

Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council

Mission and Priorities

Revised February 23, 2026

Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Region consults with, guides, and supports Communities of Faith and other ministries in building trusting, respectful, affirming relationships that embody the Creator's presence within the world in which we live.

Priorities

Three New Communities of Faith

Through a working group of the Executive we work to:

- Define "new" Communities of Faith
- Have conversation and plant seeds for emerging expressions of church
- Research possible areas for emerging expressions: Newcomers, Geographic, Language specific, Virtual, Other expressions Queer Church, Ukulele, etc.
- Education around Radical Welcome, supporting congregation in how to welcome people and new comers. (Affirm Committee as a resource, Growth Animator, Justice, Mission and Outreach Minister)
- Identify best practices for church planting
- Identify leadership needs and training
- Identify funding needs
- Act as a support to congregations that have a vision for a new expressions of ministry
- Current efforts include investigations for the formation of a French language church in Moncton
- Focus as well needs to be on cooperative and amalgamated ministries

February 23, 2026

Communicate/Invite/Renew

Through a working Group of the Executive we work to:

- Enhance communication between local communities of faith and the FSLDW Region
- Provide orientation and training to elected and prospective Regional Council members
- Encourage and foster the creation of regional cluster meetings to promote community and enhance cooperation and communication between geographically grouped communities of faith
- Keep a list of communication tools used in the region and enhance where needed
- Highlight the *Spark Newsletter* and share stories from Pastoral Charges
- Create a *who to call* reference sheet; welcome packages for those who are new to the region; create a short video about the regional resources; create a highlights page about the regional executive meetings for community of faith boards
 - o Initial Cluster meetings sponsored by the region have been held for each zone. (Prince Edward Island, Southeast New Brunswick, Northwest New Brunswick, Northeast New Brunswick/Gaspe, Quebec and Southwest New Brunswick)
 - o Coordinate a mailing list for PEI (maybe 3 separate lists) Ministry Personnel, Retired Ministry Personnel and Regional Representatives
 - o Develop the Executive Meeting highlights page
 - o Spark news letter continue to highlight Pastoral Charges, perhaps we need to focus on highlighting a pastoral charge from each our clusters as a way to share good news stories and help Spark get the new out from Pastoral Charge to Pastoral Charge
 - o Welcome reference/ package and video for those new to the regional governance structure (Faith Formation and Education Committee)

Support for Ministry Personnel

Through the development of the Health, Joy and Excellence Institute we work to:

- Provide leaders and communities with opportunities for learning
- Provide environments of sharing to enhance skills, focus energies and celebrate ministry practices. Encourage local networks of clergy, clergy retreats etc.
- Value the work of teams that assist clergy in their pastoral charges (M&P Committees etc.)
- Investigate the possibility of chaplaincy support for Ministry Personnel

Education:

Through the Faith, Formation and Education Committee we work to:

- Provide workshops and in person/online educational opportunities
- Provide worship resources to congregations, including sermons for lay led services
- Create a list of material and resources available to congregations for their ministries
- Support for Faith Formation and Education Committee in planning and undertaking some of this educational and Faith Formation work

Toward 2035:

- Introduce the concept and information via Regional Cluster presentations
- Introduction via the 2026 Regional Annual Meeting
- Work out an approach to the delivery of the information at the pastoral charge level
- Potentially test the approach with select Pastoral Charges