

**Report of the Division of Financial and Administrative Resources
To
The Annual General Meeting of First Dawn Eastern Edge Region
The United Church of Canada
June 2024**

Message of Thanks in Challenging Times

At a time when all the Communities of Faith (Pastoral Charges) in our Region are being challenged financially and administratively this report expresses thanks to everyone who are working to maintain The United Church of Canada in our Region while recognizing some of the challenges which we struggle to solve.

Thank you to so many people who give their time and talent to maintain the United Church in our Region, especially those in smaller congregations where the workload has fallen on a few faithful people, sometimes over many years.

Thank you to everyone who is involved with the running of Finance and Administration for their Pastoral Charge.

Thank you to everyone who have financially supported our churches with their financial donations in the offering plate, by PAR, by electronic transfer and other ways.

Thank you to those who serve on the Regional Division of Finance and its Teams. In 2024, to improve the efficiency of the Division we amalgamated two of its four teams into one team. The Finance Accountability Team and the Board of Trusts are now one team. Thus, our three teams are: Property – Chair - Dave Dawe; Incorporated Ministries – Chair – Kathy Brett and Financial Accountability and Trusts – Chair – Vacant. Thanks to our Division Secretary – Brenda Andrews – for the way in which she handles her ever increasing load.

Thank you to the Regional Staff whose workload on behalf of the Division has increased markedly due to sale of churches and church property. Incidentally, this creates considerable legal costs for both the Region and its Communities of Faith.

Thank you to General Council and the National Church Office for its guidance and especially for its support of Mission and Service work throughout Canada and Around the World. Congregational donations to the Mission and Service Fund continued to decline. However, in 2024, the Mission and Service Fund returned \$240,000 to Newfoundland and Labrador in the form of modernization grants, support for church programs and church camps. In 2023 we received support for 12 Modernization Grants. All that were submitted were funded.

As we all know there are three primary responsibilities which are creating significant challenges for our Pastoral Charges. Namely, Ministerial Salaries, National Assessments and Insurance. It is

important that we work together to ensure that these are all paid completely and on time. If a Pastoral Charge is having a problem in any of these areas, please let the Division know as we may be able to make suggestions to help.

In closing, the Division of Finance and Administrative Resources appreciates all the support, thoughts and prayers we receive from everyone in the Region as we work to continue our journey of faith. Let us work together to achieve God's vision and mission for the United Church in this Region.

Roy West,
Chair.