

**Living Skies Executive Minutes
January 28, 2021 via Zoom**

Present	Tricia Gerhard (Chair), Donna Brown (Treasurer), Ron Brandow, Linda Gunningham, Cam Fraser, Tim Ellis, Brian Maitland, Dave Whalley. A quorum was present.
Corresponding Members	Rob Reed (Convenor).
Regrets	There were no regrets.
Staff Present	Shannon McCarthy (Executive Minister), Julie Graham (Justice and Communications Minister), Kent Mohn (Youth and Young Adult Minister), Heather Dootoff (Finance Administrator), Bev Diebert (Administrative Support), Jamie McKay (Executive Assistant & Recording Secretary).
Call to Order	Tricia Gerhard called the meeting to order at 1:00 PM.
Opening Worship and Check-In	Cam Fraser said a prayer.
Approval of Agenda	We reviewed the agenda.
028 – 2020/2021	It was agreed by consensus: That Living Skies Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as distributed.
Approval of Executive Minutes	We reviewed the executive minutes from November 26, 2020. We also reviewed minutes from September 5-6, 2019, January 23, 2020, and February 13, 2020.
029 – 2020/2021	It was agreed by consensus: That Living Skies Regional Council Executive accept the following executive minutes, as amended: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• September 5-6, 2019• January 23, 2020• February 13, 2020• November 26, 2020
BUSINESS ARISING	
Correspondence	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Letter from Rick McCorrister re: Pension/Benefit increases• Nuclear energy petition
<i>Letter from Rick McCorrister -</i>	We discussed a letter received by Rick McCorrister about the increased pension/benefit premiums.

*re: Pension/Benefit
increases*

The increased premiums extend over the next five years and will create an additional hardship for many pensioners.

We wondered if part of the sale of property could go towards a fund to support pensioners.

A letter is being sent by the General Council Executive, the General Secretary, and the Moderator to answer questions and to respond pastorally to the concerns that were raised.

*Nuclear Energy
Petition*

See report from Justice and Communications.

**Report from the
Executive Minister**

Executive ministers are meeting monthly with Cameron Trimbal and are reading and discussing three books:

- Emergent Strategy: Shaping Change, Changing Worlds by Adrienne Maree Brown
- Who Do We Choose To Be? Facing Reality, Claiming Leadership, Restoring Sanity by Meg Wheatley
- Braiding Sweetgrass by Robin Wall Kimmerer

Shannon McCarthy is also attending Bartimaeus Kinsler Institute 2021: Deepening Practices of Restorative Solidarity, which is taking place online from February 12 to 15, 2021.

Third Avenue

We are still working with Third Avenue United in Saskatoon and have yet to set up a commission because we are having trouble finding people. The board and trustees are meeting soon to move further along in the foreclosure business.

Chairperson Update

Tricia Gerhard has been working with the Faith Leaders Task Group which has led to interesting conversations about the role of worship in our functioning as a church.

Freedom2c.com

A website has been created calling for churches and other social organizations to disregard the current COVID-19 restrictions and begin gathering again beginning on February 28, 2021.

We do not endorse this call, nor do we encourage any churches to join.

Tricia Gerhard will draft a letter to say the regional council executive encourages congregations to continue to comply with restrictions regardless of outside pressures to ignore them, and that our call as faith communities is to care for our constituents and wider communities.

STAFF REPORTS

**Justice and
Communications**

Julie Graham reported.

*Nuclear Energy
Petition*

We received a letter of concern from Vicki Obedkoff, ICUCEC Board Member about signing on to a nuclear energy petition. The petition would call for the correction of the course of review process by the Government of Canada, which currently, is a very short timeline. A longer timeline will be more inclusive and give more people a chance to speak on it.

The deadline is January 31, 2021 which is only three days away. Tricia Gerhard will write a letter to Vicki Obedkoff letting her know we don't have enough time to review and have discussion on this matter.

*Conversion Therapy
Update*

Julie Graham has drafted the letter and is still waiting on feedback from OUTSaskatoon and No Conversion Canada. This letter is going to Premier Scott Moe, Health Minister Paul Merriman, and Attorney General Gordon Wyant on behalf of the Executive. We are aiming to have this letter ready for distribution by February 24, 2021.

PASTORAL RELATIONS

Tracy Murton reported.

*Pastoral Relations
Commission*

We received the motions made by the Pastoral Relations Commission for the period of July 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020.

030 – 2020/2021

**It was agreed by consensus:
That Living Skies Regional Council Executive receive the Living Skies Pastoral Relations Commission Motions from the period of July 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020 (Appendix A).**

*Committee on
Community of Faith
Support*

A lot of churches are struggling right now. There are more churches with pastoral charge supervisors than with called or appointed ministers. There is also a high amount vacancies.

Congregations have asked how we are imagining or re-imagining regional understandings of ministry. Therefore, we can begin to think about how we can re-imagine what ministry might look like in parts of the province.

We are also having conversations about Indigenous Ministry in the regional council. We are down to one person who is actively involved in Indigenous Ministry in the province.

*Committee on Lay
Leadership Support*

Tracy Murton brought forward one name to appoint as a member-at-large for the purpose of pastoral charge supervision.

031 – 2020/2021

It was agreed by consensus:

That Living Skies Regional Council Executive appoint CARMEL WADDINGTON as a member-at-large for the purpose of Pastoral Charge Supervision, effective immediately.

Committee on Ministry Personnel Support The Committee on Ministry Personnel Support is partnering with St. Andrew's College to offer a two-day retreat on March 16-17, 2021 for ministry personnel. The retreat will include worship service.

We are getting more and more worried about the amount of compassion fatigue experienced by ministers as the pandemic continues.

Youth and Young Adult Ministry Kent Mohn submitted a report for Youth and Young Adult Ministries (Appendix B).

Band Blast The regional Advent Concert in December 2020 was a success, and the executive supports planning and holding another online spring/Easter concert.

Social Media Paid Advertising & Media Releases Kent Mohn spent a small amount of money on a Facebook ad campaign targeting the general public to join regional online worship services. There was a notable increase in website traffic during campaign.

Kent brought up the idea of issuing media releases as a way to increase visibility and indicate the regional council's position on various issues.

We would like to have a longer discussion about paid social media advertising and media releases. Richard Manley-Tannis ran social media ads for the former Winnipeg Presbytery and the former Conference of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario. Kent Mohn will be in touch with Richard to start a conversation about this topic.

FINANCE A comparative income statement and departmental income statement to December 31, 2020 was provided for information.

We reviewed the Living Skies Regional Council Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2020.

There will be some changes to both the income, expenses, and the balance sheet based on adjustments to investments accounts. If there are losses, they should be much smaller than they would have been mid-year.

Incorporated Ministries There was nothing new to report from incorporated ministries.

REPORTS

Nominations Susan Reed has indicated by email that the Nominations Committee has plans and is moving forward with their work.

- Property Commission** Annette Taylor submitted a report from the Property Commission for the period of September 8, 2020 to December 31, 2020 (Appendix C).
- Property Fund Policy* We reviewed the Living Skies Regional Council Property Fund Policy (Appendix D). We would like an addendum added to specify that proceeds from the lease of any mineral rights are as they relate to abandoned properties.
- 032 – 2020/2021** **It was agreed by consensus:**
That Living Skies Regional Council Executive approves the Property Fund Policy submitted by the Living Skies Property Commission with the addendum that proceeds from mineral rights are as they relate to abandoned properties.
- Regional Council Gathering** There was nothing new to report about the regional council gathering.
- Assessment Task Group** There was nothing new to report from the Assessment Task Group.
- Chaplaincy Task Group** South Saskatchewan and North Saskatchewan Hospital Chaplaincies have been connecting with each other. Each have about a year of budget left so they are thinking about what that transition will be like or what format it will take.
- They are also looking at a few different models for chaplaincy across the country and General Council is getting back to them about some possible connections. If there is sustainability, they are interested in combining the work and creating a combined board.
- Visioning Staff Person Position** We are putting this work on hold for the moment.
- Volunteers for contacting Community ministries** There have been a few responses to the call for volunteers. Tim Ellis and Tricia Gerhard will have a further conversation.
- Next Meeting** The Executive agreed to meet on the fourth Thursday of each month from 1:00-3:00 PM via Zoom with the next meeting date(s):
- March 25, 2021
 - April 22, 2021
- Adjournment** Tricia Gerhard said a prayer and adjourned the meeting at 2:55 PM.



Tricia Gerhard, Chairperson



Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister

**Living Skies Regional Council
Pastoral Relations Commission Motions
July 1 – December 31, 2020**

Motion	Meeting Date	Page	Motion	Re:
#1	September 3, 2020	45	The Pastoral Relations Commission members <u>agreed to adopt the agenda as amended.</u>	Agenda: September 3, 2020
#2	September 3, 2020	45	The Commission reviewed the minutes of the June 30, 2020 Zoom meeting and <u>agreed to adopt the minutes as presented.</u>	Minutes – June 30, 2020
#3	September 3, 2020	45 / 46	<p>1) Having received from Esterhazy Pastoral Charge, a COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form and the minutes from the board meeting on June 29, 2020, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of Canada <u>APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of YOUNG JIN PARK</u> (Candidate) to a part-time position (20 hours per week) at Esterhazy: St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge, effective from August 1, 2020 to June 30, 2022 with the following terms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Salary: Category Candidate Step 1 COL 2: \$48,450; pro-rated for 20 hours per week = \$24,225; <u>without manse</u> * Continuing Education and Learning Resources amount: \$721; 5. Basic telephone expenses (excluding personal long-distance calls): \$360; 8. Adequate administrative assistance defined as: <i>blank</i>; 10. Esterhazy: St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge agrees to provide remuneration through the PC Payroll Service (ADP) SBOG; Other / Additional Terms: Moving expenses from Saskatoon to Esterhazy Plus usual standard terms <p>2) Having received from Saskatoon: St. Paul's United Church, a COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form and the minutes from the meeting on July 5, 2020, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of Canada <u>APPROVED the CALL of MITCHELL ANDERSON</u> (OM) to a full-time position (40 hours per week) at Saskatoon: St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, effective August 1, 2020.</p>	Ratification of Email vote – July 23, 2020
#4	September 3, 2020	46	<p>1) <u>That Rob Reed be appointed as Pastoral Charge Supervisor at Manor United Church.</u></p> <p>2) Having received from North Battleford: Third Avenue, a COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form and the minutes from the</p>	Ratification of Email vote – August 10, 2020

#4	September 3, 2020	46	<p>board meeting June 10, 2020, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of Canada <u>APPROVED</u> the <u>APPOINTMENT of DEXTER van DYKE</u> (Ordained - Retired) to a full-time position (40 hours per week) at North Battleford: Third Avenue United Church, effective from September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021 with the following terms:</p> <p>* Salary: Category F COL 2 for 40 hours per week = \$58,887.00 per year; without manse</p> <p>* Continuing Education and Learning Resources amount: \$1,442 annually;</p> <p>5. Basic telephone expenses (excluding personal long-distance calls) at \$300 per year;</p> <p>8. Adequate administrative assistance defined as: <i>blank</i>;</p> <p>10. North Battleford: Third Avenue United Church agrees to provide remuneration through the Pastoral Charge Payroll Service (ADP) SAUE;</p> <p>Other / Additional terms: none</p> <p>Plus usual standard terms.</p>	Ratification of Email vote – August 10, 2020 continued
#5	September 3, 2020	46	<p>1) That the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>accepted the request for a change in pastoral relationship</u> for Kathy Kyle at Oxbow and Alameda pastoral charges, effective August 31, 2020. This request has been approved by the board at Alameda on August 9 and the board at Oxbow on August 11.</p> <p>2) That the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>approved the contract for Saskatoon: Integrated Community Ministries</u> as attached.</p> <p>3) Having received from Spiritwood Partners in Faith (SM), the minutes from the board meeting extending the appointment, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of Canada <u>review the RE-APPOINTMENT of NORA BORGESON</u> (Ordained Minister) <u>to a part-time position</u> (20 hours per week) <u>at Spiritwood Partners in Faith (SM)</u>, effective September 1, 2020 to September 30, 2020 with the following terms:</p> <p>* Salary: Category F COL 1 - <u>\$56,288 per year</u>; pro-rated for 20 hours per week for 1 month = \$2345.33</p>	Ratification of Email vote – August 26, 2020

#5	September 3, 2020	46/47	<p>* Phone/Communications: to be paid by Partners in Faith;</p> <p>* Continuing Education and Learning Resources amount: \$60 pro-rated for half-time;</p> <p>* Adequate administrative assistance defined as: <i>blank</i>;</p> <p>Usual Standard terms and Additional Terms: schedule of vacation and Sundays off for statutory holidays to be determined as per past practice.</p>	Ratification of Email vote – August 26, 2020 continued
#6	September 3, 2020	47	<u>The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council accepted the Memorandum of Understanding for information.</u>	MoU between Benito-Kenville (Prairie to Pine) and Norquay (Living Skies)
#7	September 3, 2020	47	The commission <u>agreed to approve</u> the request for a change in pastoral relationship for the purposes of retirement for Brian Maitland effective July 31, 2021.	Change in Pastoral Relationship – Brian Maitland – July 31/21
#8	September 3, 2020	47	The commission <u>agreed to approve</u> the request for a change in pastoral relationship for John Sellwood effective November 30, 2020.	Change in Pastoral Relationship – John Sellwood – Nov. 3/20
#9	September 3, 2020	47 / 48	<p>Having received from Strasbourg Pastoral Charge, a COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form, and the minutes from the meeting held on August 5, 2020, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of Canada <u>APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of JOHN SELLWOOD</u> (Designated Lay Minister – Retired) to a half-time position (20 hours per week) at Strasbourg Pastoral Charge, effective from December 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021 with the following terms:</p> <p>* Salary: Category F COL 1: \$54,809; pro-rated for 20 hours per week = \$27,404.50 plus an additional 5% \$1,370.23= \$28,774.73; <u>without manse</u></p> <p>* Continuing Education and Learning Resources amount: \$721;</p> <p>5. Basic telephone expenses (excluding personal long-distance calls): \$1,127.40;</p> <p>8. Adequate administrative assistance defined as: 5 hours per week;</p> <p>10. Strasbourg Pastoral Charge agrees to provide remuneration through the Pastoral Charge Payroll Service (ADP) SAZJ;</p> <p>Other / Additional term: the additional salary as good faith</p> <p>Plus usual standard terms</p>	COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment for John Sellwood / Strasbourg PC

#10	September 3, 2020	48	<u>The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council agreed to affirm the position as congregationally accountable.</u>	Job categorization for Unity-Meridian PC
#11	September 3, 2020	48	<p>Having received from Regina Native Outreach Ministry, a COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of Canada <u>APPROVED the PROVISIONAL CALL of DEB ANDERSON-PRATT</u> (Candidate / Ordained) to a half-time position (20 hours per week) at Regina native Outreach Ministry, effective July 1, 2020 with the following terms:</p> <p>* Salary: Category A COL 3: \$53,814; pro-rated for 20 hours per week = \$26,907; <u>without manse</u></p> <p>* Continuing Education and Learning Resources amount: \$721;</p> <p>5. Basic telephone expenses (excluding personal long-distance calls): <i>blank</i>;</p> <p>8. Adequate administrative assistance defined as: <i>blank</i>;</p> <p>10. Regina Native Outreach Ministry agrees to provide remuneration through the Pastoral Charge Payroll Service (ADP) ;</p> <p>Other / Additional term: <i>none</i>;</p> <p>Plus usual standard terms</p>	COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment for Deb Anderson-Pratt and Regina Native Outreach Ministry
#12	September 3, 2020	49	The Commission <u>agreed to appoint Anita Warriner to Arcola-Kisbey Pastoral Charge; Valerie Barnes-Connell to Crystal Springs Pastoral Charge; Lorna King to Indian Head: St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge; Marg Janick-Grayston to Kamsack; Bob Hayes to Shellbrook Pastoral Charge and Mohandas Barnabas to Yellow Grass United Lutheran Pastoral Charge to serve as Pastoral Charge Supervisors.</u>	Appointment of Pastoral Charge Supervisors
#1	October 1, 2020	50	The Pastoral Relations Commission members <u>agreed to adopt the agenda as amended.</u>	Agenda: October 1, 2020
#2	October 1, 2020	50	The Commission Members agreed that the vote outcomes should be included and <u>agreed to adopt the minutes of September 3, 2020 as amended.</u>	Minutes – September 3, 2020
#3	October 1, 2020	50	That having received from Langham: Knox Pastoral Charge a COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form, and the minutes from the meeting held on September 9, 2020, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>APPROVED the APPOINTMENT of EMILY CARR</u> (Ordained-	Ratification of Email vote - Sept 14, 2020
#3	October 1, 2020	50		Ratification of Email vote - Sept 14, 2020

			Supply) to a part-time position (15 hours per week) at Langham: Knox Pastoral Charge , effective October 1, 2020 to March 31, 2022, terms as reviewed.	
#4	October 1, 2020	50	Commission members <u>agreed that the description did reflect their understanding of what was being requested.</u>	Rural Pastoral Charge Pastoral Care
#5	October 1, 2020	51	Having received from Lanigan-Nokomis Pastoral Charge, a DRAFT Record of Call or Appointment form, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of Canada <u>REVIEWED the APPOINTMENT of FRANCES KITSON</u> (Candidate) to a full-time position (40 hours per week) at Lanigan-Nokomis Pastoral Charge , effective from January 1, 2021 to January 1, 2023	DRAFT Record of Call or Appointment for Frances Kitson / Lanigan-Nokomis PC
#6	October 1, 2020	51	The Pastoral Relations Commission <u>agreed to receive the community of faith profile for information.</u>	Community of Profile from Saskatoon: Mayfair United Church
#7	October 1, 2020	51	Having received from North Saskatchewan Hospital Chaplaincy, a DRAFT Record of Call or Appointment form, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of Canada <u>REVIEWED the APPOINTMENT of EMILY CARR</u> (Ordained-Supply) to a part-time position (20 hours per week) at North Saskatchewan Hospital Chaplaincy , effective from October 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021	DRAFT Record of Call or Appointment for Emily Carr and North Saskatchewan Hospital Chaplaincy
#8	October 1, 2020	51	The Commission <u>agreed to receive this for information.</u>	Change in Pastoral Relationship – Bruce Kakakaway – Oct. 31/20
#1	November 5, 2020	53	The Pastoral Relations Commission members <u>agreed to adopt the agenda as amended.</u>	Agenda: November 5, 2020
#2	November 5, 2020	53	The Commission reviewed the minutes of their most recent Zoom meeting and <u>agreed to adopt the minutes of October 1, 2020 as presented.</u>	Minutes – October 1, 2020
#3	November 5, 2020	53	That having received from North Saskatchewan Hospital Chaplaincy a COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form, and the minutes from the meeting held on October 2, 2020, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>APPROVE the APPOINTMENT of EMILY CARR</u> (Ordained-Supply) to a part-time position (20 hours per week) at North Saskatchewan Hospital Chaplaincy , effective October 1, 2020 to June 30, 2021, terms as reviewed.	Ratification of Email vote - Oct 5, 2020

#4	November 5, 2020	53	That having received from Lanigan Nokomis Pastoral Charge a COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form, and the minutes from the meeting held on September 30, 2020, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>APPROVE the APPOINTMENT of Frances Kitson</u> (Candidate) to a full-time position (40 hours per week) at Lanigan Nokomis Pastoral Charge , effective January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2022, terms as reviewed.	Ratification of Email vote - Oct 5, 2020
#5	November 5, 2020	53	That the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council, having received the minutes from the congregational meetings held on March 15, 2020, <u>approve the Collaborative Ministry Agreement between Cut Knife and Wilkie-Scott Pastoral Charges.</u>	Ratification of Email vote - Oct 14, 2020
#6	November 5, 2020	53 / 54	Having received from Wilkie Scott Pastoral Charge, a COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of Canada <u>APPROVE the CALL of YONGSEOK BAEK</u> (Ordained) to a full-time position (40 hours per week) at Wilkie Scott Pastoral Charge , effective April 1, 2020 with the following terms: * Salary: Category B COL 1: \$49,544; <u>without manse</u> * Continuing Education and Learning Resources amount: \$1,442; 5. Basic telephone expenses (excluding personal long-distance calls): \$448; 8. Adequate administrative assistance defined as: volunteer help as needed; 10. Wilkie Scott Pastoral Charge agrees to provide remuneration through the Pastoral Charge Payroll Service (ADP) SAV7; Other / Additional term: none Plus usual standard terms	Ratification of Email vote - Oct 14, 2020
#7	November 5, 2020	54	That the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>appoint Janet Clarke as the Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Colonsay Pastoral Charge, and Dale Worrall as the Pastoral Charge Supervisor for Plenty/Dodlands Pastoral Charge and Luseland Pastoral Charge.</u>	Ratification of Email vote - Oct 19, 2020
#8	November 5, 2020	55	<u>Pastoral Relations Commission members agreed to add the amended paragraph to the pastoral charge supervisor's guidelines.</u>	Pastoral Charge Supervisor's guidelines

#9	November 5, 2020	55	The Pastoral Relations Commission <u>agreed to receive the community of faith profile for information.</u>	Community of Faith Profile from Foam Lake-Leslie PC
#10	November 5, 2020	55	<u>The Pastoral Relations Commission agreed to approve the request for change in pastoral relationship for Barb MacNaughton effective April 4, 2021.</u>	Change in Pastoral Relationship: Barb MacNaughton
#11	November 5, 2020	55	<u>The Pastoral Relations Commission agreed to approve the request for change in pastoral relationship for the purposes of retirement for Jim (James) MacNaughton effective April 4, 2021.</u>	Change in Pastoral Relationship: Jim MacNaughton
#12	November 5, 2020	55	As a continued interim measure, <u>the Pastoral Relation Commission agreed to extend Sacramental privileges to retired Designated Lay Ministers to June 30, 2021.</u>	Sacrament Privileges past June 30/20
#1	December 2, 2020	56	The Pastoral Relations Commission members <u>agreed to adopt the agenda as circulated</u>	Agenda: December 2, 2020
#2	December 2, 2020	56	The Commission reviewed the minutes of their most recent Zoom meeting and <u>agreed to adopt the minutes of November 5, 2020 as presented.</u>	Minutes – November 5, 2020
#3	December 2, 2020	56	Having received from Glenavon Pastoral Charge, a COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form and the minutes from the meeting on November 3, 2020, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of Canada <u>APPROVE the APPOINTMENT of LYNETTE CALLFAS</u> (Designated Lay Minister) to a part-time position (28 hours per week) at Glenavon Pastoral Charge, effective January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021 with the following terms: * Salary: Category F COL 1: \$56,015 prorated for 28 hours to \$39,210.50; <u>without manse</u> * Continuing Education and Learning Resources amount: \$1,447, prorated to \$1,031.80; 5. Basic telephone expenses (excluding personal long-distance calls): \$500; 8. Adequate administrative assistance defined as: 6 hours per week; 10. Glenavon Pastoral Charge agrees to provide remuneration through the Pastoral Charge Payroll Service (ADP) SARH; Other / Additional terms: none Plus usual standard terms	Ratification of Email vote - Nov 16, 2020
#4	December 2, 2020	56	Having received from La Ronge Pastoral Charge, a COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form and the minutes from the meeting	Ratification of Email vote - Nov 24, 2020

#4	December 2, 2020		<p>November 9, 2020, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of Canada <u>APPROVE the CALL of EAN KASPER</u> (Ordained) to a full-time position (40 hours per week) at La Ronge Pastoral Charge, effective December 7, 2020 with the following terms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Salary: Category F COL 3: \$62,244; <u>without manse</u> * Continuing Education and Learning Resources amount: \$1,442; 5. Basic telephone expenses (excluding personal long-distance calls): \$0; 8. Adequate administrative assistance defined as: volunteer administrative assistance as needed; 10. La Ronge Pastoral Charge agrees to provide remuneration through the Pastoral Charge Payroll Service (ADP) SARO; <p>Other / Additional terms: phone and internet will be paid for by the pastoral charge</p> <p>Plus usual standard terms</p>	Ratification of Email vote – Nov 24, 2020 continued
#5	December 2, 2020	57	<u>The Pastoral Relations Commission agreed to adopt the submitted Appointments and Re-appointments Policy for use in Living Skies Regional Council.</u>	Appointments and Re-appointments Policy
#6	December 2, 2020	57	<u>The Pastoral Relations Commission agreed to adopt the submitted Streams of Ministry Policy for use in Living Skies Regional Council.</u>	Stream of Ministry
#7	December 2, 2020	57	<p>Having received from Davidson Pastoral Charge, a COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form and the minutes from the meeting November 6, 2020, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of Canada <u>APPROVED the RENEWAL APPOINTMENT of URSULA WIIG</u> (Ordained-Retired) to a part-time position (20 hours per week) at Davidson Pastoral Charge, effective February 1, 2021 to June 30, 2021 with the following terms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Salary: Category D: \$43,462, prorated for half time: \$21,731; <u>with manse</u> * Continuing Education and Learning Resources amount: \$737; 5. Basic telephone expenses (excluding personal long-distance calls): \$1,081; 8. Adequate administrative assistance defined as: Copying / delivering bulletins and newsletters, setting up PowerPoint. 	Appointment for Ursula Wiig and Davidson Pastoral Charge

#7	December 2, 2020	57	10. Davidson Pastoral Charge agrees to provide remuneration through the Pastoral Charge Payroll Service (ADP) SAR1; Other / Additional terms: none Plus usual standard terms	Appointment for Ursula Wiig and Davidson Pastoral Charge continued
#8	December 2, 2020	58	The Commission <u>agreed to appoint June Blau to serve as Liaison to Regina: Lakeview United Church and to serve as Liaison to Regina: St. James United Church.</u>	Appointment of Liaisons



Staff Report: Youth & Young Adult Ministries (Kent Mohn)

Living Skies Regional Council

January 2021

Program: Ministry & Faith Formation

- 1) **Community Education Workshops:** collaboration with St. Andrew's College & Centre for Christian Studies
 - a) Online workshop series for lay & order of ministry people:
 - Considerations for Ministry with Youth on the Autism Spectrum
 - Grief & Depression
 - Beginner's Guide to Online Worship
 - Counseling services for ministry personnel
 - Others to follow...
- 2) **YAYA Programming:**
 - a) **Regional Confirmation Program:** partnership using existing online resources, curriculum and resource-people. Dates TBD.
 - b) **Go Project:** planning for summer youth-focused day-camp programs in Living Skies
- 3) **Online Resource Development:** Living Skies Region & Living Skies YAYAC website, social media, & links
 - a) **YouTube Channel:** links to resources (worship, faith formation, pastoral care), Generosity in Mission videos, UCC partners, congregational Channels throughout the region
 - b) **STU Library Resource Centre:** regular videos & posts for Regional website, newsletter, YouTube
 - c) **Worship Resource Library (in development):** share-able library of online worship elements. This will include downloadable music, prayers, visual presentations/reflections, sermons, etc.
- 4) **Faith Formation Video Program (in development):** 20-25 minute children's church program to be available online
 - a) Episode outline based on GOpProject church school curriculum
 - b) Layperson skill development in video production/technology & software
 - c) Partnership with Camp staff (young adult leaders)
 - d) Application for Youth Employment Grant for Summer 2021 (Gov't of Canada) & UCC Vision Fund & Embracing the Spirit
- 5) **Youth Ministry Resources:** support for ongoing youth & young adult congregational ministries
 - a) Referrals, recommendations, one-on-one conversations with volunteers & ministry personnel involved in ministry with youth
 - b) National YAYA ministry staff group – regular meetings & communications related to nat'l YAYA programs.

Administrative: In support of Incorporated Ministries (Living Skies Regional Council)

- 1) **Camp Boards:** communication & resource to 6 incorporated outdoor ministries
 - a) National UCC duty of care & accreditation standards/reporting
 - b) Regional network for staff training, curriculum, marketing, etc.
 - c) Establish ongoing connections with YAYAC
- 2) **Hospital Chaplaincy Boards:** strategic directions & board(s) support
 - a) Research alternative models of funding & staffing for UCC hospital chaplaincy
 - b) Develop transition plan with North & South SK Hospital Chaplaincy Boards
- 3) **U of S Ecumenical Chaplaincy Board:** strategic directions & board support
 - a. Strategic planning with ecumenical partners - ongoing connections with YAYAC

Other Ministries/Activities/Considerations

- 1) Online Concert Followup
 - Administrative wrapup, financials & project reporting for Regional Advent Concert in Dec 2020.
 - *Is there support for a “Band Blast” type of spring/Easter concert?*
- 2) Marketing/Evangelism strategy: for discussion
 - We had a reasonably successful response to a short Facebook campaign for Christmas Eve services.
 - *Can Social Media marketing be part of the Region’s strategy for UCCan visibility in the wider community?*

Property Commission Report

to Living Skies Regional Council Executive

September 8 to December 31, 2020

The property commission held three meetings in the last quarter of the year (October 16, November 13 & December 11) and made seven property decisions via email. All of our meetings were held using Zoom video conferencing.

In September, we received approval from the Living Skies Regional Council (LSRC) Executive to post property commission minutes on the LSRC website. As a result, our reports to the executive will be in a summary format and will no longer contain all the details of each decision. We will be reporting the work of the commission using four major categories:

1. Congregational Properties – properties that are the responsibility of existing congregations
2. Abandoned Properties – properties (not including cemeteries) that are the responsibility of the regional council by virtue of Manual section G.1.5.7.
3. Abandoned Cemeteries – cemeteries that are the responsibility of the regional council by virtue of Manual section G.1.5.7.
4. Policies – recommended changes to LSRC property policies

Congregational Properties:

We are currently working with twenty-seven communities of faith. As of December 31, 2020 we have five communities of faith that are planning to renovate, rent or purchase property, eleven in the process of selling property, and sixteen that are in the process of disbanding. In the past three months the following decisions were made:

Approval of Rental Agreement:

- Wesley United Church in Regina

Approval of Tender or Listing of Church Buildings & Lots:

- September 19, 2020 – Knox United Church in Manor
- November 13, 2020 – Strasbourg United Church
- December 11, 2020 – Nokomis United Church

Approval of Sale/Transfer of Church Buildings & Lots:

- October 16, 2020 – Milestone United Church for \$45,000
- November 13, 2020 – Knox United Church in Manor for \$2,000
- November 30, 2020 – Robert Hall Mission in Prairie River to local museum

Approval of Final Dispersal of Assets

- November 13, 2020 – Earl Grey United Church
- November 13, 2020 – Rouleau United Church
- November 28, 2020 – Redvers United Church

Disbanding of Congregation:

- November 13, 2020 – Mossbank United Church
- November 13, 2020 – St. Stephen's United Church in Gravelbourg

At our October meeting we rejected the request from Third Avenue United Church to spend approximately \$80,000 to repair the roof of the church building. This is a property that is no longer owned by The United Church of Canada. At the same meeting, the property commission requested that the Living Skies Regional Council Executive take responsibility for the Third Avenue United Church congregation, Saskatoon in order to formally disband the congregation and disburse their assets.

Abandoned Properties

The property commission is continuing our work to sell or transfer abandoned properties within the regional council. Some are being transferred to the rural municipality and others sold to neighbouring landowners. In the past three months the following decisions have been made:

Approval for Listing or Tender:

- October 16, 2020 – Crestwynd (1 lot)

Request Approval from LSRC Trustees for Sale/Transfer of Abandoned Lots

- October 16, 2020 – Viceroy (2 lots with building)
- October 26, 2020 – Coderre (1 lot with building)
- November 13, 2020 – Dunblane (1 lot)
- December 11, 2020 – Crestwynd (1 lot)

Approval of Sale/Transfer of Abandoned Buildings & Lots

- October 26, 2020 – Viceroy (2 lots with building) to RM of Excel
- November 13, 2020 – Coderre (1 lot with building) for \$300 to neighbouring landowner

Cemeteries

We are working with a list of close to fifty abandoned cemeteries within the boundaries of this regional council. Where possible, we are attempting to transfer responsibility to the rural municipality. If the rural municipality is unwilling to take responsibility and no one is currently caring for the property, then we will endeavour to find someone to cut the lawn for a fee. There are many cemeteries that are currently being cared for by local

individuals or organizations and we are working to set up protocols for oversight of these properties.

In the past three months the following decisions have been made:

Request that United Church of Canada Transfer Cemetery

- October 26, 2020 – New Ottawa Cemetery (lot previously belonging to the Methodist Church) to RM of Douglas

Approval for Transfer of Cemetery

- October 26, 2020 – New Ottawa Cemetery (2nd lot belonging to Speers UC) to RM of Douglas

Policies

No new policies were created during the reporting period. In September, the Executive approved our new policy regarding the dispersal of funds from the sale of abandoned properties and the policy and processes document has been updated to reflect this change.

Thanks to the original members of the property commission (Bev Kostichuk, Daryl Woods, George Thurlow and Shannon McCarthy) for your continuing dedication to this work and a warm welcome to Gayle Wensley who officially joined us at our October meeting.

Respectfully Submitted by
Annette Taylor
Chair, Living Skies Property Commission

Living Skies Regional Council Property Fund Policy

Background for Living Skies Regional Council Executive

Principles and philosophy

We currently have 48 **cemeteries** located on 62 parcels of land. These have devolved to the Regional Council by virtue of Manual section G.1.5.7. . While most of this property was acquired when each denomination had its own cemetery, most of there cemeteries have been used by the community. Some are active and some have not had a burial in many years. Many are well cared for by local volunteers but some not. We have tried to transfer these cemeteries to local groups but most are not incorporated. R.M.s are unwilling to assume responsibility for cemeteries, so we must fulfill our pastoral care responsibilities to both the deceased members of our communities and their surviving relatives by maintaining cemeteries.

Currently the Living Skies Regional Council also has some 38 properties in 48 parcels. These have devolved to the Regional Council by virtue of Manual section G.1.5.7. Most are either vacant lots in villages or hamlets or the corner of a farmer's field. We intend to dispose of these by sale to the adjoining landowner or by tender as appropriate. Good stewardship says we should try for the best price but also dispose of these properties in a timely fashion. These properties will not result in costs to the Fund unless they have buildings.

We have 10 buildings associated with the above cemeteries and 7 buildings on other property. They are in various states of repair. All represent liability if someone even a trespasser gets hurt. If any of them were to catch fire the United Church would be liable for fire fighting costs. We are trying to sell the other property with the buildings. So far vacant lots have brought more than those with buildings since purchasers factor in demolition or repair.

1. Those buildings associated with cemeteries need to be sold to be moved off
2. repaired so as to reduce risk of liability or
3. Demolished.

The latter options will cost money since there seems little patience for piecemeal demolition to salvage material and heavy equipment costs money even to transport it to some rural location

There are over 200 active communities of faith almost all of whom have buildings which cost on average 25% of their budgets to heat, clean, insure and keep in good repair [source my time doing Finance in Prairie Pine Presbytery] As rural and town churches which relied on volunteers for repairs have closed and volunteers have got older, repairs have become more expensive when one needs stone masons, roofers, HVAC people etc. With mission support money drying up communities of faith are looking for assistance. This is to clarify that this fund is not a source since \$10,000 would not go far.

Living Skies Regional Council Property Fund Policy

This policy covers the funds generated by the sale of property under the control of Living Skies Regional Council by virtue of communities of faith disbanding pursuant to Manual section G.1.5.7. It also provides for funds to maintain such properties or repair or demolish any buildings which are part of those G.1.5.7. properties

It should have a minimum balance of \$8,000.00 and maximum of \$15,000.00

Sources of fund:

1. proceeds from the sale of The Regional Council's real property pursuant to Manual section G.1.5.7
2. Funds which presbyteries had set aside to deal with derelict or abandoned properties
3. Funds transferred from the Regional Council's general funds to carry out the purposes herein
4. Proceeds from the lease of any mineral rights acquired pursuant to Manual section G.1.5.7

Uses of Funds:

1. Maintenance of Cemeteries not associated with any Communities of Faith which are the Regional Council's responsibility pursuant to Manual section G.1.5.7
2. Repair or demolition of derelict or abandoned buildings associated with Cemeteries not associated with any Communities of Faith which are the Regional Council's responsibility with the goal of making these buildings suitable to sell or other wise transfer
3. Repair or demolition of derelict or abandoned buildings not associated with any active communities of faith which are the Regional Council's responsibility pursuant to Manual section G.1.5.7

This fund is not for:

1. Purchase repair or maintenance of buildings or other real property of active communities of faith