

Northern Spirit Regional Council Newsletter — December 2020

Next Meeting
NSRC Executive January
13, 2021 via Zoom

*We acknowledge with gratitude the traditional territories of our Indigenous and Metis neighbours and their hospitality.
We offer our respect and commitment to living into right relationship with all our relations.*

Northern Spirit RC Executive

- Northern Spirit Regional Council (NSRC) Executive met **via zoom**, on **December 9, 2020**.
- This month we passed the NSRC Budget for 2021. Setting a Budget is still a bit of a challenge for us because we have yet to have a full year of normal operations to let us know what to expect as our expenses. The Budget for 2021 includes a sizable deficit on the Mission and Ministry side. This can be covered from reserves and was done since this seemed a bad year to start cutting grants. But we know that this deficit can not be repeated very often.
- We heard from Earl Reaburn about the work happening in the Pastoral Relations cluster. This includes various discussions about how best to support Ministry Personnel and Communities of Faith across the Region.
- We learned that the congregation of Ashmont United Church has discerned that it is time for them to disband. We celebrate the ministry that Community of Faith has shared over the years.
- Recently the General Council Executive had a meeting. At that meeting the gave permission for the Governing Body of a Community of faith to pass the Budget in these times when it is less possible to have a congregational meeting. There was a sense that the Regional Councils needed to endorse that since we have direct oversight of Communities of Faith, so we officially made that decision. While the GCE motion only specifically touched on the passing of a Budget, we are investigating whether this permission might extend to other issues often covered in an Annual Meeting.
- One of our tasks as NSRC Executive is to approve the Board of Directors for Incorporated ministries in our midst. This month we did that for 5 such ministries.
- We took time to discuss how we as a Regional Council could support Communities of Faith in light of the Alberta Government announcement of new COVID restrictions on December 8th. A letter from Gord and Shannon was posted on the NSRC website on Friday in relation to that discussion.
- Gord Waldie was named as the person who will Convene the 2021 NSRC Meeting (likely to be held online).
- We continue to have opportunities to serve within NSRC. Please contact Marilyn Carroll or the NSRC office if you have gifts you wish to share with the Regional Council.

NSRC Executive Gord Waldie (Chair) Shauna Scott, Alistair McKay, Margaret-Anne Hall, Peter Chynoweth, Marilyn Carroll, Mary Annan, Shannon McCarthy *Executive Minister*,

Questions? Contact us at northernspirit@united-church.ca or Gord Waldie @ (780) 532 2415. **Regional office at Kirk Centre is open by appointment!**