

Streams of Ministry Policy

Living Skies Regional Council Pastoral Relations Commission

The purpose of this policy is to guide the development of Ministry Profiles for Communities of Faith in Living Skies Regional Council.

H.1 Forms of Paid Accountable Ministry in the United Church

All ministers, members, and adherents in the United Church are engaged in ministry.

The term “paid accountable ministry” refers to the work of a minister who

- a) is a member of the order of ministry or a designated lay minister;
- b) is accountable to the Office of Vocation; and
- c) receives a salary or other compensation from a community of faith, regional council, General Council, Office of Vocation, or other ministry recognized by a regional council.

The Manual, 2019

The United Church of Canada affirms the unique contributions of all forms of paid accountable ministers. In Living Skies Regional Council, these forms of ministry are celebrated and valued as an expression of the diversity that is present in the Regional Council. When a community of faith is preparing the ministry profile for the purposes of beginning a search process, the development of a position description is an important aspect of the documentation. According to the [*Pastoral Relations: Guidelines for a Community of Faith Profile*](#), “The position description articulates the community of faith’s ministry needs. An accurate position description provides an organized summary of the duties, tasks, responsibilities, and accountability of the position, as well as the knowledge, skills, and abilities required to competently fulfill them.”

As a result, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council requires that all vacant ministry positions will be open for application from ministry personnel in both streams of ordered ministry and designated lay ministry. This also means that community of faith profiles may not restrict applications from eligible ministry personnel and that search committees may not use streams of ministry as a criterion when considering applications.