

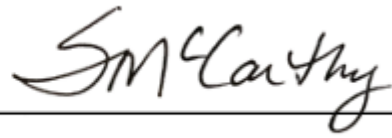
**Living Skies Executive Minutes
April 27, 2023 via Zoom**

EXECUTIVE PRESENT	Darrell Reine (Chair), Dave Whalley, Kathleen James-Cavan, Piotr Strzelecki, Linda Gunningham, Ron Brandow, Deborah Springer A quorum was present.
REGRETS	None
STAFF PRESENT	Shannon McCarthy (Executive Minister; Heather Dootoff (Finance Administrator), Bev Diebert (Administrative Support); Chantal Winslow (Executive Assistant & Recording Secretary), Tracy Murton (Pastoral Relations Minister); Lindsay Mohn (Youth and Young Adult Minister)
CALL TO ORDER	Darrell called the meeting to order at 1:05. We checked in and Linda led us in reflection & prayer.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	We reviewed the agenda.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES 043-2022/2023	It was agreed by consensus: That Living Skies Regional Council Executive approve the minutes of March 23, 2023 as corrected.
CORRESPONDENCE	
Pastoral Relations Commissions Report	Received for information.
Property Commissions Report	Received for information.
SHA Letter	Received for information
BUSINESS ARISING	
Celebration of Ministry 044-2022/2023	It was agreed by consensus that: That Living Skies Regional Council Executive, having received confirmation of readiness of the following candidates from the Office of Vocation and confirmed through Living Skies Regional Council Pastoral Relations Commission that a covenantal relationship is in place with a community of faith, hold a Celebration of Ministry service on May 28, 2023 in Prince Albert, SK to ordain Sarah Giles and MinHyuk Hwang. (The Manual 2023, H.4.8).

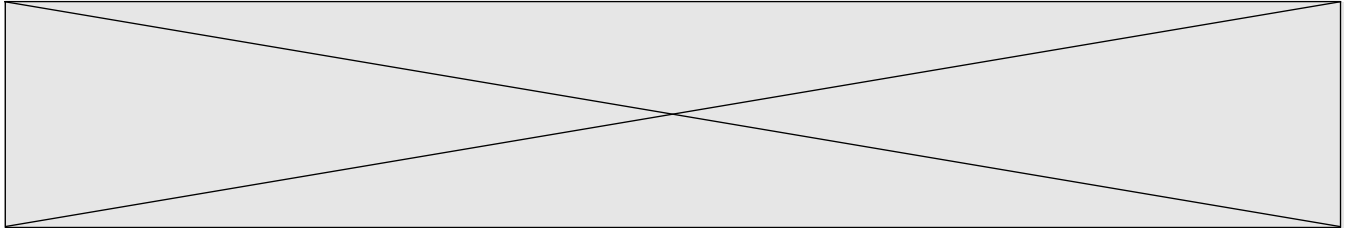
Shared ministry with Camp Christopher 045-2022/2023	<p>Lindsay reported</p> <p>Agreed by consensus: That Living Skies Regional Council Executive approve the Shared-Ministry Agreement.</p> <p>Chantal will sign on Shannon's behalf.</p>
NOMINATIONS	Nothing right now. Meeting next week. Can we approve by email once they meet before the meeting?
ARCHIVES	Nothing new.
INCORPORATED MINISTRIES	Nothing.
ORDER OF THE DAY: Pastoral Charge Supervisor Position	Rev. Jenelle Shaw joined us to discuss a proposal for a paid, quarter time position for a Pastoral Charge Supervisor.
STAFF REPORTS	
Pastoral Relations	Summary of motions received.
Executive Minister	<p>Getting ready for annual gatherings.</p> <p>Meeting as a staff tomorrow.</p> <p>Letter from First Dawn Eastern Edge Regional Council. We asked them to deal with the Workplace Discrimination, Harassment and Violence Complaint due to a conflict of interest. They received the report. Daryl to send thank you to First Dawn for taking care of this for us. Thank you to Judy as well.</p>
Finance	NA
YAAY	<p>Working on regional gathering.</p> <p>Youth names for "Members at large". Email agreement.</p>
ANNUAL GATHERING	Fast approaching. Getting last minute details sorted.
OTHER	
NEXT MEETING	Next meeting will be May 12 from 1-4 pm.
ADJOURNMENT	



Darrell Reine, Chairperson



Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister



Property Commission Quarterly Report

to Living Skies Regional Council Executive

January 1 to March 31, 2023

The LSRC Property Commission held two meetings in the first quarter of 2023 (January 13, February 24). This report outlines the status of our work as of the end of the quarter and also summarizes the decisions that were made in the past three months.

Congregational Properties:

We are currently working with fourteen communities of faith. As of December 31, 2022 we have two communities of faith that are planning to renovate, rent or purchase property, eight in the process of selling property, and six that are in the process of disbanding. In the past three months the following decisions were made:

Approval of Sale/Transfer of Church Buildings and/or Lots:

- January 13, 2023 – Centre Street United Church in Shaunavon (to Darkhorse Theatre Inc. for \$25,000, congregation will have use of building for Sunday worship)
- February 24, 2023– Penzance United Church (to Darren Lane for \$1000)

Disbanding of Congregation/Pastoral Charge:

- January 13, 2023 – St. James United Church in Lashburn

Abandoned Properties

We are continuing our work to sell or transfer abandoned properties within the LSRC Regional Council. Some are being transferred to the village or rural municipality and others are being sold to neighbouring landowners. These are the decisions made in the last three months:

- January 13, 2023 – Mineral Royalties Offer – Request The United Church of Canada to approve, sign and seal the lease agreement on the NW 28-10-05-2 Ext 0 Title number 107056234 with Land Solutions on behalf of their client with the following conditions: \$85.00 per acre, a 3-year Term and a 15% Royalty
- January 13, 2023 – Pemoco Offer for Moats Land Surface Rights– \$225,000.00 for each quarter section of land for a total of \$450,000.00 which would be split between the Church and the College as ½ Interest Title Holders. Recommended to LSRC that that in solidarity with St. Andrew's College we refuse the offer from Pemoco to sell the surface rights at this time.

Request Approval from LSRC Trustees for Sale/Transfer of Church Property

- February 24, 2023 – St. Andrew's United Church in Churchbridge (transfer of three lots to Cindy and Bruce Basken for \$1000) Note: this sale took place in 2010 but the title was never transferred
- February 24, 2023 – Rillington United Church (2 lots to RM of Elcapo)

Cemeteries

Request Approval from LSRC Trustees for Sale/Transfer of Church Property

- February 24, 2023 – Old Stone Church and Cemetery (to RM of Abernethy)

Policies & Processes

The Property Commission is doing a final review of the sample lease agreement prepared by legal counsel. This agreement will be made available to all congregations to provide information for them to consider when they are leasing their facilities to outside groups.

We have also been working on checklists that congregations can use when selling property and/or disbanding.

Thanks to the members of the property commission, Bev Kostichuk, Daryl Woods, George Thurlow, Jonathan Zacharias and Shannon McCarthy for your continuing dedication to this important work.

Respectfully Submitted by
Annette Taylor
Chair, Living Skies Property Commission

**Living Skies Regional Council
Pastoral Relations Commission Motions
January 1 – March 31, 2023**

Motion	Meeting Date	Page	Motion	Re:
#1	January 5, 2023	1	Under New Business, Cost of Living Group Re-assessments Information was added as #4). The Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>AGREED to accept the agenda as amended.</u>	Agenda: January 5/23
#2	January 5, 2023	1	One error was noted – the author of the closing prayer. The Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>AGREED to adopt the minutes of December 1, 2022 as corrected.</u>	Minutes of December 1, 2023 meeting
#3	January 5, 2023	1	That the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council approve the clarified Community of Faith Ministry Position description from Maple Creek Pastoral Charge. <u>APPROVED</u>	Ratification of Email vote on December 12/14, 2022 1 motion:
#4	January 5, 2023	1	That having received the minutes from the Council meeting on December 18, 2022, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council approve the request of Liam Cummins and Davidson United Church for a Change in Pastoral Relations, effective December 31, 2022. <u>APPROVED</u>	Ratification of Email vote on December 21, 2022 1 motion:
#5	January 5, 2023	1	The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council <u>APPROVED the request of Robert (Rob) Reed for a change in pastoral relationship, effective June 30, 2023.</u>	Change in Pastoral Relationship for Robert (Rob) Reed
#6	January 5, 2023	2	The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council <u>CONCURRED that this position description is consistent with a Congregationally Accountable (Level 3) position and will be accountable to Saskatoon: St. Paul's United Church.</u> Accountability may change if a candidate for ministry is hired for this position.	Saskatoon Youth Minister/Congregational Designated Ministry position
#7	January 5, 2023	2	The Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>AGREED to appoint as Pastoral Charge Supervisors, Vic Wiebe to Moose Jaw: Minto United Church and Tony Thompson to Prince Albert: Calvary United Church.</u>	Pastoral Charge Supervisor Appointment
#8	January 5, 2023	2	The Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>AGREED to appoint Beth Johnson as a Liaison to Humboldt Pastoral Charge.</u>	Liaison Appointments

LSRC PRC Motions

January 1 – March 31, 2023

#1	February 2, 2023	3	One spelling error was noted. The Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>ACCEPTED the agenda as corrected.</u>	Agenda: February 2/23
#2	February 2, 2023	3	One spelling error was noted. The Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>AGREED to adopt the minutes of January 5, 2023 as corrected.</u>	Adoption of Minutes: January 5, 2023
#3	February 2, 2023	3	That having received a revised copy of the Pastoral Charge Supervisor Guidelines, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council approve the revisions to the Pastoral Charge Supervisor Guidelines effective immediately. APPROVED	Ratification of Email vote on January 12/14, 2023 1 motion:
#4	February 2, 2023	3 / 4	<p>1) COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form for Claus (Tony) Thompson / Prince Albert: Calvary United Church Having received from Prince Albert: Calvary United Church, a COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form and the minutes from the meeting of December 13, 2022, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of Canada <u>APPROVE the APPOINTMENT of CLAUS THOMPSON</u> (Ordained - Retired) to a part-time position (10 hours per week) at Prince Albert: Calvary United Church, effective from February 1, 2023 to April 26, 2023 with the following terms:</p> <p>* Salary: Cat F, CoL Group 2: \$63,038 pro-rated for 10 hours per week = \$15,759.50; <u>without manse</u></p> <p>* Continuing Education and Learning Resources amount: pro-rated to \$385.75;</p> <p>5. Basic telephone expenses (excluding personal long-distance calls): phone will be provided to him in his church office;</p> <p>8. Adequate administrative assistance defined as: access to Admin. Assistant;</p> <p>10. Prince Albert: Calvary United Church agrees to provide remuneration through the Pastoral Charge Payroll Service (ADP) SAWV;</p> <p>Other / Additional terms: none</p> <p>Plus usual standard terms APPROVED</p> <p>2) COMPLETED Record of Call or Appointment form for Samantha Humphreys / Prince Albert: Calvary United Church Having received from Prince Albert: Calvary United Church, confirmation of her employment conditions and the minutes of the meeting January 10, 2023, the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council of The United Church of</p>	Ratification of Email vote on January 19/20, 2023 3 motions:

			<p>Canada <u>APPROVE the APPOINTMENT of SAMANTHA HUMPHREYS</u> (Candidate Supply) to a full-time position (40 hours per week) at Prince Albert: Calvary United Church, effective January 1, 2023 to January 31, 2028 with the following terms:</p> <p>* Salary: Candidate Step 2; COL Group 2 = \$52,243; <u>without manse</u></p> <p>* Continuing Education and Learning Resources amount: \$1,543;</p> <p>5. Basic telephone for manse or home (excluding personal long-distance) will be provided;</p> <p>8. Adequate administrative assistance defined as: access to Church's Administrative Assistant.</p> <p>10. Prince Albert: Calvary United Church agrees to provide remuneration through the Pastoral Charge Payroll Service (ADP) SAWV;</p> <p>Other / Additional terms: ^ Home Heating: The United Church of Canada requires that where ministry staff pay for their own heating costs, when these costs to the staff member top out at \$800/year, the remainder is covered by the church. During the 2023 calendar year, staff will need to provide copies of heating bills to the M and P committee. Once the amount has been reached, the church will reimburse for further costs. [^Note – it was explained that the payment of home heating is a condition that only applies to a manse. However, they did not feel they could remove that term from their salary package.] APPROVED</p> <p>3) That the Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council approve the appointment of Beth Johnston as the Liaison to Quill Plains Pastoral Charge. APPROVED</p>	<p>Ratification of Email vote on January 19/20, 2023 continued 3 motions</p>
#5	February 2, 2023	4	<p>The members of the Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council <u>APPROVED the Registration of Ministry Personnel to Perform Weddings in Living Skies Regional Council Policy.</u></p>	License to Perform Weddings Policy
#6	February 2, 2023	4	<p>The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council <u>APPROVED the request of Susan Reed for change in pastoral relationship, effective June 30, 2023.</u></p>	Request for Change in Pastoral Relationship for Susan Reed
#7	February 2, 2023	4	<p>The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council <u>APPROVED the Community of Faith Profile from Lanigan, Nokomis Pastoral Charge (Lanigan: Knox United Church).</u></p>	Lanigan, Nokomis Community of Faith Profile

LSRC PRC Motions

January 1 – March 31, 2023

#8	February 2, 2023	4	The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council <u>ACCEPTED the Intentional Interim Ministry Interim Report from Regina: Wesley United Church.</u>	Report from Regina: Wesley UC Intentional Interim Ministry
#9	February 2, 2023	4	The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council <u>APPROVED the Davidson United Church Ministry Profile.</u>	Davidson United Church Ministry Profile
#10	February 2, 2023	5	The Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>AGREED to appoint Miles Russell as a back-up Pastoral Charge Supervisor at Spirit of Hope Pastoral Charge.</u>	Pastoral Charge Supervisor Appointment
#1	March 2, 2023	6	Added to the agenda were: under Business Arising, the reaffirmation of the Preeceville-Sturgis PC appointment; under Correspondence, another request for change in pastoral relationship; Tisdale was added under the list of places looking for a Liaison; VAM feedback was added to VAM approvals; and Pastoral Charge Supervisor recruitment was added as #4 under New Business. One spelling error was noted. The Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>ACCEPTED the agenda as corrected.</u>	Agenda: March 2, 2023
#2	March 2, 2023	6	One typo was noted. The Pastoral Relations Commission of Living Skies Regional Council <u>AGREED to adopt the minutes of February 2, 2023 as corrected.</u>	Adoption of Minutes: February 2, 2023
#3	March 2, 2023	6	That the Pastoral Relations Commission appoint Cathy Coates as the temporary liaison for Saskatoon: McClure. <u>APPROVED</u>	Ratification of Email vote on February 14/15, 2023
#4	March 2, 2023	6	Having received the minutes of the February 26, 2023 Congregational meeting, the Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council <u>APPROVED Saskatoon: McClure United Church's Community of Faith Profile.</u>	Saskatoon: McClure United Church Community of Faith Profile
#5	March 2, 2023	6	<u>The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council reaffirmed its APPROVAL of the appointment of David Mugadzi to Preeceville Sturgis Pastoral Charge for the dates March 1, 2023 to February 28, 2026.</u> This is a shift of dates by one month.	Preeceville Sturgis - Appointment
#6	March 2, 2023	6	The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council <u>APPROVED the request of Michele Rowe for change in pastoral relationship, effective June 30, 2023, for the purposes of retirement.</u>	Request for change of pastoral relationship – Michele Rowe

LSRC PRC Motions

January 1 – March 31, 2023

#7	March 2, 2023	6	The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council <u>APPROVED the request of Hoeun Lee for change in pastoral relationship, effective June 30, 2023.</u>	Request for change of pastoral relationship – Hoeun Lee
#8	March 2, 2023	7	The Pastoral Relations Commission of the Living Skies Regional Council <u>APPROVED John Oussoren to act as a VAM in Living Skies Regional Council, even though his membership is in Prairie to Pine Regional Council.</u>	Voluntary Associate Minister (VAM) Approval
#9	March 2, 2023	7	Following a lengthy discussion, <u>the Pastoral Relations Commission members agreed to write a proposal for the next Regional Meeting with the idea of having paid staff to be PC Supervisors.</u>	Pastoral Charge Supervisor Recruitment:

Paid Pastoral Charge Supervisor Position

1.What is the issue?

The issue facing Living Skies Regional Council is the shortfall of volunteer Pastoral Charge Supervisors in comparison with the number of Pastoral Charge Supervisors needed within Living Skies Regional Council.

2.Why is this issue important?

The United Church Creed states: "We are called to be the church..." Christian faith understands the Church to be the Body of Christ, working together to live out the Good News of God's transforming love revealed in Jesus Christ.

The polity of the United Church of Canada has a Three Council system of governance which includes support and accountability as a means to live out the calling to be the Body of Christ.

One of the practical applications of this principle of being the Body of Christ, is to support communities of faith when there is no paid accountable minister authorized to exercise the ministry of supervision in that faith community.

This situation happens in a variety of circumstances:

- a) when there is no ministry personnel serving a community of faith.
- b) when the ministry person is a candidate for ministry, or in a supervised ministry educational setting, or an admittant from another denomination.
- c) whenever there is a change in pastoral relations, a supervisor is needed while the faith community begins the search for a new ministry person.
- d) when a ministry person is away for a period of time such as sabbatical, maternity leave or medical leave

In these situations, communities of faith are supported by Regional Council members appointed by the Living Skies Regional Council Pastoral Relations Commission to serve as Pastoral Charge Supervisors.

Current Context of the United Church in Living Skies Regional Council.

--There has been great change including:

- a) closing of many congregations which affect the financial viability of multi-point pastoral charges as well as the pool of volunteers to serve in the wider church.
- b) reduction of many ministry positions from full time to part time therefore making it difficult to attract ministry personnel to those positions.
- c) a lack of ministry personnel to fill all positions.
- d) fewer volunteers as many faith communities become smaller and members are generally older.
- e) since the establishment of the Regional Council there has never been a time when all requests for Pastoral Charge Supervisors have been met. The need is greater than the number of volunteers available to serve. There are often 5 to 8 Pastoral Charges waiting for an appointment of a Pastoral Charge Supervisor every month. Some are waiting 6 to 10 months for a person to be appointed.

3. How might the Regional Council respond to this issue?

The Living Skies Pastoral Relations Commission requests:

- a) Living Skies Regional Council establish a quarter time paid Pastoral Charge Supervisor position.
- b) Living Skies Regional Council Executive in consultation with the Living Skies Regional Council Pastoral Relations Commission establish the ministry position with appropriate budget.
- c) the appointment and accountability of the Pastoral Charge Supervisor continue to be the responsibility of the Living Skies Regional Council Pastoral Relations Commission.

Suggestions for possible establishment of the positions:

- a) A full-time ministry position could be established, incorporating a part-time paid Pastoral Charge Supervisor position in conjunction with a part-time ministry position in a given community of faith.
- b) The paid Pastoral Charge Supervisor program be evaluated 3 years after implementation to see if the movement from unpaid volunteer work to work that has financial compensation has the desired result.