

**Living Skies Executive Minutes
September 25, 2025 via Zoom**

EXECUTIVE PRESENT	<p>Piotr Strzelecki (Chair), Doug Haroldson, David Mugadzi, Dale Worrall (Treasurer), Amelia Takau</p> <p>A quorum was present.</p>
REGRETS	<p>Darrell Reine, Deborah Smith,</p>
STAFF PRESENT	<p>Shannon McCarthy (Executive Minister); Francesca Martina (Finance Administrator), Bev Diebert (Administrative Support); Chantal Winslow (Executive Assistant & Recording Secretary), Tracy Murton (Pastoral Relations Minister);</p>
CALL TO ORDER	<p>Piotr called the meeting to order at 3:33. David led us in reflection & prayer.</p>
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	<p>We reviewed the agenda.</p>
APPROVAL OF MINUTES 018-2025/2026	<p>It was agreed by consensus: That Living Skies Regional Council Executive approve the minutes of June 26, 2025 as distributed.</p>
BUSINESS ARISING	<p>NA</p>
CORRESPONDENCE	<p>NA</p>
Letter from Nomination/Nobuko	<p>Accepted for information. This needs to be a bigger conversation. Part of a bigger conversation</p> <p>To do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chantal to send a letter to Nobuko
Green Spirit Summer Report	<p>Accepted for information.</p>
Here from the Beginning travel request 019-2025/2026	<p>Paul Walfall has asked us to contribute \$750 to help get the Here from the Beginning Exhibit across the regions. Each region is asked to contribute the same amount to make a pool of funds</p> <p>It was agreed by consensus That Living Skies Regional Council support the travel of the Here from the Beginning Exhibit in the amount of \$750.</p>

M&S Letter and Certificate

Accepted for Information

Letter from Sheila Ivanochko

Sheila Ivanochko sent us a letter regarding her expenses and reimbursement from GC45. She was reimbursed \$500 but this left her out of pocket a substantial amount. The Executive does not feel comfortable having her out of pocket. Dale will find out her expenses and we can discuss at the next meeting.

To do:

- Dale will get the expenses from Sheila and bring it forward to our next meeting.

**REVIEW OF REPORTS & ACCEPTANCE
020-2025/2026**

It was agreed by consensus:

That Living Skies Executive approve the following submitted reports:

- Executive Ministers Report
- YAYA Report
- Regional Admin Staff Report
- Growth Animator Q2 Report
- Chair Report
- Financial Report
- Archives Report
- Lay Ministry Report
- Pastoral Relations Minister Report

FINANCE

Francesca reported (statements attached)

021-2025/2026

It was agreed by consensus:

That Living Skies Executive, pending the transfer of \$6000 from General Council, will forgive the remaining balance at January 1, 2026 of the Rural Connect loan given to St. Martin's, which would be in the amount of \$5500.

022-2025/2026

It was agreed by consensus:

That Living Skies Executive approve the Mission Support budget in the amount of \$100,000 for 2026.

023-2025/2026

It was agreed by consensus

That Living Skies Regional Council add Tricia Gerhard to the Conexus Credit Union account as authorized individual to sign cheques and approve e-transfers, instructions and on-line payments, and that Heather Dootoff and Darrell Reine be removed. Signers on the account will therefore be Shannon McCarthy, Francesca Martina, Dale Worrall, Bev Diebert, and Tricia Gerhard, any two to sign.

NEW BUSINESS

Staff Update

Julie Graham is on medical leave as of tomorrow.

Spring in person meeting

It was suggested that we have an in person executive meeting but also having a larger group gather to discuss some of the bigger conversations around nominations, towards 2035, etc. It is so much better to have these discussions in person.

To do:

- Chantal will send out some dates for March/April to meet in person (Friday and Saturday preferred)

Governance

Tabled until our in-person meeting.

Chair Elect Position

This position would be for one year prior to taking on the position.

To do:

- Piotr will put together a description and bring it to us via email

**Exec chair/LS
Convenor Position
024-2025/2026**

It was agreed by consensus:
That Living Skies Executive approve combining the positions of Executive Chair and Living Skies Convenor into one position.

**St. Paul's
International Motion
025-2025/2026**

It was agreed by consensus:
That Living Skies Executive approve the change of name from St. Paul's International Pastoral Charge to St. Paul's Pastoral Charge, effective immediately, September 10, 2025.

**Incorporated
Ministries
026-2025/2026**

It was agreed by consensus:
That Living Skies Executive approve the following action(s):

a. Camp Woodboia Incorporated

...pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the Camp Woodboia Incorporated 2025-2026 Board of Directors

Wendy Allingham
Marcia Clermont
Sharon Davidson
Marla Gavelin
Jacylyn Gibson
Dale Groves
Jessie Main
Charlene Orr
Judy Reiman
Ron Reiman
Michelle Rowe
Doris Seebach
Janelle Shaw

This is based on the draft minutes of March 12, 2025 AGM, the 2025 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

b. River Bend Integrated Community Ministries Inc.

...based on the guidance received from General Council Staff, pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve application of Articles of Amendment and name change to Saskatoon Community Advocacy and Support Inc. as approved by the members on September 17, 2025 of the incorporated ministry known as River Bend Integrated Community Ministries Inc.

...pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the River Bend Integrated Community Ministries Inc. 2025-2026 Board of Directors

**Kyrissa Kuemper
Maureen McPherson
Anne Mathewson
Leanne Opoonechaw
Bill Pollock
Janice Poundmaker
Gary Stevens**

These are based on the draft Members Minutes of September 17, 2025, Annual General Meeting Minutes of June 17, 2025, the 2025 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada.

**Keeper of the
Learning Circle
027-2025/2026**

**It was agreed by consensus:
That Living Skies Executive approve Sandy Saulteaux Spiritual Centre be recognized as a Regional Council recognized ministry of Living Skies Regional Council (Manual, 2025 C.2.14).**

ONGOING BUSINESS

**Purpose of Regional
Reps**

Tracy presented the *Lay Representatives to the Regional Council: Responsibilities and Privileges* document. There are two questions that needed some clarification:

- 1. Is it the expectation that the representatives are expected to attend the meeting of the Regional Council?**
- 2. Is it expected that they serve on governing boards?**

After some discussion it was decided that yes, the intent is for those representatives to attend the regional meetings, however, it is not something that we can enforce. The bare minimum is the liaison piece, and attending the meetings is one way to do that. As for the second point, each community of faith sets their own board structure and so the regional council cannot mandate that reps sit on those boards.

Don Elliot Trust

Dale had a conversation Don Kindoop, Treasurer, from Estevan United Church in the spring about LSRC taking over the admin of the trust. The terms of the trust are workable with minimal admin or maintenance. Dale's recommendation is for LSRC to proceed with the consolidation.

AGM – Online 2025

We have one proposal already. The dates set aside are November 4 and 6. We are hoping that we can keep this to one date and not both.

To do:

- **Piotr will communicate with Chantal and Shannon to get planning started.**

AGM – In Person 2027

The dates we have chosen are May 27 to May 30
We do have a committee started already.

To do:

- **Bev will communicate with the planning committee to get things started rolling. She will communicate the date and we can start picking a location.**

Towards 2035

Tabled to a later meeting

OTHER ITEMS

CHECK OUT

BENEDICTION

EMAIL MOTIONS

**September 15, 2025
028-2025/2026**

It was agreed by consensus:

That Living Skies Executive create a position titled "Past Chair"

A Past Chair serves for one year, immediately following the end of term. Position includes:

- **offering past experience in functioning of the Executive,**
- **chairing the meeting if/when the current chair is unavailable,**
- **overall support to the work of the Executive.**

Past Chair shall have all the right and privileges of Executive's membership.

**September 10, 2025
029-2025/2026**

It was agreed by consensus:

That Living Skies Executive approve Heather Dootoff as chair of the grants committee.

NEXT MEETING Next meeting will be October 16 at 9:30 am.

ADJOURNMENT 5:20 pm

The Rev Piotr Strzelecki V.D.M.

The Rev. Piotr Strzelecki
Chairperson

Shannon McCarthy

Shannon McCarthy
Executive Minister

