

SHINING WATERS REGIONAL COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE REGIONAL MEETING June 7-8, 2024

The annual meeting of Shining Waters Regional Council took place on June 7-8, 2024 at North Bramalea United Church, 363 Howden Blvd., Brampton, ON and via video conference. The theme was *Sanctuary Towards a Kingdom of Peace, Justice and Reconciliation*.

FRIDAY, June 7, 2024

Words of Welcome, Opening of Meeting and constituting the Council

Shining Waters Regional Council gathered at North Bramalea United Church and via Zoom video conference at 9:00 a.m. to begin the annual meeting of Shining Waters Regional Council. David Leyton-Brown, Acting President, welcomed all those participating, introduced himself and Executive Minister, Peter Hartmans.

David Leyton-Brown gave an acknowledgement of the land and a safe space statement. David introduced Tabitha Shurgold, the Cultural Program Coordinator for the Indigenous Network who offered an opening ceremony and teaching to begin the time together.

Acting President, David Leyton-Brown constituted the meeting in the name of Jesus Christ, and as the United Church gathered together, to deal with such business as should properly come before the Council.

The United Church of Canada Moderator, The Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne brought greetings via video.

Diane Matheson-Jimenez gave an orientation to how the group will be together during the meeting, and the BRAVE slide was shared. She also highlighted the programming happening during the meeting.

David Leyton-Brown led the participants through a test motion and vote.

Opening Motions

MOTION by Peter Hartmans / Allan Holditch
That the following enabling motions be adopted,

SW RCM 2024-06-07/08-01

- a) **Roll of the Regional Council: that the roll of Roll of the Regional Council shall consist of:**
- **All ministry personnel within the geographic bounds served by Shining Waters Regional Council (Basis of Union 6.2.1);**
 - **Ministers of denominations within mutual recognition agreements while under appointment or call (Basis of Union 6.2.2);**

- Lay members elected by the Community of Faith, respecting the balance of lay and ministry personnel where possible (Basis of Union 6.2.3);
 - Additional lay members as determined by the Regional Council if necessary, to respect a balance of ministry personal and lay members who are not ministry personnel in the membership of the Regional Council (2023 Manual C.1.2.b).
- b) **Bounds of the Regional Council Meeting:** that the bounds of the Regional Council meeting for voting purposes shall be North Bramalea United Church, 363 Howden Blvd., Brampton, ON L6S 4L6 and the zoom meeting ID: 895 5117 1366 when in session; that the Shining Waters Regional Council hold a Celebration of Ministry Service including admission and ordination to the Order of Ministry of The United Church of Canada on Saturday, June 8, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. to take place at North Bramalea United Church, 363 Howden Blvd., Brampton, ON L6S 4L6 to fulfil its responsibility to ordain those whom the Office of Vocation has confirmed as having completed all the requirements for ordination and commissioning, and admit those whom the Office of Vocation has confirmed as having completed all the requirements for admission, and whom the Regional Council has confirmed have a covenantal relationship in place with a community of faith.
 - c) **Agenda:** that the Agenda as posted to the regional website be the order of business, subject to those changes that are recommended by the President.
 - d) **Minutes:** that the Minutes of the meetings of Shining Waters Regional Council held May 26-28, 2023 and September 19, 2023 approved as circulated.
 - e) **Accountability reports:** that the reports as presented in the Resource Book be accepted for information.
 - f) **Adjournment of Sessions:** that the Chairperson have the authority to recess the Regional Council when business, as ordered, is completed, until the next order of the day.
 - g) **Corresponding Members:** that corresponding members shall be official guests of the Regional Council. Their names shall be included in the Record of Proceedings (2024 Manual C.1.5).
 - h) **Commitments:** that the regional council participants commit/covenant to honour the Holy Manners printed in the Resource Book and commit to our regional council's commitments around equity, justice and anti-racism through both conversation and actions. If there is failure to honour these commitments, individuals may be removed from the meeting at the discretion of the President.
 - i) **New Business & Nominations:** (Nominations are closed. The deadline was March 28, 2023). Items of New Business shall be given to the Chairperson by 6:00 p.m. on May 26, 2023.

Procedural

1. The procedural and prayer microphone shall be microphone #1 and the zoom chat box.
2. Any handouts must be authorized by the President.
3. The Parliamentarian shall be Beth Moore.

4. **The Chairperson will present proposals. The Chairperson may, at their discretion, invite an individual to verbally introduce a proposal for up to five minutes. The Chairperson will invite prayerful discernment and discussion on the wisdom of the proposal. When the Chairperson discerns that the sense of the meeting is such that we are ready to hear a motion on the proposal, they will invite the presenter to move the motion. Once the motion has been moved and seconded, Rules of Debate and Order shall be followed.**
5. **At the discretion of the chairperson, microphone time for each speaker will be limited to 1½ minutes per proposal and 1½ minutes per motion with the exception of the mover (who may speak at the beginning and end of a motion).**
6. **Microphone time may be reduced at the discretion of the Chairperson in 30-second increments when any item of business exceeds 20 minutes.**
7. **The normal voting procedure, in person, shall be a show of hands using ballot cards, except where a secret ballot is required (ballot sheets will be provided by the Chairperson through the Regional Council office). The normal voting procedure, online, shall be a show of hands using the RAISE HAND icon found at the bottom of the participants panel or *9 for those on the phone. If two people are joined from the same household one person will vote with the Raise Hand icon and the second will type Yes or No in the chat. Those who wish to abstain will type ABSTAIN in the chat. Where a secret ballot is required, ballot sheets will be provided through the Regional Council website.**
8. **In the case of limited time for business, items will be dealt with in the following order: Elections, Proposals to Shining Waters Regional Council, Reports requiring a decision of the Regional Council, Reports for Information.**
CARRIED

Introductions

Acting President, David Leyton-Brown expressed thanks to the staff and volunteers of North Bramalea United Church. Rev. Jamie Holtom brought greetings on behalf of North Bramalea United Church. The Acting President shared that the theme, “Sanctuary: Towards a Kindom of Peace, Justice and Reconciliation”, was selected by our President, Tina Conlon, who was able to participate in some of the initial planning. David also made a number of introductions, including the chaplains, the prayer room support, worship team, parliamentarian, General Council representative, and Shining Waters staff. He welcomed Nancy Ferguson, Chair of the Canadian Shield Regional Council who brought greetings from Canadian Shield.

Worship

A time of worship was led by Uganda Martyrs United Church.

Theme Reflection: Sanctuary

The first theme time centred around welcoming a panel of people who helped reflect from their lived experience on what it means to give and receive sanctuary. It included each panellist sharing their story and then a discussion and reflection on questions that were provided to them ahead of the meeting.

Announcements and Grace

Jody Maltby offered some announcements. The meeting broke for lunch and Andrew Kunyoung Lee offered a blessing on the meal.

The Acting President called for questions related to the Accountability Report of the Executive.

Allyce Mutungi of the Nominations Committee presented the Nominations Report.

Eric Nyarko addressed the court, sharing his vision for the work of the regional council over the next few years.

Acting President, David Leyton-Brown presented a brief narrative on the decision to defer the 2025 Budget to an online regional meeting to be held no later than November 30, 2024. Janet MacDonald shared the financial report for 2024 and answered questions.

John Joseph Mastandrea of the Grants & Mission Support Committee presented the Grants Report.

The meeting took an all-purpose break.

Acting President David invited Ariel Siagan and others from the General Council Theology and InterChurch/InterFaith Committee to present on principles-based approach to justice.

The theme presentation continued with small group reflections in groups of 4 people, while online participants engaged in breakout group time, followed by reporting and an interactive conversation with TICIF.

Susan Eagle presented proposal SW2024-04: *Reducing Homelessness in Canada*.

MOTION by Susan Eagle/Brian McIntosh **SW RCM 2024-06-07/08-02**
That Shining Waters Regional Council adopt the proposal SW2024-04: *Reducing Homelessness in Canada*, as presented.

The motion was moved and seconded and was before the court. A point of order was raised that not all people may be present to discuss this proposal as it was moved from its original spot on the agenda; therefore, the discussion of the motion occurred after dinner.

David Leyton-Brown offered some announcements, including Pat Gilmore from the Grand River Bookstore. Amy Lee led the court in two new pieces from *Then Let Us Sing*. Bri-anne Swan then offered a blessing for supper.

As Susan Eagle presented proposal SW2024-04: *Reducing Homelessness in Canada* before dinner, it was then discussed by the court.

SW RCM 2024-06-07/08-02

That Shining Waters Regional Council adopt the proposal SW2024-04: *Reducing Homelessness in Canada*, as presented.

CARRIED

Susan Eagle presented proposal SW2024-03: *Support of Broadview Magazine*.

MOTION by Susan Eagle/Deborah Hardwick SW RCM 2024-06-07/08-03
That Shining Waters Regional Council adopt the proposal SW2024-03: *Support of Broadview Magazine*, as presented.

CARRIED

Don Ford presented proposal SW2024-05: *SEJC RC Information Sharing*.

MOTION by Don Ford/Alexa Gilmour SW RCM 2024-06-07/08-04
That Shining Waters Regional Council adopt the proposal SW2024-05: *SEJC RC Information Sharing*, as presented.

DEFEATED

Blessing and Adjournment

Peter offered a blessing and the President declared the meeting adjourned to reconvene at 9:00 a.m. on June 8, 2024.

SATURDAY, June 8, 2024

Words of Welcome

Acting President, David Leyton-Brown, welcomed participants to the second day of the Shining Waters Regional Council Meeting.

Worship

Members of the Uganda Martyrs United Church led the meeting in worship and Rev. Bri-anne Swan of East End United Church offered a reflection.

Business Section – Proposals to the Shining Waters Regional Council Continued

Daniel Reed, from the Shining Waters Regional Council Executive, made a motion on behalf of Executive.

MOTION by Daniel Reed/Allyce Mutungi SW RCM 2024-06-07/08-05
That the Shining Waters Regional Council direct the Regional Council Executive to create an ad hoc committee, with the support and advice from all four Commissions, Grants & Mission Support Committee and the regional council Finance Committee, to do a region-wide consultation about regional ministry and funding priorities. The review would include input from all four regional Commissions, all communities of faith and Shining Waters Regional Council grant recipients, PTCC and TUCC and a review of current regional council granting priorities and available financial resources. The Committee will report back to the Executive with recommendations, no later than June 30, 2025 and to the regional council with recommendations, no later than the 2025 Regional Council Meeting on October 24/25, 2025. The committee

to be created will provide a schedule of milestones to accomplish their work to the Regional Council Executive no later than October 31, 2024 and thereafter, provide quarterly updates as to progress. Such reports to be posted promptly with the minutes of Regional Council Executive.

CARRIED

Motion as Amended:

MOTION by Victoria Stuart/George Isaac

SW RCM 2024-06-07/08-06

That the committee to be created and provide a schedule of milestones to accomplish their work to the Regional Council Executive no later than October 31, 2024 and thereafter, provide quarterly updates as to progress. Such reports to be posted promptly with the minutes of Regional Council Executive.

CARRIED

Motion as Amended:

MOTION by Susan Eagle/Frances Ota

SW RCM 204-06-07/08-07

That support and advice be received from the four Commissions, Grants and Mission Support Committee and the Regional Council Finance Committee.

CARRIED

Cameron Watts was to present proposal SW2024-02: *Viability of Ministries in the GTA* and withdrew the proposal.

The meeting took an all-purpose break.

George Isaac presented proposal SW2024-01: *Financial Assistance for SWRC*.

Daniel Reed offered a motion to refer.

MOTION by Daniel Reed/Allyce Mutungi

SW RCM 2024-06-07/08-08

That the proposal SW2024-01: *Financial Assistance for SWRC*, be referred to the ad hoc committee to be included, as part of the consultation.

CARRIED

Announcements and Grace

Acting President David Leyton-Brown offered some announcements. The meeting broke for lunch and Rev. Shawn Redden offered a blessing on the meal.

In Memoriam

Todd McDonald and Lawrence Nyarko led an in-memoriam worship service remembering the congregations that have closed, disbanded or amalgamated, and remembering those who have gone before us.

Nominations

MOTION by Allyce Mutungi/Sarah Lough

SW RCM 2024-06-07/08-09

That Shining Waters Regional Council elect those listed in the Nominations Report to serve on the Shining Waters Regional Council Executive, Commissions, and Committees of Shining Waters Regional Council, for the stated terms.

CARRIED

Minute for Mission

Melody Duncanson-Hales, Community of Faith Stewardship Support, brought greetings from the Philanthropy Unit of General Council and shared a slide presentation about Stewardship.

Courtesies and Adjournment

The President declared the meeting adjourned.

Celebration of Ministries Service

Shining Waters Regional Council held a Celebration of Ministries Service at North Bramalea United Church, Brampton.

Acting President, David Leyton-Brown presided assisted by Executive Minister, Rev. Peter Hartmans. Liturgists Rev. Lawrence Nyarko, Rev. Won Hur, and Rev. Lauren Hodgson, provided leadership.

The liturgists gave an Acknowledgement of the Land. The Scripture readings were from 1 King 17:1-16 and Isaiah 59:9-15. Rev. Brian McIntosh delivered the message.

The service recognized and celebrated those ministry personnel that have retired since the last regional council meeting and those ministry personnel marking a significant anniversary of their entry into ministry within The United Church of Canada.

Christopher Fraser, Laura Gallagher-Doucette, William Gardner, Krista Moore, and Andrea Wheaton were ordained to the order of ministry. Robert Murdock was commissioned to the order of ministry. Nestor Medina was admitted to the order of ministry of The United Church of Canada.

Communion was served by the liturgists, the new ministry personnel and others.

The Rev. Brian McIntosh gave the commissioning and blessing.