SHINING WATERS
REGIONAL COUNCIL
The United Church of Canada

Encouraging and Connecting Communities of Faith

September 30, 2026

Dear Shining Waters Regional Council,

I am sorry to miss the 2026 Regional Council Meeting. A great opportunity to connect in-person with folks within the regional council.

In early September I shared with both staff, the Regional Executive, and Regional Council that after much discernment, prayer, and spiritual direction, and with a deep sense of gratitude for the opportunity to serve among you, that I submitted my resignation from my role as Executive Minister with Shining Waters Council and the Canadian Shield Regional Council, effective September 30, 2026. I have accepted a new call to serve at the General Council Office as Executive Minister, UCC Identity and Governance, beginning October 1, 2026.

This decision has not been made lightly. My time serving with you has been a deeply meaningful part of my ministry, and I leave with a profound sense of gratitude for the people, relationships, ministry, and moments we have shared. It has been a gift to work alongside you as a staff team, with the Regional Executive and Regional Council, and with so many wonderful people throughout our Incorporated Ministries and Community Ministries.

I am particularly grateful for the trust we have shared, for the ways we have supported one another, and for the opportunity to witness and participate in God's work in and through this regional council. I will carry many of these relationships and memories with me with great affection and gratitude.

I give thanks to God for the privilege of having served with you. While this is a transition and, in some ways, a goodbye, it is not a goodbye without gratitude. I trust that the Spirit who has guided us thus far will continue to guide the ministry ahead.

With deep gratitude and every blessing,

Peter Hartmans, Former Executive Minister
Shining Waters Regional Council
The United Church of Canada

Main Office: 59 Line 4N, Oro-Medonte, ON, L0L 2L0 **Phone:** 1-249-489-2005
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 625, Barrie PO Main, ON L4M 4V1
Website: www.shiningwatersregionalcouncil.ca