



The United Church of Canada L'Eglise 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: **Regional Council Annual Meeting
Ministry Personnel and Lay Members to Registration**

DATE: **March 5, 2021**

Greetings on behalf of the Regional Council Executive!

We do hope that you and your Pastoral Charge are doing well in this most difficult time. It is almost 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 resilient 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.

"Beacons of Hope" is the theme for the 2021 Regional Council Virtual Meeting being held May 27-31, 2021 by 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 by Zoom then you can join the meeting by phone.

Please note that all ministry personnel and lay members will have to register for the meeting. The **registration deadline is May 13, 2021**. Please fill out the registration form found on the website (<https://ucceast.ca/regional-council-15/rc15-annual-meeting-registration/>).

Elected Members Responsibilities:

Members of the Regional Council will represent their Community of Faith at the Regional 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 Regions 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 Communities of Faith.
- If possible serve on one of the committees and divisions of the Region.
- To help members of your Communities of Faith discern where they might serve on the various committees and divisions 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:

- 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)*

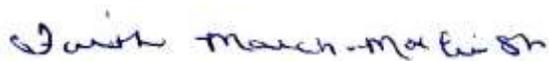
Ministry Personnel are members of the Regional Council.

It would be great if all Communities of Faith could have their membership elected. We need all Communities of Faith to fill in the online form (<https://ucceast.ca/61189-2021-elected-members-to-regional-council-15/>) which confirms your elected members of the Region. This is a required form to confirm your elected members and their contact information. Representatives must be members of the Community of Faith.

In preparation for the annual meeting please refer to the posted material on the Regional website (<https://ucceast.ca/regional-council-15/regional-council-15-annual-meeting-2021/>).

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

Sincerely,



Faith March-MacCuish
Executive Minister
Regional Council 15