



The United Church of Canada L'Église Unie du Canada



First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council
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MEMO

TO: Communities of Faith of First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council
(Ministry Personnel, Elected Members, Official Board Chairs, Official Board Secretaries, Incorporated Ministries)

FROM: Faith March-MacCuish, Executive Minister

RE: **First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council Annual Meeting: Registration**

DATE: March 19, 2021

Greetings from the Executive Minister, First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council.

We do hope that you and your Community of Faith is doing well in this most difficult time. It is a year since we began to experience the pandemic and realize its arrival on our doorsteps. It has not been easy. My heart has been full as I hear stories of resilience and strength in the midst of sorrow and struggle. Thank you everyone; ministry personnel and laity, for working hard to address the needs of the congregations and ministering to each other. *“Love cannot remain by itself - it has no meaning. Love has to be put into action and that action is service.” (Mother Teresa)* Thank you for your love in action.

“Presence and Hope” is the theme for the First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council 2021 Annual Meeting being held May 14-16, 2021 via Zoom. Some of you will be aware of that format 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 via Zoom, then you can join the meeting by phone.

The Annual Meeting will begin on Friday, May 14 at 6 pm with Opening Worship and In Memoriam. The evening will end with Milestones in Ministry, a celebration of our Retirements, Anniversaries and an acknowledgement of those ministry personnel who have left or will be leaving our Region. We will continue the meeting again on Saturday morning at 10 am. The meeting will end with the Celebration of Ministry Service (in person invitation only) live streamed on Sunday, May 16, 2021 at 2 pm. The full draft agenda will be circulated once all the pieces are in place.

Please note that all ministry personnel and lay members will have to register for the meeting. The registration deadline is April 15, 2021. Please complete the registration form found on the website: <https://ucceast.ca/first-dawn-eastern-edge-regional-council-16/first-dawn-eastern-edge-regional-council-annual-meeting-2021/>

Elected Members Responsibilities:

Members of the Regional Council will represent their Community of Faith at the Annual Meeting. The Regional Council member will provide key communication updates between the Regional Council and their Community of Faith throughout the year. Regional Council members should be people who are passionate about building relationships beyond their congregation. In addition, the Regional Council member may consider serving within the Regional Council governance structure.

- Members to the Region from their Communities of Faith are a key connector for the Community of Faith and the Region.
- You are one of our communications agents in the system. We rely on you to be the person who receives correspondence from the Region and brings that to your governing body (Board/Council).
- It is recommended that one of the elected members from your Community of Faith to the Region be a member of your governing body (Board/Council).
- Help your governing body understand/find the policies and governance documents pertaining to the Region's work.
- Highlight the website and Facebook page to the Community of Faith as a resource of information.
- Share the Region's weekly news with the congregation and Board/Council.
- Provide a copy of the Regional Executive minutes to the Board or Council quarterly.
- Bring a report from the Annual Meeting to your Community of Faith.
- If possible, serve on one of the Divisions or Teams of the Region.
- To help members of your Community of Faith discern where they might serve on the various Divisions/Teams of the Region and encourage them to get involved.

The Region is all of us and we are called to fulfill its ministry together. You are an important part of the Regional structure. Thank you for your ministry.

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:

- one representative if the community of faith has 100 or fewer members;*
- two representatives if the community of faith has 101 to 200 members;*
- three representatives if the community of faith has 201 to 300 members; and*
- four representatives if the community of faith has more than 300 members.*

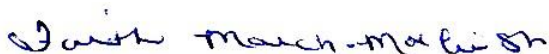
(Taken from Manual 2021 B.2, B.2.1.1, B.2.1.5, B.2.1.6)

Ministry Personnel are members of the Regional Council. Lay members of Regional Council are elected by their Community of Faith. We need all Communities of Faith to fill in the online form: <https://ucceast.ca/61182-official-members-form/> which confirms your elected members of the Region. This is a required form and provides the Region with the needed contact information. Representatives must be members of the Community of Faith. If you have not had your annual meeting and have not elected new representatives, please confirm with last year's representative that they are still willing to continue for this year and please complete & submit the necessary forms.

In preparation for the FDEE Annual Meeting, please refer to the posted material on the Regional website: <https://ucceast.ca/first-dawn-eastern-edge-regional-council-16/first-dawn-eastern-edge-regional-council-annual-meeting-2021/>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to be in contact.

Sincerely,



Faith March-MacCuish
Executive Minister

Copy: Rev. Stephanie McClellan, Annual Meeting Program Team
Rev. Peggy Johnson, President, First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council
Rev. Grant Stuckless, President-Elect, First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council