
**Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council
Spring Annual General Meeting
May 29-30, 2026**

“Being Christian community for such a time as this”

Omnibus Motion

2026-05-29-30_001 OMNIBUS MOTION (Eric Hebert-Daly/Gary McKay) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council move the following:

1. That the agenda be adopted as circulated
2. That nominations to serve on the Executive and Leadership Teams close today at 1 pm
3. That the minutes of the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council Annual General Meeting (held on June 14th 2025) be received and approved as circulated – see **Appendix A**
4. That the *EOORC Report Book (2026)* be received and approved as circulate – see **Appendix B**
5. That the *EOORC Governance Handbook (2026)* (see **Appendices C¹**) and the *Reference Document Updates to the EOORC Governance Handbook (2026)* (see **Appendices C²**) be received as circulate
6. That the Equity Support Team for this meeting be Liz Church, Kimberly Lavoie and Teddy Dong (Friday only)
7. That the Scrutineers/Stewards for this meeting be: Wayne Harris, Head Steward, Charlotte Hoy, Ted Brett, Ron Bulmer and Paul Bullock
8. That the parliamentarian for this meeting be: Rev. Don Stiles
9. That the following people serve as Chaplains for this meeting: Rev. Dr. Dorcas Kanana Muketha and Rev. Demanya Kofi Akoussah.
10. That this meeting includes the behavioral covenant and virtual manners:

One Voice: Called together by Christ as a community of broken but hopeful believers, striving to be faithful servants of God in our time and place as we offer our varying gifts

Many Voices: We commit to keeping God at the center of everything we do

One Voice: We confess, that we have not always lived up our vision of community, we need the Spirit to reorient us, to live an emerging faith, challenging us to live by grace rather than entitlement

Many Voices: We commit to be truthful in our communications by: speaking for ourselves; and speaking purposefully

One Voice: We are called as a diverse community of people celebrating our differences

Many Voices: And so, we commit to honouring our intercultural vision through welcoming the conflict of ideas; making space for the full and equitable participation of all, enabling especially people who are quiet to speak; being mindful of our body language; listening carefully without interruption and separate people from problems

One Voice: We are called to be bold disciples

Many Voices: As we live into our call to discipleship, we will hold one another to account when we do not keep to our commitments; We will take a future orientation in our discussions and imagination; demonstrate appreciation; And honouring the decisions of the body

One Voice: We are called to lead in hope with purpose and vision as members of a community held and inspired by God, partnering with God in the mending of the world

Many Voices: So, we commit to keeping the discussion at the table and to be faithful stewards of our time

All: We affirm that we are Called by God, as disciples of Jesus, to offer leadership to The United Church of Canada as it seeks to be a bold, connected, evolving church of diverse, courageous, hope-filled communities united in deep spirituality, inspiring worship, and daring justice. Amen

In the 2023 Manual (see page 192), the expression Holy Manners is translated as rules of conduct based on respect and benevolence.

Virtual Manner

Use the Chat feature of Zoom appropriately:

-understanding that speaking in Public Chat is equivalent to speaking out loud in a meeting and is disruptive and rude and should be directed to the Chair of the meeting and used for Points of Order and/or matters of personal privilege

-responding in Chat when invited to do so by the Chair

-using direct messaging when desiring or needed to engage with another

Use of transcription not for use outside of the meeting/event

CARRIED

2025 Financial Statements

- See *Financial Statements for year ended December 31, 2025* as **Appendix D¹**

2026-05-29-30_002 MOTION (Brian Cornelius/Teresa Burnett-Cole) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council formally receive and accept the 2025 Financial Statements. **CARRIED**

Internal Independent Review Committee to review

2026-05-29-30_003 MOTION (Brian Cornelius/Jenni Leslie) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council appoint an Internal Independent Review Committee to review and produce the 2026 Financial Statements. **CARRIED**

2026 Budget

- See *2026 Budget* as **Appendix D²**

2026-05-29-30_004 MOTION (Brian Cornelius/Zacharia Mandara) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council confirm the 2026 budget approved by the Executive. **CARRIED**

Destroy Ballots for President-Elect

2026-05-29-30_005 MOTION (Cindy Casey/Erin McIntyre) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council destroy the ballots for President-Elect. **CARRIED**

Nominations Executive & Leadership Team

2026-05-29-30_006 MOTION (Jim Allen/Liz Church) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council receive and approve the recommendation from the Nominations Leadership Team to name the following people to serve on the Executive and Leadership Teams as amended:

- (L) – Lay member; (MP) Ministry Personnel
1. President – Cindy Casey (MP) (2028)
 2. Past-President – Susan DeHaan (MP) (2028)
 3. President-Elect – Rev. Dr. Teresa Burnett-Cole
 4. Indigenous Community Representation – vacant

Members at large:

5. Jim Allen (L) (2028) first term
6. Rev. Dr. Bob Fillier (MP) (2028) first term
7. Liz Church (L) (2027) second term
8. Nancy Hazen (L) (2028) second term
9. Sue Smarkala (L) (2027) First term
10. David Debenham (L) (2028) First term
11. Frank Emanuel (MP) (2028) First term
12. Julee Pauling (Candidate) (2028) First term
13. Rousseau Whiteley (Youth) (2028) First term

Full member: Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly (Regional Council Executive Minister)

Corresponding Members:

Joel Miller (Assistant to RCEM and Secretary of Region)
 Rev. Natalie Matkovsky (Communications, Administrative Assistant, Archivist),
 Dana Ducette (Youth Minister)
 Rev. Victoria Andrews (Pastoral Relations)
 Rev. Caroline Penhale (Office of Vocation, Candidacy Pathways)
 Rev. Brian Cornelius (Treasurer)
 Rev. Mary Royal-Duczek (Community of Faith and Network Support, Visioning, Clusters & Networks, Future Through Property)

Leadership Teams

1. *Nominations*: Rev. Susan DeHaan (Chair), Jim Allen, Rev. Cindy Casey – as President, Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro, Bronwen Harman, Karen McLean, Paul Whiteley (Resource: Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly, Joel Miller)
2. *Pastoral Relations Commission*: Rev. Don Stiles (Chair), Jim Allen, Rev. Elaine Beattie, Rev. Teresa Burnett-Cole, Charlotte Hoy, Sharon MacDonald, Micheline Montreuil, D.M., Rev. Blair Paterson, Rev. Michelle Robichaud (Resource: Rev. Victoria Andrews) Vacancy – Urgently need a secretary
3. *Future Through Property Team* Phyllis MacRae (Chair), Jim Allen, Ted Brett, Rev. Andrew Love, Joe Smarkala, Sue Smarkala (Resource: Rev. Mary Royal-Duczek)
4. *General Meetings/Educational Event Planning Team*: Vacant (Chair), Gary McKay (Interim Chair), Rev. Cindy Casey (President), Rev. Susan DeHaan (Past President), Pat Mayberry, David Patterson, Karen McLean, Rev. Patricia Power
5. *Church Extension Council*: Directors: Mike Velichka, David Debenham, Alan Gale, Don Reynolds; Members: Catherine Grant, Judy Harms-Potter, Linda Suddaby, Ted Brett, Kevin Moratz; EOORC Appointments: Brian Cornelius (Resource: Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly)
6. *Communications*: Lois Leroux, Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro, John McDougall, and David Patterson (Resource: Rev. Natalie Matkovsky)
7. *Finance*: Brian Cornelius (Treasurer), Rev. Cindy Casey, Jamie Hill, Bruce Jackson, Christine Kilburn, Joe Smarkala, Evered (Ev) Zytveld (Resource: Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly)
8. *Licensed Lay Worship Leaders (LLWL)*: Rev. Dr. Teresa Burnett-Cole, Terrie Chedore (DM), David Clemis, Rev. Georgina Fitzgerald, Rev. Cathy Hird, Sharon MacDonald, Julee Pauling, Cathy Ryan, Paul Sales, Sharon Sanderson, and Paul Whiteley (Resource: Rev. Victoria Andrews)
9. *Scrivens-Baillie*: Ken Brownness, Rev. Brian Cornelius, Camille de Boer, Larry Richardson, and Ev Zytveld (Resource: Rev. Éric Hébert-Daly)
10. *Vision & Transformation*: vacant (Chair), Charles Barrett, Rev. Melany Cassidy-Wise, Christine Cross-Barkley, Phyllis MacRae, Rev. Sheryl McLeod, Janice Peron, Deb Poirier, and Rev. Laura Springate (Staff Resource: Rev. Mary Royal-Duczek)
11. *YAYA*: Vacant (Chair), Kimberlee Barter, Janet Currie-Kelk, Joshua Riddoch, Cathy Ryan, Hazel Ward-Moreau and Wendy Snelgrove (Resource: Dana Ducette)
12. *Equity Leadership Team*:
13. *Social Justice Network of Ontario Regional Councils*: Charles Barrett (Chair) (Resource:)

14. *Stewardship*: Charlotte Hoy, Ray Lebeau, Nancy Hazen, Paul Sales and Carolle Dallas-Arbuckle and David Charles (Resource: Rev. Roger Janes)
15. *Representative to The Ottawa School of Theology and Spirituality*: Paul Whynacht
16. *Affirming Leadership Team*: Cathy Ryan, Bronwen Harman, Kim Baird, Rev. Michelle Robichaud, Rev. Ed Gratton, Roxanne Akhtar, and Rev. Daniel Addai Fobi (Resource: Mary Royal-Duczek)
17. *Representatives to Multi-Faith Housing*: Sue Smarkala
18. *Spiritual Care Hospital Ministry Leadership Team*: Sandra Copeland (Chair) Rev. Brian Copeland, Jane Burgess, Margaret Joyce, Doug Collins, Jeremy Geelen and Richard Johnston.
19. *Ministry Personnel Support Team*: Rev. Terrie Chedore, Rev. Paul Dillman, Rev. Lynne Gardiner, Rev. Jenni Leslie, Rev. Zakaria Mandara, and Rev. Donald Wachenschwanz (Resource: Rev. Victoria Andrews)
20. *Racial Justice Leadership Team*: Joëlle Morgan (Candidate), Paul Whiteley (Resource:)
21. *Keeping in Touch Leadership Team*: Grant Gilliland, Alan Herbert, Laurie McKnight, Joëlle Morgan, Julee Pauling, Larry Richardson, Shelley Roberts, Michelle Robichaud, Cathy Ryan, Paul Whiteley and Rev. Patricia Power, Joan Conrod (Resource:)

CARRIED

* Expression of Interest forms are available on the Regional Council website: <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=qLUYz3gmEUCTEhXw9xV1dHSa6ou6zAhAsw6OK8tGLT1UMDISMTVZMkIDQ0M2UURLU0NJTFVVRIRJOS4u>

Proposal: Regional Authorization of Selected Licensed Lay Worship Leaders to Preside at Holy Communion in Under-Served and Unserved Communities of Faith

- See *proposal* as **Appendix E**

2026-05-29-30_007 MOTION (David Patterson/Teresa Burnett-Cole) That the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council requests that the Executive of the General Council, in light of WF27 adopted by the 45th General Council and the experimentation framework it provides for the current triennium, permit EOORC to develop a time-limited pilot framework, ending no later than January 31, 2028, to explore whether selected Licensed Lay Worship Leaders may, under clearly defined and accountable conditions, be authorized to celebrate the sacraments in communities of faith that are demonstrably under-served or unserved.

Before any authorization is implemented, EOORC will develop and approve a pilot framework that identifies the demonstrated pastoral need, affected communities of faith or pastoral contexts,

theological and polity considerations, participant eligibility, required training, scope and limits of authorization, supervision and oversight structures, reporting and record-keeping responsibilities, risk safeguards, review points, and evaluation criteria.

The pilot will not constitute blanket permission for Licensed Lay Worship Leaders to celebrate the sacraments. Any authorization would be specific to named and approved individuals, identified communities of faith or pastoral contexts, defined time periods, and approved conditions. EOORC will report on the pilot to the appropriate General Council theological and polity body and to the Executive of the General Council before the spring 2028 meeting of the Executive of the General Council. **CARRIED**

Strategic Plan

- See EOORC Strategic Plan (2026-2028) as **Appendix F**

2026-05-29-30_008 MOTION (Erin McIntyre/Judy Harms-Potter) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council approve the EOORC Strategic Plan (2026-2028) as presented. **CARRIED**

Nominations

2026-05-29-30_009 MOTION (C. Casey/F. Emanuel) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council fill the vacancy on the Executive with Rev. Dr. Bob Fillier. **CARRIED**

Destroy Ballots

2026-05-29-30_010 MOTION (Wayne Harrison/Teresa Burnett-Cole) that the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council destroy the ballots to fill Executive vacancy. **CARRIED**

Appendices

*All appendices are available on the EOORC website: <https://eoorc.ca/2026-eoorc-agm/>

Appendix A	Minutes of Fall General Meeting held on June 14 th , 2025
Appendix B	EOORC Report Book (2026)
Appendix C ¹	EOORC Governance Handbook (2026)
Appendix C ²	Reference Document Updates to the EOORC Governance Handbook (2026)
Appendix D ¹	2025 Financial Statement for Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council
Appendix D ²	2026 budget of the Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council
Appendix E	Proposal: Regional Authorization of Selected Licensed Lay Worship Leaders to Preside at Holy Communion in Under-Served and Unserved Communities of Faith
Appendix F	EOORC Strategic Plan Summary (2026-2028)