

**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA  
SHINING WATERS REGIONAL COUNCIL**

**Minutes of a meeting of the  
Communities of Faith Commission  
Tuesday May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026**

The Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council met on Tuesday May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026 via Zoom. The meeting began at 5:00 p.m.

**Present:** Chris Bennett, Isaac Kamta, Jim Keenan, Tom MacNeil, Doris Mensah-Wonkyi, Krista Moore, Sandra Nottegar, Patti Rodgers

**Staff:** Andrea Allan, Kathleen Jones, Jody Maltby, Shawn Redden

**Regrets:** Adèle Mayer, Daniel Reed

**Guest:** Calin Lau - Growth Animator Shining Waters & Canadian Shield  
Cynthia O'Connell - Intentional Interim Ministry Committee Chair

**Welcome**

Chris Bennett opened the meeting and welcomed everyone. There was a time of check in. Tom MacNeil then led the commission in a time of worship.

**Agenda**

**MOTION** by Jim Keenan / Patti Rodgers **SW-CFC-2026-05-26-01**  
that the Agenda of the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council dated May 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026 be accepted as circulated  
**CARRIED**

**Minutes**

**MOTION** by Isaac Kamta / Sandra Nottegar **SW-CFC-2026-05-26-02**  
that the Minutes of the meetings of the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council dated April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2026 be approved as circulated  
**CARRIED**

The Commission made the following decisions by email vote;

*.... approve the 2026 capital projects at East End United that include flooring at East End Food Hub /Glen Rhodes sanctuary and air conditioning of the gym at Danforth Multifaith Commons/Eastminster along with the four other maintenance projects and approve the transfer of Manse funds (~\$101,000) and Unrestricted Funds (~\$260,000) from East End United reserves to fund the above capital projects*

**Congregational Funding Program** – *Jody Maltby*

The Commission reviewed and approved the 2026 Congregational Grants recommendations from the Grants and Mission Support Committee. Approved funding requests totaled just over \$250,000 of the \$300,000 budget, leaving approximately \$50,000 available for unforeseen or additional requests.

**MOTION** by Patti Rodgers / Jim Keenan

**SW-CFC-2026-05-26-03**

that the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council, approves the recommendations of the Grants and Mission Support Committee for 2026 Congregational Grants.

**CARRIED**

Cynthia O’Connell joined the meeting

Krista Moore joined the meeting

**Intentional Interim Ministry Committee Request**

A request from the Intentional Interim Ministry Committee was presented to develop and offer transitional ministry training modules for both ministers and lay leaders. The initiative aims to make intentional interim ministry resources more accessible to congregations of varying sizes and locations, including rural and smaller churches. The Commission approved the proposal in principle, with financial support to be determined once program details and participation costs are finalized

**MOTION** by Patti Rodgers / Sandra Nottegar

**SW-CFC-2026-05-26-04**

that the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council, approves the request of the Intentional Interim Ministry Committee to offer financial support within the commission budget range and approve a training module for ministers and lay leaders.

**CARRIED**

Cynthia O’Connell left the meeting

**Property Policy Process** – *Chris Bennett & Jody Maltby*

The **Property Policy** was shared. A draft Property Policy Evaluation Process was presented, to guide how property decisions such as sales and major leases are assessed, developed as a follow up to earlier discussions and intended to provide a structured but flexible framework for decision making. The Commission affirmed the approach as a set of guiding questions rather than a rigid formula, emphasizing discernment and context, including factors such as congregational viability, ministry vision, community impact, and alignment with Shining Waters Regional priorities, recognizing that these will vary across different contexts. Members supported the increased nuance and transparency the tool provides, agreed it could help congregations better understand expectations when submitting proposals, and supported making it available while continuing refinement. The Commission approved the framework in principle and directed that it be further aligned with existing property policy documents, with a final version to return for approval prior to broader distribution.

Doris Mensah-Wonkyi joined the meeting

**Property Conversation at Staff Gathering** – *Jody Maltby*

Jody shared reflections from recent property-related conversations at the staff gathering, highlighting the growing need for clearer processes and dedicated support around property matters within the Region. The conversation also informed ongoing discussion about the possible creation of a separate Property Commission or subcommittee structure to manage property transactions and capital grants more effectively while allowing the Communities of Faith Commission to focus on ministry and vitality work.

**Community Ministry Fund** – *Jody Maltby*

The Commission noted that the Community Ministries Fund continues to be maintained and supported, including ongoing commitments to related congregational funding priorities. However, progress on advancing the fund’s broader implementation has been delayed due to governance work and limited volunteer capacity.

**Pastoral Charge Supervisor Policy** – *Jim Keenan*

**MOTION** by Jim Keenan / Isaac Kamta **SW-CFC-2026-05-26-05**  
that the Communities of Faith Commission of Shining Waters Regional Council approves the Pastoral Charge Supervisor Policy.  
**CARRIED**

**First Third Ministry Committee Policy** – *Shawn Redden*

The Commission approved the creation of the First Third Ministry Committee to support ministry with children, youth, and young adults. The group will be able to decide its own name and final shape as it gets started, with the focus on strengthening ministry across these age groups in the Region.

**MOTION** by Jim Keenan / Krista Moore **SW-CFC-2026-05-26-06**  
that the Communities of Faith Commission of the Shining Waters Regional Council approve the First Third Ministry Committee policy establishing the Shining Waters Intergenerational Ministry (SWIM)  
**CARRIED**

Calin Lau left the meeting

Doris Mensah-Wonkyi left the meeting

**COMMUNITY OF FAITH UPDATES**

**York Pines United Church / King City United Church, York** – *Andrea Allan*

The Commission considered a proposal from York Pines and King City regarding a potential merger and property-related plan. The proposal included the idea of selling the King City property and establishing a \$4 million endowment to support a full-time minister for the combined congregation. The Commission supported the proposal in principle but made approval conditional

on the congregation developing a clearer ministry plan, with the expectation that funds from the proposed endowment would be used to support an intentional interim minister for a two-year period to help clarify and develop its vision; the Commission also noted that the arrangement would be reviewed after that period, along with a defined timeline for the endowment and consideration of contributions to Shining Waters Regional Council priorities.

Andrea Allan left the meeting

**Collier Street United Church, Barrie** – *Jody Maltby*

The Commission considered a funding request from Collier Street United Church in support of their efforts to access grants and loans for property-related needs. The Commission affirmed its support for the congregation's application, with the understanding that any loan secured against the property will require approval through the loan task group prior to proceeding.

**NEXT MEETING** Tuesday June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2026 5:00pm, Daniel Reed will provide worship.

**CLOSING** Chris Bennett concluded with a closing blessing, and the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.