



EOORC News

Wednesday, June 21, 2023

The bi-weekly newsletter of the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council

QUICK LINKS

- *** New *** [Jobs](#)
- *** New *** [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Executive Minutes](#)
- [Pastoral Relations Minutes](#)
- [Submit an Event](#)
- [EOORC YouTube Channel](#)

IN THIS ISSUE

- Save the Dates
- Setting our Sights!
- From the desk of Rev. Whit Strong
- Tulipathon
- Healing and Hope Retreat
- Rev. George Clifford
- Montreal Dio Courses
- News from the GCO
 - Statement on PRIDE month
 - National Indigenous People's Day 2023

Save the Dates!

Our newly formed **Meeting Planning Leadership Team**, led by Barbara Reynolds, has already been busy. We look forward to future events planned and organized by this talented team.

Please save these dates for the next three EOORC meetings:

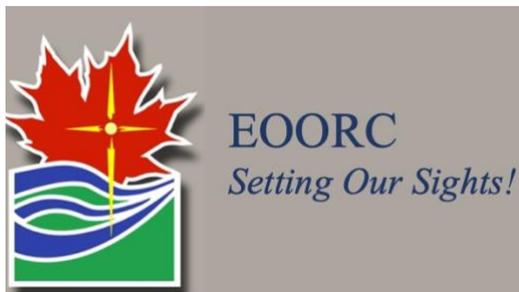
- Saturday, November 4, 2023 (in-person and virtual)
- Saturday, March 2, 2024 Educational Event (virtual only)
- Friday, May 31 and Saturday, June 2, 2024 (Annual General Meeting, in-person & virtual)

Videos Available on YouTube

Please have a look at the [EOORC YouTube Channel](#) where you will find the videos from the 2023 AGM, including Rev. Michael Blair's two presentations and Rev. Teresa Burnett-Cole's talk on the Remit 1 – Establishing Autonomous National Indigenous Organization.

An interview with Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly, was conducted earlier this year by the three Communications staff from EOORC, ECORC and Nakonha:ka Regional Council. You can view parts [1](#), [2](#) and [3](#) on the [EOORC YouTube Channel](#).

EOORC News is a bi-weekly newsletter that provides information Communities of Faith of the EOORC, published every second Wednesday. If you want an item placed in the newsletter, please send it to ajansman@united-church.ca by 12 noon on Tuesday the week of publication. If you do not wish to receive this weekly newsletter, please send me an email to the same address above.



SETTING OUR SIGHTS!

The **Setting Our Sights (SOS) Task Group** has met twice since the annual meeting in Brockville. We are grateful for the table group discussions at the meeting and for reporting forms that captured the discussions on the questions that we asked: gifts of this regional council, obstacles in doing our work, imagining the church in 10 years and steps needed in the next 3 years in order to work towards that 10-year vision.

The next level of discussion and consultation will be launched in August and September through an online survey, four in-person town hall style consultations, and a couple of online gatherings. We are now working on developing the focus questions for those events. There is also an invitation for conversations on the questions to happen in other ways.

As the strategic plan emerges for Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council, the focus will be on what the Regional Council level of the church can do to under the general categories of the General Council plan: Growth, Leadership, Climate, Justice, Common Good and Indigenous Pathways. What need to be the priorities for the work of EOORC?

The members of the SOS Task Group are: Cindy Casey (Kanata United, Ottawa), Liz Church (Portland), David Clemis (Orleans United, Ottawa), Paul Dillman (Riverside United, Ottawa), Mary Ruth Endicott (McKay United, Ottawa), Kimberly Heath (Wall St. United, Brockville), and Mary Royal-Duczek (Almonte). Éric Hébert-Daly and Peter Bartlett are offering staff support. Sharon MacDonald has stepped away from this work and we thank her for her contributions.

For those of you interested in seeing the national strategic plan adopted by the GCO, you can find all the documents here: [Our Call and Our Vision | The United Church of Canada \(united-church.ca\)](#)

If you have any comments or questions, contact me at rucrev@rogers.com or 613-733-7735. You can also contact any other member of the group.

Paul Dillman
Chair, *Setting Our Sights!*

From the Desk of Rev. Whit Strong

Sacraments Elders: Has your Community of Faith been without called or appointed ministry personnel for an extended period of time? Are you having trouble finding ministry personnel to celebrate Communion and perform Baptisms? There is the possibility of having one of your congregants trained to be a licenced Sacraments Elder.

Pastoral Relations Liaisons: Every time a pastoral charge begins the search for a new minister, they need to create a Living Ministry Profile as a part of the search process. The need for PR Liaisons stretches the limits of who is currently available to help in this important function. Perhaps you would like to know more about what is entailed in serving as a trained PR Liaison. PR Liaisons are compensated for their travel related to this important work.

Pastoral Charge Supervisors: We have an ongoing need for people to serve as Pastoral Charge Supervisors for Communities of Faith for Communities of Faith who are currently without called or appointed ministry personnel. The main responsibility would be to be present for Council/Board meeting and to offer wisdom and direction as they carry out their daily lives. Both Ministry Personnel and well-experienced lay members of EOORC will be considered for this important role. PC Supervisors are financially compensated for their time and travel.

Retired Ministers: We have a number of Communities of Faith who are without a called or appointed minister and are in need of someone for Communion. Please consider assisting Communities of Faith on an occasional basis.

If you want to know more about any of these important opportunities to serve our Communities of Faith, please contact Rev. Whit Strong, wstrong@united-church.ca , 1-800-268-3781 x 6148.

EOORC News is a bi-weekly newsletter that provides information Communities of Faith of the EOORC, published every second Wednesday. If you want an item placed in the newsletter, please send it to ajansman@united-church.ca by 12 noon on Tuesday the week of publication. If you do not wish to receive this weekly newsletter, please send me an email to the same address above.



Multifaith Housing Initiative's (MHI) annual Tulipathon walkathon raises funds to help provide rent subsidies to support our tenants, as well as increase awareness for the need for more safe and affordable housing in the city of Ottawa. We hosted our largest walking group yet on May 28th, 2023 but the fundraising isn't over just yet! Help us reach our goal by sharing with your friends and family and encouraging them to donate. Learn more at www.multifaithhousing.ca/tulipathon



**Save the dates! October 30 - November 2, 2023
Healing and Hope Retreat for Clergy Women
Five Oaks Centre, 1 Bethel Road, Paris, ON**

Rev. Tina Conlon from Davenport-Perth Community Ministry, and Shining Waters Regional Council President, will join us for part of the time. United Church Moderator Right Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne will speak on the afternoon of Nov. 1. We are hoping to ensure there is lots of time for small groups, and relaxation on the lovely grounds of Five Oaks. There are a few single rooms at \$475 for room and meals for the entire time, and \$405 for shared rooms and meals. This is a first-come basis, maximum of 50 people but we will also keep a waiting list just in case. Contact us at sistersandministers@gmail.com (Logo of rainbow quilt by Rev. Rose Anne Vita, to be used for this event.)



Rev. George Clifford

Reverend George Ernest Clifford died peacefully on June 3, 2023, at the age of 91, surrounded by his loving family. He will be greatly missed. He joined Glebe-St. James United Church in Ottawa, and assisted there as the Visiting Minister. His years there were among the most cherished of his life, for it was there where he was able to focus on his true calling in life-pastoral care. George was a proud member of Glebe-St. James until his death. [Read full obituary.](#)



Dates have been finalized for the following Admission Ministers courses: United Church History and Theology, United Church Worship, and United Church Polity. These courses are also open to non-admission ministers who are interested in deepening their knowledge of the United Church. You will find the full course listings [HERE](#)

EOORC News is a bi-weekly newsletter that provides information Communities of Faith of the EOORC, published every second Wednesday. If you want an item placed in the newsletter, please send it to ajansman@united-church.ca by 12 noon on Tuesday the week of publication. If you do not wish to receive this weekly newsletter, please send me an email to the same address above.

News from the General Council Office



[GCO Statement on Pride Month](#) Thank you for your commitment to activism, to carving out space in places where there is reluctance and fear.



[Moderator's Message for National Indigenous Peoples Day 2023](#) In her message for National Indigenous Peoples Day, Moderator Carmen Lansdowne suggests many ways you and your community of faith can celebrate or recognize this day.



The [June 13th](#) and [June 20th](#) editions are now available.

EOORC News is a bi-weekly newsletter that provides information Communities of Faith of the EOORC, published every second Wednesday. If you want an item placed in the newsletter, please send it to ajansman@united-church.ca by 12 noon on Tuesday the week of publication. If you do not wish to receive this weekly newsletter, please send me an email to the same address above.