

# 2021

## Year in Review



Roll the Stone Away  
Sewanienhia'karateniat  
Eh'ren Sewanenhnienha;wit  
À nous de rouler la pierre

CONSEIL RÉGIONAL  
**NAKONHA:KA**  
REGIONAL COUNCIL

Distributed at the Winter General Meeting  
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## Preamble

Part of 2021 reporting was distributed during the June 12<sup>th</sup>, 2021 annual general meeting. A copy of the report book remains available on the Regional Council website: [https://nakonhakaucc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2021\\_RC-13-AGM\\_Report-Book-1.pdf](https://nakonhakaucc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/2021_RC-13-AGM_Report-Book-1.pdf).

## Reports

### President

Hello wonder-full people of God,

Over the past year, I have witnessed the movement of the Holy Spirit as we continue to trust in what we have begun in the co-creation of le Conseil regional Nakonha:ka Regional Council. This coming year we will focus on the new Call and Vision of the United Church of Canada; Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice. As we imagine the next year, I wish to share with you some of my reflections on how we have already begun to live out the hope in this Call. Thank you for your willingness to support and encourage my time as president. I have shared my gifts and I hope my offering is acceptable; thank you for allowing me to bring my whole self into this work. May Nakonha:ka continue to be a light of compassion in this place and in this time. The crisis brought by the Covid-19 virus has been experienced by many as an apocalypse, revealing the reality of struggle and suffering on God's green earth. For so many of us, the realities of injustice are becoming more clear, and the interconnectedness of this suffering impossible to ignore. As Regional Council, we have tried to adapt and serve with compassion and hope, building relationships and community in peace and love. We still are learning, we are still at the beginning, and we continue to trust in what we have begun. As I write my final annual report as your president, I am overwhelmed with gratitude for the lessons I have learnt while in leadership with so many dedicated followers of Christ.

I have learnt and re-learnt so much about the suffering of indigenous peoples and our call to reconciliation. I would like to thank our elder Robert Patton from Kahnawake, for his willingness to journey as a leader from the beginnings of this Regional Council. I am so grateful for his openness and patience as we do our best to ensure that reconciliation and right relations is built into the foundation of our new structure. I would like to thank Lisa Byer-de Wever, for her dedication and persistence; she continues to create space where we can all learn and be moved to transformation. Through my learnings from these teachers, I grew uncomfortable with the way we acknowledge the land when we meet as a Regional Council. I asked the Living into Right Relations Leadership Circle for help; and they responded with an engaging and thought-provoking workshop, sharing the video on our website so that communities of faith throughout this Regional Council can engage, listen, learn and be transformed. I am grateful for my learnings, and recommit myself to the work of reconciliation; as a descendent of 16th century colonizers, I condemn the doctrine of discovery as a false ideology and a tool of oppression, void of the compassion and mercy of Creator. May Nakonha:ka continue the journey of reconciliation, into right relations with all of creation.

Over the past year I have learned more about how change takes time, and that little changes can make a big difference. It takes more than a couple years to develop and live into new norms, and it takes many

hearts to transform a system. I continue to fulfill my responsibilities as chair of the executive, and we have done our best to give room for our becoming. Leadership Teams, Networks, and Clusters continue to sort out rights and responsibilities, despite the added struggle brought by the pandemic. We continue to trust the process and have adopted the practice of having an equity team or officer at every meeting of the Regional Council and the Executive. My hope is that committees and teams will feel empowered to carry out the work they are called to, while receiving the support needed from the Regional Council, so that we can all live out the vision of God's Dream.

I put my name forward 3 years ago, to become the first President of this Regional Council, feeling called to give my gifts to this movement. I came with experience as chair of the presbytery planning committee, and a vision for our Regional Council meetings. Over my term I have worked closely with the Planning Leadership Team, to work out an annual pattern to enable the work and service of the Regional Council as a whole. During our November meeting, we adopted into our governance the policy that calls us to meet as a full Regional Council 3 times a year; 2 meetings online and 1 in-person. This is the year we attempt to live into this policy, which might seem awkward at first, but with time and openness I hope that we will find this pattern to be helpful in carrying out our call and ministry.

I am grateful to our incredible support staff for their service during these last few years; I and the whole Regional Council are blessed by their care, generosity and willingness to share their gifts. Working with them has been an enriching experience for me. I am grateful for Marc Grenon and his willingness to infuse his own gifts into the Regional Council as our next President; I look forward to supporting his vision for the next steps of Nakonhaka. May we continue to follow the footsteps of Jesus as we re-shape our church into the image of Christ. Our Regional Council is blessed with so many talented and generous people, it is their dedication and hope that continues to bring this Regional Council to life. I thank you for your collaboration, and may the Spirit empower our efforts.

Thanks and Blessings, Rev. Linda Buchanan

## Executive Minister

As the world has struggled to adapt to a new normal, so have we in Nakonhaka. We have learned to pivot around challenging situations, be creative with new forms of technology, and made funding available to help communities of faith continue as best each one was able to operate, given all the restrictions imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Executive has met monthly on zoom (except for the summer) under the leadership of Rev. Linda Buchanan as President and passed motions between meetings, if there was an urgency. There have been more communities of faith determining their future, evaluating how to be faithful to the gospel by repurposing their church buildings to provide financial resources for a shrinking but faithful congregation. Centenary United is a perfect example, moving into St. Columba House to support another United Church property under-used on Sunday. Other churches are in discussion with the United Property Resource Corporation about how best to use space and provide income. In compliance with the Policy regarding Proceeds from the Sale of Property, there have been donations given to support other local ministries and the wider community of The United Church, for which we are deeply grateful.

We have also worked intentionally on developing covenants with La Table des ministères en français, clarifying how to cooperate and coordinate the shared responsibilities in pastoral relationships and the training and celebrating ministries for both ordered and lay.

Working with three very different Regional Councils is a constant juggle, with varieties of passion and energy as each is developing its own way of operating. Each has its own teams and staff working on pastoral relations who support active and retired Ministry Personnel, Licenced Lay Worship Leaders and communities of faith in transition. There are also teams focussed on various forms of social justice issues, our relationship with our Indigenous neighbours and first-third ministry (YAYA). Nakonha:ka is blessed with financial resources to be able to support all this work with a variety of grants made available.

A pattern for three Regional Council gatherings a year has been approved to provide education and information as well as attend to the business decisions which affect us all, such as the election of the General Council 44 commissions, Executive and team members, licensing new Licenced Lay Worship Leaders each fall and approval of budgets. Recognition of retirees, retired churches and those called home took place in the spring meeting. The hope is for more focussed educational events between gatherings. In November, we conducted a Celebration of Ministry with one Ordination; by invitation-only to be present because of restrictions on numbers, but livestreamed for others to share such a special occasion. Communication continues to be a challenge and we are aware of the number of communities of faith without ministry personnel, and therefore the need to ensure that each one has elected a Regional Council lay representative who will receive the information. The website is updated regularly, including posting Minutes from meetings and the most current Governance Handbook. There is a large mailing list for the newsletter, and a Facebook group, but we recognize that we rely on technology for people to engage at the other end, unless they request 'snail mail'. We still rely on all those receiving to pass along messages to others in their community of faith so that hopefully everyone has access, in some way, to the information. Thank you all for being a part of the 'sharing information' ministry.

I am deeply grateful to the dedicated work of our staff team: Beverly, Brian, David-Roger, Joel, Judy and Shanna. We welcomed Dan Hayward to the Pastoral Relations role initially in May 2021 as short-term replacement for Sabrina until her status on not returning was confirmed. Effective February 1, 2022, Dan is a permanent member of the staff. He is a wonderful addition to our team and has been on a steep learning curve.

I also want to acknowledge the countless hours contributed by the Executive and many volunteers who serve on the Teams, Networks and Clusters to enrich our ministry together. We trust that as those who have served faithfully complete their terms, others will be willing to offer their service to the wider church.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Rosemary Lambie, Executive Minister

## Pastoral Relations Minister

I have not written an annual report since my arrival in this position, but when I looked back at the Regional Council's Inaugural Meeting Report Book I found that my predecessor wrote then that "there has not been a dull moment for those working on matters pertaining to pastoral relations." This has remained true ever since.

I was seconded from my pastoral charge in May 2021 to become the interim Pastoral Relations Minister for the Nakonha:ka Regional Council, and was appointed on a permanent basis in February 2022.

During this time I have been privileged to work with the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team and Regional Council Executive, regional liaisons and community of faith supervisors, ministry personnel and lay leaders across the region (including our retired ministers and staff), Licensed Lay Worship Leaders, La Table des ministères en français, and the Executive Minister and staff colleagues serving the Regional Council. It has also been a wonderful experience to serve the church alongside Regional Pastoral Relations Ministers, Office of Vocation Ministers, Community Capacity Development Coordinators in the Indigenous church, and our supporting staff at the General Council Office.

Two highlights worth mentioning are the ordination of Raphaël Pérusse at Beaconsfield United Church on November 21, and working with my regional colleague David-Roger Gagnon to bring retirees together for an Advent “5 à 7” online on December 15.

My main areas of work have been:

- serving, supporting and providing oversight and pastoral relations support to communities of faith (particularly in matters of calls and appointments to ministry positions, ending pastoral relationships, and supporting Ministry and Personnel Committees);
- helping communities of faith to discern options as they live out their ministry, exploring – for instance – Intentional Interim Ministry, cooperative arrangements, Ecumenical Shared Ministry, innovative ministries, amalgamation or disbanding. I see this very much as part our call to “Bold Discipleship;”
- as my job description says, “encouraging and supporting ministry personnel toward health, joy and excellence in ministry practice” – I convene a monthly call for ministers, participate in La Table’s biweekly calls with francophone ministers, and assist ministry personnel in accessing restorative care;
- supporting the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, which is tasked with beginning and ending calls and appointments and appointing regional liaisons to assist communities of faith;
- liaising with my Office of Vocation counterpart Karen Valley, other staff in this and other regions, and the General Council Office;
- supporting the Regional Council and its decision-making bodies.
- At times I have also been seconded to other regions, to cover colleagues’ sabbaticals and vacations and as a special representative to communities of faith experiencing particular pastoral relations challenges.

In 2022 all of this work will continue, with increased emphasis on training and other assistance to bodies like Ministry and Personnel Committees and Trustees to become even more effective in their important roles, connection with retirees, and initiatives to foster the health of ministry personnel and their bonds across the region and in local contexts.

I am very grateful to all who are so generous with their time and expertise in so many roles in this region. I am also thankful for the ministry personnel and communities of faith who have been patient as I learn my way around the region and my position. One of my learnings has been how important pastoral relations is in equipping our part of the Church of Jesus Christ to live out our call to Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship and Daring Justice.

Respectfully submitted, Daniel Hayward UE (Rev.), Pastoral Relations Minister

## Minister Supporting Networks and Clusters

### **An Overview**

Again, this year, Covid-19 has made itself the uninvited guest with its roller coaster of outbreak waves. The Covid reality has yet again had an impact on the on-going development of Clusters in slowing down significantly the opportunity for on-the-ground community development. This reality has also made itself most known in the area of Networks, where several of the Networks have had periods of inactivity largely due to the added demands of the Covid-19 Crisis. There is also a very notable drop in the energies for volunteerism within the different Networks and Leadership Teams/Circles, which translates into difficulties finding people to take on leadership and to share in the work of each group.

Despite all of these challenges, there has still been modest progress on several fronts, and the energies needed for Networks, Clusters and Leadership Teams has begun to return to these areas of ministry in the church.

### **Networks**

In the several networks/leadership teams that exist in the Cr Nakonha:ka RC, I have been directly involved in support of the following: the Environment Network; the Pride and Friends Network; the Living in Right Relations Leadership Circle; The Justice & Communities Leadership Team. I have requested the opportunity to attend meetings with the UCW, and look forward to being able to join a meeting once invited.

### ***The Environment Network***

Again this year, I have been supporting my team colleague, Judy Coffin, in re-building this network and defining the vision of where and how this work can be done in the Nakonha:ka context. No one has stepped forward to take on a leadership role for this group.

### ***The Pride & Friends Network***

This Network focused its energies in two areas this year; one was a presence at a kiosque for Fierté-Montréal, and the other was in proposing a motion for the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council to undertake the process of Affirm United in the hopes of becoming an Affirming Regional Council. The motion passed by 96%, and F+A – P&F is now building the Affirm United Process Team which will facilitate the process for the Cr Nakonha:ka RC. So far, one person has come forward to be part of the Process Team. I assumed the “interim” leadership role for this Network in the absence of anyone stepping forward to serve in this capacity for most of 2021. No one has yet to come forward to offer longer-term leadership.

### ***The Living in Right Relations Leadership Circle***

This Leadership Circle has redefined its leadership model as a shared-leadership and collaborative functional model. The group is focusing on particular issues as energies and availabilities of members allows. The Circle presented a motion to the Cr Nakonha:ka RC requesting financial support for the Raphaël André Memorial Tent in Square Cabot to help them continue this important work with indigenous peoples in the downtown core. The Granting and Enabling Leadership Team responded to the request, and 60,000\$ was offered on behalf of the United Church of Canada -Cr Nakonha:ka RC to help meet the needs of this important work. The cheque was presented to Nakuset, Director of the Native Women's Shelter and overseer of the Memorial Tent project, in a simple meeting in Parc Julia Drummond on 11 February. The Leadership Circle is also engaged in conversations with city counsellors regarding

abandoned buildings in the downtown core which might be seized by the city and converted into housing for those experiencing housing injustices.

### ***The Justice & Communities Leadership Team***

This Leadership Team has found many of its members and leaders pulled in many different directions in order to respond to Covid-19. This means that there were only a few meetings in 2021, which were spent mostly realigning the work of the Team to available energies and people in the current context. The Team has articulated a new model of shared leadership, and will continue to meet more regularly in the next year. The Team has begun a process to reconnect with the community ministries and community organization partners with the hope of developing a comprehensive Directory of Partners across the Cr Nakonha:ka RC with whom Justice & Communities collaborates.

### ***Cluster Work***

While the process for forming new clusters continued to be very slow as a result of pandemic demands and additional work, the already-existent clusters have continued to meet through this year. The tendency of the denomination towards the Congregationalist model continues to pose some challenges in terms of constructing pastoral cooperative teams in sectors of the Cr Nakonha:ka RC, and this has become more evident through the period of the crisis. At the same time, new initiatives of cooperation and collaboration have been borne out of the necessities of the pandemic, and many of these initiatives bode well for future collaborative ministry development.

### ***The Saint Francis Cluster***

This was my first year responsible for the development process of the Cluster, as they had ended their work with EDGE the previous year. It was a challenging year in terms of differences of perspective on leadership styles which required several preparatory meetings before each cluster meeting, but with time, this has helped congeal the process of the steering committee. The Cluster group has been using “Thriving Churches” as a tool for deepening the collective understanding of what it means to be a missional church. While I initially hoped to cover one chapter a month, a great deal of meeting time has been focused around financial issues, which frequently postponed the development work.

With the Fall, new leadership helped steer the Cluster project in a new direction, and the group has most recently been working on weaving together a collective response to Food Insecurity across the area as a shared ministry, each according to what they are able to do and contribute.

### ***West Island Cluster***

This was my first year responsible for the development process of the Cluster, as they had ended their work with Edge at the beginning of the year. This group focused this year on four primary questions which are integrated into group discussions following shared worship on the 5th Sundays of the month throughout the year. The questions were: Who are we? Who are we called to be? What are we called to do? And how do we get from where we are to where we are called? Each of the 5th Sundays that were part of this process were well attended with around 80-100 people participating each time. Small group discussions as part of the process helped generate common goals and ideas from which the cluster will now weave a roadmap to chart the course for the coming few years. The ministers of this cluster group again shared worship from July to September on-line. Their use of a “common on-line calendar” has allowed all of the communities of faith to be aware of the ministry offerings at the different ministry sites. Plans are moving forward for a common Website for all the communities of faith to help people share information and present a common face of the UCC in the West Island.



### ***Richelieu & Châteauguay Valleys***

While conversations have begun with a few leaders in this cluster project, it has been very difficult to solicit responses from some of the leadership in this potential cluster who have not responded to numerous efforts of contact. The efforts to reach out to leaders and hold an initial conversation continue.

### ***South Shore***

The councils of two congregations on the South Shore of Montréal have given their approval for more formal conversations regarding a clustering process in this area. One of the congregations already has collaboration with two neighbouring Presbyterian churches, so this project will likely take on more of an oecumenical flavour. First formal conversations will begin in the coming weeks.

### **Pastoral Relations - Support to Retired Clergy**

#### ***Meditation/Prayer Booklets***

I have created now 3 Meditation/Prayer booklets to send as a “care package” to retired ministry, one for the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany seasons in 2020 and one for the Lent-Easter-Pentecost and Advent-Christmas-Epiphany seasons in 2021. This year, a small wood carved ornament was sent with the Advent-Christmas-Epiphany mailing. The feedback received from this project has been very positive, and I have invited retired ministers to help create a team to write future editions of these meditation booklets. So far, no one has come forward to take part in the writing process. My thanks to Judy Coffin, Brian Ruse, Joel Miller and Rosemary Lambie and Les ministères en français for their help in the creation of these resources.

### ***5 à 7 for Retired Ministers***

Working in collaboration with Daniel Hayward, who is now taking on the work of supporting retired ministers, I organized a 5 à 7 on Zoom for retired ministers in December as an Advent Gathering. Participants took time to share news and make new connections, and the time together concluded with a time of Prayer and song. All participants were invited to join the Team which is hoped will help to shape the direction of this support ministry. Additionally, participants were invited to be part of future Meditation Booklets by joining the writing team and each taking one entry to share the work and give voice to the many talented theologians in the population of retired ministers.

### **Christian-Jewish Dialogue**

Mark Hammond continues to formally represent the Cr Nakonha:ka RC at this dialogue table. Montréal-Ouest United Church was the host for the Christian Commemoration of the Shoah in 2021, which was the fruit of a great deal of dialogue, exchange, understanding, and concrete negotiations. Because of past publications from the National Church, there were many bridges to rebuild in order to facilitate this moving forward. I deeply appreciate Rabba Sherril Gilbert’s strong commitment to our dialogue and finding a way to make a place for the UCC at the table.

As part of the “Just Peace” taskforce efforts, as early as two years ago, I asked the task force to please consult with the leaders of the Jewish Reform, Renewal and Reconstructionist Communities with whom we regularly collaborate. The progressive voices in the Jewish communities here in Canada and overseas benefit greatly from our efforts to lift up their voices. Unfortunately, the task force did not consult with the leaders in Montréal. The task force report has generated significant upset among Rabbinical Circles across the country. I continue to invite all those at the National Church responsible for this dossier to please consult with our colleagues here in Montréal in the hopes of continuing the progress that we have made locally, and translating that to a wider national context. Nonetheless, dialogue efforts continue,

and it is hoped that a future collaboration with Living in Right Relations to revive the “Origins” programme will allow for more work together in the common ground of understanding, diversity and mutual respect.

#### **Lay Licenced Worship Leaders**

I have made several requests to attend additional meetings to the one I attended in 2020 to offer support for this ministry stream, and I remain optimistic that my requests for participating in the future will be met with success.

#### **Participation in National Church Groups and Processes**

##### *Participation in Network & Cluster National Church Dialogues*

The regular meetings of those across the National Church responsible for Networks and for Clusters has been less than frequent in the past year due to many factors, including Covid-19, illness among some of the leadership, and a lack of availability of national staff to help in the coordination.

The dialogue I had initiated between the Cr Nakonha:ka RC and EDGE has not continued, unfortunately.

#### **Participating in a “Ministry of the Baptized” Training Programme**

A national table to address the need for the training of lay members to take on more roles in shared ministry is moving forward. The programme, “**Wade In The Waters**”, encourages all the baptized to share in the ministry of the church. Participants will be encouraged to support the work of their faith communities by building ministry teams with their ministers in order to more effectively meet the needs of the community and share the work rather than leave it all to the minister to do alone. The pilot for this programme, which has been in development for a year, will launch this Fall, and will consist of 6 sessions which will invite participants to step into their own call as Baptized Members of the Church to “go make a difference”. This is intended as a complimentary programme to the already-existent programmes for Ordered and Commissioned Ministries and LLWL’s.

Respectfully Submitted, David-Roger Gagnon, Minister Supporting Networks and Clusters

## Communications

Throughout yet another pandemic year in 2021, it has been a privilege to hear (and share) the stories of communities of faith, leadership teams, networks and clusters working together to find creative ways to continue their ministries and care for each other in local, national and global spaces. This included an online webinar in June 2021 about offering worship online, with five panelists offering insights into their learnings and experiences.

Communication is about connection, and we have so many ways to share our stories: with pictures, words... and even with numbers. Here are a few stories about how we connected with each other in 2021.



### BY THE NUMBERS

Regional Council stories are shared via the bi-weekly newsletter, social media and website, as well as special updates regarding COVID. There are currently 423 individual newsletter subscribers in addition to 82 pastoral charge contacts. There are 200 members in our private Facebook group, 147 followers on our public Facebook page and 108 followers on Instagram. (Twitter is our weakest link, with only 41 followers.) The graphs at left show highlights of demographics and engagement on social media platforms.

*Stay tuned for more stories about bold discipleship in 2022!*



### HOW TO CONNECT WITH REGIONAL COUNCIL COMMUNITY

- Submit photos, stories, events to [jcoffin@united-church.ca](mailto:jcoffin@united-church.ca)
- Subscribe to newsletter: <http://eepurl.com/qhSnNP>
- Twitter: @Nakonhaka\_uccan
- Instagram: @Nakonhaka
- Facebook page (public): <https://www.facebook.com/Nakonhaka>
- Facebook group (private): <https://www.facebook.com/groups/Nakonhaka/>
- YouTube: <http://bit.ly/YouTube-Nakonhaka>
- Website: [www.nakonhakaucc.ca](http://www.nakonhakaucc.ca)

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## Finance and Extension Board - Executive Summary

The Finance and Extension Board of the Conseil régionale *Nakonha:ka* Regional Council is duly Incorporated under the United Church of Canada. It remains the principal financing means for the development of congregations and other UCC ministries in the Region and has oversight of the investment portfolio being a principal provider of funding for mission support, sabbatical leave and bursary programs.

The F&E Board's 2021 Annual Report will be released in May 2022.

### **Investment Review**

The F&E Board oversees the management of its and the Regional Council's investments and provides significant funding for Mission Support and Governance for the *Nakonha:ka* Region. Currently, \$21.4 million of F&E holdings are invested in the Fiera Capital Balanced EFT Fund. The management fee is 0.3%.

### **Property Review**

The Property Committee oversees provides technical and project management assistance to those communities of faith seeking financial assistance for construction and maintenance projects involving their properties and buildings.

The following projects were supported by the committee in 2021: St James United Church – Property development visioning with UPRC, Hudson Pastoral Charge – Renovation.

The committee provides assistance to sell church property and arranged the sale of Wesley United Church, Bedford in early 2021.

### **Loan Review**

During the 2021 fiscal year, the F&E Board administered loans to 7 communities of faith. 4 of these loans were paid off in 2021. At year-end, the combined principal of the 3 loans that are currently in repayment was \$967,025.

### **Financial Assistance**

The Bursary committee awarded 17 bursaries from the following: Hugh Duncan Bursary (12 awarded, \$1650 each), John's Hall Bursary (1 awarded, \$1000) and I.F.E Bursary (4 awarded, \$1000 each).

In 2021, a total amount of \$12,000 from the Hugh Duncan Fund of the Finance and Extension Board was made available for the Sabbatical Leave program. In accordance with the established Guidelines for the Sabbatical Leave process, the committee awarded a sabbatical leave to Rev. Read Sherman.

In October 2021, the F&E Board established a new strategic restricted fund: The Granting & Enabling Strategic Fund. The proceeds (10%) from property sales will be deposited into this fund, which will be administered by the F&E Board and directed by the Conseil régionale *Nakonha:ka* Regional's Granting & Enabling Committee.

### **Financial Review**

A financial summary and the audited financial statements for 2021 will be included in the F&E Board's 2021 Annual Report.

In 2021, the F&E Board's total funds available to the F&E Board and Region 13 (\$631,339) was slightly less than the budgeted amount (\$650,800). The F&E Board's total revenue (\$502,124) was also less than the \$510,000 that had been budgeted for 2021. The F&E Board's total F&E Grants to Region 13 of \$530,000 remained consistent with the amount budgeted for 2021 and the amount given in previous years. The F&E Internal Grants (Sabbatical Leave and Bursaries) were also on-budget for 2021 (\$32,000) and consistent with the amounts given in previous years. Operating expenses for 2021 were under budget due to some staffing changes on the F&E Board.

### **F&E Board Membership**

In August 2021, the F&E Board hired Caroline Leamon as the new Secretary.

#### **Current Officers:**

Peter Bisset – President, Acting Chair of Property Committee (end of current term: May 2022)

Paul Stanfield – Treasurer, Chair of Investments Committee (end of current term: May 2022)

Caroline Leamon – Secretary

#### **Ex officio:**

Rev. Rosemary Lambie

Brian Ruse

#### **Members at large:**

Craig McAlpine

Dave McCormack

Diane Campbell

Fred Braman

Jim Fyles

Jim Moffat

Marc Grenon

Monique Moser

Paula Kline

Peter Mundie

Rick Sheffer

Royal Orr

Ted Rutherford

Tom Kent

#### **Resource persons:**

Lynn Drew

Libby Monaco

Renate Sutherland

Respectfully submitted, Peter Bisset, President

## Archives Special Interest Group

With the ongoing pandemic, the Archives Special Interest Group has still not met or adopted an official mandate. It replaces the Presbytery and Conference Archives Committees whose principal activities were:

- to examine minutes of Official Boards/Councils, Congregational Meetings, Trustees and Stewards on a regular basis to help them keep good records.
  - I am investigating ways of receiving digital copies of minutes of communities of faith to be reviewed. The logistics of reviewing minutes in person is problematic.
- to disseminate information to aid them in maintaining good recordkeeping practices.
  - I have been sending information, guidelines, etc. upon request. Some information is available on the Regional Council website under Resources-> Archives.
- to encourage communities of faith to send records to the archives when they are no longer 'active' or when congregations disband or amalgamate.
  - This is an area that has been limited to answering questions when approached by communities of faith that are disbanding or amalgamating.
  - The *Archives nationales* has not been picking up archives deposits during this the last 21 months and only recently began receiving material brought in.

We have received boxes from the former Quebec-Sherbrooke Presbytery and some from a member of the Finance and Extension Board of Quebec Presbytery at the Lachine office which were being processed by Beverly Levine and Shirley Cartmill before the renewed shutdown in December.

The members of the group are: Beverly Anderson-Levine (Archivist), Shirley Cartmill and Tessa Ann Griffin.

Respectfully submitted, Beverly Anderson-Levine

## Leadership Teams

### Pastoral Relations Leadership

The Pastoral Relations Leadership team is made up of the following: Janet Bisset, Marc Grenon, Daniel Hayward (Staff), Mher Katchikian, Dave Lambie, Rosemary Lambie (Staff), Darryl Macdonald (Chair) & Birgit Neuschild.

We meet monthly usually on the second Tuesday via Zoom to discuss the pastoral needs of various congregations and personnel in transition. There are twenty communities presently in some kind of transition at the writing of this report. We also review community profiles that need approval to proceed with a change in Pastoral Relations and seek Pastoral Charge Supervisors and Liaisons where needed for assistance with Search Committees.

This year we were happy to welcome the Reverend Dan Hayward as the new staff person on our team. His dedication, wisdom and pastoral nature have enlivened our work. We also accepted, with regret, the resignation of Birgit Neuschild. We are thankful for all the work that Birgit did for our Regional Council and Team.

Since our work is sensitive in nature we do not publish details of our work. We will continue to do the best we can in helping Faith Communities and personnel with their transition needs. Many remain in our prayers.

Respectfully submitted, Rev. Darryl Macdonald

## Granting and Enabling

The Granting and Enabling Leadership Team is continuing to meet virtually to review applications for the various funds of the Nakonha:ka region to support ministries and programs offered by congregations, Pastoral Charges, and community ministries throughout our area and to recommend disbursements to the Executive or the Regional Council. This includes Mission Support funds; the Erskine and American-Mountainside Trust; the Good Samaritan Fund; the Bhal Yun fund; the Trois-Rivieres funds; and the Ste Therese Fund, as well as being associated with the F.W. Kelley fund of Montreal West United Church. We have set three dates for applications (February 15, May 15, and September 15th ) and use a common form for all funds other than Mission Support, whose requirements and form are set by the national church. The hope is that this may simplify applications and limit paperwork required of those applying. Thanks to support from the Finance and Extension Board as well as our various funds, we have been able to supply close to one million dollars (\$982,153) to ministries in our region for both pastoral charges and community ministries. \$506,214 has been provided through Mission Support, funded largely from the Finance and Extension Board, and \$475,939 from the other funds. Each fund has its own purpose and parameters but all are intended to enable program and ministry rather than support for buildings or maintenance. Specific details can be found for these funds can be found on the region's website, along with the application form.

I would like to thank the members of the Leadership Team and the staff for the support and enabling the work of this team. We look forward to seeing all that we can do together as we move forward.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Bryce



## Living In Right Relations Leadership Circle

### **Summary**

After a process of realignment and leadership redefinition, the Living in Right Relations Leadership Circle is currently moving toward a sustainable and shared-leadership model. The Leadership Circle has most recently been focused on the needs of unhoused persons and the housing justice crisis in downtown Montréal. The Circle also continues to offer numerous workshops to help our communities to engage with the issues of Right Relationship and Reconciliation.

### **Leadership Transition and Reorganization**

***The Living in Right Relations Leadership Circle*** (LIRR) has undergone a reorganization of its leadership model and way of functioning as a Leadership Circle. Firstly, we acknowledge the leadership of Lisa Byer-de Wever and Read Sherman over the past several years, who will continue to serve this circle. The leadership of the LIRR will be a shared model, and given that many in this Leadership Circle have numerous other responsibilities, it is felt that a model of shared leadership is more sustainable for the longer term.



*Lisa Byer-de Wever, Nakuset, Jan Jorgensen, Marc Grenon and Read Sherman at the presentation of the cheque in support of the Raphael Andre Memorial Tent. (Photo taken by David-Roger Gagnon)*

### **Support for the Raphael Andre Memorial Tent through the Native Women's Shelter of Montréal**

An open letter written by Nakuset and Mary Martin-Goodleaf, called "***A Cry for Help***", which was shared at our December LIRR gathering galvanized our thoughts and actions. We submitted a request that money be donated by the Cr Nakonha:ka RC to Native Women's Shelter of Montreal in aid of our neighbours in crisis. This way of supporting Résilience and the Raphael Andre Memorial Tent in Square Cabot aligns



with our commitment to live into right relations, as well as our denominational commitment to live out the calls from the TRC to the church. Referred to the Granting & Enabling Leadership Team (GELT) by the Executive, LIRR submitted a grant request for \$60,000. Upon consideration of the request, the GELT was able to provide the \$60,000, drawing upon the following funds:

- 30 000\$ from the Erskine & American-Mountaininside Trust Fund
- 15 000\$ from the Bhal-Jun Fund
- 15 000\$ from the Good Samaritan Fund

The amount from the Good Samaritan Fund is to be directly transferred by the General Council Office Team to the Native Women's Shelter of Montréal. Moving words by Elder Robert Patten were written in a card to accompany the cheque, and the cheque for the remaining amount was presented in person to Nakuset and the Resilience team by Lisa Byer-de Wever, Jan Jorgensen, and Read Sherman representing LIRR, and Marc Grenon, representing the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council on 10 February, 2022 in a simple gesture of solidarity. LIRR wishes to express its deep gratitude to the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team and the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council for its generosity in response to this call for help!

#### **LIRR Motion for funds from Church Property Sales**

LIRR has put forward a motion seeking an additional 5% from the proceeds of church property sales to support Indigenous initiatives within the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council. LIRR is currently in dialogue with the Finance and Extension Leadership Team to further explore and finalize the specifics of the motion and its possible implementation.



*Photo of a new housing project being built to serve Indigenous families in the city to help reunite families and help them remain under the same roof. The project is directed by Nakuset. (Photo taken by Jan Jorgensen)*

We have received an invitation to share in the work of Nakuset and others on the 2nd stage housing initiative that is unfolding downtown. This too is a way of taking guidance from our Indigenous neighbours. For information, please see: <http://www.nwsm.info/>

### **Longer- Term Housing Solutions Strategy**

While the much-appreciated support for the Raphael Andre Memorial Tent constitutes an important component in a comprehensive strategy to address housing justice in the downtown core of Montréal, LIRR has also begun an exploration of longer-term solutions to current injustices around housing in Montréal, which adversely and disproportionately impact Indigenous Peoples. To this end, members of the Leadership Circle have engaged in conversations with City Counsellors, Community Organizations and potential interfaith and secular partners in exploration of a longer-term strategy to address housing injustices. Some exploration has begun concerning an abandoned apartment building in the Peter McGill Ward and what might be done through a collaboration of partner organizations and the city in terms of the building being seized by the city and converted into housing for some of the people who rely on services at the Raphael Andre Memorial Tent. Partnerships and dialogues are underway with an Indigenous-led interfaith coalition, as well as with Minister Mark Miller. The Anglican Diocese and Roman Catholic Diocese of Montréal, as well as some of the religious communities in the downtown area, are also being engaged in conversations to explore possible oecumenical partnerships to advocate for justice.

### **Workshops Available to Help Deepen Our Understanding and Engagement**

The LIRR Leadership Circle offers a number of workshops to help us engage important issues on the path of reconciliation and healing, in order to better understand our sisters and brothers in the Indigenous Communities with whom we share this land. Two of these workshops are currently available in French and English and soon the rest of these workshops will be available in both languages.

#### **They include:**

- The Kairos Blanket Exercise** (available in French & English)
- Settler Mentality** (available in English)
- Land Acknowledgement**, Parts 1 & 2 (available in French & English)
- Indian Act** (available in English)
- Doctrine of Discovery** (available in English)

For more information on the workshops, please contact: [rightrelationsnakonhaka@gmail.com](mailto:rightrelationsnakonhaka@gmail.com)

### **Members of the Living in Right Relations Leadership Circle**

Robert Patton – Elder	Lisa Byer-de Wever	Read Sherman
Pierre Goldberger	Jan Jorgensen	Salinda Hess
Maureen Scott Kabwe	Linda Buchanan	Julia Budd
Grace Cawley	Samuel Dansokho	Susan Gabriel
Martha Nell Thompson	Cameron Gray	Attila Gyorgy
Lee Ann Hogle	Rosemary Lambie	Gabrielle Lamouche
Richard Miller	Andrea Nugent	Natacha Sanson
Tami Spires	Ingrid Thompson	Graham Weeks
David-Roger Gagnon	Beryl Barraclough	

Written by David-Roger Gagnon, edited by Jan Jorgensen, Lisa Byer-de Wever & Read Sherman, and approved by and submitted on behalf of the Living in Right Relations Leadership Circle.

## Justice & Communities Leadership Team

### **Summary**

The Justice and Communities Leadership Team (J&CLT) has undergone a shift in leadership styles and organizational structures, and continues to help connect the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council with the Social Justice and Community work being done. Despite Covid-19, much social justice work has continued to be done as a part of the on-going ministry of the church living out its Bold Discipleship.

### **Leadership and Redefinition**

Over the past two years, the Justice & Communities Leadership Team (J&CLT) has undergone a reorganization and a change in its structure and leadership. We would like to thank Paula Klein, Patricia Lisson & Shaun Fryday for their leadership over this period of transition as we all move further into a Regional Council structure, and for helping us shape this new kind of shared leadership for J&CLT moving forward. The J&CLT continues to articulate its sustainable, consensus leadership model and mode of organizing. The emerging model will allow the group to engage on certain issues as the needs arise while sharing the various responsibilities required to help move the work forward.

### **The Challenge of Covid**

It should be pointed out that, like many other Leadership Teams/Circles, Networks and other groups, the J&CLT has found its members pulled in many different directions in order to respond to the on-going Covid-19 Pandemic. This has meant that members have focused their energies on their primary areas of ministry with greater demands, leaving less time and energy to move the Social Justice and Community work forward.

### **Updating the Repertoire of Partnerships in Social Justice and Community Service**

The J&CLT is undergoing an updating of its ***Repertoire of Partnerships*** in the areas of Social Justice and Community Service. Over the next months, David-Roger Gagnon will be canvassing the numerous partner organizations in order to update our connection with their work, and find ways to strengthen the ties with each organization and the new Conseil régional/Regional Council (Cr/RC) structure.

The “check-in” will also include a search of other potential partners and community organizations who are already engaged in work that is important to J&CLT and with whom they can collaborate for future initiatives.

To quote Lisa Byer-de Wever, we are “stepping outside our church doors and looking at what God is already doing.” The hope from this work is to develop an information-sharing hub on “who is doing what” that people from across the Cr/RC can access. There is also a hope to use this kind of platform as a way to share news, information and resources. It is also hoped that J&CLT can play a role in the eventual in-person gatherings of ministers through retreat days and themed learning days to further the conversations of Social Justice and Communities and how our own communities of faith can become more involved. The hope is to equip our congregations to engage when facing issues of racism, inequality, climate injustice, the environmental crisis, and finding ways to raise our voices in the larger conversations.

Over the next year, we will be giving you updates on community ministries in order to continue strengthening the ties with these community organizations and our new Cr Nakonha:ka RC structure.

### **Holding Up Social Justice Concerns for the Cr Nakonha:ka RC**

The J&CLT wishes to renew its role in raising to our collective attention significant issues of Social Justice and Community Concern. As it redevelops its information-sharing strategy, it plans to underline facts, information, programmes and events that are an on-going part of the Social Justice work of the Church. For example:

- The 8600 vaccines for developing countries paid for through a national church campaign.

- The Harm Reduction Drug Decriminalization national church campaign

- The Calls To Action and our need to continue to live into these calls to live in Right Relations

It is hoped that J&CLT will be able to more directly interact with the Clusters as a way of keeping connected to the work on the ground in Communities of Faith while benefiting from the convergence of several communities at one time and collaborating in Cluster-wide ministry responses to social justice and community needs.

### **Request**

The J&CLT requests a significant amount of time during the June meeting to present on two specific ministries:

- The on-going Beaconsfield Initiative and work in the Philippines

- The new GLBTQ2S+ Refugee support ministry being built with partnerships at Beaconsfield, the West Island GLBTQ2S+ Centre and the Nigerian Refugee Support programmes at Beaconsfield.

### **Concerns About the Impact of Structural Transition**

The J&CLT raises concerns regarding the thinning of over-all potential leadership in committees and in the Social Justice work of the church as a whole. Most of those who are involved in this work are also pulled in many other directions, and there are not many new people joining the work or many new leaders emerging to help carry the work forward. One of the observations is that the downloading of the work to the regions from the General Council has made it so that the RC staff picks up the slack and is expected to replace the work no longer being done at the national church level. There is also a concern regarding the loss of previous “natural points of gathering” that have not yet emerged in the new structure that previously offered opportunities to share information and news about ministries, social justice and community concerns, as well as to network. The J&CLT would welcome the opportunity to help build new types of “natural points of gathering” in the new Regional Council structure to return to the more relational grounding of this work and its being shared within the Regional and National Church. While Covid has brought on so many challenges in terms of meeting formats, the hope is expressed that, as we continue to build the new structure, we will continue to find a way to make room for addressing urgent social justice issues that can arise at any given time. The J&CLT also enthusiastically encourages continuing to make space and time for presentations from networks and social justice and community ministries to share at AGMs encouraging new people to become part of these ministries in the church.

### **Reports from Community Ministries & Partner Programmes**

- ***Montréal City Mission***

*I have the profound conviction that if the compelling experiences that unite us can be multiplied and sustained over a time interval of sufficient duration, any barrier that separates one person from another can be undermined and eliminated.*

- Howard Thurman, Afro-American theologian, activist, author and contemplative

The pandemic has been a challenge for all of us and in particular for those already struggling in poverty, isolation and exclusion. At MCM, we have adapted our work of support to those in need and we are even

imagining new ways of being in community – ways inspired by the very people we are called to serve. Our 3-pole approach: **1. Individual, 2. Community, 3. Environment** gets lived out: 1. Through **individual services** to vulnerable migrants at the **Just Solutions Legal Clinic** and to seniors at the Roger Snelling Clinic (with a combined 4,000+ consultations annually); by distributing tablets and offering tech training to **newcomer seniors** so they can stay in touch and ensuring those with health issues are visited regularly, receive food and assistance; 2. Building on those individual connections to **create community** as we did last December with the newcomer **Sewing Bee** women who produced Christmas decorations – the women are back on line supporting one another and planning their spring season; our new project **ARK – Art by Refugee Kids** – that got off to a wonderful start and will be back in business soon; our on line sessions on Islam through **Ancient Texts....Contemporary Conversations** as part of **Muslim Awareness Week** and a mini **Celebration of Light** in the St. James sanctuary with our interfaith partners to learn about our respective traditions; **advocacy** is essential to community building and on that front we have recently been involved with SHERPA McGill in the **campaign** with presentations to the government to **protest language Bill 96** that, if passed, will be discriminatory against Anglophones and newcomers. 3. **Environment**: finally care of our natural home underpins all of our work and calls us to imagine a world that exists for the benefit of nature and humankind: launching the **Green Faith Circle** in a gathering on the St. James Square with interfaith and First Nations partners to pray, chant, and hope together, creating a cross island **green corridor for pollinators** and caring for the **Tiny St. James Forest**.

Last but not least, perhaps the most exciting development of all, and one that undergirds all of our ministry, is the development of the **St.James & MCM Spiritual/Justice Hub**. Worship and work are coming closer together as congregation and mission join forces to respond to the Gospel call of right relation with one another, with the earth and with God – the most recent joint endeavour is a developing partnership with the First Nations social/pediatric clinic taking root in downtown Montreal. None of this would be possible without the grace of God, compassion of our friends and the moral and financial support of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council. Merci!

Paula Klein, Director – Mission Communautaire de Montréal City Mission

<https://www.montrealcitymission.org/>

- **Maison Saint-Columba House**

Maison Saint Columba House has been actively engaged serving Pointe-St Charles and beyond, through compassionate & empowered community. Engagement around justice issues includes social housing, 12 days of awareness of violence against women, English language advocacy around Bill 96, guaranteed livable income and other local & national campaigns.

Lisa Byer-de Wever, Executive Director – Maison Saint Columba House

<https://saintcolumbahouse.org/>

- **Beaconsfield United Church Refugee Integration Support Program (BUCRISP)**

Beaconsfield United Church Refugee Integration Support Program was established in 2019 to create networks, build relationships and create a sustainable long-term faith-based community which promotes intercultural understanding.

Since inception, the Program has achieved several milestones in its objectives, like supporting hundreds of families with food on a monthly basis, providing household support to at least 84 families, and

organizing several seminars aimed at integrating refugees into Canadian culture. The Program was particularly active during the COVID-19 pandemic especially in the area of testing and vaccine advocacy.

BUCRISP has also held cultural events showcasing colorful aspects of African sartorial culture.

As an operational humanitarian project, the Program meets important material, social and spiritual needs of refugees in a welcoming and intercultural Christian community. BUCRISP is working towards growing our community into an immigrant and intercultural church.

BUCRISP will continue to provide pastoral care and support to refugees where belonging, welcome and inclusive interculturalism are experienced through its projects. To achieve our future goals, a sustainable five-year plan of action was designed to help us remain sustainable and create a safe place for the newly arrived refugees.

Adedeji “Ade” Sunday Akintayo , Coordinator BUCRISP.

<https://www.beaconsfieldunitedchurch.com/>

- ***The Beaconsfield Initiative***

2021: A key year for the indictment of the Duterte’s government war on drug as crime against humanity by the International Criminal Court- Beaconsfield Initiative members active participants in the process! The Beaconsfield Initiative (BI) is a grassroots human rights advocacy partnership developed between the Beaconsfield United Church, Nakonha:ka Region, the United Church of Canada, the International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines-Canada (ICHRP) and a number of grassroots organizations in the Philippines. The goal of BI is campaigning for human rights in the Philippines, in particular human rights issue link to Canadian mining. Also, BI is actively working on Canadian government policies and actions by appearing before Parliamentary Committees, addressing the United Nation High Commission on Human Rights, presenting documents before the International Criminal Court, forming an International Ecumenical Round Table on the topic. BI is distinctive in that it stretches beyond institutions and engages directly with the people affected. Summarizing of the key work in the Philippines 2021 swirled around the production of three reports by the Independent International Commission of Investigation into Human Rights Violations in the Philippines (INVESTIGATE-PH).

The Initial Report in March examined more than fifty (50) emblematic cases of human rights violations that occurred largely in 2020 and 2021 to demonstrate that the serious situation already revealed in the Bachelet Report (Commissioned by the High Commissioner for Human Right of the United Nations) was intensifying.

Our Second Report took a more analytical approach, examining the ongoing human rights violations through three lenses A War on Poor People in the guise of a War on Drugs, a War on Dissent in the guise of a counter-insurgency program; and a War on the Moro People in the guise of the ‘War on Terror’. This approach embraced new data and analysed older information, showing the impact on Indigenous Peoples, the Judiciary, the Moro People, Churches, Women, Peasants and Workers. We traced in the report the increase of state-driven political repression, and raised the alarm at the lack of legal domestic remedies (culture of impunity) to genuinely address the human rights abuses.

The third Report shifted the human rights reference point from the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights to the International Covenant on Economic Social and Cultural Rights, the Rights of Indigenous People, of Women, of the Child, and the Right to Development and to Peace. We were able to

show that the fierce repression by the government is related to the historic structural injustice in the Philippines arising from colonialism, imperialism and the current neo-liberal economic policies.

At the end of June 2021, the outgoing Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court recommended to the Court's Pre-Trial Chamber that there be an investigation of the crime against humanity of murder and other crimes of torture in the Philippines, by the Duterte's government and this was authorised in September. While the Duterte government has tried to delay this investigation, it is ongoing and should lead to the issuing of warrants of arrest.

Our BI work in highlighting the human rights violations helped to get the ICC to this point and we must continue to agitate on these events to ensure that the ICC carries through with its mandate.

We are now in the intense period of the national election process, up to May 2022, when the Filipino people are again trying to create a responsible government with a pro-people agenda. We are planning to participate in monitoring missions in May 2022.

Patricia Lisson & Guy-Lin Beaudoin

<https://www.ichrpcanada.org/>

- **West Island GLBTQ2S+ Centre**

### **The West Island LGBTQ2+ Centre 2021 Report – The Centre's 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**

The West Island LGBTQ2+ Centre had a benchmark year in 2021. Despite still competing with the COVID-19 pandemic to be able to offer our services and to connect meaningfully with our community, the Centre engaged in essential capacity building work and celebrated a major event in our history, our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. In 2021, the Centre helped 150 individuals across our in-house programs, an impressive feat considering the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The Centre was also able to connect with hundreds more people through our outreach initiatives, whether in high schools, community organizations, or private institutions.

On Saturday, September 26<sup>th</sup>, the Centre held an in-person outdoor BBQ event for members of our community to celebrate our 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Founded in 2011, the Centre was able to host this celebration in 2021 and reflect back on the amazing things that we as a community have accomplished in just 10 years. What began as a small program to give LGBTQ2+ teens a place to meet other LGBTQ2+ teens once a week, quickly grew to include five (5) different programs, each with its own unique mandate, and two (2) different outreach initiatives, and the ongoing creation of an independent partner organization for the Vaudreuil-Soulanges region. As our first in-person event since 2020, we couldn't ask for a better moment than the 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary BBQ to bring together our members, our participants, our community partners and funders, and our staff, board and volunteers in unity.

While we look back and celebrate all that we have accomplished in the past ten years, we also look forward at the world of opportunities before us with open hearts and open minds.

**David Hawkins, Executive Director**  
**West Island LGBTQ2+ Centre**  
(514)794-5428  
[INFO@LGBTQ2CENTRE.COM](mailto:INFO@LGBTQ2CENTRE.COM)



Centre  
**LGBTQ2+**  
Ouest-de-l'Île



- **COCLA**

Corporation Culturelle latino-américaine de l'amitié (Latino-Américan Cultural Corporation of Friendship)

The mission of COCLA is to respond to fundamental needs and create links of friendship between new people of different countries, in order to facilitate their integration into Canadian life and to allow them to grow and develop their potential. The mission of COCLA also focuses on promoting respect towards others regardless of their origin, their race, their beliefs and their political allegiances.

COCLA has defined its objectives and its actions through the goal of working with the community. In fact, we see for ourselves that hundreds of families live in financial precarity. COCLA offers a collective solution by relying on the collective intelligence as that of educators, teachers, volunteers, community organizations, professionals, managers, self-employed workers, merchants, businesses and elected officials.

COCLA has had on-the-ground experience for 37 years in the life of the community. COCLA has found pathways towards solutions to create revenue streams in order to continue its mission. Currently, COCLA has several social-economy initiatives that favour the community, as in the case of Restaurant FOGO, the community grocery stores Harvest and Nutricocla.

COCLA proposes an open, collective debate with the goal of determining a sustainable development.  
<http://coclamontreal.org/>

Written by David-Roger Gagnon on behalf of, edited and approved by the Justice & Communities Leadership Team. The portions of the report from each of the community ministries are written by those indicated.

## Youth and Family Ministries

**Team members** Jillian Lalonde (Chairperson), Bailey Eastwood, Gary Tompkins, Rachel Lambie, Denis Ashby (interim executive representative), Virginia Wallace, Judith Bricault, Georgia Barrett-Lamey, Billi-Jo Poirier, Esther Guillen, Jennifer Carroll & Shanna Bernier  
Joëlle Leduc (Co-Chair, Currently on parental leave)  
Ellie Hummel (Corresponding member)  
Jean-Daniel Williams (Corresponding member)

The Yaya Leadership team remained pretty stable in our membership, but we were pleased to welcome Billi-Jo to the team. We are sad to say goodbye to Ellie Hummel who is moving out of our regional council.

It is fair to say that no one expected or hoped to be reflecting on the second year of youth and family ministry deeply impacted by a global pandemic, but here we are.

Last spring and summer the biggest project of Shanna's staff position was supporting United Spirit Camp, in their second summer of online programming. In 2021, online camp grew thanks largely in part to the two summer interns Nakonha:ka regional council was able to hire through the Canada Summer Jobs grant. Ben and Max were hired in May and worked to plan and promote and animate the three-week long program which was offered online for campers aged 6-15. As a part of United Spirit Camp's offering, we



created a “Camp at Home” package in collaboration with Pacific Mountain Regional Council. They bulk purchased materials for several crafts and activities, and from that work United Spirit sent packages to over 50 families with age-specific materials.

Children’s Church at Home took a significant break over the summer months, but relaunched for the Autumn 2021 season. Despite many communities returning to in-person worship, the weekly kid-centred worship, broadcast live from Shanna’s living room, maintained a steady viewership and community engagement.

In October the YaYa leadership team hosted an in-person retreat for leaders and volunteers from across the regional council in the beautiful natural setting of Quebec Lodge Camp on Lake Massawippi in the Eastern Townships. It was a great weekend to gather our energy, imagine future collaborations and get inspired to do our best to serve children, youth and young adults though another isolating Fall and Winter.

We had high hopes that online programming had come to an end. In September and October, we held Messy Church gatherings in the St. Francis cluster, and we continue to hope for that project to get off the ground as a travelling outreach in the whole regional council in 2022. In November we hosted a hike in Sutton to bring some youth together for the first time in 18 months, however, the wave of cases in December and January put a damper on our hopes for a winter filled with skating and sliding parties.

After Christmas it was obvious that youth were missing spaces to connect and socialise, and that inspired the re-launch of online programs, revamped to serve more specific needs. On Tuesdays, Shanna hosts Zoom youth group, for younger youth aged 12-18. It is an hour of checking-in, games and art activities. On Wednesday afternoons Shanna holds space in her calendar for “office hours” in partnership with EOORC colleague Dana Ducette to provide pastoral care appointments. On Thursday evenings a young adult discussion group meets weekly, and has had a really enthusiastic and consistent participation. One of our goals for this past year was to sustain and create more intentional young adult ministry - and host another retreat for young adults. While public health restrictions prevented a full in-person young adult retreat, the connections forged with young adults in leadership have made a big difference in sustaining connections.

In 2022 we are deeply looking forward to a return of in-person camp and youth forums. We are encouraged by the steady participation and leadership demonstrated by young people from Nakonha:ka, and we strive to nurture its growth. Hopefully our ministries can all find the careful and considered balance between protecting the physical health of our communities, while also preserving our sacred traditions and recognizing the vital role that gathering together plays to fill up our emotional and spiritual cups.

We remain hopeful, guided by the confidence we have that YAYA ministries make a difference in lives and that we are called by God to create spaces for the spirit to inspire and move young people to be deeply spiritual, justice seeking followers of Christ.

## Licensed Lay Worship Leaders

As I sit down to prepare this report, we are still in the midst of the Covid-19 pandemic – almost two years in and looking ahead to continued restrictions at least for the near future. For the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (LLWLs) Leadership Team, that has meant that all of our team meetings and enrichment days were done via the virtual Zoom platform, as in 2020.

At this time, the Nakonha:ka Region has 17 LLWLs, most living in the Quebec-Sherbrooke (QS) or the Montreal areas, but some living in the remote regions of Métis in the Gaspé or Harrington Harbour on the Lower North Shore. Two of our LLWLs have chosen to no longer continue. The Leadership Team consists of Charlotte Griffith (chair), Rev. Lee Ann Hogle, Shirley Knutson, and Allan Marshall from the QS area, and Valerie Nickson (secretary), Norman Haslam, and Donald Wood from the Montreal area. All of the team other than Rev. Hogle are LLWLs, or retired LLWLs.

During the Covid restriction period, with most church buildings closed off and on to in-person worship, many LLWLs are not active providing leadership for worship. Several LLWLs are working with local clergy, or on their own, to bring virtual services on Zoom or YouTube to congregants.

Our team has continued to meet regularly, providing ongoing support, and as had been the tradition in the QS area for many years, twice-yearly enrichment days, for the LLWLs in all areas of our region. The Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive has now made these enrichment days compulsory for re-licensing.

On April 24, 2021, the Enrichment Day morning theme was Preaching that Engages (Being Topical Using 'Issues of the Day'). Our guest presenter was Rev. Wayne Beamer, and his goal was to show us how to be effective by preaching to the people where they are "at" at the moment you are preaching. We used the two well known parables of the Good Samaritan and the Prodigal Son as our Biblical references. (Theologian Karl Barth believed that preaching is an act best done with the Bible in one hand and the newspaper in the other.) A most educational session!

The afternoon was check-in time, a time to share how we are continuing to cope personally, professionally, and worship wise under the ever-changing cloud of Covid-19. Rev. Rosemary Lambie joined us in the morning for a short period of time.

The second enrichment day in 2021 took place on October 23, with the theme for the morning being Zoom!...Zoom!...Zoom!: Functioning and engaging within the Expanding Video Universe (using Zoom as a worship tool). This workshop was guided by Rev. Lee Ann Hogle, Norm Haslam, and Kelley Molloy. Many of the issues that arise when conducting a worship service via Zoom were dealt with, from being a ZOOM host to the use of computer software for the production of slideshows or adding music to a service. Just the tip of the Zoom iceberg really!

The afternoon session was again check-in time, a sharing of how we are dealing with Covid-life. The day ended about an hour earlier than usual as folks were finding that they get «zoomed out» when we continued to our usual 3:00 closure time.

Rev. Rosemary Lambie and Rev. Dan Hayward (Regional Council Pastoral Relations Minister) offered us their support at the start of the morning session.

The spring workshop of 2022 is planned for April 30.

Re-licensing of the LLWLs is done every two years, and it is required that each LLWL be interviewed and approved by an interviewing team to continue. The fall of 2022 will once again be re-licensing time. The covenanting service between the Region and the LLWLs will take place at the fall Regional Council meeting.

As we move into what appears will be another unsettling year, may we remember and be encouraged by the words from the familiar hymn...

«We have this ministry and we are not discouraged. It is by God's own power that we may live and serve...O God, receive our living»

God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

Respectfully submitted by Charlotte Griffith, Chair of the LLWL Leadership Team

## Planning General Meetings

Greetings Siblings in Christ and beloved creations of the Creator!

As we come to another end of the year for our Regional Council, your Meeting Planning team, like every year, spends 10 months out of the year working with the Spirit to bring us meetings which inform us, help us grow and stretch, and fire up our passion for the work of our regional council.

Our theme for this past year has been about “Stones” - The ones we need to move, the stones that cause us to stumble, the stones that become the foundations we build on, and the stones we build with. One of the stones we are using to build our region on, is the ways in which we connect and come together. In November of 2021, it was decided to try a meeting spaced out over two days (Friday night and Saturday morning). Completed surveys received from participants affirmed the welcome change in the meeting space. It is the teams plan to continue with the two-part meeting for the foreseeable future.

Over the last year, your Meeting Planning Team has done our best to bring in speakers and learning times that encourage us be the builders the Creator needs for the continued work of the Kin-dom, for we are both the stones which the builder needs, as well as the builders.

We have been thankful for the many people who have participated in our meetings over the past year and are hopeful to move from listening and learning, to acting and moving on what we learn. We are still planning a “Where do we go from here” event with Adele Halliday from our national church office on becoming an Anti-Racist Church.

We are thankful to all the teams, clusters, and networks for all the time and energy they put into their presentations they bring to our meeting.

As of the writing of this report, I have served as chair of the team for 3 years, and my term is up.

I want to thank the Planning Meeting Team, and the sub-teams within the Planning Meeting Team, for all their hard work and dedication to our work.

I want to thank each of you, the members of the Regional Council, because if you did not commit to coming to the meetings, we would have no one to plan for.

As the team looks forward to the other meetings this year, looking at Bold Discipleship in this meeting, then the themes of Deep Spirituality, and Daring Justice for the next two meetings, it is the teams hope that these themes will inspire our communities of faith and our regional council to vision and dream where the Creator is calling us to travel.

Respectfully Submitted, Rev Tami Spires, on behalf of the Planning Meeting Team

## Property & Finance Leadership Team (P&F)

P & F has two basic mandates to assist the Regional Council in:

- a) oversight of property matters involving Communities of Faith and the Regional Council, including amalgamations, regroupings and disbanding
- b) oversight of the financial resources of the Church within our bounds including assistance to communities of faith and the Budget and reporting of the Regional Council itself

### **Property**

During 2021, P & F has actively dealt with a number of requests from various communities of faith regarding property matters, such as various sales of church buildings, manses and other property, renovation and construction/redevelopment proposals, leases and the like as well as proposals for the use of proceeds from dispositions. The Team has also dealt with requests to waive or transfer property rights from past disbanding not dealt with previously.

The Team also re-examined the Policy on the Proceeds of Sale of Property and will be submitted shortly its recommendation for a change to include support for local Indigenous initiatives.

The Team is also developing a close relationship with the new UPRC (United Church Property Resource Corporation) to coordinate planning of church site redevelopment where feasible and in the interest of the Community of Faith and the broader church.

### **Finance**

The Team reviewed and approved various changes in loan agreements with communities of faith and continues its oversight of same. It managed the financial affairs of the Regional Council, subject to Executive approval. It submitted Budget 2022 and continues its close oversight of same and oversaw the preparation and approval of the Financial Statements for 2021.

The Team was also concerned about the impact of proposed changes to the Assessment formula united by the National Office and successfully lobbied for some improvements in the formula. We also launched a program to help communities of faith dealing with significant increases in 2022 (more than 10%) except

for the part of the increase dealing with the size of endowment funds. These subsidies will amount to less than \$ 20,000 this year but this may increase in future years.

### **Future Projects**

The Team is concerned about the heavy increase in the burden on volunteer Treasurer and is working on a program to allow communities of faith to access expertise for compliance with the various CRA, payroll, Statistics and financial statements rules on a chargeback basis (above a certain threshold). This should make it easier to recruit church volunteers who are not accounting experts. In addition, it has been proactive in developing the Regional Council's response to the financial strain brought on by the current Covid-19 pandemic and its effect on our various communities of faith and it particular has established a program of grants for hybrid worship equipment. We are always looking for ways to equip communities of faith better for this challenge.

Respectfully submitted Fred Braman, Chair

## **Networks**

### **Quebec Regional United Church Women (UCW)**

The Québec Regional UCW did not hold any regional event in 2021 due to the restrictions imposed by the pandemic, although some local UCW groups held meetings via Zoom however there was no event planned as a regional activity.

The NUCW once again held their annual meeting via Zoom from September 20, 2021 to October 2, 2021. The theme of the meeting was "Walking with Love in the Holy Spirit's Power" and the Closing Worship was open to all UCW members from all regions to join for that portion of the meeting. One of the projects that members of the NUCW have been working on is the updating of the UCW handbook to bring it into line with the new structure of the United Church and this new handbook was approved at the meeting.

The 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UCW is being held this year in Sydney, Nova Scotia from July 11 to July 15, the Celebrations are open to all members of the UCW, there are 5 women going to the Celebration from our Region.

Also I receive by email the "Keeping In Touch Newsletter" which is issued by the Communications Team of the UCW and I forward it each time to Judy Coffin and she very kindly adds it to the Nakonha:ka Regional newsletters and it is available for anyone who wishes to read.

If anyone has anything they would like to have in an upcoming Keeping In Touch, they could let me know by email and we could get it published. It would be great to see articles from our area. As we move into 2022 and the Anniversary Celebrations we are focusing on the theme of the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary which is "Continuing in Hope" and we are currently working on a banner for our Regional UCW that we can bring to the Celebrations.

As restrictions are lifted and we are able to return to a more normal lifestyle it would be my desire to plan a regional in person activity for the UCW focusing on the Call and Vision of the United Church of Canada “Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice.



Respectfully submitted, Valerie Nickson (President)

## Environment Network

The fledgling Environment Network is still in the process of discerning how best to share environmental concerns and encourage climate action in the context of our faith. At this time, we still do not have a leader/chair for this network, which limits our ability to mobilize and plan activities and events of our own... but in the spirit of bold discipleship, we continue to share resources and calls to action with members and to build partnerships with like-minded groups and organizations.

### **Meetings and opportunities in 2021**

- February 25, 2021 – five attendees
  - Focus on gathering resources and contacts in existing networks
  - Importance of environmental actions being grounded in faith
  - Update on ROJEP
- *March 11, 2021 – invitation to participate in Sacred People, Sacred Earth conversation (GreenFaith)*
- *March 25 and 26, 2021 – invitation to participate in GreenFaith Next Steps conversations*
- *April 12, 2021 – Invitation to participate in United Effort For the Love of Creation - Spring 2021*
- *April 22, 2021 – Invitation to attend Earth Day event by Églises Vertes / Green Church network*
- *April 29, 2021 – invitation to attend Changing the Climate on the Climate Emergency by Kamloops United Church*
- May 6, 2021 – three attendees
  - Additional resources and creation of web page with links
  - Update on ROJEP
- *May 19, 2021 – Invitation to attend GreenFaith conversation: No new fossil fuel infrastructure!*
- *October 20, 2021 – Invitation to attend Fall Symposium by For Love of Creation*
- *June 7, 2021 – Invitation to attend Broadview Reading Club with Alanna Mitchell, author of Climate Hope*
- *June 9, 2021 – Invitation to participate in GreenFaith Montreal discussion*
- June 28, 2021 – four attendees
  - Possibilities for joining forces with GreenFaith Montreal
  - Possibility of environmental grief workshop (The Work That Reconnects)
- *July 12, 2021 – Invitation to support actions on behalf of Monarch Fields in Dorval*
- *July 14, 2021 – Invitation to attend free online climate/faith events via Eventbrite*

- *July 21, 2021 – Invitation to help Highlands United deliver letters to the Minister of Environment and Climate Change*
- *August 29, 2021 – Invitation to attend Merging Waters online service on theme of Green Church*
- *August 30, 2021 – Invitation to participate in Fall 2021 Climate Justice Events by United Action for Justice*
- *September 14, 2021 – Invitation to make use of downloadable resources (English, French and Spanish) from Faiths 4 Climate Justice*
- *September 22, 2021 – Invitation to participate in United For Love of Creation*
- *October 6, 2021 – Invitation to participate in planning meeting for GreenFaith global event*
- *October 13, 2021 – Invitation to ministry personnel to participate in Honouring Our Pain workshop (The Work That Reconnects)*
- *October 18, 2021 – Invitation to participate in Faiths 4 Climate Justice event at St. James United Church*
- *October 18 and 20, 2021 – Invitation to participate in Mobilizing for Canada’s Climate Emergency in the first 100 days of Parliament workshop by Climate Emergency Unit (+ resources for other actions of support)*
- *October 22, 2021 – Invitation to participate in GreenFaith global event*
- *October 17-18, 2021 – Invitation to participate in Faiths 4 Climate Justice by GreenFaith International*
- *October 26, 2021 – Invitation to participate in Invest-Divest 2021: A Decade of Progress Toward a Just Climate Future with GreenFaith International*
- *October 30 to November 6, 2021 – Invitation to multiple activities by For Love of Creation, Engage: Love and Justice Gathering and COP 26.*
- *December 8, 2021 – Invitation to participate in GreenFaith Montreal circle gathering (reflection and visioning)*

#### **Current contacts**

- Rev. Lee Ann Hogle
- Natacha Sanson
- Rev. Neil Whitehouse
- Richard Guay
- Marion Hodge
- Janet Thomas
- Deborah Zemnickis
- Mercy Awori
- Rev. Wendy Evans
- Judy Coffin (RC staff)
- David-Roger Gagnon (RC staff)

*Report submitted by Judy Coffin, Communications and Administrative Support*  
*For more information: <https://nakhaucc.ca/programs/environment-network/> (in progress)*

## Pride & Friends Network

### Summary

The Fierté et Ami.e.s – Pride & Friends Network has continued to meet to provide people with a safe place to be themselves and to advocate for further inclusion of GLBTQ2S+ people in the spiritual community. The group has requested that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council (Cr/RC) undertake the process of Affirm United to explore becoming an Affirming Regional Council.

### Leadership Transition and Reorganization

The *Fierté et Ami.e.s – Pride & Friends Network* (F+A-P&F) has undergone a reorganization of its leadership model and way of functioning as a Network. After nearly a year of searching, so far, no one has come forward to accept the role of leadership for this network. David-Roger Gagnon has served as “interim” coordinator until such time as a leader is found for the group. The group meetings were convened and organized by David-Roger for most of 2021. Anyone who is interested in offering leadership, or to coordinate a shared leadership model is asked to contact David-Roger Gagnon ( [DRGagnon@united-church.ca](mailto:DRGagnon@united-church.ca) ) .

It should be pointed out that, with this Network like with other groups, Covid-19 has pulled people in many different directions which has meant less time and energy for participation in efforts like those of this Network. We remain hopeful that, as we emerge from the pandemic, more people will be able to reinvest their time and effort in the causes espoused by Fierté et Ami.e.s – Pride & Friends.

### F+A – P&F Presentation to the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council

The Network decided to put forward a request to the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council to begin the Affirm United process in the hopes of officially becoming an Affirming Regional Council. A PowerPoint presentation and script were prepared by David-Roger Gagnon, and Charles Doherty and Rita Beauséjour animated the presentation at the November Annual General Meeting. A vote was taken, and by a margin of **96%** of the total votes cast, the following motion was adopted:

***“That the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council undertakes the formal process required by Affirm United in order to become an Affirming Regional Council.”***

*(Moved by Shaun Fryday/Seconded by Gary Tompkins)*

Our profound thanks to the Cr\RC for their support of undertaking this process!

Thank you also to Raphaël Pérusse for allowing us to use his interview with **Le Devoir** !

### The Affirm United Process

To become Affirming, our Conseil régional/Regional Council ministries embark on an **educational, discernment, and decision process** that helps our ministries be **PIE: Public, Intentional, & Explicit**.

To do this, we will be establishing the Affirm United Process Team and offering Preparation, Resources & Training.

The Different parts of the Affirm United Process include:

- **The Education and Discernment process:**
  - a) Hearing personal stories from within your ministry and the community in order to understand the need for this action
  - b) Hearing about and discussing modern theological understandings of scriptures which for years and still today are used to discriminate.



- c) Hearing from Affirming ministries what impact that decision has had on their ministry. Discussing what it might mean for your ministry.
- d) Hearing about and discussing the social justice aspects of why becoming Affirming is important.

- **Making public commitments:**

- a) A Vision Statement concerning the inclusion of people of all gender identities and sexual orientations in the life and work of the ministry
- b) A continuing Plan of Action for the Ministry once you're Affirming
- c) An Equal Marriage Policy (This would not apply to the Cr/RC process but does to congregational processes)

- **Taking Our decision**

For this vote, AU/SE strongly advises a minimum of 75% approval.

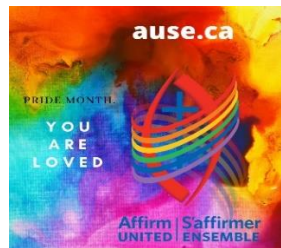
- **Making a commitment to the national Affirming movement**

Deciding as a Cr/ RC on ways to support the national movement.

- **Celebrating Publicly!**

Holding some kind of Public Event to celebrate the conclusion of the process and the decision to become an Affirming Cr/RC.

For more information please consult: [www.ause.ca](http://www.ause.ca)



### **Moving forward**

**WE NEED YOUR HELP!** In order to move forward in the Affirm United Process, we will need to build a team of volunteers to help with different aspects of this work. We are inviting ALL Allies, Friends, Family Members, Neighbours and GLBTQ2S+ Identified People to join us in helping this process forward in the hopes of realizing the dream of making the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council an Affirming Regional Council. To become part of this team, please contact David-Roger Gagnon at: [DRGagnon@united-church.ca](mailto:DRGagnon@united-church.ca).

### **Invitation to take part in F+A – P&F**

We also invite anyone who supports the causes embraced by Fierté et Ami.e.s – Pride & Friends to please join this network and help us continue to create safe spaces to be a Spiritual Rainbow People. For more information, please contact David-Roger Gagnon at: [DRGagnon@united-church.ca](mailto:DRGagnon@united-church.ca).

Written by David-Roger Gagnon, presented for approval by the members of Fierté et Ami.e.s – Pride & Friends.

# La Table

## French Ministries

### **People of African Descent History Month**

Many activities planned (4 blogs, 3 prayers, 5 activities). We had a great evening on Desmond Tutu and this week we had the chance to share African music and poetry. The next activity on the 22<sup>nd</sup> will be the talk on Negrophobia and its solutions, and the closing worship service on the 28<sup>th</sup>. The events are being recorded so that people can watch them on replay.

### **Workshops on Parish Sustainability and Growth**

There are three evenings of training remaining (March through May). The next ones will be held on March 23, April 27 and May 18. The March 23 date will likely be moved due to the General Council meeting <https://egliseunie.ca/cohorte-pour-la-viabilite-et-lepanouissement-de-notre-communaute-de-foi/>

### **AGM planned**

*La Table* will hold its AGM on the last Saturday of February (as usual) by Zoom. February 26<sup>th</sup> from 9 am to 1 pm. We want to share the invitation with as many people as possible, as an opportunity to learn more about the work of the United Church in French. Spread the word!

### **Translations**

The team is working on the final documents for the General Council which is being done entirely in both languages (proposals, platform, simultaneous translation). We are preparing the translation of a statement on the occupations in Ottawa and on the borders in light of the racism that has emerged. We are preparing resources for the fundraising to help the Foundation and Mission & Service. The translation of the documents for the Regional Council meeting is being done by Clara Maranzano who is working solely on this project, and we hope that this will make things work more efficiently for overall translation work.

### **Mon Credo**

The company Arobas is working with us on a new website. We hope to be able to launch the project in September.

### **Availability of United Church Campaigns**

We have made the decision not to translate content for Mental Health Week this year. The content for Inclusion Day (March 14) has been adapted for French (*PIE Day* does not work so well in French).

### **Staff**

We have completed interviews for the two positions we need to fill: Programming Assistant and Translation Coordinator. We hope to be able to announce the new team members next week (Carol is now working for the moderator and the general secretary, Lou is retiring on April 15).

### **Then Let Us Sing!**

The portal for the new hymnbook will be available in French! We have just received confirmation that OneLicense will offer the site in French. This is great news.

## Sainte-Claire

La Table Executive has approved the latest version of the St. Clare Covenant following the changes proposed by the Regional Council. We are now awaiting confirmation from Trinity Parish Council in Montreal, but we do not anticipate any problems.

Respectfully submitted by, Rev. Marie-Claude Manga

## Additional Report from la Table des ministères en français

Over the last year, la Table des ministères en français has undertaken many different projects in its annual plan.

Reminder of La Table's objectives:

1. *Development of our communities of faith (existing and new ones, in size and number)*
2. *Supporting our leadership (lay and clergy), and developing the leadership of the future*
3. *Make the United Church better known in Francophone circles*
4. *Help the United Church live out its bilingual mission locally, regionally, nationally and internationally in an ecumenical and intercultural way.*

Projects that we have undertaken over the course of the last year:

- Biweekly meetings of ministers and lay leadership
- *Nouvelles du Responsable* – an enewsletter to keep people informed of new resources and content (to sign up, send an email to [ehebert@egliseunie.ca](mailto:ehebert@egliseunie.ca))
- *Prépédication* – a weekly Zoom gathering to discuss the lectionary readings for Sunday to help those who are preaching or preparing for worship
- Involved in communities of faith in transition (Saint-Jean, LAM)
- *Notre lien quotidien* – an enewsletter offering a daily prayer from Monday to Friday
- *Infolettre des ministères en français* – an enewsletter sent out biweekly
- *Cultes prêts à livrer* – liturgical content to help lay leaders to host small discussion groups, prayer gatherings, bible study or worship (written materials, as well as a video sermon)
- Multiple new [resources for children and Sunday Schools](#), and we are beginning to translate Ralph Milton's *Family Story Bible*
- [Leadership and faith exploration courses](#) for lay leaders begun in September 2021
- Creation of a video study series on [prayer](#) and on talking about faith with children
- [Monthly workshops](#) on viability and growth of faith communities
- [MonCredo.org](#) – A new web-based project to offer people who do not know the United Church to enter into dialogue about their faith and experience the church at a safe distance
- Creation of a [library of hymns in video format](#) in both French and bilingually
- Complete translation of the [United Church Foundation website](#)
- Complete translation of the [United Church Benefits website](#)
- Complete translation of [candidacy pathways documents](#), [Mission & Service resources](#), [Pastoral Relations guides and documents](#)
- Translation of statements, releases and other occasional communications materials, support to the Moderator's messages and worship services, preparation of the first entirely translated [General Council meeting](#) with both proposals and platform available in French

- Content prepared for [Mental Health Week](#), [Vaccine Justice campaign](#), [Guaranteed Basic Income campaign](#), [Have a Heart campaign](#), [Advent Unwrapped](#), Latin-American History Month.
- A full month of blogs, prayers and activities for [Black History Month](#)
- Content and activities for the [40 Days of Engagement on Anti-Racism](#)
- Preparing and delivering the [Love and Justice Conference](#) in November
- A new platform in French to accommodate the new online hymnbook that is being developed [Then Let Us Sing! / Ensemble, chantons!](#)

Thanks for all your help and support in our work!

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly, *Responsable*

## Chaplaincy

### Concordia Multi-faith and Spirituality Centre

It's hard to believe that we will start year 3 of living with Covid soon. Like all communities of faith, the Multi-faith and Spirituality Centre (MFSC) at Concordia University has been faced with challenging questions as we came to grips with the reality of this pandemic. How do you offer hospitality and generosity when one of our prime resources, our cozy lounge and beautiful Loyola Chapel, are closed? What do you do when you can't serve food? How do you cultivate community remotely?

Up until the university closed physical operations in March 2020, the staff and volunteers of the MFSC had served up copious amount's tea, chai and coffee, together with community and a sense of belonging. We had offered meals to start conversations and opened our spaces for community-building activities and as places of reflection. We had always seen this as a tangible way to show hospitality and welcome. From one day to the next, this familiar way of doing ministry had disappeared.

Like most faith communities and university departments, we learned to operate remotely. We have experimented with new ways of being and have had some success stories. We have offered a weekly lounge under different names, from "The Lounge", to "MFSC Lounge", to "Thoughtful Thursdays" to "Mid-week Chill", where we have informal conversations with and amongst students. Many of them have been in their homes in Montreal, but some joined us from British Columbia, Saudi Arabia or Tunisia and were thrilled to be part of our community. For almost 18 months, our weekly "Conversation Café", engaged us in topics of human growth and humanity. We have learned about pilgrimages, art, being a good interfaith guest, beekeeping, gratitude, and cross-generational engagement, just to name a few. We have listened to countless stories that helped us reflect on our own. Our ever-popular Discover Multi-faith Fair became a three-day virtual affair one year, and then a series of events another year, where we could learn about the faiths and spiritual paths of our classmates and how various faiths are lived out in Montreal. We have also been involved in equity-seeking projects, in particular the inclusion of students who are religious, and have collaborated with religious clubs as they find ways to support their members.

We have learned that it is possible to build community remotely, and that we can support each other while staying safely in our homes. We have also learned about the incredible resilience of humans, and the deep desire to be compassionate, especially in a time of need.

As we anticipate in hope the end of the pandemic, we see this as an opportunity for reflection. As we look forward to a more complete return to campus later this year, the MFSC team will take this opportunity for visioning together with community partners. This is also timely, since the Chaplain and Coordinator, Rev. Ellie Hummel, is on leave for a year, and possibly beyond. Change, whether it is through a pandemic or through staff changes, invite reflection and visioning.

We will walk into the next month asking more questions and seeking ways to continue to offer space for reflection, community, generosity, and hospitality and with gratitude for the long-standing support by the United Church for this ministry.

## Summary of Actions by Executive as of June 2021

**2021-06-04\_067 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Team to approve an SME site (Supervised Ministry education) at Riverside United Church, Rosemere QC, in order to offer a half time appointment to a student for a two year period which will be remunerated as per The United Church of Canada pay scale. This motion authorizes Riverside United Church to post a vacancy on Church Hub for a half time (20 hours) SME student minister effective immediately. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-04\_068 MOTION** (B. Bryce/ F. Braman) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team for the following grants from the Erskine & American Mountainside Trust Fund.

Applicant UCC Organization	Grant
1.) Beaconsfield United Church: Rock-Solid Men and Interfaith Ministry: Ministering to the particular isolation of Nigerian refugee men.	\$9,700.00
2.) Saint Columba House: Removing Roadblocks – Academic Perseverance for Youth: This request to increase a grant made in March 2021 was denied as no new elements were established to change the previous decision.	\$0.00
3.) La Table des Ministères en français and Trinity United Church: Église Unie Sainte Claire: Second year of experimental on-line ministry.	\$19,300.00
Granted for second application cycle 2021	\$29,000.00
Granted for first application cycle 2021	\$104,000.00
2021 remaining balance available	\$38,812.00

### Notes:

- 1) That Camp Cosmos be allowed additional time to complete the 2020 grant, giving through December 31, 2021 for that purpose.

- 2) That Knowlton-Mountain Valley Pastoral Charge be allowed additional time to complete the “Lift Your Spirit” 2020 grant, giving until June 30, 2022 for that purpose.
- 3) That the Knowlton-Mountain Valley Pastoral Charge request to repurpose the 2020 grant be denied, as the proposed repurposing was for a project unrelated to the original grant. The applicant may apply separately for a 2021 grant at the next application date for a different project. Such an application should identify the intended ministry target group so that sharing with the Good Samaritan Fund might be considered if appropriate. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-04\_069 MOTION:** (B. Bryce/ F. Braman) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team for the following grants from the Good Samaritan Fund.

Institution	Program name	Grant
1.) Ayer’s Cliff, Magog, Georgeville	PC Nurturing Your Spirit Wherever You Are	\$3,000
2.) Riverside UC	Riverside Cares	\$32,000
3.) NDG Seniors	Tax Clinic	\$15,000
4.) Montreal West UC	Extra Miles Seniors Visiting	\$12,000
5.) Montreal City Mission	Gathering at Table	\$26,000
Total		\$88,000

**CARRIED**

**2021-06-04\_070 MOTION:** (B. Bryce/ F. Braman) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team for the approval of a \$5,000 grant from the Bhal-Yun Fund to Saint Columba House for their Cooking to Connect project. **CARRIED**

Report for information purposes: The Kelley Fund Trustees have granted the full requested amount of \$2,500. To United Theological College for Admission Ministers Learning Circle: \$2,500

**2021-06-11\_071 MOTION** (M. Grenon/ S.V. Dansokho) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approves the document created by the working team representing the ministry of the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders and Ministries in French. This document becomes part of the Governance Handbook. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-12\_072 MOTION** (T. Spires/V. Epps-Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council move the following:

1. That the agenda as circulated be adopted;
2. That the 2021 Report Book be amended to include the memorial of Rev. Mark Rawlings (see appendix A);
3. That the minutes of November 21<sup>st</sup> 2020 General Meeting be accepted as circulated (see appendix B);
4. That the minutes of March 20<sup>th</sup> 2021 General Meeting be accepted as circulated (see appendix C);
5. That the following person serve as Scrutineers: Rev. Kent Chown and Rev. Ian Smith;
6. That the following person serve as Parliamentarian: Fred Braman;

7. That the following person serve as Chaplain: Raphaël Pélusse, Rev. Neil Whitehouse and Rev. Wendy Evans;
8. That Shanna Bernier and Rev. Tami Spires serve as the Equity Team;
9. That the following grant distributions be received for information:

**Erskine and American-Mountainside**

Beaconsfield United Church women's collective	\$12,000
Cedar Park United Church Outdoor Community Labyrinth	\$4,000
Montreal City Mission Holistic Reconciliation with Newcomer Families	\$15,000
Mount Royal United Church French intercultural Worship	\$15,000
(third year of funding, should be looking for long-term funding source)	
Roxboro UC Family Life Centre Zoom Workshops	\$1,000
Saint Columba House Removing Roadblocks-Academic perseverance for youth	\$7,500
St James Multi-faith Library	\$10,000
St Lambert UC Blessing Bag Initiative	\$6,000
(extraordinary 4 <sup>th</sup> year grant)	
Ste Genevieve UC ORA Loss and Living for refugees-grieving	\$5,000
Ste Genevieve UC ORA Loss and Living Program	\$3,500
Westmount Park UC request denied Trustees considered it premature at this time.	\$0.00
West Island LGBTQ2+. Youth-based programming	\$25,000
*Granted to date: \$104,000 out of a total available of about \$171,000	

**Good Samaritan Fund grants:**

Auberge Madeleine Shelter and counsel for Senior Women	\$10,000
Saint Columba House Seniors Care	\$33,000
Beaconsfield UC Seniors for Seniors	\$24,500
St Paul's UC-Magog Healthy Seniors living-exercise Program	\$4,250
Richmond-Melbourne UC Seniors' Spiritual Wellness Program	\$25,000
West Island LGBTQ2+ Centre West Island Rainbow Seniors	\$20,000
Montreal City Mission Seasons/saison Phase 3	\$18,134
*The Good Samaritan fund has reached 7.5 million dollars	

**Bhal Yun Fund grants:**

Westmount Park UC Building Conformity	0.00
St James United Church (Montreal) Investigate Philippines Human Rights (PH)	\$5000

**Trois Rivières French Ministry Fund grant,**

Eglise Unie Drummondville/Mauricie	\$7,000
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\*The maximum of **Trois Rivières French Ministry Fund** grant be increased to \$7000.

**Kelley Trust Fund** grant (received for information):

Montreal City Mission Ancient Texts-Contemporary Conversations	\$3,500
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**CARRIED**

**2021-06-12\_073 MOTION** (V. Galanis/S. V. Dansokho) That the Conseil régional Nakonhaka Regional Council add Denis Ashby from Plymouth-Trinity United Church to its membership as a young adult representative. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-12\_074 MOTION** (T. Spires/D. Lambie) that the Conseil régional Nakonhaka Regional Council nominate Marc Grenon as President-Elect. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-12\_075 MOTION** (D. Lambie/S. Stark) that the Conseil régional Nakonhaka Regional Council nominate the following people to serve on the Executive:

Full voting Members:

President (2-year maximum)  
President Elect (Elected in “off year” for one-year term)  
Past President (one year)  
Treasurer  
Executive Minister

Rev. Linda Buchanan (1 year)  
Marc Grenon (1 years)  
(vacant)  
Paul Stanfield (no term)  
Rev. Rosemary Lambie

Representative of the following Leadership Teams:

Property and Finance  
Pastoral Relations  
New Ministry Development and Support/Visioning  
Representative of La Table  
Youth and Family Ministries  
Ashby  
Right Relations  
Justice and Community Ministries  
Granting and Enabling Leadership Team  
Planning Leadership Team  
Finance and Extension Board  
Four (4) Full Voting Members at Large

Fred Braman  
Rev. Darryl MacDonald  
Frederick (Rick) Sheffer  
Marie-Claude Manga  
Rev. Joelle Leduc Rev / interim Denis

Robert Patton  
(vacant) appointed by Team  
Rev. Barbara Bryce  
Rev. Tami Spires  
Peter Bisset  
1. Vivienne Galanis (1 year)  
2. Rev. Pierre Goldberger (1 year)

3. Rev. Samuel V. Dansokho (1 year)  
4. (vacant)

Corresponding Non-Voting Members

Pastoral Relations Minister  
Communications Staff Person  
Program Assistant to the Executive Minister  
Regional Network Ministers  
Youth, Young Adult and Families Ministries  
Property, Finance and Administration Manager  
Nominations

Rev. Dan Hayward  
Judy Coffin  
Joel Miller  
David-Roger Gagnon  
Shanna Bernier  
Brian Ruse  
Rev. David Lambie

**CARRIED**

**2021-06-12\_076 MOTION** (D. Lambie/G. Beaudoin) that one position be held for the Youth Pilgrim, and that the following people serve as the 44<sup>th</sup> General Council Commissioners representing Nakonhaka Regional Council:



Lay

1. Marc Grenon, President-Elect
2. Ben Ryan (under 30)
3. Youth Pilgrim
4. Fred Braman
5. Valerie-Epps Nickson

Ministry Personnel

6. Rev. Linda Buchanan
7. Rev. Heather McClure
8. Rev. Cathy Hamilton
9. Rev. Tami Spires
- 10

Lay Alternates:

1. Morgan Pierre-Pont
2. Denis Ashby
3. Norman Robert Boie
4. L.E. Moir

And further, that the Nominations Team reopen Expressions of Interest to seek to fill a clergy vacancy, to secure clergy alternates and report its recommendations to the Regional Council for approval. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-12\_077 MOTION** (R. Lambie/V. Epps-Nickson) that following the rise of this Annual General Meeting of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, all powers of the Regional Council be granted to the Executive until the next general meeting. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-12\_078 MOTION** (V. Epps-Nickson/R. Lambie) that the meeting be adjourned at 12:48 PM, and that the President declares session one of the Annual General Meeting of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council duly concluded. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-29\_079 MOTION:** (F. Braman/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team that two St. John's Hall funds: the St. John's Hall Endowment Fund (constant value of \$53,000) and the St. John's Hall Bursary Fund (value of \$31,573 as of December 31, 2020) be combined into a single fund with a 5% annual disbursement quota. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-29\_080 MOTION:** (F. Braman/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team that a Hybrid Worship Technical Assistance Fund be set up from the contingency reserve account to offer matching grants to communities of faith so they can provide hybrid worship services. These grants would cover 50-75% of the cost of needed equipment to a maximum of \$2,500 - \$3,000 per community of faith and to a maximum total amount of \$75,000 for the Regional Council and would be administered by staff and volunteers. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-29\_081 MOTION:** (F. Braman/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team for the HUDSON PASTORAL CHARGE, that pending receipt of a request from Villa Wyman, an extension of the closing deadline be extended to October 31, 2021. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-29\_082 MOTION:** (F. Braman/P. Bisset) that having received the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team regarding the

#### LENNOXVILLE/HATLEY AMALGAMATION:

Whereas both Hatley United Church (HUC) and Lennoxville United Church (LUC) have adopted the necessary resolutions for the amalgamation of HUC into LUC effective May 31, 2021; and

Whereas the Executive of Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council resolved on May 20, 2021 to concur in the request for the amalgamation effective May 31, 2021 but all the financial arrangements would be decided after due diligence by the Property and Finance Leadership Team (P&F); and

Whereas the necessary financial information and other formalities have now been furnished to P&F and P & F have determined that no surplus property arises upon the amalgamation (Manual 2021 section G.1.4.5. (a)) because the largest part of the assets of HUC are directed to a fund held by LUC for the purposes of continuing the ministry of the United Church of Canada in a broad area (the United Steeples Fund), and P & F has also considered the recent generosity of HUC in sharing the Net Proceeds of the sale of its church land and building in accordance with Regional Council Policy.

Therefore, the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the following financial arrangements of the amalgamation of HUC into LUC effective May 31, 2021:

1. All assets and liabilities of HUC, present and future, vest in LUC.
2. The assets of HUC are split as follows: 90% of HUC's total assets of about \$330,000 going to its United Steeples Fund (currently about \$748,000 plus the HUC addition of about \$300,000 for a new total of about \$1,048,000), and the balance (about \$33,000) transferred to LUC, without restrictions as to use. Encroaching on the capital of the United Steeples Fund, (i.e. annual spending more than 5% of the fund balance) must be approved by the Trustees only if absolutely necessary, but in their discretion. Should the financial situation be difficult in the future, and with the approval of the Regional Council, United Steeples funds may then be used for the ministry of LUC.
3. Accordingly, no surplus property arises upon the amalgamation.
4. The name and governance structure of LUC continue unaffected as does the existing call of the LUC ordered ministry personnel.
5. The generosity of spirit and the faithful ministry of the Congregation of HUC for many years are gratefully acknowledged and the Regional Council looks forward to continuing their work through their legacy and participation in partnership with LUC.

#### **CARRIED**

**2021-06-29\_083 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, approves the reappointment of Rev. Mead Baldwin, retire supply, 5 hours per week to Waterville-Hatley Pastoral Charge, July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2022. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-29\_084 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, approves the reappointment of Rev. Attila Gyorgy, half time (20 hours per week) to Kanesatake United Church, July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2024 (3 years). **CARRIED**

**2021-06-29\_085 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, approves the reappointment of Beryl Barraclough, DLM half-time (20 hours per week) to SouthWest United Church, July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2022. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-29\_086 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, approves the reappointment of Raphaël Pérusse, SME candidate full time to Beaconsfield United Church, October 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 to October 31, 2021. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-29\_087 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, approves the reappointment of Rev. Mher Katchikian, retire supply, half-time (20 hours a week) to Rennie's Pastoral Charge, July 1<sup>st</sup> 2020 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2022. (pending paperwork on Church Hub) **CARRIED**

**2021-06-29\_088 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, approves the reappointment of Lisa Byer-de Wever, student candidate, full time to St. Columba House, July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2022. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-29\_089 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, approves the reappointment of Rev. Ohannes Svadjian, full time to the Laurentian Area Ministry, July 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 to October 31, 2021. **CARRIED**

**2021-06-29\_090 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, concurs with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team to approve an SME site (Supervised Ministry education) for the Laurentian Area Ministry, in order to offer a full time appointment to a student for a two year period which will be remunerated as per The United Church of Canada pay scale. This motion authorizes the Laurentian Area Ministry to post a vacancy on Church Hub for a full time (40 hours) SME student minister effective immediately. **CARRIED**

**2021-07-02\_091 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, having received the completed form on Church Hub, and with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, approves the Call of Rev. Christine Gladu full time to Summerlea United Church, Lachine, QC effective September 13 2021. **CARRIED**

**2021-08-09\_092 MOTION** (M. Grenon/P. Stanfield) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, having received the confirmed amount from The United Church Pension and Benefits Department, and in order to facilitate a \$21,281.05 buy back for past service (November 2014 to December 2020) of Rev. XXX YYY (removed to protect confidentiality), approves the interest-free loan of \$17,000 which will be paid back by the minister at \$1000/month. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-04\_093 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, approves the

appointment of Virginia Wallace, candidate supply, half-time (20 hours per week) to Mount Bruno Pastoral Charge, September 1st 2021 to August 31st 2022. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-04\_094 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, approves the appointment of Cynthia Reynolds, Supervised Ministry Education candidate, half-time (20 hours per week) to Riverside United Church, September 1st 2021 to September 1st 2023. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_095 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/V. Galanis) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approves the Minutes of May 20, 2021 as received. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_096 MOTION** (F. Braman/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approves the Minutes of email polls conducted concluding on June 4, 11, 29, July 2, August 9 and September 4, 2021 as received. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_097 MOTION** (M. Manga/B. Bryce) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as circulated. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_098 MOTION** (F. Braman/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive refer the above motion (2021-09-16\_XYZ MOTION) to the Property and Finance Leadership Team for further work. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_099 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team to approve an SME site (Supervised Ministry education) for Beaconsfield United Church, in order to offer a half time appointment to a student for a two year period which will be remunerated as per The United Church of Canada pay scale. This motion authorizes the Beaconsfield United Church to post a vacancy on Church Hub for a half time (20 hours) SME student minister, pending confirmation that finances are sufficient. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_100 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the request reappointing Kelley Molloy to the Worship Coordinator position from September 1, 2021 until April 30, 2022. This is 25 hours a week, hourly rate of \$27.61 per hour, travel expenses at \$0.41 per km (calculated from Morin Heights), \$30.00 per month for work-related data and cell phone costs. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_101 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive refer correspondence of August 17, 2021 from Alfredo J. Mancini, Partner KAUFMAN LAWYERS LLP regarding pension payment for Rev. Hovhannes Svadjian to the Property and Finance Leadership Team for handling. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_102 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approves the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team regarding the adoption of the following resolution:

Whereas the Executive of Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council on January 14, 2021 adopted the following motion: That the Conseil Nakonha:ka Regional Council gives first instance approval to the sale of the Church Property of the Italian Church of the Redeemer on the basis that the Property and Finance

Leadership Team will have mandate to work with the Italian Church of the Redeemer and its Trustees as well as the United Church General Council Office concerning the sale of the building. Neither the marketing nor the sale of the Church Property will be undertaken without advance approval and according to the directives of the Property and Finance Leadership Team, with the understanding that final approval regarding the sale and distribution of assets will be required by the Executive.

Whereas since that date the Property and Finance Leadership Team (P&F), the Finance and Extension Board (F&E) and the Trustees of the Italian Church of the Redeemed (ICTR) have worked out an appropriate framework for the marketing process in accordance with text of the attached draft of July 12, 2021,

RESOLVED that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council

- 1) approve the marketing process outlined in the draft agreement of July 12, 2021 between ICTR, P&F and F&E
- 2) approve the Plan of Distribution of the Net Proceeds of Sale which conforms to its Policy on the use of such proceeds of sale (10% to indigenous ministries, 10% to F&E for regional ministries, 10 % to Mission & Service Fund and the balance for a legacy fund for ICTR, including a contribution for archives)
- 3) constitutes P&F as a Commission of the said Regional Council to give final approval of the sale (if the first refusal is accepted or if the transfer to F & E is undertaken) or other disposition (if the UPRC option is retained) of the said property in accordance with the text of the draft agreement
- 4) specifically requests the General Council Office to transfer the Church Property of the ICTR as directed by P&F on behalf of the Regional Council to carry out the terms of the July 12, 2021 draft agreement.
- 5) expressly reserves the right to approve the new ministry plan of ICTR
- 6) commends the Board and Congregation of ICTR for their thoughtful and faithful discernment of the future in keeping with the legacy of their founders and rejoices in their decision to share a portion of the resources of that legacy within The United Church of Canada. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_103 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approves the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team regarding the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED that Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council concur in the request of the Trustees of Westmount Park United Church (WPUC) to approve of the terms of the relationship with United Property Resources Corporation (UPRC), and agrees to be a party to the terms of a letter of intent for the development of their real estate subject, on the basis that any distribution of funds for WPUC Trustees, beyond the grandfathering of their right to the existing income stream, will be shared in accordance with the Regional Council Policy (10% to the Indigenous Ministry of the United Church of Canada, 10% to the Finance & Extension Board of Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council and 10% to the Mission & Service Fund of the United Church, with the remaining 70% to the Trustees for the benefit of the WPUC community of faith)

And that the Regional Council rejoices in this relationship between the UPRC and Westmount Park United Church. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_104 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receives for information the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team regarding the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED that Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, acting through its Property & Finance Leadership Group, as a Commission, concur in the request of the Trustees of Westmount Park United Church to enter into an additional lease with Contactivity Seniors Centre for the former Quebec Presbytery office area for two years from October 15, 2021 (subject to a reciprocal right to cancel on six months' notice) for \$30,000 plus indexation annually (payable semi-monthly) and otherwise in accordance with the signed Letter of Intent dated September 7, 2021, and subject to the approval of the Chair, Fred Braman, of the wording of the Lease. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_105 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approves the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team that it grant first instance approval to Knowlton-Mountain Valley Pastoral Charge for continuing discussions with the town of Brome Lake for the transfer of the building. This is subject to final approval once the full terms are negotiated. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_106 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receives for information the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team regarding the adoption of the following resolution:

RESOLVED that Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, acting through its Property & Finance Leadership Group, as a Commission, concur in the request of the Trustees of Union Church (Sainte-Anne-de-Bellevue) to grant a servitude to the municipal authorities for the pedestrian pathway from Maple Street to Perrault Street on the terms of the letter of August 19, 2021 with the municipality accepting full maintenance and insurance obligations, and subject to the approval of the Chair, Fred Braman, of the wording of the Deed of Servitude. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_107 MOTION** (F. Braman/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approves the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team regarding the appointment of the firm BCGO to perform the review engagement of the financial statements of Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council for the year 2021. Partner Helen Holowka will continue to deal with our files. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_108 MOTION** (D. Ashby/B. Bryce) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approves the request of Camp Cosmos for a Technology Support Grant to purchase a laptop computer, the amount requested being \$568.55. This application requires approval by the Regional Council Executive before being forwarded to the Financial Support Group of the UCC for consideration. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_109 MOTION** (P. Bisset/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accepts the nomination of Caroline Leamon, Secretary, Finance & Extension Board, as an Officer of the Corporation from August 1, 2021 to May 31, 2022. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_110 MOTION** (P. Bisset/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approves the additional nomination of Royal Orr to the Finance & Extension Board from June 1, 2021 to May 31, 2023. **CARRIED**

**2021-09-16\_111 MOTION** (T. Spires/V. Galanis) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive adjourn this meeting at 11:55AM. **CARRIED** (*D. Ashby opposed*)

**2021-10-21\_112 MOTION** (F. Braman/B. Bryce) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive amend the motions 2021-09-16\_087 MOTION and 2021-09-16\_090 MOTION to include the words 'and decision'. **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_113 MOTION** (M. Grenon/F. Braman) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the amended minutes of September 16, 2021 as received. **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_114 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as circulated. **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_115 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team to approve the change in Call of Rev. David Fines at Église Saint-Jean retroactive to January 1, 2021. The change is to increase his hours from 25 to 28 per week. (there have been challenges with Church Hub). **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_116 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team to authorize holding a Celebration of Ministry at Beaconsfield United Church for the ordination of Raphaël Pérusse on Sunday, November 21, 2021. **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_117 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accepts the decisions of the Property and Finance Leadership Team acting as a Commission:

An email poll of Property and Finance was conducted and all voted, effective October 12, 2021 in favour of the following resolution:

Whereas the Congregation of Mystic United Church has sold its church building to the Walbridge Foundation for \$1.00 with certain residual rights as long as it remained viable, as authorized by previous Regional Council decisions, and has adopted a motion to disband and made the Proposal to distribute its remaining assets to Stanbridge East United Church pursuant to Manual section G.1.5,

Whereas aside from the residual rights to hold occasional services on the Mystic United Church property, the sole remaining assets amount to about \$27,000 in the investment accounts of the Congregation and possible future rights under future Estates.

Whereas the reporting as a charitable organization number 889689444 RR 0001 is up to date.

RESOLVED that Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, acting by its Property & Finance Leadership Team as a Commission, concur with the request of the Mystic United Church Congregation to disband and concurs with the Proposal to vest its remaining property, including all future rights to Estates, etc., to Stanbridge East United Church, with the following amendment to concord with the Regional Council Policy on the Use of Proceeds:

- a) 10% to the Indigenous Ministries of the United Church

- b) 10% to the Finance & Extension Board of the Regional Council for future ministries
- c) 10% to the Mission and Service Fund of the United Church
- d) a contribution of \$500 to the Archives Fund of the Regional Council and the balance to the Stanbridge East United Church

RESOLVED that the Regional Council urges the Walbridge Foundation to confirm an extension of the Mystic United Church's residual rights to neighbouring United Churches.

RESOLVED that the Mystic United Church Treasurer is to affect the above transfers and then file the final return with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) prior to year end with the effective date of disbanding to be the date of the filing with CRA. **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_118 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the following decision of the Property and Finance Leadership Team acting as a Commission be received:

MOTION (T. Rutherford/P. Stanfield) to decide as a Commission of the Regional Council Executive the following motions concerning the sale of land by Wyman Memorial United Church (Hudson) to Villa Wyman:

Whereas Québec Presbytery – Consistoire du Québec had given, on September 16, 2017 permission to sell a portion of the parking lot, now vacant land, adjacent to the then Wyman Memorial United Church in Hudson, Québec to a not-for-profit corporation for affordable seniors' housing, but the project was held up for planning and funding delays for a number of years, but is now ready for Closing,

and Whereas the Property & Finance Leadership Team is designated as a Commission of Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council by the Regional Council Policy on major assets, for the purpose of consenting to any sale of real property which is not a church sanctuary,

RESOLVED that Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council confirms final approval to the request of the Trustees of Hudson Pastoral Charge of the United Church of Canada - of Lot number 5,970,081 of the Cadastre du Québec, being a vacant parking lot in the Town of Hudson, Québec to Villa Wyman on an as-is, where-is basis for the sum of \$282,326.

RESOLVED that the proceeds shall be used in accordance with the previous decisions of Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council concerning the Hudson Pastoral Charge redevelopment. **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_119 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that whereas the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive has received a lawyer's letter sent on behalf of the Armenian Evangelical Church which claims that they are under no obligation to pay the amount of \$61,219.97, representing the employer portion of the former minister's pension from 2014 to 2020, the Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership team to immediately pay to The United Church of Canada pension plan the outstanding pension buyback amount of \$61,219.97 owed by the Armenian Evangelical Church.

This payment will be recorded as a loan to the Armenian Evangelical Church.

And further, concurs that Fred Braman communicate to the Armenian Evangelical Church that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council has paid the pension buyback amount of \$61,219.97 on their behalf



and requires a meeting, including Rev. Rosemary Lambie, to discuss how they intend to pay back this loan. **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_120 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team to give retroactive first instance approval to market the Dorval-Strathmore United Church Property by adopting the following motions:

- 1) Concurs in the first instance with the request of the Trustees of Dorval-Strathmore United Church to market, effective September 15, 2021, their Church Property, located at 310 Brookhaven Avenue, Dorval, QC H9S 2N7 – Lot 1,522,613, on an as-is, where-is basis within the price range submitted to the Property & Finance Leadership Team and subject to Regional Council approval of the final sale, and
- 2) Concurs in the request of the said Trustees to preliminarily approve the Plan of Distribution of the Net Proceeds of Sale (after commissions and all expenses) in accordance with the Regional Council Policy, being \$5,000 as a donation to the Archives Fund of the Regional Council and the balance, a) 10% to the Indigenous Ministries of the United Church of Canada, b) 10% to the Finance and Extension Board of Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council for ministry development in the Regional Council, c) 5% to the Mission & Service Fund of the United Church of Canada, and d) 75% to be retained by the Dorval-Strathmore United Church Trustees with an approved ministry plan for the use of the proceeds by the Regional Council that is financially sustainable. The Regional Council will normally require that the remaining capital from the sale be protected and invested and that the Community of Faith be limited to drawing up to 5% of the value of the invested capital in any given year to support its operating budget. If the Community of Faith puts before the Regional Council a ministry plan, the Regional Council may allow the Community of Faith to use some or all of the remaining capital from the sale to implement the ministry plan. This may include capital expenses. **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_121 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team to adopt the of the following motions with the caution that the name of the buyer and the price be omitted from the Regional Council minutes until the sale has closed:

- I. Concur with the request of the Trustees of Dorval-Strathmore United Church to sell to WWW, their Church Property, located at 310 Brookhaven Avenue, Dorval, QC H9S 2N7 – Lot 1,522,613, on an as-is, where-is basis for \$ XXXX on the terms of signed and accepted Counter-Offer dated October 10, 2021.
- II. Concur with the request of the Trustees of Dorval-Strathmore United Church, in the event that the Promise referred to in paragraph 1 is terminated by December 15, 2021, to instead sell to YYYY, their Church Property, located at 310 Brookhaven Avenue, Dorval, QC H9S 2N7 – Lot 1,522,613, on an as-is, where-is basis for \$ZZZZ on the terms of signed and accepted Counter-Offer dated October 11, 2021.
- III. Confirm the Regional Council's first instance resolution as to the distribution of the net proceeds of sale. **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_122 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team that the previous resolution requiring a non-refundable deposit of \$100K to purchase the church property of the Italian Church of the Redeemer be amended to require a non-refundable deposit of \$60K. **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_123 MOTION** (F. Braman/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive refer the matter of the small Brazilian Methodist group (Igreja Metodista em Montreal) joining The United Church of Canada to the General Council office. **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_124 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accepts the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team that whereas Bishopton United Church no longer has the financial resources to maintain the church and to pay their monthly contribution to the United Eaton Valley Pastoral Charge, Bishopton United Church be given first instance approval to market their property, subject to the direction of the Property and Finance Leadership Team. (T. Spires abstains) **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_125 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive the 2022 draft budget, for presentation at the Regional Council meeting. **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_126 MOTION** (F. Braman/B. Bryce) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team, addressing an application to the **Erskine & American – Mountainside Trust**, voting by email ending October 15, 2021:

1. Knowlton United Church - Sunday Service Virtual Publications Project - \$1,800 – approved in full. **CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_127 MOTION** (S. Dansokho/V. Galanis) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive from La Table the following proposals and forward to the Regional Council's Fall General Meeting on November 12 and 13:

- Proposition éducation théologique
- Proposition sur la Table des ministères en français
- Proposition sur le membership au sein de l'Église Unie du Canada

**CARRIED**

**2021-10-21\_128 MOTION** (T. Spires/F. Braman) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive adjourn this meeting at 11:57 AM. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_129 MOTION** (T. Spires/V. Epps-Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council move the following:

10. That the agenda as circulated be adopted;
11. That the minutes of June 12<sup>th</sup> 2021 Annual General Meeting be accepted as circulated (see appendix A);
12. That the following person serve as Scrutineers: Lisa Byer, Rev. Kent Chown, Judy Coffin and Joel Miller;
13. That the following person serve as Parliamentarian: Fred Braman
14. That the following person serve as Chaplain: Rev. Pierre Goldberger, Rev. Attila Gyorgy and Rev. Christine-Marie Gladu;
15. That Shanna Bernier and Rev. Tami Spires serve as the Equity Team. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_130 MOTION** (B. Bryce/M. Katchikian) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive the recommendation from the Granting and Enabling Team regarding Mission Support

Grants and approve the following distribution:

Camino de Emaus	68,000\$
Campus Ministry, Bishop's/Champlain	3000\$
COCLA	28000\$
Committee to Aid Refugees	26,500\$
Concordia Multi-Faith and Spirituality Centre	3000\$
Eglise St Pierre et Pinguet	30,000\$
Kanesetake United Church	15,500\$
Montreal City Mission	120,000\$
Rennies United Church	15,000\$
Saint Columba House	151,000\$
Union United Church	30,000\$
West Island LGBTQ2+	18,000\$

Total: 508,000\$ **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_131 MOTION** (B. Bryce/M. Katchikian) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive the recommendation from the Granting and Enabling Team regarding the Good Samaritan Fund and approve that

- a) 12,910\$ be distributed to Beaconsfield United Church's Seniors Online Ministry Project;
- b) 8,250\$ be distributed to St Columba House for their Takeout Program. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_132 MOTION** (B. Bryce/ M. Katchikian) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive as recommendation that the Granting and Enabling Team distributed an Emergency funding grant in the amount of 15,000\$ to Beaconsfield United Church for their Refugee Integration Project from the Bhal Jun Fund. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_133 MOTION** (B. Bryce/ M. Katchikian) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive for information that:

1. There was 1 request for the Erskine-American Mountainside Fund for 1,800\$ to Knowlton United Church Sunday Service Virtual Publications which was approved by the Executive as it was seen to be time sensitive;
2. The Kelley Trust approved 2 grants forwarded to them:
  - a) 3,895.25\$ to Saint Columba House for Privilege, Power, and Allyship Project;
  - b) 1,500\$ to Beaconsfield United Church for the ICHRP Canada Conference on Human Rights in the Philippines and Canadian Support Project.
3. There is funding conditionally being held in the Ste Therese Fund for Laurentian Area Ministries (LAM) when the needed documents have been received. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_134 MOTION** (T. Spires/D. Ashby) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council extend the meeting to 9 PM. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_135 MOTION** (P. Stanfield/F. Braman) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council accept the 2022 budget as presented. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_136 MOTION** (P. Bisset/F. Braman) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council

accept the Finance & Extension 2022 budget as presented. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_137 MOTION** (F. Braman/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive for information the amendment made by the Executive to the Policy Regarding Proceeds from the Sale of Property, and update the Governance Handbook:

2021-02-18\_020 MOTION (F. Braman/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approves the recommendations of the Property and Finance Leadership Team that the Policy regarding proceeds from the sale of property be amended to recommend that 5%-10% of the net proceeds from the sale be remitted to Mission & Service Fund in the case of a community of faith that is not disbanding. Carried **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_138 MOTION** (F. Braman/M. Grenon) That the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council accept the amendment to the current text of item (b) under “Community of Faith that is not disbanding” in the Policy regarding proceeds from the Sale of Property be replaced by

*recommend that 5%-10% of the net proceeds from the sale be remitted to the Nakonha:ka Regional Council to support a Granting and Enabling Strategic Fund of the Regional Council held by the Finance and Extension Board with disbursement at the direction of the Regional Council on the recommendation of the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team (GELT). The terms of reference of such Fund shall be proposed by GELT and approved by Regional Council*

and item (g) under “Community of Faith that is disbanding” in the Policy regarding proceeds from the Sale of Property be replaced by

*10% of the net proceeds from the sale be remitted to the Nakonha:ka Regional Council to support a Granting and Enabling Strategic Fund of the Regional Council held by the Finance and Extension Board with disbursement at the direction of the Regional Council on the recommendation of the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team (GELT). The terms of reference of such Fund shall be proposed by GELT and approved by Regional Council. **CARRIED***

**2021-11-12-13\_139 MOTION** (F. Braman/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive for information the amendment by the Executive the Policy on Leases, Major Renovations and Other Major Assets, and update the Governance Handbook:

2020-10-08\_127 MOTION (F. Braman/P. Stanfield) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Property & Finance Leadership Group that its Policy on Leases, Major Renovations and Other Major Assets be amended to add the following sentence to Other Major Assets –“ Other Major Assets include only assets of more than \$50,000 in a contemplated transaction, it being the intent that Trustees exercise their fiduciary duties in respect of assets of lesser value and on the understanding that the conflict of interest policies of The United Church of Canada are fully respected. Other major assets include any part of the property on which the church building is located.” Carried **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_140 MOTION** (C. Hamilton/A. Huntly) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council amend the amendment to the Policy for Electing General Council Commissioners, and strike out section 2 b) “Be a member of the Regional Council (Ordered Ministry or Lay elected by their community of faith or be a member of a Leadership Team of the Regional Council)” and include under section 4, “1/3 Ordered and 1/3 Lay”, to replace “5 Ordered and 5 Lay” **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_141 MOTION** (D. Lambie/T. Spires) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council enact the amended Policy for Electing General Council Commissioners. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_142 MOTION** (M. Grenon/T. Spires) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council accept the amendment to Regional Council Annual and General Meetings Planning, to update part of the Regional Council Living Mission, in the Governance Handbook. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_143 MOTION** (S. Fryday/G. Tompkins) That the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council undertakes the formal process required by Affirm United in order to become an Affirming Regional Council. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_144 MOTION** (T. Spires/D. Ashby) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council extend the meeting to 12:30 PM. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_145 MOTION** (D. Lambie/T. Spires) that, in addition to the 44<sup>th</sup> General Council Commissioners already been voted (see motion 2021-06-12\_071), and due to a vacancy having been declared under the Ministry Personnel category, the following people be added to serve as the 44<sup>th</sup> General Council Commissioners representing Nakonha:ka Regional Council:

Lay

1. Morgan-Pierre Point

Ministry Personnel

2. Rev. Marie-Claude Manga
3. Rev. Christine Marie Gladu

**CARRIED**

2021-06-12\_071 MOTION (D. Lambie/G. Beaudoin) that one position be held for the Youth Pilgrim, and that the following people serve as the 44<sup>th</sup> General Council Commissioners representing Nakonha:ka Regional Council:

Lay

1. Marc Grenon, President-Elect
2. Ben Ryan (under 30)
3. Youth Pilgrim
4. Fred Braman
5. Valerie-Epps Nickson

Ministry Personnel

6. Rev. Linda Buchanan
7. Rev. Heather McClure
8. Rev. Cathy Hamilton
9. Rev. Tami Spires

Lay Alternates:

1. Morgan-Pierre Point
2. Denis Ashby
3. Norman Robert Boie
4. L.E. Moir

And further, that the Nominations Team reopen Expressions of Interest to seek to fill a clergy vacancy, to secure clergy alternates and report its recommendations to the Regional Council for approval. Carried

**2021-11-12-13\_146 MOTION** (M. Grenon/S. Dansokho) That the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council forward to the General Council the Theological Education proposal with consensus. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_147 MOTION** (M. Grenon/ S. Dansokho) That the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional

Council forward to the General Council the Membership in United Church Through Non-Congregational Communities of Faith proposal with consensus. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_148 MOTION** (M. Grenon/ S. Dansokho) That the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council forward to the General Council the Recognition of *La Table des ministères en français* proposal with consensus. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_149 MOTION** (R. Lambie/V. Epps-Nickson) that following the rise of session two of the General Meeting of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, all powers of the Regional Council be granted to the Executive until the next general meeting on March 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> 2022. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-12-13\_150 MOTION** (V. Epps-Nickson/R. Lambie) that the meeting be adjourned at 12:40 PM, and that the President declares this General Meeting of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council duly concluded. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-18\_151 MOTION** (V. Galanis/D. Macdonald) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve Marie-Claude Manga as the Equity Team for this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-18\_152 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/F. Braman) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the minutes of October 21, 2021 as circulated. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-18\_153 MOTION** (M. Grenon/S. Dansokho) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as amended to include a motion under Pastoral Relations as well as a motion under New Business. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-18\_154 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team to approve the two-year appointment of Bailey Eastwood, SME candidate half time (20 hours/week) to Beaconsfield United Church, November 23, 2021 to November 24, 2023. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-18\_155 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that whereas Rev. Jan Jorgensen is recognized by The United Church of Canada under the mutual recognition of ministry provisions of the Full Communion agreement with the United Church of Christ, Rev. Jan Jorgenson be appointed half-time for three years, as an exceptional measure, (December 1, 2021 to November 30, 2024) to the Kahnawake Pastoral Charge, in team ministry with Robert Patton, Congregational Designated Minister; salary, Category F COL 2 \$30,482.50. She and Robert share a \$2,250 travel budget. All other terms standard (e.g. half-time means half the Continuing Education allowance). **CARRIED**

**2021-11-18\_156 MOTION** (D. Macdonald/M. Grenon) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs in the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team in an appointment to Rev. Daniel Hayward full-time as Pastoral Relations Minister as a permanent position effective February 1, 2022. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-18\_157 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accepts the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team to concur in the joint request dated November 12, 2021 of Dorval-Strathmore United Church and St. John's United Church

(Pointe-Claire) for the amalgamation of Dorval-Strathmore United Church into St. John's United Church effective January 1, 2022, with the following provisos:

1. The name of the amalgamated entity shall become Lakeshore Trinity United Church,
2. The Governance structure shall remain that of St. John's United Church but the membership is merged and the officeholders of Dorval-Strathmore United Church shall be invited to assume equivalent roles in the amalgamated entity.
3. All assets and liabilities of both amalgamating entities, past, present and future shall vest in the amalgamated entity as of January 1, 2022.
4. The call of Rev. Steve Gillam shall continue as a single call from the amalgamated entity.
5. The Regional Council declares that no surplus arises upon the amalgamation and in view of the resolution already adopted by Regional Council for the Proceeds of Sale of the Dorval Strathmore United Church property, no further sharing is required, but the Trustees shall not disburse for each of the first three years of the amalgamated entity (2022-23-24) more than 5% of their capital base arising from their 75% share of the Proceeds from the sale of the Dorval-Strathmore property plus up to the \$264,700 outlined in their three-year capital expenditure plan, subject to paragraph 7 below, unless with Regional Council concurrence. From 2025 forward, the Trustees of the amalgamated entity are bound only to exercise their discretion within the general Trustees' guidelines of The United Church of Canada, subject as well to Regional Council policies.
6. The ministry plan of continuing the ministry led by Reverend Gillam half-time in each congregation, but on a full-time basis for the single amalgamated congregation, is approved.
7. The three-year capital expenditures plan remains subject to the Regional Council Policy on Major Renovations which requires advance consultation and approval for each element from the Property & Finance Leadership Team on behalf of the Regional Council.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Regional Council congratulates the Congregation and Boards of both amalgamating entities for their discernment and faith in continuing their respective ministries together.

**CARRIED**

**2021-11-18\_158 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accepts the recommendation of the Property and Finance Leadership Team to concur with the Board and Congregation of St. Andrew's United Church in Sept-Îles, Québec for the disbanding of that community of faith effective December 31, 2021 in accordance with their motions of November 9, 2021, which include:

- a) A transfer of their share in the local cemetery corporation to the other faith partners or otherwise as determined by the Regional Council to be effected prior to year-end by the local Board or after disbandment by the Regional Council.
- b) Donations to local charities traditionally supported by the Congregation amounting to \$10,200, and \$1,500 to the Mission and Service Fund for 2021.
- c) After the above 2021 expenses and other minor items, it is estimated that the projected Net Assets (there is no property to be sold) will be \$18,500, to be distributed as follows: Mission & Service Fund \$1,850 (10%); United Church of Canada for Indigenous Ministries \$1,850 (10%); Finance and Extension Board of the Regional Council for its Mission Strategy Fund \$1,850 (10%); Regional Council Archives \$400 (2.16%)
- d) The remaining Net Assets, projected to be \$12,550, will be transferred to the Trois-Rivières Fund for Eastern Region Travel (held by the Finance and Extension Board) to be used in priority to cover the costs of providing clergy for the funeral/memorial services for the five remaining members

RESOLVED that the Regional Council directs that in early December 2021 the Treasurer will transfer any remaining funds in the bank account to the Regional Council to pay any remaining expenses and implement this resolution and shall endeavor to terminate the present CRA registration by December 31, 2021

FURTHER RESOLVED that the Regional Council express its gratitude to the Congregation and Board of St. Andrew's United Church (Sept-Îles) for their long service and their discernment and sharing in this act of disbandment. **CARRIED**

**2021-11-18\_159 MOTION** (R. Sheffer/MC. Manga) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive express its spiritual and moral support to Plymouth-Trinity United Church in its giving sanctuary to the asylum-seeking family in Sherbrooke, Quebec. **CARRIED** (Rev. Samuel V. Dansokho abstains)

**2021-11-18\_160 MOTION** (F. Braman/P. Goldberger) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive sends its above resolution (2021-11-18\_159 MOTION) immediately to the Secretary of the General Council for the Executive of General Council's immediate consideration. **CARRIED** (Rev. Samuel V. Dansokho abstains)

**2021-11-18\_161 MOTION** (F. Braman/R. Sheffer) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive agree to reimburse Plymouth-Trinity up to \$10,000 in legal fees as it inquires about its rights and legal obligations in providing sanctuary. **CARRIED** (Rev. Samuel V. Dansokho abstains)

**2021-11-18\_162 MOTION** (B. Bryce/MC. Manga) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive adjourn this meeting at 11:36 AM. **CARRIED**