



EOORC News

Thursday, January 22nd, 2026

The weekly newsletter of the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council

QUICK LINKS

- [Pastoral Relations Minutes](#)
- [Executive Minutes](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Submit an Event](#)

IN THIS ISSUE

- Church Extension Committee
- Upcoming Webinars
- Regional Report
- Worshiplude
- Mental Health First Aid
- Justice and Francophones with Disabilities
- And More!

The Church Extension Committee of EOORC – Grant Application Process for 2026

The Church Extension Committee provides ongoing support for the Communities of Faith in the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Region with respect to their physical assets and facilities. The Committee provides advice and assistance with respect to:

- renovations and upgrades to buildings, equipment and facilities and disposal and demolition of buildings and facilities;
- providing suggestions and advice regarding ways to approach and finance their projects;
- providing financial guidance and support through grants, loans or mortgages to cover a portion of the costs

Guidance for Communities of Faith who wish to apply to the Committee: [Guidance for Applicants – Updated December 2025](#)

Link to Church Extension Committee application process: <https://eoorc.ca/resources/funding-sources/>

Contact Judy Harms-Potter, Church Extension Committee Secretary at churchextensioncommitteeeoorc@gmail.com for information.

Note: In 2026, The Church Extension Committee will have one meeting. There is a deadline of March 1st, 2026 for loan and grant requests to be received for consideration at this meeting. (The Corporation's Annual Members Meeting will be held separately in the fall but will not consider applications for grants or loans at the fall meeting. Any emergency applications will be considered on a case by case basis.)

EOORC News is a weekly newsletter that provides information for Communities of Faith of the EOORC, published every Thursday. If you want an item placed in the newsletter, please send it to nmatkovsky@united-church.ca by 10 am on Wednesday. If you do not wish to receive this weekly newsletter, please send me an email to the same address above.

Save-the-Date

EOORC's Winter Educational Event– Saturday March 7th. This will be an online event.
AGM – Friday May 29th and Saturday May 30th at Trinity United Church, Smiths Falls

Webinars of Interest

Still time to Register!—Stop Fundraising and Start Inspiring

Join *Getting Started in Stewardship* to explore how you can foster the spiritual practice of generosity in your church. Communities of faith that start here have better success on their stewardship journey. Tailored to your experience, this program begins with A 90-minute session and 3 follow-up assignments, but you also receive coaching and on-going support that reflects your community of faith's unique calling, focus, and resources. Details: January 26, 2026 4:00-5:30 pm ET OR 6:30pm-8pm ET | [Register on ChurchX](#)

Webinar - Mitigating NIMBYism Through Faith-Based Community Building (*Aussi disponible en français!*) Jan 27, 2026 1:00 PM EST | [Register](#)

Across Canada, Faith-Based Organizations (FBOs) are reimagining their lands and properties and leveraging their resources to meet urgent social needs. Integrating affordable housing alongside renewed worship and community spaces provides potential to not only revitalize neighbourhoods, but also to spark important conversations about inclusion, equity, and belonging. However, many of these initiatives face resistance rooted in "NIMBYism". This webinar will explore where NIMBYism comes from, how to shift thinking, and explore ways that FBOs can foster trust, dialogue, and collaboration with local residents. Participants will gain insights into how faith-driven initiatives can overcome barriers, cultivate inclusive neighborhoods, and demonstrate that affordable housing is not a threat but a cornerstone of thriving communities.

Managing Cemeteries on Church Properties—FREE Webinar

Church buildings are more than bricks and mortar, they are also places of worship, community, and memory. How we use or transform these spaces reflects our deepest beliefs, and property decision-making can be an explicitly faith-based process. Join the Church Property Network's next webinar with Rafael Torres, Director of Property Services at Toronto United Church Council (TUCC), to discuss some of the challenges of managing them. Details: Wednesday February 11, 2026 at 7 pm ET | [Register on ChurchX](#)

Regional Report for Your Community of Faith

EOORC will be preparing an annual report from the regional council. If you are the regional representative elected by your congregation, you may have been asked to submit a report to your congregation's 2025 report book. You are welcome to use this report as is, add to it, or use it as a starting place in writing your own report.

Note: We had hoped that the report would be ready for this week's EOORC News, but it will be in next week's newsletter instead.

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Worshiplude

WORSHIPLUDE 2026
Music and Meditation Worship
w/ Fieldnotes

SPECIAL GUEST UCC MODERATOR
REV. DR. KIMBERLY HEATH

Saturday, January 31st
MacKay United Church
(39 Dufferin Road, Ottawa)

Dinner 4:30pm-6:30pm (\$20pp)
Worship 6:30pm

To register email Dana at
dducette@united-church.ca

Mental Health First Aid Course

Mary Louise Ireland is offering an online course – Mental Health First Aid, Supporting Youth. The date has been changed, and it is now on **Tues March 17, 8.45 - 4 p.m. EST**. This course is for participants 18+ and is a great opportunity for those who work with youth or have youth in their life. Participants receive certification via the Mental Health Commission of Canada. An official course description can be found [here](#).

Please feel free to share with your contacts and reach out to Mary Louise (mlicounselling@gmail.com) directly if you would like further information. For those in EOORC, the course is \$165. Through the Scriven's Baillie Fund, 1/3 of the cost of \$165 for the Mental Health First Aid, Supporting Youth course will be covered for participants in EOORC. Please contact Dana Ducette (DDucette@united-church.ca) for more information.

Un message de l'organisation ABLE2

Town hall on legal access for francophones with disabilities.

Joignez-vous à nous pour **une assemblée publique virtuelle afin de contribuer à la recherche d'ABLE2 sur les obstacles à l'accès à la justice rencontrés par les francophones en situation de handicap à Ottawa et dans les régions avoisinantes.**

Plus d'info [ici](#).

News from the Wider United Church

E-ssentials Newsletter: The January 20th edition shares the Moderator's message about love, a piece remembering Bruce McLeod, and more.

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