

## Investing Through Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council (EOORC)

### **What is offered?**

Communities of Faith can invest through EOORC in a consolidated investment fund with Fiera Capital, a fund EOORC has held since 2019. Communities of faith earn the same return as EOORC investments.

### **Does the Community of Faith retain the full value of its investment?**

Yes. EOORC does not take any value from the investment.

### **Who is this for and is there a minimum investment?**

This is for any community of faith and associated ministry within the bounds of EOORC, primarily targeting smaller communities of faith. Normally, a minimum of \$25,000 is needed for investing.

### **How are income payments from investments received?**

Each community of faith or associated ministry has a specific signed agreement with EOORC which outlines the terms of payments. There are three options:

1. A one-time annual payment in early February that represents 4% (or negotiated amount) of the value of the investments or a pre-determined dollar amount.
2. Quarterly payments that represent 1% (or negotiated amount) of the value of the investments or pre-determined dollar amount on February 1<sup>st</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, August 1<sup>st</sup>, and November 1<sup>st</sup>
3. Payments on request (from zero to two a year). This option enables a congregation to invest money for growth over the long term and only receive income for cash flow.

### **What is the portfolio of the investment fund?**

The fund portfolio consists of 50-60% in equities and 40-50% in alternative income. Investments are guided by the guidelines of The United Church of Canada's Responsible Investment (RI) committee.

2021 return – 16.78%      2020 return - 9.33%      2019 return – 16.37%

The management fee is 0.75%. The returns above are subsequent to the management fee.

### **What are the risks?**

Because there are investments in equities, there are occasions where there are negative returns, and so investments should be understood as long-term.

An example. First United in Ottawa sold its building in 2007 and invested \$800,000. In 2008, the market drastically declined and at one point First United's investment was below \$600,000. The congregation maintained a disciplined investment strategy, never taking more than 4% of the value of the portfolio as an annual income. Since 2008, the investment has grown to more than \$1.3 million. The congregation has received income every single year and is now receiving twice the income received in 2008.

### **What information will we receive?**

You will receive a quarterly statement of the value of your investment as well as a quarterly statement on the value of the consolidated investments. These reports detail all the investment holdings.

### **Can we deposit more money or get our money back?**

Yes. New deposits are credited on the 30<sup>th</sup> of the month the deposit is made with EOORC. Normally, at least notice of 30 to 45 days are required to fully close an investment account.

**For information contact Brian Cornelius, treasurer, at [brian.cornelius@firstunitedchurchottawa.org](mailto:brian.cornelius@firstunitedchurchottawa.org)**