



The United Church of Canada L'Église Unie du Canada

Regional Council 15
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MEMO

TO: Communities of Faith
(Ministry Personnel, Official Board Chairs, Official Board Secretaries)

FROM: Faith March-MacCuish, Executive Minister

RE: Lay Members to Regional Council

DATE: May 8, 2020

Greeting on behalf of the Regional Council Executive!

We do hope that you and your Pastoral Charge are doing well in this most difficult time. My heart has been full as I hear stories of volunteers and Community of Faith Staff (ministerial and lay) working hard to address the needs of the congregations. Stories of congregational members continuing their offering and in some cases giving more, there have been stories of anonymous donations all because people of faith know how important the church is to themselves and to the community. Well done good and faithful servants, when in crisis we know how to pull together.

As you are now aware, Regional Council 15 will have its meeting on June 10, 2020 from 6:30pm to 9:00pm, through a virtual format called zoom. Some of you will be aware of that tool and for some it will be new, not to worry if you are unfamiliar, we are here to help you. If you are not able to join by Zoom then you can join the meeting by phone.

Please note all people ministry personnel and lay members will have to register again for the meeting on June 10th, 2020. The deadline for the **registration is May 28th, 2020**. Please fill out the registration form found on the website (<https://ucceast.ca/regional-council-15/rc15-annual-meeting-registration/>).

Elected Members Responsibilities:

It is very important to note that members of the region who are elected from their communities of faith are key leaders for our regions. They are the connector between the community of faith and the region. These members are one of our communications agents in the system. We rely on them to be the person who receives correspondence from the region and brings that to the governing body (board/council). We also rely on members to help your governing body to have copies of the policies and governance documents approved by the region, to highlight the website and encourage members to sign up for the weekly news, as well as bring a copy of the regional executive minutes to the board or council quarterly. Members are to bring a report from the annual meeting to your communities of faith. They are an important part of the regional structure. Remember, this is not just about attending the Annual Regional Meeting, but about being a member of the region for the duration of your term.

While it is not mandatory we also ask members, lay and ministry personnel, to discern if you feel called to serve in the wider region by being part of one of the committees or Divisions. This is our church and our region and we are called to fulfill its ministry together.

Please note the formula for electing your members to the region is below.

The number of representatives depends on the size of the community of faith:

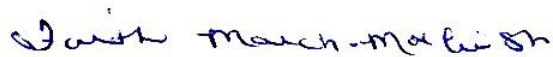
- a) one representative if the community of faith has 100 or fewer members;*
 - b) two representatives if the community of faith has 101 to 200 members;*
 - c) three representatives if the community of faith has 201 to 300 members; and*
 - d) four representatives if the community of faith has more than 300 members.*
- (Taken from Manual 2019 B.2, B.2.1.1, B.2.1.5, B.2.1.6)*

Ministry Personnel are members of the Regional Council.

It would be great if all communities of faith could have their allowable membership elected! Representatives must be members of the community of faith. If you have not yet filled in the form to let us know who your members are you can do so at this link <https://ucceast.ca/57662-2020-official-members-to-regional-council/>.

All Annual Regional Meeting materials can be found at <https://ucceast.ca/regional-council-15/annual-meeting-2020/>.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Faith March-MacCuish". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Faith March-MacCuish