

## INTERCULTURAL DIVERSITY COMMISSION

The Intercultural Diversity Commission was formed through the action of the Regional Council meeting in October 2020. The Commission's purpose is to encourage and engage the regional council, its Executive and Commissions, and its communities of faith in honouring and living into intercultural mission and ministry. In keeping with this purpose, the Nominations Committee were intentional in respectfully inviting nominations and selecting a diversity of those who could speak from a variety of lived experiences and ethno/cultural backgrounds. Spaces are being held for Indigenous membership.

The Commission held its inaugural meeting in September 2021. With relationship being foundational to the United Church intercultural vision, Commission members began by sharing their stories, cultures, and the excitement and passions they bring to the ministry. Priorities for the first year of work began to emerge and will be sharpened at future meetings. First priorities: determine how the Commission will understand "intercultural"; learn more about the diversity of ethno/cultural communities and relationships in the region; examine the labels and language used to separate and marginalize; gather existing educational and liturgical resources and begin to determine resources needed to equip the region to move into an anti-racist, intercultural identity.

Respectfully submitted by  
Amy Lee (interim Chair)

On behalf of Commission members  
Joel Aguirre, Innocent Karuhanga, John Joseph Mastandrea, Néstor Medina, Moon Ja Park