



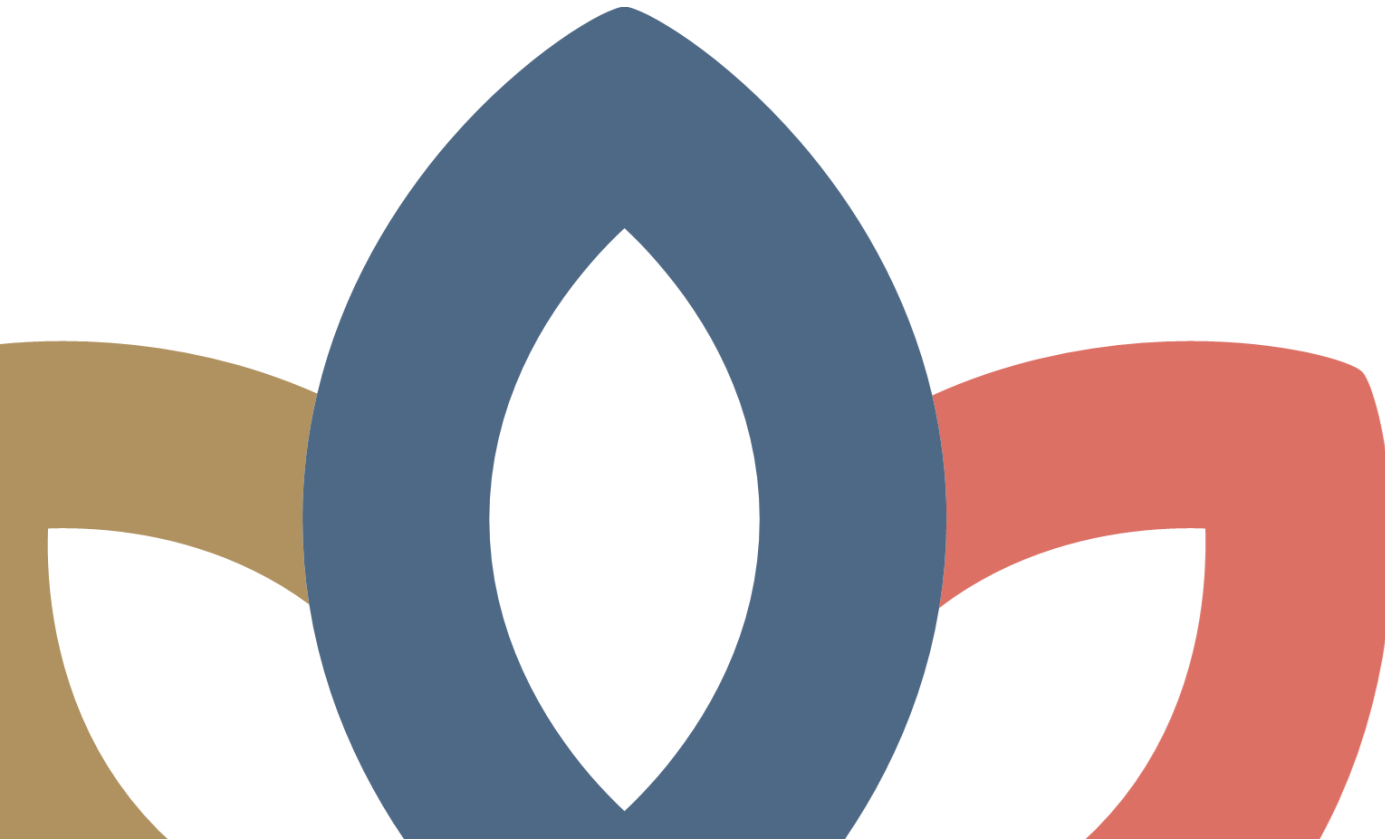
CONSEIL RÉGIONAL
NAKONHA:KA
REGIONAL COUNCIL



Strategic Plan 2026-2028

Objectives and Activities

June 1, 2026





The United Church of Canada

Denominational Strategic Objectives: Justice, Invitation, Leadership



Regional Priority Areas

- **Leadership – Ministry of the whole people of God**
- **Indigenous Justice and Right Relations**
- **Congregational Health and Sustainability**
- **Governance and Property**

Leadership – Ministry of the Whole People of God

- **Invigorating and Inspired Leadership**
 - **Clarity for Congregationally Designated ministers and other lay leaders**
 - Congregational Designated Ministers are accountable to the governing body of their community of faith and have responsibilities which do not extend to the wider church. The Regional Council will build on the Vocations of the Whole People of God statement adopted by the 45th General Council in 2025, which affirmed the vocational lives of lay people, in clarifying how to identify and prepare lay people for these roles and to encourage the increasing presence of lay leaders in local settings while clarifying how to differentiate ordered ministry.

Leadership – Ministry of the Whole People of God

- **Invigorating and Inspired Leadership**
 - **Robust training for LLWL's**
 - Licensed Lay Worship Leaders are trained to meet the needs of communities of faith for occasional worship leadership. The initial and ongoing training of LLWLs will be brought into a Quebec setting in cooperation with the Montreal Diocesan College and Ministère en français, integrating francophone LLWLs into the Regional Council's lay leaders preparation for the first time and allowing the Regional Council to better identify, educate and support LLWLs who can play a key part in theologically sound and inspiring worship that fosters deep spirituality, bold discipleship, and daring justice.

Leadership – Ministry of the Whole People of God

- **Invigorating and Inspired Leadership**
 - **Effective Ordered Ministry Personnel**
 - The Church is moving from an era in which most paid accountable ministry was provided by ordained, commissioned, and recognized ministry personnel, to one in which the life of many communities of faith will be led by lay people. This requires the Regional Council to revisit and rework past assumptions about how to identify, prepare, and support ordered ministers who are hope-filled, adaptive, and effective, and can lead in a variety of contexts.



Leadership – Ministry of the Whole People of God

- **First Third Ministry**

- **Comprehensive Study of Youth and Young Adult Ministry**

- In 2026 (2nd and 3rd Quarter) we will undertake a study across the Tri-region to assess the efficacy of existing Youth and young adult ministry programming, and to gather insight/assess the needs of both the youth themselves, and their community supports (i.e. parents and caregivers) and how best to meet those needs in our ministries.



Leadership – Ministry of the Whole People of God

- **First Third Ministry**

- **YA Ministry**

- Having heard from young adults (in Autumn 2025) a need for them to have accessible, more frequent, non-traditional worshipping community, two young adult ministry animators have been hired. They are launching a pilot project for an online ministry space in the second half of 2026 and the first half of 2027. The shape of the ministry and its activities will be user-generated and may evolve over time.



Leadership – Ministry of the Whole People of God

- **First Third Ministry**

- **Vocational Discernment and Leadership Development**

- In line with the national strategic plan for First-Third ministry, it is essential that we consider the role of leadership development and vocational discernment in the programming offered by Nakonha:ka Regional Council. In 2026/2027 we will review the leadership program offered through United Spirit Camp and Youth Forum. We will offer opportunities for youth and young adults to engage in vocational discernment activities.



Indigenous Justice and Right Relations

- **Listening Circle with indigenous CoF's w/in boundaries of the CrNRC**



Congregational Health and Sustainability

- **Facilitating Connection and Collaborative Ministry**
 - Communities of Faith in Nakonha:ka are looking for more varied and creative ways of working together in their ministries. The Regional Council will assist CoF's by making connections, holding further workshops and information sessions, and seeking flexible ways to manage ministry, personnel, and real property in Nakonha:ka.

Congregational Health and Sustainability

- **Supporting Communities of Faith throughout their Life-Cycle**
 - In Nakonha:ka we have CoFs at every stage of the life-cycle of a congregation. There are new church plants who need support building capacity; established CoFs thriving and continuing long-standing ministries; and CoFs who are ready to work on the legacy of their churches and disband. The Regional Council will work with each CoF respecting and supporting the stage they are at, and providing appropriate pastoral and governance support.

Congregational Health and Sustainability

- **Create a detailed picture of the Ministry, Financial Health, and Property Inventory of every CoF in our RC**
 - Nakonha:ka, like all United Church Regional Councils, is made up of Communities of Faith with varied ministries, financial situations, and property holdings. Supported by our CoF Support Minister and Finance & Extension, the Regional Council will undertake a detailed and comprehensive study of all CoFs in the region, so that we might fully understand the context in which our CoFs minister.

- **Understanding status and responsibilities**
 - In this time of change and transformation, understanding congregational and Regional Council governance responsibilities requires careful and intentional effort. The Regional Council will provide learning and support around these topics, in both English and French, tailored to the specific needs of congregations.

Governance & Property

- **Ensuring Compliance (good governance is good ministry)**
 - Each Community of Faith in our region has the responsibility to maintain good governance structures that are in line with the United Church Manual, as does the Regional Council and our leadership teams and commissions. The Regional Council will review its governance resources, provide sufficient support and educational opportunities, and maintain records of governance structures at the community of faith, pastoral charge, and regional council levels.

Governance & Property

- **Cooperating within our Tri-Region to solidify processes**
 - As we seek new ways to collaborate and cooperate within our communities of faith, we also look to extend that collaboration outward into the regional councils that make up our Tri-Region. The Regional Council will explore co-development of processes and resources with Eastern Ontario RC and East Central Ontario RC.