

Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council
Meeting of the Executive
Thursday, March 11, 2021 – 9:00 a.m.

Living Mission Statement for the Regional Council

- *Supporting and enhancing the ministry of Communities of Faith*
- *Supporting Ministry Personnel, Staff and Lay Leadership in Communities of Faith*
 - *Supporting and nurturing Right Relations, Social and Ecological Justice*
 - *Supporting people in all seasons of life*
 - *Supporting and building Communications*

IN ATTENDANCE

Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro	President
Bronwen Harman	Past-President
Jim Allen	Member
Catherine Ryan	Member
Caroline Ruda	Member
Linda Stronski	Member (joined at 10 am)
Rev. Teresa Burnett-Cole	Member
Rev. John Noordhof	Member
Rev. Lynne Gardiner	Member
Rev. Ryan Kim	Member
Anita Jansman	Corresponding Member - Communications and Administration Assistant
Rev. Brian Cornelius	Corresponding Member – Treasurer for the Regional Council (joined at 9:30 am, departed at 10:45 am)
Dana Ducette	Corresponding Member - Minister for Youth and Young Adults
Jane Dawson	Corresponding Member - Minister supporting Communities of Faith, Clusters and Networks
Rev. Whit Strong	Corresponding Member, Pastoral Relations Minister
Rev. Rosemary Lambie	Executive Minister, Full Member
Joel Miller	Program Assistant to Executive Minister, Recording Secretary

REGRETS/ABSENT

None were absent

9:00 Opening Devotions – Jim Allen shared passage from Book of Isaiah 41:10, and reminded us that as our lives have been forever changed by the pandemic, not to be afraid because God is with us, comforting us, guiding us and giving us strength.

Rosemary highlighted that today the Province of Quebec is holding a day of memorial for Covid-19 victims, and has asked churches to ring their bells at 1 pm. Rosemary has also been invited to offer a prayer during an evening interfaith memorial service.

Circle Time of Sharing – All were invited to share.

Takouhi offered a prayer immediately following this time of sharing.

MINUTES

a) Minutes of January 21, 2021:

2021-03-11_017 MOTION (L. Gardiner/C. Ryan) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council Executive accepts the Minutes of January 21, 2021 as circulated. **Carried**

b) Minutes of Email Vote March 1, 2021

2021-03-11_018 MOTION (J. Allen/C. Ruda) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council Executive accepts the Minutes of the email vote closing March 1, 2021 as circulated:

2021-03-01_001 MOTION (J. Allen/ L. Stronski) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council Executive approves the request of Southminster United Church, Ottawa to enter into a revised Agreement for Purchase and Sale with Southminster Developments, Inc - representing Windmill Development with the outlined conditions based upon the following information...

Whereas the City of Ottawa has placed a requirement for demolition of the CD Wing before severance of the lands that are subject to sale to Windmill Developments,

Whereas the renovations needed to Fellowship Hall are a prerequisite to being able to demolish the CD Wing,

Whereas, for these reasons, Windmill is unable to secure the financing needed for Southminster to complete the renovations to the CD Wing.

And Whereas, the existing agreement for Purchase and Sale did not envision this issue;

Southminster United Church is requesting to enter into a revised Agreement for Purchase and Sale with Southminster Developments, Inc - representing Windmill Development - that will result in a mortgage from Royal Bank of Canada being placed on the Southminster United Church Property in which Southminster will be co-borrower of up to \$1,500,000.

Further, the Trustees of Southminster United Church request approvals from Eastern Ontario Outaouais Region Council to permit the execution of the revised agreement for purchase and sale.

The mortgage will be discharged from Southminster's portion of the property, and Southminster's obligations released, upon close of the sale. All amounts advanced to Southminster under the RBC mortgage will be deducted from the balance of the VTB.

*The new agreement will remove the option to purchase lands on the property on Bank Street. **CARRIED.***

Carried

Agenda

2021-03-11_019 MOTION (T. Burnett-Cole/B. Harmen) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council Executive accepts the agenda as circulated. **Carried**

Correspondence

- a) February 2, 2021 Carol Owegi, Ministries in French re responsibilities for LLWL (*for information*)
- b) February 16, 2021 Bob Swan, Trinity United Church, Smiths Falls re process for a possible sale of vacant lot (*for information*).
- c) February 23, 2021 Sharon Rounds, Grace United Church re permission to negotiate a possible sale of the former Chelsea United Church property (*for action 3b*).
- d) February 26, 2021 Marilyn Bell, Hawthorne United Church re decision to disband effective June 30, 2021 (*for information*)
- e) March 1, 2021 Colleen Shepherd, Alexandria United Church, Glengarry East Pastoral Charge re possibility of moving Archives (*for information*)
- f) March 1, 2021 Darlene Montgomery-Fawcett re potential delay in Purchase for Hulbert-Valley United Church (*for information*)

Business

Supporting and enhancing the ministry of Communities of Faith

1. Governance

2. **Finance** – see **appendix A¹**: 2021 Balance Sheet; **appendix A²**: 2021 Profit and Loss Summary
2021-03-11_020 MOTION (J. Noordhof/J. Allen) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council Executive receives the Financial report and the 2021 balance sheet and the 2021 profit and loss summary for information. **Carried**

Brian informed that the Finance Committee met to finalize the budget, review the statements from 2020, and prepare for a Review in April of 2021. The committee is also supporting General Council in following up assessments which are delinquent, and will be prepared for full reporting at the annual general meeting. Brian highlighted that it is still early in 2021 so there has not been much activity.

3. **Supporting Communities of Faith**

a) St. Pauls Richmond United Church

b) **Grace United Church**

2021-03-11_021 MOTION (C. Ryan/L. Gardiner) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council Executive approves the request of Grace United Church to pursue the possible sale of the former Chelsea United Church located at 8 Mill Street, Chelsea, QC. **Carried**

Opening churches following UCC, provincial and local guidelines: With Easter approaching, churches are being encouraged to continue to follow provincial guidelines. Whit and Rosemary will provide Anita with an update to send out with Communications.

Discussion: Ministers shared how they were going about respecting regulations and preparing for Easter.

Supporting Ministry Personnel, Staff and Lay Leadership in Communities of Faith

4. **Pastoral Relations** – see Pastoral Relations Minister's report as **appendix B¹**; see Minutes and recommendations of the Pastoral Relations Commission from meetings of February 9, 2021, as **appendix B²**
- a) **2021-03-11_022 MOTION** (T. Burnett-Cole/B. Harmen) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council Executive receives the Minutes and recommendations of the Pastoral Relations Commission from meetings of February 9, 2021 for information.

Discussion: It was suggested to put out a communication reminding the Regional Council that the decision has been made to reimburse Minister's phone costs through an allowance. Whit will prepare something to be shared.

2020-06-11_087 MOTION (D. Stiles/L. Stronski) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council Executive approves the recommendation of the Pastoral Relations Commission to establish a minimum amount for phone /Internet expenses of \$1000/yr. It is not to be pro-rated according to the hours of the appointment/call. This is effective immediately. Carried

5. **Licensed Lay Worship Leaders** – no report

Supporting and nurturing Right Relations, Social and Ecological Justice

6. **Clusters and Networks** – Jane Dawson highlighted items in her report, see Report from Minister Supporting Communities of Faith, Cluster and Networks as **appendix C**

Supporting people in all seasons of life

7. **Vision and Transformation** – Jane Dawson highlighted item in her report (*appendix C*)

Supporting and Building Communications

8. **Communications** – Anita Jansman, see Communications report as **appendix D¹**; see EOORC Communications survey results as **appendix D²**.

Discussion: It was suggested that Pastoral Relations have its own “corner” on the website where it can provide updates re churches closing, changes in pastoral relations, etc. Whit and Anita will talk more about this. Although this information is available in the Pastoral Relations minutes, it is buried in other information and it is the hope that something more succinct to summaries.

9. **Nominations** – Bronwen Harmen informed that Nominations will be holding a meeting shortly. Rosemary shared that there is a recall of the General Council, where it will be explained how the next General Council will take place. GC 44 Commissioners need to be nominated by June 2021.

10. **YAYA** – Dana Ducette highlighted various items in her report, see YAYA report as **appendix E**.

Discussion: what is being done for age gap of 0-9? At the moment there is no initiative in place. It was suggested to network with leadership in other Regional Councils (Shanna Bernier in RC 13 does have resources at moment). Dana is working at getting YAYA involved in upcoming events.

11. **Regional Council Meeting** – A meeting date needs to be set for the next planning meeting. Currently, there are plans to receive two admission candidates, to celebrate memorials and retirees, nominate Commissioners and celebrate Licensed Lay Worship Leaders.

New Business

- Affirming Regional Council** – Bronwen Harmen, Kim Baird, Linda Stronski, Cathy Ryan (amongst others) have expressed interest in leading this group and a meeting is in the works to strategize.
- SurveyMonkey** – license has been renewed and Dana has more information.

Opening worship for next meeting – Carolyn Ruda**Motion to adjourn**

2021-03-11_023 MOTION (T. Burnett-Cole) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council Executive adjourn this meeting at 11:16 am.

Closing Prayer – Rev. John Nordhoof

Next meeting date Thursday, April 22, 2021 9:00 – noon on zoom
 Fri., May 7, 2:00-5:00 & Sat., May 8, 2021 **RC** 9:00 – 12 on zoom **TBD!!**
 Thursday, June 10, 2021 9:00 – noon on zoom

Appendices

Appendix A ¹	2021 Balance Sheet	Pages 30-31
Appendix A ²	Profit and Loss Summary	Page 32
Appendix B ¹	Pastoral Relations Minister's Report	Page 33
Appendix B ²	Minutes and recommendations of the Pastoral Relations Commission from meetings of February 9, 2021	Pages 34-36
Appendix C	Report from Minister Supporting Communities of Faith, Cluster and Networks	Page 37
Appendix D ¹	Communications Report	Page 38
Appendix D ²	EOORC Communications survey results	Pages 39-44
Appendix E	YAYA Report	Page 45

Appendix A¹

4:49 PM

**Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council
Balance Sheet**

Accrual Basis

	31 Dec 21	31 Dec 20	\$ Change
ASSETS			
Current Assets			
Chequing/Savings			
GIC - Campbell's Bay	71,200.14	71,200.14	0.00
GIC - Lower Litchfield Cemetery	5,380.39	5,380.39	0.00
GIC - Thurso	203,959.12	203,959.12	0.00
Lower Litchfield Cemetery	2,965.10	2,965.10	0.00
TD Bank Account	139,470.08	339,437.04	-199,966.96
Visa Security	5,009.44	5,009.44	0.00
Total Chequing/Savings	427,984.27	627,951.23	-199,966.96
Accounts Receivable			
Accounts Receivable			
COVID-19 Loans	30,000.00	30,000.00	0.00
Accounts Receivable - Other	0.00	18,084.32	-18,084.32
Total Accounts Receivable	30,000.00	48,084.32	-18,084.32
HST - Federal	693.12	679.74	13.38
HST - Provincial	1,625.64	1,590.54	35.10
QST Quebec	-508.80	-508.80	0.00
Total Accounts Receivable	31,809.96	49,845.80	-18,035.84
Other Current Assets			
Fiera Capital Investment Account	4,348,336.46	4,185,549.60	162,786.86
McKendry Fund - Loan to Orleans	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00
Total Other Current Assets	4,448,336.46	4,285,549.60	162,786.86
Total Current Assets	4,908,130.69	4,963,346.63	-55,215.94
TOTAL ASSETS	4,908,130.69	4,963,346.63	-55,215.94
LIABILITIES & EQUITY			
Liabilities			
Current Liabilities			
Accounts Payable			
Accounts Payable	17,720.00	17,720.00	0.00
Total Accounts Payable	17,720.00	17,720.00	0.00
Other Current Liabilities			
Mission & Ministry Fund	112,686.24	75,243.97	37,442.27
Total Other Current Liabilities	112,686.24	75,243.97	37,442.27
Total Current Liabilities	130,406.24	92,963.97	37,442.27
Total Liabilities	130,406.24	92,963.97	37,442.27
Equity			
Held In Trust - COF's			
Campbell Bay's	71,780.17	71,780.17	0.00
Lower Litchfield Cemetery Fund	8,345.49	8,345.49	0.00
St. Marcs	16,500.00	16,500.00	0.00
Thurso	204,176.83	204,176.83	0.00
Total Held In Trust - COF's	300,802.49	300,802.49	0.00
Investment Funds			
EOORC Fund	882,635.97	928,346.45	-45,710.48
James Elwood Baillie Youth Fund	613,551.90	632,435.57	-18,883.67
McKendry Fund	100,000.00	100,000.00	0.00
Mission Strategy Fund	2,046,827.00	2,072,691.57	-25,864.57
W.H. "Bill" Scrivens Fund	447,051.23	460,605.65	-13,554.42
Total Investment Funds	4,090,066.10	4,194,079.24	-104,013.14
Restricted Ministry Funds			
Camp Bitobi	66,000.00	66,000.00	0.00
Faith and Arts Ottawa	27,622.73	27,622.73	0.00
Healing Pathway Regional	4,857.06	4,857.06	0.00
Kingston Resource Centre	13,787.60	13,787.60	0.00

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**Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council
Balance Sheet**

Accrual Basis

	31 Dec 21	31 Dec 20	\$ Change
Ministry Personell Events	1,622.50	1,622.50	0.00
Parish Collective	2,456.67	2,456.67	0.00
Project Footprint	4,202.10	4,202.10	0.00
Sisters Stream	25,000.00	25,000.00	0.00
United Mining for Justice	33,808.15	33,808.15	0.00
Youth Ministry - Trips	4,213.54	4,213.54	0.00
Youth Ministry - Zambia	3,890.15	3,890.15	0.00
Total Restricted Ministry Funds	187,460.50	187,460.50	0.00
Unrestricted Net Assets	188,040.43	69,247.80	118,792.63
Net Income	11,354.93	118,792.63	-107,437.70
Total Equity	4,777,724.45	4,870,382.66	-92,658.21
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	4,908,130.69	4,963,346.63	-55,215.94

Appendix A²

4:44 PM

29/04/21

Cash Basis

**Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council
Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual**

	<u>Jan - Dec 21</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>% of Budget</u>
Ordinary Income/Expense			
Income			
Governance/Opertions/Sup.Serv.	54,015.23	378,000.00	14.3%
Mission & Ministry	89,960.56	384,100.00	23.4%
Total Income	<u>143,975.79</u>	<u>762,100.00</u>	<u>18.9%</u>
Expense			
Governance/Op./Sup.Serv.Expense	41,325.06	372,350.00	11.1%
Mission and Ministry Expenses	52,518.29	415,350.00	12.6%
Mission and Ministry Restricted	37,442.27		
Recovery	0.00		
Total Expense	<u>131,285.62</u>	<u>787,700.00</u>	<u>16.7%</u>
Net Ordinary Income	<u>12,690.17</u>	<u>-25,600.00</u>	<u>-49.6%</u>
Other Income/Expense			
Other Income			
Investment Funds Income	-37,213.14		
Total Other Income	<u>-37,213.14</u>		
Other Expense			
Investment Funds Expenses	-37,213.14		
Restricted Ministries Expenses	1,335.24		
Total Other Expense	<u>-35,877.90</u>		
Net Other Income	<u>-1,335.24</u>		
Net Income	<u>11,354.93</u>	<u>-25,600.00</u>	<u>-44.4%</u>

Appendix B¹

Pastoral Relations Minister's Report to the Executive
March 11, 2021

In spite of COVID-19, it has been a busy year in EOORC with respect to Pastoral Relations. A year ago we were entering what we felt would be a few months of shut-down. Little did we know how long it would last... or how much longer it will go on!

In the spring of 2020 I was receiving, reviewing and approving reopening protocols for many of our Communities of Faith. In all, I received and responded to over 200 emails regarding re-opening plans. I have been receiving and reviewing these on behalf of the Regional Council. It is important to note that not all our Communities of Faith submitted a reopening plan. I am currently receiving emails asking about reopening in the spring of 2021 to which I am replying by asking each Community of Faith to contact their local health unit, but also adhere to follow the reopening plans that have already been submitted to EOORC. It is my understanding that the government protocols that were put in place in September 2020 are the ones to be followed.

Since March 2020, I have been having regular monthly Zoom meetings with Ministry Personnel and with the Licensed Lay Worship Leaders. I have been told by those participating that these have been very well received and appreciated.

Not being able to hold in-person workshops, I will be hosting a Zoom workshop for M&P Committees, and one (Discerning The Path Ahead) for congregations who are discerning their future life and ministry. In April I will be hosting a Zoom workshop on Conflict and Communication in the Congregation.

In April I will also be having a Zoom gathering with leaders of congregational Pastoral Care Teams to discuss ways of offering support to those doing pastoral care visits.

The majority of my time is spent working on matters directly related to pastoral relations matters: supporting individual ministers; sitting in on CoF Council Zoom meetings; dealing with numerous conflictual situations in congregations; resourcing M&P Committees on a variety of topics; monthly PR Commission meetings, and monthly Zooms with the PR Ministers from across the country. I'm also fielding calls and emails from both our Ministry personnel and our LLWLs with questions about their role when Communities of Faith decide to reopen.

Respectfully submitted by Rev. Whitman Strong

Appendix B²**Minutes and recommendations of the Pastoral Relations Commission from meetings of xxxx, 2021**

A meeting of the Pastoral Relations Commission was held via Zoom Conference call on Tuesday, February 9, 2021 at 1:00 p.m.

PRESENT:

Jim Allen, Ina Bromley (via telephone), Ed Gratton, Wayne Harris (Chair), Charlotte Hoy (via telephone), Sharon MacDonald, Erin McIntyre, Karen McLean (Scribe), Janet Nield, Linda Suddaby, Whit Strong (11)

REGRETS: None

CALL TO ORDER, OPENING PRAYER:

Chair Wayne called the meeting to order at 1:08 p.m. and welcomed us all to this Zoom call.

QUICK CHECK-IN:

Members checked in with personal updates since the last meeting.

INTERIM MOTIONS: One motion was approved by e-mail on January 21, 2021.

Grace-St. Andrew's P.C. (Arnprior)

Motion 2021-07: (J. Nield/E. McIntyre) "that the EOORC PR Commission further approves the Grace-St. Andrew's Pastoral Charge profile as circulated, for posting on ChurchHub including the financial and real property information."
CARRIED

ACCEPTANCE OF MINUTES

Motion 2021-08 (S. MacDonald/I. Bromley) "that the minutes of the EOORC PR Commission for January 12, 2021 be approved as circulated."
CARRIED

RESTORATIVE CARE:

Both Stephanie Bates (OM), Cumberland P.C. and Debbie Roi (OM) Carp-Dunrobin P.C. have begun gradual returns to work.
CARRIED

SABBATICALS:**Heather Froats (OM), St. John's P.C. (Brockville)**

Motion 2021-09 (C. Hoy/S. MacDonald) "that the EOORC PR Commission, take note of the upcoming sabbatical of the Rev. Dr. Heather Froats (St. John's Pastoral Charge, Brockville) for the period May 1 – Aug. 31, 2021."
CARRIED

DECLARATION OF VACANCIES:**Buckingham P.C.**

Motion 2021-10 (I. Bromley/E. Gratton) "that the EOORC PR Commission declares a vacancy at the Buckingham Pastoral Charge effective Feb. 9, 2021."
CARRIED

CHANGE IN PASTORAL RELATIONSHIPS:**Britannia P.C. – Jim Baldwin (OM)**

Motion 2021-11 (E. Gratton/J. Allen) "that the EOORC PR Commission approves the request of the Rev. Jim Baldwin (OM) for a change in pastoral relations to retire as of June 30, 2021."
CARRIED

CHANGE OF TERMS:**Augusta P.C. – Kathleen Petrie (OM)**

Motion 2021-12 (L. Suddaby/E. Gratton) "that the EOORC PR Commission approves the change in terms of the

call of the Rev. Kathleen Petrie of the Augusta Pastoral Charge from 30 hours to 20 hours

with a remuneration of twenty-eight thousand one hundred and seventy-two dollars and eighty-five cents (\$28,172.85), effective March 1, 2021.”

CARRIED

LIAISONS and PASTORAL CHARGE SUPERVISORS:

Perth: St. Paul's P.C.

Motion 2021-13 (S. MacDonald/C. Hoy) “that the EOORC PR Commission names Lynne Gardiner (OM) as Liaison to the Perth: St. Paul's Pastoral Charge.”

CARRIED

Elgin-Portland P.C.

Motion 2021-14 (S. MacDonald/J. Nield) “that the EOORC PR Commission accepts the resignation of Lynne Gardiner (OM) as Pastoral Charge Supervisor to the Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion 2021-15 (E. McIntyre/J. Nield) “that the EOORC PR Commission will appoint a new Pastoral Charge Supervisor to the Elgin-Portland Pastoral Charge only after conversations between Pastoral Relations Commission members and the governing body of the P.C. regarding bullying behaviour.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

For Information:

A very large number of Pastoral Charges require either a Liaison or Pastoral Charge Supervisor or both. Everyone is encouraged to try to find people who may be willing and able to take on some of these tasks.

CALLS/APPOINTMENTS:

C.p. Saint-Marc – Demanyi Kofi Akoussah (OM)

Motion 2021-16 (I. Bromley/C. Hoy) “that the EOORC PR Commission approves the appointment of the Rev. Demanyi Kofi Akoussah to the Charge pastorale Saint-Marc (Ottawa), 30 hours per week as Ordained Supply with a total annual remuneration of fifty-one thousand, seven hundred sixty-seven dollars and fifty cents (\$51,767.50) July 1, 2020 – June 30, 2022.”

CARRIED

OTHER BUSINESS/DISCUSSIONS:

1) Correction to previous minutes – p. 2019/20-53 of Dec. 8, 2020 minutes

The minutes read: “This policy was passed on June 11, 2020 and included in the Policy Handbook that was circulated and accepted at the last General Meeting of EOORC on Oct. 16/17, 2020.”

For clarification, the minutes should read: “This policy was passed by the EOORC Executive on June 11, 2020 and included in the Policy Handbook that was circulated at the last General Meeting of EOORC on Oct. 16/17, 2020. Discussion and decision was postponed to the next full meeting as per Motion 2020-10-16-17 132, which was carried.”

Motion 2021-17 (L. Suddaby/E. McIntyre) “that the EOORC PR Commission replace, for clarification, the EOORC Sacraments Policy on page 20129/20-53 of the Dec. 8, 2020 minutes with the following: This policy was passed by the EOORC Executive on June 11, 2020 and included in the Policy Handbook that was circulated at the last General Meeting of EOORC on Oct. 16/17, 2020. Discussion and decision was postponed to the next full meeting as per Motion 2020-10-16-17 132, which was carried.”

CARRIED

2) Sacraments Policy Review

Motion 2021-18 (I. Bromley/S. MacDonald) “that the EOORC PR Commission affirms the EOORC Sacrament Policy as passed by the EOORC Executive on June 11, 2020.”

CARRIED

3) Terms of Office for Pastoral Relations Commission Members

According to the Governance Handbook the current terms of office are:

Chair – 3 years (renewable once)

Scribe – 3 years (renewable once)

Members – 3 years (renewable once)

The Terms of Reference states: “The original members of the Pastoral Relations Commission will be in place for the first three (3) years, January 1, 2019 to December 31, 2021. As of January 1, 2022, one-third of the Commission members will rotate off with new members being added each year.”

As we are already part-way through our last year, Chair Wayne urged everyone to think on this. We will discuss it further over the next few meetings.

4) Communications Allowance:

There appears to be some confusion over the wording of the previous motion regarding a Communications Allowance. The Commission had recommended the policy to the Executive for its decision but some pastoral charges seem to feel the word “recommend” implies the amount can be negotiated. It was left to PRC to make a decision.

Motion 2021-19 (J. Allen/E. McIntyre) “that, effective Feb. 9, 2021, the EOORC PR Commission sets a minimum Communications Allowance of one thousand dollars per year (\$1,000), for all new calls and appointments, this amount not to be pro-rated, and to be reviewed every October.” **CARRIED**

NEXT MEETING: Next meeting March 9, 2021 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. via Zoom.

CLOSING: Whit will be away from Feb. 15-21. Ina offered our closing prayer today. The business of the Commission being completed, Chair Wayne thanked everyone for attending and declared the meeting closed at 2:42 p.m.

Appendix C

Report from Minister Supporting Communities of Faith, Cluster and Networks**Grant-writing workshops (Mission and Strategy Fund, Vision and Transformation Leadership Team)**

Completed the first of two two-part workshops to help members of communities of faith interested in submitting applications for the EOORC Mission and Strategy Fund, Vision and Transformation Leadership Team. The initial workshops were well-attended and well-received. Follow-up workshops will be offered on March 10 and March 17 (next application deadline March 31, 2021).

Dialogue with the International Pastors and Leaders Forum (IPLF-Ottawa)

Working group to plan a trust-building dialogue between a delegation of pastors and leaders with the International Pastors and Leaders Forum (IPLF-Ottawa) and an equivalent delegation of pastors and leaders of member churches of the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council, United Church of Canada (UCC) with a focus on addressing racism and systemic realities of white privilege (Tony Lovink, MacKay United Church, Lead Organizer).

Guaranteed Livable Income/Universal Basic Income National Day of Action (April 8)

Regional team organizing support for a national day of action regarding the Guaranteed Livable Income, on Thursday, April 8th. To bring visibility to this event, small vigils will be held at a variety of locations including the Centennial Flame on Parliament Hill (in line with provincial public health outdoor event limits). (Clarke Topp, Bell's Corners United Church, EOORC contact person).

Online Palestinian Cooking Class (with possible Zatoun tie-in)

Following a previous initiative hosted by the tri-Regional Councils of southern Ontario, a working group has formed to explore ideas for an online Palestinian cooking class to raise awareness about humanitarian issues in Palestine/Israel with possible tie-in with Zatoun products (Jane Enticknap, Southminster United Church, organizer).

Glebe St. James/EOORC Indigenous Justice Speaker Series

"Who, Why and How of Land Acknowledgments" with Suzanne Keptwo, Wednesday, April 7, 2021, 7:30 – 9:00 pm (Rev. Teresa Burnett-Cole, contact)

Upcoming Online Networking/Cluster Events

- Right Relations Network(ing), Friday, April 9, 2021, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- Sharing Stories about Innovative Ministry, Wednesday, April 21, 2021, 2:30-4:30 p.m.
- Reading Mark Ecologically: Faith and Ecology Study Group (tie-in with KAIROS *For the Love of Creation* theological reflection on climate issues), Tuesday, April 6, 2021 – May 18, 2021, 7:00-9:00 pm

Jane Dawson,
Minister Supporting Communities of Faith, Clusters and Networks

Appendix D¹

**Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council, United Church of Canada
Communications and Administrative Assistant Report to the Executive
March 11, 2021**

1. 2021 Winter Meeting, February 27, 2021

- Registration and attendance for the meeting was successful, with 182 attending the meeting
- Evaluation is underway; 74 have responded so far
- Comments on the evaluation suggest that we're getting better at online meetings

2. Communications Evaluation See attached results from the Communications Evaluation conducted in December.

- Approximately 14 percent response rate (94 respondents out of 650)
- Generally the evaluation indicates that the status quo is favourable to any major changes
- The most successful vehicle for distributing EOORC news is through the newsletter
- Social media, including Facebook, is used by only a small fraction of respondents
- Website traffic is low, with most people visiting it only once a month
- A little more than half of respondents stated they like to attend online meetings for 1 – 2 hours
- Commentary questions provide a more nuanced view of communications in the EOORC. There are requests for more information about the goings on in the Pastoral Charges, particularly which ones are closing, who is retiring, names of new clergy. Also, people seem to want more detail about what the executive is doing and want to see the minutes sooner than they are published.
- I'm going to try to address these points in an upcoming newsletter.

3. Communications Leadership Team

- Lynne Gardiner has joined the team, replacing Gary McKay.
- Members are David Patterson, JoAnne Fletcher, Lois Leroux, Lynne Gardiner and Anita Jansman

Appendix D²**EOORC Communications Survey Results**

Survey conducted December 2020 – mid-January 2021

Number of respondents: 94 (sent to more than 650 people)

Where do you most often get information about the EOORC?

EOORC Website	12
EOORC News	71
EOORC Facebook Group	8
EOORC Twitter	0
Word of Mouth	3

Please rate our bi-weekly newsletter, EOORC News.

Excellent	36
Good	54
Poor	0
Neutral	4

EOORC News is published bi-weekly. Is this frequency adequate?

Yes	85
No, less frequent, please	3
No, more frequent, please	6

How often do you visit the EOORC website?

At least once a week	27
Once a month	29
Only when I'm signing up for a workshop	11
Almost never	27
I don't have access to the website	0

Please rate the EOORC Website

Excellent	14
Good	51
Poor	3
Neutral	26

Are you a member of EOORC Facebook group?

Yes	35
No	59

How much time are you willing to spend at an online meeting?

1 – 2 hours	56
3 – 4 hours	12
More than four hours, fewer than 7	0
As many hours as necessary	15
0 hours – I can't attend online meetings	11

EOORC Communications Survey Results From Commentary Questions

Please comment further on how you find out about EOORC news and information.

Via our own minister during the announcements at our Sunday services + in our weekly newsletter (by email)
Grace Notes

I check out the Facebook lots. I learned about events that I wanted to go to (like the UCW event in July in Cornwall) And I learned about events that I didn't want to go to (like Gretta Vosper). When COVID began, I learned about a lot of virtual events and webinars from the Facebook. I also relied on the Facebook to find out what churches were offering virtual services that I could go to

Have not received any communication until this morning from Orleans United Church. Therefore I am unable to answer the questions which follow. I had signed up for the newsletter but it seems to have stopped coming. Having just realized this, I have resigned up and hope for better.

Our church reps. I look forward to the newsletter and sometimes check the website from colleagues

The newsletter is a valuable resource and gives wide coverage to the many events in the Council's area. As many feared that without the monthly Presbytery meeting, communication would not be 'up to the mark' to which we had been accustomed. In my opinion, thanks to those who supply the varied info, updates, and virtual events all are most appreciated and helpful. Anita and others in that office do a great job and are always accessible to answer questions, etc.

Reading through the newsletter sometimes prompts me to enquire further about the information posted - which is a good thing

Rev. Arlyce Schiebout is also good at forwarding issues of interest to the Worship & Arts team and Mission & Outreach, to a few more members of the congregation get exposure.

From our Chair of Council. This is the first I have known about your website. Our Minister was on Sabbatical for 4 1/2 months.

I feel that receiving the information about every two weeks is enough for me. I read it and then make notes and pass it on to the various groups.

Twitter or Facebook

I receive email notifications and that is my primary source for information

Sometimes from Facebook

I read the various parts of the website. It has come to me since we became EOORC.

I only read the newsletter.

Did not know there is a Twitter account.

I generally use the website, the NEWS and the fb page regularly

I read the Newsletter carefully. I look at the Facebook Group occasionally. I do not use Twitter. I never go to the website for news. I do try to keep in touch with friends and colleagues and I appreciate sharing information by word of mouth, but this is harder to do during the pandemic, and word of mouth is an unreliable channel for sharing important news.

Mostly newsletter. Occasionally I visit the website

Bi-weekly news from Anita and emails from Whit.

I'd like to see an online directory of EOORC reps, clergy, and staff. Access can be password protected as we did with our directory in Four Rivers Presbytery.

EOORC Facebook Group

Please comment further on EOORC News. What type of information would you like to see more of? Less of?

I like the EOORC news. I think once every two weeks is good. (But perhaps, when the pandemic is over and there are more events, have a weekly EOORC during Advent-Christmas weeks, and Lent-Easter weeks, when there is so much going on.)

I would like to see a youth and young adult corner in EOORC News.

Have not received any communication until this morning from Orleans United Church. Therefore I am unable to answer the questions which follow.

Welcome to new clergy in the region, words of encouragement from our region leadership, especially in this difficult time

I am surprised that you can put it out every two weeks, but I suppose if you went to monthly congregations couldn't keep ahead of posting events and some of the articles would be beyond their "best before" dates. I have trouble keeping up with it! I don't know how you do.

I'm undecided about frequency. I personally would be happy to get weekly updates but I think many people might find it too much and would then disregard it entirely. Also most "news" can wait 2 weeks without being stale. I like news about our pastoral charges.

Most important are the opportunities to engage and urgent regional news

Really like to see what is happening in the region for ideas and just to celebrate the diversity of ministry

Pastoral Relations News - news about the church community across the region (Closures, etc.)

Ordinations planned, moves, retirements, congregational experiences with Innovative ministries.... what's happening...

I find the website and the newsletter a little busy. Does it conform to guidelines for accessible documents? Black text on white is best. The text on other bright colours is less easy to read.

I'm happy with what the editor and contributors offer.

I would like to see the pastoral relations report included. Not a link, but the actual update. Otherwise we don't hear about ministers coming or going. We have lost all sense of connection to the congregations in our region. We need news. Congregations are feeling like they have been left to sink on their own. This information was promised several times but it has never been delivered.

A reminder of the website and minutes, etc. I forget about this resource.

More information from the teams, committees - stories of congregations - PLEASE more timely posting of minutes from Executive etc.

I don't need to see advertisements for event held by other communities of faith. I would like to see more news about the work of the Regional Council Executive and the Leadership Teams. In particular, it would be helpful to be kept up to date on decisions about policies and procedures that affect communities of faith.

The content is good. It should reflect the work of EOORC, and any news to be communicated about the work and administration of EOORC. It often includes information and advertisements about events happening through individual congregations, and the broader work of some groups that work in connection to EOORC. This all seems reasonable.

Committee updates and grant / financial support opportunities.

I really appreciate it! In busy congregational life, I don't have time to be checking the website all the time in case there is news. I really appreciate Anita's work in sending it directly to the inbox to help keep us all informed and connected.

Very organized, concise, informative, comprehensive. Keep the content as it is.

Please list the web pages on the EOORC Website that are most useful to you? (example, Pastoral Relations, Events, etc)

Pastoral Relations, events, governance, executive minutes, contacts, student committee, regional community engagement, YAYA, pastoral care, notices, past newsletters

Please describe any other information you would like to see on the EOORC website, or provide any other comments about the website.

I actually find the website difficult to navigate. I find it circuitous

I answered above to "Once a week" as a square peg and round hole problem. I look at the website as needed - don't know how often

Website is very useful for me as we work on the fundraising for Veterans' House. Anita has been very helpful.

I just read what comes in. In deep retirement it's nice to hear about what is going on.

As a member of Grâce United Church in Chelsea, QC and also the assistant archivist for the Outaouais region I would like to find more information in the " Archives section " and at least a link to the French Ministry web site, etc.

I would like to see the minutes of the Regional Executive published sooner after their meetings than they currently are. Perhaps they could post the draft minutes, like the PR Commission does. For example, it is now January and the only minutes posted are from the October Regional meeting.

The Events Archive is not showing all upcoming events. It shows some events, then a <Next> button that shows no events. If the the Search function is used with the date already shown, more events appear.

Could we get a better map of the Region? That one is more like a road map - where names of pastoral charges are available and one can see how they abut other charges, nearness to towns/villages...?

I'd like to know when there are changes in ministry personnel, with names

As above with newsletter - more pertinent information.

I recently went to the website to read the Minutes of the latest meetings.

Directory

**Please comment on the EOORC Facebook Group. Do you want to see more information?
Less? Different topics?**

Yes. How does one get invited into the site?

I don't check FB very often

Not very conversant with Facebook. Maybe a New Year's resolution????

I will never join Facebook until Mark Zuckerberg gets his act together and ensures clear privacy protocols.

Seems OK though I do not connect that often. I visit some other clergy facebook groups as well.

I think the EOORC community should be responsible for posting items, besides the biweekly newsletter from Anita.

I tried to sign up for Facebook and got rejected

I'm older and I can access Facebook but I don't enjoy getting information there. I would rather have written reports and physical meetings- and I know those days are over!

It seems quiet over the last few months. I really have nothing to contribute.

Which one? There are half a dozen it seems. FB doesn't inform me of updates to them so they are kind of useless. We should not be doing church business on FB.

Good sharing of resources and feedback on ministry issues

Do you have any more general comments about Communications in the EOORC?

Is there any website communication for retired clergy?

I think that there needs to be more of an effort, particularly from the Executive, in communicating what is happening and what decisions are being made, especially since we meet less frequently than we did as a Presbytery. Publishing the minutes in a more timely fashion would help with that.

... Can't attend online meetings - I don't have a broad overview of EOORC to contribute usefully.

If you ask, you get a reply.

Wish that more congregants saw it!

Only to say thanks for the newsletters.

Because of the pandemic and distance I feel cut off from the ongoing work of the church. I miss the people I met at presbytery and conference meetings. On line meetings are too difficult to follow. Technology has left me behind.

EOORC is not of interest to casual congregation members, and "news" should be sent to church officers only. It is up to them to inform congregation members of matters that concern them. I should be able to unsubscribe.

Appendix E

Ministry for Youth and Young Adults (YAYA) - Executive Report - March, 2021*Regional Update***Regional Sunday School Support**

Kate Hubble (Hallville UC) has accepted the contract of Regional Sunday School Coordinator. She is hosting weekly Sunday School Programming through the EOORC Facebook page and will begin to contact churches/COF's about Sunday School programs they are hosting.

Kate can be reached at EOORCSundaySchool@gmail.com

Link: <https://www.facebook.com/EOORC-Sunday-School-109076924573757>

Regional Confirmation Classes with the GO Project

The online Confirmation Program began Feb. 21st and has 8 youth participating from around the Region. Alana Martin and I are hosting the monthly sessions. Next session is March 21st at 6:30pm. Please contact me for further information.

Camp Awesome

Camp Awesome will be hosting an online program this summer. Staff funding will be dependant upon the Canada Summer Jobs Grants. We will hear in early May about funding.

YAYA Advisory Group (YAG)

The purpose of YAG is to bring together EOOR YAYA to help guide and plan EOORC events and programs (Zoom) for the Region. YAG is open to anyone aged 10-35 and meets for 1-1.5 hour(s) once per month. The next planning session will look at hosting an Art Night on Zoom.

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86096890171>

YAYA Zoom Check-In

The YAYA Zoom Check-In continues every Thursday from 5pm-6pm EST along with Shanna Bernier for youth and young adults to gather. Within this community space youth and young adults experience worship, prayer, guests and laughter. All Youth and Young Adults and leaders are welcome to join us. <https://zoom.us/join/84246314797?occurrence=158991480000>

Worshiplude 2021 Pajama-Rama Party – Saturday, February 13th

Worshiplude 2021 took place on Zoom and had over 36 participants for the Kahoot-IT Quiz Challenges. The YAYA Advisory Group did a terrific job, leading worship, creating the quizzes and creating a fun online party.

*Campus Ministry***Open Table**

The Open Table Committee is interviewing two candidates for the Open Table Community Development Coordinator this week. We are eager to hire a coordinator to continue hosting online cooking programs for students. The hiring announcement will be in the EOORC Newsletter.

Spiritual Care in the Secondary Schools (SCSS)

The Spiritual Care in Secondary Schools Committee has hired Ms. Breanna Pizzuto as the Coordinator to work with the Ottawa Carleton District School Board. This position is responsible for coordinating the multi-faith Spiritual Care volunteers in public schools. These volunteers provide spiritual care to students, teachers and administration staff. Due to volunteer restrictions in schools, SCSS sessions will be moved to Google Meets. Please contact me if you are interested in learning more about this program.