

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
FUNDY ST. LAWRENCE DAWNING WATERS REGIONAL COUNCIL
REGIONAL COUNCIL EXECUTIVE
June 17, 2025 at 10:00am via video conference

RC1

ATTENDANCE

Attendance

Adekunle Adeniyi, Julielynn Anderson, Kathy Bigsby, Jim Blanchard, Richard Bowley, Elaine Burrows, Pix Butt, Rachel Campbell, Kevin Dingwell, Heather Donnelly, Hugh Ellis, Tracy Friars, Kate Jones, Sue LeMaistre, Faith March-MacCuish, Micah Spencer, Elizabeth Stevenson.

REGRETS

Regrets

Brion Crossman, Sheila Gallant, Jean Herman.

EQUITY SUPPORT TEAM

Equity Support Team

Pix Butt, Affirm Committee chair, introduced the Equity Self-Monitoring questions. For today's meeting, each of the Executive members gathered were asked to focus on one of the questions to monitor, and report back later in the meeting.

QUORUM AND CONSTITUTION OF THE COUNCIL

Quorum

The newly installed president, Hugh Ellis, noted that a quorum was present and constituted the council in the name of Jesus Christ, the head of the church, for the business that shall properly come before it.

Constitution of the Council

WELCOME AND OPENING PRAYER

Welcome

The President, Hugh Ellis, chaired the meeting, welcomed everyone, and thanked the members for their attendance. The President offered special welcome to new members of the Executive; Rachel Campbell, President-Elect; Micah Spencer, Member at Large; and Jim Blanchard; Tri-Regional Staff Support Committee reporting member. The President lit the Christ candle and the Affirm candles, and opened the meeting with prayer.

Opening Prayer

ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE LAND

Acknowledgment of the Land

The President acknowledged the territory on which we gather, live, work and worship as the ancestral land of our indigenous siblings. We strive for respectful partnerships with all the peoples of this land in becoming the community that God truly calls us to be.

AGENDA

Agenda

The President noted that the agenda was circulated in advance of the meeting.

MOTION: (Sue LeMaistre/Julielynn Anderson)

That the agenda be adopted as presented, with the addition of one piece of correspondence, and the addition of the Regional Minister position description and Proposals under New Business.

CARRIED

MINUTES

Minutes

MOTION: (Richard Bowley/Tracey Friars)

That the minutes of the March 27, 2025 meeting of the Regional Council Executive be adopted.

CARRIED

It was noted for the minutes that the following motion was approved by an email vote, which was declared on April 10, 2025:

MOTION: (Faith March-MacCuish/Brion Crossman)

That the \$2000 (two thousand) grant be used with regional funds to subsidize travel for the president and president-elect of the region to attend the 100th anniversary service of the United Church, in St. John's, NL.

CARRIED**Business Arising****BUSINESS ARISING****Regional Council Structure Evaluation****Evaluation of Regional Council Structure**

The Executive Minister reported that the consultant presented the findings of the report at the annual meeting. The full report is expected at the end of the month. Once received, this report will be shared with the Executive for further discussion and next steps.

UC Policy Webinars**United Church Policy Webinars**

The Executive Minister reported that the roll-out for training on this new policy is expected in the fall.

Communications Group**Communications Group**

Sue LeMaistre provided an update on the work of the communications group. There have been two cluster meetings held since the Executive last met; one in Bathurst, NB, and one in Prince Edward Island. Both cluster meetings were well attended and the information presented was very well received. It was noted that members in the region do crave connection and miss presbyteries for their ability to gather people together.

Investment Policy Review**Investment Policy Review**

Kevin Dingwell, chair of Financial and Mission Services, updated the Executive on this work. The chair reported that the region's investment counselor, RBC Phillips, Hager & North, has studied the region's portfolio. The investment counselor detailed how the firm works to ensure that the regional investments are compiled with United Church ethical values and also take into account a resource from the American Friends Service Committee Human Rights Screen. The Investment Policy does include ethical investing.

(Elizabeth Stevenson joined the meeting)

Communities of Faith Growth Group**Communities of Faith Growth Group**

Elizabeth Stevenson joined the meeting to present an update from the Communities of Faith Growth Group. An update was offered on the work with St. Paul's United Church and the French ministries, as well as updates regarding meetings with Ukulele church and the Mountainview Intercultural fellowship. This group will continue its meetings in the fall. The Executive members provided the group with several other suggestions and comments, including offering bible studies and supporting campus ministries. It was shared that there have been struggles when renting to outside groups, and how to best gather those with differences. The Executive Minister shared that workshops around radical welcome are available to help.

Correspondence**CORRESPONDENCE**

1. **Winsloe United Church** - The Executive Minister read a letter of thanks received from Winsloe United Church for the region's service in celebration of the life and ministry of Rev. Kendall Harrison, held at the beginning of the annual meeting on May 30, 2025.

Reports**REPORTS**

(Sue LeMaistre assumed the chair)

President**PRESIDENT**

Hugh Ellis offered his thanks and appreciation for the support he has received in this new role. The President updated the Executive on some recent health issues that he has been experiencing. The President asks for grace and compassion as he walks this health journey during the next year.

(Hugh Ellis reassumed the chair)
(Elizabeth Stevenson and Tracy Friars left the meeting)

EXECUTIVE MINISTER**Executive Minister**

The Executive Minister provided a health update on Brion Crossman, Property chair. The Executive Minister offered prayer and healing mercies for the President and Property chair.

The Executive Minister reported that the three regional annual meetings have all taken place, as well as the shared commemorative service with Bermuda-Nova Scotia Regional Council in Sackville, NB, and the national anniversary service, held at Gower Street United Church in St. John's, NL. All of these events went well, and the Executive Minister expressed gratitude for all who prepared and participated in these events. The Executive Minister updated the Executive on the upcoming General Council 45 in August, with the first preparatory sessions coming up at the end of June.

A question was raised regarding youth gatherings, given that the 2026 meeting will take place online. It was noted that there are funds in the budget to support in-person youth gatherings each year.

AFFIRM**Affirm**

Affirm chair, Pix Butt, reported that there are no action items to bring to this meeting of the Executive.

FAITH FORMATION AND EDUCATION**Faith Formation and Education**

Heather Donnelly, chair, reported that there were no action items for this meeting. The chair offered thanks and appreciation for Michelle Armstrong, secretary of the committee, who has completed her term on the committee.

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN – Appendix A**United Church Women**

Elaine Burrows presented the report of the United Church Women, included in the appendix.

INCORPORATED MINISTRIES**Incorporated Ministries**

In the absence of the chair, the Executive Minister reported that no meetings of the committee have taken place since the last meeting of the Executive. It was noted that several camp accreditations will take place this summer.

ARCHIVES AND RECORDS**Archives and Records**

Julielynn Anderson, chair, reported that the committee is awaiting responses from the General Council archives on several matters. It was also noted that the archives tab is very difficult to find on the regional website, and the chair hopes to improve this placement. The Executive offered some suggestions. It was also suggested that she touch back with communications staff at the regional office, and noted that it may be a browser issue.

JUSTICE, MISSION AND OUTREACH – Appendix B**Justice, Mission and Outreach**

Kathy Bigsby, chair, presented the report of the Justice, Mission and Outreach Committee, included in the appendix. The chair asked the members for any feedback regarding support for the mental health working group.

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

Jim Blanchard was introduced as the new reporting member for the committee. The Executive Minister noted that the committee will be meeting next week. Work has begun on the position description for the regional minister, and work to fill this position will continue at that meeting.

PASTORAL RELATIONS – Appendix C**Pastoral Relations**

Kate Jones, chair, presented the report of the Pastoral Relations Committee, included in the appendix. The chair highlighted several issues arising from the work of the committee.

MOTION: (Kate Jones/Sue LeMaistre)

That Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council send a letter to the statistical department advising that the information under the Dalhousie-New Mills Pastoral Charge be changed to Chaleur United Congregation and the worship site be called Bethel United Church.

CARRIED**Property****PROPERTY** – Appendix D

In the absence of the chair, Faith March-MacCuish, Executive Minister, presented the report, included in the appendix. The Executive Minister highlighted the work of the committee surrounding cemeteries and funds available for the maintenance of abandoned cemeteries. The committee is developing a policy regarding this work.

Tatamagouche Centre**Tatamagouche Centre**

The Executive Minister shared the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), developed between The United Church of Canada and the Women of First Light. The MOU details the transfer of the Tatamagouche Centre, and includes the significance of the transfer, the guiding principles for this work, the scope of the transition, roles and responsibilities, and objectives of the MOU.

MOTION: (Pix Butt/Jim Blanchard)

That Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council endorses the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between The United Church of Canada and the women of First Light, in the matter of the land transfer of the property known as the Tatamagouche Centre as outlined in the “Shared Commitment for Rematriation at Tatamagouche Centre”.

CARRIED

The Executive thanked the Executive Minister for her leadership on this work.

Break**BREAK****Reports****REPORTS** – continued**Regional Council Planning****REGIONAL COUNCIL PLANNING**

Richard Bowley, chair, reported that the annual meetings went well; and offered thanks to all who were involved. The committee are gathering feedback and will report in the fall.

Financial and Mission Services**FINANCIAL AND MISSION SERVICES** – Appendix E

Kevin Dingwell, chair, presented the report of the committee, included in the appendix. The chair noted that new members have been added to the committee, with thanks to the Nominations committee for their support in filling the vacant positions.

Nominations**NOMINATIONS** – Appendix F

The report of the committee is included in the appendix

MOTION: (Kevin Dingwell/Sue LeMaistre)

That the reports of the region be accepted as presented.

CARRIED**Toward 2035****TOWARD 2035**

The Executive Minister continued the presentation on Toward 2035, as was introduced to the region at the annual meeting. The purpose of the report is to invite the wider church into conversation on who we wish to be in 2035; in order to interrupt the projected trajectory.

Significant data has been collected, which highlights a decline in membership and the numbers of pastoral charges in The United Church of Canada at three points in time; 1992, 2023, and projections for 2035. A PowerPoint presentation was shared with data detailing the decline in numbers of membership, identified givers, attendance at Sunday worship and Sunday School. The data goes on to project the number of pastoral charges with deficits, pastoral charges without ministry personnel, denominational finances, and possible vulnerabilities; as identified by three markers; participation, financial and ministry leadership. It is projected that by 2035 over 60% (sixty) pastoral charges will have high vulnerability with respect to financial sustainability and lack of ministry personnel, with over 80% (eighty) of pastoral charges having worship attendance of 50 (fifty) or less.

The Executive Minister noted that this will be the topic for discussion at the fall meeting of the Executive, considering; How do we interrupt this trajectory? How do we attract new members to reflect the new diversity in Canada? How do we be resilient? How do we support congregations to ensure a United Church presence in communities throughout the region? How do we be strategic so that the united Church is not just a line in a history book?

The Regional Ministers will be provided with regional data, and will also be invited to participate in the discussions at the September meeting of the Executive.

NEW BUSINESS

New Business

MEETING DATES 2025-26

Executive Meeting Dates

The Executive discussed meeting dates for the 2025-26 year. The following Executive meeting dates were agreed upon:

September 8-9, 2025 – in person at Regional Council Office
(beginning at 9:00am on September 8)
December 2, 2025 at 9:30am – via Zoom
March 26, 2026 at 9:30am – via Zoom
June 19, 2026 at 9:30am – via Zoom

REGIONAL MINISTER

Regional Minister

The position description for the Regional Minister is complete. Feedback has been collected from the other regional ministers in the eastern regions. The job description is similar across the church. The title will be changed to reflect the work as Regional Minister for Pastoral Relations and Community of Faith Support. The Executive shared their concerns for the workload of regional staff. The workload for staff is a part of the one-on-one supervision and is a shared piece of work for the Tri-Regional Staff Support Committee, when they meet next week to continue this work.

PROPOSALS

The Executive Minister provided an update on the process for proposals at General Council. The Executive Minister offered to prepare an announcement for the weekly announcements to highlight this important upcoming work.

EQUITY SUPPORT

Equity Support

The Executive members offered their feedback, based on the equity self-monitoring questions. Members were reminded to continue with welcome and inclusion in conversation, and to also remember to use full names, and not assume that all members present are familiar with all the work before us.

NEXT MEETING

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Executive will be in person at the Sackville Regional Council Office, beginning at 9:00am, on September 8, 2025.

ADJOURNMENT

Adjournment

Having no further business, the President declared the meeting adjourned.

Benediction

BENEDICTION

The President extinguished the Christ and Affirm candles and closed the meeting with prayer.

Hugh Ellis
President

Faith March-MacCuish
Executive Minister

Appendix A

UNITED CHURCH WOMEN

Maritime United Church Women Report to FSLDW
June 17, 2025

The Maritime United Church Women held their annual meeting on April 25 & 26 at Bedford United Church, 1200 Bedford Highway, Bedford, NS. The theme hymn was "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky." The Scripture was 1 Corinthians 12: 4-7. The Workshop presenter was Natalie Moyes.

The gathering opened with some business. Recording secretary/media secretary Ruth Kennedy was thanked for her tireless work with MUCW, and for leading the way for the UCW's 60th anniversary celebrations held in Cape Breton in July 2022. She was presented with a bouquet and the service berry bush was presented later as well as the book entitled "The Service Berry: Abundance and Reciprocity in the Natural World." by Robin Wall Kimmer.

Following supper, by zoom from Alberta, we heard from Barbara Davison, NUCW president with her hopes and ideas for the future of UCW. She installed the newest members of the executive. Following that Michelle Ashby led us in a memorial service which was followed by communion. Social time followed in the porch.

Saturday morning, Bedford United Church women led us in an adapted UCW centennial worship service. The morning's offering of \$613.85 was donated to Halifax Hospice.

Faith March-MacCuish, the Regions East executive minister joined us for our annual meeting, and her presentation was informative, motivational, and entertaining. The basis of her presentation was the lyrics of the Alicia Keys song "We are Here" calling for justice, love, peace and healing.

Other activities included Natalie Moyes' introduction to the practice of bible journaling, a faith building exercise called the Learning Tree, and an ice breaker called Big Fat Head.

Co-past president Marilyn Bubar did a presentation called "Love Overflowing." The gathering ended mid-afternoon on Saturday.

At the gathering of Bermuda- Nova Scotia RC and Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council meetings, MUCW made a donation to Mission and Service, and presented a card to each of those being ordained and recognized at the Sunday celebrations of Ministries. 9 were ordained, and one was recognized.

The MCUW executive met in Sackville, NB at the Wright Street office on Monday June 9th to deal with the business at hand.

There have been some regional gatherings. In mid-May UCW members gathered in Aylesford, NS. There will be a UCW gathering in Margaree Valley in June. Western NB UCW members will be gathering in September. On October 4th, PEI UCW members will be gathering in Summerside.

PEI is supplying cookies for the Cookie cottage at Berwick camp.

Our next executive meeting will be in Moncton on October 6th

Elaine Burrows
MUCW rep for FLSDW Regional Council

Appendix B

JUSTICE, MISSION AND OUTREACH

Justice Mission and Outreach Committee Report June, 2025

JMOC has met once since the last report, an in-person meeting on May 29, 2025.

JMOC was a co-sponsor of Marie Wilson's Maritimes book tour with her memoir North of Nowhere, Song of a Truth and Reconciliation Commissioner. Marie's purpose in writing this book was to help keep alive the mission of the TRC and its Calls to Action. The tour was a great success in engaging people in this mission and Marie has expressed her thanks to JMOC for its support.

JMOC does not have an active working group for Indigenous Rights and Relations so continues with a "whole of JMOC approach." B-NS region has asked JMOC for a webinar on Land Acknowledgements and we are flowing up on this.

The Campus Chaplaincy issue is being actively explored by JMOC, but this is not a formal working group.

JMOC is looking into using cluster gatherings to engage with communities of faith and help build local social justice interest and capacity.

JMOC has a full roster of members. Thanks to the nominating committee for their guidance in navigating the complexities of this bi-regional committee whose membership reflects the working groups it represents in addition to the usual considerations of committee composition. Two working groups, Mental Health and Basic Income Guarantee, have been unsuccessful in identifying a representative for JMOC, but will have corresponding members in the meantime.

Thanks go out to retiring JMOC members from FSLDW, both of whom have completed two consecutive three-year terms, Rev. Steve Berube and Norm Lavery.

Updates from Working Groups:

Just Peace

Very recently, the Moderator, along with the heads of four other denominations and several church-related organizations, forwarded a joint letter to the new Prime Minister with respect to the genocide in Gaza and the collapse of the International rules Based order. In a release from the United Church, the denomination has agreed to join the Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) movement. The Moderator has written to the Prime Minister recently on the genocide in Gaza from her perspective as a mother. She has asked the UCW to support the denomination's work for a just peace for Palestinians.

Mental Health

The Mental Health working group is very concerned about the absence of workshops at regional council meetings this year and has questions about the role of clusters in facilitating the dissemination of information from the working groups. The JMOC co-chairs and the regional minister for JMOC will be supporting this working group in focusing its work and ensuring the information being shared will meet the needs of communities of faith.

Ecojustice

This working group has become aware of renewed interest in Uranium mining in Nova Scotia and will be monitoring the situation, they continue to seek "Green Champions" from communities of Faith.

Basic Income Guarantee

There is renewed optimism for a BIG pilot in PEI. At a recent BIG conference in PEI Senator Kim Pate outlined plans to move this forward.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Bigsby
JMOC co-chair

Appendix C**PASTORAL RELATIONS**

**Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council
Pastoral Relations Committee
Report to the Executive – June 17, 2025**

Since the last Executive Meeting, the Pastoral Relations Committee has met three times over Zoom: April 8, 2025; May 13, 2025; and June 10, 2025. In this time, we were also pleased to welcome Rev. Debbie Aitken and Rev. Dr. Elizabeth Stevenson as interim co-Regional Ministers from April 28 until the end of August. I, along with Hugh Ellis (past chair) have had a couple of meetings with Debbie and Elizabeth to bring them up to date on the pastoral relations situation of the communities of faith that make up Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region. It is a pleasure to work with two people who carry such wisdom, such deep love for the church, and such extensive knowledge of our Region.

In the time since the last Executive meeting, our committee has:

- Approved Profiles for: St. Martin's Pastoral Charge, Faith Memorial United Church.
- Approved Calls and Appointments for: Rev. Stephen Berube to Bridgedale Pastoral Charge (20 hours/week, April 13, 2025 – June 28, 2026), Candidate Ellen Locke to Margate Pastoral Charge (40 hours/week, July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028), Rev. Joy Noble to St. David's Georgetown Pastoral Charge (10 hours/week, July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026), Candidate Timothy Wisnicki to Montague Pastoral Charge (40 hours/week, November 1, 2024 – June 30, 2025), Rev. Jim Postlethwaite to Chipman Pastoral Charge (20 hours/week, February 19, 2025 – February 18, 2028), Rev. Limon Daka to Campbellton Pastoral Charge (40 hours/week, beginning July 1, 2025), Rev. Karen MacLeod-Wilkie to South Shore Pastoral Charge (30 hours/week, July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2027), Candidate Nathan Zwicker to Vernon Bridge St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge (30 hours/week, July 7, 2025 – May 31, 2026), Rev. Ellen Bearisto to Wilmot Pastoral Charge (10 hours/week, January 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026), Candidate Timothy Wisnicki to Montague Pastoral Charge (Provisional Call at 40 hours/week, beginning July 1, 2025), Candidate Beverly Sharpe to Prince William Pastoral Charge (Provisional Appointment at 20 hours/week, July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2028), Rev. Kevin Dingwell to Mount Stewart-Morell-St. Peter's Bay Pastoral Charge (40 hours/week, July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026), Rev. John Roy to Quispamsis Pastoral Charge (30 hours/week, July 1, 2025 – June 30, 2026)
- Approved Changes in Pastoral Relations for: Rev. Mary Tingley due to retirement, effective December 31, 2024
- Approved a change in the call of Rev. Catherine Ann Dickson from 40 hours/week to 30/hours per week for a 1 year period (March 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026) at the request of the ministry personnel and community of faith.
- Celebrated Covenanting Services at Hampton United Church, Hillsborough Pastoral Charge, First United Church (Bathurst)
- Supported the work of the Regional Ministers in holding two Liaison training sessions in June
- Approved Upper Sackville Pastoral Charge to continue as a Lay-Led Community of Faith for another year.
- Offered support to three communities of faith moving towards closure: Sheffield United Church, Marysville United Church, North Cardigan United Church
- Approved a second SME position at St. Paul's United Church (Riverview). They will be re-forming a search committee, supported by a liaison, to fill this position.
- Discovered a communication breakdown in requesting marriage officiant licenses – we suspect that this is something that Kendall did without informing our committee. We have made a back-motion to catch any licenses that might have been missed, and will have a process in place to communicate these requests moving forward.
- Supported Chaleur United Congregation, worshipping at Bethel United Church (part of Dalhousie New-Mills) in changing their name with the United Church of Canada statistical department. This change reflects the community's practice and preference.
- Began a discussion on the role of Voluntary Associate Ministers (VAMs), and whether there is a need for them (and associated polity) in our Region.
- Continued the regular work of ensuring that communities of faith have Pastoral Charge Supervisors and Pastoral Relations Liaisons as needed, and supporting communities of faith through times of transition and disruption.

Appendix C - continued**PASTORAL RELATIONS** - continued

As of our meeting on June 10:

- 8 Communities of Faith are in need of a Pastoral Charge Supervisor (or will be soon)
- 6 Communities of Faith are or will be in need of a Pastoral Relations Liaison
- 5 Communities of Faith are working on their profiles
- 13 Communities of Faith are in the search process (some of these are not actively searching)
- 5 Communities of Faith will have upcoming covenanting services
- 3 Communities of Faith are being supported through closing (with the Pastoral Relations part of the work)

And finally, some thank-yous.

- Thank you to Hugh Ellis, Kelly Burke, and Barb Prowse, who have stepped down from the committee after each having served two 3-year terms. Your wisdom and your work was much appreciated!
- Thank you to Nancy Nichol (secretary), Aaron Billard, Greg Davis, and Ian Manson, who will be continuing their work with the committee!
- Thank you to Neal Palmer and Franklyn James who accepted the nomination and began their term on their committee following the Regional Annual meeting!
- Thank you to our interim Regional Ministers, Debbie Aitken and Elizabeth Stevenson; and thank you to Heather Sandford (FDDE) and David Hewitt (B-NS) for their ongoing support (mostly in the background now) of our committee's work.

Respectfully submitted,

Kate Jones
Chair, FSLDW Pastoral Relations Committee

Appendix D

PROPERTY

FSLDW Property Committee Report to the Executive

As of June 10th, 2025

Activities, for the months of February, March, April and May 2025:

The committee dealt with numerous inquiries on sales, rental and renovations from communities of Faith from the region. The inquiries and questions lead to the following activity of the committee:

For the province of NEW BRUNSWICK

Consent was given for two (2) renovations totalling \$78,342

Consent was given for one (1) listing the amount of \$59,000

For the province of PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Consent was given for two (2) Renovations totalling \$80,868

Consent was given for one (1) sale of property for \$79,000

Consent was given for one (1) distribution of funds

For the GASPE coast

No requests

Cemeteries

It has been agreed that churches can apply for funding from the property fund to help cover the cost of maintaining an abandoned and/or about to be abandoned cemeteries. The details and application form are being developed. It was noted that it is the policy of the UCC that when a church closes and there is a cemetery, that the pastoral charge takes over the responsibility of maintaining the cemetery.

Tatamagouche learning center and women of First light, NS

At the last meeting of the property committee the following motion was passed

Motion: Moved by Delena Powell, seconded by Rachel Campbell

That the property Committee endorses the Memorandum of understanding between the United Church of Canada and the women of First light (Indigenous Peoples) in the matter of land transfer of the Property known as the Tatamagouche Center as outlined in the "Shared Commitment for Rematriation at Tatamagouche Centre".

Tatamagouche is asking that the executive of FSLDW make a motion to endorse this transfer of land as well.

Respectfully submitted,

Brion Crossman

Appendix E**FINANCIAL AND MISSION SERVICES****Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council
Financial & Mission Services Committee
Report to the Executive for 17 June 2025**

The Financial and Mission Services Committee has no action items to bring forward at this meeting.

Since the last Executive meeting, in addition to the regular monitoring of the Investment Funds and the quarterly Financial Statements, the Committee was pleased to action the following:

- a. approval of request of the Ecumenical Saturday Supper Ministry of East Saint John (\$5,000) from the Silver Falls Memorial Fund;
- b. approval of a request from six pastoral charges in eastern PEI (\$450) from the Mission Support Reserve Fund to support their celebration of the United Church 100th Anniversary;
- c. approval of the request of the Outdoor Recreational Ministry Team for a grant of \$1,250 from the Camping Ministry Fund; and,
- d. initiated a review of the Mission and Service guidelines for FSLDW.

The Committee was pleased in April to host Jonathan Schrader of RBC Phillips, Hager & North Investment, the Region's Investment Counsellor, who provided general introduction to his work, updated the committee on current investments, and detailed how RBC works to ensure that our investments complied with United Church ethical values and the guidance of the American Friends Service Committee Human Rights Investment Screen.

The Committee continues to extend sincere appreciation to Jennifer Whittemore and our Executive Minister for their ongoing work in support of this committee and especially in the presentation of the 2024 Audited statements and 2026 Budget which were approved at the 24 May annual regional meeting.

In closing, appreciation was and is expressed to Bob Fisher and Richard Boulter who have served not only the Financial and Mission Services Committee for two terms but also previously faithfully served the finance committees of their respective Presbyteries. Their knowledge and wisdom will be greatly missed. The Committee is thankful, however, that the Nominations Committee is considering the appointment of two new members to attend to this important work and looks forward to welcoming them to our June meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

T. Kevin Dingwell
Chair, Financial and Mission Services
Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters

Appendix F

NOMINATIONS

**Fundy St Lawrence Dawning Waters
Executive Meeting June 2025
Nominations Committee Report**

Since the last Executive Meeting in March, the Nominations committee has had several meetings looking at both current vacancies and those that would happen at the rise of the AGM at the end of May. Overall, the vacancies are roughly 20% of the total number of positions on committees. After approaching numerous people, sending letters providing opportunities to serve, Chairs of committees providing leads, etc., etc. we have filled a number of positions including:

Successful placements:

AGM Planning Committee – Isabelle Williams
Affirming Committee – Sarah Clermont
Financial & Mission Services – Deb Campbell & Nancy Small
Incorporated Ministries – Kelly Hudson-Lewis
Justice, Mission & Outreach – Audrey Lounder, Mary Kennedy-Fulton & Jane Doull
Pastoral Relations – Franklyn James and Neal Palmer
Tri-Regional Staff Support Committee – Jim Blanchard

Vacancies:

Finance and Mission Services – 1
Wegesegum Camp Board – 1
Tri-Regional Staff Support Committee (2 x 3 Regions) – 1
Maritime Conf Financial Services Board - 4

I am most grateful to the Nominations Committee of Audrey Lounder, Elizabeth Stevenson, Erasmus Madimbu, Nathan Zwicker and Gneid Lackey. Thank you so much for all your energy, hard work and laughter over the last few months. Together, much was accomplished! Thank you also to all that have said “Yes” to offering your talent and time to serving the Region.

Our committee will step back now for the summer months and regroup once again in early September. Wishing everyone a wonderful and safe summer!

Respectfully,

Tracy Friars
Chair