

Message from Regional President/Message de la présidente régionale, September 11, 2024

Hello/Bonjour,

Hope you are enjoying the beautiful weather we have been enjoying recently throughout our Region. I note that there are some signs of the change of seasons (notably, cooler evenings and the occasional tree with the beginnings of colour in the leaves). Do take time to enjoy the beauty that God provides in all seasons.

I recently spent time at our FSLDW Regional Executive Council meeting, where I marveled again at the dedication of so many to the work of the Church, and the commitment of folks to our pledge of "deep spirituality, daring justice and bold discipleship". Over 90 people are involved in our various committees and initiatives in NB, PEI and the Gaspé! We are blessed.

We received a presentation from the consultant who will be conducting an evaluation of the restructuring of the church, launched in 2019. Ministry personnel, church boards/councils and volunteers across our Region will be receiving invitations in the coming months to provide thoughts and feedback on our organization as it exists today. I strongly encourage anyone who is invited to take this initiative to heart and respond in an honest and fulsome way, so that necessary adjustments may be made.

We also discussed the decline in FSLDW in Mission and Service offerings between the years 2023 and 2004 -- I will be providing more detailed information in an up-coming communication, but in the meantime, please consider, as Communities of Faith, how you might inject renewed enthusiasm in M&S. As United Church people, it is important to keep top of mind the growing needs of so many outside of our immediate communities.

Please keep your choir photos coming, and do let me know about planned retirements of FSLDW ministers (susalemaistre@gmail.com).

In faith,

Sue