

**Living Skies Executive Minutes
January 30, 2025 via Zoom**

EXECUTIVE PRESENT	Darrell Reine (Chair), Dale Worrall (Treasurer), Deborah Springer, Doug Haroldson, David Mugadzi, Deborah Smith, Amelia Takau
	A quorum was present.
REGRETS	Piotr Strzelecki
CORRESPONDING MEMBERS PRESENT	None
STAFF PRESENT	Shannon McCarthy (Executive Minister); Julie Graham (Justice & Communications Minister); Heather Dootoff (Finance Administrator), Bev Diebert (Administrative Support); Chantal Winslow (Executive Assistant & Recording Secretary), Tracy Murton (Pastoral Relations Minister); Erin Acland (Archivist),
CALL TO ORDER	Darrell called the meeting to order at 3:30. Deborah Smith led us in prayer and reflection.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	We reviewed the agenda.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES 025-2023/2024	It was agreed by consensus: That Living Skies Regional Council Executive approve the minutes of November 2024, as distributed.
CORRESPONDENCE	
Property Commission Report	Received for Information
Pastoral Relations Motions	Received for information
Greenspirit Report	Received for information.
NEW BUSINESS	
Archives Report	Erin Acland joined us to provide us with an update on the Archives relocation. Leanne and Erin put a call out in the fall to any churches that might be interested in partnering with them and allowing us to store the archives in their building. We heard back from two churches. One in Regina and one in Saskatoon.

The Regina church didn't have an elevator and the rental space on the 3rd floor. The other Church was Grace West in Saskatoon. They will be visiting next week to see if the space will work. If things go well we would want to move sooner rather than later.

Archives will not be accessible while the move is happening. This could be a challenge when it comes to centennial planning.

The arrangement with Heather Dootoff doing the in person Archives running around has been working really well.

Applied for a young Canada Works Internship for 6 months that would start in September 2025 if the grant is successful.

To do:

- Put in the rambler to advertise that the Archives would be unreachable during the move.

Purpose of Regional Reps	Many Communities of Faith elect somebody to be their regional rep and that is the person that goes to the regional meeting. However, we are noticing that because we aren't meeting yearly, the Communities of Faith are feeling disconnected from the wider church. The documentation on the website is outdated. It might be time to go through the document and update the language and responsibilities.
---------------------------------	--

Can we put together a task group to go over the documents? Deb Smith, Dale and Doug all volunteered to help with this.

To do:

- Tracy will arrange a meeting with those volunteers
- Julie will provide a copy of the structure document from Prairie to Pine to assist in this conversation

Financial Report	Heather provided updated financial statements.
-------------------------	--

Don Elliot Trust - Estevan	We received a letter from St. Paul's regarding the Dr. A. E. Elliott Religious Education Fund. They feel as though the purpose of the fund is not being used effectively. They would like to know if Living Skies Regional Council has any interest in taking over the administration of the trust.
-----------------------------------	---

To do:

- Heather and Dale will work with St. Paul's to sort out which fund would work best for this situation.

Emergency Funds for Congregations	There have been situations that have arisen recently that have made us question whether we should have a fund available for congregational emergencies. Both
--	--

situation that have come across recently would not qualify for any kind of funding from GC.

Do we want to fund? Should we create a policy that spells out criteria?

To do:

- Heather, Dale, Deb Springer and Tracy will put together some numbers and a proposal for the policy. Exploring possible grant and loan options.

STAFF REPORTS

Justice & Communications

Julie reported.

On March 1 there will be a regional Learning Day regarding the Unmarked Burials Report. More information can be found on the website. The location has not been decided yet.

Executive Minister

We have purchased a meeting OWL which helps us with better tech for our hybrid meetings. It is currently in Julie's possession if it is needed. Shining Waters also had one in surplus and so we now have two between the three regions.

Working with Leanne and Erin to continue Archive discussions, not only in Living Skies but also in Prairie to Pine.

Scheduled to have a conversation with bishops from the Anglican and Lutheran Church around the Estevan congregation regarding a shared ministry.

Working on setting up times for commissioner training for all three regions on zoom in the near future.

The Executive Ministers are planning some con ed with Leaderwise.

There is a big piece of work that is coming to us from GCE called Towards 2035. We will need to schedule significant amount of time on agenda coming up for the Executive to tackle some of this.

Heather will be retiring officially at the end of June. Working on a job description.

Pastoral Relations Minister

Tracy reported.

Asked the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders to keep track of the worship services that they do. The amount of work that they are doing within the regional is amazing. The Committee on Lay Leadership Support is trying to figure out ways to continue to offer support to these folks.

This Spring there will be 4 covenanting services.

There will be a new admissions Minister arriving in Saskatoon in just over a week.

Last week there was a gathering in Saskatoon with some local and GC staff to discuss Living Skies and how to support ministry in the Regional Council.

YAAY

NA

Regional Admin

Bev reported.
Settling in to new office.

OLD BUSINESS

100th Anniversary

A group of us met a week ago to discuss this event.
Celebration of Ministry on May 25 combined with Centennial celebration.
And then on the Saturday – a day of learning.
We meet again on Feb 11.

Other regions have provided grants for funding celebration events. The task group will discuss and we could potentially use the Wesley money.

Surplus/Wesley Funds We currently have a surplus of \$400,000 in operating. Do we want to move some of that into the legacy restricted fund?

To do:

- Heather and Dale will discuss and bring figures to the Executive next month for discussion.

ON-GOING

Reconciliation Action Fund NA

Pastoral Charge Supervisor Staff Position NA

Moats Fund NA

CHECK OUT Darryl led us in check out.

NEXT MEETING Next meeting will be February 27 at 3:30 pm.
March meeting will be in person. Shannon and Darrel to decide on when and where and Chantal will notify the Executive members and staff.

ADJOURNMENT



Darrell Reine, Chairperson



Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister

