and courageous congregation. As we continue learning from one another with open hearts, I sense meaningful work for us to do together in the church and wider community. I am still discerning how I can serve more faithfully and fully as myself, trusting the gifts God has given me and hoping to use them with humility and courage.

As I prepare to be commissioned to Diaconal Ministry in the United Church of Canada, I am deeply grateful for my spouse, Yeseullyn Lee, whose love and support have sustained me. I also give thanks for my mentors and companions who have guided, challenged, encouraged, and supported me along the way: Ted Dodd, Irene Rainey, Karen Tjaden, Lori Stewart, HaNa Park, Lesley Harrison, Esmer Babaran, Janet Ross, Laura Fohse, Joshua Ward, Yongseok Beak, and Rev. Bora Lim of blessed memory. I am also grateful for my KRU

companions: Sun-Young Sunny Kim, Grace EunKyung Lee, Heejoung Kim, Yoonjoo Shin, Hoeun Lee, and Yunjung Kim, as well as the Knox United Church community. I carry deep gratitude for all who supported me with scholarships, encouragement, prayers, and care.

My ministry is rooted in education, worship, pastoral care, and justice. I hope to continue creating spaces where people can encounter God's expansive love, find healing, and welcome differences as gifts. Thanks be to God, who continues to call us into deeper love, justice, and hope.



**Luckson Mariba
(Admittand)**

My name is Rev. Luckson Mariba. I was born and raised in the southern part of Zimbabwe, in the Chivi District, a place known for its humour, resilience, and the famous story of the elderly woman who once cooked stones and soup to keep hungry children hopeful. That story has always reminded me that faith often begins in places of struggle and creativity. I come from such a community, which is resourceful, hopeful, and grounded in shared life.

I am married to Olivia, and together we are blessed with three children: our boys, Anogonaishe and Roshiiim, and our daughter, Ruthanne. My family has been my strength throughout my ministry and my journey across continents.

I became a member of the Reformed Church in Zimbabwe (RCZ) in my early twenties after two years of confirmation classes. The RCZ shaped my theological roots, teaching me disciplined worship, love for Scripture, community responsibility, and a deep trust in God's sovereignty. My call to ministry was first recognized by elders and deacons who saw gifts in me before I fully understood them myself. Their encouragement led me into youth leadership and eventually into theological training. I completed a Diploma in Theology (2007–2010) and a Bachelor of Theology (2013–2015), studies that formed me through seasons of transition, challenge, and growth.

I was ordained in the RCZ and served three congregations from 2011 to 2024. These years deepened my pastoral identity and strengthened my passion for preaching, pastoral care, community engagement, and intercultural ministry.

My journey toward the United Church of Canada began in 2016, and I was listed on Church Hub in 2020. I was drawn to the UCC's inclusiveness, justice-seeking spirit, strong theology, and deep sense of community. Through interviews, conversations, and the warm welcome of congregations and leaders, my call to serve within the UCC was affirmed.

In 2024, I travelled to England to serve part-time with the Reformed Church International. While there, I interviewed with the Grand Plains Pastoral Charge. After completing immigration processes, I received a two-year visa and arrived in Canada on October 7, 2025, ready to begin ministry in Manitoba.

My Admission process has included coursework, interviews, mentorship, and rich congregational experiences. I am grateful for the guidance of Rev. Lori Stewart (Pastoral Charge Supervisor), my mentor Yvonne Terry, and Rev. Steve, whose support has been invaluable. Serving at Grandview United and St. Paul's United has shaped me spiritually and professionally, teaching me the beauty of rural ministry, intercultural leadership, and community-based pastoral care.

My ministry passions include pastoral care, preaching and teaching, worship leadership, justice and reconciliation, community engagement, care-home ministry, and intercultural ministry. These are the places where I feel most alive and most aligned with God's call.

I am deeply grateful to the congregations of Grandview United and St. Paul's United, to my family, to Prairie to Pine Regional Council, to the Board of Admissions, and to the many friends and colleagues who have supported me.

As I look ahead, I am excited to serve within the United Church of Canada and to live out our shared commitment to Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, and Daring Justice. I am honoured to be welcomed into this church and look forward to the ministry we will continue to build together.



**Sourav Sampat Nag
(Admittand)**

My name is Rev. Sourav Sampat Nag. I come from the Balangir district of Odisha, India, and I belong to the Church of North India (CNI), where I was formed in faith and later ordained for ministry on 12 July 2015. My sense of calling to ministry emerged through the influence of my family and deepened during my theological formation, gradually shaping my commitment to serve God's people in the Church.

Over more than nine years of ordained ministry, I have served in both rural and urban congregations across different dioceses of the CNI, in roles including Presbyterian with additional charge, Assisting Presbyterian, and Presbyterian-in-Charge. These experiences have shaped my pastoral leadership, preaching, and congregational care in diverse cultural and ecclesial contexts.

Alongside parish ministry, I have been engaged in counselling and social outreach through platforms such as the Humanity COVID Helpline and in hospital chaplaincy at CMC Vellore, accompanying patients facing serious illness and trauma.

I served as Visiting Faculty at Orissa Christian Theological College and held various church leadership roles, including Diocesan Youth Advisor, convener of counselling groups, resource person for trauma counselling webinars, and coordinator of diocesan prayer initiatives. I have also worked with organisations such as International Justice Mission and Missionaries of Charity.

My academic formation is interdisciplinary and integrative. I hold a Master of Theology in New Testament, a Bachelor of Divinity from the Senate of Serampore College (University), and a Post Graduate Diploma in Clinical Pastoral Counselling from CMC Vellore, along with a Master of Social Work from Indira Gandhi National Open University.

I have served youth, children, women, and the elderly with a focus on spiritual formation, holistic growth, and active participation in congregational life. Across all contexts, I have sought to strengthen the Church as a welcoming, participatory, and mission-oriented community.

I bring strengths in organization, relational leadership, pastoral counselling, chaplaincy, theological teaching, preaching, and worship leadership across traditions. I value shared ministry, mutual accountability, and the recognition of diverse gifts within the body of Christ, especially among youth and emerging leaders.

I came to Canada on 7th August 2024 and have since continued my ministry within The United Church of Canada. This transition has been a journey of learning, humility, and growth, helping me understand vocation as something discerned in community. It has also involved cultural and ministerial adaptation, especially in embracing collaborative leadership, shared ministry, and deeper engagement with the Church's governance and theology.

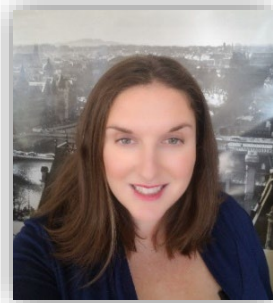
At present, I serve the Collaborative Ministry of Roland and Altona United Churches, as I discern God's ongoing call in my life. I remain grateful for the communities, mentors such as Rev. Dr. M. Sunil Caleb, Rev. Dr. P. C. Gine, Bishop Ashoke Biswas, and Bishop S. K. Nanda, along with colleagues and congregations who have accompanied my journey.

Above all, I remain committed to faithful ministry rooted in Christ, responsive to human need, and open to the transforming work of the Holy Spirit in the Church and in the world.

Faithfully submitted,



Rev. Sourav Sampat Nag

REPORTS –PROGRAM STAFF

Erin Acland
Keeper of the Archives

The highlights of 2025 were completing our off-site storage move, hosting two fantastic Summer Students, and receiving a number of grants.

Off-Site Storage Move and Set-Up

The arduous process of leaving Iron Mountain, our long-term off-site storage company, and moving to Transcona Memorial United Church (TMUC) was told in some detail in last year's report. In this year's report, I'll add only brief updates. The move out of Iron Mountain and into TMUC was completed on October 28, 2025, and went smoothly. The ordering, delivery, assembly, and placement of shelves and other necessities were completed in December 2025 for both of our leased rooms in TMUC. For the first time in thirty years, the Archives has a large amount of empty shelf space. For an Archivist, this is very exciting!

Starting at the end of 2025, I started on a long project of "mapping" and briefly reviewing our off-site record boxes. Some of these boxes had not been seen by Archives staff since 1996. Over a third of our boxes (the literal container which houses the records) are falling apart and need to be replaced. This process of mapping the location of the records, checking their physical and organizational condition, and re-boxing and re-labelling, has allowed me to better understand what records we hold. This process is expected to take until late Summer 2026.

Reference and Outreach

In 2025, I received 394 requests for reference assistance, records management help, or discussions about donations and transfers of records to the Archives. In addition, 39 in-person researchers visited the Archives. In total, there were 1,787 points of contact with researchers.

I presented to a number of different groups and classes, including three Indigenous history classes at the University of Winnipeg and University of Manitoba; a graduate level class at the U of M on archives management; an introduction to archives for students from the Centre for Christian Studies; a grant writing workshop for the Association of Manitoba Archives; a gathering of Pensioners/ Retired Ministry Personnel; and a gathering for a Community of Faith. Additionally, I worked with two U of W history professors to create an assignment based on archival records.

After ten years in use, in June 2025, the Archives' website was retired. The security for the website was outdated and could not be easily upgraded. Additionally, the website had become a target for malicious actors who continuously sought to gain access to the "back-end" of the website. While none of these attacks were successful, it felt like only a period of time before they would be, which left the Archives and its users in danger. For now, a significantly smaller version of our website has been added to the existing website of Prairie to Pine Regional Council.

Unfortunately, the shutdown of the Archives' website coincided with an upgrade to the University of Winnipeg's phone lines, which unexpectedly and inadvertently terminated my long-held phone number. The Archives has acquired a new phone number through the United Church's system.

Reconciliation

Between September 2024 and August 2025, 255 textual record files related to "Home Missions" were digitized. In future, these files will be digitally repatriated to the appropriate First Nations and Indigenous Communities. This project was mostly funded by the United Church of Canada's Bringing the Children Home initiative. It will continue in 2026.

Grants

From mid-May to mid-August, the Archives hosted two terrific Summer Students. We received a grant worth \$8,224.65 from the Government of Canada-Young Canada Works in Heritage Organizations granting program, which covered just under 75% of the costs for one of our Summer Students. We also received a grant worth \$15,000 from ENDOW Manitoba and the Association for Manitoba Archives, which covered 100% of the costs for our second Summer Student, and provided an additional \$3,000 directly to the Archives.

Funding of \$8,500 was provided by the Manitoba government from its Heritage Grants Program for the Archives' assessment and inventory of off-site archival records project.

The United Church of Canada's Make Room for Women grant contributed \$857.16 towards the purchase of a new document scanner.

*Respectfully submitted,
Erin Acland, Keeper of the Archives
Prairie to Pine Regional Council*

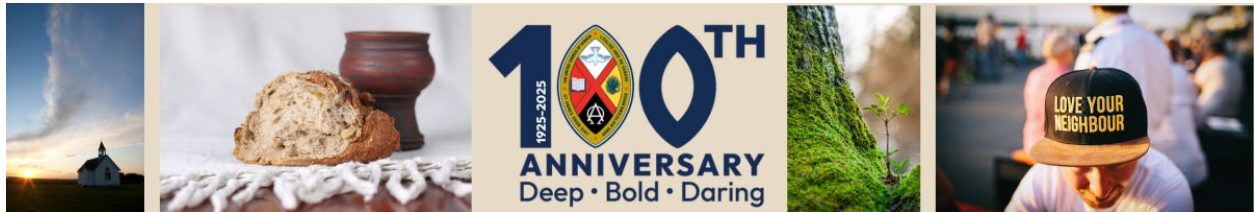


Julie Graham
Regional Minister:
Justice and Communications
Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and
Prairie to Pine Regional Councils

Because I was on medical leave from October 2025 to March 2026, this report doesn't reflect all of the vibrant and dedicated ministry that has taken place throughout the Regional Council. In truth, it never does. There are thousands of local, shared-community, and Regional events every year.

Communications

Deep thanks to Cherry and YAAY Council members who kept the website up to date. Please remember to have a look at the many excellent Young Adult and Youth reflections and event reports throughout the year, and to follow YAAY's Facebook and Instagram.



The United Church's 100th anniversary

It's impossible to capture the sheer number of joyful local events. Thank you to all who started working early and often with the call to post events to our special calendar, and who brought such creativity to this hundredth birthday.

People's history

Writer and historian Gayle Simonson very generously shared with all three Regional Councils a weekly series of short stories designed for newsletters, bulletins, and more. She used a very short word count to paint vivid pictures of the people and the faith that has shaped our church from before its birth to the present day. [Please see the collection here](#). Thank you, Gayle.

Here From the Beginning exhibit: 100 years of Black stories in the United Church

On Emancipation Day, August 1, 2025, this grassroots travelling exhibit was launched in Edmonton before travelling to General Council 45 in Calgary (image, above). Designed to highlight stories of Black United Church leadership that have often been hidden from our history, it will tour the country for the next two years.



I have been honoured to sit on the planning team as a staff support. We look forward to welcoming this exhibit to our Regional Council, possibly in early September 2026. There is a lot of intentional flexibility in how a community of faith and community partners can work with this exhibit; its intent is to surface local stories and Black leaders, and we are free to add activities that help do that. Please be in touch with the Equity and Diversity Committee if you would like to host.

Western Intercultural Ministries series on ethnocultural communities and histories



Your Western Intercultural Ministries Network regularly offers 90-minute online workshops on intercultural ministry praxis, and for the 100th, they decided to surface stories that are often little known and marginalised within wider church histories. Diverse ethnocultural communities have been part of the church from before its birth, and WIMN has so far offered spaces to learn about Black, Filipino, Chinese, and Korean histories and contemporary ministry. The series will continue

in 2026. For more on this network's ministry, please see its report to the regional meeting. And please book November 19-21, 2026, in Edmonton for the in-person WIMN conference, with a focus on joy and resistance in intercultural worship arts. Many thanks to Dambar Khadka for his service on the WIMN Executive. This is your reminder that this very diverse and Spirit-ed group meets bi-monthly, takes an active shared role in WIMN events, and welcomes new members.

Media

Because of my absence, I do not have a complete record of all media hits, but there are over 15 stories that I know of for 2025. Locally, newspapers and radio stations that have fought to survive in a very difficult financial climate continue to feature communities of faith, sometimes through interviews and feature articles. When we work publicly with our communities, it is noticed. If you need some ideas for pitching a story or keeping an active relationship with local media, I would love to talk.

The Regional Council continues to be a member of the Winnipeg Free Press Faith Council. Many thanks to Loraine Mackenzie-Shepherd and to Theresa Moysie before her, as our official representative alongside several community of faith representatives. I am in regular touch with John Longhurst at the Free Press, and with several writers at Broadview magazine. When a local reporter who has done an original piece is identified, I always write to thank them. I also work closely with the General Council media officer, Lori-Ann Livingston, who is a gift to this important work. It has been very helpful to have this position active again after a multi-decade hiatus.

Justice, solidarity, service

Palestine

None of us wanted to think that throughout 2025, we would still need to confront a genocide in Gaza and greatly expanded and violent ethnic cleansing in the West Bank and East Jerusalem.

Many in Prairie to Pine responded with words and presence to national calls for a full Canadian arms/military goods embargo with Israel. Participation in many local solidarity events. Mennonites in MB offering exceptional leadership. The Women Wage Peace Winnipeg chapter has been offering a relationship and conversation space, [including at public events like this one](#).

The Palestine Land Exercise is being used extensively in Living Skies as an introduction to hidden history, and has seen Indigenous and Palestine-Canadian/ Arab-Canadian participation. There is interest in expanding to other Regions.

Church members often show up to local protests and solidarity events, but sometimes not as “official church”. That presence is just as valid as official presence, but how do we respectfully ensure people know we’re showing up as the church?

Affirming work: Equity and Diversity Committee



Please take the time to look at this committee’s report for this meeting. Continuing work on unconscious bias, connecting with ministries in the Affirming process

Preparing for Pride was held in May 2025, creating a space online for people across the three Regions and beyond to share their ideas and hopes for Public, Intentional, and Explicit United Church presence at local Pride festivals and parades of all sizes. Another will be held on May 12, hosted for multiple Regions by the Equity and Diversity Committee.

The committee hosted an excellent unconscious bias workshop in late 2025, and encouraged participation in the 14 March National Affirming PIE Day, where creative Prairie to Pine goodness was on offer.

We also celebrate new Affirming ministries in 2025!

Brookdale United Church in Brookdale, MB; Forrest United Church in Forrest, MB: thank you for your public witness to Christ’s all-embracing love.

Right relations/ TRC commitments



I want to start by honouring the enormous and often pain-filled, courageous efforts of the First People who advocated for searches of the Prairie Green and Brady Road Winnipeg-area landfills for the bodies of Mercedes Myran, Morgan Harris, Rebecca Contois, and Ashlee Shingoose. I also thank the many church members who joined advocacy and direct support efforts under the direction of the families. This was advocacy that should never have been necessary. But it was necessary.

Two years ago, we might have thought it impossible that the search would ever happen, let alone succeed in bringing these sisters home. The search for Ashlee continues as of April 2026, and may we keep her loved ones, community, and the search teams in our prayers. As Premier Wab Kinew noted in April 2026, the search of the Prairie Green landfill cost one tenth of the price tag quoted by the previous provincial government- and dignity is in any case beyond price.

Every May, the people of the Regional Council are called upon to honour Red Dress Day (May 5) and Moose Hide Day, May 14. The Sunday before June 21 (National Indigenous Peoples Day) is Indigenous Day of Prayer in the United Church. These are all spaces for us to show up locally, and to support any Indigenous-led spaces we can. Yet another example is church support for the annual Treaty 1 gathering in Winnipeg. Thank you to the many communities of faith who show up in support and offer education and community spaces throughout the year. You carry truth and reconciliation for the whole church.

There are indications that the Blanket Exercise is becoming more available to churches, after a long hiatus, and I will be talking with KAIROS about this.

Finally, I want to express gratitude for the generosity of Indigenous leadership, without whom all learning spaces and relationships would be impossible. Keewatin Circle members, Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre, Knowledge Keepers, Elders, community representatives: chi miigwtech, kinanskominawaw.

Climate justice/ crisis

Please see the separate report from the small group that carried forward the 2023 regional meeting proposal on fossil fuel divestment. That proposal led to two solid and intense years of work [that are detailed here](#) and included an excellent ecumenical event. Huge thanks to Lori Stewart, Karen Tjaden, and Lynda Trono for their leadership, and to those who came to the monthly learning spaces. At this point, the work will likely go in a different direction because of very limited uptake. There are many resources in the church for climate crisis engagement, including For the Love of Creation and many local initiatives that

urgently need church support. As we devote more and more spring communication space to wildfires across the West, and struggle immensely with Canada's fossil fuel use, we are called to solidarity and uncomfortable discipleship.

Working with the national church



General Council 45: I attended as a tech team volunteer, and it was lovely to meet our commissioners and volunteers in this shared national space. Here they are!

A lot of our connecting with the General Council includes shared staff spaces for information horse-trading and community. Networks that include Prairie to Pine participation and are part of my work include Guaranteed Livable Income advocates, Climate Justice, Refugees, and the United Network for Justice in Palestine and Israel. Ministry from all of these

networks and from our church's many national and global partnerships appears in our Regional newsletter, and also in specialized national newsletters you're encouraged to subscribe to!

2026-2027 work

Here from the Beginning display travel in Prairie to Pine, fall 2026.

National Church Office Administrators Network in October 2026, where we hope to again see good Prairie to Pine participation.

Western Intercultural Ministries Network in-person conference, 19-21 November, Edmonton

Understanding and complying with the new MB disabilities/ accessibility legislation, which is now the standard for the entire country. Currently, our website is not in compliance, and there is also much more the Region can and should do with this inclusive legislation.

Extensive website overhaul, for compliance and for better reflection of how we're using the sites. Cherry, Jamie Mackay and I completed the website five days before COVID began. It's long overdue for a navigation, accessibility, and design refresh. Constructive and detailed feedback on changes you want to see is always welcome!

Respectfully submitted,

Julie Graham, Regional Minister: Justice and Communications

jgraham@united-church.ca



Twila MacNair
Staff Support to Young Adult
And Youth Ministry

I have once again enjoyed working with the young leaders who volunteer on the YAAY Committee and those who volunteer as planners and leaders of retreats and other youth events in the region.

Please read the report from the YAAY Convenors to learn about the many varied events that have been planned for and by young people in our region over the past year.

Setting up mentoring partnerships between our experienced leaders and our new leaders was an important part of my work in the past year as we try to bridge a gap in leadership. A big thanks goes to both those giving and those receiving the mentorship!

In April, I attended meetings in Toronto with many colleagues, where we worked to create a strategic plan for the Toward 2035 vision. Young people, and ministry with young people, have been named as a priority in this vision, falling under the leadership pillar, among others. This ministry is now being referred to as "First Third Ministry," meaning ministry to and with people in the first third of their lives (children, youth, young adults, and families with children).

Our region has been strong for a long time in encouraging and supporting young people to take on and practice leadership roles in events that the regional YAAY Committee plans for youth. Many have gone on to fill leadership roles in communities of faith or the wider church and world. Will this well-oiled leadership model be able to continue in a changing world and a changing church? Typically, we've seen young people come through retreats as participants, then small group leaders, then planning team members, and eventually retreat coordinators, with some back-and-forth movement between roles, but generally with opportunities to build new skills in each new role undertaken.

I see wonderful potential in the young leaders coming up. At the same time, I worry about a gap between the experienced young adult leaders who've been sticking with us to keep events going and the young ones they've been mentoring. If the older ones move on before the younger ones are ready to do the planning, can we find creative ways to still run the events so the up-and-coming leaders can practice their leadership skills and eventually take on the planning? I hope so! The YAAY Committee and I will need support both in picturing new ways of doing things and potentially in adults stepping in and mentoring youth as they become ready to move up through the leadership ranks.

As one group of young leaders moves on to the next life stages and others sign on for another year with the YAAY Committee, please thank our amazing young people for the commitments they have made, and continue to make, to the work and life of our region.

Respectfully submitted,

Twila MacNair

Staff Support for Young Adult and Youth Ministry



Judy Hare
Pastoral Relations Minister

An exercise that I engaged in once at a gathering of staff related to Pastoral Relations work had each of us choose from among a compilation of videos and pictures (some with captions), one or two that might best depict how we were “experiencing” our ministry at that time. If I were to engage that exercise right now, I might choose a video of an experienced juggler who has people off to the side tossing in balls, assuming or hoping the juggler can handle the additional balls or assuming that: 1. the juggler has others to toss excess balls to or 2. hoping if some balls need to be dropped, the juggler has a way of discerning which ones can be let go of without causing too much damage Or, maybe I would choose a picture of a baseball batter using one of those automatic pitching machines with several people with remote controls with which they can adjust the frequency at which the balls are being sent out by the machine – faster sometimes and slower at other times. Both the juggler and the batter feel called to their role and find challenge and satisfaction in the experiences. Others looking at them may feel differently about how the balls, in both cases, are being managed.

The volume and pace of work in 2025-2026 Pastoral Year have been like both those experiences Slower at times, fast at others, and everything in between. No two days are alike, and rarely is the pace or content under the complete control of the Regional Pastoral Relations Minister. The work is becoming increasingly more responsive to current needs in a time of significant challenge, change and uncertainty, with a decreased ability to spend much time envisioning longer-range plans or putting associated timelines in place. Yet, that IS what we are being asked to do by the Toward 2035 initiative: slow things down and make some time in the midst of current activity to look and plan long-term.

When the evaluation of the 2019 restructuring happened recently, many indicated that they were not clear about the role of various staff, committees and commissions associated with the Regional and Denominational Councils. In reality, the work and titles vary from Regional Council to Regional Council.

The primary role of the Regional Minister for Pastoral Relations and Community of Faith Support in Prairie to Pine Regional Council is to resource and support the ministries of the following groups, whose work is highlighted in reports submitted by them:

- Pastoral Relations Commission and Liaisons
- Committee on Community of Faith Support
- Committee on Lay Ministry and Lay Leadership Support
- Committee on Ministry Personnel Support

I am EXTREMELY grateful to the dedicated volunteers who people these committees and the commission: their willingness to incorporate changes to policies and procedures and their flexibility in the scheduling of meetings and training sessions to best accommodate the schedules of governing bodies and/or Communities of Faith. I am also grateful for others recruited to assist with their mandates or those who are supported through their work: Pastoral Relations Liaisons, Pastoral Charge Supervisors; members of Ministry & Personnel Committees, Community of Profile Development Teams; Search Committees; Pastoral Care Visitors; Licensed Lay Worship Leaders; Sacraments Elders; active and retired Ministry Personnel; members of governing bodies; treasurers and ADP Liaisons. I am grateful to those who complete Statistics forms and self-assessments; those facilitating workshops and making themselves available to provide worship leadership by engaging in a formal relationship and/or placing their names on the Pulpit Supply Lists. ALL these people ARE the United Church engaged in mission and ministry within Prairie to Pine Regional Council, and I am truly grateful to have the opportunity to be part of the ongoing story we are creating together, a story now over 100 years in the making.

In addition to working with the committees and commission, a significant amount of time is spent doing technical work, such as drafting motions to suit particular contexts, tending to urgent, time sensitive or complex matters that require the coordination of more than one of these groups, interaction with other bodies or individuals within the church structures (The Regional Council Executive or Property Commission; the Vocational Minister; the Growth Animator; Conflict Resolution Facilitators; General Council staff with expertise related to our payroll or benefits system, Church Hub or our disability management system) or referrals to expertise beyond the church i.e. Mediators or Lawyers. We have a lot of people doing a lot of things within this United Church of Ours, and keeping track of “who does what,” and the policy and procedure changes that impact Ministry Personnel, lay employees and Communities of Faith, is part of what the Pastoral Relations Minister is called to do.

This year, in addition to engaging the regular work within the Regional Council with the Committees, Commission and Executive, I attended an in-person gathering of others doing Pastoral Relations work in other 15 Regional Councils- an opportunity that comes only once every three years, and my two Pastoral Relations Minister colleagues from Northern Spirit(Adam Hall) and Living Skies (Tracy Murton), who divided up some of the responsibilities of our Executive Minister, Shannon McCarthy, when she was on sabbatical from December 1, 2025 to February 28, 2026. My share included responding to any needs within the Prairie to Pine Regional Council that would traditionally require the support of the Executive Minister, and attending ZOOM meetings of the Senior Leadership Team, including the Executive Ministers.

I, along with others of our Regional Council staff, had the opportunity to gather with staff from across the United Church in Toronto April 8-10, 2026, to cultivate a common understanding and shared commitment to the vision and strategy of supporting Communities of Faith Toward 2035 (T2035), and develop some practical detailed plan related to the period from July 1, 2026, to December 31, 2027, addressing the strategies. I was part of the discussions focused on Property strategies and initiatives, and I found it fascinating.

A valued part of the work I am engaged in is the rare opportunities to connect with our Indigenous relations, especially those associated with the eighteen Communities of Faith known as Keewatin Circle. This year, I have been invited into a few conversations with staff from Indigenous Ministries and Justice attempting to identify ways to address some sensitive and complex employment matters, considering both settler church or government requirements and indigenous culture and practices.

Building trusting relationships is at the heart of “the ministry of administration and care” that I am called to do on behalf of, and with the people of Prairie to Pine Regional Council. I am SO looking forward to getting the opportunity to touch base with people in-person who will be attending the Regional Council meeting in Selkirk and tend to nurturing those relationships.

Respectfully submitted,

*Rev. Judy Hare, Pastoral Relations Minister,
Prairie to Pine Regional Council*

Regional Update, as of May 15, 2026

146 pastoral charges, including 18 Indigenous Communities of Faith and 128 non-Indigenous Communities of Faith, with significant areas of the Regional Council with limited paid accountable ministry leadership (Northwestern Ontario; southwestern Manitoba and the former Northland Presbytery)

The non- Indigenous Communities of Faith include:

11 collaborative ministries (23 pastoral charges; 24 Communities of Faith, 10 Ministers + 1 CDM & 1 in Search) – one Collaborative ministry arrangement involving two Pastoral Charges dissolved their agreement this spring; one new arrangement was recently approved but not yet posted for Search; two collaborative conversations are in process each involving two Communities of Faith and one beginning involving four Pastoral Charge -6 Communities of faith.

7 ecumenical shared ministries – 4 Anglican/United (Neepawa- in search; Souris – Anglican incumbent; Red Lake and Snow Lake-vacant -not looking); 1- E.L.C.I.C (Lutheran) -United (Lutheran Supply appointment); 1 Disciples of Christ/United Church (Disciples incumbent) and 1 Anglican/Presbyterian/Mennonite/United) - Mennonite incumbent); Thompson & Ignace ESM agreements recently dissolved by partners.

1 “Team” ministries of multiple staff (Trinity, Portage La Prairie 1.5)

0 Interim Ministries 0 amalgamations currently in process

3 Communities of Faith in 2 Pastoral Charges disbanded between June 30, 2025, and May 2026: Benito-Kenville; Ignace Anglican/United; 5-10 in process

43 Pastoral Charges (51 Communities of Faith) have been **without paid accountable ministry for a year or more** and have not yet or are not intending to engage the profile/search process (Lay-led by choice or default); includes **three communities of faith open only in summer months**

60 Lay people licensed as **Sacraments Elders** for 39 different Communities of Faith

22 **Licensed Lay Worship Leaders** as of May 15, 2026

15 Pastoral Charges are currently in pastoral relations processes (7 in **Profile Development** phase), and 5 vacancies posted from within P2P for **Search** on ChurchHub (1-FTE Collaborative involving two Pastoral Charges; 1- FTE Ecumenical Shared Ministry; 2 regular FTE; 1 part-time Supervised Ministry Education Learning Site); 1 FTE Collaborative approved involving two Pastoral Charges but not yet posted.

60 ministry personnel in Call or Appointment (44 in full-time employment and 16 in part-time positions), including: 6 retired Ministry Personnel in Appointment (1 in full-time; 5 part-time); 3 Candidates serving in Appointment at some point during pastoral year (all part time-one as SME) and 3 Ministers in Admissions Process (all in full-time employment)

4 Ministry Personnel on medical leave at some point during the pastoral year

+/- 50 Ministry Personnel (retired or in other appointments) in formal association Covenants (The Manual section I.2.5.3)

3 situations required the appointment of Conflict Resolution Facilitators; no formal complaints in process, no Reviews in process

82 Pastoral Charge requiring supervision at some point during the pastoral year due to vacancies, appointment of Candidates or Admissions ministers, medical leave, Covenanting services between July 1, 2025, and May 31, 2026 (Of the 55 Pastoral Charge Supervisors, 14 are lay people and 14 Pastoral Charge Supervisors had more than one Pastoral Charge responsibility).

TOWARD 2035: When asked whether their governing body or Community of Faith had engaged with materials provided by the General Council for these discussions, those registered for the Annual Meeting responded: 62-No; 43-Yes; 45-Don't know.

Indigenous Communities of Faith: 18 Communities of Faith served by 13 Ministry Personnel for some part of the Pastoral Year (one returned to retirement in December 2025; one Ministry Personnel passed away on April 30, 2026; one Ministry Personnel retiring in May 2026).





Shannon McCarthy
Executive Minister

Grace and peace to you in this time of challenge and possibility.

I write this report with deep gratitude for the leadership you, as members of this regional council, staff and volunteers, continue to offer in contexts that are often complex, demanding, and at times discouraging. You are holding communities together, tending faith in uncertain soil, and remaining present even when outcomes feel unclear. This is holy work—and it matters more than you may know.

As we spend time together at our Regional Council Meeting as Prairie to Pine Regional Council and reflect on our journey together in the life of The United Church of Canada, you will hear a lot about *Toward 2035*. It is not a program to complete or a problem to solve, but an invitation—a spacious, hope-filled invitation—to listen, to discern, and to imagine together what God is calling us to become as the United Church.

I know that for many of you, the daily realities of ministry in your context can feel heavy. Declining numbers, limited resources, aging buildings, and shifting cultural landscapes can make it difficult to see beyond immediate concerns. Yet *Toward 2035* gently calls us to lift our eyes—not to ignore those realities, but to see them within a wider horizon of God’s unfolding future.

I invite you to see the possibility that is all around us. The Spirit is already active in your communities—in relationships of care, in small acts of faithfulness, in conversations that spark new imagination, and in your willingness to keep showing up. These signs of life are not incidental; they are the very places where God is inviting you forward.

Please hear this clearly: you are not alone in this work!

Across the church, at General Council, and Regional Councils, in justice-seeking groups, camps, and communities of faith leaders like you are asking similar questions, navigating similar tensions, and discovering new expressions of ministry. *Toward 2035* is grounded in our connection—in the belief that as we listen to one another across communities, regions, and contexts, we begin to glimpse a shared vision shaped not by uniformity, but by faithful diversity.

You matter deeply in this process—not because you are expected to have all the answers, but because you can create space for faithful questions:

- Where is God already at work here?
- What brings life to our community?
- Who are we being called to become, in this place, at this time?

There is no single path forward. There is only the invitation to be attentive, courageous, and open.

As leaders in your context, you also carry the important task of sharing the message. The way we speak about the present and the future influences how communities respond. When we move from narratives of decline to language of hope and discovery, we open space for new energy to emerge. This doesn't deny struggle—it places it within the larger story of God's faithfulness.

Toward 2035 invites us into that story: A story of becoming Beloved Community—communities that are inspired, resilient, diverse, and deeply connected; communities that reflect Christ's presence in their neighbourhoods; communities that welcome new generations and cultures; communities that trust that transformation is part of discipleship.

This vision will not unfold all at once. It will emerge in small, faithful steps—in listening circles, shared prayers, experiments in ministry, partnerships, and honest conversations.

So, I encourage you:

- **Make space for listening**—to God, to your people, and to your context
- **Celebrate signs of life**, however modest they may seem
- **Resist comparison**—your community's path is uniquely its own
- **Lean into connection**—draw on your neighbour, regional and national supports
- **Trust the Spirit's quiet work**, even when outcomes are not yet visible

Above all, take heart. We are a church grounded in the new life that comes from resurrection—again and again discovering that new life emerges in ways we could not have predicted. Thank you all for your faithfulness, your courage, and your care for the communities you serve. You are part of God's ongoing story, and that story is not finished.

May you be sustained by hope, grounded in love, and guided by the Spirit as together we journey *Toward 2035*.

Respectfully submitted,

Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister

Northern Spirit, Living Skies, and Prairie to Pine Regional Councils.



REPORT – REGIONAL COUNCIL TREASURER



Jennifer Pakula
Treasurer

I would like to extend my thanks to Francesca Martina, who served as our Financial Administrator until late 2025. We are grateful for her contributions during her time with the Region. I am pleased to announce that Robert Smith has agreed to take over this role for the Region. Additionally, we are fortunate that Heather Dootoff has come out of retirement to provide essential support during this transition. Their collective expertise ensures continued stability in our financial management.

The 2025 financial statements are now approved by the Regional Council Executive and reflect an excess of revenue over expenses of \$217,714. Key figures include:

- Revenue: Current total revenue is \$416K above budget, primarily due to above budget donations of \$352k (received from pastoral charge closures) and additional investment income of \$40k.
- Expenses: Total expenses for 2025 are currently slightly over (~1%) of the budget.

For more information, please reference the 2025 financial statements, which are attached. We remain committed to using our resources strategically to support the mission and programs of the Region.

Respectfully submitted,
Jennifer Pakula, Treasurer
Prairie to Pine Regional Council



PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE
Consensus Decisions 2025/2026

MOTION #		MEETING	
01	2025/2026	June 28, 2025	It was agreed by consensus that Prairie to Pine Regional Council add Francesca Martina as authorized individual at Conexus Credit Union to sign for cheques and approve e-transfers, instructions and on-line payments. Signers on the account will therefore be Shannon McCarthy, Francesca Martina, Jennifer Pakula, Heather Dootoff and Darrell Reine, any two to sign.
02	2025/2026	June 28, 2025	It was agreed by consensus that Prairie to Pine Regional Council add Francesca Martina as a signer on the ScotiaWealth account. Shannon McCarthy can remain as a signer, and Heather Dootoff can be removed.
03	2025/2026	June 28, 2025	It was agreed by consensus that Francesca Martina be authorized to communicate with CRA on behalf of the organization Prairie to Pine Regional Council and use the Represent a Client function.
04	2025/2026	September 2, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the minutes of June 3, 2025 and June 28, 2025 as amended.
05	2025/2026	September 2, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve \$750 towards the travel costs for the Here from the Beginning exhibit.
06	2025/2026	September 2, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the Mission Support Budget in the amount of \$99,000 for 2026.
07	2025/2026	September 2, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve a budget of \$45,000 for the 2026 AGM.

MOTION #		MEETING	
08	2025/2026	September 2, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve Jennifer Pakula and Tricia Gerhard to be listed as CRA Charity "Owners" for Prairie to Pine Regional Council.
09	2025/2026	September 2, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the following appointments to the Annual Meeting Planning Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pat Bird • Doug Neufeld • Jeri Bjornson • Susan Weppler • Ila Swain • Karen Kempe • Mona Denton • Linda Buchanan • Jamie Miller • Emmanuel Meneyre
10	2025/2026	September 2, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive remove Elijah Mwandila from the Pastoral Relations Commission.
11	2025/2026	(passed via email Sept 27, 2025)	It was agreed by consensus that Prairie to Pine Regional Council add Tricia Gerhard as authorized individual at Conexus Credit Union to sign for cheques and approve e-transfers, instructions and on-line payments and that Heather Dootoff and Darrell Reine be removed. Signers on the account will therefore be Shannon McCarthy, Francesca Martina, Jennifer Pakula, and Tricia Gerhard, any two to sign.
12	2025/2026	October 7, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the minutes of September 2, 2025 as distributed.

MOTION #		MEETING	
13	2025/2026	October 7, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive will apply the property policy that was in effect at the time of consent to sell.
14	2025/2026	October 7, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the dispersal of assets for St. John's United Church according to the Property Policy dated February 20.
15	2025/2026	October 7, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive receive the following reports for information: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Report • Executive Minister Report • Equity & Diversity Committee Report • Growth Animator Q2 Report • Lay Ministry Report • Community Faith Support Report • Nominations Report • YAAV Report • Archives Report
16	2025/2026	October 7, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive make the following amendment to the nominations report, to take effect on January 1, 2026: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dawn Rolke will be acting as Chair until 2027. In 2026, she will act as co-chair along with Tricia Gerhard. • Lynn Sanderson will be the past chair until 2027
17	2025/2026	October 7, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve A Conflict Resolution special fund be set up immediately by transferring \$3000 from the Effective Leadership Event and Overview & Visioning 2014, and at the end of every year topping the Fund to \$5,000 using Retained Earnings. This fund will be used for CRF training and/or processes requested by Executive or the Pastoral Relations Commission.

MOTION #		MEETING	
18	2025/2026	October 7, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve \$15,000 be transferred to Transcona Memorial United Church to cover half of the expenses to build a new room to accommodate the Prairie to Pine archives.
19	2025/2026	October 7, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the following: a. Prairie to Pine United Church Development Inc. ...pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the Prairie to Pine United Church Development Inc. 2025-2026 Board of Directors Dennis Butcher Stuart Cook Andrew Fletcher-Cook Spencer Libbrecht Lisa Lix Esther McNairnay Sheron Miller Dwight Rutherford Betty Young <i>This is based on the draft minutes of Annual General Meeting of Members of June 18, 2025, the 2025 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.</i>
20	2025/2026	(passed via email on Sept 29)	It was agreed by consensus That Prairie to Pine Regional Council add Tricia Gerhard as authorized individual at Conexus Credit Union to sign for cheques and approve e-transfers, instructions and on-line payments and that Heather Dootoff and Darrell Reine be removed. Signers on the account will therefore be Shannon McCarthy, Francesca Martina, Jennifer Pakula, and Tricia Gerhard, any two to sign.

MOTION #		MEETING	
21	2025/2026	November 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the minutes of October 7, 2025 as distributed.
21-A	2025/2026	November 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve a direct contribution of \$2000 to the Office Admin Network for their conference in October 2026. Another \$1000 will be put aside to help support individuals from Prairie to Pine to attend.
22	2025/2026	November 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive accept and approve the following reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Co - Chair Report • Executive Minister Report • Growth Animator Q3 Report • Lay Leadership Support Report • Ministry Personnel Support Report • Planning Team Meeting Report • Committee on Community of Faith Support Report
23	2025/2026	November 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve Teresa Melnychuk as a member at large on the Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive.
24	2025/2026	November 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the following Mission & Service Grants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> \$ 84,420 -1Just City \$ 3,000 - Wellman Lake \$ 7,000 - Counselling Centre \$ 4,580 - Rock Lake Camp \$ 99,000 – Total
25	2025/2026	December 2, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the minutes of November 3, 2025 as distributed.

MOTION #		MEETING	
26	2025/2026	December 2, 2025	<p>It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive accept the following reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) CCFS Report b) Lay Ministry Lay Support Report c) Nominations Report d) YAAY Report e) Committee on Ministry Personnel Support f) Pastoral Relations Commission Report g) Equity and Diversity Report
27	2025/2026	December 2, 2025	<p>It was agreed by consensus: Whereas Benito-Kenville Pastoral Charge, Manitoba including the two Communities of Faith of Benito United Church and Kenville United Church, have ceased to be active Communities of Faith, have sold their buildings and dispersed their respective assets and the assets of the Pastoral Charge, have made arrangements to deposit their records, including their financial records, with Archives, have transferred memberships as per Regional Council expectations, have their bank account at zero as of November 5, 2025, and have made arrangements for the final Canada Revenue Agency T3010 and United Church of Canada Statistics to be completed, now request to be disbanded as a United Church Community of Faith;</p> <p>Therefore, Prairie to Pine Regional Council approve the disbandment of Benito-Kenville Pastoral Charge and its two Communities of Faith, Benito United Church and Kenville United Church, effective December 31, 2025.</p>
28	2025/2026	December 2, 2025	<p>It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approves the appointment of Jamie Miller to the Equity and Diversity Committee.</p>
29	2025/2026	December 2, 2025	<p>It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the 2026 budget with an increased amount of \$5000 in Internal Committee Events - Mission and Ministry.</p>

MOTION #		MEETING	
30	2025/2026	December 2, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve an increased mileage rate of \$0.50 for 2026, effective January 1, 2026.
31	2025/2026	December 2, 2025	That Prairie to Pine Regional Council add Robert Smith to the Conexus Credit Union account as authorized individual to sign cheques and approve e-transfers, instructions and on-line payments, and that Francesca Martina be removed. Signers on the account will therefore be Shannon McCarthy, Robert Smith, Jennifer Pakula, Darrell Reine, Heather Dootoff and Tricia Gerhard, any two to sign, effective January 1, 2026.
32	2025/2026	December 2, 2025	That Prairie to Pine Regional Council remove Francesca Martina from the Scotiawealth account and that Robert Smith be added as authorized on same, effective January 1, 2026.
33	2025/2026	December 2, 2025	That Prairie to Pine Regional Council add Robert Smith as authorized "Rep a Client" with CRA, effective January 1, 2026.
34	2025/2026	December 2, 2025	That Prairie to Pine Regional Council remove Francesca Martina from the Jubilee/Assiniboine Credit Union Accounts and that Robert Smith be added as authorized on same, effective January 1, 2026.
35	2025/2026	December 2, 2025	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. United Church Halfway Homes Inc. ...pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada, approve the formal request to purchase 444 & 448 Sherbrook Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, as requested on October 18, 2025, approved by the board on September 18, 2025, and confirmed by the board members by resolution of October 24, 2025, of the incorporated ministry known as United Church Halfway Homes Inc.

MOTION #		MEETING	
			<p><i>This is based on the formal request of October 18, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes of September 18, 2025, Board Resolution of October 24, 2025, and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada. This acquisition is part of this incorporated ministry's ongoing program expansion to increase housing availability due to demand.</i></p> <p>...based on the guidance received from General Council Staff, pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada, approve the formal request to enter into the process of moving from a Category 1 Supervised Incorporated Ministry to a Category 4 Legacy Incorporated Ministry through the severance agreement process, as requested October 15, 2025 and approved by the board September 18, 2025 of the incorporated ministry known as United Church Halfway Homes Inc.</p> <p><i>This is based on the formal request of October 15, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes of September 18, 2025, and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.</i></p>
36	2025/2026	January 19, 2026	<p>It was agreed by consensus: That the Prairie to Pine Executive approves the minutes of December 2, 2025, as distributed.</p>
37	2025/2026	January 19, 2026	<p>It was agreed by consensus: That the Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approve the following</p> <p>a) <u>United Church Halfway Homes Inc.</u> ... pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the United Church Halfway Homes Inc. 2025-2026 Board of Directors Crystal Lynn Adams J. Carlos Clark James Dixon Darrin Hale</p>

MOTION #		MEETING	
			<p>Kendra Kinley Carey Lai Kirti Sharma Anne Walker</p> <p><i>This is based on the draft AGM Meeting Minutes of November 20, 2025, the 2025 board member approval form, the board contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.</i></p>
38	2025/2026	January 19, 2026	<p>It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approved the nomination of Millie Lewis as a new member of the Committee on Ministry Personnel Support, effective immediately.</p>
39	2025/2026	January 19, 2026	<p>It was agreed by consensus: That the Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive accepts the following reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Pastoral Relations Commission b) Pastoral Relations Minister c) Property Commission d) Committee on Ministry Personnel Support e) Archives f) YAA Y
40	2025/2026	January 19, 2026	<p>It was agreed by consensus: That the Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approves the payment of the 2026 membership dues to the Manitoba Multifaith Council Inc. (MMC).</p>
41	2025/2026	March 3, 2026	<p>It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approves the minutes of the January 19-20, 2026, in-person meeting, as distributed.</p>

MOTION #		MEETING	
42	2025/2026	March 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus That the Prairie to Pine Executive table the proposal of Dryden United Church to allow further conversation with them.
43	2025/2026	March 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council approves the re-licensing of LINDA BUCHANAN of Westminster United Church, The Pas, as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL) in Prairie to Pine Regional Council, effective immediately for a period of three years (until March 3, 2029).
44	2025/2026	March 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council approves the re-licensing of WENDY DENBOW of Knox United Church, Plumas MB, as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL) in Prairie to Pine Regional Council, effective immediately for a period of three years (until March 3, 2029).
45	2025/2026	March 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council approves the re-licensing of JULIE DZEOBA of Vermilion Bay Pastoral Charge, as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL) in Prairie to Pine Regional Council, effective immediately for a period of three years (until March 3, 2029).
46	2025/2026	March 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council approves the re-licensing of SHIRLEY MARTIN of Cadurcis United Church, as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL) in Prairie to Pine Regional Council, effective immediately for a period of three years (until March 3, 2029).
47	2025/2026	March 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council approves the re-licensing of JIM WARBURTON of Meadow Lea United Church, as a Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL) in Prairie to Pine Regional Council, effective immediately for a period of three years (until March 3, 2029).

MOTION #		MEETING	
48	2025/2026	March 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council approves the re-licensing of NORMA WINDLE of McCreary United Church, be re-licensed as Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL) in Prairie to Pine Regional Council, effective immediately for a period of three years (until March 3, 2029).
49	2025/2026	March 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council approves the Governance Documents from Atlantic Garden City.
50	2025/2026	March 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council approves the change in the Moris United-Rossenfeld ELCIC Ecumenical Shared Ministry Agreement for hiring practice from 'alternating clergy between denominations' to 'the best candidate', allowing them to hire from either denomination.
51	2025/2026	March 3, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive accepts the following reports: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chair Report • Executive Minister Report • Property Commission Report • Pastoral Relations Commission • Lay Leadership Support Report • Ministry Personnel Support Report • Committee on Community of Faith Support Report • Young Adults and Youth (YAAY) • Finance • Nominations

MOTION #		MEETING	
52	2025/2026	March 3, 2026	<p>It was agreed by consensus: That the Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approve the following</p> <p>a) <u>United Church Halfway Homes Inc.</u> ... based on the guidance received from General Council Staff, pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada, approve the request that the official name of the Corporation be changed to Step Forward Reintegration Homes Inc., as approved by the board on January 22, 2026, of the incorporated ministry known as United Church Halfway Homes Inc.</p> <p><i>This is based on the official request and draft Board Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2026, and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada. This is further to the December 2, 2025, motion approved by the Executive to begin the severance agreement process.</i></p> <p>b) <u>Wellman Lake United Church Camp</u> ...pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada, approve the Wellman Lake United Church Camp 2025-2026 Board of Directors</p> <p>Rayne Fullawka Breanna How Jody Nakonechney Debbie Schulz Lanaya Zaretzky</p> <p><i>This is based on the draft AGM Minutes of May 4, 2025, draft Members Meeting Minutes of January 15, 2026, the 2025 board member approval submission, contact list provided, and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.</i></p>
53	2025/2026	March 3, 2026	<p>It was agreed by consensus That the Prairie to Pine Executive approves the request for \$1800 for the PIE Day event in Knox United Church, Brandon, organized by the Assiniboine Affirming Ministry Cluster.</p>

MOTION #		MEETING	
54	2025/2026	April 7, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the minutes of March 3, 2026, as corrected.
55	2025/2026	April 7, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Executive grant Dryden United Church \$18,000.00 as requested for relocation costs, as stated in their correspondence, and 70% of the remaining net proceeds from the sale.
56	2025/2026	April 7, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive accept the following reports: a) Pastoral Relations Minister b) Pastoral Relations Commission c) AGM Planning Team d) Committee on Ministry Personnel Support
57	2025/2026	April 7, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approve the funding request for We Are All Treaty People in the amount of \$4,700.
58	2025/2026	April 7, 2026	It was agreed by consensus: That Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive approve the purchase of the Summer Worship Resource at a cost of \$250.



PRAIRIE TO PINE
REGIONAL COUNCIL
The United Church of Canada



REPORTS – STANDING COMMITTEES and COMMISSIONS

NOMINATIONS

Once again, we are proud to put forward this slate of individuals for your consideration to serve our region in the upcoming church year.

Our committee made over 150 reach-outs to folks both serving on committees and not, between September and May. This included phone calls, emails, virtual meetings, and in-person conversations. This is life-giving work that is vital to the work of this region and could be more equitably shared by all its servants.

Many people report being busy with multiple church tasks with their community of faith, in the broader community, or are volunteering in other ways that make their lives busy. Since the pandemic, we note that many individuals simply reassessed how they were spending their time and focused on things that either provided them with a tangible impact or things that were closer to home. That has undoubtedly made our work harder. We also note that, for those who have agreed to take on a commitment, it is on top of several other commitments.

We had a very small list of folks who declined to continue serving, and in most cases, were folks who were 'termed out'. Our hope is that after some time away, these folks will return to our slate in another role that interests them. We are also thankful to folks who wish to serve on committees even after their terms expire, namely, to complete important work that started during their terms.

We always welcome further conversation on the roles that remain unfilled or how we can reach folks across our region in a better way. While we are a strong and mighty team, we can always use folks pointing us in the direction of those who are willing to serve.

A particular thank you to Julie Graham and Judy Hare, who thoughtfully contributed to our committee's work.

On a personal note, it has been a great six years serving on the Nominations committee, and I am thankful not only to all the people who answered my calls and emails over the years, but to the many faithful servants who have been on this committee during my time. Many hands truly make light work, and it's been a privilege to share in it.

*Respectfully submitted,
Joey Dearborn, on behalf of*

*Frances Flook
Marissa Smirl
Heather Lea
Lynne Sanderson*



PASTORAL RELATIONS COMMISSION

The Pastoral Relations Commission (PRC) continues its work through monthly meetings held via Zoom. The dedicated persons appointed to this Commission are supported in our work by Judy Hare, Pastoral Relations Minister, as well as those who are appointed as Liaisons to work with Communities of Faith through the pastoral relations process.

Much of our work continues to follow a similar pattern:

- We provide training and support to those serving as Liaisons throughout the pastoral relations process
- We appoint Pastoral Charge Supervisors and receive and review their Annual Reports.
- We receive requests from ministry personnel who are requesting a change in pastoral relations or seeking to begin a time of sabbatical.
- We receive requests for support from Communities of Faith when they are seeking to increase or decrease ministry time and when they are about to begin the process to search for a new minister.
- We receive and review ministry profiles from communities of faith when they are beginning the search process, and provide support as they upload the material to Church Hub.
- We receive, review, and approve calls and appointments resulting from the search process or renewal of current appointments.
- We provide personnel to attend meetings of governing bodies and communities of faith when pastoral relations matters are being discussed and/or when Liaisons are unavailable to attend.
- In conjunction with the Committee on Community of Faith Support, we alternate hosting training sessions for congregational Ministry and Personnel Committees.

While much of our work seems to be routine, it is not without its challenges. We continue to work with communities of faith who struggle with access to Church Hub and to the websites which continue to provide the most current handbooks related to our work. We recognize that there continues to be unequal access to the internet throughout our region.

We continue to work with communities of faith who find it challenging to attract applicants to part-time ministry. We now require such communities of faith to engage in conversations with their neighbours, which might lead to new opportunities for collaboration and the creation of full-time ministry positions. This collaborative work has become more frequent, and as each collaboration is unique in scope and practice, we, as a Commission, receive, review, and approve the Collaboration Agreements and resulting ministry position descriptions.

In recent pastoral years, several communities of faith have been able to engage in ministry with clergy from overseas. While the immigration process can be long and involved, those communities of faith have been actively engaged in the process. And, with the assistance of Judy Hare, there have been conversations in those places about the challenges of new immigrants and the need for cultural awareness. Where a community of faith has engaged an overseas clergy, we have provided cultural awareness and sensitivity workshops.

Sherrie McConnell has been a great asset to the Commission and has offered her help with many of the online training sessions that have taken place, including: community of faith profile training, search committee training, and M&P committee training.

The work of the PRC continues to be a collaborative process. I appreciate the support of the Liaisons: Linda Buchanan, Mona Denton, Lorraine Kakegamic, Harold Kenyon, Sherri McConnell, Paul Duval, Patrick Woodbeck and those who also serve as members of the PRC (Lorraine Kakegamic, Harold Kenyon, Sherri McConnell, Simbarashe Mazhara, and Paul Duval). Together we pool our gifts and our enthusiasm as we share in this work.

The work of the Pastoral Relations Commission continues to move forward with a dedicated group of individuals. We encourage any individuals who might be interested in, or feel called to, this work to reach out to a member of the Commission to explore that possibility.

*Respectfully submitted,
Patrick Woodbeck, Chair
Pastoral Relations Commission*

**COMMITTEE ON
COMMUNITY OF FAITH SUPPORT
(aka CCFS)**

Our committee provides oversight and support to Communities of Faith in the Prairie to Pine Regional Council, especially Pastoral Charges needing guidance with matters of transition such as structural changes, amalgamation, realignment and closure. This committee makes recommendations to the Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive for decision.

The CCFS met monthly via Zoom with one in-person meeting (to be held) in Winnipeg. Our committee work is handled by a team of 7 dedicated folk, with the support of one RC staff. Each non-Indigenous Pastoral Charge is assigned to a committee member who supports them through their process of change.

Self-Assessments

We completed our first round (3-year cycle) of Self Assessments... just a few stragglers out there. We took this year off to allow the important discussions of Towards 2035 to take place in each Community of Faith, but we will resume the Self-Assessment cycle this fall. The Self-Assessment reports are a “snapshot” of a Community of Faith’s current life and are a requirement in the UCC Manual (By-law B.2.1).

Governance Documents

We supported two Pastoral Charges who changed or restructured their governance documents, provided resources, and supported two Pastoral Charges involved in Ecumenical Shared Ministry to accommodate changing needs.

Workshops

We assisted with providing online workshops for Ministry & Personnel Committees and financial support for training sessions for Pastoral Care Visitors. We cancelled our Self-Assessment Conversation workshop set for April 22 as there were not enough registrants, but we hope to reschedule that soon.

Annual Reports

We follow up with Communities of Faith who have not submitted electronic or hard copies of their Annual Report.

Since June 2025, we have been involved with assisting numerous Communities of Faith, as they process change:

Disbanded

Benito-Kenville PC

Emmanuel Anglican United Church-Ignace (disestablished by the Anglican Diocese, Sept. 4, 2025; acknowledged by UCC)

Final Service held and working toward disbandment

Victoria United Church in Melita, part of the Deloraine-Melita-Tilston PC
Hartney United Church and Lauder United Church of the Hartney-Lauder Pastoral Charge

It is important to highlight that the process of disbanding a Community of Faith is a complex and involved process. Once a Community of Faith has decided to pursue this option, we connect them with a support person and share the full resource “We Cannot Continue On Like This.”

Thank you to P2PRC staff, Judy Hare and Cherry Abad, for your excellent support.

Respectfully submitted,
Committee for Community of Faith Support: Pat Bird (Chair),
Irene Chabluk, Silas Lee, Bill Millar, Sourav Nag,
Heather Sandilands (Recording Secretary), Karen Kempe

**COMMITTEE ON
LAY MINISTRY/ LAY
LEADERSHIP**

The Committee on Lay Ministry and Lay Leadership Support is responsible for 1) supporting, licensing, re-licensing, and tracking information for Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (LLWLs); 2) training related to Sacrament Elders; and 3) tracking related to Congregational Designated Ministers (CDMs). More details on our role, including a link to our mandate, can be found at <https://prairietopiner.ca/about/governance/committees-on-support/clls/>. The committee is currently chaired by Jim Warburton, and Linda Buchanon serves as a corresponding member to the Executive meetings. In August 2025, we welcomed new members Susan Reed, Linda Buchanon, and Peter Latimer.

A gathering of the LLWLs took place on October 17, 2025, at McKenzie United Church, Portage la Prairie. The theme for the day was *Storytelling*. Following morning worship, the attendees viewed the Right Reverend Dr. Kimberley Heath presenting her sermon at her installation as Moderator of the UCC. This served to introduce the Moderator to those present and also led into a discussion of the use of storytelling in sermons. Jim Warburton facilitated a “sticky note” exercise that had previously been used by Ross Lockhart in an LLWL training session. Following lunch, Scott Douglas from the Centre for Christian Studies provided leadership for a storytelling workshop. The next LLWL gathering will be held in the fall of 2026.

In 2025-26, no new LLWLs have been licensed. Re-licensing is an ongoing process. Six were recommended for re-licensing in March and six more in April. We acknowledged with sadness the death of LLWL Rita Swan in the fall of 2025. This year, Barbara Ann Craik and Patricia Kopp declined to renew their LLWL licenses, and they were thanked for their years of service as LLWLs. We currently have 17 LLWLs and three retired Designated Lay Ministers available for pulpit supply throughout various areas of the Prairie to Pine Region.

As of August 2025, there were 58 Sacrament Elders licensed (associated with 36 Communities of Faith). On February 28, 2026, 6 people took part in the Sacrament Elder training provided via Zoom. Licensing and re-licensing occur annually.

Committee meetings have been moved to the 3rd Wednesday of the month (from the 4th) so that we can send timely reports to the Executive meetings. The committee members are appreciative of and thankful for the assistance and expertise of Judy Hare. We are making every effort to work efficiently and effectively.

Respectfully submitted,
Dianne Kowalchuk (Secretary), on behalf of the Committee:
Jim Warburton (Chair), Hope Mattus, Susan Reed, Linda Buchanan, Peter Latimer

For P2PLicensed Lay Worship Leaders in Prairie to Pine Regional Council (active)

- Benson, Elaine (McCreary United Church) *
- Buchanan, Linda (Westminster United Church, The Pas)
- Chabluk, Irene (Dugald United Church)
- Denbow, Wendy (Knox United Church, Plumas of Circle Marsh Pastoral Charge)
- Dzebo, Julie (Vermillion Bay United Church)
- Dzebo-Macklem, Nancy (Vermillion Bay United Church)
- Friesen, Rita (Neepawa United Church)
- Frost, Carol (Minnedosa United Church)
- Hastie, Fiona (Killarney United Church)
- Hutton, Julie (Minnedosa United Church)
- Lewis, Mille (Cloverdale United Church)
- Martin, Shirley (Cadurcis United Church)
- McKenty, Diane (Grey Street United Church, Winnipeg)
- Nadeau, Irma (Trinity United Church, Winnipeg)
- Richardson, Jan (Knox United Church, Kenora)*
- Schwartz, Dan (Bird’s Hill United Church)*
- Shiriff, Wilma (McKenzie United Church, Portage La Prairie)
- Spindler, Susan (St. Paul’s United Church, Beausejour)
- Swain, Ila (Roland United Church)
- Warburton, Jim (Meadow Lea United Church of Warren-Meadow Lea Pastoral Charge)
- White, Dora (Minnedosa United Church)
- Windle, Norma (McCreary United Church)

* Presently due for re-licensing

Barbara Ann Craik (Langruth United Church of Circle Marsh Pastoral Charge); Patricia Kopp (Langruth United Church of Circle Marsh Pastoral Charge), and Bev Leadbeater (Rock Lake Pastoral Charge) indicated in 2026 they would not be seeking re-licensing as LLWL at this time. We affirm their training, thank them for years of service as Licensed Lay Worship Leaders within Prairie to Pine Regional Council and its predecessor, and support them in the contributions they may continue to make to worship leadership within the communities of faith with whom they worship.

**COMMITTEE ON
MINISTRY PERSONNEL
SUPPORT**

Our committee is made up of Active and retired ministry personnel and lay folks who work together to provide support to both active and retired ministry personnel.

Our committee is comprised of David Howell, Joan Jarvis, Diane McKenty, Susan Tilleman, Chewe Mulenga, and Cathy Maxwell. In February, we welcomed Millie Lewis. At the end of May, we say goodbye to David Howell and Joan Jarvis. Our Staff support person is Judy Hare. We meet monthly via Zoom with one day long in person meeting in October.

Our mandate: “The committee seeks to encourage ministry personnel in the absence of formal localized structures to support and encourage ways of collegial connection and opportunities to gather locally.

Our work is done through annual events for both active ministry personnel and retired ministry personnel.

This year, we made the decision to give our full support as a committee to a gathering for active Ministry Personnel planned by the Vocational Minister who works for three regional councils (Northern Spirit, Living Skies and Prairie Spirit) rather than host our own regional event. Five Ministry Personnel from Prairie to Pine received financial support to attend **The Great Exhale: A Gentle Pause for Faithful Souls: A retreat** at the Star of the North Retreat Centre in St. Albert.

We will be holding a luncheon for ministry personnel pensioners and their partners on May 28th, 2026, at Prairie Spirit United Church.

Our thanks to Cherry Abad for her ongoing administrative support of our work and to Judy Hare for all that she does to keep us on track and accountable.

We look forward to another year of ongoing work as we continue to seek ways of offering our support to Ministry personnel.

Respectfully submitted,

Cathy Maxwell, on behalf of the Committee:

David Howell, Joan Jarvis, Susan Tilleman, Diane McKenty, Chewe Mulenga, Millie Lewis

PROPERTY COMMISSION

Prairie to Pine Property Commission
2026 Annual Report
July 1, 2025, to March 31, 2026

Membership:

Ken Thomas, chair; Kenneth Allison, Chuck Ross, Wayne Sanderson, Dwight Rutherford (corresponding member)

We were pleased to welcome Ken Allison to the commission. Ken brings considerable experience and knowledge, especially with building and redevelopment projects, which are becoming increasingly important to the work of the commission.

Since July 1, 2025, the commission has met 13 times.

We passed 19 resolutions giving consent as follows:

listings - 1

sales - 13

roof replacement/repair 2

leases -1

contracts related to development projects - 2

The difference between listings and sales is remarkable. We have completed considerable activity with sales of rural churches and other properties, but it appears there is a lull in closures in rural areas.

Commission work on development projects has increased substantially. At this time, there are 5 active projects at various stages in Winnipeg. The preparation and decision-making processes of these projects are very long and complex and require considerable time and commitment. The commission urges any congregation considering a repurposing of their building to contact the commission for advice before making any choices.

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Ken Thomas, Chair

**EQUITY and DIVERSITY
COMMITTEE**

Equity and Diversity Committee
2026 Annual Report
July 1, 2025, to May 2026

Ongoing Work:

- Communication:
 - We have continued to share news, events, and resources through our Facebook group, Prairie to Pine Affirming Ministries and People and the Prairie to Pine website
 - We are still working on updating the email listing that Julie Graham, our Staff Support, maintains, as some email addresses are outdated.
- Supporting congregations:
 - We are here to support congregations that are Affirming, as well as those in the process of becoming Affirming, although we don't always know who they are! We have recently been able to get some of this information from Affirm United and are reaching out to congregations who are in the process.
 - We have continued to host a "community connection" Zoom session before PIE Day and before Pride month to help share ideas and resources.
- Connections with other groups:
 - We connect and keep in contact with Affirm United, as well as other groups such as Affirming Connections, Western Intercultural Network, Disability and Accessibility Network, Rainbow Resource Centre, and, most recently, with a Guaranteed Livable Income group.

Highlights of this year:

- We made arrangements for some people who weren't commissioners to GC45 to travel to Calgary to attend the Apology to 2S and LGBTQIA+ Peoples.
- In November 2025, we hosted an online workshop on Shifting from Unconscious Bias to Conscious Inclusion. There were approximately 65 people who attended this workshop online- some even gathered together in a group at their church to attend! We even had a few people from Living Skies and Northern Spirit Regions join us.
- We published a 2026 Equity and Diversity Calendar on the Prairie to Pine website, which gives the dates of as many holidays and observances related to justice as we can find! If you notice anything missing, please let us know so we can update it for 2027!

Looking ahead:

- Connection with other regions:
 - We have done some partnering with Equity and Diversity committees from Living Skies and Northern Spirit Regions, and are hoping to do more in the future. Julie Graham is also staff support for these regions, and so it is a natural fit for us to work together, and it means more sharing of ideas and good use of time!
- Other forms of Equity and Diversity
 - Although our committee was created when Prairie to Pine Region became Affirming, we are not only meant to be about 2S and LGBTQIA+ justice, and we have been trying to branch out and spend some time on other justice issues, such as Intercultural ministry, and Accessibility.
 - We have been in touch with the organizers of "Here from the Beginning", a Centennial project showcasing the significant role of Black people in the history of the United Church, and we hope to have it hosted in our Region later this year.

*Respectfully submitted,
The Equity and Diversity Committee*

UCW-BURSARY



The **Prairie to Pine Regional Bursary** has been funded by donations to the Prairie to Pine Regional Council, by UCWs or Communities of Faith. The Prairie to Pine Regional Bursary has been administered by a Committee within Prairie to Pine Regional UCW Network and meets in person and on Zoom twice a year. In 2025, we met via Zoom to make decisions regarding the Bursaries.

The purpose of the Prairie to Pine Regional Bursary has been to financially assist promising candidates for the Order of Ministry (ordained or diaconal) from our Conference who are registered in the theological studies, as well as persons in the Designated Lay Ministry Training program qualifying for leadership in the Church.

In 2025, there were four applicants, three of whom qualified for the P2P Bursary.

Karen Kempe: \$1,000.00 Accepted as a candidate for ordination at St. Andrews College

Jaime Miller: \$1,000.00 Diaconal Ministry

Mulumeoderhwa Buhendwa (Peter): \$1,000.00 Master in Divinity at Vancouver School of Theology

We sincerely thank all UCWs and Communities of Faith for their contributions and ask for their continued support. If your Community of Faith no longer has a contributing UCW, our committee requests that you consider including this in your future yearly budget. Our financial resources for the Bursaries are always welcome to help participants.

The **UCW Bursary** of \$800 is awarded annually from Prairie to Pine Regional UCW funds to people, at least 18 years of age (and not in, or studying towards, paid accountable ministry). The applicant must be actively involved in, and taking a course that would benefit, a local United Church Community of Faith. For this year, we had no applicants. Please encourage members of your Community of Faith who would benefit from this bursary to apply in the future.

As well, the **Agatha Kaasa Bursary**, established in 2003 by the National UCW, is available to women for leadership training, continuing education or projects/events that would benefit United Church work. This bursary application form can be found on the National site "search."

There is another National Bursary, the **Dorothy Amos Fund**, for any woman who is a UCW member and not in paid accountable ministry. This Bursary was founded in 2012 in honour of Dorothy Amos using proceeds from the UCW 50th Anniversary. Both these National Bursaries can be found by searching under the particular Bursary/Fund name.

Our Bursary Committee wishes to thank both Judy Hare and Cherry Abad, and the Prairie to Pine Regional Council office, for their years of work on our behalf. Our committee also works with Laura Fohse, Minister for the Office of Vocation, and former Heather Dootoff, now Robert Smith, Financial Administrator, both representatives for our Prairie to Pine Region. **Thank you to Heather Dootoff, from retirement to back to work**, for calculating the interest from the McArthur fund, from 2019 until 2025, and crediting \$1706.32 for funds for Bursaries! Happy retirement, Heather!!

Thank you all for your support!

Respectfully submitted,

Darlynne Smith

Darlynne Smith, Convener

Prairie to Pine Regional Bursary Committee

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS (YAAY)

The Young Adult and Youth committee organized and oversaw a collection of events this year in the Prairie to Pine region.

Neechi Camp 2025, a reconciliation camp for Indigenous and non-Indigenous youths, was held at Ochekwi Sipi Cree Nation (Fisher River, MB) from August 17-21st. We made hand drums, did hoop dancing and powwow dancing, learned some Cree, joined a sweat lodge ceremony, and went fishing with commercial fishers, followed by cleaning, filleting, frying, and feasting!

Over the summer, one youth from Brandon and one from Carberry participated in the Climate Motivator Program. They were tasked with undertaking a climate-related project of their choice. They also joined with 8 Climate Motivators from other regions at Five Oaks camp in Ontario, where they learned about proposals and then created their own proposal to take to General Council 45.

Four youth represented our region at the Youth Forum of General Council 45 in Calgary in August 2025. They were from Brandon, Carberry, Dryden, and Oxford House. One of them also served as an elected commissioner from our region.

The YAAY committee met twice this year in person, in September and January, and once more online.

There was a Leadership event at Churchill Park in September, in conjunction with the YAAY meeting, as well as an ALF retreat planning meeting and Travelling Youth Group (TYG). So many things! The leadership participants planned and led events for TYG, including a small worship with lots of music and a few readings, followed by a game. The theme was communication. They led a SIM game in which participants had to find puzzle pieces by asking the correct questions. There were 21 participants, including the 11 leadership participants who led the event.

The December TYG was held at St. Andrew's River Heights. With games to start off the evening, they had a great night of building gingerbread houses and showing off their creativity. The night ended with Christmas-themed trivia. Despite a crazy winter storm, there were still 19 participants (with 10 from the home church).

From October 24th to 26th of 2025, the ALF youth retreat, St. Paul's United Church in Virden, saw 27 participants and 16 youth leaders from all across the province. The theme was 100 years of Faith and Community, so the main takeaways were learning about the United Church of Canada and the original three denominations that made up the United Church of Canada in 1925. The overall reception was positive, and many participants enjoyed the retreat altogether.

On November 15, we hosted our third "Sharing Across Cultures," a joyful celebration of the rich cultural diversity within our community. The event was a memorable occasion, highlighted by cultural presentations, like Indigenous dancing, a Filipino song, a lesson in using chopsticks, and an abundance of food prepared in many workshop activities. A participant offered a beautiful prayer of thanksgiving to God for our diversity, and prayed that this celebration would "build bridges of understanding, open hearts to friendship, and inspire us all to live in harmony."

In January, our second YAAY committee meeting was held at John Black Memorial, again with a Leadership event and a travelling youth group. Our 11 leadership Event participants led a capitalism-themed SIM game and worship for our 11 Traveling youth group participants!

Zeebu 2026 saw 20 youth participants and 18 young leaders in Harrow United Church from February 20th to February 22nd. The theme was interfaith, and the motto was "Knowing our Neighbours; many religions, one community." Throughout the weekend, the youth engaged in games, discussions, and learning sessions

with leaders of faith. Participants analyzed the differences and similarities between the three Abrahamic religions, made bracelets while learning about the roots of Buddhism, and went to a mosque to learn about how prayer is done in Islam. The event concluded with a Jeopardy game to test the memory of the participants and see what they learned.

Travelling Youth Group was held in March at St Mary's Road United Church, with a PIE Day theme, with weaving, crafting and pie baking and great discussion. April's TYG was held at Westworth UC with a small but mighty number that chatted and painted flowerpots. We look forward to growing these events.

Rock Lake United Church Camp had a great summer getting back into the groove of things! There were 4 weeks of youth camps (2 weeks ages 7-9, 2 weeks of 10-13) in 2025, plus the leadership development week. There were a total of 80 campers, 12 cabin leaders, and 7 on the leadership team. Campers were able to do all the campy-type things like canoeing, rock climbing, archery, crafting, hiking, and share their entertainment skills in talent shows. Worship, singing, night games and special meals were all a part of the camp community-building experience that will keep campers coming back for years! The camp also still relies on rentals, which provide additional income. RLUCC is looking forward to 2026, with 6 weeks of camp with more ages, and lots of great experiences!

Updates on Rock Lake Camp are shared at our meetings by a young person from Rock Lake who has joined the YAAY Committee. We would love to have someone from Wellman Lake Camp (our region's other United Church Camp) join our committee to let us know all the wonderful things that are happening there!

We would like to thank Twila MacNair for being the leading adult who made all the events possible, as well as the churches that hosted our many youth retreats. Without either, there would not be the possibility for so many young people to get to know some new people and have fun with other people.

*Submitted and written by YAAY Co-convenors Jayden Schettler and Emma MacDonald,
With extra help from Elizabeth Kenyon and Twila MacNair as support people.*

OTHER REPORTS

UNITED CHURCH RURAL MINISTRY NETWORK

The United Church Rural Ministry Network (UCRMN) is a national network that connects electronically to share stories and news of rural communities across Canada (and around the world), by networking with leaders of rural communities of faith – lay and clergy. UCRMN received a one-time start-up grant of \$5,000 from the United Church Foundation in 2020. UCRMN is a charitable organization that receives donations from Regional Councils, Congregations or interested people. At UCRMN.ca, there is a link for online donations, information on how to email an e-Transfer, or how to mail a donation by cheque. UCRMN asks all Regional Councils (or tri-Region groupings) to put UCRMN in their annual budgets, as 70% of United Church congregations across the country are in rural or small towns, therefore a relevant cost to each Regional Council.

Our primary ways of connecting with people are e-Newsletters (10 times a year), quarterly Zoom workshops and the ongoing presence of our website, <https://ucrmn.ca>, online. Peter Chynoweth of Cochrane, AB, has been our Web Minder since October 2022.

The e-Newsletters are always available for sharing worship ideas and hopeful stories from rural congregations. Regularly, there is excellent tech advice and challenges from Martin Dawson in PEI and from Peter Chynoweth in Cochrane, AB, who writes the regular ‘Tech Corner’. In addition, the e-Newsletters publicize events happening throughout the Church which are of interest to rural folks, advertising from Regions and committees like Affirming Connections, Curiosity Cohort, etc. Rural Routes Through the Holy conference, held in the Maritimes for a number of years, receives good coverage through the UCRMN newsletter and website, as Catherine Smith is a partner of the UCRMN Board. Chinook Winds has also held rural ministry conferences publicized by UCRMN. If other Regional Councils would like to connect with the rural constituency, let us know – editor@ucrmn.ca. We invite all rural congregations to connect by registering to receive the e-newsletter through the website (ucrmn.ca).

Our Zoom workshops this year covered “Lifelong Learning (facilitated by St. Andrew’s College, Feb. 24, 2024), “Social Media for the Rural Church (facilitated by the United Church Digital Team, April 18), “Rural Church Check in” (an invitation to share concerns and events throughout the country, Sept. 19), “LLWL Check in” (a conversation with Licensed Lay Worship Leaders, which proved so welcome and valuable a networking and such rich conversation that we held a second and a third get-together in Jan. and March), “How is Your Rural Church Celebrating the 100th Anniversary (facilitated by Bronwyn Corlett, Feb. 20) and coming up in May (15th), “Hands On – How to Save your Computer” (led by Martin Dawson and Peter Chynoweth). These workshops are advertised in the e-Newsletters, and registration is done through Eventbrite, offered free of charge. Reports on a number of the workshops that were held are found on the UCRMN website.

UCRMN folks ran the Canadian portion of the International Rural Churches Association (IRCA) 24-hour Global Prayer event that took place on March 10, 2025. A section of the day was about UCRMN specifically, and highlighted our Licensed Lay Worship Leaders, as well as Collaborative Ministries, and then Catherine Smith, a UCRMN member from the Atlantic Region, was the host of ‘Canada East’, and Robin Haensel, a retired Alliance pastor and member of CiRCLe M at the Saskatoon Theological Union, hosted ‘Canada West’. You can check them out on the IRCA website (<https://irca.online/24-hour-prayer-zoom> - the Americas).

UCRMN members are taking part in the “Rural Townhall” by Edge Network for Ministry Development, to hear people’s thoughts about what is going on in rural churches, and how rural ministries can be supported.

UCRMN is always looking for members to serve on the Board, as e-Newsletter Editor, Workshop Coordinator, or on the Finance Committee.

*Respectfully submitted,
Catherine Christie, President UCRMN, (Abbey, SK)*

JUBILEE FUND



In 2025, the Jubilee Fund celebrated its 25th year. As a founding member of the Jubilee Fund and a continuing investor, the Prairie to Pine Region can take pride in the growth of the Jubilee Fund and the impact that it has had in alleviating poverty in Manitoba over the years. We have grown from an organization with primarily Winnipeg-based projects to one that is having an impact across the province. We were particularly honoured to be recognized by the City of Winnipeg with the Organizational Community Service Award, acknowledging Jubilee Fund’s contribution to community development and poverty reduction.

In 2025, loans have gone to projects in the areas of:

Affordable housing –

Red Road Lodge, Winnipeg - to purchase previously leased property

Purpose: Home Construction in Winnipeg - to build two deeply affordable single-family homes

Day Care

Springfield Learning Centre - Anola

Huron Childcare - Winnipeg

Food Security

Direct Farm Manitoba - providing food vouchers for Farmers' Markets all over Manitoba

Community Wellness

Portage la Prairie Community Revitalization Corporation - help with down payment on a commercial building

Rent Guarantee Program

The Jubilee Fund has continued to offer the Rent Guarantee Program, acting as a guarantor for people with no rental history. We had 128 applications from almost 50 referring agencies, out of which we approved 110. When we approve an application, they receive a letter from Jubilee committing our willingness to guarantee/co-sign a rental agreement with them. The letter expires after three months, and applicants who have not found housing may reapply. This means that in 2025, Jubilee was prepared to support \$1.5 million worth of rent guarantees. We signed eight leases in 2025, totaling \$100,000 in actual guarantees.

The average age of an RGP applicant was 34; 86 percent of applicants were women, 68 percent of whom were coming from at-risk circumstances, and more than 90 percent of applicants were Indigenous. The program continues to see enormous success in terms of growth and approvals. We anticipate that we will receive more than 300 applications in 2026.

To learn more about the Jubilee Fund, go to jubileefund.ca. We would love to come to your church and talk about the Jubilee Fund. Please consider supporting the Jubilee Fund by investing, donating or promoting our Wreath Fundraiser.

Respectfully submitted,
Lynda Trono

MANITOBA MULTIFAITH COUNCIL

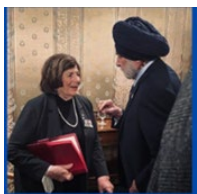


Mission: MMC exists to promote multifaith dialogue and understanding, while collaborating to serve the community as a whole.

Vision: People of diverse faiths working together to build a just and caring society.

The Manitoba Multifaith Council (MMC) continues to retain and embrace its partnership with the Prairie to Pine Regional Council.

Some highlights of the year are featured for your reading.



Her Honour the Honourable Anita Neville hosted a reception at Government House on February 4th, 2025, to honour Dr. Mohinder Singh Dhillon, recipient of the GG's award for Advancement of Interreligious Understanding. Congratulations, Dr. Dhillon, a former MMC Board Chair, on this well-deserved award.

The 10th Annual Manitoba Multifaith Leadership Breakfast began with special greetings from The Honourable Anita R. Neville, Lieutenant Governor of Manitoba and a keynote address given by Dorota Blumczynska, CEO Manitoba Museum. Her personal story served to deepen the appreciation among those present for her leadership in this city.



A national conference: **"Fostering Hope in a Divided World"** was organized by the Canadian Interfaith Conversation in partnership with the MMC, the CMHR, and the Mauro Institute for Peace & Justice at St. Paul's College, U of M from June 15-17, 2025. The opening night featured a special musical arrangement on the theme of hope performed by the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra, followed by an opening plenary session on "Hope and Human Rights" featuring renowned international human rights lawyer Payam Akhavan, Professor of International Law and Senior Fellow at Massey College, U of Toronto. The conference addressed 1 questions about recognizing the gravity of current global challenges—including climate change, violence, and political instability—while simultaneously identifying and drawing upon understandings of hope to inspire collective action and explored issues on reconciliation, human rights, international affairs, and the pervasive issue of polarization.

Spiritual Health Care Committee has helped to update the End-of-Life Care Guide to update the role of different faith traditions.

Justice and Corrections Committee hosted an event during Restorative Justice Week, with Honourable Matt Wiebe present. The theme "Seeking the Light Inside," also enabled the Committee to showcase some of the art created by inmates based on this theme.

The Annual General meeting was held at St. Marks Lutheran Church on Tuesday, September 9th, with keynote speaker Tanya Brothers, who drew on her own personal story to draw attention to the difficulties her family of origin had in moving from the racism of Oklahoma into Alberta, where they faced tensions. Her grandfather became one of the Sleeping Car Porters, who gradually made their way into the life of Canada. Against the background of racism, Black People in Canada have realized some of the promises in this nation. Her brother, Duane Brothers, rose to be Superintendent of first the Sunrise School Division and later the Louis Riel School Division until his retirement.



Respectfully submitted,

Diane Dwarka

Board Member, Manitoba Multifaith Council

**UNITED CHURCH
HALFWAY HOMES**

March 26, 2026

Submitted to: Harrow United Church

United Church Halfway Homes Inc. (UCHH) Annual Report

Meetings

United Church Halfway Homes Inc. (UCHH) continues to rent space at Harrow United Church for meetings, training, and events. Meetings have taken place regularly throughout the year, averaging two to four times per month. There has been a noticeable increase in in-person meetings, including staff, board and union meetings.



Hybrid meetings have also been utilized by incorporating the large screen television in the lower hall. This setup has proven to be highly effective for presentations and training sessions, enhancing participation and engagement for those attending both in person and virtually.

We continue to primarily use the Parlour Room and the Main Hall within Harrow's lower-level facilities, which remain essential to our operations.

Training

Training has expanded significantly this year, with a stronger emphasis on group-based learning. Staff have participated in training sessions including First Aid, Health and Safety, and Food Handler certification.

In addition, members of the Health and Safety Committee have completed individual health and safety courses, further strengthening our organizational standards and commitment to safety. We will continue to increase group training opportunities in the coming year.

Accommodations

Harrow United Church has continued to demonstrate flexibility and generosity in accommodating UCHH throughout the year. We are especially grateful to Karen, who has supported us in booking space for various meetings.

This has included both scheduled meetings and last-minute or impromptu gatherings, all of which have been accommodated efficiently. This ongoing support has contributed greatly to our ability to operate effectively.

McMillan Gift Baskets

Each holiday season, the women and children at McMillan continue to receive thoughtful gifts. We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the women's group for providing gift baskets for the women's home, which bring comfort and joy during the holidays.

These generous contributions are deeply appreciated, particularly for residents who may otherwise receive very little during this time of year. Acts of kindness such as these make a meaningful difference in the lives of the women and children we serve.

Organizational Transition

This year marks an important transition for UCHH with the separation of our halfway home services and the process of renaming to Step Forward Reintegration Homes now underway.

This change is being carried out as an amicable split, with the intention of maintaining positive relationships moving forward. We remain hopeful that we will continue to have meaningful ties with the United Church of Canada and would like to acknowledge and thank them for their years of ongoing support.

Employment

UCHH has welcomed Marcia Torres as our new Board Secretary. She has been doing an excellent job in her role, particularly in her efforts to procure grant funding.

We currently have several grant applications in progress and are awaiting responses. Her contributions have been instrumental in strengthening our administrative capacity and supporting future growth.

Grant Funding

We continue to actively pursue grant funding opportunities to support our programs and services. Several applications have been submitted and are currently under review. We remain optimistic about securing additional funding to enhance services for our residents.

Gratitude and Acknowledgment

UCHH is deeply appreciative of the ongoing community partnership with Harrow United Church. Their continued support has played a vital role in our operations and success.

We also extend our gratitude to all individuals and partners who contribute to our mission through their time, generosity, and support. These contributions continue to make a meaningful impact in the lives of those we serve.

Respectfully submitted,
Audrey Dennis,
Executive Director,
United Church Halfway Homes Inc.
executivedirector@uchh.ca

WESTERN INTERCULTURAL MINISTRY NETWORK

**Report for the Prairie to Pine Regional Meeting, May 2026, covering the calendar year 2025
(Prairie to Pine, Living Skies, Northern Spirit, Chinook Winds, Pacific Mountain Regional Councils,
and the Indigenous Church)**



The Western Intercultural Network is a relatively 'young' network of communities in the United Church of Canada committed to a fully inclusive and intercultural church, covering the five Western Regional Councils.

The network holds gatherings, educational events and online conversations that focus on intercultural discussions and dialogue. Network members are engaging in and promoting action in their regions towards living out the UCC's vision of being an intercultural church ([Vision for Becoming an Intercultural Church | The United Church of Canada \(united-church.ca\)](#)). An executive composed of representatives from the five Western Regional Councils of the United Church offers us leadership.

Our vision of becoming an intercultural United Church encompasses:

- Racialized people and communities, which include ethnic churches within the United Church, racialized lay leaders, and
- Indigenous people and communities, within the United Church and beyond, of all traditions.
- People with disabilities.
- LGBTQIA+ and Two Spirit people and communities.
- The privileged, yet broken, who are seeking wholeness and justice.

We are each worthy individuals and numerous cultural groups, and richer for our diversity. And we are at the same time engaged in a common pursuit of caring for each other and the planet. We honour our identities, and the spaces where they intersect. Our ministry includes courageous (and awkward!) conversations about our diversity, and about the social privilege and history that hinder right relationships. We believe the Good News of Jesus Christ calls us into such conversations, right relationships, and mutual transformation.

2025 Activities

- Throughout the past year, the Executive continued discussions on how the Network can best live out its key focus on education on how the UCC's intercultural vision can be animated in our communities of faith and at regional levels. The network continues to engage in this key work through continuing Coffee Chai events and in-person events, when possible.
- In this 100th Anniversary Year for the United Church of Canada, the network's Coffee Chai sessions have focused on deepening understanding of the experiences of different diaspora groups within the United Church, by inviting the Ethno-Cultural Networks within the church to lead presentations and discussions during our sessions. To date, in 2025, the following sessions have been delivered and have been well received:

From the edges

to the centre

Black Voices Shaping the Church

As we enter 100 years as the United Church, this workshop will challenge us to amplify and embrace Black leadership in shaping the future of the church. Join the conversation with Rev Franklyn James, Black Clergy Network.

Thursday April 10, 11:00AM PDT, 2:00PM EDT, on Zoom

All details: <https://tinyurl.com/6dr3ajj6>

April 10, 2025 - From the Edges to the Centre: Black Voices Shaping the Church – A presentation and discussion led by the Black Clergy Network that challenged participants to recognize, amplify, and embrace Black leadership in shaping the future of the church, with the knowledge that people of African descent and other ethnocultural groups have long contributed to the life and mission of the church, yet their voices have often been overlooked or sidelined. The presentation and discussion were led by Rev. Franklyn James, a member of the Black Clergy Network

and Chair of the Ethnocultural Network Leads. The event also provided an opportunity for those present to learn also learn about the travelling community exhibit and storytelling project **Here from the Beginning** (<https://herefromthebeginning.ca>) from its originator, Rev Paul Walfall.

November 20, 2025 - Beyond the Chinese Face: Challenges Faced by Chinese in Canada – A presentation led by three members (Rev. Dr. Alan Lai, Rev. Mini Choi, and Rev. Calin Lau) of the Chinese Association of The United Church of Canada who share their insights on aspects of Chinese culture, serving English congregations in Canada, and outreach to the Hong Kong diaspora.

- The Executive continued throughout the year to disseminate information about opportunities to serve on UCC committees or working groups and to encourage persons in the network to discern their involvement and submit nominations to these groups. Several members of the Executive also actively participate as members of their respective Regional Council Executive, or on various committees at the national level, and were Commissioners at General Council 45.
- The WIMN Executive continues to actively participate in activities and meetings of the Ethno-cultural Network Leads group. The group comprises the leaders of several ethno-cultural networks within the UCC, in discussions that contribute to the strategic plan development. The network is happy to contribute to this work. The group meets quarterly online and met most recently in person in Toronto in October 2025.
- The Executive of WIMN passed a motion in early Fall 2025 to archive all the minutes from the ANWC Ethnic Ministries and WIMN from 2007-2022, at The United Church of Canada archives in Alberta; specific archival location of Chinook Winds or Northern Spirit Regional archives to be determined in conversation with the archivist Leanne Templeton, CW/NS Regional Council Archivist. The transfer for archiving has been completed.
- Executive members Kathy Yamashita, Dorcas Kanana and Chelsea Masterman led worship on the evening of May 30, 2025, at the Northern Spirit Regional Council meeting. They were joined by Elder Kay Quon.
- The Network was asked to conduct a workshop at the "Everything We Need: A Learning Party for ministers and lay leaders/volunteers" in Calgary – Oct 17-19, 2025. The Network's presentation was led by Rev. OhWang Kwon.

The Executive

Please note that the Executive meets every second month and welcomes new members! Please contact the Regional Council office to get in touch with an Executive member.

The Executive for 2024-25 comprises:

Co-Chairs: Kathy Yamashita (Chinook Winds) and Deborah Richards (Pacific Mountain)

Secretary: Rev. Chelsea Masterman (Northern Spirit)

Pacific Mountain: vacant

Chinook Winds: Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon, Rev. Luke Haisa

Northern Spirit: Rev. Dorcas Muketha,

Living Skies: Rev. Mathias Ross, Rev. Salesi Takau

Prairie to Pine: Rev. Damber Khadka

During the latter part of 2025, two members of the Executive have resigned (Rev. Dorcas Muketha, Rev. Luke Haisa) as they transition to new roles within the church. We wish Rev. Dorcas Mutheka, who had been called to a new pastoral charge in Ottawa, and Rev. Luke Haisa, who began his term of service on the General Council Executive earlier this fall. We are grateful for their engagement and service to the WIMN and know that they will continue to serve the wider church and continue to bring the lens of intercultural vision of the UCC to their work.

Staff support: Julie Graham (Living Skies, Prairie to Pine and Northern Spirit Regions); Chris Mah Poy (Chinook Winds Region)

Recently, we were saddened to hear of the passing of Rev. Kurt Katzmar on September 14, 2025. Kurt served on the WIMN Executive from 2019- 2022, and then as an Elder with the group until early 2023. We cherish the memories of his work among us and know that the church and the wider communities that he served in his years of ministry are enriched by that service.

The Executive now meets bi-monthly for 90 minutes to discuss business matters. As planning for an in-person workshop in 2026 continues to take shape, the Executive also meets for 60 minutes in the month in between its bi-monthly business meetings.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Yamashita and Deborah Richards

Co-Chairs

On behalf of the Executive of the Western Intercultural Ministries Network

**CLIMATE FINANCE TASK GROUP
(Climate Justice)**

The 2023 Annual Meeting of Prairie to Pine Region approved a proposal committing the Regional Council to review its investments with a focus on climate justice. It also committed itself to communicating with communities of faith to provide suggested actions and background materials. The proposal and the resources offered to communities of faith are archived on Prairie to Pine's website. The Climate Finance Task Group hosted monthly Zoom gatherings following that annual meeting for about a year. A small but committed group from across the Region showed up to share concerns about how climate change is impacting their communities and local efforts, as well as frustrations, in taking significant action to address climate change. While several communities of faith embraced the Region's call to review their investments, the overall response was disappointing. We have identified several factors which make this kind of campaign ineffective. When delegates attend a regional meeting in person only once every 3 years, there is little opportunity to gain enough knowledge about a social justice proposal to carry that forward as concrete action back home. Communication in our large region often doesn't reach those intended and does not encourage ongoing collaboration on complicated issues like climate justice. While many resources were posted on the Prairie to Pine website, it appears that the majority of communities of faith remained unaware of the resources and/or unwilling (or unprepared) to take on the issue of divestment from fossil fuels at the local level.

In some parts of our Region divestment is particularly controversial, and people were reluctant to engage in the conversation. Perhaps we do not provide enough practice and encouragement for these important faith conversations?

In November 2024, Prairie to Pine Climate Justice convened a gathering with about 30 people attending, the majority of whom were lay people. Funds accessed through the Region allowed people to travel from several communities outside of Winnipeg. Participants appreciated the opportunity to learn about resources from ecumenical partners and to meet others across the Region who are passionate about tackling climate change as a faith and justice issue.



Since 2025, several members of our Task Group have been participating in Direct Action Organizing to address the climate crisis and have found the intensive training and subsequent house meetings to be energizing, with the capacity to lead to real coordinated action. The program is driven by a very broad coalition of citizen initiatives, but the response from churches that have been invited to host house meetings has been discouraging. Direct action energy and timelines do not work well with congregational structures and expectations. However, individual church members are finding the house meetings in their communities to be life-giving and action-oriented. This points to a new direction for faith-based social action and climate justice work! Could we direct resources to sending this training to remote and northern communities in our Region?

We would like to offer some suggestions, based on our experiences over the past 3 years, for how we can make the best use of the current structure and resources available to our Region, and we would note strong alignment with the vision expressed in Towards 2035. Effective social justice education and action needs to be:

Ecumenical
 Interfaith
 Community based
 Intergenerational

And we need to focus our efforts, energy and resources on collaborative strategies like the following:

KAIROS

For the Love of Creation

Earth Day/Earth Week Resources provided by the national church provide a great annual focus and align with events and awareness in the wider community, but it would be really helpful if these resources came out earlier in the year to allow adequate time for planning, education and coordination.

Finally, we wonder how Towards 2035 will prioritize social justice and climate justice ministries across the church.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Stewart, Karen Tjaden, Lynda Trono

With thanks for staff support from

Julie Graham, our Regional Minister for Justice and Communication

THEOLOGICAL SCHOOLS and EDUCATIONAL CENTRES**ATLANTIC SCHOOL of THEOLOGY**www.astheology.ns.ca

Atlantic School of Theology serves Christ's mission by shaping effective and faithful ordained and lay leaders and understanding among communities of faith. We did this in a variety of ways in 2025. With students and alumni in almost every United Church of Canada Region, we bring together a community with an extensive understanding of the varied needs of the church. The Summer Distance MDiv continues to be the degree with the highest enrollment. This form of the MDiv is normally 5 years and integrates the 2-year SME required for ordination into the program of study. This program brings students together for 6 weeks of intensive learning on campus in the summer, and online, synchronous, and asynchronous classes are taken in the fall and winter. This integrated MDiv, suitable for those who have been approved as candidates and deemed eligible for a pastoral appointment outside of SME, enables candidates to be working in a ministry site at the start of their degree, or at any point within it, integrating the study of theology with the practice of ministry, allowing them to earn an income, serve the church and experience 6 weeks each year of in person community, formation and learning. Many of our graduates will be ordained at spring meetings of their regions, and we rejoice in their success and the ministry they will continue to share with the church.

In addition to the MDiv degree, we have United Church of Canada Students enrolled in the MA, as well as 3 diplomas and a wide range of continuing education options. The Diploma in Theological Studies and the Diploma in Intergenerational Faith Formation are lovely stepping stones for those interested in theological education but not sure if they want to commit to a degree. AST is also beginning to offer micro-credentials for those looking to develop recognized skills in practical aspects of pastoral ministry. We believe these short-term, specifically focused areas of learning will provide people with credentials that will be valuable for the wider church.

The Bachelor of Theology degree, which includes a "Ministry Specialization" stream, is proving popular with UCC students. We anticipate our first UCC graduates in this stream in May 2027. This degree reduces the barrier for those without an undergraduate degree who feel called to serve the church and want academic excellence at a bachelor's level, combined with opportunities for practical experience serving the church. Students who complete the degree and all the requirements for Testamur can be approved for SME as the final requirement for ordination. We are excited about the ways this may meet the identified needs of our founding parties. We value our relationship with the Office of Vocation and Candidacy Boards across the country as we seek to respond to the educational needs of the church for shaping effective and faithful leaders. We are grateful to Pine Hill Divinity Hall, who offer all United Church of Canada Candidates for ministry with a full tuition bursary, allowing them to follow their calling without incurring huge debt.

Our President, the Rev. Dr. Heather McCance, works closely with the other heads of UCC colleges and schools as we seek to find ways of sharing ideas and resources. As part of that consortium, AST is pleased to be part of the large-scale Lilly Grant, Reimagining Theological Education Across the United Church of Canada Affiliated Schools. In addition to this grant, AST is the lead school in a second large-scale Lilly grant given to work with schools from other denominations and the Canadian Council of Churches on Ecumenical Shared Ministries.

We are excited to move this initiative forward and help congregations, students and judicatories develop and work successfully in these ecumenical partnerships.

AST is involved in various accreditation processes to ensure that we maintain the highest standards of theological education.

Like all educational institutions, we face challenges, and the road ahead is not always clear; however, there is a spirit of optimism and a sense of renewal within our school community as we chart a path for the future.

It is a joy to work with United Church of Canada students as well as those who support them within the administrative structure of the church and individual communities of faith. We welcome your input as we seek to serve the ever-changing needs of the church. It has been a pleasure to serve as Dean at AST for these past 3 years.

With the Deepest Respect and Gratitude,

Susan MacAlpine Gillis

Rev. Dr. Susan MacAlpine-Gillis
Academic Dean
Atlantic School of Theology

CENTRE FOR CHRISTIAN STUDIES



The Centre for Christian Studies is a national theological school grounded in the tradition of *diakonia*. We prepare people for ministries in the United Church of Canada and the Anglican Church of Canada and offer lifelong learning for anyone who wants to deepen their faith-in-action.

2025 Students and Programming

Central to the preparation of diaconal ministers and lay leaders are the learning circles, the vessels through which learning, growth and development occur. In addition to the regular circles, a 2-week Learning on Purpose circle was held in Winnipeg in June 2025. The Theme circles offered in 2025 included

Ministry as Community Building, Worship,
Grief and Loss, Ministry as Listening,
Power and Privilege, and

Health, Pain and Trauma, as well as the three Integration Year Circles.

Learning on Purpose and all Theme circles are open to lay people, candidates for all ministry streams, and ministry personnel for Continuing Education. More information is available online about [upcoming learning circles](#), for both online and in-person 6-day intensives and 6-week circles.

In Winter, 2025, we also offered a course on Intercultural Leadership for Educational Ministry, in collaboration with Emmanuel College and St. Andrews College.

Two students and one programme staff person were able to be part of the meeting of the Diakonia World Federation (DWF) in Tanzania, in July 2025, and that formed their Global Perspective Experience.

In other programming news, we continued our free, monthly, 'lunchtime' Zoom CCS Fridays on topics, such as

- Punching Up or Punching Down: Comedy, Politics, and Social Justice
- Unbounded Stories from Palestine,
- Our Daily Bread: Resisting the Central Lie of 'Diet Culture',
- Decolonizing Diakonia,
- God and Money, and
- Microaggressions

2025 Milestones and Celebrations

The 2025 graduates were Hyerim Park, Letitia Berger, Lisa Byer-de Wever, Lisa Leffler, and Lynda Dickson. Hyerim Park was a candidate from the Prairie to Pine Regional Council.

Ann Naylor was recognized as a beloved and honoured Companion of the Centre. Ann's commitment to diaconal ministry and to the Centre for Christian Studies is unquestioned, as was evidenced by the number of former students who spoke of the profound influence Ann had on their personal formation and ministry identity. Her service to the General Council Office of the United Church of Canada as staff and then as Acting General Secretary in the Division of Ministry Personnel and Education was acknowledged.

It was with a deep sense of gratitude that CCS accepted and acknowledged the retirement of Cheryl Thiessen. Cheryl served faithfully as the Office Administrator for 10 years and was also celebrated at the graduation event.

Later in the calendar year, the contract period of Gwen McAllister came to an end. Gwen held the role of Interim Development Coordinator for 2 years.

The Centre welcomed two new members of staff: Robyn Cruz and Marlene Britton.

Robyn assumed the role of Finance and Administration Coordinator, having previously worked as a manager with the Manitoba Aboriginal Sports and Recreation Council. She has brought to CCS her love for administration and her deep understanding of her own roots as an Indigenous person.

Marlene assumed the role of Principal for Leadership and Development, having previously served at the General Council Office of the United Church of Canada, as the Director of the Office of Vocation.

2025 Strategic Planning and Deeper Partnerships

The recommendations in the areas of governance simplification and staffing restructuring have been put into place. New staff were hired as detailed above, and significant, deep conversations were held with potential partners in theological education. While those conversations were taking place, town hall meetings were also held with the various constituencies of CCS in order to share the progress of the conversations, as well as to garner helpful contributions and to have concerns aired.

2025 Sustainability and Partnerships

Amidst the shifting sands of theological education, funding challenges, and volatile investment markets, we continue to be sustained by generous donors, creative collaboration, dedicated and visionary volunteers, Council members, and staff, a diaconal imagination of what church can be in the world, and

God's grace. We are thankful for the mutual partnerships with which we engage in this sacred ministry of education, spiritual care, and justice. Particularly with; Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre, St Stephen's College, St Andrew's College / Saskatoon Theological Union, associate schools in the United and Anglican Churches of Canada, and the national staff who support them, Diakonia of the United Church of Canada, Anglican Deacons Canada, Diakonia of the Americas and Caribbean (DOTAC), and all who support CCS and its students (particularly, diaconal Mentors, Field Placement organizations & communities of faith, Learning Facilitators, Local Committee members).

***Curious about which CCS Diaconal Diploma and Certificate students
live in your region or relate to your candidacy board?***

Jamie Miller, Hyerim Park (grad '25), Shaun Loney

In addition...

The 2026 Learning on Purpose course will be held in June at Five Oaks, in Paris, Ontario. Come deepen your self-awareness as a leader in these changing times, discern your next steps in ministry or formation, learn practical tools like the Spiral model of theological reflection, and engage liberative perspectives of the bible, theologies, and social analysis. And it's fun! From puppets to Paulo Freire to prayer, music to Miriam to social movements, come learn together.

To know more...

- Subscribe to our monthly e-newsletter Common Threads: <http://ccsonline.ca/blog/common-threads/>
- Follow us on Facebook or Instagram to hear about happenings and upcoming events.
- For information about the program and studying with us: <http://ccsonline.ca/about-ccs/>
- For more details and numbers, 2025 Yearbook, 2025 Annual Report, and financial statements: <http://ccsonline.ca/event/ccs-annual-general-meeting-2025/>

Respectfully submitted,

Marlene Britton,

Principal

EMMANUEL COLLEGE



EMMANUEL COLLEGE
OF VICTORIA UNIVERSITY IN
THE UNIVERSITY OF TORONTO

Dear friends in the United Church of Canada,

Greetings from Emmanuel College at Victoria University in the University of Toronto. We give thanks for your ongoing partnership in theological education, leadership formation, and the shared work of nurturing ministry across the Church. It is a privilege to share a brief update on the life and work of the College.

Lilly Endowment Grants: Pathways for Tomorrow

Emmanuel College is deeply engaged in the *Pathways for Tomorrow* initiative, supported by the Lilly Endowment. This includes:

- **\$1M USD** awarded directly to Emmanuel College
- **\$10M USD** awarded to the United Church of Canada (Collaborative Grant)
- **\$6.5M USD** awarded to the Toronto School of Theology (Collaborative Grant)

These grants are enabling us to strengthen leadership pathways, expand continuing education, and deepen collaboration with the United Church of Canada.

As part of this work:

- We will be hiring a **Manager for the Emmanuel Professional Advancement and Continuing Training Centre (EMPACT Centre)** this spring. This role will help coordinate Emmanuel's work within the Lilly initiative and support collaboration with United Church partners.
- We are also launching a **pilot Artist-in-Residence program**, supporting creativity, worship life, and experiential learning within theological education.

New Centre for Buddhist Spiritual Care and Counselling

We are pleased to share that Emmanuel College has secured **\$750,000 in funding over 10 years** to establish the:

Tung Lin Kok Yuen (TLKY), Canada Society Research and Education Centre for Buddhist Spiritual Care and Counselling

This groundbreaking Centre will:

- Launch a **new academic journal** in Buddhist Spiritual Care and Practical Theology
- Host **academic conferences and scholarly gatherings**
- Offer **psychospiritual continuing education for healthcare professionals**
- Serve and support **Buddhist communities in Canada and beyond**

This initiative reflects Emmanuel's growing leadership in multifaith theological education and its commitment to equipping leaders for diverse spiritual care contexts.

Faculty Updates

We celebrate important milestones among our faculty:

- **Dr. Glenn McCullough – Interim review:** Successfully completed his interim (pre-tenure) review.
- **Dr. Henry Shiu – Tenure and promotion:** Approved for tenure and promotion to Associate Professor, effective July 1, 2026, along with a year of research leave.
- **The Very Reverend Dr. Carmen Lansdowne – New appointment:** We were pleased to welcome Dr. Lansdowne to Emmanuel College on December 1, 2025, following the completion of her term as Moderator of the United Church of Canada. She serves as Assistant Professor of United Church Studies—the first appointment of its kind at Emmanuel—and will serve as the Director of the Master of Divinity program, as of July 1, 2026. We are deeply grateful for the leadership and insight she brings from across the national Church, enriching the formation of our students and strengthening our shared work of preparing future ministry leaders.

Student Admissions

- **Continued growth in applications:** Emmanuel is experiencing another year of strong application growth, with sustained and increasing interest in our multi-faith Master of Psychospiritual Studies program.
- **Steady MDiv enrolment with renewed focus:** Applications to the Master of Divinity program remain steady. Through our participation in the Lilly Endowment *Pathways for Tomorrow* initiative, we are intentionally deepening engagement with United Church communities—supporting vocational discernment and encouraging potential leaders for ministry.
- **Strong doctoral interest:** Emmanuel has received a growing pool of applicants, including 26 PhD applications in the first round, among the highest in recent years.

- **TST-wide doctoral trends:** Across the Toronto School of Theology, there were 54 PhD applications (32 international, 22 domestic).

We continue to discern ways to strengthen financial support for students, ensuring accessibility and competitiveness within the broader University of Toronto context.

Psychospiritual Continuing Education Initiative

Supported by a generous gift from **Ms. and Mr. Price**, Emmanuel has launched a **three-year pilot in Psychospiritual Continuing Education:**

- A dedicated **program coordinator has been hired**
- A **soft launch will take place online on April 24, 2026**
- Initial instructors include **Prof. Jenny Bright** and **Dr. Agnes Wong (SickKids Hospital)**
- A formal public launch is anticipated in **2026–2027**

This initiative aligns closely with Emmanuel's commitment to equipping leaders for **spiritual care, counselling, and ministry in complex contexts.**

Alumni Update: Centennial 2028

As Emmanuel College prepares for its Centennial in 2028, we are updating our alumni records and reconnecting with graduates across generations. If you are an Emmanuel College alum, please reach out to emmanuel.admissions@utoronto.ca to ensure we have your current contact information and can keep you connected to the celebrations ahead.

We are also delighted to invite alumni to our **annual Alumni Day on May 11, 2026**, a special opportunity to return to Emmanuel, reconnect with the community, and celebrate the life of the College as we begin this journey toward our Centennial. Two of our faculty members, Prof. Natalie Wigg-Stevenson and Prof. Nazila Isgandarova will be workshop leaders for the Day.

Closing

We remain deeply grateful for the United Church of Canada's ongoing partnership in theological education and leadership formation. Your communities continue to shape and send students to Emmanuel, and we are committed to forming leaders who embody deep spirituality, bold discipleship, and daring justice.

With gratitude and every blessing,



Rev. Dr. HyeRan Kim-Cragg,
Principal and Professor of Preaching
Emmanuel College

ST. ANDREW'S COLLEGE



Dear Kin in Christ of the Prairie to Pine Regional Council,

I am grateful for the continued support and encouragement of the Regional Councils, and I am pleased to share an update on the life and work of St. Andrew's College. There is much to be thankful for, and a strong sense that we are building on solid foundations while responding faithfully to the needs of the church today.

The Oliver & Gruchy Learning Centre continues to emerge as a central platform for accessible theological learning. It is serving both congregations and the wider church with programmes that are flexible, grounded and responsive. The Centre has become a trusted space for ongoing formation, supporting lay leaders, ministry personnel and those exploring new questions of faith and practice. Its reach and impact continue to grow, and it reflects our shared commitment to learning that is open, hospitable and connected to the realities of ministry.

Our collaboration through the Saskatoon Theological Union remains a significant strength. Working alongside our partner colleges, we are expanding learning opportunities through shared faculty, joint programmes and a spirit of genuine collegiality. This collaboration allows us to steward resources wisely while also enriching our students' academic and formational experience. The current alignment with the STU is strong and life-giving, and it continues to shape our teaching and community in constructive ways.

The College continues to welcome a strong cohort of students preparing for leadership in the church. Our students bring diverse experiences, cultural backgrounds and vocational stories, alongside a deep commitment to ministry and service. Their presence enriches classroom learning and community life, and their engagement gives us confidence in the future leadership of the United Church. We remain attentive to the changing patterns of ministry and are committed to preparing leaders who are adaptable, reflective and grounded in faith.

Alongside this, important work is underway to strengthen pathways of leadership development and vocational discernment within the United Church. We are paying close attention to how people are invited, accompanied and supported as they explore calls to ministry and other forms of leadership. This work is relational and collaborative, and it reflects a shared desire to nurture gifts with care, clarity and integrity.

We also continue to value and deepen our local and international partnerships. These relationships broaden our perspective and root our work in the global church. We are especially pleased to name our new relationship with Murray Theological College in Zimbabwe. This partnership is already opening opportunities for mutual learning, shared reflection and deeper solidarity, and we look forward to where it may lead.

Overall, there is a strong sense of momentum and hope. We remain committed to serving the church with humility, imagination and faithfulness, and we are thankful for the ongoing relationship with the Regional Councils as partners in this shared ministry.

In Christ,

Dea. Dr. Richard Manley-Tannis
Principal, St. Andrew's College

SANDY-SAULTEAUX SPIRITUAL CENTRE



Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre (SSSC) is a place where we honor the Creator's good Earth, being our greatest Teacher and Provider. Within that vision, the SSSC holds space for multiple groups of people to experience and learn more of the ways of Indigenous ways of knowing, doing, and being through the strength of Elders' wisdom that guides us to foster teachings of respect, healing, and connectedness to be shared for the benefit of all individuals and for restoring balance and wholeness among all peoples and all creation.

Many types of people from all across the Country connect with SSSC to participate and support its programming, which includes, but is not limited to, family wellness, such as Return of the Buffalo; reconciliation through intercultural and land-based teachings and ceremonies; and spiritual leadership training through the Indigenous Ministry Program through the United Church of Canada (UCC). This program provides an educational pathway to ordained and diaconal ministers with the UCC, as well as presbytery-certified Indigenous ministry candidates in The Presbyterian Church of Canada (PCC). Due to the nature of this report, the focus will primarily be on the Indigenous Ministry Training.

Elders' Vision

Francis Sandy and Dr. Jessie Saulteaux were two elders from different parts of the Country who shared a dream to have Indigenous spiritual leaders serving in their communities as ministers and leaders who would understand and respect the spiritual, social, cultural, political and historic values that are important to each of them, respectively.

Dr. Jessie Saulteaux had a vision of a sky full of many stars, each representing an Indigenous Christian Leader trained to serve the Indigenous churches of the UCC.

Francis Sandy had a dream that all 22 United Churches in Ontario and Quebec would be served by Indigenous Ministers.

Both Theological schools, the Dr. Jessie Saulteaux Resource Centre in Manitoba and the Francis Sandy Theological School in Ontario, operated from the 1980's until both schools amalgamated as one in 2011 and became the Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre. To date, including our founding schools, there have been 2356 spiritual leaders who graduated from the course.

Indigenous Ministry Training Highlights for 2024-2025

- The Keeper of the Circle (Principal/Director) Aliesha Desjarlais, assisted in the role as Keeper of the Learning Circle from June 2024 to December 2024, when Rev. Maggie Dieter joined SSSC as KOLC in January 2025 and works 0.6 FTE.
- Leadership Mondays were implemented in April 2025. Its purpose is to hold space for students to bring ministerial issues, concerns, and questions for peer support and to deliver learning opportunities in response to needs that arise, i.e., Theological Reflection, ministry identity, conflict, and communication styles, etc.

Active and Non-Active

- Active = 10
- Including: 1 = Ordination suitability; 2 = Ordination Affirmation; 3 = Ordination Promise; 3 = Exploring; and 1 PLAR student
- Inactive = 4

Location of Students:

- Active Student: 4 = Ontario; 4= Manitoba; 2 = Alberta
- Inactive Students: 4 = Manitoba

2024-2025 Academic Calendar:**1. BS2 Wisdom and Psalms**

- **Course Description:** From the Wisdom books (Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, Song of Solomon, and Lamentations), a discussion of: the images of God and the Spirit; themes, metaphors, proverbs, poetry and art; and human-to-human relationships and with creation. From the Wisdom tradition of Indigenous Elders, a discussion of these same matters is intended to encourage appreciation for and use of this cultural wisdom.
- **Learning Outcomes:**
 - Learn to ask questions and find answers that will help them understand the context of the Psalms and Wisdom Scriptures and the meanings of imagery and language used. Tools for understanding and interpreting historical and cultural forms will be introduced and used.
 - Know how to research and apply appropriate Indigenous stories and cultural information as a complement to and illustrative of their presentation of the Scriptures.
 - Be encouraged to think creatively and to observe carefully the various means and methods that Elders use in passing on cultural wisdom.
 - Think reflectively about the Wisdom Scriptures and Traditional Wisdom and where they agree, disagree, complement, contrast and intersect.

2. HS4 Prophets and Prophecies

- **Course Description:** This circle invites participants to reflect on prophetic imagination as inspiring and participating in the creation and recreation of the world toward greater justice and harmony amidst cycles and systems of power built on dominance and death. It asks participants to draw together resources from both Indigenous and Christian traditions to enliven a posture of prophetic ministry to (re)build communities that promote life and justice amidst cycles and systems that wield oppression, death, and a consciousness of empire that plunders and dominates.
- **Learning Outcomes**
 - Understand the context in which the prophetic books of the Hebrew Scriptures were compiled, recurring themes the prophets spoke to, and how these informed practices of storytelling and sacred tradition in the ancient Near Eastern context.
 - Recognize chronological timelines as they informed the experience of Biblical prophets and Indigenous prophets from different time periods.
 - Identify similarities and differences in how Indigenous and Christian traditions relate or diverge in the role of prophets and prophecy.
 - Discuss personal experience of prophets/prophecy and how it relates to communities and contexts today.
 - Demonstrate the ability to integrate concepts of the role of prophets, prophecy, and prophetic imagination through language, stories, ceremony, or cultural protocol.
 - Interpret and practice an appreciation for the importance of women's roles in prophetic imagination in the (re)creation of worlds of greater justice and harmony.

3. HCD1 Introduction to Church History:

- **Course Description:** This Learning Circle offered an overview of church history from the perspective of mission. It explored the missionary movements of the early church through the present, with particular emphasis on the missionary work of The United Church of Canada. The colonial impact of the mission on Indigenous peoples was critically examined.

- **Learning Outcomes:** at the conclusion of the learning circle, the student will be able to:
 - Identify how Christian mission work has evolved within the 2000-year history of the Christian Church.
 - Understand the colonial impact of Christian mission on Indigenous peoples
 - Understand the evolving forms of home and overseas mission within The United Church of Canada

4. **BS 1 Introduction to the Bible and Bible Study Methods**

- **Course Description:** This course provided an introduction to the Bible and Bible study by exploring the Bible's major themes and the story that it tells of the Creator's relationship to humanity. The course looked at how the content of the Bible is shaped by the geographic, cultural, and social contexts out of which its different writings emerged. The Circle looked at various methods and approaches that can be used to study the Bible in ways that nurture faith in the Creator and the Creator's saving ways.
- **Learning Outcomes:** Through participating in this course, students acquired:
 - An overview of stories of the Bible that tell how the Creator creates the world & works to heal and renew it;
 - Knowledge of the geographical, historical, and social context out of which the Bible's different writings emerged;
 - Greater awareness of the Bible's major themes and teachings;
 - Familiarity with different ways of reading and studying the Bible;
 - Recognition of how certain aspects of the Bible must be resisted because they are theologically and ethically problematic for Christians as a whole, and especially for Indigenous peoples;
 - Greater awareness of how the Bible relates to Indigenous worldviews and ways;
 - Deeper appreciation for how the Bible can nurture healthy and life-giving Christian faith.

5. **CE5 Youth and Urban Ministry**

- **Course Description:** Explored spirituality, theology, and practices surrounding the faith formation of youth and people who live in urban settings. Students learned about different ways that urban and youth ministries and outreach look in urban settings, identified ways to partner with urban ministries in their area and generated practices for walking alongside youth on the adventure of discipleship.
- **Learning Outcomes:** Gained deeper insights into:
 - How ministry in urban centres can be shaped in a time of change and disruption to be one of accompanying individuals of all ages in their faith journey, their spiritual development, and their personal growth in ways that encourage and support renewal of a cultural identity and positive self-esteem.
 - How organizations and ministries meet the diverse needs of individuals
 - The gifts and challenges of working with urban settings that foster mutuality, equity, and respect.
 - How church and community can walk together with people of all ages in a good way that creates conditions to break down systemic barriers and build opportunities that bring wholeness, self-identity, economic, social, mental, and spiritual wellbeing.
 - Indigenous spiritual ways of knowing that provide guidance, grounding and understanding of how the Creator is present in the lives of Urban Youth to enhance their sense of belonging, wholeness, and wellness.
 - Empowering youth in their own advocacy efforts in the community to have their needs met in the urban centres.

6. PM3 Communion, Baptism, Marriage, and Funerals

- **Course Description:** This course looked at the history, theology, and practice of Christian worship services for communion, baptism, marriage, and funeral/celebration of life and to compare these with traditional Indigenous teachings and ceremonies and enhance knowledge, skills, and experience of Indigenous teachings and related traditional Indigenous ceremonies for rites and passages through life alongside Christian theology and worship services for communion, baptism, marriage, and funeral/celebration of life. Students will also learn how to record these events to meet requirements for church archives and vital statistics.
- **Learning Outcomes:**
 - Gained understanding of the history and theology of Christian religious practice through reading, research, preparation and delivery of services.;
 - Able to draw comparisons between Christian practice and Indigenous understandings and practices with the teaching Elders in the Learning Circle.
 - Students will reflect their understanding and experience of course material in small and large group discussions as well as through interactive or dramatic presentations to the class.
 - Will have learned how to adapt resources to share learnings in their field placements.
 - Will have practiced theological reflection relating the benefits/challenges in sharing course learnings through their community ministry practice through their learning journals.

7. PM3 Communion, Baptism, Marriage, and Funerals

- **Course Description:** This course was designed to explore practical tools in crafting and delivering sermons, as well as look at oral traditions. The Learning Circle participated (virtually) in the 2025 Festival of Homiletics that provided space for deep theological reflection. Its preachers/lecturers were inspirational. They demonstrated how to navigate 21st century realities. The 2025 theme was *Preaching to Heal the Divide*, apropos for a time such as this in our families, communities, and world.
- **Learning Outcomes:** Students will have:
 - Explored Biblical teachings, theology, image, deepened understanding of practice and role of worship and preaching and how it can be grounded in hope
 - Incorporated individually or in pairs, designed a worship service, presided and delivered a sermon.
 - Begun to compile a list/folder and become familiar with worship and sermon resources for their own use.
 - Reflective journal entries from learnings and observations.

8. CS 2 - Gospels

- **Course Description:** This course was designed for students to gain experience and skill in reading and interpreting the bible and theological reflection on scripture.
- **Learning Outcomes:** The student gained
 - Insights into the world of 1st century Palestine (Jesus 'world);
 - A basic understanding of how the Gospels originated and how to read them as stories about Jesus;
 - Understanding of key differences between the Synoptic Gospels and John;
 - Understanding of and appreciation for the distinctive themes, emphases, Christology, and characteristic styles of each of the four Gospels;
 - Acquire a solid grasp of the overall content and structure of each Gospel;
 - Reflect on the ongoing significance and relevance of the life and teachings of Jesus for people today;

- Gain experience in interpreting Scripture in community for purposes of helping and healing.

During the period that we are gathered at the SSSC, the Keeper of the Learning Circle has set regular time to check in on a one-on-one basis with each student. There is also an opportunity to gather virtually or by telephone in between Learning Circles.

Post Learning Circle, the Keeper of the Learning Circle reviews the Learning Circle participants' assignments and journal entries.

- In June of 2025, SSSC held a Friends and Family Gathering
- Completed the development of the Prior Learning Recognition Assessment (PLAR) Pathway and facilitated PLAR Pathways for 1 student and 1 guest who had an abundant amount of experience, skills, and strengths relating to ministry.
- Worked collaboratively with the Indigenous Office of Vocation, supported local ministry personnel to prepare to offer training and mentorship for individuals seeking to become Sacrament Elders.
- Participated in the UCC's Theological School review with SSSC colleagues and students.
- Connected with the Vancouver School of Theology to review our historic relationship.
- Participated in a professional development day with colleagues and Family Way Lodge
- Participated in a UCC 100th Anniversary celebration
- Ongoing work and support with the Vision Keepers and the Students between Learning Circles.

2025-2026 Academic Calendar:

October 2025 Five Oaks, ON	BS4 Daniel and Revelations AT8 Traditional Teachings
January 2026	HS2 Exodus, Judges, and Kings TH4 World Religions
March 2026	PC7 Mental Health First Aid BS3/PC6 Scriptures & Healing
May 2026	AT1 Traditional Medicine PC4 LGBTQ2S+ & Healthy Relationships

Other Events at SSSC in 2026:

- Monthly and seasonal circle teachings and ceremonies (sweat, pipe, fasting)
- Seeds to Stew: Three Sisters every quarter
- Return of the Buffalo monthly
- Community Connection events weekly to monthly
- Mamawe Ota Askihk Family Camp once per year
- Art & Spirit (TBD)

The [Annual Report for 2024-2025](#) summarizes the activities, achievements, and challenges of the Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre (SSSC).

Respectfully submitted,
Aliesha Desjarlais
Keeper of the Circle

Fortieth Anniversary (1986)

Allan Doerksen (RO)

Carol Fletcher (RO)

Elgin Hall (R-DLM)

Judy Hare (OM)

Nelson Hart (OM)

Margret Kristjansson (RO)

Gary Loewen (RO)

Patricia Wotton (RO)

Forty-Fifth Anniversary (1981)

Irene Greenwood (RO)

Kathy Highmoor (RO)

Eric Matheson (RO)

Bill Millar (RO)

Fiftieth Anniversary (1976)

Douglas Martindale (RO)

Fifty-Fifth Anniversary (1971)

Bob Haverluck (RO)

John Lea (RO)

Stan McKay (RO)

Ross Taylor (RO)

Sixty-Fifth Anniversary (1961)

Oriole Veldhuis (RD)

Russell Young (RO)

Seventieth Anniversary (1956)

Fraser Muldrew (RO)



APPENDIX I - MINUTES OF THE 7th PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL MEETING

**Minutes of Prairie to Pine Regional Council Meeting
Winnipeg, Manitoba
November 13, 2025 via Zoom**

- OPENING** Doug Neufeld called us to order at 6:01 pm for worship, study, companionship and such business that should properly come before us.
- ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF TREATY TERRITORY** Dawn Rolke led us in our land acknowledgement.
- Shannon McCarthy introduced the rules of order, introduced the staff, committee members and special guests.
- PROCEDURAL/ ENABLING MOTIONS 001-2025** **That Prairie to Pine Executive approve the following Enabling Motions #1-9 for this Regional Council meeting:**
1. **Roll of Regional Council:** that the Roll of the Regional Council for the purposes of the 7th Annual Regional Council meeting be:
 - i. the members of the Order of Ministry within the bounds served by the regional council; and
 - ii. Other ministry personnel in a covenantal relationship with a community of faith within the bounds of the regional council
 - iii. lay members of the regional council are members of the United Church who are not ministry personnel and who are elected by communities of faith. (Manual 2025, C.1.1 and C.1.2)
 - iv. members-at-large, lay members within the Regional Council who have been appointed members as necessary for the work of the Regional Council by the Regional Council Executive and who have not been elected by their community of faith.
 2. **Corresponding Members:** that all invited guests, registered visitors, and staff be corresponding members of this regional council meeting, with voice but no vote.
 3. **The Bounds of the Council:** that the Bounds of the Regional Council meeting be the virtual meeting room and the telephone connections to that meeting space.
 4. **Minimum Number of Members at Meetings:** that the regional council may meet only if a minimum number of members is present. If there are 60 or more members, at least 20 members must be present; and there must be at least one ministry personnel and one lay member who is not ministry personnel present. Corresponding members are not counted for this purpose. (Manual 2025; C.4.3)
 5. **Limits to Debate:** that without the permission of the Council, no member shall speak more than once on any proposal or amendment; and that speeches be limited to two minutes per person on each proposal, except at the discretion of the Chair.
 6. **Minutes:** that the Minutes of the 6th Annual Meeting of the Prairie to Pine Regional Council be approved as distributed in the online workbook.
 7. **Reports:** that the verbal and written reports be accepted as presented.

- 8. **Proposals:** that proposals that are received and edited prior to the Docket deadline will be included in the Docket. Proposals that have not been received and edited prior to the Docket deadline will be referred to the Executive for decision-making.
- 9. **Budget Implications:** All motions having significant budget implications for the Region (defined as \$2000 or over) shall be considered “in principle only” and, if adopted, be referred to the Executive for consideration within adopted budgetary constraints.

Moved by Shannon McCarthy

Seconded by Tricia Gerhard

CARRIED

OPENING WORSHIP Noel Suministrado led us in opening worship.

NOMINATIONS Lynn Sanderson reported. The slate is provided in the workbook and has already been approved by the Executive. However, there are a few errors that need to be mentioned:

- Tricia Gerhard is our new Chair Elect – Executive
- Teresa Melnychuk (Nominations)
- Susan Wepler (Equity and Diversity)

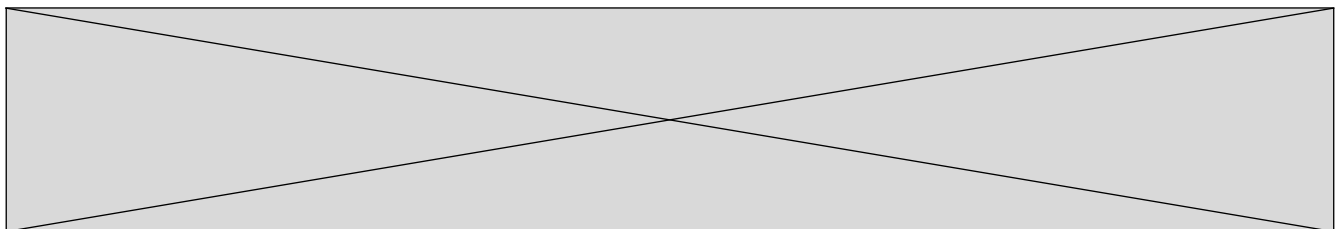
TOWARD 2035 PRESENTATION Jordan Cantwell and Cam Fraser presented us with information regarding Toward 2035.

STEWARDSHIP/ FOUNDATION Vicki Nelson presented information about stewardship and the foundation.

GC45 OVERVIEW Emma Seamone led us in a brief overview of General Council and the business process. Tricia Gerhard talked about the apology that was presented to the 2SLGBTQIA+ Community. Shannon updated us on the Indigenous Church.

CLOSING WORSHIP Noel Suministrado led us in closing worship.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 pm.



APPENDIX II – NOMINATIONS REPORT 2026
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The Prairie to Pine Structure Document defines the normal term in most positions as 2 years, renewable twice for a total of 6 years, but allows exceptions for particular reasons.

Please report errors or omissions to Frances Flook or Heather Lea

Prairie to Pine Executive 10-12 members, none chairing committee or commission, plus two Indigenous members, at least 1/3 lay, 1/3 ministry personnel		Role / position	Lay or ministry	Term	Year term completed
1	Damber Khadka		M	1-	2027
2	Dawn Rolke	Co-chair	M	1-	2027
3	Lynne Sanderson	Past chair	M	1-	2027
4	Teresa Melnychuk		L	1-	2027
5	Craig Miller		M	3-	2027
6	M Chorney		L	3-	2027
7	Tricia Gerhard	Co-chair	M	2-	2028
8	Jennifer Pakula	treasurer	L	3-	2028
9a	Korlyn Dube	Youth (alternating)	L		
9b	Elizabeth Kenyon	Youth (alternating)	L		
10	vacant				
11	Optional vacant				
12	Optional vacant				
Nominating Committee 5-7 members					
1	Heather Lea	records	M	1-	2027
2	Lynne Sanderson		M	1-	2027
3	Shirley McLaren		M	1-	2028
4	Frances Flook	chair	M	3-	2028
5	vacant				
6	Optional vacant				
7	Optional vacant				
Property Commission 4-6 members; Have requested variation in term length and nominating process					
1	Ken Alison		L	1-	2027
2	Chuck Ross		M	4-	2027
3	Ken Thomas	chair	M	4-	2027
4	Wayne Sanderson		M	4-	2027
5	Optional vacant				
6	Optional vacant				

Trustees 3 members		Role / position	Lay or ministry	Term	Year term completed
1	Al Franchuk		L	1-	2027
2	Bev Simpson		M	1-	2028
3	Teresa Melnychuk		L	4-	2028

Pastoral Relations Commission					
6-8 members, one Indigenous					
1	Harold Kenyon		M	4-	2027
2	Lorraine Kakegamic	Indigenous	M	2-	2028
3	Patrick Woodbeck	chair	M	2-	2028
4	Paul DuVal		M	2-	2028
5	Simbarashe Mazhara		M	2-	2028
6	Sherri McConnell		M	4-	2028
7	Optional vacant				
8	Optional vacant				

Pastoral Relations Liaisons					
20 people Recruited & trained through Pastoral Relations Commission before being Nominated to role, No defined end of term.					
1	Mary Best		M		n/a
2	Linda Buchanan		L		n/a
3	Mona Denton		M		n/a
4	Paul Duval		M		n/a
5	Lorraine Kakegamic		M		n/a
6	Harold Kenyon		M		n/a
7	Sherri McConnell		M		n/a
8	Aileen Urquhart		M		n/a
9	Patrick Woodbeck		M		n/a
10	vacant				
11	vacant				
12	vacant				
13	vacant				
14	vacant				
15	vacant				
16	vacant				
17	vacant				
18	vacant				
19	vacant				
20	vacant				

Committee on Ministry Personnel Support 4-6 members, majority ministry personnel		Role / position	Lay or ministry	Term	Year term completed
1	Chewe Mulenga		M	1-	2027
2	Diane McKenty		M	1-	2027
3	Susan Tilleman		M	2-	2027
4	Luckson Mariba		M	1-	2028
5	Millie Lewis		L	1-	2028
6	Cathy Maxwell		M	3-	2028

Committee on Community of Faith Support 10-12 members		Role / position	Lay or ministry	Term	Year term completed
1	Karen Kempe (corresponding member)		M	1-	2027
2	Sourav Nag		M	1-	2027
3	Heather Sandilands		M	3-	2027
4	Silas Lee		L	3-	2027
5	Nancy Nelson		L	1-	2028
6	Irene Chabluk		L	3-	2028
7	Pat Bird		L	4-	2028
8		vacant			
9		vacant			
10		vacant			
11		Optional vacant			
12		Optional vacant			

Committee on Lay Ministry Support At least 5 members: minimum 2 LLWL, 1 lay, 2 other ministry streams		Role / position	Lay or ministry	Term	Year term completed
	Lynne Sanderson	Chaplain (interviews)			
1	Linda Buchanan	LLWL	L	1-	2027
2	Susan Reed	DM	M	1-	2027
3	Patricia Baker	DM	M	1-	2028
4	Diane Kowalchuk	Lay	L	3-	2028
5	Hope Mattus	Lay	L	4-	2028
6	Jim Warburton	LLWL	L	4-	2028

Mission Support Grants Committee 2-3 members		Role / position	Lay or ministry	Term	Year term completed
1	Anna Stewart		L	4-	2027
2	Joan Newman		L	3-	2028
3	Bev Simpson		M	1-	2028

Equity and Diversity Committee 5-12 members with diverse representation		Role / position	Lay or ministry	Term	Year term completed
1	Jamie Miller		M	1-	2027
2	Heather Robbins		M	2-	2027
3	Kristin Woodburke	chair	M	2-	2027
4	Rob Reed		M	2-	2027
5	Susan Weppler		L	2-	2027
6	Tanis Podobni		M	2-	2027
7	Optional vacant				
8	Optional vacant				
9	Optional vacant				
10	Optional vacant				
11	Optional vacant				
12	Optional vacant				

Regional Council Meeting Planning Committee 8 members, incl. a rep from exec & 2 local arrangements, one-yr term		Role / position	Lay or ministry	Terms served	Year term completed
1	Dawn Rolke	P2P Exec rep	M		2026
2	Pat Bird	Chair & Local arrangements	L		2026
3	Jeraldine Bjornson		M		2026
4	Linda Buchanan		L		2026
5	Mona Denton		M		2026
6	Emmanuel Menyereye		M		2026
7	Jamie Miller		M		2026
8	Ila Swain		L		2026
9	Susan Weppler		L		2026
10	Karen Kempe		M		2026
11		Local arrangements			

Young Adults and Youth (YAAY) Committee approx. 20 members, recruited by YAAY, one-year renewable term		Role / position	Lay or ministry	Term	Year term completed
1-20	<i>Accurate information not available at time of printing</i>				
	Tanis Podobni	Adult advisor	M		
	Emma Seamone	Adult advisor	M		

Networks and Clusters do important work within P2P and the United Church, but are not part of the P2P governance structure. The Nominating Committee is not involved in determining members.

Regional Council Appointments to External Boards / Organizations / Incorporated Ministries

Prairie to Pine Regional Council has the opportunity/responsibility to appoint members to the following boards to maintain United Church Connections with each organization.

Prairie to Pine United Church Development Incorporated (CDI)

Chair	Stuart Fletcher-Cook	Member	Dennis Butcher
Vice-Chair	Dwight Rutherford	Member	Lisa Lix
Secretary	Betty Young	Member	Sheron Miller
Treasurer	Spencer Libbrecht	Member	Andrew Fletcher-Cook

Rock Lake United Church Camp Inc.

Katherine Avery-Deines	Bonnie Robbins
Carole Bere	Steve Harbicht
Kelvin Campbell	Nancy MacAulay
Jan Martens	Margaret Treble
Rodney Guliford	

**Wellman Lake United Church Camp
Board of Directors**

Joyce Bateman	Max Polon
Breana How	Kendal Stechyshyn
Blair Mulin	Candace Wenzel
Lucile Neufeld	Lanaya Harris

Initiatives For Just Communities - Caryn Douglas

The Jubilee Fund - Lynda Trono

Manitoba Multifaith Council – Diane Dwarka

Winnipeg Free Press: Rep. to The Advisory Committee - Lorraine McKenzie Shepherd

University of Winnipeg Board of Regents

Mac Balacano	Richard Jones	Greg Messer	Evan Podaima
Grant Christiansen	Kathleen McCandless	Michelle Pereira	Shanna, Sterling

Fred Douglas Society Inc

General Council Judicial Committee

General Council Refugee Advocacy Group

Manitoba Council for International Cooperation

Manitoba Interfaith Immigration Council

Manitoba Multifaith Council – Justice & Corrections

St. Andrew’s College Board

The Centre for Theological Studies Advisory Council

The Centre for Theological Studies Advisory Council

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL

Non-Consolidated Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2025

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL

Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

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Tel.: 204 956 7200
Fax.: 833 888 1678
www.bdo.ca

BDO Canada LLP
201 Portage Avenue - 26th Floor
Winnipeg MB R3B 3K6 Canada

Independent Auditor's Report

To the Executive Council of Prairie to Pine Regional Council

Opinion

We have audited the non-consolidated financial statements of Prairie to Pine Regional Council (the "Council"), which comprise the non-consolidated statement of financial position as at December 31, 2025, and the non-consolidated statements of operations and changes in net assets, and cash flows for the year then ended, and notes to the non-consolidated financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying non-consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Council as at December 31, 2025, and results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the *Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements* section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these non-consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of non-consolidated financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the non-consolidated financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Council's financial reporting process.



Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the non-consolidated financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the non-consolidated financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the non-consolidated financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the non-consolidated financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the non-consolidated financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

BDO Canada LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Winnipeg, Manitoba
May 6, 2026

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL
Non-Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

December 31	2025	2024
Assets		
Current Assets		
Cash and bank	\$ 153,625	\$ 420,979
Short-term investments (Note 3)	1,272,043	592,962
Accounts receivable	34,902	24,444
Other receivables	9,915	12,900
Prepaid expenses	1,437	1,178
Due from related party (Note 4)	6,650	17,436
Due from Prairie to Pine United Church Development Inc. (Note 5)	34,833	19,787
	<u>1,513,405</u>	<u>1,089,686</u>
Long-term investments (Note 3)	<u>356,211</u>	<u>556,605</u>
	<u>\$ 1,869,616</u>	<u>\$ 1,646,291</u>
Liabilities and Net Assets		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 9,496	\$ 13,467
Due to related party (Note 4)	25,285	9,068
Deferred revenue (Note 7)	10,673	10,673
Designated funds (Note 8)	383,706	390,341
	<u>429,160</u>	<u>423,549</u>
Commitments (Note 9)		
Net Assets		
Unrestricted	599,937	395,242
Internally restricted net assets (Note 11)		
Project Fund	588,600	600,000
Internal Reserves	200,000	200,000
Pastoral Relations Discretionary Fund	11,500	12,500
Regional P2P Council Meeting Fund	30,000	15,000
Conflict Resolution Fund	5,000	-
Leadership Training and Special Projects Fund	5,419	-
	<u>1,440,456</u>	<u>1,222,742</u>
	<u>\$ 1,869,616</u>	<u>\$ 1,646,291</u>

Approved by the Regional Council Executive:

 Executive Minister

 Treasurer

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these non-consolidated financial statements.

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Non-Consolidated Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31	2025	2025	2024
	Budget	Actual	Actual
Revenue			
The United Church of Canada (Note 4)	\$ 572,000	\$ 587,396	\$ 589,270
Donations	14,000	365,801	429,679
Investment income	14,000	53,508	59,784
Event fees	-	8,456	6,820
Miscellaneous income	-	734	1,000
Sales of goods and services	-	255	317
	<u>600,000</u>	<u>1,016,150</u>	<u>1,086,870</u>
Expenses			
Allocations and payments to programs	156,100	161,820	217,056
Annual meeting	20,000	5,810	4,275
General funds	60,825	62,500	57,541
Office and administration	44,962	50,149	49,719
Staffing costs	505,980	518,157	490,068
	<u>787,867</u>	<u>798,436</u>	<u>818,659</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$ (187,867)	\$ 217,714	\$ 268,211

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these non-consolidated financial statements.

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Non-Consolidated Statement of Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended December 31

2025

2024

	Unrestricted	Project Fund	Internally Restricted (Note 11)				Total	Total	
			Internal Reserves	Pastoral Relations Discretionary Fund	Regional Council Meeting Fund	Conflict Resolution Fund			Leadership Training and Special Projects Fund
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 395,242	\$ 600,000	\$ 200,000	\$ 12,500	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,222,742	\$ 954,531
Excess of revenue over expenses	217,714	-	-	-	-	-	-	217,714	268,211
Internal transfers	(13,019)	(11,400)	-	(1,000)	15,000	5,000	5,419	-	-
Balance, end of year	\$ 599,937	\$ 588,600	\$ 200,000	\$ 11,500	\$ 30,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,419	\$ 1,440,456	\$ 1,222,742

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these non-consolidated financial statements.

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Non-Consolidated Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended December 31	2025	2024
Cash flows provided by (used in):		
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Excess of revenue over expenses	\$ 217,714	\$ 268,211
Adjustments for non-cash items		
Accounts receivable	(10,458)	(12,513)
Other receivables	2,985	3,600
Prepaid expenses	(259)	836
Due from related party	10,786	2,017
Due to related party	16,217	775
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(3,971)	(1,079)
Designated funds	(6,635)	69,224
Due from Prairie to Pine United Church Development Inc.	(15,046)	(3,920)
	<u>211,333</u>	<u>327,151</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Proceeds of disposal of investments	545,191	888,448
Purchase of investments	(1,023,878)	(938,640)
	<u>(478,687)</u>	<u>(50,192)</u>
Increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(267,354)	276,959
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	420,979	144,020
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 153,625	\$ 420,979

The accompanying notes are an integral part of these non-consolidated financial statements.

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Notes to Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

1. Nature of Operations

The Prairie to Pine Regional Council (the "Council") is composed of Communities of Faith of The United Church of Canada within the Province of Manitoba and those in the Central Time Zone of Northwestern Ontario (including Atikokan). The Regional Council of the United Church of Canada is a decision making body responsible to serve and support Communities of Faith within its bounds and provide necessary oversight. The Council is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act. It is exempt from income taxes under section 149(1) of the Income Tax Act.

The purpose of the Council is:

- Provide support, advice and services to Communities of Faith in the areas of human resources, property, archives, leadership training.
- Provide oversight of Communities of Faith and supporting them in their life and work and ensure compliance with the policies and polity of the United Church.
- To ordain and commission members of the order of ministry, recognize Designated Lay Ministers, and celebrate admission and re-admissions into the order of ministry.
- To speak both pastorally and prophetically while providing education and advocacy on issues that affect the health of our communities.

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Basis of Accounting

These non-consolidated financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations. The Council has elected to not consolidate Prairie to Pine United Church Development Inc.

Revenue Recognition

The Council follows the deferral method of accounting for contributions.

Grants - These revenues are recognized as revenue in the period for which the grant is made based on the approved budget of the Council.

Interest - Interest revenue is recognized as income when the Council becomes entitled to such earnings.

Deferred Contributions - Contributions restricted for particular purposes are deferred and recognized as revenue when the related expenses are incurred.

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Notes to Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Revenue Recognition (continued)

Donations - Donation revenue is recorded when received. Donation revenue received with no specific purposes is unrestricted and will be used at the discretion of the Council. The Council's practice is to allocate these funds as per the donor's request.

Sales and fee for service - These revenues are recognized as revenue in the period for which the services have been rendered or goods provided in the case of service charges and fees.

Volunteer Services

The Council receives the benefit of the contribution of significant time by many volunteers. Due to the difficulty in determining the fair value of the time, volunteer services are not recognized in these non-consolidated financial statements.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

Cash and cash equivalents consist of cash held in bank accounts and guaranteed investment certificates that mature within 3 months.

Capital Assets

Purchased capital assets are recorded at cost.

Other capital assets are amortized on a straight-line basis starting the year after acquisition over the following term:

Computer equipment	3 years
Office equipment	5 years

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Notes to Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

2. Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Financial Instruments

Arm's length financial instruments are recorded at fair value at initial recognition.

Related party financial instruments quoted in an active market or those with observable inputs significant to the determination of fair value or derivative contracts are recorded at fair value at initial recognition. All other related party financial instruments are recorded at cost at initial recognition.

In subsequent periods, equities traded in an active market and derivatives are reported at fair value, with any change in fair value reported in income. All other financial instruments are reported at cost or amortized cost less impairment. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale or issue of financial instruments are expensed for those items measured at fair value and charged to the financial instrument for those measured at amortized cost.

Financial assets are tested for impairment when indicators of impairment exist. When a significant change in the expected timing or amount of the future cash flows of the financial asset is identified, the carrying amount of the financial asset is reduced and the amount of the write-down is recognized in net income. A previously recognized impairment loss may be reversed to the extent of the improvement, provided it is not greater than the amount that would have been reported at the date of the reversal had the impairment not been recognized previously, and the amount of the reversal is recognized in net income.

Post Retirement Benefit Plan

The employees of the Council participate in a contributory, multi-employer pension plan administered nationally by The United Church of Canada, where benefits are based upon career contributions. Defined contribution plan accounting is applied to this pension plan.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of non-consolidated financial statements in accordance with Canadian Accounting Standards for Not-for-Profit Organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the non-consolidated financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Notes to Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

3. Investments

	2025	2024
Conexus CU GIC - 4.05%, maturing August 21, 2026	\$ 163,395	\$ 157,035
Conexus CU GIC - 3.30%, maturing December 22, 2026	168,986	163,587
Conexus CU GIC - 3.40%, maturing January 9, 2026	300,000	-
Conexus CU GIC - 2.90%, maturing March 3, 2026	164,100	-
Conexus CU GIC - 2.80%, maturing March 28, 2026	152,563	-
Conexus CU GIC - 3.05%, maturing August 21, 2027	104,997	-
Conexus CU GIC - 2.85%, maturing November 28, 2026	300,000	-
Conexus CU GIC - 4.37%, maturing March 3, 2025	-	157,229
Conexus CU GIC - 4.45%, maturing March 15, 2025	-	102,519
Conexus CU GIC - 4.70%, maturing March 28, 2025	-	203,021
Conexus CU GIC - 4.10%, maturing August 21, 2025	-	104,997
Assiniboine CU GIC - 3.65%, maturing April 5, 2027	13,235	12,769
Assiniboine CU GIC - 3.65%, maturing April 4, 2027	2,153	2,078
Assiniboine CU GIC - 2.40%, maturing March 13, 2028	728	-
Assiniboine CU GIC - 2.25%, maturing May 9, 2028	732	-
Assiniboine CU GIC - 2.50%, maturing September 17, 2028	759	-
Assiniboine CU GIC - 3.65%, maturing March 22, 2027	1,979	1,909
Assiniboine CU GIC - 2.80%, maturing September 26, 2028	1,367	1,329
Assiniboine CU GIC - 0.10%, maturing March 13, 2025	-	727
Assiniboine CU GIC - 0.50%, maturing May 9, 2025	-	729
Assiniboine CU GIC - 2.50%, maturing September 17, 2025	-	740
Scotia Wealth GIC - 4.37%, maturing December 21, 2026	23,000	23,000
Scotia Wealth GIC - 4.26%, maturing December 22, 2028	25,500	25,500
Scotia Wealth GIC - 4.35%, maturing December 21, 2027	23,000	23,000
Scotia Wealth GIC - 4.51%, maturing December 22, 2025	-	23,000
Scotia Wealth fixed income investments	181,760	95,729
Scotia Wealth equity investments	-	50,669
	1,628,254	1,149,567
Less due within one year	(1,272,043)	(592,962)
	\$ 356,211	\$ 556,605

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Notes to Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

4. Due from Related Parties

The following table summarizes the Council's related party transactions for the year:

	2025	2024
Grants from the United Church of Canada	<u>\$ 587,396</u>	<u>\$ 589,270</u>

These transactions are in the normal course of operations and are measured at the exchange value, which is the amount agreed upon by the two parties.

The amounts due (to) from related parties at year end are as follows:

	2025	2024
Due from Northern Spirit Regional Council	\$ 4,394	\$ 7,045
Due from Living Skies Regional Council	<u>2,256</u>	<u>10,391</u>
	<u>\$ 6,650</u>	<u>\$ 17,436</u>
Due to United Church of Canada	<u>(25,285)</u>	<u>(9,068)</u>

Northern Spirit Regional Council and Living Skies Regional Council are also United Church Regional Councils with similar purposes, goals and policies. These regions share employees and accounting with the Prairie to Pine Regional Council.

United Church of Canada is the governing body for all Regional Councils in Canada and they provide grants and assistance to each region.

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Notes to Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

5. Prairie to Pine United Church Development Inc.

The Prairie to Pine United Church Development Inc. (CDI) was established to promote the welfare and good of the Council by receiving funds allocated for new church development, redevelopment and the support of other Regional Ministries. The CDI is incorporated under The Corporations Act of Manitoba and is a registered not-for-profit organization under the Income Tax Act and was originally called Winnipeg Presbytery Church Development Inc.

The CDI is managed by a Board of Directors appointed from the members of the CDI, and accountable to the Council. The Council has a significant economic interest in the Organization in that the resources of the Organization can be provided to the Council or used for its benefit. In addition, the Council has the authority to direct the Organization by virtue of a resolution at any time and the Council can approve the Organization's activities including the election of Directors or send a direction for any particular activity.

The balance due from the Organization has arisen from transactions in the normal course of operations between the organizations and has no security, repayment terms or interest charged.

The following summarizes the Council's related party transactions for the year:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Grants received from the Organization	\$ 15,046	19,787

The Organization's financial statements have not been consolidated in the Council's non-consolidated financial statements. Financial statements of the Organization are available on request. Financial summaries of the Organization as at December 31, 2025 and 2024 and for the years then ended are as follows:

	<u>2025</u>	<u>2024</u>
Cash	\$ 46,520	\$ 45,196
Long-term investments	2,555,244	2,322,196
	<u>\$ 2,601,764</u>	<u>\$ 2,367,392</u>

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Notes to Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

5. Prairie to Pine United Church Development Inc. (continued)

	2025	2024
Grants payable	\$ 17,961	\$ 8,975
Due to related party	34,833	19,787
	52,794	28,762
Net Assets		
Externally restricted	2,548,970	2,338,630
	\$ 2,601,764	\$ 2,367,392
Revenues		
Investment income	\$ 363,348	\$ 281,109
Expenses		
Investment management fees	11,782	12,088
Other grants expended	126,180	152,471
	225,386	116,550
Grants expended to Prairie to Pine Regional Council	15,046	19,787
Excess of revenues over expenses	\$ 210,340	\$ 96,763

6. Capital Assets

	2025		2024	
	Cost	Accumulated Amortization	Cost	Accumulated Amortization
Office equipment	\$ 2,099	\$ 2,099	\$ 2,099	\$ 2,099
Net book value		\$ -		\$ -

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Notes to Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

7. Deferred Revenue

	2025	2024
Unspent grants received for the promotion of the programs of the United Church of Canada	\$ 10,673	\$ 10,673

8. Designated Funds

	2025	2024
Trusts		
Archives Sale of Property Fund	\$ 197,951	\$ 211,654
Archives Project - Winnipeg Foundation	2,500	2,500
McArthur Estate	9,932	9,932
Neechi	6,175	3,250
Oral History Archive Trust	4,257	4,257
	220,815	231,593
Special Funds		
Archives Special Funds	863	863
BIRS	8,145	500
Bursary Fund	7,793	2,093
Education & Students 2015	-	1,000
Effective Leadership events 2013-2015	-	685
Keewatin	128,858	128,858
Ministry and Personnel - future projects	-	5,234
Overview & Visioning event 2014	-	2,500
Youth Events	14,912	14,695
Youth Leadership Development	2,320	2,320
	162,891	158,748
	\$ 383,706	\$ 390,341

The Council administers funds for various projects and groups operating within the Region. Amounts received and expended on behalf of these projects and groups are recorded directly to these accounts.

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Notes to Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

9. Commitments

The Council has an operating lease for its buildings ending December 31, 2026. The following are the future minimum lease payments:

2026	\$ <u>30,000</u>
------	------------------

10. Pension Plan

Retirement benefits for employees of the Council are provided through the pension plan of The United Church of Canada (the "Plan"). The Plan is a multi-employer pension plan which provides pensions for members of the Ministry Personnel and lay employees of the Offices of the General Council, Regional Council, or Community of Faith of The United Church of Canada. The Plan is a contributory defined benefit pension plan which is financed by contributions from participating employers and employees, and by the investment earnings of the Plan. The Plan is registered under the Pension Benefits Act, (Ontario), Registration #0355230.

At the date of the last actuarial valuations and publicly available financial information, there were no unfunded liabilities related to either past service or to amendments to the Plan.

During the year, the Council made employer contributions to the plan of approximately \$36,710 (\$35,353 in 2024).

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Notes to Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

11. Internally Restricted Net Assets

The Executive Committee restricted net assets that can only be used for the following specific purposes:

Net assets restricted for Project Fund provide net assets to fund granting activities by the Council made to Communities of Faith within the Region.

Net assets restricted for short and long-term internal reserves provide net assets to fund operations in future years when the Council is experiencing fiscal challenges due to unanticipated revenue losses or unanticipated operating expenses.

Net assets restricted for Pastoral Relations Discretionary Fund provide net assets to support ministry personnel in emergency circumstances.

Net assets restricted for Regional Council Meeting Fund provide net assets to support expenses expected to be incurred for future in-person Regional Council Meetings planned every three years.

Net assets restricted for Conflict Resolution Fund provide net assets to support the training of regionally appointed Conflict Resolution Facilitators and to provide funding for honoraria and reimbursement of expenses for a facilitator who is engaged by the region to provide services in conflict resolution.

Net assets restricted for Leadership Training and Special Projects fund provide net assets to support the work of the Pastoral Relations Committee and its support committees to provide seed money or funds to enhance budget if required.

12. Financial Instrument Risk

The Council is exposed to different types of risk in the normal course of operations. The Council's objective in risk management is to optimize the risk return trade-off, within set limits, by applying integrated risk management and control strategies, policies and procedures throughout the Council's activities.

Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument fails to discharge an obligation and causes financial loss to another party. Financial instruments which potentially subject the Council to credit risk consist principally of accounts receivable.

PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL Notes to Non-Consolidated Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2025

12. Financial Instrument Risk (continued)

The Council is not exposed to significant credit risk as the receivable is spread among a broad client base and payment in full is typically collected when it is due. The Council establishes an allowance for doubtful accounts that represents its estimate of potential credit losses. The allowance for doubtful accounts is based on management's estimates and assumptions regarding current market conditions, customer analysis and historical payment trends. These factors are considered when determining whether past due accounts are allowed for or written off. The risk has not changed in the year.

Market Risk

Market risk is the risk the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Council is not exposed to significant market risk.

Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. The Council is not exposed to significant interest rate risk as its cash and cash equivalents are held in short-term investments or variable rate products. The risk has not changed in the year.

Foreign Currency Risk

The Council is not exposed to significant foreign currency risk as it does not have any financial instruments denominated in foreign currency and the number of transactions in foreign currency are minimal.

AGENDA

Thursday, May 28, 2026 Selkirk United Church	
2:00 pm	Registration / Workshop assignments
4:00 pm	Newcomers Orientation
6:00 pm	Welcome / Announcements
	Land Acknowledgement
	Group Conversation Time
	M&S Fundraiser 1
	Nominations
	Executive Minister's Report
	Group Conversation Time
	In Memoriam/Lamentation
8:30 pm	Adjournment
Friday, May 29, 2026 Selkirk United Church	
9:15 am	Active Moment
	Worship
	Toward 2035
10:45-11:05	BREAK
	Chair Report
	M&S Fundraiser 2
12:20-1:30	LUNCH
	General Council Report
	The Right Rev. Dr. Kimberly Heath 45 th Moderator of The United Church of Canada
2:45-3:00	BREAK
	M&S Fundraiser 3
	Theological Colleges
	Stewardship
	Nominations
5:30-6:30	DINNER
	Property Announcement
	Finance Report
	Guaranteed Livable Income (GLI)
	Clusters & Networks/ Group Conversations
	Worship
8:30 pm	Adjournment

Saturday, May 30, 2026 Selkirk United Church (Some workshops will be off-site; check your workshop information)	
9:15 am	Singing
	Worship
	Spirit Squad Report
	Workshop 1
	Workshop 2
12:30-1:30	LUNCH
	Singing
	Workshop 3
3:00-3:15	BREAK
	M&S Fundraiser 4
	Closing Worship
	Adjournment
6:00	Celebration of Ministry Banquet
Sunday, May 31, 2026 Selkirk United Church	
	Rehearsal before the service
10:30 am	Celebration of Ministry Service
	Reception to follow





THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA