

Communities of Faith Commission

Strategic Planning Context

December 12, 2021 2021

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Introduction

In January 2022, the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council will set some strategic objectives for its work. This document draws together materials to set the context for planning including a description of regional commitments and policies, a breakdown of what the Commission has accomplished to date, reflections on our mapping project an overview of the national strategic planning conversation and a summary of wider church conversations on ministry and membership.

This document is supplemented by short video overviews: Looking Up; Looking Back; Looking Around; and Looking Around a Little Further. They can be accessed on the website:

<https://shiningwatersregionalcouncil.ca/communities-of-faith/strategic-plan/>

Regional Commitments

Vision and Mission

The vision of Shining Waters Regional Council is

Encouraging and Connecting Communities of Faith.

To fulfil this mission, the Regional Council and the Regional Council Executive will encourage and engage in:

- 1) living in right relations with Indigenous peoples, and responding positively and meaningfully to the [Truth and Reconciliation Commission Calls to Action](#) and the [Calls to the Church from the Caretakers of the Indigenous Circle \(2018\)](#);
- 2) becoming an anti-racist church (declaration of the Commissioners of the 43rd General Council, October 24, 2020);
- 3) welcoming people of all ages, abilities, races, sexual orientations and gender identities, and any other forms of marginalization into, and removing barriers to, the life, work and leadership of the Region and our communities of faith. ([Equity Policy 2020](#))

These objectives are in addition to those declared in The Manual (6.3.4) as the mission and ministry for every Regional Council: Encouraging and engaging in:

- 4) joining our collective hearts, voices, and resources to witness to the gospel and vision of Jesus for a compassionate and just society, both in Canada and around the world;
- 5) local, regional, national and global initiatives and partnerships (community, ecumenical and interfaith) for ministry, mission and justice work;
- 6) ministry with children, youth and young adults;
- 7) honouring and living into intercultural mission and ministry; and
- 8) living in covenant with Mother Earth and All My Relations in the Earth community.

Community of Faith Commission Purpose

- The Communities of Faith Commission will set policy and give direction within their mandate.
- The Communities of Faith Commission will care for communities of faith and provide resources for collegiality and support amongst communities of faith.
- The Communities of Faith Commission will nurture new ministries.
- The Communities of Faith Commission will empower and resource ministry in the Region. This includes supporting communities of faith in areas such as clusters, networks, visioning, amalgamation, disbanding, and property matters. The work may be carried out in a variety of ways, including by staff or liaisons appointed for a limited time period.

Policies

- [Community of Faith Commission Policy \(2018\)](#)
- [Intentional Interim Ministry Committee \(2020\)](#)
- [Property Policy \(2021\)](#)
- [Service, Support and Oversight to Communities of Faith Policy \(2019\)](#)
- [Liaisons Policy \(2019\)](#)
- [Collaboration Agreements \(2019\)](#)
- [Listening Team Guidelines](#)

Communities of Faith – Summary of Motions

Following is a summary of the motions of the Communities of Faith Commission between January 2019 and October 2021. The categories are not official classifications, but they have been generated informally to help manage the data and paint a general picture. Following is a summary of the categories. The full list of motions is in Appendix 1.

Summary of Motions by Category

Topic	Motions
Finance and Property	74
Transitions	33
Governance	31
Policy	14
Other	4
Pastoral oversight	7
Total	163

Breakdown of Main Categories

Finance and Property		Transitions		Governance	
Leases	12	Intentional Interim Ministry	17	Constitutions	14
Loans	19	Disbanding	7	Com. Ministry	7
Mortgages	3	Collaborative Agreements	4	Commission	4
Other	3	Amalgamations	2	Name changes	4
Redevelopment	1	Community Ministries	3	Representation	1
Renovation	12	Total Transitions	33	Shared Ministry	1
Sale	15			Total Governance	31
Trustees	2				
Use of Funds	7				
Total Property	74				

Reflections on the Mapping Project

EDGE has created a series of online maps of the Shining Waters Region drawing information from the United Church Yearbook and Canadian census data. The Commission has reflected on various components of the maps over the last six months. Here is a summary of our reflections.

Link to Online Map

<https://edgeucc.maps.arcgis.com/apps/instant/interactivelegend/index.html?appid=83d422301ac34870b33332b8d08211d4>

Here are the reflections that followed the presentation of maps in our meetings:

Population

- There is a disconnect between locations and population growth;
- Density and wealth are more concentrated as you move south
- Older population in the north with higher UCC affiliation
- There is a high percent of seniors living alone in Muskoka area and pockets in GTA -- more dispersed that previously thought
- Dynamic between age and children -- surprised that downtown Toronto has so many young people
- More northern communities are spread out in comparison to the clumping in the GTA.
- More WASP (white Anglo-Saxon protestant) in the north
- Older in the north
- Rural in the north

Property and Wealth

- There is lots of property in Toronto, but not where the population is growing
- Toronto has lots. Less populated have fewer.
- Household income in the north is less, how does it intersect with age
- Interesting to see where there are pockets of higher income
- Wealth concentrates as you move south
- North higher age and lower income

UCC Presence

- There are a number of places without UCC presence
- Destination churches go beyond geography
- I see potential
- Concentration of communities of faith around GTA
- More potential north of Toronto
- I see some communities of faith are really spread out and some are really close
- Our presence is not distributed proportionately to population. Most highest density FSAs (Forward Sortation Areas, postal codes) don't have UC locations
- North is stronger in UCC affiliation
- Not surprising, but generally more open communities of faith in higher income neighbourhoods
- Trend is seriously declining
- Some church deserts in suburbs of TO
- Concentration of communities of faith in Toronto does not reflection affiliation
- Valuable resource for communities of faith
- Surprised how few Affirming Communities

Surprised at the low level of people who identify as UCC especially around Barrie

General

- What are the needs in the communities that aren't on these maps?
- COVID context last 15 months has changed the game in so many ways
- Recognize COVID landscape not reflected here
- COVID has changed the demographic, attendance beyond geographic borders and generally less geographic based – let's explore that in the future
- Lots of water
- How many communities of faith are viable?
- How do we map online communities! Churches are wondering how to better serve everyone post zoom?
- How do we engage people outside the catchment area? how does it fit? Doesn't follow the rules for congregations?
- How does the beyond border/boundary population connect and identify -- this is our COVID experience -- now what?

General Council Strategic Planning Initiative: Becoming Beloved Community

The national church is in the midst of a strategic planning process: [Becoming Beloved Community: Call And Vision 2022-2025](#) (link to General Council Proposal). See the approved statements on the United Church of Canada website here: ["Our Call Our Vision"](#).

Vision

Called by God, as disciples of Jesus, The United Church of Canada seeks to be a bold evolving, connected church of diverse, courageous, hope-filled communities, united in deep spirituality, inspiring worship, and daring justice.

Call

Deep Spirituality
Bold Discipleship
Daring Justice

Strategic Objectives for the General Council Office

To guide the General Council in moving towards the stated vision, five strategic directions with objectives were proposed. Given that these objectives are focused on the General Council Office, they are not being presented to the General Council for approval. Rather, they have been reviewed and supported in principle by the General Council Executive, pending approval of the interlinked mission and vision statement by General Council.

While each objective is expressed as a specific theme, there are strong intersections between each area. Each of the objectives will be tracked with relevant measurement. And, as the operational plan is developed by the General Secretary, these objectives will flow into initiatives and projects that will also be accountably tracked and evaluated.

1. **Embolden Justice: Collaborating to Mend Church and World**

Make meaningful collective progress on Indigenous justice, racial equity, and 2SLGBTQplus rights both in the church and world, while demonstrably deepening bold effective solidarity on other justice issues, through ecumenical collaboration and denominational networking.

2. **Invigorate Leadership: Adapting and Innovating for Bold Discipleship**

Renew a vision of leadership based on the emerging mission of the denomination—deep spirituality, bold discipleship and daring justice--and align discernment, recruitment, training, and support of ordered and lay leadership, to this vision.

3. **Nurture Common Good: Equity and Sustainability in Resources**

Significantly increase denominational capacity and will to make decisions on properties and resources focused on the ministry of the whole church, enhancing equity, sustainability, right relations, and administrative efficiency and effectiveness.

4. Deepen Integrity: Living Climate Commitments

Amplify and integrate current initiatives in a bold, hopeful denominational climate strategy that accelerates reductions towards the goal of an 80% decrease in emissions by 2030.

5. Strengthen Invitation: Humility and Confidence in Sharing Faith

Develop and implement effective and connected regional and national strategies, that result in growth within existing ministries, and by seeding and sustaining new ministries and communities of faith.

Contextual Themes

As a part of the national consultation process related to the plan these six contextual themes were summarized.

1. This Changes Everything: Imperative of Climate and Indigenous Justice, Racial Equity

The climate emergency “changes everything,” with huge risks to peoples and the Earth that cannot be ignored. Historic and current injustices facing Indigenous and racialized communities are being recognized through calls to action towards *Truth and Reconciliation* and movements like *Black Lives Matter*, increasing the possibility of racial equity. This impetus is deepened by the devastating “uncovering” of graves at residential school sites. In this moment, there are moral obligations for truth, and possibilities to partner in commemoration and advocacy, demonstrating integrity through boldness in Indigenous justice, anti-racism and ecological justice as church.

2. Not Nuns, Nones: The Challenge of Secularization

Those who say they have no religion are the fastest growing religious group in Canada. Attendance in all mainline Protestant denominations is dropping sharply, with United Church weekly attendance reduced by 37 percent over the last 10 years. Polling suggests that opposition to religion, particularly in young people, comes largely from perceptions of exclusive religious beliefs and fusion to Conservative politics. This means that the United Church, if known, should be able to respond. The number of persons born outside Canada continues to rise, with 40% of new immigrants to Canada being Christian. Stronger outreach to migrant churches and peoples may offer opportunities for mutual transformation.

3. More than Buildings but...: Call to Collective Discernment

An estimated one third of Canada’s faith buildings are in danger of closing, approximately one United church per week. In a recent study, 50% of non-profit groups currently using faith buildings could not imagine finding another space. The trend is particularly acute in rural communities and may be accelerated by the pandemic. Two national United Church initiatives—Faithful Footprints and the United Property Resource Corporation—are showing some strong value as national resources but there may be a need for more assistance. Shared United Church and ecumenical ministries may offer some answers, but local coordination is not always easy. Could a greater emphasis on collective discernment and more support help?

4. No Going Back: Polishing Pandemic Silver Linings

The pandemic has revealed vulnerabilities and deepened inequities while changing patterns of behaviour. Work has been definitively altered, and so too models of worship and meeting. Recognizing that equity issues in connectivity continue, some faith communities discovered benefits in online worship. More than three times the current religious attendees say they would maintain the availability of online services rather than discontinue them post pandemic. The pandemic also showed the value of collective support and resources from both the national and regional church. This may open opportunities for stronger church-wide shared services, online worship innovation, and creation of technology hubs, such as to support multi point charges.

5. Change and Change Again: Renewing and Reimagining Leadership

There is a growing recognition that there are aspects of denominational and organizational culture that impede bold change, such as high degrees of criticism, lack of trust of decisions, fear of leadership to act decisively, and over reliance on every individual voice rather than collective processes. At the General Council Office there are remnants of silos, and a need to articulate a unified vision, deepen accountability and better track results. With deep respect to our leaders, we wonder if they have the support and skills we need to shift culture, adapt to ongoing change, and minister flexibly and creatively. There is also a need for new pathways that will lead to more diverse and equitable leadership for the present and future.

6. Scarcity or Abundance?

While the above represent the key challenges that have seeds of opportunity in them, there is also a need to respond to declining resources, with added unknowns about the long-term financial effect of COVID-19. Looking only at Mission and Service funding, we do know the following:

- 1991 31.6 million
- 2020 19.6 million

What can we expect for 2031?

While this a huge challenge, there is a sense that if mission and vision are clarified, giving strategies shifted, assets mobilized, and growth prioritized, there may be able to slow this process. To address the financial trajectory, we will need to work differently, intensifying administrative and service sharing.

Wider Church Conversations on Ministry and Membership

Ministry

As of December 1, 2021, in Shining Waters Regional Council there are 11 vacancies with active searches, 2 longer term vacancies, and 5 lay-led congregations.

Recently The General Council Executive received the report [Ministry Leadership to Meet the Needs of the Church](#).

This task group concluded that it is not reasonable to assume that every pastoral charge can have a pastorate without interruption as it might have been imagined or intended in 1925. They acknowledged and affirmed that vibrant ministry is happening in smaller rural communities of faith led by faithful lay members and resilient ministry personnel, active and retired.

"Ministry in rural areas and in smaller communities of faith is not a problem to be solved but an evolving reality to be embraced. In many cases the church's rules and regulations need allow for new understandings of and criteria for denominational accountability and due diligence. While some standards of accountability need to be denominational, many, particularly those for lay leadership and community of faith oversight, are contextual and need to be determined regionally. COVID has taught us that rules are regional and often time limited. We need to be nimble, flexible, and responsive. Collaborative ministry models, similar to those of the Methodist circuit-rider days, need to be embraced, accommodated in polity, and introduced in ministry formation as a norm."

The General Council Executive took action to:

enable a review of the Statement on Ministry (2012);

- engage with the National Indigenous Council on designated lay ministry criteria, broader vocational ministry needs, and establishment of an Indigenous Testamur;
- explore bi-vocational and collaborative ministry;
- and convene a task group on lay leader accountability.

There were several proposals regarding Designated Lay Ministers that will go to General Council including one proposing that the General Secretary, in consultation with Designated Lay Ministers, develop a process by which recognized Designated Lay Ministers may transition to the order of ministry and a way to recognize Designated Lay Ministers who are retired.

The Executive also proposed that the upcoming General Council address a set of issues related to better support of rural and smaller communities of faith.

Membership

The national Theology and Inter-Church Inter-Faith Committee (TICIF) has been working on the question of membership for a few cycles now. Sparked in part by the work of Diana Butler Bass (Christianity After Religion, 2021) who articulated the shift in trend from Believing – Behaving – Belonging to Belonging – Behaving – Believing. There is an acknowledgement in the documents that many congregations have already shifted their practices, for example including Adherents in all matters of voting, and the Manual does not accurately reflect the reality. The issues related to the meaning and practice of membership continue to be top of mind. Is membership primarily about discipleship and faith or governance? What about non-congregational settings and online communities? Is membership a meaningful term today at all?

Appendix 1 List of Motions

Category	Topic	Motion	Date d/m/y
Finance and Property	Lease	Approved the updated Lease Agreement between the Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough and West Hill United Church, Scarborough.	29.07.20
Finance and Property	Lease	Approved the lease agreement between East End United Regional Ministry and the Neighbourhood Unitarian Universalist Congregation.	16.09.20
Finance and Property	Lease	Approved the Lease agreement between Humbercrest United Church and musician Erik Grice dated February 15, 2021 to February 14, 2022	17.03.21
Finance and Property	Lease	Approved the lease between Humbercrest United Church, Toronto, and Eric Frisch for April 1st, 2021 to March 31st, 2022	16.06.21
Finance and property	Lease	Royal York Road United Church lease agreement with Nu Wave Jiu Jitsu Academy Ltd	21.11.19
Finance and property	Lease	Approved the lease agreement between West Hill and the Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough	20.05.20
Finance and property	Lease	Approved the lease agreement between Northlea United Church, Toronto, and Maria Montessori School Inc. Dated November 4, 2020.	18.11.20
Finance and property	Lease	Approved the three lease agreements between East End United Regional Ministry, Toronto, and Riverdale Activity Centre, Matthew and Guillermo, and Strickland Reading Clinics. Approved the lease agreement between East End United Regional Ministry, Toronto, and the City of Toronto	17.02.21
Finance and property	Lease	Approves the Lease Agreement between Royal York Road United Church and Avenue Community Church for the first floor of 851 Royal York Road, Toronto, for a term of three years commencing December 1, 2019 and terminating November 30, 2022, at a rental of \$45,500 per year for the first two years and \$47,000 for the third year.	21.11.19
Finance and property	Lease	Approve Islington United Church lease agreement with German International School Toronto	21.11.19
Finance and Property	Leases	Approved the lease between Royal York Road United Church, Toronto, and The Learning Common Inc	15.09.21
Finance and Property	Leases	Approved the lease agreement between Glebe Road United Church, Toronto, and The Study Academy	15.09.21
Finance and Property	Loan	Approved the request of Kingston Road United Church, Toronto, for a loan with Toronto United Church Council (TUCC) in the amount of \$615,358.35 for the replacement of	16.06.21

		their slate roofing with asphalt shingles and localized cladding repairs.	
Finance and Property	Loan	... Approves the application of Forest Hill United Church for a capital loan in the amount of \$23,000 from the capital assistance program of The United Church of Canada. Funds will be used for the replacement of the roof.	16.10.19
Finance and Property	Loan	Approves the application by Bloordale United Church for a Capital Loan in the amount of \$60,000 for roof repair.	21.11.19
Finance and Property	Loan	Approved the loan application of Ghana Calvary Methodist United Church, Toronto with Toronto United Church Council through the Toronto Southeast Presbytery Major Capital Fund in the amount of \$160,000 for capital repairs to the building due to flood damage.	15.09.21
Finance and Property	Loan	Approve the request of Cummer Avenue United Church, Toronto, to borrow an amount equal to or less than the amount of the outstanding pledges arising from its capital appeal, with a maximum amount of \$400,000, using the housing allowance fund as security	20.10.21
Finance and Property	Loan COVID	Authorize Staff Lead to approve an application from a congregation for a United Church Pandemic Response Bridging Loan of up to \$10,000.	15.04.20
Finance and Property	Loan COVID	Authorize the Staff Lead, in exceptional circumstances where the funds are available, to approve up to \$100,000 from restricted funds to support salary and expenses as a result of Covid-19 pandemic.	15.04.20
Finance and Property	Loan COVID	Authority for staff to approve a request for CEBA Government Loan up to \$40,000 to assist with salary and other expenses while churches are closed due to Covid-19 Pandemic.	29.07.20
Finance and Property	Loan Renovation	Approve the request of Islington United Church to obtain a loan from Toronto United Church Council (TUCC) in the amount of to complete the renovation of its main kitchen to correct major health and safety issues and provide for its active hospitality ministry.	20.05.20
Finance and Property	Loan Renovation	Approved the loan application by St. Mark's, Scarborough, to Toronto United Church Council (TUCC) in the amount of \$30,000 for the installation of an elevator.	15.09.21
Finance and Property	Loan TUCC	Approved the loan for St. Mark's Scarborough with Toronto United Church Council (TUCC)	20.05.20
Finance and Property	Loan TUCC	Approve New Hope United Church loan application to the Toronto Southeast Presbytery Major Capital Fund (TUCC)	17.03.21
Finance and Property	Loan TUCC	Cummer Ave. Loan with TUCC	17.03.21
Finance and Property	Loan TUCC	Approved the loan renewal between North Bramalea United Church and Toronto United Church Council (TUCC)	17.03.21

Finance and Property	Loan TUCC	Consents to the energy savings loan between Grace United Church, Brampton and Toronto United Church Council (TUCC)	29.07.20
Finance and Property	Loan TUCC	Approved the SELF loan application of Manor Road United Church to Toronto United Church Council in the amount of.	29.07.20
Finance and Property	Loan TUCC	New Hope United Church loan renewal with Toronto United Church Council (TUCC)	22.01.20
Finance and Property	Loan TUCC	Approved the loan renewal of the Christian Resource Centre (Fred Victor Centre) with Toronto United Church Council (TUCC)	18.11.20
Finance and Property	Loan TUCC	Approve the renewal of the loan of Ghana Calvary Methodist United Church with Toronto United Church Council (TUCC)	20.05.20
Finance and property	Mortgage	Consents to the mortgage between Lansing United Church, Toronto and Toronto United Church Council (TUCC)	01.05.19
Finance and property	Mortgage	Consents to the mortgage application between Grace United Church, Brampton and Toronto United Church Council (TUCC)	01.05.19
Finance and property	Mortgage	Approves the loan/mortgage application of Aurora United Church to Toronto United Church Council (TUCC)	02.06.20
Finance and Property	Other	King City – approval of expropriation decision	21.04.21
Finance and Property	Other	Approved the Licensing Agreement between Trinity United Church Huntsville and the Town of Huntsville to allow the Town to encroach on the property of Trinity to upgrade the property between the two buildings.	19.05.21
Finance and Property	Redevelopment	Approved the redevelopment project of St. Matthew's United Church, Toronto, in partnership with the United Property Resource Corporation (UPRC)	15.09.21
Finance and Property	Renovation	Approved the heating replacement project of Manor Road United Church	29.07.20
Finance and Property	Renovation	The staff lead approved the request of Central United Church, Unionville to undergo major construction work) for replacement of the driveway and parking lot of the church.	21.04.21
Finance and Property	Renovation	Approve the request of St. Bartholomew's United Church, Brampton to use approximately \$5,000 from the Manse Fund to complete the work required by the Region of Peel for the remediation of water connections.	19.05.21
Finance and Property	Renovation	Approved the project of Eglinton-St. George's United Church, Toronto, for the installation of an accessible lift.	16.06.21
Finance and Property	Renovation	Kingston Road – roof replacement and TUCC loan Approved the request of Kingston Road United Church, Toronto, to replace their slate roofing with asphalt shingles including localized cladding repairs.	16.06.21
Finance and Property	Renovation	Approved the project of Metropolitan United Church to upgrade their livestream and sound system.	16.06.21

Finance and Property	Renovation	Approved the grant application of Manor Road United Church to Faithful Footprints	29.07.20
Finance and Property	Renovation	Approved the request of Central United Church Unionville to use up to \$45,000 from the Manse Fund towards the replacement of the driveway and parking lot of the church.	21.04.21
Finance and property	Renovation	Approve the request of Midhurst United Church to use \$32,322 from their manse fund to support the capital project of repairing and upgrading their parking lot.	28.03.19
Finance and property	Renovation	Don Mills United Church, Toronto – request to use funds from Manse Fund	18.06.19
Finance and property	Renovation	Bethune United Church – proposed use of manse funds	19.02.20
Finance and Property	Renovation	Approve the Permission to Enter Agreement between Trustees of Emmanuel United Church and The Corporation of the City of Brampton dated 2020, for the purpose of installing, operating and maintaining the Community Garden on the church property	20.05.20
Finance and Property	Sale	Approved the Agreement of Purchase and Sale between Larry W. Douglas and The Trustees of St. James Centennial United Church	29.07.20
Finance and property	Sale	East End United Regional Ministry, Toronto – sale of Cosburn United Church	18.06.19
Finance and property	Sale	King City United Church, King City – sale of a strip of land next to the parking lot	18.06.19
Finance and property	Sale	Approves the request of Westway United Church, Toronto, to sever, list and sell a 45 foot residential lot from the south end of its parking lot.	19.02.20
Finance and property	Sale	Approval of the Agreement of Purchase and Sale between White Owl Properties and Trustees of the King City United Church Congregation,	18.03.20
Finance and property	Sale	Seek a legal opinion on the Agreement of Purchase and Sale between West Hill United Church, Scarborough and the Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough, due to its complexity.	18.03.20
Finance and property	Sale	Approve the Agreement of Purchase and Sale between Boys & Girls Club of East Scarborough and The Trustees of West Hill Congregation of The United Church of Canada	15.04.20
Finance and property	Sale	Approved the motion to reconsider the motion of December 16, 2020 "That the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council does not approve the request of Dewi Sant United Church, Toronto, to sell their property in anticipation of amalgamation with another congregation."	17.02.21
Finance and property	Sale	Does not approve the request of Dewi Sant United Church, Toronto, to sell their property in anticipation of amalgamation with another congregation."	17.02.21

Finance and property	Sale	Defeated the original motion of December 16, 2020: "That the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council	17.02.21
Finance and property	Sale	Approved a new motion that the Communities of Faith Commission postpone discussion and decision on the request from Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, Toronto, until a recommendation is received from the United Property Resource Corporation.	17.02.21
Finance and property	Sale	That the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council approve the Agreement of Purchase and Sale between White Owl Properties and Trustees of the King City United Church Congregation, in the amount (\$590,788.60)	18.09.19
Finance and property	Sale	Approve the request from The Donway Covenant to sign an Agreement of Purchase and Sale with the purchaser listed as "Donway Cooperative".	28.03.19
Finance and Property	Sale	Approved the request of Stouffville United Church to sell the manse	15.09.21
Finance and Property	Sale	Approved the request of St. James Centennial, Parry Sound, to obtain the appropriate approvals and proceed with the sale of their manse at 22 Miller Street, Parry Sound.	29.07.20
Finance and property	Other	Approve the transfer of a 0.4 acre parcel of land of the Locust Hill Cemetery from the Trustees for the Locust Hill United Church Cemetery Board to the Toronto Region Conservation Authority in exchange for the transfer of a 1.3 acre parcel of land from the Toronto Region Conservation Authority to the Locust Hill United Church Cemetery Board.	18.03.20
Finance and Property	Trustees	Remove Rose Cambourne and Shirley Baster as Trustees of Locust Hill United Church and add Janet macdonald as a Trustee of Locust Hill United Church.	15.09.21
Finance and property	Trustees	Appoints Diane Bennet-Jones, Christine Smaller and Jody Maltby as Trustees for Wexford Heights United Church, 2102 Lawrence Ave East, Scarborough and appoints Kelly Cook, Christine Smaller and Jody Maltby as Trustees for the Wexford Heights United Church Cemetery, both effective July 1, 2019.	18.06.19
Finance and Property	Use of Funds	\$4,000 to be given to Trinity United Church, Huntsville in recognition of payment of insurance on the former Madill United Church building for approximately 25 years; and The remainder (approximately \$16,000) to be transferred to Shining Waters Regional Council.	16.10.19
Finance and Property	Use of Funds	Approve the request of Islington United Church to merge the Manse Fund with the Memorial Fund.	29.07.20
Finance and Property	Use of Funds	Approves the request of West Hill United Church for the use of restricted funds in the amount of \$27,000 to cover the monthly short fall in expenses while the congregation and the commission explore options for an ongoing viable ministry in this location.	16.10.19

Finance and Property	Use of Funds	Approved the use by Manor Road United Church of from Special Gifts Fund which is money from the sale of property to the City of Toronto in 2015.	29.07.20
Finance and Property	Use of Funds	Approve the final plan of disposition of East End United Regional Ministry regarding the proceeds of sale of the Cosburn Avenue church property.	20.05.20
Finance and Property	Use of Funds	Madill United Church, Huntsville, Ontario Approves the request of the former Trustees of the former Madill United Church regarding funds remaining in the bank account:	16.10.19
Finance and Property	Use of Funds	Approved the request of Painswick United Church to share the 10% of their assets equally among the charities: the Food Bank, Mission and Service Fund, and IOOF	15.09.21
Governance	CFC	That Gloria Tozek be acclaimed as the chairperson of the Communities of Faith Commission.	17.02.21
Governance	CFC	That the term of office for the chairperson of the Communities of Faith Commission be one year as vice-chair, two years as chair and one year as past-chair.	17.03.21
Governance	CFC	Authorize task groups for Governance Documents; Leases; Loans	02.06.20
Governance	CFC	That Chris Bennett be elected as vice-chair of the Communities of Faith Commission.	17.03.21
Governance	Community Ministry	Recognize Jane Finch Community Ministry, Toronto and Davenport Perth Community Ministry, Toronto as two communities of faith with a shared governance structure.	01.05.19
Governance	Community Ministry	Recognizes Regent Park Community Ministry, Toronto as a community of faith.	01.05.19
Governance	Community Ministry	Recognizes Living Presence Community Ministry, East Gwillimbury as a community of faith.	01.05.19
Governance	Community Ministry	Recognizes Camp Big Canoe as a community of faith	01.05.19
Governance	Community Ministry	Recognizes Sparrow Lake Camp as a community of faith	01.05.19
Governance	Community Ministry	Recognizes Camp Simpresca as a community of faith	01.05.19
Governance	Community Ministry	Recognizes Lake Scugog Camp as a community of faith.	01.05.19
Governance	Constitution	The Governance Group approved the updated constitution of Queensville Holland Landing United Church.	29.07.20
Governance	Constitution	Approved the amended Constitution of Runnymede United Church dated February 7, 2021.	17.02.21
Governance	Constitution	Approved the Constitution of Trinity United Church, Huntsville, dated February 28, 2021.	17.03.21
Governance	Constitution	Approved the Constitution of Thornhill United Church dated April 11, 2021	21.04.21
Governance	Constitution	Approves the new Constitution of Humbercrest United Church dated October 2019.	21.11.19

Governance	Constitution	Approves in principle the governance structure of Humbercrest United Church, Toronto	01.05.19
Governance	Constitution	Approves the constitution of St. Matthew's United Church, Richmond Hill	18.06.19
Governance	Constitution	Approves the governance model of Northlea United Church, Toronto;	18.06.19
Governance	Constitution	Approve the Constitution of Bond Head United Church dated March 2019;	18.09.19
Governance	Constitution	Approved the Constitution of Trinity United Church, Newmarket, dated May 16, 2021	15.09.21
Governance	Constitution	Approved the Constitution and Organization Framework of Parkwoods United Church dated June 11, 2021.	15.09.21
Governance	Name Change	Approved the change of name of the Parry Sound Rural Pastoral Charge to Seguin Pioneer United Church.	17.03.21
Governance	Name Change	Approves the request by Bond Head United Church to change the name of their pastoral charge from Bond Head Newton Robinson Pastoral Charge to Bond Head Pastoral Charge.	21.11.19
Governance	Name Change	Approved the change of name of the Parry Sound Rural Pastoral Charge to Seguin Pioneer Pastoral Charge.	15.09.21
Governance	Name Change	Approves the request of Alpha Korean United Church, Toronto, to change their name to Toronto Korean United Church.	20.10.21
Governance	Policies and Procedures	Approves the revised Plan of Organization of Burton Avenue United Church, Barrie, dated February 2020;	19.02.20
Governance	Policies and Procedures	Approves the revised Policies and Procedures document and Summary of Roles and Responsibilities of Board Members document of Jane Finch and Davenport Perth Community Ministry	19.02.20
Governance	Policies and Procedures	Approves the Policies and Procedures document of Regent Park Community Ministry	19.02.20
Governance	Representation	Appoint Rev. Patricia Gale-macdonald to attend the meeting of the governing body of Burton Avenue United Church to meet the requirement of ministry personnel present.	17.03.21
Governance	Shared Ministry	Approve the Amended and Restated Ecumenical Shared Ministry Agreement between Calvin Presbyterian Church and Deer Park United Church, dated December 8, 2019.	18.03.20
Other		Agrees to co-sponsor the Preaching Event on August 20-21, 2021 with Emmanuel College.	17.02.21
Other		That the Communities of Faith Commission organize an event for lay leaders to provide fellowship, support, and skill development, to occur in conjunction the Celebration of Ministries Service.	18.09.19

Other	Hub Ministry	Approve funding up to \$2,000 for test site purposes for hub ministry out of St. Paul's Midland.	19.02.20
Other	Mapping Project	Approve a budget of up to \$10,000 for the higher-level mapping project in partnership with the EDGE Network	19.02.20
Pastoral Oversight		No action is necessary by the regional council with respect to Cosburn United Church.	18.09.19
Pastoral Oversight		Take no action on the petition signed by individuals from Stouffville United Church, Lansing United Church, Toronto, Scarborough Bluffs United Church and Bloor Street United Church, Toronto.	21.11.19
Pastoral Oversight		That no action is necessary by the regional council with respect to West Hill United Church	28.02.19
Pastoral Oversight		That no action is necessary by the regional council with respect to West Hill United Church.	16.05.19
Pastoral Oversight	Listening Team	Accepts the recommendation of the Listening Team, as outlined in their report, that St. Andrew's United Church, Markham, continue in a six-month intentional supply with a priority on streamlining and simplifying the governance structure of the congregation.	17.03.21
Pastoral Oversight	Listening Team	Accept the recommendations of the Listening Team Report on St. Paul's United Church Brampton, as presented	15.09.21
Pastoral Oversight	Review Follow Up Intentional Interim Ministry	Approves the request of Humber Valley United Church, Toronto to be eligible for a call or appointment as of August 11, 2019, having demonstrated to the satisfaction of Shining Waters Regional Council that the congregation and staff have worked on the requirements that emerged from the review decisions of the sub-Executive of Toronto Conference dated November 22, 2017;	18.06.19
Policy	Collaborative Ministry	That the policy for collaboration agreements between communities of faith sharing staff be approved.	16.10.19
Policy	Finance and Property	Harry Ramsaran/Emma Pipes that the Finance and Property Policy be adopted as an interim policy with understanding it is a living document that will be reviewed in the fall.	18.06.19
Policy	Grants	Receive the report, DRAFT Recommendation to the Executive for a Framework for Grants in SWRC for information.	16.06.21
Policy	Intentional Interim Ministry	Approve the policy on Transition Team Liaison for Intentional Interim Ministry;	18.09.19
Policy	Intentional Interim Ministry	That the policy on the Interim Ministry Committee, as revised, be approved as an interim policy subject to review as deemed necessary by the commission.	28.02.19
Policy	Liaisons	That the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council approve the Commission policy, Liaisons.	18.09.19

Policy	Listening Team Guidelines	That the Listening Team Guidelines be adopted as amended with the understanding that it will be reviewed in the fall.	18.06.19
Policy	Property	Approve the recommendation to the Executive regarding the property policy use of funds, amended to reflect LGBTQ2S+, and forward to the Executive for consideration.	16.06.21
Policy	Property	Approve the Finance and Property Policy and the Policy regarding Sale of Property by an Existing Community of Faith as revised.	17.02.21
Policy	Property	That the policy on manse funds, as revised, be approved as an interim policy subject to review as deemed necessary by the commission.	28.02.19
Policy	Property	Approves the Policy for the sale of property when a congregation is neither amalgamating nor closing, with a review date of June 30, 2020 pending further conversation with the region and with local Indigenous Communities.	01.22.20
Policy	Property	Approve the Regional Council Executive and Communities of Faith Commission: Property Policy as presented.	20.10.21
Policy	Property Disposition of Funds	That unless there is an updated plan for the disposition of funds from the sale by the closing date, the proceeds are to remain in trust with the congregation's lawyer until plan for their use is approved by the commission.	18.09.19
Policy	Service, Support, Oversight	That the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council, approve the Commission policy, Service, Support and Oversight to Communities of Faith.	18.09.19
Transitions	Amalgamation	Ardrea United Church and Heritage United Church amalgamate effective January 1, 2021 under the name Severn Shores United Church.	16.09.20
Transitions	Amalgamation	Appoint Diane Matheson-Jimenez as second regional representative to support Dewi Sant Welsh United Church, Toronto during amalgamation talks.	19.05.21
Transitions	Collaborative Agreement	Approved the Collaboration Agreement between Knox Sutton United Church and Virginia United Church	15.09.21
Transitions	Collaborative Agreement	Approves the proposed Collaboration Agreement between Bolton United Church and Palgrave United Church dated January 2020	22.01.20
Transitions	Collaborative Agreement	Approves the Collaboration Agreement between Knox United Church, Caledon and Caledon East United Church dated April 23, 2020.	02.06.20
Transitions	Collaborative Agreement	Approve the Collaboration Agreement of King City, New Hope and York Pines United Churches, dated January 2019.	28.03.19

Transitions	Community Ministry	That the community ministry at the Burrow be concluded and not renewed.	29.07.20
Transitions	Community Ministry	Approve the appointment of Maria Christina Conlon to the position of Davenport-Perth Community Minister	28.03.19
Transitions	Community Ministry	Approve the appointment of Barry Rieder at Jane Finch Community Ministry, Recognized Designated Lay Minister	28.03.19
Transitions	Disbanding	Approve request of Wexford Heights United Church to disband with ongoing conversation about how the property might continue to be used for ministry in the community.	29.01.19
Transitions	Disbanding	Approves the request of Malvern Emmanuel Pastoral Charge to disband	29.07.20
Transitions	Disbanding	Approved the request of Painswick United Church to disband the pastoral charge as a recognized community of faith effective September 30, 2021	15.09.21
Transitions	Disbanding	Disbands Locust Hill Pastoral Charge as a recognized community of faith effective September 30, 2021	15.09.21
Transitions	Disbanding	Approves the request of Severn Shores United Church to disband the pastoral charge as a recognized community of faith effective December 31, 2021	20.10.21
Transitions	Disbanding	Approves the request of Meadowvale Korean United Church to disband the pastoral charge as a recognized community of faith effective November 30, 2021	20.10.21
Transitions	Disbanding	Approves the request of Rosedale United Church, Toronto, to replace the sanctuary's east roof.	20.10.21
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Concurs with the recommendation of the Intentional Interim Ministries Committee and approves the request of Saint Luke's United Church, Toronto, for an extension of their intentional interim ministry for a maximum of two additional years to September 2024.	15.09.21
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Approve the request of East End United Church for an intentional interim ministry	29.07.20
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Approves the request of Dewi Sant Welsh Pastoral Charge, Toronto for an Intentional Interim Ministry beginning on March 1, 2019 and ending not earlier than June 30, 2022	18.06.19
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Receive for information the Report of the Intentional Interim Ministry Committee dated September 2019 (Appendix A);	18.09.19
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Approve the request by Fairlawn United Church for an extension of their original 18-month intentional interim ministry to the end of June 2020	18.09.19
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Accepts the recommendation of the Intentional Interim Ministry Committee for the approval of the request of Emmanuel United Church, Brampton, for a Pastoral Relations Liaison to provide Emmanuel with support to call a minister for a date after the completion of the appointment of the Interim Minister	22.01.20

Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Approve the extension of the Intentional Interim Ministry at Fairlawn United Church for the requested time period of two years for the purpose of focusing on the seven new and renewed goals identified by the Community of Faith;	18.03.20
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Approve the request of College Street United Church, Toronto, for an intentional interim minister.	15.04.20
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Agreed with the recommendation of the Intentional Interim Ministry Committee that the work of the intentional interim minister at Trinity, Huntsville is complete and that they are ready to call a minister.	20.05.20
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Approve the request of Humbercrest United Church for an intentional interim ministry.	29.07.20
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Approves the recommendation of the Intentional Interim Ministry Committee that the work of the Intentional Interim Minister is complete at Metropolitan United Church, Toronto and the congregation is eligible to enter the search process.	16.09.20
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Approves the request for an extension of the Intentional Interim Ministry at Saint Luke's United Church, Toronto, to August 31, 2022,.	18.11.20
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Approves the extension of the Intentional Interim Ministry at Dewi-Sant United Church to June 30, 2022,	21.04.21
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	That the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council appoints Lynella Reid-James as the regional representative to the transition team of St. Andrews United Church, Markham with thanks for her service.	21.04.21
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Concurred with the recommendation of the Intentional Interim Ministries Committee and does not approve the request of Fairlawn Avenue United Church, Toronto, for an extension of their intentional interim ministry to June 30, 2023.	15.09.21
Transitions	Intentional Interim Ministry	Agree to the request of Fairlawn United Church, Toronto, for a final extension of the intentional interim ministry to June 2023, that the intentional interim ministry end in June of 2023, a	20.10.21
Transitions	Interim Ministry Appointment	Direct that the appointment of Andrew Macpherson not be renewed, with thanks for his ministry with this congregation and that the Pastoral Relations Commission seek an Intentional Interim Minister for a two-year appointment to work with the congregation. (St. Luke's)	28.03.19