

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
FIRST DAWN EASTERN EDGE REGIONAL COUNCIL
REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE
March 4, 2025 at 9:30am via video conference

RC43

ATTENDANCE

Attendance

Seyi Adeyemo, Amanda Barnes, Bob Bennett, Doreen Cave, Jocelyn Cook, Oliver Dingwell, Faith March-MacCuish, Emma O'Rourke, Rebecca Pike, James Ravenscroft, Heather Sandford, Elsie Squires, Paul Vardy, Roy West.

REGRETS

Regrets

Debra Sparkes Mercer.

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Welcome

The President, Jocelyn Cook, welcomed members to the meeting. The President-Elect, Elsie Squires opened the meeting with prayer.

Opening Prayer

QUORUM AND CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL

Quorum

The President, Jocelyn Cook, noted that a quorum was present and constituted the council in the name of Jesus Christ, the head of the church, for all the business that shall properly come before it.

Constitution of the Council

ACKNOWLEDGING THE LAND

Acknowledging the Land

The President began the meeting by acknowledging the land on which we gather. The island of Newfoundland is the ancestral homeland of the Mi'Kmaq and Beothuk. We also recognize the Inuit and the Innu as the original people of Labrador. We strive for respectful partnerships with all the peoples of this province as we search for collective healing and true reconciliation.

CORRESPONDING MEMBERS

Corresponding Members

MOTION: (Roy West/ Bob Bennett)

That Heather Sandford, Regional Minister, and Seyi Adeyemo, be corresponding members of the March 4, 2025 meeting of the Executive.

CARRIED

MINUTES

Minutes

MOTION: (Elsie Squires/Amanda Barnes)

That the minutes of the December 10, 2024 meeting of the Executive be adopted.

CARRIED

MOTION: (Doreen Cave/Bob Bennett)

That the minutes of the December 18, 2024 meeting of the Executive be adopted.

CARRIED

MOTION: (Heather Sandford/James Ravenscroft)

That the minutes of the February 20, 2025 meeting of the Executive be adopted.

CARRIED

BUSINESS ARISING

Business Arising

Regional Council Structure Evaluation - Appendix A

The Regional Minister, Heather Sandford, introduced a report from the consultant for the Regional Council Structure evaluation, Jenny Stephens, included in the appendix.

RC Structure Evaluation

The consultant provided an accountability report showing a low response to the requests for feedback about the regional council structure and functioning; while informing that the data-gathering phase is nearing completion.

MOTION: (Rebecca Pike/Doreen Cave)

That the deadlines for feedback from ministry personnel, governance appointed members, and community of faith representatives be extended by one week, and a reminder email containing a greater explanation attached to each survey link about who is to fill out, be sent. The deadline for the communities of faith will stay the same.

CARRIED

**Green Bay
South
Review
(File 2023-
1012-01)**

Green Bay South Review (File #2023-1012-01)

The Regional Minister, Heather Sandford, provided an update on this work. The Executive Minister and the Regional Minister had a well-attended meeting with the board of the pastoral charge to set up trustees and a new governance structure. The result of the meetings was hopeful and the pastoral charge was well engaged with the governance workshop. Other workshops are planned; Ministry and Personnel Committee workshop (March 17) and Respectful Workplace (tentative for April 1). A report on the completion of the work will be made available at the next Executive meeting.

**Kindred
Works –
Vacant Land**

Kindred Works-Vacant Land Proposal

The Regional Minister reported that the Executive Minister has an update on the office dimensions for the regional office and archives, to see about the possibility to have it housed in the proposed rebuild. The President will speak with the Executive Minister about a further update.

**George St.
UC Property
Task Group**

George Street United Church Property Task Group

Roy West, chair, Division of Finance and Administrative Resources, provided an update on the efforts by the working group to secure a lease with the Jimmy Pratt Memorial Outreach Centre. The outreach centre has identified their needs for space and the working group is developing a lease that aligns with these identified needs.

**Cochrane
Street UC**

Cochrane Street United Church-CCOPC

CCOPC

Roy West, chair, Division of Finance and Administrative Resources, reported that discussions are ongoing regarding a request from First Light to take ownership of the building. A meeting with members of the Division of Finance and Administration, representatives from Cochrane Street congregation, and the church lawyer is being scheduled so we can gain an understanding of the wishes of the congregation.

**Lunch and
Learn**

Lunch and Learn

Rebecca Pike, chair, Division of Regional Council Services and Support, provided an update that Lenten Lunch and Learn sessions will go ahead with the proposed dates: March 12, March 19, March 26, and April 2. The fall clergy retreat is booked for October, 2025 at Max Simms Camp.

**100th
Anniversary**

100th Anniversary

The Executive Minister will offer more updates when available.

**Garnish-
Frenchman's
Cove PC**

Garnish-Frenchman's Cove Pastoral Charge

The commission set up by the Executive will work with the Garnish-Frenchman's Cove Pastoral Charge to assist them in moving forward in a healthy way. The members of the commission will be finalized by the end of this week.

Chaplaincy

Chaplaincy

The decisions made at the February 20, 2025 Executive meeting are currently being communicated.

**Regional
Grant**

Regional Grant for Repairs and Maintenance

The Division of Finance and Administrative Resources is considering the possibility of a regional grant for property repairs and maintenance. The Division will need more time to work on this item. The Division has asked the Financial Accountability, Investments, and Trusts Team to consider this possibility and bring back recommendations.

CORRESPONDENCE - Appendix BCorrespondence

1. Thank you and Appreciation - Notes of thanks and appreciation were received from those listed in the appendix for the Christmas gifts received from the region; for the Christmas wishes; and for the support of the region.

Thank you and Appreciation**REPORTS**Reports**PRESIDENT**President

The President, Jocelyn Cook, presented her report. The President reported that she has attended services, offered prayers, and represented the region at various events. The President expressed gratitude for being entrusted with this role. The Executive thanked the President for her care and generosity in doing this work on behalf of the region.

COMMUNITIES OF FAITH SUPPORT AND PLANNING – Appendix CCommunities of Faith Support & Planning

Bob Bennett, chair, presented the report of the division, included in the appendix.

HUMAN RESOURCES – Appendix DHuman Resources

Paul Vardy, chair, presented the report of the division, included in the appendix. The chair provided an update on the work of the various committees and reported that the retirees' support team and the chaplaincy team are having difficulties getting members to serve on the teams.

(Paul Vardy left the meeting)

AFFIRMAffirm

James Ravenscroft, chair, presented the report of the committee. The chair noted that the committee has made a lot of progress, and continues to work with various committees towards becoming an affirming region. The committee continues to work on the study guide for Divisions and Teams; which was made available. The chair will be presenting at the cross regional check-in and a proposal is being developed. When completed, the proposal will be brought for a vote at the Regional Council annual meeting.

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES - Appendix EFinance and Administrative Resources

Roy West, chair, presented the report of the division, included in the appendix. The chair noted that a budget request form has been sent out to committees and teams to help plan expenses for the 2026 year. The chair noted that his term is ending, and that this is the last Executive meeting that he will attend as the chair.

Hillview United Pastoral ChargeHillview PC

Roy West, chair, Finance and Administrative Resources, reported that the region has paid just over \$37,000 (thirty-seven thousand), owed by the Pastoral Charge for the former minister's salary. Hillview Pastoral Charge had agreed to place a lien on the manse for the repayment of the funds to the region, however, they have not signed the agreement and have now informed the region that they will not sign the document unless the region allows them to sell the manse. The Pastoral Charge has not completed their MAP. The Regional Minister, Heather Sandford, reported that they have been given until the end of March to complete the pieces required by the Regional Council around their ministry needs. The Property team has been asked by Pastoral Relations to complete a manse inspection. These requirements will help the Pastoral Relations Team to assess the future of the Pastoral Charge and help them make decisions. The Regional Minister will work with the Division of Communities of Faith Support and Planning and Pastoral Relations on this matter.

Cemetery Policy and GuidelinesCemetery Policy

The Division of Finance and Administrative Resources is working on a draft Regional Cemetery Policy that will be presented for approval at the June meeting.

Blanket
Insurance**Blanket Insurance Policy**

The Division of Finance and Administrative Resources recommends to the Executive that Creston-Red Harbour Pastoral Charge be advised that the region will be staying with the current blanket insurance policy for 2025. The Division further recommends that the region consider all possible options for insurance for future years, including the ability for pastoral charges to choose to “opt-out” of the Regional Council Blanket Insurance Policy. If that becomes the case, the Regional Council will need to set minimum standards that are considered adequate for all United Church properties. A special meeting of the Executive will be called as soon as possible to resolve this matter by September.

(Heather Sandford left the meeting)
(Oliver Dingwell left the meeting)
(Faith March-MacCuish joined the meeting)
(Paul Vardy joined the meeting)

Nominations**NOMINATIONS**

Emma O'Rourke, chair of Nominations, reported receipt of a list of nominations, and noted that the committee will meet as a group this week. Paul Vardy, chair of Human Resources, noted that this is his last Executive meeting as the chair.

Tri-Regional
Staff Support**TRI-REGIONAL STAFF SUPPORT**

Doreen Cave, reporting member to the Regional Council, provided an update on the committee's meeting with Rev. Jenny Stephens, Regional Council Evaluation Consultant. The committee reported that Seyi Adeyemo, Office Administration and Communications Staff, has completed his probationary period, and that the 360 review for Catherine Stuart, Regional Minister for Children, Youth and Young Adults has been completed.

General
Council
Representative**GENERAL COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVE**

No report.

United Church
Women**UNITED CHURCH WOMEN**

No report.

Regional
Council
Services and
Support**REGIONAL COUNCIL SERVICES AND SUPPORT** - Appendix F

Rebecca Pike, chair, presented the report of the division, included in the appendix.

Executive
Minister**EXECUTIVE MINISTER**

The Executive Minister, Faith March-MacCuish, presented her report. The Executive Minister highlighted an important internal report, which will be used for conversation across the church about “looking towards 2035”. The conversations will be with the Executives and staff, commissioners to General Council and with congregations across the church. There will be a meeting of the regional ministers for our three regions in St. John's in April to discuss this report. The Executive Minister presented the internal report to the executive, which outlines the United Church of Canada's vision for 2035. The General Council hopes this will lead to positive changes in places where there are United Churches. It will be a collaborative initiative of the General Council, Regional Councils and congregations.

MOTION: (Elsie Squires/Emma O'Rourke)

That the reports of the region be accepted as presented.

CARRIED

Adjournment**ADJOURNMENT**

Having no further business, the President declared that the meeting adjourn.

NEXT MEETING

Next
Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive is scheduled for June 5, 2025, at 9.30 am, via Zoom video conferencing.

BENEDICTION

Benediction

The Past President, Amanda Barnes, closed the meeting with prayer.

Rev. Jocelyn Cook
President

Rev. Faith March-MacCuish
Executive Minister

Appendix A**REGIONAL COUNCIL STRUCTURE EVALUATION**

FDEE REGIONAL COUNCIL GOVERNANCE EVALUATION
Accountability Report - February 24, 2025

Thank you for making me a corresponding member to your Executive for the duration of the project. Since my December 10, 2024, accountability report, the data gathering phase of the project is nearing completion. Surveys were sent out from the regional council office mid January to the four different groups. Thank you to Oliver Dingwell and James Ravenscroft for providing feedback on the surveys prior to distribution. Their suggestions were incorporated.

The table below provides the numbers of returned surveys with due dates. I have provided regular updates and encouragement to fill in these surveys both at the meetings I've attended and through the newsletters.

Survey	FDEE	Due date
Communities of faith	4	March 15, 2025
RC members - Community of faith representatives	9	February 28, 2025
RC members - Ministry personnel	19	February 28, 2025
Governance appointed	6	February 10, 2025 extended to February 25
Total	38	

Silence is hard to interpret, so I wonder if the low response to the request for feedback from individuals about the regional council structure and functioning, means that regional council members are tired, discouraged or distracted, or people think the governance is running so well that feedback isn't necessary. I'm surprised how few people involved in governance have filled out the survey as I have the impression from the meetings I have attended that there is support and interest in the project. Anecdotally, I have heard that people thought there were duplicate emails so deleted one or more (for example when ministry personnel received both the governance one and the one for ministry personnel as a regional council member), or that there was confusion about the role of team chairs distributing the governance survey. As often happens a few didn't think they had received it although they were sent it. Hence extending the deadline. Seyi Adeyemo will collate the responses to the survey questions for my analysis once the deadline is passed.

The table below shows the meetings I have attended with dates. I have learnt a lot from observing the business portion and from the focused conversation which I have led as part of the agenda. Thank you to those who included this evaluation project in your busy schedules and were so generous with your time. I had opportunity to track particular pieces of business through the teams and Divisions which was helpful to understand the functioning of the structure. FDEE was a slower adopter compared to the other two regional councils with no invitations to meetings until prompted by my December accountability report and staff in January. I'm interpreting that as people being over-extended.

Appendix A - continued**REGIONAL COUNCIL STRUCTURE EVALUATION** - continued

Meeting	Date
Regional Council executive in person meeting	September 4-5, 2024
Division of RC Services and Support	January 14, 2025
Cross Regional Check Up	January 15, 2025
Eco-Justice (tri-region)	January 16, 2025
Justice, Mission and Outreach Committee (tri-region)	January 28, 2025
Division of Community of Faith Planning and Support	February 11, 2025
Clergy Check In	February 11, 2025
Cross Regional Check Up	February 12, 2025
Pastoral Relations Team	February 13, 2025
Division of Human Resources	February 18, 2025

I met with the Tri-Regional Staff Committee on February 4, 2025. I appreciated their care of staff and their concern about the size of governance and number of meetings.

On the same day I had conversation with the three General Council staff deployed to the Atlantic regions – Sharon Ballantyne, Roger Janes and Andrew Richardson. Insightful were their perceptions about the vitality of the communities of faith and ministry personnel. They have less interaction with governance and more direct contact with communities of faith and ministry personnel than I expected.

On December 19, 2024, Faith and I met with the co-chairs and staff support for the General Council Evaluation project to ensure clarity of scope. There was agreement to share data. You may have noticed the statement in the covering emails, preamble to the surveys and in newsletters preparing the constituency for a further survey from the GC Evaluation Task Group. We learnt that March was proposed, by which time the surveys for the regional council governance structure should be complete.

I am open to your feedback, and remedy if necessary, about whether I've had adequate exposure to the functioning of your governance structure. I am prepared to meet with other Divisions and teams over the next few weeks, mindful that analysing survey data and writing the report will take considerable time.

Respectfully submitted,

Jenny Stephens

Consultant to FDEE Governance Evaluation.

jenny15stephens@gmail.com

Appendix B

CORRESPONDENCE

Thank You & Appreciation

Correspondence List

Thank you for the Christmas Gift

Rev. John McGonigle
Rev. George & Mrs. Anne Kean
Mr. Glenn & Mrs. Margaret Jarvis
Mrs. Daphne Coish
Mrs. Blanche March
Mrs. Sandra Tucker
Rev. Dr. Tony & Mrs. Beverly Newell
Rev. Bernice Spracklin
Rev. Nancy Mojica-Fisher
Mrs. Pansy Harris
Rev. Sheldon & Mrs. Christine LeGrow
Rev. Peggy Johnson
Mrs. Rosalind Chaulk

Thank you for the Christmas Wishes

RC Archdiocese of St. John's – Peter Hundt

Thank you for the Support

Stella's Circle

Appendix C

COMMUNITIES OF FAITH SUPPORT & PLANNING

COMMUNITY OF FAITH SUPPORT AND PLANNING

March 04, 2025

Since the last meeting of the Executive, there have not been any new MAPS approved

MAPS In Progress:

St. George's
Brigus-Cupids-Georgetown

We did meet with Jenny Stephens in early February.

Future Directions met in February and discussed what has been happening in various areas of FDEE. The North East Avalon Pastoral Unit has met and is enthusiastic about possibilities. Two other units are attempting to find a time to meet. Getting the Pastoral Units working is taking a little longer than we had anticipated, but we are pleased that there appears to be interest in the idea.

Appendix D**HUMAN RESOURCES****Division of Human Resources
First Dawn Eastern Edge Region
Accountability Report****Green Bay South Pastoral Charge**

Modules for Governance have been started.

A Ministry & Personnel workshop is in process.

Negotiations are in progress for a workshop on a Safe and Healthy Workplace.

There is a desire to speak with the Future Directions Team.

Dunville United Church

Lay led ministry is progressing.

Greens Harbour/Hearts Content Pastoral Charges

Still awaiting the arrival of Rev. Emma Mutisi from Zimbabwe.

St. Mark's United Church, Templeman

Decisions re sale of church have been passed to the Division of Property.

Date for service of closure to be announced.

Garnish/Frenchman's Cove Pastoral Charge

Chairs of Divisions have met re future direction of this Pastoral Charge. The Regional Council Executive will form the governing body to administer operation of the Charge.

MINISTERIAL/HUMAN AND PASTORAL RELATIONS TEAM**First United Mount Pearl - Rev. Karen Bursey**

Rev. Karen Bursey has been appointed to First United Mount Pearl, 20 hours per week for the period January 1, 2025 - June 30, 2025 to cover a period of medical leave.

Rev. Marilyn Rees - Change in Pastoral Relations

Rev. Marilyn Rees and Whitbourne Pastoral Charge effective July 31, 2025.

Wesleyville-Valleyfield and Newtown-Lumsden Pastoral Charges

Memorandum of Understanding approved re Cooperative Ministry.

Approvals to Search

- Whitbourne Pastoral Charge
- Twillingate Pastoral Charge

Approved of Church Closures and disbanding of the Congregation

- North West Brook, Hillview Pastoral Charge
- Ebenezer United Church, Wesleyville/Valleyfield Pastoral Charge
- St. Marks United Church, Newtown-Lumsden Pastoral Charge
- Caplin Cove United Church, Little Hearts Ease Pastoral Charge

Approved Church Closures and Congregation staying together

- Bauline United Church, Pouch Cove – Bauline Pastoral Charge (Congregation will worship at the Community Centre)

Humber United Church, Corner Brook

- Closing service took place on January 12, 2025 (Amalgamation)

Appendix D - continued

HUMAN RESOURCES - continued

Approval of property sale

- Campbellton Pastoral Charge Manse

With all Manse Sales, pastoral relations asks that the proceeds from the sale be placed in a restricted fund for ministry purposes.

Covenanting Services

- February 9, 2025 Rev. Liberty Matabire and Bay Roberts Pastoral Charge.
Still pending.
- February 23, 2025 Rev. Liberty Matabire and Coley's Point Pastoral Charge.

Swift Current Pastoral Charge

Labrador West Pastoral Charge - Rev. Deepak Kristi

- Immigration process is almost complete and Rev Deepak Kristi and his family will be arriving in Labrador West on April 3, 2025.

RETIREE SUPPORT TEAM

Valerie gave notice of her intention to resign as Secretary of this Team at the Annual General Meeting of the Region. Paul thanked Valerie and Stephanie for the work they have been doing with this Team.

Some discussion followed re the future direction of Retiree Support and how to be effective.

CHAPLAINCY

Some work and support has been taken over by the Regional Executive.

The Region will assure that the United Church Chaplaincy will be lifted up and ends well with its closure on June 30, 2025.

Appendix E

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES

Report of the Division of Financial and Administrative Resources to the Regional Executive of First Dawn Eastern Edge Region of The United Church of Canada.

March 1st, 2025

1. Introduction.

Since the last meeting of the Regional Executive the Division has met twice on January 20th, 2025 and February 27th, 2025.

2. George Street United Church Building.

The Work Group continues to work towards a lease with The Jimmy Pratt Memorial Outreach Centre. They have identified their space needs and the Work Group is developing a lease based on those needs.

3. CCOPC

Conversations are ongoing regarding the request from First Light to take over ownership of the building. There is to be a meeting this week of the CCOPC membership (Cochrane Street Congregation) to discuss their response to the First Light request.

4. Hillview United Pastoral Charge

The Region has paid the \$37,000 owed to the ex-Minister in salary. Hillview Pastoral Charge has agreed to a lien being placed on the manse for the repayment of the \$37,000 to the Region at the time the manse is sold. Currently Hillview PC is refusing to sign the lien agreement until they receive permission to sell the manse.

5. Cemetery Policy and Guidelines

The Division, with help from our Executive Minister, has drafted a Regional Cemetery Policy. The Policy will be finalised at our next meeting in March and brought forward for approval.

6. Regional Grants for Modernization and Technology.

Currently the National Church has both matching Modernization grants and Technology grants for pastoral charges churches and camps. The Region offers low interest loans. The Division has asked the Finance and Board of Trusts Team to investigate the possibility and terms of the Region establishing grants in these areas as a means of further supporting our congregations in these difficult times.

7. Agnes Pratt Home.

Rev. Faith, Brenda Andrews, Kathy Brett and Roy West met with the Board Chairs of the Agnes Pratt Home and the Agnes Pratt Foundation to discuss the viability of the Agnes Pratt Home Board which is having difficulty in recruiting new board members. After a good discussion it was agreed that it is important to continue with the Board as it gives strong support to the needs of patients, their families and the staff. It was agreed that the Region will make every effort to assist in the finding of new board members.

8. Church Insurance

The concept of the Regional Group Insurance Policy is under challenge. Creston-Red Harbour Pastoral Charge and King's Point Pastoral Charge (3 congregations) have defied Regional Policy. They have entered into separate insurance agreements with other insurers and attempted to cancel their group insurance. These actions come at a time when affording our group insurance has become an issue for many of our churches and camps.

The Division has also been in correspondence with Loon Bay Camp as it struggled to pay its insurance for 2024.

Appendix E - continued

FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES - continued

At its meeting in January the Division passed the following motion:

"That the Division of Finance and Administrative Resources recommend to First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Executive that Creston-Red Harbour Pastoral Charge be advised that the Region will be staying with the current blanket insurance policy for 2025. The Division further recommends that the Region consider all possible options for insurance for future years, including the ability for pastoral charges to choose to "opt out" of the Regional Council Blanket Insurance Policy, and that the Region set the minimum standards that are considered adequate insurance for all United Church properties."

If these recommendations are accepted and we do make changes for the future, it still leaves the question of how the Region will respond to those churches who are refusing to be part of the group insurance for 2025

Respectfully submitted,

Roy West, Chair

Appendix F**REGIONAL COUNCIL SERVICES AND SUPPORT****REPORT OF DIVISION OF REGIONAL COUNCIL SERVICES & SUPPORT TO
EXECUTIVE OF FIRST DAWN EASTERN EDGE REGION OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF
CANADA****March 1, 2025**

Since the last meeting of the Regional Executive, the Division has met twice on January 14 and February 25, 2025.

January 14th Meeting

- Jenny Stephens joined our meeting as part of the regional evaluation process.
- Committee Updates:
 - o **Faith Formation and Leadership Development Team**- No one attended the Advent Zoom event. Plans in place for Lenten Lunch and learns, team working on speakers
 - o **Justice, Mission & Outreach Team and Justice, Mission & Outreach Team** – had yet to meet.
 - o **Regional Council Programming & Planning Team** – The Regional Meeting will be held May 2-4, 2025 in Corner Brook, planning to begin with the new convenor.
 - o **Communications and Stewardship** – No convenors to report.
- Following our fall meeting, Division Mandates are found in the Governance Manual. Some teams have reviewed their mandates and commented that the tasks feel impossible. It was suggested that teams take extra time to reflect in this evaluation season.
- We discussed the workshops for 2024 Annual Meeting – Faith Formation was not aware of the plan to offer them, still need to check with Heather about these as well.

February 25th Meeting

- Committee Updates:
 - o **Faith Formation and Leadership Development Team**: Lenten lunch and learns will be going ahead on the proposed dates, March 12, March 19, March 26, April 2. The fall clergy retreat is booked for October 2025 at Max Simms Camp
 - o **Justice, Mission & Outreach Team** – Team had an initial meeting with new convener. They discussed plans and Hardy is still working on connecting with volunteers who did not attend.
 - o **Children, Youth & Young Adults Team** - The committee met once, they have a second meeting on the books. They have started discerning what they are going to do, including connecting with local camps to explore ways they could all work together, trying to connect with leaders and Sunday school teachers in faith communities. They hope to create a contact list of CE focused people in communities of faith. We have six youth/young adult representatives for General Council this summer. We also have a young adult who will lead the Youth.
 - o **Regional Council Programming & Planning Team** - registration for the Regional Meeting is now open. Accommodations will be in hotels as we cannot stay on the campus. Meal details are still being worked out and the planning team is working on developing vignettes sharing our history in the United Church and locally connected to the theme.
 - o **Communications and Stewardship** – No convenors to report.
- Regional Priorities were shared - Discussion occurred regarding the lack of accountability for the actions (when/how/who), which did not seem tangible. It also seemed repetitive in the actions. Communal wonderings about who was taking responsibility for what. Reflection was had that without a communications convenor, it would be nearly impossible to do our work, and these actions were requested without more direction.
- Discussion around budget requests for 2026 for the teams along with Youth@Region and Children@Region.

Appendix F - continued

REGIONAL COUNCIL SERVICES AND SUPPORT - continued

- During the budget conversation, it was revealed that the 2025 budget does not provide funding for Children, Youth, and Young Adults. Rebecca proposed that the budgets for the Justice, Mission, and Outreach Team and the Faith Formation and Leadership Development Team could perhaps support this group in 2025 if needed.

Following this the Division passed the following motion:

"That the Justice, Mission and Outreach Team (\$10,000) and the Faith Formation and Leadership Development Team (\$10,000) be allowed to share with the Children, Youth and Young Adults Team in the 2025 budget year."

While the team currently has no planned spending needs, the other teams wanted to offer support. If this recommendation is not accepted, then the Children, Youth and Young Adults Team will need other sources of financial assistance for any programming in 2025

Submitted By: Rebecca Pike-Winter, Chair.