

DIVISION OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE RESOURCES

It has been an active six months for the whole Region since our last Annual General Meeting. Thank you to everyone for all your work on behalf of our Communities of Faith, our Camps, the Incorporated Ministries and the Region itself. We, in the Division of Finance and Administrative Resources, are aware of the large amount of work that both volunteers and staff do to fulfill our financial and administrative activities. Keeping our ship moving forward during these COVID pandemic times has not been easy. Thank you for your faithfulness.

Thank you to Brenda Andrews (Division Secretary) and the Convenors of our four Teams: Danny Button (Financial Accountability), Karen Critch (Board of Trusts), Dave Dawe (Property) and Stephen Jewczyk (Incorporated Ministries) and all the members of their teams for all the work they do.

Thank you to Doreen Barbour who stepped down from being the Convenor of the Board of Trusts after many years of service to the Region and welcome to Karen Critch for taking up Doreen's position. Also sincere thanks to both Stephen Jewczyk and Rebecca Pike who will be leaving the Incorporated Ministries Team at the time of the annual general meeting. We are actively seeking people to fill their positions.

Last fall I reported that we had yet to get a good financial understanding of the impact of the COVID pandemic on our Communities of Faith. As the length and effects of the pandemic have been longer than we had hoped, I believe that is still the case. What we do know is, despite the prolonged nature of the pandemic, great efforts have been made by our congregations, incorporated ministries and camps to continue to function as a worshipping church and a valuable presence in the community.

The financial pressures brought about by the increasing cost of insurance remains a great problem. Discussions with our broker (Steers Insurance) have resulted in them offering some different options for coverage which were explained in a Zoom town hall meeting in February. We continue to work with our Communities of Faith to discern the right option for them.

The National Church continues to offer both Church/Manse Modernization and Improvement Grants and Technology Grants for which our Communities of Faith continue to be successful in making application.

Over the last few years more and more Communities of Faith have looked to selling unrequired property as a means of financially supporting the work of the church. It is important that the process laid out in the Regional Property Manual be followed step by step with the needed permissions being sought from the Division on behalf of the Region. If a congregation has any questions about selling property, please contact the Property Team.

Finally, I would like to express the thanks of the Division of Finance and Administrative Resources to our Tri-Region and Regional Staff for all the support and encouragement they give to both the Region at large and the Division specifically.

In closing, all of us in the Division are here to help. Please contact us if you feel we can be of assistance in any way. Blessings to everyone in First Dawn Eastern Edge Region as we sojourn together in faith and hope.

Roy West,
Chair