

# 2024

## Year in Review



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## Preamble

This report book provides a historical record of work and life of The Nakonha:ka Regional Council, for the period beginning January 1<sup>st</sup> 2024, ending December 31, 2024.

The first section includes reports from the President, the Executive Minister, the Pastoral Relations Minister, the Communications Officer, the Office of Vocation Minister, the Growth Animator and the Community of Faith Stewardship Support Staff. It also provides a regional council financial summary; reporting from the Finance and Extension Board; reporting from Leaderships Teams (Nominations, Living into Right Relations, First Thirds Ministries, Licenced Lay Worship Leaders, General Meeting Planning); reporting from The Québec Regional United Church Women (UCW), French Ministries (*La Table*), Saint-Columba House, Montreal City Mission and the Montreal Diocesan Theological College.

The second section highlights anniversaries of Ministry Personnel (retired and active) for years of holding designations within The United Church of Canada; provides an in memoriam of ministry personnel who have died; names ministry personnel who have retired, and names new ministry personnel who have been ordained into The United Church of Canada within the boundaries of regional council.

The third and final section of this report book provides a summary of the decisions taken by the Executive and the Regional Council over the year (2024); provides the Rules of Debate and Order, the Enabling Motions, and provides the list of current staff members of the regional council and their job descriptions.

## Reports President

Dear friends,

In June 2025, it will be almost a year since you entrusted me with the presidency of the Nakonha:ka Regional Council. It has been a year of intense learning, but also of inspiration and discovery. I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to my predecessor, Marc Grenon, whose professionalism, eloquence and profound humanity remain a source of inspiration. His commitment paved a path that I, in turn, try to follow with dedication and humility.

This year has been marked by major changes within the team. We said goodbye to David-Roger Gagnon, who is pursuing new horizons, and to Judy Coffin, who is embarking on a well-deserved retirement. May their paths be filled with joy and extraordinary achievements! Following these departures, we welcomed Esther Guillen to a new position Community of Faith Support Minister and Aviyah Abrams to Communications. Their presence brings a breath of fresh air and essential skills to our mission.

I would like to take this opportunity to express my gratitude to all those who, as part of our team of professionals, offer their talent, generosity and dedication. Without them, the work of governing and accompanying communities of faith would not be possible.

In August 2025, we will gather in Calgary for the 45<sup>th</sup> General Council (GC45). This will be a time of discernment and commitment to the future of our church. We will have the opportunity to elect a new Moderator, and we pray that this process will be marked by peace and serenity. My special greetings go

to Rev. Samuel V. Dansokho, who, after a long process, has chosen to put his name forward. Our prayers are with all those who respond to this call.

In addition, the United Church of Canada is preparing to publish data on its growth and projections to 2035. These reflections challenge us to consider the future of our faith communities, particularly in Quebec. Many churches are struggling with increasingly limited human and financial resources, buildings requiring costly maintenance, and a sense of fatigue and exhaustion. The Regional Council is aware of these realities and is actively seeking creative and strategic solutions to support our communities of faith. Our vocation is to be a Church on the move, in tune with the world and the transformations it is undergoing. In this context, our commitment cannot be limited to traditional frameworks. The future lies in pastoral care outside the walls, in innovative ministries that resonate with contemporary realities. Whether it's through new forms of gatherings, spiritual accompaniment spaces adapted to the diversity of people's paths, or initiatives promoting dialogue between faith and culture, we are called to explore new avenues. If we want our presence to grow, we need to open our hearts and minds to these new ways of being and acting in the Church.

I'm always impressed by the passion and commitment of our leadership teams. We are blessed to be surrounded by people who want to serve our church and our region. The Regional Council exists for communities of faith and is at their service. My wish is that we cultivate a space for dialogue and collaboration where everyone feels welcomed and heard.

As the apostle Paul reminds us: "For we are God's coworkers, working together; we are God's field, God's building" (1 Cor. 3:9). In other words, we are getting ready to implement God's dream for our world. A world where life is precious and human dignity is at the center of everything. A world where the earth can breathe and heal, where renewable energies take precedence over destructive ones. A world where everyone has a place, regardless of their history, identity or beliefs. A world where everyone is recognized, welcomed and fully loved.

God dreams of a world where love is holistic, unconditional and extravagant.

I'm counting on you to accompany me in this mission and in the role you've entrusted to me. May we together be the artisans of a living, radiant and daring Church.

May God bless you all.  
Norman Robert Boie

## Executive Minister

It's been quite the year for me and for our Regional Council. While I was able to take my sabbatical to walk a few Caminos in June and July, I was also holding many of our ministries in prayer as I walked. It was a powerful way to stay connected to each of you as I held images and thoughts of the challenges and gifts that each ministry brings to the United Church and to the wider community. It may sound odd, but despite my physical distance, I became more tightly bound to you in the process. The Holy Spirit works across time and space in wonderful ways.

We spent this year living into our strategic plan, learning where there is movement in the spirit and where there is energy in contributing to the Regional Council's life – and the life of its communities of faith. Part of this work is to adapt and adjust as needed going forward. As the United Church's General Council begins to track where we want to be in the next ten years, our plans will also need to be refined and adjusted as we go forward.

We need to be creative about how we will meet the spiritual needs of those who are spiritually-hungry but have not found a place to be fed. We must find ways to meet those needs in ways that are creative and not just limited to Sunday mornings at 10:30am. We need to think beyond our communities of faith and see Christ's ministry throughout the region by letting go of the idea that we need to provide the same ministry offerings as the neighbouring United Church. We should be considering how we specialize in a type of ministry and encourage those who are looking for that to find it wherever and whenever it may be offered.

We have begun several conversations about how to handle property matters in our Regional Council. Kindred Works is a United Church initiated corporation that operates to hold and manage property, as well as working on redevelopment. The legal structures under civil law make it a little more complex to establish a land trust as they have done in other parts of the country, but we are working to find solutions to this challenge. A few properties are eager to be managed by this solution, so we hope to have it figured out in early 2025.

I had the chance to visit and work with a dozen communities in our region from Hudson to Ayer's Cliff. I hope to be able to spend some time with even more of you in the coming year.

We also bid farewell to David-Roger Gagnon who answered a call to serve a community in Moncton and Judy Coffin who answered a call to retirement. Both of them have served our Regional Council with depth, care and creativity. I am grateful to have had them on the team as I began to navigate the culture and workings of this region. Just as the year was ending, we welcomed Esther Guillen into the role of Community of Faith Support Minister and Aviyah Abrams in the Communications role left by Judy.

I am very proud of the team that works for this Regional Council and for the passion and dedication they demonstrate day-in and day-out. Their efforts, combined with those of the volunteer leadership that we rely on so heavily, makes it all happen. Thank you for remembering that the Regional Council isn't some foreign entity. It is us. All of us.

Blessings to you and to the ministry in which you all serve.  
Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly, Regional Executive Minister

## Pastoral Relations Minister

One of the lectionary readings for January 26, the Third Sunday After the Epiphany, was 1 Corinthians 12:12-31, which is a wonderful meditation on the body as a metaphor for the Church. This letter to one of the early Christian communities stresses that no part of this body – no member of the Church – is left out, for all are indispensable. All members have gifts, and not only that: all members are gifts, loved and redeemed by God.

In 1 Corinthians, the Apostle Paul goes on to say about the Church as a body:

In the church, God has appointed first apostles, second prophets, third teachers, then miracles, then gifts of healing, the ability to help others, leadership skills, different kinds of tongues. All aren't apostles, are they? All aren't prophets, are they? All aren't teachers, are they? All don't perform miracles, do they? All don't have gifts of healing, do they? All don't speak in different tongues, do they? All don't interpret, do they?

In our amazing diversity, all members have gifts and are gifts, but each of us does not have the same gifts. Our United Church of Canada Statement on Ministry expresses this as all baptized believers being called to ministry, and God calling some from within the community through specific gifts for ministry, including paid accountable ministry.

As Pastoral Relations Minister, I have the happy task of working with these gifted people: those with certain gifts, our called and appointed ministry personnel (ordained, commissioned, designated lay, and candidates); and those with their own, equally important, gifts for ministry, in our communities of faith, such as lay employees, Ministry and Personnel Committees and other congregational committees, and governing bodies like boards, councils and sessions. My work is guided by scripture, our statements of faith, the Manual and associated policies and procedures, and the regional council's strategic plan in fulfilling our vision of Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship and Daring Justice. My main areas of work are:

- serving and supporting communities of faith, particularly in the areas of pastoral relationships with ministry personnel, employment of lay staff, and other Ministry and Personnel matters;
- helping communities of faith to discern options as they live out their ministry;
- encouraging and supporting ministry personnel toward health, joy and excellence in ministry practice – this particularly involves assistance with access to restorative care and in planning for retirement and transitions;
- supporting the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, which is tasked with beginning and ending calls and appointments and appointing regional liaisons and community of faith supervisors to assist communities of faith;
- liaising with my Office of Vocation counterparts, other staff in this and other regions, and the General Council Office;
- supporting the Regional Council and its decision-making bodies.

Among the highlights in 2024 were serving as Acting Executive Minister for three regional councils during August and early September while Éric was on sabbatical; coordinating two activity streams under our regional council's strategic plan, the Building and Strengthening Relationships with Communities of Faith visits and the Deep Spirituality Showcase of worship innovations; helping to organize the retreat for "All Who Minister" held at Manoir d'Youville in Châteauguay in October, where I led the education session for our Licensed Lay Worship Leaders; participating in a number of national projects with Pastoral Relations Ministers from other regional councils, including revisions of the resources for Ministry and Personnel Committees; and saying goodbye to David-Roger Gagnon as Minister Responsible for Networks and Clusters and Judy Coffin in Communications, both of whom provided valuable support to Pastoral Relations.

We rejoiced that we are blessed with people with specific gifts when we held our Celebration of Ministries service on May 24, marking ministry personnel retirements, memorials, and anniversaries, and ordaining Rev. Beryl Barraclough. We rely on them and their gifts to carry out God's mission in Nakonha:ka. But we

have a shortage of these leaders, both ministry personnel and lay. All of us know that there is a shortfall in the number of volunteers the governance and programs of our communities of faith require. We are also experiencing a scarcity of paid, accountable ministers. Here is a snapshot of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council as of the end of January 2025.

Of our 75 Pastoral Charges, not including Montreal City Mission and St. Columba House (The numbers do not total 75 because of pastoral charges sharing a ministry position):

- Full-time ministry positions = 23
- Part-time ministry positions
  - 50% time or more = 18
  - Less than 50% time = 4
- Currently without ministry personnel = 24 (21 of which have been vacant for two years or more)

These include:

- Appointments of retired ministry personnel (4 part-time)
- Candidates (7) (1 Supervised Ministry Education full-time, 4 SME half-time, 1 candidate supply full-time, 1 candidate supply part-time)
- Pastoral Charges in 'active' search on ChurchHub (8)
- Ministry personnel preparing to retire in the first half of 2025 (5)

We will be talking much more about this in 2025, the 100th anniversary of Church Union, as we envision what the Church will look like 10 years in the future and even further ahead.

In the past year, as always, I have considered it a privilege to work with our gifted ministry personnel – both active and retired – and lay leaders, the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team and Regional Council Executive, regional liaisons and community of faith supervisors, Licensed Lay Worship Leaders, La Table des ministères en français, the Executive Minister and regional council staff, my fellow Pastoral Relations Ministers, the Office of Vocation staff and others at the General Council Office, and Community Capacity Development Coordinators in the Indigenous Church.

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

## Communications

### 1. Targeted Communications & Media Strategy

**Planning & Coordination:** On-going efforts throughout the year to collect stories and events from the regional councils and networks to populate a communication calendar. A growing list of media contacts has been maintained, and the Targeted Communications Team looked into the 'earned media' approach (preparing press releases templates, establishing relations with media and responding in a timely manner to current events). Increased use of website analytics to identify the interests of the audience and, consequently, to address them properly.

**Pilot Projects:**

- Envoke Email Platform: Successfully tested in partnership with Église Unie Saint-Jean to determine its suitability as a shared tool and now used by this community.
- Web Page Updates: Living into Right Relations Leadership Circle tested direct changes to their pages on the regional website.

**Focus Groups & Training:** The major focus was on what is most important to the modern Quebecers regarding faith and social justice (via the focus groups conducted by Callosum). A media training session with Anne Lagacé Dowson helped to enhance the capacity for press outreach.

**2. Strategic Objectives****Growth – Invite:**

- A Targeted Communications Team was established in order to create core messages that capture the identity of The United Church of Canada in Quebec.
- Press releases on relevant topics were created, such as Blue Christmas and social justice history/current justice initiatives of The United Church of Canada in Quebec.
- Special announcements highlighted events such as the Settler Relations at Mountainside United Church and interviews about the Mohawk Bible.

**Common Good, Indigenous Pathways and Justice:**

- The Respect & Kanoronhkwátshera sub-site has been developed and expanded, both in English and French, to share Indigenous justice resources.
- The implications of Law 25 (privacy policy) were also looked at to determine its implications for communities of faith.
- Focus on the sharing of resources and events promoting interfaith dialogue, reconciliation, and community support (e.g., Muslim Awareness Week, Orange Shirt Day).

**Climate:**

- Supported Earth Week (Together for the Love of Creation) and shared climate justice activities to increase community participation.

**Leadership:**

- Prepared invitations and materials for events such as the Deep Spirituality Worship Showcase, Ministry Retreat and the Flourishing Event with the Moderator.
- Online credit card payment for events was implemented to expand registration options.

**3. Social Media & Website Highlights**

- Top posts were: Rev. Darla Sloan, the first female minister preaching at the Basilique Catholique de Québec in 350 years; Muslim Awareness Week by Montreal City Mission; behind-the-scenes look at the Community Compass video by Cedar Park United Church; the Braiding Sweetgrass book club organized by GreenFaith Montreal; emerging communities of faith like Mission francophone de Longueuil; reflections from Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly about an African Swahili-speaking emerging community of faith and his (unrelated) Camino experience; Wesley United Church beginning the Affirming Process and Memorials and prayers requests following tragedies or notable deaths in the community.

- Marketing of events and workshops (for instance, Earth Week gatherings, Pride services).
- Steady Growth: The follower numbers and web traffic are growing but at a slow and steady rate, indicating ongoing engagement.

Subscribers / followers	2023	2024	% change
Newsletter	468	516	10.26%
Public Facebook page	231	255	10.39%
Instagram	142	155	9.15%
X	47	46	-2.13%

Respectfully submitted by Aviyah Abrams, Communications and Administrative Assistant

## Office of Vocation

Greetings from your Vocational Minister,

It is with heartfelt gratitude that I share with the Nakonha:ka Regional Council the wonderful work of the Office of Vocation in Quebec and East Ontario throughout 2024.

Our Office of Vocation is dedicated to nurturing effective, faithful, and accountable ministry formation and leadership. By doing so, we help our leaders embrace the call to Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, and Daring Justice. This sacred ministry is lovingly supported by volunteers who serve with unwavering dedication on the Quebec and East Ontario Candidacy Board, the Admissions Board, the Board of Vocation, and the Response and Remedial Committees. I am continually inspired by the tireless efforts of these board members, whose work blesses our clergy, lay leaders, and communities of faith across the nation. Their gifts of discernment and commitment are truly a testament to their faith.

In my role as Vocational Minister, I have the privilege of serving as the staff resource for the Quebec and East Ontario Candidacy Board. This board walks alongside, oversees, and assesses those discerning and preparing for ministry. I am also here to support candidates and applicants at various stages of their ministry formation, hosting monthly Zoom gatherings that provide a space for connection and mutual support, both in English and French.

The year 2024 was a bustling one for the Quebec and East Ontario Candidacy Board, which convened 15 times to engage in administrative work and interview applicants and candidates. Throughout these meetings, the Candidacy Board conducted 45 interviews, guiding and supporting individuals across our three regions. As we closed the year, we celebrated 35 Candidacy Pathway profiles in Quebec and East Ontario, with 6 Francophone and 19 Anglophone candidates. We give thanks to God for the many hearts answering the call to ministry in The United Church of Canada!

Regarding Supervised Ministry Education, a vital component of the Candidacy Pathway for those in the Ordained or Designated Lay Ministry Streams, I collaborate closely with the Pastoral Relations Minister in each region. Candidates are encouraged to find their own Supervised Ministry Appointment through Church Hub, where their profiles can be matched with Communities of Faith approved as learning sites. Once Pastoral Relations approves the appointment, I provide training to the Community of Faith

Connection and recommend the appointment of an Educational Supervisor to the Candidacy Board. I am always available to answer any questions about the Supervised Ministry Education process.

All requests by ministry personnel in Quebec and East Ontario, including candidates and retired clergy, to be made available for new ministry opportunities are directed to me for approval through Church Hub. If approval is not possible, I communicate what is needed in the minister's profile. Often, it is the submission of the Annual Declaration or the completion of a Boundaries Refresher course, which is required every five years for all ministry personnel, including those who have retired but continue to serve. Additionally, I provide letters of Good Standing to ministry personnel upon request.

Recently, the former Workplace Discrimination, Harassment, and Violence Response Policy and the Sexual Misconduct Response Policy and Procedures have been combined into a new policy document called the "Creating Safe and Respectful Environments Policy." This revised policy can be found on The United Church of Canada website under the Leadership and Handbook and Guidelines tabs.

As always, I remain available to any ministry personnel who have questions or become involved in a complaint process. This work continues to support effective, faithful, and accountable ministry formation and leadership, in alignment with our denomination's vision of Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, and Daring Justice.

With blessings and gratitude,  
Rev. Caroline Penhale Lukacs, Vocational Minister, Quebec and East Ontario

## Nakonha:ka Growth Report

In 2024 the General Council Office's Growth Team supported the CRNRC to renew existing communities of faith, to create new communities of faith and ministries, and in strengthening its invitation to the United Church of Canada and the liberating Good News of Jesus. This work was done in alignment with the United Church of Canada's Strategic Plan (2022), and the CRNRC Strategic Plan (2023).

During 2024, the Growth Animator for Eastern Ontario and Quebec, Rev. Tori Mullin, engaged with 25 pastoral charges, providing individual support to ministry personnel, lay leaders and congregational boards/councils. Additionally, 28 Neighbourhood Profiles were generated by General Council Office's Geographical Information Strategist, Sharon Buttrey, for communities of faith, providing demographic data to help communities learn more about their neighbours. The Growth Team contributed to 3 region-wide educational events on the topics of the strengths and challenges of small rural churches, evangelism, and use of the Neighbourhood Profile tool.

Activity Stream 2, *Establish a Rural Forum*, overlapped with the work of Bronwyn Corlett, Rural Ministry Coordinator with the General Council Office. As of January 2024, 70% of communities of faith across the United Church of Canada are identified as rural (within communities of 10,000 people or less). During 2024 there were 7 national Rural Town Halls hosted, connecting rural communities of faith across the church for mutual support and support of rural issues. To-date, 81 individuals have registered on ChurchX as part of the group. However, no participants from CRNRC congregations were identified, suggesting the network needs greater promotion in the region and relationship-building between the Growth Team and

rural churches. In 2025 Rural Town halls will continue monthly. To learn more contact Rev. Bronwyn Corlett (bcorlett@united-church.ca).

Activity Stream 3, *Create at least 7 new communities of faith*. In 2024, 6 new church plant locations were started nationally, with 2 emerging community of faith leads working in the CRNRC supported by Rev. Emo Yango, Growth Coordinator Diaspora and Intercultural (migrantcof@united-church.ca): Hanitra Randrianasolo (Church of Jesus Christ of Madagascar, with four locations in Drummondville, Joliette, Sherbrooke, and St. Hyacinthe), Onias Masawi (Methodist Church of Zimbabwe in Canada, Montreal). As of Feb 2025, a total of 18 Church Plant Leads are working in 25 different locations across Canada. Some of the key needs identified by these communities have been tangible support (i.e., clothing, job employment, adequate housing) as well as mental and emotional support groups. Key appreciations have been for Regional Council and General Council support; support from local United churches, including use of building space for worship services and other in-person gatherings; and the Church Plant Leads network for support and relationship building.

To learn more about the emerging communities of faith, visit the United Church of Canada's YouTube channel.

Link: [Migrant Communities of Faith - Group 1](#)

Link: [Migrant Communities of Faith - Group 2](#)

Link: [Migrant Communities of Faith - Group 3](#)

Respectfully Submitted by  
Rev. Tori Mullin, Growth Animator

## Stewardship Report

Can my community of faith grow it's giving in 2025? How might we better recruit volunteers and leaders? These are common questions in many United Churches these days, regardless if the community is small and lay-led or a large congregation with multiple staff. All church leaders today are seeking support, resources, and new ideas. And that is where your Community of Faith Stewardship Team can help.

My name is Roger Janes and I am the Stewardship Staff person for your Region. If are concerned about the financial viability of your church, or are revisioning your ministry, or wanting to embrace bold discipleship, I would love to have a [stewardship conversation](#) with you! Here are some of the [programs](#) and support we offer online, via ChurchX:

**Getting Started in Stewardship** – a 90-minute webinar to introduce some stewardship best practices and help participants view generosity as a spiritual practice rather than a necessary evil!

Here are the pastoral charges that have done our Getting Started in Stewardship Program in the last year:

- Cowansville Area PC
- Roxboro PC

**Stewardship Best Practices**— an in-depth, multi-week, exploration of current stewardship best practices with lots of practical suggestions and customizable resources, and ending with a detailed stewardship plan and ongoing coaching to help communities of faith achieve their goals.

One Pastoral Charge has signed up since our program expanded last year:

- Cowansville: Emmanuel

**Set Up Your Congregational Giving Program** – a 2 Session program that is designed to help communities of faith to plan and carry out a successful stewardship campaign.

**Bequests and Estate Giving** – Two sessions through which participants will learn how to set up a Planned Giving program in their church and learn how to inspire and invite various planned gifts.

We also offer congregational stewardship resources, digital and paper, in the following areas: [Mission and Service](#), [Congregational Stewardship](#), [United Church Foundation](#) and [Planned Giving](#). For instance, check out our free downloadable [resource kits](#), or our [stewardship worship materials](#).

You are invited to explore these materials and opportunities on your own, or to contact me and we can set a time for a conversation about your community of faith's context.

Here is a small sample of the results of pastoral charges I have worked with are seeing:

- Coley's Point, NL: After doing **Stewardship Best Practices** and then carrying out a **Congregational Giving Program**, recorded a 25% increase in their PAR subscribers and a 63% increase in PAR gifts. A year later the gifts to their local ministry had increased by 27%.
- Trenton UC: did **Stewardship Best Practices** in the Fall of 2022. A year later they had increased gifts to local by 21%, Mission and Service by 7% and a 14% increase in the number of donors who contributed by PAR.
- Arnprior: Grace-St. Andrew's: another charge who completed **Stewardship Best Practices**, saw an 8% increase in givers, a 14% increase in gifts to the local ministry, a 29% increase in Mission and Service gifts and a 28% increase in gifts given through PAR.

Finally, this is what one recent participant of one of our programs said, *"What has been and continues to be a highlight in this training for me is the ongoing coaching model. Without constant contact with you I don't think we would have been able to be as clear as we are about what our goals are and how we mean to make them happen. You are "boots on the ground support" for which I am grateful."* Susan Roberts of Eden United Church, Mississauga.

*\*\*We are currently gearing up for the Next **Getting Started In Stewardship** offerings (April and June), **Bequests and Estate Giving** (April 24<sup>th</sup>) and **Setting Up Your Giving Program** (April 30<sup>th</sup>).*

Respectfully submitted,

Rev. Roger Janes, Community of Faith Stewardship Support Staff, Philanthropy Unit

## 2024 Financial Review

In 2024 total expenses exceeded total revenue by about \$25,000. This marks the first fiscal year since the inception of the Regional Council in 2019 that we incurred a deficit. These results were better than anticipated, as the 2024 budget forecasted a deficit of \$60,000. This can be partly explained by the departure of David-Roger Gagnon during the year, with that staff position not being replaced until after yearend.

We are fortunate to have built up a reserve from 2019 – 2023, which was used to fund the deficit in 2024. We once again benefitted from a generous grant from the Finance & Extension Board, which allowed us to provide total Mission Support of \$505,000 to 14 different organizations.

The Worship Leaders' Retreat, first held in 2023, took place again in 2024 and is anticipated to be an annual event for which we have budgeted. We have also budgeted for ongoing funding for the Living into Right Relations Circle.

Our reserve funds have been invested into a prime-linked GIC. We benefitted from relatively high interest rates, which allowed us to earn almost \$19,000 of interest income for the year. However, as the Bank of Canada lowered its key lending rate several times during the latter half of 2024, interest income will be considerably lower in 2025.

In my financial review of 2023, I predicted that 2024 would be a challenging year financially. I anticipate that 2025 will be even more of a financial challenge. While staffing costs continue to rise due to inflation and step increases, funding from the General Council Office is flat and can be expected to decline going forward.

Many thanks to the members of the Property & Finance Leadership Team: Peter Bisset, Fred Braman, David Clinker, Craig McAlpine, Dave McCormack, Ted Rutherford, Rick Sheffer, Paul Stanfield, and Jim Vanstone.

Brian Ruse, Finance & Office Administrator

## Finance and Extension Board - Executive Summary

### **Executive Summary for 2024**

The Finance and Extension Board (the "F&E Board") of the Conseil régional *Nakonha:ka* Regional Council is duly incorporated under the United Church of Canada Act. It remains the principal financing means for the development of communities of faith in the Region and has oversight of the investment portfolio being the principal provider of funding for mission support, sabbatical leave and bursary programs.

The F&E Board's 2024 Annual Report will be released in April 2025. No significant issues are anticipated.

### **Investment Review**

The F&E Board manages the investment portfolios on behalf of the *Nakonha:ka* Region through Fiera Capital Management. The investment objectives are reviewed annually and Fiera Capital meets with the F&E Board on a frequent basis to review results. The portfolio generates significant funding for Mission Support and Governance in the Region. Currently, \$15.5 million of unrestricted funds are invested in the

Fiera Capital Balanced Ethical Fund for this purpose. The management fee is 0.3%. In addition, funds are held on a restricted basis for Kelley Trust, Erskine American and others. The total amount under management by Fiera capital on behalf of the F&E Board is currently \$22.8 million.

### **Property Review**

The Property Committee oversees and provides technical and project management assistance to those communities of faith seeking financial assistance for construction and maintenance projects involving their properties and buildings. As an incorporated body we hold and or sell church property on behalf of the Nakonha;ka Regional Council and give Regional approval where required.

The following projects were supported by the committee in 2024:

- Beaufort United Church - Sale of land and building
- Golden Valley United Church (Val d'Or, QC) – Sale – first instance approval to market
- Granby United Church – Sale of land and building
- Harrington Harbour United Church – Sale of manse
- Hudson Pastoral Charge – Reconstruction project
- Pinguet United Church
- Saint Columba House
- St. James United Church
- Stanbridge East United Church – Consulting and Environmental remediation following an oil spill
- Trinity United Church (Cookshire, QC) – Sale – first instance approval to market

### **Loans to Churches**

During the 2024 fiscal year, the F&E Board administered one line of credit to Stanbridge East United Church (oil spill remediation).

At year-end, the combined current loan balance is \$1,177,696 for outstanding loans to:

a) Union United b) Trinity United Church (Cookshire, QC), c) St. James United, and d) Stanbridge East United Church.

### **Financial Assistance for Bursaries and Sabbaticals**

The Bursary Committee awarded 24 bursaries from the following: Hugh Duncan Bursary (10 awarded, \$2,500 each), I.F.E Bursary (10 awarded, \$800 each), and St. John's Hall Bursary (2 awarded, \$2,500 each).

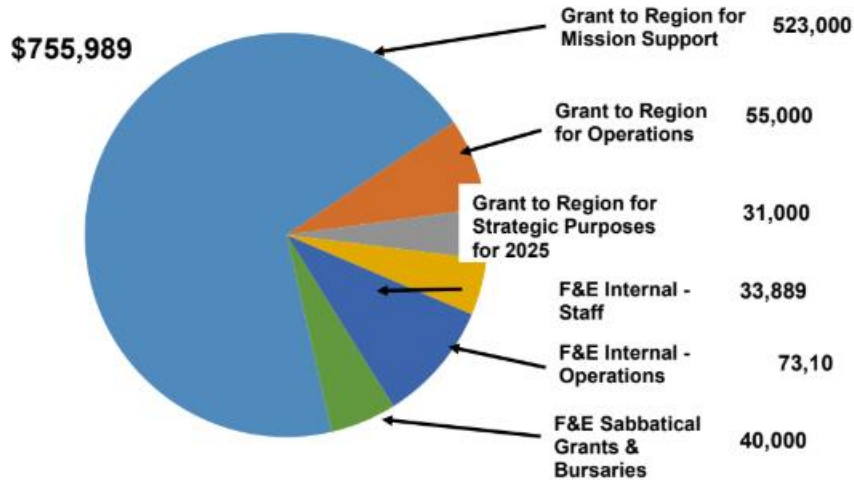
In 2024, a total amount of \$37,500 from the Hugh Duncan Fund was made available for the Sabbatical Leave program. Rev. É. Hébert-Daly, Rev. H. Hliaras, and Rev. B. Neuschild all participated in sabbatical leave in 2024. The F&E Board recognizes the vital importance of sabbatical leave for Ministry personnel and encourages those who have not participated in this program to do so.

### **Financial Review**

The audited financial statements for 2024 will be included in the F&E Board's 2024 Annual Report. The Review Engagement process is currently underway by the external accounting firm BCGO.

For 2025, the F&E Board has budgeted a total of \$755,989 in funding available to the F&E Board and the Region. This funding consists of \$609,000 to the Nakonha:ka Region which includes a grant of 523,000 for mission support, \$55,000 for operations, and a supplemental grant of \$31,000 for strategic purposes. Funding of \$146,989 for the F&E Board includes \$33,889 for staff, \$73,100 for operations, accounting and investment fees, and \$40,000 in grants for sabbaticals for ministers and student bursaries

## 2025 F&E Draft Budget - Disbursements



### Strategy Discussions:

As the Model Trust deed and the F&E Board’s Bylaws offer wide latitude in terms of financing, acquiring, holding, administering and disposing of property for the Nakonha:ka Region, the F&E Board continues to have a key role in the strategic plan moving forward. Church property remains a high priority with many communities of faith struggling with high costs for property maintenance and operations and, in some cases, lack of personnel to deal with property matters. On an ongoing basis if church buildings are sold, normally 10 % of all proceeds are invested in the Regional Strategic Fund for which the Terms of Reference have been approved. The Fund is held in the investment portfolio of the F&E Board.

A significant organizational change for both the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council’s Property and Finance Leadership Team (PFLT) and the F&E Board was approved and implemented in early 2024. All property and finance matters that were under the duties and responsibilities of the PFLT were vested in the F&E Board, and the PFLT was disbanded. Since the delegation was adopted, the members of the PFLT who were not already serving on F&E were appointed to the F&E Board, and Fred Braman was appointed Vice-President of the F&E Board and Chair of the Property Committee. The F&E Board reports on its exercise of commission powers regularly to Regional Council.

In conclusion I would like to thank the members of the F&E Board for their dedication and excellent work done this past year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Peter Bisset, President, F&E Board

# Leadership Teams

## Nominations Leadership Team

### Executive 2024-25

#### Full voting Members:

President (2-year maximum)	Norman Robert Boie (2026)
President-Elect (Elected in “off year” for one-year term)	vacant
Past-President (one year)	Marc Grenon (2025)
Treasurer (no term)	Paul Stanfield
Executive Minister	Rev. Eric Hebert-Daly

#### Representative of the following Leadership Teams:

Pastoral Relations	Rev. Christine Marie Gladu
Representative of La Table	Rev. Pierre Goldberger
First Third Ministry	Denis Ashby
Living in Right Relations Leadership Circle	(in rotation: Rev. Jan Jorgensen/ Rev. Read Sherman/ Lisa Byer-de Wever)
Justice and Community Ministries	Bailey Eastwood
Granting and Enabling Leadership Team	Rev. Barbara Bryce (interim)
General Meeting Planning Leadership Team	Valerie Epps-Nickson
Finance and Extension Board	Peter Bisset
Nominations	Rev. Linda Buchanan

#### Five (5) Full Voting Members at Large (2 years)

Rev. Marie-Claude Manga (2025)  
Erika (Qian) Liang (2025)  
Adedeji Sunday Akintayo (2025)  
Rev. Rosemary Lambie (2026)  
Florence Bukam, Pasteure (2026)

#### Corresponding Non-Voting Members

Pastoral Relations Minister	Rev. Dan Hayward
Communications Staff Person	Judy Coffin
Program Assistant to the Executive Minister	Joel Miller
Minister Supporting Clusters & Networks	David-Roger Gagnon
First Thirds Ministries	Shanna Bernier
Property, Finance and Administration Manager	Brian Ruse

### General Council 45 Commissioners

#### **LAY (5)**

Celestine Alimasi  
Qian (Erika) Liang  
Carolyn Linde  
L. E. Moir

Ozioma Obijiofor

**ORDER OF MINISTRY (5)**

Adedeji Sunday Akintayo  
Rev. Samuel Vauvert Dansokho  
Rev. Rosemary Lambie  
Rev. Marie-Claude Manga  
Rev. Angelika Piché

**Alternates to serve as Commissioners at General Council 45 (considered in the order they have received votes)**

**LAY**

Marc Grenon

**MINISTRY PERSONNEL**

Rev. Aron Molnar  
Virginia Wallace

**Leadership Teams**

Please visit: <https://nakonhakaucc.ca/about-us/governance-leadership/>

## Living in Right Relations Leadership Circle

We are grateful for the ongoing work of reconciliation in big and small ways that occurred in our Region in 2024. As always it was a year of progress yet heartbreak as we continued to witness the triumphs yet struggles of Indigenous peoples in Tiohtià:ke / Montreal and surrounding communities. Bless the Creator for giving the people strength and resilience to make a difference for themselves – showing us all how to be hopeful despite ongoing challenges and systemic injustice. In a time with threats coming from the U.S. administration almost daily – showing disregard for our people, lands, waters, government, even for Canadian sovereignty – the experience of Indigenous sisters and brothers, surviving by resisting all attempts at ongoing colonialism and assimilation, can give us all pause. Would that all of our Communities of Faith help create communities of resistance too – to stay as open, as humane, as spiritually grounded and centred – we seek to be in solidarity with Indigenous folks and with each other and all people of good will in 2025 and into God’s good future!

Some of our work to share and celebrate from 2024:

**1. Respect & Kanoronhkwàtshera (R&K)**

We are grateful to **Aviyah (Avi) Abrams** who served as our part-time R&K Justice Advocacy Coordinator from October 2023 to October 2024 as envisaged in a “Seeds of Hope” matching grant from the United Church of Canada Foundation. We are grateful too to the Executive of our Regional Council, on behalf of all of you, for agreeing to provide extra funding for November and December to allow Avi to keep working beyond the grant. Although much LIRRLC brainstorming was done to try to find new sources of funding for the R&K Coordinator position, we ultimately realized that the position would need to end. (And were we ever delighted when Avi was hired late in December to be the Region’s new Communications Coordinator! Congrats and God bless, Avi, in that new role!).

Avi, with support from the Rev. Jan Jorgenson and Lisa Byer-de Wever and the LIRRLC, continued to write newsletter articles and push social media content out to help Communities of Faith in our region stay current with Indigenous led activism and opportunities for volunteering and solidarity in our area (and beyond!). The bilingual website continued to be updated with the generous assistance of Judy Coffin, whose presence and generosity was such a boost in all she did, but especially in helping Respect & Kanoronhkwa'tshera integrate into Regional communications. Judy we miss and love you!

Plans were made to envision a monthly K&R Newsletter to better inform our Region about the history and culture of Indigenous peoples in ways that can be used to further knowledge and education in our communities of faith.

Avi and Jan made contact with several Indigenous and non-Indigenous advocacy and intervention organizations. With R&K wound down, we'll need to find time ourselves and new volunteers who might have a passion for reconciliation so we can walk with local organizations such as the **Indigenous Health Centre of Tiohtià:ke**.

Once again we would like to thank Conseil Régional Nakonha:ka for investing in this work and the United Church of Canada Foundation for entrusting us with a "Seeds of Hope" grant. We'd also like to thank these members of the amazing staff of our regional council who helped us in 2024 with their financial, technical, literary, and spiritual support: **Brian Ruse, Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly, Joel Miller, Judy Coffin, David-Roger Gagnon, and Rev. Dan Hayward**.

## **2. Rosemary Lambie Fund**

2024 saw the beginning of grants to local individuals and organizations to promote education around issues of right relationships between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples. Recommended by a granting team made up of LIRRLC representatives (including Rosemary Lambie!) and from the community, Harvey Satewas Gabriel, Carrie Martin and Tom Dearhouse, we are grateful to our community representatives and to Brian Ruse and members of the Granting and Enabling Team for their help and support.

In March we funded Montreal City Mission's *Camp Cosmos' Indigenous Reconciliation and Knowledge Pilot Project* for \$5000. The support was to allow the six-week summer camp to offer intercultural programming to the children that touch on Indigenous realities and would help the camp be more welcoming and inclusive of Indigenous children. It would support collaborations with local Indigenous groups and leaders, and to provide dance, oral traditions, arts, nature walks and topics of reconciliation, as well as outings to spaces such as the McCord Museum, Kahnawake Reserve, and the First Nations Garden. Conversations about reconciliation can start at any age!

We also funded *The Blessing Bags/Street Patrol* for \$2000. An initiative begun by Elizabeth Britton in 2015, they have been donating and packing Blessing Bags of personal necessities such as socks, underwear, facecloths, toothbrush and toothpaste, and sanitary products - all donations from friends the congregants (especially those of St. Lambert United Church). In 2023 they also produced over 1000 hot meals for delivery to the unhoused, many of whom are Indigenous, on downtown streets in Montreal. Facing increasing need in 2024-2025, we were pleased to provide funding with the hope that education would become part of their mandate as well – to help communities of faith and all of us learn more of the realities of unhoused Indigenous people and how we might help.

In June we funded the *Kahnawake United Church (KUC): Sharing Life Together Here on Earth* proposal for \$1,000, which allowed a young person from KUC to travel to the Sandy-Saulteaux Centre in Manitoba to attend Mamawe Ota Askik, a week-long festival where cultural knowledge will be shared such as winnowing wild rice, tanning an animal hide, smoking fish, canning berry preserves, sharing skills and telling stories. We hope to hear a report back from this amazing experience in 2025 so we can all learn!

In October we funded *Exeko on behalf of Eastern Door: Sharing our Stories* for \$6,000 (plus \$1,000 from the LIRRLC budget, for a total of \$7,000. This was a project spearheaded by Steve Bonspiel, editor of the Kahnawake based newspaper *The Eastern Door*. The *Eastern Door* has been featuring an educational feature to grow Mohawk literacy for years. Now Steve was proposing, with charitable partner Exeko, to preserve oral histories of what he called “our storytelling elders,” to retain “their knowledge, memories, and our language for the future.”

The stories would be printed in *The Eastern Door* as well in English and in Mohawk so they are accessible to a wide audience. Steve pointed out that there are only 3,500 fluent Mohawk speakers in the world. The project is reaching out to elders in Kanasatake as well, and hopes eventually to reach other communities as well. The grant will specifically fund the video camera, audio equipment and dedicated computer to store and edit the elders’ stories. We look forward to learning more as these videos are made available in coming months and years!

### **3. Kairos Blanket Exercise**

The Kairos Blanket Exercise (KBE) continued to be a powerful experience for learning in 2024. LIRRLC through trained facilitator Lisa Byer-de Wever was engaged in ? exercises in churches and schools, partnering with local Indigenous entrepreneur Tom Dearhouse who will work with us and others to continue to bring this learning to congregations, schools and other learning settings.

### **4. Indigenous Health Centre of Tiohtià:ke (IHCT)**

In 2024 we responded to the requests of IHCT to provide hygiene supplies for women and infants (diapers) as well as snack foods like granola bars for their clients. We wish to thank the individuals and communities of faith that signed up to provide these items over the year.

### **5. Nakonha:ka Regional Executive**

Our representation on Regional Executive continued in an every-third-month pattern sharing between Jan Jorgensen, Lisa Byer-de Wever and Read Sherman.

In closing, we also wanted to thank David-Roger Gagnon for all his generosity of support, creativity, and savvy as our Staff Liaison over the year until his departure from the Region. We wish him much love, success and God’s blessing as he begins his new work in New Brunswick!

Respectfully submitted,

Read Sherman, Jan Jorgensen, Lisa Byer-de Wever on behalf of.....

2024 Living into Right Relationship Leadership Circle

Beryl Barraclough

Lisa Byer-de Wever

Cameron Gray

Martha Nell Grant Thomson\*

Rosemary Lambie

Gabrielle Lamouche

Richard Miller\*

Robert Patton

Attila Gyorgy  
Salinda Hess  
Lee Ann Hogle  
Jan Jorgenson

Maureen Scott Kabwe  
Read Sherman  
Tami Spires  
Ingrid Thompson\*

Aviyah Abrams – Coordinator, Respect & Kanoronhkwátshera  
David-Roger Gagnon – (former!) Staff Liaison, Nakonha:ka Regional Council

\*Honourary Elders

## First-Third Leadership Team

### Leadership Team Members:

- Chair - Rev. Joelle Leduc
- Secretary - Rachel Lambie
- St. Martha's Rep - Sarah Wicks-Potter
- Executive Rep: Denis Ashby
- SCM rep: Bailey Eastwood
- Martha Randy
- Jennifer Carroll
- Billi-Jo Poirier-Bassenden
- Gary Tompkins
- Erika Liang
- Virginia Wallace
- Jillian Lalonde (resigned from team in early 2025)
- Shanna Bernier - Program Support Minister for First-Third Ministry

**First-Third Ministry in the United Church serves the members of our communities who are in the first third of their lives: children, youth, and young adults.** Nakonha:ka Regional Council's First-Third Ministry team strives to support, sustain and create programs designed for people in this distinct phase of life. While working intergenerationally frequently enriches youth and young adult ministry, we feel that young people have specific needs which must be supported. We want to extend our appreciation to all the members of this leadership team, and particularly to Jillian Lalonde, who had to make the difficult choice to take a pause from this work, as she focuses on her family and the caretaking for a parent with ALS.

Our leadership team decided to keep our report in the same format we used last year, sub-divided into three sections: Children's Ministry, Youth Ministry, and Young Adult Ministry, acknowledging that several events support different groups or are intergenerational. We are highlighting the programs that provide support, training, and resources to leaders of children and youth, who are often volunteers in our communities of faith.

### Children's Ministry (0-12 years old)

*St. Francis Cluster Messy Church - Intergenerational Community Worship*

- Shanna supported five Messy Church events hosted by Lennoxville United Church, with volunteers and participants from numerous communities in the St. Francis region. This represents one additional

event from the previous year. We saw greater participation across the board. To make this more clusterwide, we are engaging in long term and strategic planning for Messy Church in 2025.

#### *United Spirit Camp*

- There is a lot of overlap between the membership of this team and the United Spirit camp committee. Our chairperson Rev. Joelle Leduc has been the chaplain at Camp for the past 3 summers, and we look forward to her return in 2025. Camp 2024 went well, with 65 campers at our continued host site of Camp D'action Biblique just outside Richmond QC.. We learned and explored the theme of "Linked By Love"

#### *Sunday School Share and Swap*

- In 2024, Joelle, Shanna and Martha identified a need for better access to Children's ministry resources and ideas. They engaged in creating seasonal sharing opportunities to foster that collaborative space, at first locally and then by joining our colleagues in East-Central Ontario RC's well-established ZOOM following, which was discovered mid-year. We joined ECORC during Advent planning and continue to share this work going forward. \

### **Youth Ministry (12-17 years old)**

#### *Youth Forums*

- March 22-24, 2024 - Theme: Neurodiversity - Understanding mine & my neighbours' brains, hosted by Mount Bruno United Church, Saint-Bruno-de-Montarville, QC
- November 1-3, 2024 - Theme - Cryptids, Cults and Conspiracy Theories hosted by Ayers Cliff Elementary School and Beulah United Church, in Ayers Cliff QC.

#### *Youth Groups*

- Local youth groups exist in different communities across our region, and Shanna cannot participate in all of them. It is worth noting that if a Youth Group ever wishes to invite Shanna to come and present a workshop, or promote Camp or Youth Forum, that would be her pleasure! In the St. Francis area, Shanna leads a local Youth Group with participants aged 10-15. This group continues to meet monthly on a Friday evening and play games and deepen their community.

### **Young Adult Ministry (18-35ish)**

*La rencontre nationale des jeunes francophones du Canada (Ré-unis)*, held at Jouvence, QC, November 29–December 1, 2024 - First-ever national gathering of francophone youth took place in Canada's Eastern Townships with the theme "Nous ne sommes plus étrangers" (We are no longer strangers.) Read more about it [here](#).

We did not hold a young adult retreat in 2024, but we did gather young adults at the Moderator's event "Flourishing" and have dinner at a local restaurant afterward.

### **St. Martha's Chapel update** by Sarah Wicks-Potter (Director & Chaplain)

St. Martha's also went through a period of restructuring. In June of 2024, the first meeting of the new board occurred. The St. Martha's Board is made up of representatives from the Anglican Diocese of Montréal, the United Church of Canada, the Disciples of Christ, Christ Church Cathedral, and the students and alumni of St. Martha's. Shanna Bernier sits on this board as a staff support from the Nakonha:ka Regional Council, representing the United Church. This board has been a godsend as it provides direct

supervision and support of the director and also has representatives from our supporters. Through the work of the board, Sarah Wicks-Potter was hired as the permanent director and chaplain for the year of 2025.

St. Martha's Chapel continued to have Bible study regularly through 2024 and into 2025. Besides two weeks off in July and three weeks off in December and the rare occurrence of sickness, we met every Wednesday faithfully. The twice monthly, Sunday 6:00 pm service also continued through 2024. The service was put on pause during the summer when many of our students were away but resumed in the fall of 2025. During the spring of 2024, 16 of us went on a retreat to build the congregation spiritually.

St. Martha's Chapel continues to struggle financially despite generous support from interested parties. In 2025, one of the goals of the chaplaincy is to continue to find financial support so we can do the important work that we do.

### **Leadership Training / Resource Development**

- *I am a Changemaker* - UCC's Antiracist Curriculum launched in 2024, and was promoted through Regional Council communications.

Respectfully submitted by Shanna Bernier

## Licensed Lay Worship Leaders

The time for preparing a summary of our work for the Annual Report seems to roll around very quickly, and I find it hard to believe that we are already more than halfway through February. The Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (LLWLs) Leadership Team continued to meet on Zoom in 2024 and this will be the method of gathering for the team into the future.

Our team has continued to meet regularly, providing ongoing support to the LLWLs, and as had been the tradition in the Quebec-Sherbrooke area for many years, organizing 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. If enrichment days are missed, it is up to the LLWL to find some alternate source of learning event and then inform the Leadership Team.

At this time, the Nakonha:ka Region has 13 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 Chevery on the Lower North Shore. One of our LLWLs has decided to slow down and has chosen to no longer be licensed. The Leadership Team consists of Charlotte Griffith (chair), Rev. Lee Ann Hogle, Shirley Knutson, and Allan Marshall from the QS area, Valerie Nickson (secretary), Norman Haslam, and Virginia Wallace from the Montreal area, and Brenda Lee Strickland from Chevery. All of the team other than Rev. Hogle are LLWLs, or retired LLWLs. Virginia will be ordained this coming spring.

On April 20, 2024, a hybrid workshop was held at St. Paul's United Church in Magog. Virginia Wallace, a past LLWL and now a ministry student at the Atlantic School of Theology, led the morning session entitled **Art and The Holy Spirit**. Following a 15-minute presentation on the Holy Spirit as expressed in art throughout history, we were given the opportunity to visualize how we experience the Holy Spirit through

the medium of paint. All materials were supplied for those attending in person, and those who joined the workshop by Zoom, were asked to have their materials on hand. It was a most enjoyable, if not challenging, experience, and the end results were varied and beautiful. The afternoon session was a check-in time, a time to express concerns or ask questions, and a time for updating everyone on the fall activities.

On October 25, 26, and 27, a three-day retreat was held at the beautiful Manoir d'Youville in Chateauguay and was organized by a planning team including Rev. Lee Ann Hogle and Valerie Nickson. David Roger-Gagnon's leadership was sorely missed, as he has now moved to New Brunswick. Day one was a time for clergy only. Day two was for the clergy and LLWLs to share time together. The 27<sup>th</sup> was specifically for the LLWLs. One of the highlights of the Sunday session was Rev. Dan Hayward's presentation on Atonement theology. The location was lovely, the event was well planned and was very much appreciated by everyone who attended. Although not many of the LLWLs were in attendance at this second retreat, those that were greatly appreciated the chance for face-to-face fellowship and a time to support and encourage each other. This retreat was in lieu of the usual fall enrichment day.

The 2025 spring enrichment day will be held on Saturday April 26<sup>th</sup> and will be on Zoom only. Rev. Dr. Andy O'Neill will lead a workshop on the writing of Psalms. We will each have the time to write a Psalm ourselves and then be encouraged to share it with the group. A fall retreat at the Manoir d'Youville is in the planning stages for October 3, 4, and 5.

The Leadership Team has come to the realization that we are not equipped to offer bilingual enrichment days for the francophone Célébrantes. We do not have the financial resources or the manpower to do this. We also do not feel that we are equipped to offer the resources needed for supervision or re-licensing for the Célébrantes Laïques. We have asked the Regional Council for their help in this area.

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. All of the LLWLs wishing to continue were interviewed in October of 2024 in preparation for a covenanting service between the Region and the LLWLs at the Regional Council meeting in November.

As well, a support team for students studying to become LLWL's has been formed. It is made up of members of the LLWL Leadership Team (Shirley Knutson, Valerie Nickson, Norman Haslam, Rev. Lee Ann Hogle) and Rev. Janet Bisset. We currently have 3 students who have completed the online course sponsored by Laurentian Shield Regional Council. They are in various stages of completing supplemental homework in preparation for their final interview to be licensed. This supplemental homework was found to be necessary as we discover the weaknesses inherent in this totally on-line course being offered. The support team has been in contact with all students but struggles to receive timely and regular communications from each. This prevents the establishment of a healthy, supportive relationship with the support team. As there is no formal reporting relationship between those offering the online course and our Regional Council we have been unable to consistently identify students who are currently taking the online course, thus we find ourselves playing catchup, evaluating students at the end of their online studies. We question whether offering subsidized in-person training would be a better option going forward.

As we carry on in 2025, as LLWLs, and as Christians, with all the unrest that surrounds us in Canada and around the world, may the words from the 2006 *A Song of Faith* give us comfort and hope. Although I used these same words to end my 2024 report, they are perhaps more applicable now than ever.

“As children of the Timeless One, our time-bound lives will find completion in the all-embracing Creator. In the meantime, we embrace the present, embodying hope, loving our enemies, caring for the earth, choosing life. Grateful for God’s loving action, we cannot keep from singing.”

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

## General Meetings Planning Team

Last year 2024 was a busy year with many challenges, as a planning team our Mandate/Mission is to ensure that we are living out our call to be the church through worship and work.

Our tasks throughout the year are to plan the Regional Council Meetings that are scheduled for the year. In 2024 we planned and held three regional meetings, March 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>, May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>

The first meeting was online held on March 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> 2024 at this meeting we focused on the theme of “Strengthening Invitation: Taking a Strategic Approach to Growth.”

May 24<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> was a Hybrid meeting held in person and at two different locations, May 24 was held at Montreal West United and the focus for this meeting was on “Reinvigorating Evangelism. There was a special learning opportunity about skills and different types of media communications presentation with Anne Lagacé Dowson. The meeting concluded with a Celebration of Ministry Service on Saturday evening which was also livestreamed. During that service we celebrated with thanksgiving in Memoriam the life and work of Rev. Barend Biesheuvel, we celebrated the ministries of those retiring, Rev. David Lefneski, we celebrated Anniversaries in Ministry with Phyllis Smyth Ordained Minister 60 years, William Close Ordained Minister 55 years, Ronald Coughlin Ordained Minister 51 years, Christopher Ferguson Ordained Minister 46 years, John Forster Ordained Minister 46 years, Patricia Lisson Diaconal Minister 46 years, Mead Baldwin Ordained Minister 45 years. We also honoured changes in ministries We honor the SouthWest and Summerlea Pastoral Charges, which have amalgamated to become the new Summerlea Pastoral Charge, and Beaufort United Church, as the building has been closed. There was the Celebration of New Ministries where we celebrated with Beryl Barraclough previously recognized as a Designated Lay Minister now called to Ordained Ministry.

November 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> 2024 was again an online meeting and at this meeting we were presented with the Report on the results from Focus groups as well as a presentation by Tori Mullin on Neighbourhood profiles. The group of LLWL that were recommended for relicensing were recognized at this meeting.

We try in our planning to create meaningful, spirit-filling, safe spaces for the work of our whole region to gather together in community, face-to-face and virtually.

In closing I would like to say how much I enjoy the work as Chair of the Planning Team and I hope going forward we are always able to plan meetings with topics that are interesting and inviting to as many participants as possible. If anyone would like to join us on the team or have ideas or topics that you feel would be of interest to the Regional representatives please do not hesitate to contact me.

Blessings on all as we continue our journey together.

Valerie Nickson, Chair of Planning Team

## La Table

### French Ministries

The year 2024 was marked by challenges, questions, trial and error due to the various currents and dynamics that French Ministries (MEF) are going through. Nevertheless, we can see that both emerging and established communities of faith are showing boldness and courage in their quest and approach. Daring and courage that testify to a deep attachment and rootedness in the Gospel, and an equally deep desire to follow Jesus Christ. There are a number of highlights worth noting.

#### **La Mission Protestante Francophone de Longueuil (MPFL)**

The radical hospitality of Saint Lambert and living together with the MPFL. In 2024 we saw the installation of the first MPFL church council, marking the normalization and integration of this emerging community into the structure of the United Church. The mission continues to expand beyond Montreal's south end, growing in numbers especially among children and youth.

#### **Trinity Danville United Church**

Created in the last quarter of 2023 by three people, this French-speaking community grew out of an English-speaking community. By the end of 2024, it numbered a dozen people attending Sunday worship. The dynamism of this small community has made Trinity Danville United Church a hub of activity and a meeting place for the surrounding communities.

#### **Plymouth Trinity United Church in Sherbrooke**

Initially exclusively English-speaking, the community became bilingual English-French, and now trilingual with Swahili. All three languages are used in liturgy every Sunday. Sunday worship attendance has doubled or more in one year. Sherbrooke's French-speaking ministries (MFS), along with the Swahili-speaking community, have a strong influence on growth. New leaders are emerging among both young people and women.

**The Communauté francophone de Mont Royal** continues its witness of welcome and justice, as well as its spiritual services.

#### **Communities in transition:**

At **Saint Pierre et Pinguet**, Jean-Philippe Dubé Goupil's internship is coming to an end, and Pastor Darla Sloan has decided to take a break. So, with **Saint-Jean in Montreal** looking for a pastor, and **Saint Clair** seeing Stéphane Vermette's involvement intensify at national level, these communities are in a phase of transition.

#### **2024: key events**

**The symposium on Francophone Theology in Canada** was held from October 31 to November 2, with the participation of various Theology faculties and denominations. The same event saw the **birth of IPTEUC, the Protestant Institute of Theology of the United Church of Canada**, a place of reflection and research, theological, spiritual and pastoral formation in French for the United Church of Canada. Several scientific publications and partnerships with theological training centers in Canada, Europe, North Africa and sub-Saharan Africa.

The year 2024 saw the holding of a **national meeting of the French-speaking youth of the United Church of Canada**. We were expecting around sixty people, but over a hundred turned up.

French-language ministries are in a growth phase. The buds need a lot of care and attention. They are seeking their place and vocation in the life of the United Church, in full synergy with the call and vision. Their strong growth highlights the beauty and vulnerabilities of our Church. Beauty and vulnerabilities that bring hope and renewal.

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Dr. Emmanuel Tehindrazanarivelo, Responsable (Ministries in French)

## Other Networks

### Québec Regional United Church Women (UCW)

The Québec Regional UCW did not have a Regional event in 2024, however many of our groups do plan and hold events in their local areas and it would be wonderful to be able for UCW from other local areas to participate therefore, if your group is doing holding an event or special gathering please send the information to me and we can have it posted on the Regional Newsletter and if you have anything you would like to get printed in the National UCW newsletter, "Keeping in Touch" of an event that you held that was special to your group please contact me and we can get it submitted to the National newsletter. My email is [vepps\\_nickson@hotmail.com](mailto:vepps_nickson@hotmail.com) or if you prefer gmail you can use the following one: [valerienicksonucw1@gmail.com](mailto:valerienicksonucw1@gmail.com).

Every 5 years the UCW celebrate an Anniversary with an event for all of the UCW units across Canada as you might remember the 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the UCW Celebration was held in North Sydney, Nova Scotia in 2022. The next Celebration will be in 2027 and it will be in Ottawa so remember to watch for postings about this event and hopefully many more can attend. You can find information in the Keeping In Touch Newsletter where a link to the information will be provided in the UCW section of our Regional newsletter when we receive them. All UCW information can also be found on the Nakonha:ka Website under Programs and United Church Women (UCW) as well as past issues of the Keeping In Touch Newsletter.

The NUCW held their annual meeting in person at Queen of Apostles in Mississauga from September 16 to 20, 2024. Janice Knowles and I represented our Region at this meeting. The business of the NUCW was conducted during this time. The highlights of the meeting are included in the January 2024 Keeping in Touch Newsletter. During this meeting the members that were present at the meeting spent several hours preparing a worship service for the Centennial Celebrations to be held in 2025 and this service is available for all to use. The service can be found on the United Church National Website if you search for UCW you will see the service as well as a bulletin cover and outline. We hope that many will use this service at some point in this 100<sup>th</sup> Anniversary year.

As you may know the NUCW support a different project from every 5 year Anniversary the current project is The Healing Fund Bursary to Support Indigenous Women, Children, and Families. United Church Women (UCW) will fund programming designed by our Healing Fund partners for Indigenous women and children whose primary focus is healing the family through culture and language while meeting individual supports within the program. Through the Healing Fund application process, for the next five years, this priority group has been added, designed to specifically support women and children via this UCW special bursary

program. The Healing Fund acknowledges the UCW for their generous blessing and funding to ensure Indigenous women and children receive adequate support and encouragement through culture and language programming. For further inquiries and information on this new priority group, please reach out to our Healing Fund Coordinator at [healing@united-church.ca](mailto:healing@united-church.ca).

The NUCW also gives small grants to each region to hold a Leadership event for the region and this can be an in person or zoom event, if you have ideas or suggestions for future events please let me know the grant amount this year will be used to join with Eastern Ontario Outaouais Region UCW in hosting the 83<sup>rd</sup> Summer Event information will be available in upcoming newsletters.

The work of the NUCW and the Regional UCW continues and is a very important part of the church so please continue to follow us on local and National levels and contact me if you have any questions or suggestions.

Respectfully submitted, Valerie Nickson (President)

## Outreach

### Saint Columba House

Reverend William Cruikshank, the founder of SCH, wrote in his 1925 annual report, “I have to confess quite freely that when I first came to the Point St. Charles district and for some time afterwards, I wondered if the Presbytery and Home Mission had not made a mistake by in seeking to establish a Settlement there but I am no longer of that opinion.....I believe we are filling a place, in that community, in the lives of an increasing number and please God, there are greater things ahead of us.” Indeed, 100 years later, great things continue at SCH through its work as Community Ministry of the United Church of Canada.

SCH remains a place of “refuge”— it cares for the vulnerable, nurtures their hidden strengths, offers shelter, if only for a time, from the demands, disappointments, and expectations of the wider world. Here people can begin the work of healing and renewal after small and large setbacks; it nurtures trust, so people learn to believe that the power of community is at work to bring about health and well-being. Specifically, SCH welcomes English and French speakers as well as allophones and offers a suite of intergenerational programs. These programs are:

- **An Alternate School** which prepares pre-school children prepare for kindergarten
- **An After-School program** for 36 elementary school children from low-income families
- **A summer day camp** for 71 children between the ages of 6 and 14.
- **A Counselor-in-Training program** which trains 7 youth to supervise campers and animate activities
- **A community lunch program** which serves nutritious, hot meals to low-income individuals
- **The Meals on Wheels Program** which delivers prepared food twice a week to 42 low-income isolated seniors with mobility and/or cognitive challenges
- **Bill’s Community Bicycle Shop** which provides free or low-cost bicycle repair to 450 low-income individuals each year.
- **“Paas-Action”** (funded by Emploi et solidarité social Québec) which welcomes 6 participants who experience mental health challenges to work alongside kitchen staff

- **The Leadership, Exploration and Development Initiative (LEAD)** which encourages English-speaking youth to stay in school and gain valuable skills to enter the labour market.
- **The Seniors Connection Project** which sponsors weekly in-person social gatherings for 40 isolated seniors
- **Hand in Hand** which offers a day program for sixteen English-speaking older adults experiencing physical, mental, and intellectual disabilities.

The Nakonha:ka Regional Council Strategic Plan cites two passages from the scriptures, Genesis 18: 2.3-19 and John 6: 5-13 respectively, in which the impossible manifests itself through God’s divine Grace. In the first, Sarah and Abraham become parents despite her advanced age; in the second a multitude is fed from “five loaves of bread and two fish.” This theological reflection inspires SCH as it faces a myriad of challenges. How do we continue our wide range of intergenerational programming, respond to increasing demand and growing waiting lists, and improve the quality of our services, in an environment of constrained resources?

How did SCH meet this challenge in 2024? First it worked tirelessly to secure new funders. For example, the Réseau Réussite Montréal gave \$30,000 to our Teen Summer Camp. This allowed us to welcome 18 young people rather than the usual 12 and to offer the camp free of charge. For six weeks, at-risk youth participated in a range of activities, meeting 4 hours a day for sports, games, and other fun experiences.

Our Meals on Wheels Program delivered 10,200 meals to low-income seniors with mobility and/or cognitive challenges in 2024 – a 23.5 % increase over 2023. We are the exclusive provider of this service in our community. Five frozen meals are delivered to clients once a week. In 2024, SCH completed a seniors program redesign study; this study identified the importance of strengthening the social outreach component of the MOWP. Two funders, Mission Inclusion and Action Gardien, donated \$51,000.00 to begin this work.

Second, our programs continue due to the remarkable dedication of our volunteers. (For example, in 2024, the community lunch program served 13,449 meals - an increase of 32.43% from 2023 resulting in increased operating costs.) Domenic, a volunteer, leaves Pointe Saint Charles at 7:30 a.m. every Monday morning to travel to the Moisson Montreal depot near Trudeau airport. He spends several hours pulling a trolley and loading cases of food in the vast Moisson Montreal warehouse and packing it in a truck. Due to his tireless effort, he brings back enough food to prepare meals for the week. This miracle of giving is repeated, again and again, through our many volunteers, allowing SCH to face the growing hunger crisis in Montreal.

We believe Reverend Cruikshank would be proud of our continued efforts at SCH to bring the social justice vocation of the United Church of Canada to life and “to stand boldly with those who are marginalized, disenfranchised or discounted.” SCH extends its gratitude to the Nakonha:ka Regional Council for its stabilized Misson Support funding of \$150,000 over the coming years.

Respectfully submitted by Katherine Pigott, Director

## Montreal City Mission

### Montreal City Mission (MCM) – 2024 Highlights

2024 was a dynamic and expansive year for Montreal City Mission. Our **Just Solutions (JS) Legal Clinic** celebrated its **20<sup>th</sup> anniversary** and saw its staff triple, thanks to new projects funded by **Justice Canada** and **WAGE Canada (Women and Gender Equality Canada)**. These initiatives enabled us to:

- Offer workshops and produce a guidebook tailored to English-speaking migrants
- Establish a dedicated support program for **2SLGBTQ+** migrants
- 

Beyond Montreal, MCM extended its reach across the province:

- We launched a province-wide **communications campaign on access to justice** at **Trinity Plymouth United Church** in Sherbrooke
- Hosted a **domestic violence awareness workshop** in Drummondville
- Built connections through **networking activities in Gatineau**

A major milestone was the **laying of groundwork for a new MCM antenna in Quebec City**, set to open in spring 2025. This marks the first expansion of our services beyond Montreal in our **115-year history**. The new antenna will launch with two pilot projects: **JS 2 Legal Clinic** and a Quebec version of our **Maa'n Interfaith Program**.

Back in Montreal, our Maa'n program continued to **break new ground**, nurturing interfaith and intercultural relationships during a time of heightened global tension. In response to the outbreak of war in the Middle East in December 2023, we hosted a **"Gathering of Lament"** in the St. James sanctuary - a space of **solidarity, prayer, and shared sorrow** - to support our Muslim and Jewish friends. The event was deeply meaningful and offered much-needed comfort to those who attended.

Despite concerns stemming from the ongoing conflict in the Middle East, we made the intentional decision to proceed with our annual **Iftar celebration in April 2024**. The evening drew a full house - a powerful testament to our interfaith community's deep longing to come together in a spirit of celebration, and to rediscover moments of shared joy, laughter, and renewed connection.

In another hopeful development, **Maa'n coordinator Anwar Alhjoor** was invited by two NDG schools to help co-create a new educational program on healthy relationships. This initiative marks a meaningful step toward **deeper youth and family engagement**, and toward **strengthening community resilience** - particularly at a time when many in the Muslim community are feeling increasingly vulnerable in the face of Quebec's secular laws.

Looking ahead, MCM - in collaboration with partners at the Nakonha:ka Region and St. James United - has been hard at work organizing a major upcoming event: **Résonance: Seeking Deeper Connections in a Secular World**.

This conference, to be held at the *Palais des congrès* from **June 5–7, 2025**, will feature leading thinkers including **Canadian philosopher Charles Taylor** and **German sociologist Hartmut Rosa**, alongside workshops from United Church of Canada and interfaith leaders. The event will also offer **immersive**

**experiences** in music, dance, and film — inviting participants to explore resonance in mind, body, and spirit.

The findings of a **three-year research project** on access to justice for migrants with precarious immigration status - led by MCM and the *Université de Montréal*, in collaboration with 12 academic partners -will be presented at **Concordia** University on **June 2**.

In the midst of today's challenging political and social climate, MCM remains steadfast in our call to live out the United Church's vision of ***Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice, and Deep Spirituality***. Guided by faith and the **Gospel's call to love our neighbour**, we continue to build bridges across difference, accompany the vulnerable, and seek justice for the marginalized. We give thanks for a Spirit-led team whose diversity and commitment reflect the richness of God's beloved community. With hope and humility, we move forward - trusting that God is at work in and through us, calling us to help shape a world that resonates with compassion, equity, and grace.

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Paula Kline, Director

## Colleges

### The United Church Studies Program at Montreal Diocesan Theological College

At Montreal Diocesan Theological College—widely known simply as Dio—we are now in our fourth full year as an ecumenical institution following the integration of the United Theological College beginning in the 2021-2022 Academic Year. Our United Church Studies program remains strong and vibrant. We have a solid number of students at various stages of the candidacy process and are looking forward to welcoming several new ones in the fall. United Church worship is a regular part of our chapel life and we have welcomed several ministers from the Nakonha:ka Region to lead worship over the past year, all under the oversight of Norman Robert Boie, our college chaplain. After lots of hard work, we are refashioning the field education portion of our curriculum to account for the changing nature of ministry. Our students have just returned from a multi-day intercultural encounter with the Mohawk communities of Quebec, including time spent at Kahnawake United Church and we are grateful for the hospitality we received there.

As we continue to deepen our integration as an ecumenical institution, we continue to renew and expand our programming. This includes:

- **The Certificate in Bilingual Ministry Program and French for Ministry Intensive.** This program continues to flourish, taught by Clara Maranzano. The centre-piece is an in-person intensive held every May in which participants are able to work on their French skills for ministry. But participation in the program also includes private tutoring from Clara Maranzano, a gifted teacher of French as a second language. We welcome more participants in this program, which this year will be held in the first week of May. We consistently hear from participants, even those who thought their French level was quite high, how much they benefited from this program. Successful completion of this program also permits entry into our online French practical theology discussion group, which Clara also runs.

- **The Montreal Mission Internship.** This program offers service-learning, vocational discernment, and theological reflection in community over nine weeks in the summer for young people ages 18 to 25. In 2025, we are looking forward to our fourth year of offering this program. We have had United Church participants in the past, including from this region, and we would love some more. Applications are being accepted through [www.montrealmission.ca](http://www.montrealmission.ca). Interns receive a stipend of \$5000 for the program.
- **Online open enrollment courses.** The college routinely offers short (three to six weeks) online courses designed for adult education and lay formation, in both English and French. Our offerings this year have included courses or workshops on preaching, Christian witness in a crisis-shaped world, theologies of place, and more. We welcome conversation with people in the Nakonha:ka Region about how we can offer courses that meet the needs of your community of faith.

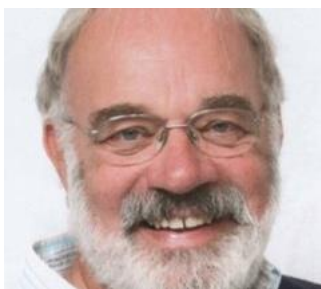
It is programmatic fruits like these that are the most compelling proof of our success as an integrated college to date. But part of the reason for considering integration was financial realities. While we still have work to do, it is good to report that the integration of our colleges has led to a position of much greater financial stability. We continue to be immensely grateful for the dedicated and faithful financial support of our ministry from so many people. Just as the church is changing, so are we.

This year, the Rev. Patricia Lisson has served ably as our Interim Director of United Church Studies, following the retirement of Alyson Huntly. We are currently in a hiring process for a permanent replacement and hope to have an announcement soon.

Our ecumenical Board of Governors is currently concluding our first strategic planning process as an integrated institution. Our new, shared statement of identity and purpose defines the college as “an ecumenical and bilingual learning community that educates and forms compassionate, courageous, and creative leaders for Christian witness in a rapidly changing world.” We continue to see tremendous possibility for our ministry from our base in a multi-cultural and bi- and multi-lingual city to support the United Church of Canada as we move forward at a time of great change to realize the strategic objectives set before the church and be a people of Christ’s kingdom of justice and peace.

Respectfully submitted,  
 Jesse Zink ([jessezink@montrealdio.ca](mailto:jessezink@montrealdio.ca)), Principal

## In Memoriam



**Reverend Barend Biesheuvel (1948 – 2024)** - Barend was a Dutch immigrant to Canada (1970) who retained his Dutch citizenship throughout his life. After hotel school, he earned degrees from Calvin College, Calvin Seminary, and United Theological College. His career in ministry began at the Christian Reformed Church, notably as chaplain at Montreal's Seafarers' Centre, before being ordained in the United Church of Canada, where he served Montreal-area churches until retirement. He was committed to social justice, affordable housing, and human rights, volunteering with Saint Columba House in Verdun and serving on their board.



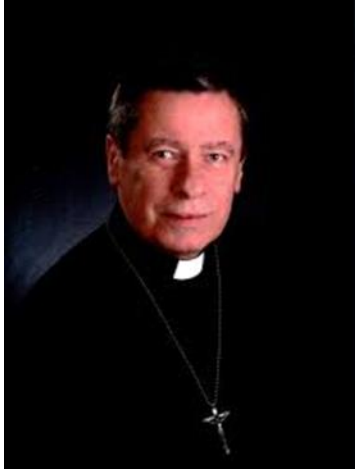
**Reverend Thomas Charles Edmonds (1936 – 2024)** - At the Brome-Missisquoi Perkins Hospital, on July 24th, 2024. Thom served for over 10 years as Overseas Personnel, and notably at St. Columba House, United Theological College, the General Council Office, and the Granby Pastoral Charge. He was a familiar figure in Quebec-Sherbrooke and Quebec Presbyteries following his retirement in 1998.



**Reverend Lynda Harrison (1965 - 2023)** - Passed away peacefully surrounded by love and support in Merrickville, Ontario on Friday, December 22, 2023, at the age of 58. Lynda was ordained in 1994 as a United Church Minister, and in the following years, her strong faith, dedication, and leadership, enabled her to lead pastoral charges at Granby and Waterville-Hatley-North Hatley, Quebec, as well as in Saskatchewan and Ontario. Lynda will be remembered for the great joy she derived from this time of service. When away from the church, she appreciated time with friends and family, laughter, walking in the woods and on the beach.



**Reverend Heather Hodge (1965 - 2023)** - Heather passed away on March 21, 2023. She is missed by her beloved husband of 54 years Maurice, son Darrell (Amanda), grandson Jacob, step-granddaughter Sammantha, Sister Sharon (Bill) and brother Doug (Robin). She is predeceased by her parents Stan and Ruth, brother Rick, and sisters Joanne and Sandra. Heather was loving and dedicated to her family. She enjoyed baking and doing crafts particularly for her favourite holiday Christmas. In her retirement in Arundel, Quebec, she was often found outside reading in the warm "Heather-weather".



**Reverend Douglas Stewart (1950 - 2024)** - Doug graduated from St. Francis Xavier University, Antigonish with a Bachelor of Arts in 1976. In 1979, he graduated from the Atlantic School of Theology with a Master of Divinity and was ordained by the Maritime Conference of the United Church of Canada. Doug began his journey in ordered ministry in High Level, Alberta, before continuing to Shawinigan, Quebec, and then to Montreal, where he was a minister at Valois United Church for many years. He then went on to serve as a Personnel Minister within the Montreal & Ottawa Conference.

At retirement, Doug made the decision to move back home to Antigonish to be closer to his family. His passion for helping others continued as he became a Chaplain at St. Martha's Regional Hospital and assisted with worship services at St. James United Church and Merigomish United

Church.

Doug found his happiness in practicing his faith and being close to his loved ones, including his many friends and colleagues here in Quebec who experienced his renowned ability to tell stories and his fashion sense in clergy vestments..

## Retiree



**Reverend David Lefneski** - It was during COVID-19 that I felt the physical impact of 4 decades of ministry. Church planter (8 years, Eglise de la Pentecôte Emmanuel, Montréal-Nord), Ordained Missionary (10 years, Eglise prèbyterienne St Luc, Montréal), Transformational Minister (8 years, Verdun & Crawford Park United, Verdun and SouthWest Church and Mission, Verdun, 12 years), and a smaller town ministry (6 years, Emmanuel United, Cowansville and Standbridge-East). I entered a new life transition, retirement in 2024, living in each moment discernment and gratitude with an ever evolving faith in Creator whose incarnation in Jesus continues to inspire, challenge and

transform me.

## Newly Celebrated Ministry Personnel



**Reverend Beryl Barraclough** - My name is Beryl, Ordained Minister. I am many things; a daughter, a sister, a wife, a mother, a grandmother, a seeker, a journeyer and, most of all, a beloved child of God.

I have travelled many years and many miles to places I had never dreamed of; Calling Lake in Fort Qu'Appelle, St. Andrew's College in Saskatoon, Concordia University, to the faith communities of Lacolle, Clarenceville and Hemmingford, Kanesatake, the former SouthWest United in Verdun, Summerlea in Lachine, and countless churches as pulpit supply over the years.

I have been supported and cared for by so many; Rev. David Lefniski, Rev. Kent Chown, Rev. Elke Menhadt, Rev. Barbara Bryce, our chair, Marc Gregnon, and the people of the congregations I have served, as well as countless colleagues and friends throughout Ontario, Newfoundland and Alberta.

Today, I stand before you, humbled and thankful for the blessings I have received, the unwavering support shown to me over the years and by the grace of God. Thanks be to God!

## Anniversaries

(Up to December 31, 2024)

Name	Type	Years
Phyllis Smyth	Ordained Minister	60
William Close	Ordained Minister	55
Mead Baldwin	Ordained Minister	45
Arlen Bonnar	Ordained Minister	40
James Christie	Ordained Minister	40
Jane Howe	Ordained Minister	40
Steven Lawson	Ordained Minister	40
Elizabeth Frazer	Ordained Minister	30
Gerald Dore	Ordained Minister	25
Maureen Scott Kabwe	Designated Lay Minister	25
Reginald Jennings	Ordained Minister	25
Sally Meyer	Diaconal Minister	20
Catherine Hamilton	Ordained Minister	15
Daniel Hayward	Ordained Minister	15
Wendy Evans	Ordained Minister	15
Young-ho Jang	Ordained Minister	5
Christine Gladu	Ordained Minister	5

## Summary of Actions by Executive and Regional Council (2024)

January 18, 2024

**2024-01-18\_001 MOTION** (C M Gladu/B. Reynolds) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as circulated. **CARRIED**

**2024-01-18\_002 MOTION** (T. Spires/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive names Rev. Marie-Claude Manga as Equity Support person for this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-01-18\_003 MOTION** (V. Nickson/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the Minutes of November 16, 2023 as circulated. **CARRIED**

**2024-01-18\_004 MOTION** (T. Spires/F. Braman) that the Conseil régional Nakonha: ka Regional Council Executive receive into its minutes the email poll of November 30, 2023:

*2024-11-30\_001 MOTION (T. Spires/F. Braman) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team to approve the appointment of Norman Robert Boie as Congregational Designated Minister to the pastoral charge of Église Unie Saint-Jean from November 22, 2023, to January 31, 2024.*

**CARRIED**

**2024-01-18\_005 MOTION** (T. Spires/M-C Manga) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of its Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, concur with extending the appointment of Norman Robert Boie to the Saint-Jean pastoral charge as Congregational Designated Minister, full-time, 40 hours/week, from February 1 to June 30, 2024, with an evaluation in March. **CARRIED**

**2024-01-18\_006 MOTION** (F. Braman/P. Stanfield) resolved that Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of its Property and Finance Leadership Team, concur with the approval of the attached – Policy on delegation of all Property and Finance matters to its Finance and Extension Board (F&E), to take effect following this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-01-18\_007 MOTION** (F. Braman/P. Stanfield) resolved that Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of its Property and Finance Leadership Team, concur in the request of the Congregations and Trustees of Summerlea United Church and SouthWest United Church to be amalgamated effective February 1, 2024 as Summerlea United Church, in accordance with the attached Amalgamation Agreement and that all assets and liabilities of each amalgamating Congregation (present and future) shall be vested in the amalgamated Congregation.

Resolved further that the Regional Council declares that no surplus arises on this amalgamation. **CARRIED**

**2024-01-18\_008 MOTION** (T. Spires/P. Goldberger) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of its Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, concur with continuing the call, uninterrupted, of Rev. Christine Marie Gladu to the amalgamated Congregation (now Summerlea Pastoral Charge), as full time, 40 hours/week. **CARRIED** (Rev. Christine Marie Gladu abstains)

**2024-01-18\_009 MOTION** (T. Spires/J. Jorgensen) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, on the recommendation of its Pastoral Relations Leadership Team, concur with the appointment of Beryl Barraclough, Designated Lay Minister, to the amalgamated Congregation (now Summerlea Pastoral Charge) , part-time, 20 hours/week, from February 1 to June 30, 2024, and that she be licensed to administer the sacraments for the duration. **CARRIED**

**2024-01-18\_010 MOTION** (P. Bisset/B. Bryce) resolved that the Terms of Reference developed by members of the Regional Council's Strategic Plan Development Team be approved by the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, and that funding be made available starting with the Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 2024 granting cycle. **CARRIED**

**2024-01-18\_011 MOTION** (J. Jorgensen/CM Gladu) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive express gratitude and appreciation for the dedication and service provided by the Property and Finance Leadership Team during its mandate. **CARRIED**

February 15, 2024

**2024-02-15\_001 MOTION** (T. Spires/L. Buchanan) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as amended: *Addition of item 1: Funding Proposal for Rendezvous.* **CARRIED**

**2024-02-15\_002 MOTION** (B. Eastwood/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive names Rev. Linda Buchanan as Equity Support person for this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-02-15\_003 MOTION** (MC Manga/L. Byer-de Wever) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the Minutes of January 18, 2024 as circulated. **CARRIED**

**2024-02-15\_004 MOTION** (D. Ashby/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive direct up to \$2000 be allocated to support youth attending the Rendezvous Event in 2024 from General Contingency Fund. The cap of \$2000 can be revisited if circumstances require. **CARRIED**

**2024-02-15\_005 MOTION** (CM Gladu/B. Bryce) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concurs with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team to grant a licence to administer the sacraments to Lisa Byer-de Wever, candidate for diaconal ministry in candidate supply at the Merging Waters pastoral charge, for the remainder of her appointment (which ends June 30, 2024). **CARRIED (L. Byer-de Wever abstains)**

**2024-02-15\_006 MOTION** (P. Bisset / P. Stanfield) RESOLVED that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive ratify the amendments to the General By-Laws of The Finance and Extension Board of Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, as approved by the Finance and Extension Board at their meeting of February 6, 2024. **CARRIED**

**2024-02-15\_007 MOTION** (P. Bisset / P. Stanfield) RESOLVED that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the nomination of the following individuals to the Finance & Extension Board from February 6, 2024 to May 31, 2026: David Clinker, James Vanstone. **CARRIED**

**2024-02-15\_008 MOTION** (P. Bisset / P. Stanfield) RESOLVED that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive ratify the appointment of Fred Braman, Vice-President, Finance & Extension Board, as an Officer of the corporation from February 6, 2024 to May 31, 2026. **CARRIED**

**2024-02-15\_009 MOTION** (P. Bisset / P. Stanfield) RESOLVED that Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, on the recommendation of its Finance and Extension Board, concurs in the request of the Trustees and Congregation of Granby United Church for first instance approval to market their Church Building located at 101 rue Principale, Granby, QC J2G 2T9 being Lot 101462 of the Cadastre du Québec within the range submitted to the Finance and Extension Board and under the terms of the interim Ministry Plan submitted by Granby United Church providing that the net proceeds will be split 10% to the United Church of Canada for indigenous ministry, 5% to the Ministry and Service Fund of the United Church of Canada and 10% to the Strategic Ministries Fund of the Regional Council with the balance to be vested in the Trustees of Granby United Church with disbursements limited to 5% annually of the balance of the fund until a further interim Ministry Plan for the three years following sale is approved by the Regional Council (to allow the Regional Council and the community of faith to know what amounts are required and available for their ministry). **CARRIED (T. Spires abstains)**

**2024-02-15\_010 MOTION** (B. Bryce/A. Akintayo) that Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive make Rev. Tori Mullin, Growth Animator, as a corresponding member for this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-02-15\_011 CONSENSUS MOTION** that Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive extend this meeting to 12:30 PM. **CARRIED**

**2024-02-15\_012 CONSENSUS MOTION** that Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive agree that the Executive Minister make a request to the Granting & Enabling Leadership Team in amounts that will cover the costs of the focus group.

**2024-02-15\_013 MOTION** (V. Nickson/L. Buchanan) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the 2025 general meeting dates:

- March 28<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, Winter, Online
- June 7<sup>th</sup> (evening), June 8<sup>th</sup> (day), Spring Meeting, Location TBD – (Lennoxville?)
- November 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> Fall Meeting, Online

**CARRIED**

**2024-02-15\_014 MOTION** (P. Bisset/T. Spires) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive move into camera **CARRIED**

### [Regional Council Annual General Meeting - March 15-56, 2024](#)

**2024-03-15-16\_001 MOTION** (Éric Hébert-Daly/Valerie Nickson) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council move the following:

1. That the agenda be adopted as distributed;
2. That the minutes of November 24-25, 2023, Fall General Meeting be approved as circulated (see **Appendix A**);
3. That the 2023 Financial Statements of the Nakonha:ka Regional Council be received as circulated (see **Appendix B**);
4. That the Regional Council appoint BCGO S.E.N.C.R.L. to conduct the Nakonha:ka Regional Council's 2024 review engagement;

5. That the 2023 Financial Statements of the Finance & Extension Board be received as circulated (see **Appendix C**);
6. That the Regional Council appoint BCGO S.E.N.C.R.L. to conduct the Finance & Extension Board's 2023 review engagement;
7. That candidates and those present as invited guests of this Regional Council, be named as corresponding members of the Court
8. That the following people serve as Scrutineers: Rev. Kent Chown and Norm Haslam;
9. That the following person serve as Parliamentarians: Rev. Rosemary Lambie (Friday), Rev. Darryl Macdonald (Saturday);
10. That the following people serve as Chaplain: Rev. Cynthia Reynolds and Normand Robert Boie;
11. That Rev. Rosemary Lambie, Lisa Byer-de Wever, Virgile Kamga G., Shanna Bernier and David-Roger Gagnon serve as the Equity Support Team;
12. That this meeting includes the behavioral covenant:

One Voice: Called together by Christ as a community of broken but hopeful believers, striving to be faithful servants of God in our time and place as we offer our varying gifts,

Many Voices: We commit to keeping God at the center of everything we do;

One Voice: We confess, that we have not always lived up our vision of community, we need the Spirit to reorient us, to live an emerging faith, challenging us to live by grace rather than entitlement,

Many Voices: We commit to be truthful in our communications by: speaking for ourselves; and speaking purposefully;

One Voice: We are called as a diverse community of people celebrating our differences;

Many Voices: And so, we commit to honouring our intercultural vision through welcoming the conflict of ideas; making space for the full and equitable participation of all, enabling especially people who are quiet to speak; being mindful of our body language; listening carefully without interruption and separate people from problems;

One Voice: We are called to be bold disciples,

Many Voices: As we live into our call to discipleship we will hold one another to account when we do not keep to our commitments; We will take a future orientation in our discussions and imagination; demonstrate appreciation; And honouring the decisions of the body;

One Voice: We are called to lead in hope with purpose and vision as members of a community held and inspired by God, partnering with God in the mending of the world

Many Voices: So, we commit to keeping the discussion at the table and to be faithful stewards of our time.

All: We affirm that we are Called by God, as disciples of Jesus, to offer leadership to The United Church of Canada as it seeks to be a bold, connected, evolving church of diverse, courageous, hope-filled communities united in deep spirituality, inspiring worship, and daring justice. Amen

*In the 2022 Manual (see page 204), the expression Holy Manners is translated as rules of conduct based on respect and benevolence.*

**CARRIED**

**2024-03-15-16\_002 MOTION** (Éric Hébert-Daly/David Clinker) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive and approve the Report Book (2023). **CARRIED**

**2024-03-15-16\_003 MOTION** (Peter Bisset/David Clinker) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive for information the Policy on delegation of all Property and Finance matters to the Finance and Extension Board (F&E), having taken effect on January 18<sup>th</sup> 2024. **CARRIED**

**2024-03-15-16\_004 MOTION** (Denis Ashby/Rick Sheffer) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive and approve the Nakonha:ka Regional Council Strategic Fund Terms of Reference (funding has been made available starting with the February 15, 2024 granting cycle). **CARRIED**

**2024-03-15-16\_005 MOTION** (L Buchanan/Jennifer Mountain) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council extend its directive to the Nomination Leadership Team to study and prayerfully reflect on the Regional Council's terms of reference of its Executive, and report back its recommendations at the annual general meeting in March 2025. **CARRIED**

March 21, 2024

**2024-03-21\_001 MOTION** (P. Goldberger/D. Ashby) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as amended: Additions:

1. Correspondence p, q and s, t, u, v, w, x, y, z aa, bb and cc;
2. Growth Advisory Team;
3. Response to Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council's request to stop paying towards lease of office space with Summerlea United Church;

**CARRIED**

**2024-03-21\_002 MOTION** (A. Akintayo/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive names Peter Bisset as Equity Support person for this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-03-21\_003 MOTION** (P. Bisset/B. Bryce) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the Minutes of February 15, 2024 as amended: see motion 2024-02-15\_009; correction of clerical error in the Lot number. **CARRIED**

**2024-03-21\_004 MOTION** (R. Sherman/B. Bryce) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team (and also at the request of the Rev. R. Sherman) that members in good standing of Trinity United Church be permitted to serve on the Board of Anjou United Church, as an exception to normal procedure. **CARRIED (P. Bisset opposed)**

**2024-03-21\_005 MOTION** (B. Bryce/R. Sherman) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive:

Receive the recommendation from the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team regarding the Erskine & American – Mountainside Fund, approve the following distribution, and bring to the next General Meeting for information:

1. Beaconsfield United Church: Beaconsfield United Church Refugee Support and Integration Program: \$20,000
2. Beaconsfield United Church: Peer Support Group (Refugees): \$12,000
3. Beaconsfield United Church: Women's Collective: \$10,000
4. Camp Cosmos: Amazing Kids at Camp (AKAC) Expansion: \$15,000
5. Cedar Park United Church: Community Connections: \$4,820
6. Cedar Park United Church: Vacation Creation Camp: \$4,150
7. Knowlton-Mountain Valley Pastoral Charge: "Lift Your Spirit" Lunch & Learn Series: \$4,800
8. Knowlton-Mountain Valley Pastoral Charge: Sunday Service Virtual Publication Project: \$1,800
9. Montreal City Mission: Power Within! Power Without!: \$15,000
10. Montreal Diocesan Theological College: Developing Bilingual & Low-Residency Programming: \$20,000
11. Riverside United Church: Riverside Intercultural Ministry: \$17,400
12. St. James United Church: Multi-Faith Library: \$12,000
13. St. Martha's Chapel: Ecumenical Weekly Young Adult Bible Study: \$5,000
14. WILGBTQ2+ Centre: Youth Based Programming & Youth Outreach: \$30,000

**CARRIED**

**2024-03-21\_006 MOTION** (B. Bryce/D. Ashby) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive:

Receive the recommendation from the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team regarding the Good Samaritan Fund, approve the following distribution, and bring to the next General Meeting for information:

1. Beaconsfield United Church: Beaconsfield United Church Seniors' Programs: \$33,800
2. Cedar Park United Church: Supper Together/Souper Ensemble: \$5,820
3. Montreal City Mission: Roger Snelling Phase Two: \$30,000
4. Montreal West United Church: Montreal Welsh Choir: \$5,000
5. Quebec Community Health Foundation: Patient Navigator Project: \$35,000
6. Richmond-Melbourne United Church: Seniors' Spiritual Wellness Program Phase Seven: \$35,000
7. Riverside United Church: "Out to Lunch" Program: \$21,000
8. Riverside United Church: Riverside Cares: \$35,720
9. St. Paul's United Church, Magog: Healthy Seniors' Living – Exercise Program: \$19,240
10. WILGBTQ2+ Centre: Seniors' Programming: \$30,000

**CARRIED**

**2024-03-21\_007 MOTION** (B. Bryce/R. Sherman) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive:

Receive the recommendation from the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team regarding the Rosemary Lambie Fund, approve the distribution, and bring to the next General Meeting for information:

1. Camp Cosmos: Indigenous Reconciliation & Knowledge Pilot Project: \$5,000

2. Saint Lambert United Church: Blessing Bags/Street Patrol: \$2,000

**CARRIED**

**2024-03-21\_008 MOTION** (B. Bryce/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive:

Receive the recommendation from the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team regarding the Bhal-Jun Fund, approve the distribution, and bring to the next General Meeting for information:

1. Beaconsfield United Church: Beaconsfield United Church Refugee Support and Integration Program: \$5,000
2. Beaconsfield United Church: Peer Support Group (Refugees): \$6,770
3. Beaconsfield United Church: Women's Collective: \$5,000
4. Montreal City Mission: Resonance – Where Faith & Secularity Meet: \$9,000
5. Saint Columba House: Bridging Generations – Seniors & Teens Together: \$7,348
6. Westmount Park United Church: Faith in Nature Outreach: \$7,000

**CARRIED**

**2024-03-21\_009 MOTION** (B. Bryce/A. Akintayo) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive:

Receive the recommendation from the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team regarding the Trois-Rivières French Ministry Fund, approve the distribution, and bring to the next General Meeting for information:

1. Danville-Asbestos United Church: French Ministry: \$7,000

**CARRIED**

**2024-03-21\_010 MOTION** (B. Bryce/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive:

Receive the recommendation from the Granting and Enabling Leadership Team regarding the Granting and Enabling Strategic Fund, approve the distribution, and bring to the next General Meeting for information:

1. Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council: Strengthening Invitation – Focus Group: \$10,000

**CARRIED**

**2024-03-21\_011 MOTION** (P. Goldberger./V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive make Maylanne Maybee and Kathering Pigott corresponding members for the purpose of this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-03-21\_012 MOTION** (D. Ashby/B. Bryce) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive move this portion of the meeting to an in-camera session. **CARRIED**

**2024-03-21\_013 MOTION** (S. V. Dansokho/P. Goldberger) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive move this portion of the meeting out of the in-camera session. **CARRIED**

**2024-03-21\_014 MOTION** (A. Akintayo/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive agree to pay 1/3 of the supplemental pay of the acting Regional Council Executive Ministers, during the sabbatical of Rev. Eric Hebert-Daly. **CARRIED**

**2024-03-21\_015 MOTION** (D. Ashby/P. Goldberger) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive sponsor Erika Liang's application for the Rowntree Scholarship (by The United Church Foundation). **CARRIED**

April 18, 2024

**2024-04-18\_001 MOTION** (S. V. Dansokho/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as amended with the addition: 1. Receives a report from La Table des ministère en français; 2. Addition of correspondence p; 3. revised version of *Division of Tasks and F&E Delegation Flow Chart* ; 4. Addition of correspondence q. **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_002 MOTION** (V. Nickson/D. Ashby) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive names Rev. Pierre Goldberger as Equity Support person for this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_003 MOTION** (A. Akintayo/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the Minutes of March 21, 2024 as circulated. **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_004 MOTION** (V. Nickson/S. V. Dansokho) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive and approve the changes as presented in the document *2024-04-18 Revising Governance Manual – re word Mission*. These changes were carried out in response to GS 63 – Recommendations on the Use of the Word Mission (see as **Appendix A<sup>2</sup>**). **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_005 MOTION** (C-M Gladue/L. Byer-de Wever) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the call of Rev. Rolanda Taylor to the Union, Montreal pastoral charge, part-time (20 hours/week), beginning May 1, 2024, be approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_006 MOTION** (C-M Gladue/A. Akintayo) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the reappointment of Rev. Steve Lawson to the Knowlton-Mountain Valley pastoral charge, part-time (20 hours/week), from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, be approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_007 MOTION** (C-M Gladue/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the reappointment of Virginia Wallace, candidate in Supervised Ministry Education, to the Mount Bruno pastoral charge, serving Mount Bruno-Richelieu Valley, part-time (20 hours/week), from September 1, 2024 to August 31, 2025, be approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_008 MOTION** (C-M Gladue/D. Ashby) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the provisional

appointment of Robert Ronwahaweta Patton, as ordained minister, to the Kahnawake pastoral charge, part-time (20 hours/week), from April 27, 2024 to June 30, 2027, be approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_009 MOTION** (C-M Gladue/T. Spires) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the Policy for Admission, Commissioning, Ordination and Recognition be approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_010 MOTION** (P. Bisset/P. Stanfield) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the nomination of the following individuals to the Finance & Extension Board from June 1, 2024 to May 31, 2026:

- Diane Campbell
- Marc Grenon
- Paula Kline
- Craig McAlpine
- Dave McCormack
- Monique Moser-Verrey

**CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_010 MOTION** (D. Ashby/A Akintayo) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive ratify the appointment of the slate of officers of the Finance and Extension Board for 2024 – 2025 as follows:

- President, Peter Bisset
- Vice-President, Fred Braman
- Treasurer, Paul Stanfield
- Secretary, Caroline Leamon

**CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_011 MOTION** (P. Bisset/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receives for adoption the guidelines *Division of Tasks and F&E Delegation Flow Chart* as presented. **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_012 MOTION** (P. Stanfield/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive bring a strategic analyse of regional council finances within the to the September Executive meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_013 MOTION** (P. Bisset/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive that Stream 11 – Conversations with coordinating bodies who do emergency services to determine how a community site could be used be removed from the Strategic Plan. **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_014 MOTION** (D. Ashby/A. Akintayo) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive and approve the terms of reference for the Growth Advisory Team. **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_015 MOTION** (L. Byer-de Wever/E. Liang) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive and approve the Earned Media Strategy Proposal. **CARRIED**

**2024-04-18\_016 MOTION** (V. Nickson/E. Liang) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive the recommendation from the General Meeting Planning Team to hold the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary service at St. James United Church in Montreal on June 10<sup>th</sup> 2025. **DEFEATED** (*L. Byer de-Wever, Peter Bisset, Paul Stanfield, Tami Spires, Denis Ashby, Pierre Goldberger opposed*)

**2024-04-18\_017 CONSENSUS MOTION** that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive refer St-Martha's request for funding to the Granting & Enabling Leadership Team, noting its support for said request. **CARRIED**

May 16, 2024

**2024-05-16\_001 MOTION** (L. Buchanan/S. V. Dansokho) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as amended: Addition: 1. See Correspondence j, and Report from Licensed Lay Worship Leaders Leadership Team (*see under section 11*); 2. Correspondence k; 3. Proposed response-letter to Susan Ferguson (*under new business*); 4. reporting from La Table des Minstere en Francais (*see under section 12*); Correspondence m. 5. Talk about Gaza walk. 6. Funding of Emerging Ministries (*following Finance Section*). **CARRIED**

**2024-05-16\_002 MOTION** (M-C Manga/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive names Denis Ashby as Equity Support person for this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-05-16\_003 MOTION** (P. Bisset/D. Ashby) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the Minutes of April 18, 2024 as circulated. **CARRIED**

**2024-05-16\_004 MOTION** (A. Akintayo /V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the proposed response-letter to Susan Ferguson's correspondence of April 1, 2024. **CARRIED (P. Goldberger opposed)**

**2024-05-16\_005 MOTION** (T. Spires/L. Buchanan) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the provisional appointment of Beryl Barraclough, ordained minister, to the Summerlea pastoral charge, part-time (14 hours/week), from July 1 to December 31, 2024, be approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-05-16\_006 MOTION** (T. Spires/B. Bryce) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the reappointment of Rev. Attila Gyorgy to the Kanesatake pastoral charge, part-time (20 hours/week), from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027, be approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-05-16\_007 MOTION** (S. V. Dansokho/P. Goldberger) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the reappointment of Rev. Mead Baldwin, retired supply, to the Waterville-North Hatley pastoral charge, part-time (5 hours/week), from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, be approved. **CARRIED (T. Spires abstains)**

**2024-05-16\_008 MOTION** (T. Spires/D. Ashby) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the licence to administer the sacraments granted to Virginia Wallace, candidate in Supervised Ministry Education at the Mount Bruno pastoral charge, serving Mount Bruno-Richelieu Valley, be extended for the duration of her appointment, ending August 31, 2025. **CARRIED**

**2024-05-16\_009 MOTION** (E. Liang/M-C Manga) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team to reappoint (with gratitude for their service) the following ministry personnel as Community of Faith Supervisors:

Rev. Mead Baldwin	Baldwin’s Mills, Lennoxville
Rev. Barbara Bryce	Hemmingford, Lacolle-Clarenceville
Beryl Barraclough	Montreal Japanese
Rev. James Christie	Huntingdon
Rev. Attila Gyorgy	Argenteuil, Arundel, Avoca, Harrington, Morin Heights, Sainte-Adèle, Shawbridge
Rev. Reg Jennings	Danville-Asbestos, Ulverton-South Durham-Trenholm
Rev. Mher Khatchikian	Zion-Dundee, Riverside (sabbatical)
Pasteur Pierre-Paul Lafond	Belle-Rivière, Drummondville-Mauricie, Saint-Jean
Rev. David Lambie	Fulford, Metis Beach
Rev. Rosemary Lambie	Armenian Evangelical, Harrington Harbour, Mid-Laurentian, St. Andrew’s (Delson)
Rev. Patricia Lisson	Centenary
Rev. Jennifer Mountain	Mount Bruno, Richelieu Valley, Greenfield Park (sabbatical)
Rev. Read Sherman	Italian Church of the Redeemer
Rev. Tami Spires	Granby-Abbotsford, Kinnear’s Mills-Inverness-Thetford Mines, Way’s Mills

**CARRIED (B. Bryce and T. Spires abstain)**

**2024-05-16\_010 MOTION** (P. Bisset/P. Standfield) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive received the Finance & Extension Board 2023 annual report for information and distribute at the general meeting on May 24-25, 2024. **CARRIED**

### Regional Council General Meeting – May 24-25, 2024

**2024-05-24-25\_001 MOTION** (E. Hebert-Daly/V. Nickson) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council move the following:

1. That the agenda be adopted as distributed;
2. That the minutes of March 15-16, 2024, Winter Annual General Meeting be approved as circulated (see **Appendix A**);
3. That the 2023 Annual Report of the Finance & Extension Board of the Nakonha:ka Regional Council be amended on page 7, section b ‘Community Ministry’, to reflect “Christian evangelism is lived out by the inclusive programming offered at Saint Columba House” (see **Appendix B**);
4. that the changes brought to the Governance Handbook, omitting the use of the word ‘Mission’, be received for information (see **Appendix C<sup>1</sup>**) These changes were carried out in response to *GS 63 – Recommendations on the Use of the Word Mission* (see as **Appendix C<sup>2</sup>**);
5. That the Accountability Report to Regional Councils, Origin: General Council Executive & the General Council Offices be received for information (see **Appendix D**);
6. That the United Church Rural Ministry Network Report be received for information (see **Appendix E**);
7. That candidates and those present as invited guests of this Regional Council, be named as corresponding members of the Court;

8. That the following people serve as Scrutineers: Rev. Kent Chown and Norm Haslam (online), Shanna Bernier, Rev. Tami Spires, Valerie Nickson (in person);
9. That the following person serve as Parliamentarians: Rev. Tami Spires (morning), Jan Langelier (afternoon);
10. That the following people serve as Chaplain: Rev. Angelika Piché, Rev. Florence Bukam;
11. That Rev. Rosemary Lambie, Lisa Byer-de Wever, Virgile Kamga G., Shanna Bernier and David-Roger Gagnon serve as the Equity Support Team;
12. That this meeting includes the behavioral covenant:

One Voice: Called together by Christ as a community of broken but hopeful believers, striving to be faithful servants of God in our time and place as we offer our varying gifts,

Many Voices: We commit to keeping God at the center of everything we do;

One Voice: We confess, that we have not always lived up our vision of community, we need the Spirit to reorient us, to live an emerging faith, challenging us to live by grace rather than entitlement,

Many Voices: We commit to be truthful in our communications by: speaking for ourselves; and speaking purposefully;

One Voice: We are called as a diverse community of people celebrating our differences;

Many Voices: And so, we commit to honouring our intercultural vision through welcoming the conflict of ideas; making space for the full and equitable participation of all, enabling especially people who are quiet to speak; being mindful of our body language; listening carefully without interruption and separate people from problems;

One Voice: We are called to be bold disciples,

Many Voices: As we live into our call to discipleship we will hold one another to account when we do not keep to our commitments; We will take a future orientation in our discussions and imagination; demonstrate appreciation; And honouring the decisions of the body;

One Voice: We are called to lead in hope with purpose and vision as members of a community held and inspired by God, partnering with God in the mending of the world

Many Voices: So, we commit to keeping the discussion at the table and to be faithful stewards of our time.

All: We affirm that we are Called by God, as disciples of Jesus, to offer leadership to The United Church of Canada as it seeks to be a bold, connected, evolving church of diverse, courageous, hope-filled communities united in deep spirituality, inspiring worship, and daring justice. Amen

*In the 2022 Manual (see page 204), the expression Holy Manners is translated as rules of conduct based on respect and benevolence.*

**CARRIED**

**2024-05-24-25\_002 MOTION** (P. Lisson/J. Langelier) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional

Council destroy the ballots. **CARRIED**

**2024-05-24-25\_003 MOTION** (H. Hliaras /C. Hamilton) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive and approve the recommendation from the Nominations Leadership Team that the following people serve on the Executive:

Full voting Members:

President (2-year maximum)	Norman Robert Boie (2026)
President-Elect (Elected in “off year” for one-year term)	vacant
Past-President (one year)	Marc Grenon (2025)
Treasurer (no term)	Paul Stanfield
Executive Minister	Rev. Eric Hebert-Daly

Representative of the following Leadership Teams:

Pastoral Relations	Rev. Christine Marie Gladu
Representative of La Table	Rev. Pierre Goldberger
First Third Ministry	Denis Ashby
Living in Right Relations Leadership Circle	(in rotation: Rev. Jan Jorgensen/ Rev. Read Sherman/ Lisa Byer-de Wever)
Justice and Community Ministries	Bailey Eastwood
Granting and Enabling Leadership Team	Rev. Barbara Bryce (interim)
General Meeting Planning Leadership Team	Valerie Epps-Nickson
Finance and Extension Board	Peter Bisset
Nominations	Rev. Linda Buchanan

Five (5) Full Voting Members at Large (2 years)

1. Rev. Marie-Claude Manga (2025)
2. Erika (Qian) Liang (2025)
3. Adedeji Sunday Akintayo (2025)
4. Rev. Rosemary Lambie (2026)
5. Florence Bukam, Pasteure (2026)

Corresponding Non-Voting Members

Pastoral Relations Minister	Rev. Dan Hayward
Communications Staff Person	Judy Coffin
Program Assistant to the Executive Minister	Joel Miller
Minister Supporting Clusters & Networks	David-Roger Gagnon
First Thirds Ministries	Shanna Bernier
Property, Finance and Administration Manager	Brian Ruse

June 20, 2024

**2024-06-20\_001 MOTION** (B. Bryce/P. Goldberger) the that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive make Rev. Darren Liepold, Interim-Executive Minister, a corresponding member for the purposes of this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_002 MOTION** (L. Byer-de Wever/E. Liang) the that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive uphold that Rev. Florence Bukam be member to the Executive with the same term as newly elected members at large. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_003 MOTION** (L. Byer-de Wever/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive names Shanna Bernier as Equity Support person for this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_004 MOTION** (P. Bisset/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the Minutes of May 16, 2024 as circulated. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_005 MOTION** (B Bryce/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as amended: 1. Addition of motion to ratify amendment to Policy on Leases; 2. Addition of correspondence r-x and ee-ff, 3. Addition of recommendation from the General Meeting Planning Leadership Team (*see section 7*); 4. Addition of report from La Table des ministères en français (*see section 11*). **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_006 MOTION** (V. Nickson/M-C. Manga) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive name the following people to the Budget 2025 Working Group: Marc Grenon, Peter Bisset and Craig McAlpine, Rev. Darren Liepold, Rev. Dan Hayward, Rev. Rosemary Lambie, Paul Stanfield and Brian Ruse with the ability to add members. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_007 MOTION** (C-M Gladu/R. Lambie) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive make the regional council Pastoral Relations Leadership Teams a commission, beginning at the rise of this Executive meeting, and extending to the next Executive meeting on September 19<sup>th</sup>. Commission responsibilities are limited to the normal functions of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Teams as stated in their mandates. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_008 MOTION** (P. Bissett/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive uphold the regional council marriage license policy of the Regional Council and concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team not to grant a marriage license to Kelley Mollow, candidate in Supervised Ministry Education. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_009 MOTION** (R. Lambie/P Goldberger) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive create a team to assess Laurentian Area Ministry, consisting of Marc Grenon, a member of the Finance & Extension Committee, and the appropriate staff support, and report back to the next Executive. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_010 MOTION** (C-M Gladu/B. Bryce) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the reappointment of Lisa Byer-de Wever, candidate supply, to the Merging Waters pastoral charge, full-time (40 hours/week), from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, be approved, and that her licence to preside at the sacraments be extended for the duration of her appointment. **CARRIED (L. Byer-de Wever abstains)**

**2024-06-20\_011 MOTION** (C-M Gladu/L. Byer-de Wever) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the reappointment of Rev. Scott Patton, retired supply, to the Richmond-Melbourne pastoral charge, part-time (20 hours/week), from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2025, be approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_012 MOTION** (C-M Gladu/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the request of the Kahnawake pastoral charge to change the terms of the appointment of Rev. Jan Jorgensen from 20 to 14 hours/week be approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_013 MOTION** (C-M Gladu/R. Lambie) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team to relicense (with gratitude for their service) the following Sacraments Elders From July 1<sup>st</sup> 2024 to June 30<sup>th</sup> 2025:

- Carole-Anne Dubé                      Metis Beach
- Brenda Lee Strickland                Harrington Harbour
- Marguerite Clow Cox                 Harrington Harbour
- Stéphane Godbout                    Sainte-Adèle
- Madiros EglenceyanArmenian Evangelical

**CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_014 MOTION** (B. Bryce/L. Byer-de Wever) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive and concur with the recommendations from the Granting & Enabling Leadership Team to approve the following grants from the Good Samaritan Fund:

- Auberge Madeleine: Hébergement et support pour femmes âgées en situation d'itinérance: \$22,000
- Montreal West United Church: Extra Miles seniors visiting program: \$15,000
- Saint Columba House: Reinventing Ourselves After Covid-19 – Year 2: \$26,000
- Danville-Asbestos Trinity United Church: English conversational hour and English tea: \$7,000

**CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_015 MOTION** (B. Bryce/L. Byer-de Wever) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive and concur with the recommendation from the Granting & Enabling Leadership Team and the Living in Right Relations Leadership Circle, to approve the following grant from the Rosemary Lambie Fund :

- Kahnawake United Church: Sharing Life Together Here on Earth: \$1,000

**CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_016 MOTION** (B. Bryce/P. Goldberger) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive and concur with the recommendations from the Granting & Enabling Leadership Team to approve the following grants from the Granting and Enabling Strategic Fund:

- Montreal City Mission: 2024 Nakonha:ka Refugee Day: \$10,000
- Saint Columba House: Saint Columba on the Move: \$10,000

**CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_017 MOTION** (B. Bryce/R. Lambie) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive and concur with the recommendations from the Granting & Enabling Leadership Team to approve the following grants from the Bhal-Jun Fund:

- WILGBTQ+ Centre: West Island Pride – Community Day: \$2,500
- Saint Columba House for their project “Fit Fun Fam: Fostering Well-Being from After School to Home), conditional upon their receipt of the other grants they have applied for from RBC, the J. Armand Bombardier Foundation, the Eric. T. Webster Foundation, and the R. Howard Webster Foundation: \$15,000

**CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_018 MOTION** (B. Bryce/R. Lambie) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive and concur with the recommendations from the Granting & Enabling Leadership Team to approve the following grants from the Trois-Rivières Fund:

- Église Unie de Sainte-Adèle: Projet d’outreach, d’intégration et de partenariats: \$7,000
- Camino de Emaus: Camp d’été 2024: \$7,000 and an additional grant of \$3,000 from the Grand-Mère Fund

**CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_019 MOTION** (B. Bryce/P. Goldberger) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive award commission powers to the Granting & Enabling Leadership Team, and that the Granting & Enabling Leadership Team updated mandate be approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_020 MOTION** (B. Bryce/V. Nickson) the that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive and concur with the recommendations from the Granting & Enabling Leadership Team to approve stabilized Mission Support funding of a minimum of \$150,000 per year for each of the next five years (2025-2029) for each of Montreal City Mission and Saint Columba House, with the ability to review in the next three years. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_021 MOTION** (P. Bisset/P. Stanfield) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council ratify the attached amendments to the Policy on Leases effective June 13, 2024 as adopted on recommendation of the Property Committee, Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, acting by its Finance and Extension Board as a Commission. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_022 MOTION** (V. Nickson/E. Liang) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive and concur with the recommendation of the General Meeting Planning Leadership Team that the Nakonha:ka Spring General Meeting of June 5<sup>th</sup> coincide and be part of the Resonance Workshop (hosted by Montreal City Mission) on June 5-7, 2025, part of which will take place at St-James United Church (Montreal). **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_023 MOTION** (E. Liang/L. Byer-de Wever) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive and approve the First Thirds Ministry Leadership Team activity stream 9 to be integrated into the Strategic Plan. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_024 MOTION** (R. Lambie/M-Claude) the that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive set the deadline to receive GC 45 proposals as October 13, 2024. **CARRIED**

**2024-06-20\_025 MOTION** (N-R Boie/E. Liang) the that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive direct the regional council treasurer to disburse: 1. \$500 to pay part of fee for regional council's participation in *Fierté Montréal Pride* (in August) – shared with Christ Church – and 2. \$500 to produce giveaways and information to circulate amongst the crowds seeking to know more about The United Church of Canada and its practices, and refer to Finance and Extension board for disbursement of Funds. **CARRIED**

September 19, 2024

**2024-09-19\_001 MOTION** (L. Byer-de Wever/B. Bryce) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive names Bailey Eastwood as Equity Support person for this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-09-19\_002 MOTION** (P. Bisset/P. Goldberger) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the Minutes of June 20, 2024 as circulated. **CARRIED**

**2024-09-19\_003 MOTION** (B. Bryce/D. Ashby) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as amended with the following addition:

- Correspondence e
- Correspondence k
- Rapport de la table des ministères en français
- Stanbridge East Pastoral Charge
- Hudson Pastoral Charge under F&E Section
- Living Into Right Relations Leadership Circle moved up in the agenda

**CARRIED**

**2024-09-19\_004 MOTION** (L. Byer-de Wever/ B. Eastwood) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive share a copy of press release of the United Church of Canada Supporting Amira Elghawaby with communities of Faith. **CARRIED**

**2024-09-19\_005 MOTION** (E. Hebert-Daly/ C-M Gladu) the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve funding for the Respect & Kanoronhkwa'tshera coordinator position in the amount of up to \$6000 until up to the end of 2024, funding to come from either the Rosemary Lambie Fund or Contingency Fund. **CARRIED**

**2024-09-19\_006 MOTION** (C-M Gladu/P. Goldberger) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the appointment of Jean-Philippe Dubé-Goupil, candidate, to the Trinity-Anjou pastoral charge, part-time (10 hours/week), July 1 to December 31, 2024, be approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-09-19\_007 MOTION** (C-M Gladu/M-C Manga) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that Cedar Park United Church be approved as a Supervised Ministry Education site. **CARRIED**

**2024-09-19\_008 MOTION** (M-C Manga/B. Bryce) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive acknowledge the following Voluntary Associate Ministers (retired ministry personnel not appointed, or engaged in ministry not recognized as ‘community of faith’) for July 1, 2024- June 30, 2025:

<b>First Name</b>	<b>Last Name</b>	<b>Community of Faith</b>
Rev. James	Christie	St. James United Church
Pasteur Gérald	Doré	Charge pastorale Saint-Pierre et Pinguet
Pasteur Denis	Fortin	Charge pastorale Saint-Pierre et Pinguet
Pasteur Pierre	Goldberger	Église unie Saint-Jean
Rev. Cathy	Hamilton	Cedar Park United Church
Pasteur Pierre-Paul	Lafond	Église unie Saint-Jean
Rev. Rosemary	Lambie	Delson United Church
Rev. David	Lefneski	Granby United Church
Rev. Patricia	Lisson	St. James United Church
Rev. John	Matheson	Mountainside United Church

**CARRIED**

**2024-09-19\_009 MOTION** (P. Bisset/P. Stanfield) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive requests the United Church of Canada to delegate all decisions on the sale of the manse of Harrington Harbour United Church (1 allée Hodd, Harrington Harbour, Québec G0G 1N0 being Lot number 5 597 433 of the Cadastre du Québec having a municipal assessed value of \$84,000) to the Trustees of Harrington Harbour United Church (formerly Elizabeth United Church) subject to the approval of Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council and that the use of the Proceeds be determined in accordance with the Policy of that Regional Council. **CARRIED**

**2024-09-19\_010 MOTION** (B. Eastwood/C-M Gladue) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive extend this meeting by 15 mins and finish at 2:15 PM. **CARRIED**

October 17, 2024

**2024-10-17\_001 MOTION** (V. Nickson/R. Lambie) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive names Rev. Barbara Bryce as Equity Support person for this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-10-17\_002 MOTION** (P. Bissett/A. Akintayo) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the Minutes of September 19, 2024 as circulated. **CARRIED**

**2024-10-17\_003 MOTION** (R. Lambie/J. Jorgensen) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as amended:

- Addition of correspondence e, f and g

**CARRIED**

**2024-10-17\_004 MOTION** (R. Lambie/ A. Akintayo) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the

appointment of Jessica Gauthier, candidate, to Supervised Ministry Education at the Cedar Park pastoral charge, part-time (20 hours/week), October 22, 2024, to June 30, 2026, be approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-10-17\_005 MOTION** (R. Lambie/J. Jorgensen) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Leadership Team that the reappointment of Rev. Mher Wartan Katchikian, retired supply, to the Rennie's pastoral charge, part-time (20 hours/week), October 1, 2024, to September 30, 2025, be approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-10-17\_006 MOTION** (P. Stanfield/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Finance & Extension Board to adopt the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council's 2025 budget as presented. **CARRIED**

**2024-10-17\_007 MOTION** (P. Stanfield/P. Bisset) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Finance & Extension Board to approve the Finance and Extension Board's 2025 budget as submitted. **CARRIED**

**2024-10-17\_008 MOTION** (P. Bisset/P. Stanfield) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive concur with the recommendation of the Finance & Extension Board to allocate \$60,000 from the Strategic Fund for the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council's 2025 budget to be used for strategic objectives, and that the Strategic Fund's Terms of Reference be amended accordingly for 2025 only. **CARRIED**

**2024-10-17\_009 MOTION** (P. Bisset/P. Stanfield) Whereas in early 2024 an apparently corroded heating oil line leaked into the basement of Stanbridge East United Church (SEUC) resulting in an oil spill of about 800 litres of heating oil,

Whereas the Québec Ministry of the Environment has now directed the Trustees of SEUC to effect a prompt remediation of the site to avoid contamination of the nearby drinking water wells and the Pike River,

Whereas reliable estimates, updated September 27, 2024, for the remediation of the site, amount to about \$729,000 (including contingency), provided the work is done prior to winter freeze-up and the spring thaw which may cause potential harm to spread,

Whereas no significant savings would be possible by the demolition of the Building, and

Whereas the Trustees of SEUC do not have any financial resources and have requested financial assistance from the Finance and Extension Board (F&E) and the Conseil regional Nakonha:ka Regional Council (the "Regional Council") to effect the required remediation and have offered any future sale proceeds of the property to repay such assistance in whole or in part;

RESOLVED that F&E and the Regional Council grant immediate financial assistance to the Trustees of Stanbridge East United Church to effect the oil spill remediation in accordance with the estimate of \$729,000 with the work to be under the oversight of F&E,

RESOLVED that the financial assistance take the form of an initial line of credit from F&E up to \$729,000 without interest and when the remediation project is completed, such initial line of credit shall be replaced by a grant from the Regional Council from its contingency funds in the amount of \$250,000 and the

balance of less than \$500,000 by a limited recourse loan to be repaid from the net proceeds of the eventual sale (upon a disbanding or amalgamation) of the Property (capital and 5% annual interest) with any balance to be applied to the Regional Council's contingency fund,

RESOLVED that this resolution shall become effective from ratification by the Regional Council,

RESOLVED that F&E and the Regional Council commend the SEUC Trustees for their prompt action in response to this unfortunate accident, and

RESOLVED that F&E and Regional Council take immediate measures to ensure that all United Church properties under their oversight replace any heating oil equipment with electric or gas heating as appropriate, with assistance from the national Faithful Footprint program where possible. **CARRIED**

**2024-10-17\_010 MOTION** (A. Akintayo/D. Ashby) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive add the regional council's signature to the *Stand Up for Migrants' Rights - Open Letter (by October 25)*. **CARRIED**

**2024-10-17\_011 MOTION** (A. Akintayo/D. Ashby) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, having been encouraged by reading the letter *Stand Up for Migrants' Rights - Open Letter (by October 25)*, but feeling the need for a language that can express a United Church's viewpoint more accurately (i.e., commitment to social justice, equality, and welcome while also emphasizing the importance of recognizing the contributions of migrants and immigrants and promoting inclusive communities), agree to allow Adedeji Sunday Akintayo to write a letter to the Federal Government on behalf of the regional council which supports Migrant's Rights in Canada. **CARRIED**

#### Regional Council General Meeting – November 1-2, 2024

**2024-11-01-02\_001 MOTION** (Eric Hebert-Daly/Valerie Nickson) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council move the following:

1. That the agenda be adopted as distributed;
2. That the minutes of May 24-25, Spring General Meeting be approved as circulated (see **Appendix A**);
3. That the following people serve as Scrutineers: Rev. Kent Chown and Norm Haslam;
4. That the following person serve as Parliamentarian: Rev. Rosemary Lambe (Friday evening) and Rev. Darryl Macdonald (Saturday morning);
5. That the following people serve as Chaplains: Adedeji Sunday Akintayo and Rev. Marie-Claude Manga;
6. That the following people serve as the Equity Support Team: Rev. Rosemary Lambie, Lisa Byer-de Wever, Rev. Marie-Claude Manga;
7. That this meeting include the behavioral covenant:

One Voice: Called together by Christ as a community of broken but hopeful believers, striving to be faithful servants of God in our time and place as we offer our varying gifts,

Many Voices: We commit to keeping God at the center of everything we do;

One Voice: We confess, that we have not always lived up to our vision of community, we need the Spirit

to reorient us, to live an emerging faith, challenging us to live by grace rather than entitlement,

Many Voices: We commit to be truthful in our communications by: speaking for ourselves; and speaking purposefully;

One Voice: We are called as a diverse community of people celebrating our differences;

Many Voices: And so, we commit to honouring our intercultural vision through welcoming the conflict of ideas; making space for the full and equitable participation of all, enabling especially people who are quiet to speak; being mindful of our body language; listening carefully without interruption and separate people from problems;

One Voice: We are called to be bold disciples,

Many Voices: As we live into our call to discipleship we will hold one another to account when we do not keep to our commitments; We will take a future orientation in our discussions and imagination; demonstrate appreciation; And honouring the decisions of the body;

One Voice: We are called to lead in hope with purpose and vision as members of a community held and inspired by God, partnering with God in the mending of the world

Many Voices: So, we commit to keeping the discussion at the table and to be faithful stewards of our time.

All: We affirm that we are Called by God, as disciples of Jesus, to offer leadership to The United Church of Canada as it seeks to be a bold, connected, evolving church of diverse, courageous, hope-filled communities united in deep spirituality, inspiring worship, and daring justice. Amen

*In the 2022 Manual (see page 204), the expression Holy Manners is translated as rules of conduct based on respect and benevolence.*

#### Virtual Manner

Use the Chat feature of Zoom appropriately:

-understanding that speaking in Public Chat is equivalent to speaking out loud in a meeting and is disruptive and rude and should be directed to the Chair of the meeting and used for Points of Order and/or matters of personal privilege;

-responding in Chat when invited to do so by the Chair;

-using direct messaging when desiring or needed to engage with another

Use of transcription not for use outside of the meeting/event.

#### **CARRIED**

**2024-11-01-02\_002 MOTION** (Jan Langelier/Barbara Bryce) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council reopen nominations for General Council 45 Commissioners. **CARRIED** (41 yes, 11 no, 2 abstain)

**2024-11-01-02\_003 MOTION** (Virginia Wallace/Lisa Byer-de Wever) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council reopen nominations for Moderator candidate. (54 yes, 2 no, 1 abstention) **CARRIED**

**2024-11-01-02\_004 MOTION** (Linda Buchanan/Marie-Claude Manga) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council nominate Rev. Samuel Vauvert Dansokho as Moderator Candidate. **CARRIED** (Samuel V. Dansokho abstained)

**2024-11-01-02\_005 MOTION** (Barbara Bryce/Mher Khatchikian) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive for information the record of grant disbursements in 2024. **CARRIED**

**2024-11-01-02\_006 MOTION** (Lee Ann Hogle/Linda Buchanan) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive the recommendation from the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders Team to license the following people as Licensed Lay Worship Leaders within the Regional Council for 2 years (fall 2024- fall 2026): Deborah Beattie, Hepta Deslandes, Charlotte Griffith, Stéphane Godbout, Norman Haslam, Gail Hocquard, Carolyn Linde, Lorane McKenzie, Pamela Naylor, Valerie Epps Nickson, Joan Shea (lay worker), Alwin Spence, Brenda Lee Strickland. **CARRIED**

**2024-11-01-02\_007 MOTION** (Lisa Byer-de Wever/Linda Buchanan) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council inform Brian Arthur Brown that the regional council will not be participating in his planned projects for the centennial celebration, as it has its own plans to celebrate the UCC's centennial, and the regional council will communicate this decision to Communities of Faith, along with fuller information, and include Rev. Glen Chestnut as a recipient of this communication. **CARRIED**

**2024-11-01-02\_008 MOTION** (Adedeji Sunday Akintayo/Kent Chown) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council concur and forward to General Council the *Proposal to Address Declining Membership by Expanding the United Church of Canada's Intercultural Ministry* as amended:

- Under Recommendation change 'to establish' to 'respectfully encourage' Intercultural Ministry Leadership Teams.

**CARRIED**

**2024-11-01-02\_009 MOTION** (Kent Chown/Valerie Nickson) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council (concur and forward to General Council the *Proposal: Development of an AI policy for the United Church of Canada*. **CARRIED**

**2024-11-01-02\_010 MOTION** (Eric Hebert-Daly/Cathy Hamilton) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council:

1. Name the following people to serve as Commissioners at General Council 45:

**LAY (5)**

Celestine Alimasi  
Qian (Erika) Liang  
Carolyn Linde  
L. E. Moir  
Ozioma Obijiofor

## **ORDER OF MINISTRY (5)**

Adedeji Sunday Akintayo  
Rev. Samuel Vauvert Dansokho  
Rev. Rosemary Lambie  
Rev. Marie-Claude Manga  
Rev. Angelika Piché

2. Name following people as alternates to serve as Commissioners at General Council 45 (considered in the order they have received votes)

## **LAY**

Marc Grenon

## **MINISTRY PERSONNEL**

Rev. Aron Molnar  
Virginia Wallace

## **CARRIED**

**2024-11-01-02\_011 MOTION** (Paul Stanfield/David Clinker) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive for information the Regional Council 2025 budget as presented. **CARRIED**

**2024-11-01-02\_012 MOTION** (Paul Stanfield/Barbar Bryce) that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council receive for information the Finance & Extension Board 2025 budget as presented. **CARRIED**

November 21, 2024

**2024-11-21\_001 MOTION** (V. Nickson/R. Lambie) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive names Shanna Bernier as Equity Support person for this meeting. **CARRIED**

**2024-11-21\_002 MOTION** (P. Bisset/A. Akintayo) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive approve the Minutes of October 17, 2024 as circulated. **CARRIED**

**2024-11-21\_003 MOTION** (P. Stanfield/P. Bisset.) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive receive into its Minutes the email poll of October 31, 2024:.

*2024-10-31\_001 MOTION (CM Gladu/J. Jorgensen) RESOLVED that the Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive, concur with the recommendation of its Finance and Extension Board, to authorize the Trustees and Congregation of Trinity United Church (Cookshire, QC) to market its Church land and building at 190 rue Principale ouest, Cookshire-Eaton, QC JOB 1M0 (lot 4 487 170 of the Cadastre du Québec) on an as-is, where-is basis, and within or above the price range submitted to the said Finance and Extension Board, the whole subject to final approval of any sale agreement by the Regional Council acting by its said Finance and Extension Board, and on the firm condition that the Net Proceeds be split first to repay the \$98,261.54 owing to the said Finance and Extension Board and the balance to be shared in accordance with the Regional Council Policy on Net Proceeds of Sale. CARRIED*

## **CARRIED**

**2024-11-21\_004 MOTION** (R. Sherman/B. Bryce) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as amended:

1. Addition under section 8, Granting & Enabling: Report on the Application from The Longueuil Community
2. Addition of correspondence h
3. Addition under New Business d - Inventory of Cemeteries - Funding from Archives
4. Update on sale of the manse in Harrington Harbour.

**CARRIED**

**2024-11-21\_005 MOTION** (P. Bisset/P. Stanfield) RESOLVED that, on recommendation of the Finance and Extension Board, the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council approve Rev. Helen Hliaras's request to reschedule the final month of her sabbatical leave so that it falls in 2025 instead of December 2024, as originally approved. **CARRIED**

**2024-11-21\_006 MOTION** (B. Bryce/V. Nickson) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive name the following people to sit on the hiring team for Community of Faith Support Minister staff position: Peter Bisset, Rev. Florence Bukam and Denis Ashby. **CARRIED**

**2024-11-21\_007 MOTION** (R. Sherman/M-C Manga) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive name the following people to sit on the hiring team for the Communication staff positions: Valerie Nicsson, Angelika Piché and Bailey Eastwood. **CARRIED**

**2024-11-21\_008 MOTION** (M-C Manga/N R Boie) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive not hold a meeting in the month of December, and agree to conduct email polls as necessary, should any business need to come before it. **CARRIED**

**2024-11-21\_009 MOTION** (P. Stanfield/R. Sherman) that the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council Executive allocate up to \$10,000 from the archive fund to be used to pay a fee for services with the purpose of creating a cemetery inventory of the Regional Council. **CARRIED**

## The Rules of Debate and Order

### 1. Presiding Officer

The function of the Presiding Officer is to preside, with all that that implies. The Presiding Officer should not attempt to control the decision of the Court, but may express opinions on any matter before the Court. If the Presiding Officer wishes to introduce a motion or to present a report, the Presiding Officer shall ask another member to preside, and while out of the Chair shall be an ordinary member of the Court and must not assume the chair until the matter is disposed of. The Presiding Officer does not vote except in the event of a tie.

### 2. Questions of Privilege and Order

**(a)** A point of order may be raised while a matter is pending or while another member has the floor. When a point of order is raised it must be dealt with by the Presiding Officer without debate. If a member has the floor when a point of order is raised by another member, that member must yield the floor until the Presiding Officer has made a ruling.

**(b)** Any member of the Court may appeal from a ruling of the Chair, but only at the time when the ruling is made. But where a ruling is a precedent the general question of its correctness may be brought up later when there is no business pending, but cannot then affect the business transacted under the ruling.

**(c)** When an appeal from a ruling is made, the Presiding Officer should state the point at issue, and may give reasons for the ruling. The Secretary shall then put the question in the following form: "Is the ruling of the Moderator (or such other title by which the Presiding Officer is known) sustained?" If the vote is a tie, the Presiding Officer is sustained. The Secretary shall declare the result.

### **3. Orders of the Day**

**(a)** When an agenda has been adopted that does not specify the time for its items, such items are considered without time limit, unless the Court decides otherwise by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those voting.

**(b)** When an agenda has been adopted that specifies the time for particular items, such time shall be strictly adhered to, unless the Court decides otherwise by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of those voting.(2010)

### **4. Order of Priority on Motions**

**(a)** To close.(2010)

**(b)** To fix the time to adjourn.

**(c)** To adjourn.

**(d)** To take an immediate vote (two-thirds (2/3) vote required).

**(e)** To limit or extend limits of debate (two-thirds (2/3) vote required).

**(f)** To postpone definitely.

**(g)** To commit or refer.

**(h)** To amend.

**(i)** To postpone indefinitely.

**(j)** To deal with main motions.

### **5. Procedures on Motion**

**(a)** A member of the Court proposes a motion.

**(b)** It is seconded. If there is no seconder, the motion fails.

**(c)** When the motion is duly moved and seconded, the Presiding Officer states the motion and declares it open for discussion. If the mover has not already done so, the mover has the right to introduce the discussion.

- (d)** A motion is out of order when it conflicts with a resolution previously passed at the same session unless it is a motion to reconsider.
- (e)** Without the permission of the Court, no member may speak more than once on any motion or on any amendment thereto.
- (f)** The mover of a motion has the right of reply before any vote is taken thereon or on any amendment thereto. Even when the Court has directed that an immediate vote be taken on a motion, the mover still has the right of reply.
- (g)** When a motion has two (2) or more clearly defined parts or points of issue, and any two (2) members request that it be divided, a separate vote must be taken on each part.
- (h)** Any motion may be withdrawn but only with the consent of its mover and seconder.
- (i)** After a motion is under consideration a question of order cannot be raised against it unless the motion is ultra vires.

## **6. Procedure on Amendments**

- (a)** Any member except the mover or the seconder of the motion may move a relevant amendment thereto.
- (b)** An amendment must be seconded, and if there is no seconder it fails.
- (c)** A motion is amended by striking out certain words or clauses, adding certain words or clauses, or striking out all after the word “Resolved” (or the word “that”), and inserting another motion that will dispose of the matter. An amendment that merely negatives a motion before the Court is out of order.
- (d)** There may be an amendment to the amendment, provided it has been duly seconded.
- (e)** There is no limit to the number of amendments, but at any one time there can be before the Court only the motion, the amendment, and the amendment to the amendment.
- (f)** When an amendment is disposed of, other relevant amendments may be proposed.
- (g)** The discussion is always on the immediately pending question, and it must be voted on first. When a motion, an amendment, and an amendment to the amendment are before the Court, the two first named are “pending questions” and the last is the “immediately pending question.” When the immediately pending question is disposed of, the one above it then becomes the immediately pending question, until the whole matter is disposed of.
- (h)** When an amendment carries, it is not thereby adopted as the finding of the Court, but only changes the proposition under discussion.
- (i)** When a motion, an amendment, and an amendment to the amendment are before a Court, three (3) separate votes including “for” and “against” must be taken. The first determines whether the amendment shall be amended, the second determines whether the motion shall be amended, and the third determines whether the motion, in whatever form it is then before the Court, shall be adopted or rejected.

## **7. Procedure on Voting**

- (a)** A vote is generally taken viva voce or by a show of hands. The Presiding Officer may ask for a standing vote. Upon motion duly passed, the vote shall be taken by ballot. In all

actions of Church Courts regarding membership in the Order of Ministry requiring voting procedure, the vote shall be taken by ballot unless waived by unanimous consent; that is, on motion to waive, no dissenting vote is cast. See also sections C.5.7 and D.4.4 of the bylaws.

**(b)** In the event of a tie, the Presiding Officer shall cast the deciding vote.

**(c)** An affirmative vote on a motion does not validate any motion that is ultra vires of the Court, or that contravenes a decision of a higher Court.

**(d)** In the conduct of United Church business, voting by proxy or by mail-in ballot is not permitted. Voting by telephone or by email is permitted only when it occurs during a meeting that is held in a manner that allows all of the persons participating to communicate with one another simultaneously and instantaneously.(2010)

## **8. Procedure on Motion to Reconsider**

**(a)** A motion to reconsider may be made at any time when the floor is vacant; but the actual reconsideration has only the same priority as the motion to be reconsidered.

**(b)** A motion to reconsider must be moved by a member who voted with the majority. Any member may second.

**(c)** If a motion to reconsider is dealt with at the same meeting in which the original motion was adopted, it will fail unless two-thirds (2/3) of those voting are in favour thereof. If a motion to reconsider is dealt with at a subsequent meeting of the Court, a majority of those voting determines the question.

**(d)** When any motion to reconsider has been duly seconded, all action on the original motion is suspended until the motion to reconsider has been disposed of. No motion to reconsider can be entertained by the Court where action has already been taken under the original motion.

**(e)** A motion cannot be reconsidered twice unless materially changed on the first reconsideration. If a motion to reconsider has been lost, it cannot be repeated.

**(f)** A motion to reconsider is debatable only when the motion to be reconsidered is debatable. It cannot be amended, postponed indefinitely, or committed.

## **9. Motion to Refer**

A motion to refer is debatable, but only as to the wisdom and manner of the proposed referral. It requires only a majority of those voting.

## **10. Motion to Postpone Indefinitely**

A motion to postpone indefinitely, when in order, must be put without debate. If the motion is lost, it cannot be repeated or reconsidered. If carried, the motion along with all amendments is removed from debate. At any time it may be brought back before the Court by motion duly seconded and carried. In such case the question is before the Court in exactly the position it held at the time it was removed from debate. A motion to postpone indefinitely can have no conditions attached to it. If a time is specified, it immediately ceases to be a motion to postpone indefinitely and becomes a motion to postpone definitely and is debatable.(2007)

### **11. Motion to Take an Immediate Vote**

If a motion to take an immediate vote (for which a two-thirds (2/3) vote is required) is carried, the vote shall be taken immediately. The mover of the main motion, however, shall have the right to reply before the vote is taken. If such a motion fails, debate on the main motion shall continue. A motion to take an immediate vote is not debatable.

### **12. Motion to Adjourn**

A motion to adjourn is intended to suspend a meeting until another time. A motion to adjourn is in order only if there is already an agreed-upon time and place for resuming the meeting, or if the motion specifies a time and place for resuming the meeting. A motion to adjourn requires a seconder. Only the conditions attached to the motion to adjourn, such as time and place for resuming the meeting, are debatable; the wisdom of adjourning is not debatable.(2010)

### **13. Closing a Meeting (2010)**

**(a)** A motion to close is intended to terminate a meeting. A new meeting may commence, at a future time, by previous agreement or by call. There can be no conditions attached to a motion to close. A motion to close requires a seconder. A motion to close is not debatable.(2010)

**(b)** When all the business and purposes of a meeting have been attended to and the Presiding Officer is satisfied that there is no further business before the Court, the Presiding Officer may declare that the meeting is closed, without the need for a motion to close.(2010)

### **14. Committee of the Whole**

**(a)** Any Court, for greater freedom of discussion, may, on motion duly made, seconded, and carried, move into a Committee of the Whole. Any such motion is neither debatable nor amendable, except only as to the scope of the subject to be discussed. The motion is not in order if there is a pending motion to adjourn the meeting or to postpone discussion on the subject.(2007)

**(b)** The first act of the Committee of the Whole is to appoint a chairperson and a secretary. A separate minute of the proceedings is taken.(2007)

**(c)** The ordinary limitations of debate do not prevail in the Committee of the Whole. The chairperson restates the matter(s) to be considered. Discussion is then opened and is conducted informally. Motions need not be seconded. Unless the resolution creating the Committee of the Whole imposes restrictions, there are no restrictions, within reason, on the number of times a member may speak or on the length of speeches, except that priority is given to a member who has not yet spoken.(2007)

**(d)** When the deliberations of the Committee of the Whole are concluded, the Committee will dispose of a motion that the Committee rise and report; this motion does not require seconding and is neither debatable nor amendable. When this motion is passed, a report is prepared and submitted to the chairperson of the main meeting, who reconvenes the main meeting.(2007)

(e) A Committee of the Whole can neither adjourn nor terminate; it only can report back to the main meeting. It can, of course, recess briefly to prepare its report.(2007)

## 15. General

(a) When a member utters language that another member considers offensive, the latter may require that the words be taken down. The speaker is then allowed to proceed. When the speaker yields the floor, the words complained of may be considered and dealt with. Such words may not be privileged.

(b) Members of any Court should at all times therein conduct themselves with dignity, fairness, and understanding. The prime concern should be the good order and welfare of the church.

(c) In any point not covered in The Manual, the parliamentary rules accepted in Canada (Bourinot) shall be followed.

## Enabling Motions

1. Regional Council Roll:  
That the Ministerial Roll of the Regional Council and the non-Ministerial Roll of the Regional Council thus constituted be now taken as read.
2. Other Delegates:  
That anyone who has a role to play at the General Meeting of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council ( e.g. members of the Regional Council Executive, Chairs of Leadership Teams and who has not been appointed as a delegate by her/his Community of Faith, be a full delegate with all the privileges of other delegates, and that the youth and young adult representatives from each Community of Faith be full delegates.
3. Corresponding Members:  
That the students serving this Regional Council; the candidates for Ordination and Admission, those present as invited guests of this Regional Council, resource persons, all who have registered for the Youth and Young Adult Event and other guests recognized by this court, be invited to sit as corresponding members of the Court.
4. Minimum Number of Members at Meetings:  
That the minimum number of members for any session of this Regional Council is present (C.4.3, The Manual 2019).
5. Agenda:  
That the agenda as printed and circulated, the reports, and the daily Agenda, be adopted as the Agenda for this meeting, subject to such changes as may be determined by the Business Leadership Team and approved by this Court.
6. Procedures for Reports:  
That the following procedure with respect to reports being presented at the Regional Council be adopted.

- a. Reports and any attendant recommendations be dealt with in the allotted time.
  - b. If action has not been completed in the allotted time, then the Regional Council may:
    - i. Request that additional time on the Agenda be arranged by the Business Leadership Team
    - ii. Refer the report with its recommendation(s) to the appropriate body or bodies concerned, along with power to issue
    - iii. Refer the report with its recommendation(s) to the Executive of the Regional Council for such action as the Executive deems appropriate.
7. Meeting of the Executive:  
That the Executive (which is empowered to act on behalf of the Regional Council between the meetings of the Court) be empowered to meet, if necessary, during the sessions of this Regional Council meeting and report those matters which require the approval of this Court.
8. Inclusive Language:  
It is recommended that every attempt be made to use inclusive (non-sexist) language in all worship, reports, petitions and discussions in this Court.
9. Business Leadership Team:  
That the *Business Leadership Team* be: Chair of the Executive, Executive Minister, Chair of Planning and the coordinator of proposals
10. Scrutineers:  
That the *Scrutineers* be appointed from the membership of the Court.
11. Courtesies:  
That the *Courtesies Leadership Team* be appointed from the membership of the Court.
12. Election of the President:  
That the following be the procedure for the nomination of persons to the office of President, when necessary:
  1. That written nominations be supported by two signatures and be presented to either the Chair of the Regional Council Executive, or the Executive Minister.
  2. That the opportunity be given for nominations from the floor, with the consent of the nominee having been previously secured.
  3. That the election be by ballot, with a clear majority necessary for election.
13. Advisory Leadership Team:  
That a Leadership Team comprised of all past Presidents of Synode Montreal & Ottawa Conference present will assist the Chair of the Regional Council Executive in dealing with matters arising on the floor of the Regional Council not already on the Agenda which may require special consideration.
14. Financial Policy to address requests for unbudgeted expenses:  
**Policy Regarding Financial Appeals at Annual Meetings**

POLICY NAME: Policy regarding Financial Appeals at the Annual Meeting of the Regional Council	Date Approved: February 28, 2019
	Review date:
Purpose: The purpose of this policy is to clarify limits of the budget process. <i>The Manual C.2.5.</i>	

**Preamble**

This document outlines the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council’s policy and best practices regarding requests for funding outside of the approved annual budget at the annual meeting.

**Policy**

It is the policy of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council to affirm and uphold the use and function of the Business Committee for matters coming to the floor of the Annual Meeting of the Regional Council.

It is the policy of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council that any motion committing the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council to the expenditure of non-budgeted sums of money be required to have a budget attached;

It is the policy of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council that any motion committing the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council to non-budgeted expenditures which are presented during the Annual Meeting be automatically referred to the Executive who may request input from the Property and Finance Team first before making the decision;

It is the policy of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council that in the interests of fairness and justice, requests for funding of projects or groups not covered in the existing Financial budgets be subject to conditions and criteria similar to those that are currently expected of requests for Mission Support, and other funds available within the Regional Council.

## Nakhonha:ka Regional Council Staff

**Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly**

**Executive Minister**

Tel: (343) 655-2906

Fax: 514-634-2489

Email: [ehebertdaly@united-church.ca](mailto:ehebertdaly@united-church.ca)

Éric’s focus is to provide leadership, counsel and support for the governance and oversight of the administration of the Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, for East Central Ontario Regional Council, and Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council. He supervises staff, and engages the regional council in the priorities and decisions of the General Council of the United Church of Canada. General Council deployed staff of the Office of Vocation, the Community Capacity Development Officer and the Philanthropy Unit will work in parallel relationships with all three regional councils. He communicates and interprets the decisions and perspectives of the regional councils and the Executives to the General Council, other regional councils and communities of faith, and fulfills the duties outlined in The Manual (2022) Section C.3.4.

**Joel Miller**

**Program Assistant to the Executive Minister**

Tel: (514) 819-2926

Fax: 514-634-2489

Email: [jmiller@united-church.ca](mailto:jmiller@united-church.ca)

Joel's staff responsibilities include daily, high level, ongoing administrative support to the Executive Minister, recording secretary for the Executives and Annual General Meetings of each of the three Regional Councils; prepares report books for general meetings, manages wedding licences in Ontario and Quebec: new and temporary applications, transfers from other Regional Councils, annual updates as required provincially, responds to phone, email and in-person enquiries by providing information and referring enquiries to colleagues as appropriate.

**Rev. Dan Hayward**

**Pastoral Relations Minister**

Tel: (514) 819-2925

Fax: 514-634- 2489

Email: [dhayward@united-church.ca](mailto:dhayward@united-church.ca)

Dan's staff responsibilities are to assist the Nakonha:ka Regional Council to serve, support and provide oversight, and pastoral relations support to the Communities of Faith, and for encouraging and supporting Ministry Personnel toward health, joy and excellence in ministry practice.

**Brian Ruse**

**Finance and Office Administrator**

Tel: (514) 634-7015

Fax: 514-634- 2489

Email: [bruse@united-church.ca](mailto:bruse@united-church.ca)

Brian's primary responsibilities are to provide management and accounting support for Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council finances, providing administrative support to the Finance and Property Leadership Group, to the Finance and Extension Board, to Mission Support and Bursary Committees, for Trust and Funds, and for the issuance of Finance and Extension Board Sabbatical and Bursary Grants.

**Dr. Esther Guillén**

**Community of Faith Support Minister**

Tel: (514) 819-3036

Fax: 514-634- 2489

Email: [eguillen@united-church.ca](mailto:eguillen@united-church.ca)

Dr. Guillén is the Community of Faith Support Minister for Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council. In this role she supports churches and other communities of faith to best live out their goals. She assists in building the capacity of communities to engage in ministry, visioning, strategic planning, and regional policy support. Esther comes to this role with a lifetime of experience in the UCC, and a passion for ecumenism. She has a PhD, MA, and BA, all in the history of Christianity, and has spent most of the last 13 years thinking about the Gospel of Matthew (she would be very happy to talk to you about the Magi). You can reach Dr. Guillén by email or by phone Sunday through Thursday.

**Shanna Bernier**

**Program Support Minister for Youth and Young Adults**

Fax: 514-634- 2489

Email: [sbernier@united-church.ca](mailto:sbernier@united-church.ca)

Shanna's primary responsibilities are to support and run existing programs in Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council, such as Youth Forum, Camps and wider church YAYA gatherings; planning new programming, providing education and training opportunities to volunteers, and connecting and networking the different youth ministries in our region.

### **Aviyah Abrams**

#### **Communications and Administrative Support (half-time)**

Tel: (514) 819-3007

Fax: 514-634- 2489

Email: [aabrams@united-church.ca](mailto:aabrams@united-church.ca)

Aviyah's role as a communications/social media specialist for Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council is to expand community engagement and connections, particularly (but not exclusively) through use of the website, various social media platforms and publications. This includes both internal and external communications. This part-time role also includes some administrative support (updating community of faith, leadership teams, cluster and network lists; emails, website, and newsletters, annual meeting preparation.) Aviyah is generally available by email or by phone between 7:00 am and 1:00 pm.

### **Sara DeMelo-Zare**

#### **Archivist (part-time)**

Email: [sdemelozare@united-church.ca](mailto:sdemelozare@united-church.ca)

Responsibilities include preserving, organizing, and maintaining the church's historical records. This also includes providing access and reference services to researchers, members of the congregation, and the public. As an archivist, it is also her responsibility to develop and implement policies and procedures for the management and preservation of the church's archival materials, ensuring physical preservation with external institutions, and collaborating with other staff members, church leaders, and community organizations to promote the use and understanding of the church's history and archival collections.

### **Rev. Caroline Penhale Lukacs**

#### **Minister for the Office of Vocation**

Email: [cpenhale@united-church.ca](mailto:cpenhale@united-church.ca)

Caroline is the Vocational Minister responsible for Quebec and East Ontario. She serves as staff support to the Quebec and East Ontario Candidacy Board, accompanies applicants and candidates along the Candidacy Pathway, and serves as a Vocational Minister to clergy serving in the Nakonha:ka, East Central Ontario and Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regions. Caroline is bilingual (French and English) and comes to this work after serving as a campus minister, life coach, vocational counsellor and mental health advocate and program developer. She has also served as a congregational minister, most recently at the Orleans United Church, Ottawa..

### **Tim Hackborn**

#### **Minister for the Indigenous of Vocation**

Email: [thackborn@united-church.ca](mailto:thackborn@united-church.ca)

Tim's focus is the Indigenous Spiritual Formation and the oversight and discipline of ministry personnel for the Indigenous Church within all of the Regional Councils.

### **Martha Pedoniquotte**

#### **Community Capacity Development Coordinator for Ontario and Quebec**

Tel: 519-373-4205

Email: [mpedoniquotte@united-church.ca](mailto:mpedoniquotte@united-church.ca)

Martha is focused in working with the First Nations Communities of East Central Ontario Regional Council, Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council and Conseil régional Nakonha:ka Regional Council.

**Rev. Roger Janes**

**Stewardship & Gifts Officer**

Email: [rjanes@united-church.ca](mailto:rjanes@united-church.ca)

Roger supports churches and individuals in all areas of stewardship whether that be setting and reaching mission and service goals, developing an annual budget or leaving a legacy gift. Why not give Roger a call and see how he can help you or your church live out God's mission of compassion and generosity? To book a conversation with Roger, please use this [link](#) and select: Book Roger Janes for a 30 minute Stewardship conversation.

**Rev. Tori Mullin**

**Growth Animator for EOORC/ECORC/CrNRC**

Tel: <https://calendly.com/talk-tori/30min>

Email: [tmullin@united-church.ca](mailto:tmullin@united-church.ca)

Tori (they/ielle) is the Growth Animator for Eastern Ontario Outaouais, Nakonha:ka, and East Central Ontario regional councils. Their work focuses on strengthening invitation to the United Church, renewing communities of faith and helping to create new ministries.

## Our Affirmation of Faith

We are not alone,  
We live in God's world.  
We believe in God :  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new  
who works in us and others  
by the Spirit.  
We trust in God.  
We are called to be the Church  
to celebrate God's presence  
to live with respect in Creation  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.