

**NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL
COUNCIL**

Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2020

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2020

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Independent Auditor's Report

To the Executive of Northern Spirit Regional Council

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Northern Spirit Regional Council (the "Council"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at December 31, 2020 and the statement of operations, statement of cash flows and statement of changes in net assets for the year then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies.

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Institute as at December 31, 2020 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements section of our report. We are independent of the Council in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada, and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements. We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Other Matters

We have not audited, reviewed or otherwise attempted to verify the accuracy or completeness of the schedule on page 17 of the Council's financial statements.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Council's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing, as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Council or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Council's financial reporting process.



Auditor's Responsibility for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion. Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists. Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of these financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit. We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion. The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.
- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Council's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Council's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Council to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

We communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

BDO Canada LLP

Chartered Professional Accountants

Winnipeg, Manitoba
April 14, 2021

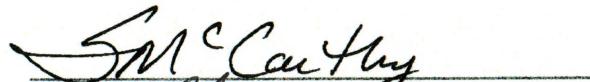
NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Statement of Financial Position

As at December 31

					2020	2019
	<u>Externally Restricted Funds</u>					
	Operating Fund	Ann Mazur Fund	Other Externally Restricted	Internally Restricted	Total	Total
Assets						
Current Assets						
Cash	\$ (670,171)	\$ 160,475	\$ 194,362	\$ 471,257	\$ 155,923	\$ 888,202
Short-term investments (Note 2)	\$ 835,000	-	-	-	\$ 835,000	-
Accounts receivable (Note 3)	4,630	-	-	-	4,630	22,800
Accrued interest	8,908	-	-	-	8,908	-
Prepaid expenses	-	-	-	-	-	5,703
Due from related parties (Note 5)	-	-	-	-	-	4,396
	178,367	160,475	194,362	471,257	1,004,461	921,101
Loans receivable (Note 4)	39,000	23,042			62,042	48,961
	\$ 217,367	\$ 183,517	\$ 194,362	\$ 471,257	\$ 1,066,503	\$ 970,062
Liabilities and Net Assets						
Current Liabilities						
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 9,437	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 9,437	\$ 11,277
Due to related parties (Note 5)	\$ 7,759	-	-	-	\$ 7,759	6,110
	17,196	-	-	-	17,196	17,387
Net assets (Page 17)	200,171	183,517	194,362	471,257	1,049,307	952,675
	\$ 217,367	\$ 183,517	\$ 194,362	\$ 471,257	\$ 1,066,503	\$ 970,062

Approved by the Regional Council Executive:



Executive Minister



Treasurer

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Statement of Operations

For the year ended December 31

					2020	2019
	Budget	Operating Fund	Externally Restricted	Internally Restricted	Total	Total
Revenue						
United Church of Canada grants	\$ 681,000	\$ 686,598	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 686,598	\$ 681,000
Donations	-	3,997	23,708	1,461	29,166	42,748
Event Fees	25,000	-	175	-	175	31,723
Investment Income	-	10,033	335	-	10,368	5,254
	706,000	700,628	24,218	1,461	726,307	760,725
Expenditures						
Allocation and payments to programs	169,000	172,320	20,523	11,165	204,008	201,771
Other	-	-	-	-	-	33,084
Annual meeting	60,000	619	-	-	619	59,874
General Fund	55,200	25,471	-	-	25,471	26,270
Office and administration	63,580	58,644	-	-	58,644	62,434
Staffing costs	344,900	340,933	-	-	340,933	306,910
	692,680	597,987	20,523	11,165	629,675	690,343
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures before other item	\$ 13,320	\$ 102,641	\$ 3,695	\$ (9,704)	\$ 96,632	\$ 70,382
Other Item						
Transfer from Conference and Presbyteries	-	-	-	-	-	882,293
Excess of revenue over expenditures	\$ 13,320	\$ 102,641	\$ 3,695	\$ (9,704)	\$ 96,632	\$ 952,675

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL
Statement of Changes in Net Assets

For the year ended December 31

				2020	2019
	Operating Fund	Externally Restricted	Internally Restricted	Total	Total
Net Assets , beginning of year	\$ 97,530	\$ 374,184	\$ 480,961	\$ 952,675	\$ -
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenditures	102,641	3,695	(9,704)	96,632	952,675
Net Assets , end of year	\$ 200,171	\$ 377,879	\$ 471,257	\$ 1,049,307	952,675

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL
Statement of Cash Flows

For the year ended December 31	2020	2019
Cash Flows from Operating Activities		
Excess of revenue over expenditures before transfers to internally restricted funds	\$ 96,632	\$ 952,675
Adjustments for non-cash items		
Accounts receivable	18,170	(22,800)
Prepaid expenses	5,703	(5,703)
Accrued interest	(8,908)	-
Loan receivable	(13,081)	(48,961)
Due from related parties	4,396	(4,396)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	(1,840)	11,277
Due to related parties	1,649	6,110
	102,721	888,202
Cash Flows from Investing and Financing Activities		
Purchase of short-term investments	(835,000)	-
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	(732,279)	888,202
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year	888,202	-
Cash and cash equivalents, end of year	\$ 155,923	\$ 888,202

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2020

1. Nature of the Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies

Nature of Operations

The Northern Spirit Regional Council (the "Council") is composed of Communities of Faith of The United Church of Canada within Northern Alberta, and parts of Northern British Columbia and the Northwest Territories. The Regional Council of The United Church of Canada is a decision making body responsible to serve and support Communities of Faith within its bounds and provide necessary oversight. The Council is a registered charity under the Income Tax Act. It is exempt from income taxes under section 149(1) of the Income Tax Act.

The purpose of the Council is:

- Provide support advice and services to Communities of Faith in the areas of human resources, property, archives, leadership training.
- Provide oversight of Communities of Faith and supporting them in their life and work and ensure compliance with the policies and polity of the United Church.
- To ordain and commission members of the order of ministry, recognize Designated Lay Minister, and celebrate admission and re-admissions into the order of ministry.
- To speak both pastorally and prophetically while providing education and advocacy on issues that affect the health of our communities.

Basis of Accounting

These financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Fund Accounting

The Council follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions. Interest revenue is recognized as income when the Council becomes entitled to such earning.

Externally Restricted Funds

Ann Mazur Memorial Fund

In 1982, the Conference received a bequest from the Estate of Ann Mazur with the stipulation that the funds were to be used to provide capital assistance for new church development. Accordingly, the bequest was used to establish the Ann Mazur Memorial Fund. Loans are made from the fund for specific capital projects and are repayable over a period of up to 10 years from the date of the loan, with interest rates up to 5%. This fund was transferred from the Alberta and Northwest Conference of the United Church of Canada.

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2020

1. Nature of the Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Externally Restricted Designated Funds

The Council has received certain contributions which are to be used for specific purposes as instructed by the donors.

Archive Trust Fund

In 2001, the Archive Trust Fund was set up to receive grant funding from the Canadian Council of Archives to assist in the reduction of the current backlog of United Church archives and continue the conversion of the previous descriptive system to the national archival standard. From 2005 to 2014, it received two percent of net proceeds, to the maximum of \$5,000, of the sale of a property after a congregation has ceased to exist, for the preservation and maintenance of archival records. Since 2015, the portion has increased to 5% with no maximum. It has also received donations from individuals. This fund was transferred from the Alberta and Northwest Conference of the United Church of Canada.

Emergency Relief Trust Fund

This fund was established to receive donations for the assistance of those affected by recent emergencies in the Province of Alberta. During 2018, funds were disbursed on the authority of one of the Conference Co-Executive Secretaries to provide recovery assistance and post-disaster counselling and pastoral support for the people of Fort McMurray affected by the wildfire there in 2016. This fund has been made available to help Communities of Faith affected by the pandemic. This fund was transferred from the Alberta and Northwest Conference of the United Church of Canada.

Reclaiming the Mission Fund

This fund was made available to each Conference by the General Council Executive for the purposes of raising awareness and promotion of the Mission and Service Fund, encouraging wider use of stewardship materials and the development thereof, and education/awareness building for ministry personnel in areas of Stewardship and Mission and Service. The overarching intent is to realize an increase in revenue generation for the Mission and Service Fund to build a more secure base for the ministry and mission of the United Church of Canada. This fund was transferred from the Alberta and Northwest Conference of the United Church of Canada.

Living Spirit United Church

The Northern Spirit Regional Council is providing temporary administrative support to a new church development in Drayton Valley.

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2020

1. Nature of the Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Externally Restricted Designated Funds (continued)

Special Conflict Resolution Trust Fund

This fund was established in December 2018 by an allocation from the Conference Net Assets to cover expenditures relating to a specific conflict involving ministry personnel at a pastoral charge. As the pastoral charge is located in the Northern Spirit Region at January 1, 2019, the balance of this fund was transferred to the Northern Spirit Regional Council. Once the issue has been resolved, the Northern Spirit Regional Council will transfer 50% of any funds remaining to the Chinook Wind Regional Council. This fund was transferred from the Alberta and Northwest Conference of the United Church of Canada.

Internally Restricted Funds

Conflict Resolution Trust Fund

The Conflict Resolution Trust Fund was established to cover costs associated with conflicts involving Communities of Faith and Ministry personnel.

Pastoral Relations Emergency Fund

The Pastoral Relations Emergency Fund was established to assist Communities of Faith and ministry personnel with costs incurred during personnel emergencies.

Mission and Ministry Fund Northern Spirit Regional Council

The fund was created from money transferred from the former Conference and Presbyteries to fund mission and ministry work over the next 5 years. This fund has been made available to help Communities of Faith affected by the pandemic.

Contingency Reserve Fund

The fund is to help the Council strive to maintain sufficient operating reserves to provide for significant unanticipated costs, including, but not limited to, natural disasters or other catastrophic events, lawsuits or other legal or regulatory proceedings, and major changes to the governance and/or funding policies of The United Church of Canada.

Revenue Recognition

The Council follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions.

Grants and Assessments - These revenues are recognized as revenue in the period for which the assessment is made based on the approved budget of the Council.

Interest - Interest revenue is recognized as income when the Council becomes entitled to such earnings.

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2020

1. Nature of the Operations and Summary of Significant Accounting Policies (continued)

Revenue Recognition (continued)

Contributions - Contributions restricted for particular purposes are recognized as revenue in the related fund when received.

Donations - Donation revenue is recorded when received. Donation revenue received for specific purposes is restricted and will be used at the discretion of the Council. The Council's practice is to allocate these funds as per the donor's request.

Financial Instruments

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value when acquired or issued. In subsequent periods, financial assets with actively traded markets are reported at fair value, with any unrealized gains and losses reported in operations. All other financial instruments are reported at cost or amortized cost less impairment, if applicable. Financial assets are tested for impairment when changes in circumstances indicate the asset could be impaired. Transaction costs on the acquisition, sale or issue of financial instruments are expensed for those items remeasured at fair value at each statement of financial position date and charged to the financial instrument for those measured at amortized cost.

Post Retirement Benefit Plan

The employees of the Council participate in a defined benefit pension plan administered nationally by The United Church of Canada. Defined contribution plan accounting is applied to this multi-employer contributory defined benefit plan.

Contributed Services

The Council benefits greatly from the work of volunteers who contribute countless hours of service to enable the Council to fulfill its mandate. Because it is not possible to determine the fair value of these services, they are not recognized in these financial statements.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements, and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from management's best estimates as additional information becomes available in the future.

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2020

2. Short-term Investments

	2020	2019
Conexus CU GIC - 1.55%, maturing March 11, 2021	\$ 125,000	\$ -
Conexus CU GIC - 1.55%, maturing March 11, 2021	300,000	-
Conexus CU GIC - 1.55%, maturing March 11, 2021	150,000	-
Conexus CU GIC - 1.55%, maturing March 11, 2021	50,000	-
Conexus CU GIC - 0.95%, maturing August 19, 2021	100,000	-
Conexus CU GIC -0.55%, maturing November 18, 2021	110,000	-
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	\$ 835,000	\$ -

3. Accounts Receivable

	2020	2019
Kirk Centre	\$ -	\$ 19,210
GST receivable	905	1,553
Other receivables	3,725	2,037
	<hr/>	<hr/>
	\$ 4,630	\$ 22,800

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2020

4. Loans Receivable

	2020	2019
St. Stephen's College, Edmonton - 10 year loan due March 31, 2026. Interest free for three years to March 14, 2021, then interest at 5%. Repayable in semi-annual principle only payments of \$3,000 to March 14, 2021, then semi-annual blended payments of \$3,424 to maturity.	\$ 39,000	\$ 39,000
Morinville United Church, Morinville- Interest free loan payable in quarterly payments equal to 5% of the congregation's annual local revenues. The original loan called for interest at 5%. However, in 1997, payments were frozen and, in 1998, the new terms described above were approved.	\$ 3,042	\$ 7,105
St. Peter Ecumenical Church - Slave, Lake - 10 year loan due December 15, 2020. Interest free to December 14, 2014, then interest at 5%. Repayable in semi-annual principle only payments of \$1,000 to December 14, 2014, then semi-annual blended payments of \$1,365 to maturity. The loan was issued on December 15, 2010.	-	2,856
Kirk United Church Centre - 10 year loan due June 1, 2010. Interest free to June 1, 2023, then interest at 3%. Repayable in semi-annual principle only payments of \$1,000 to June 1, 2023, the semi-annual blended payments of \$1,116 to maturity. The loan was issued on June 1, 2020	20,000	-
	\$ 62,042	\$ 48,961

Due to the economic effects of the COVID-19 global pandemic, the Executive agreed to waive interest and defer all scheduled payments in 2020 for all loans.

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2020

5. Related Parties

The following table summarizes the Council's related party transactions for the year:

	2020	2019
Grants from the United Church of Canada	\$ 681,000	\$ 681,000

These transactions are in the normal course of operations and are measured at the exchange value, which is the amount agreed upon by the two parties.

The amounts due (to) from related parties at year end are as follows:

	2020	2019
Due from United Church of Canada	\$ -	\$ 4,396
Due to Living Skies Regional Council	\$ (1,630)	\$ (1,608)
Due to Prairie to Pine Regional Council	(1,974)	(4,502)
Due to United Church of Canada	(4,155)	-
Total	\$ (7,759)	\$ (6,110)

These transactions are measured at the exchange amount, which is the amount agreed upon by the two parties. These amounts are non-interest bearing and have no specific terms of repayment.

Living Skies Regional Council and Prairie to Pine Regional Council are also United Church Regional Councils with similar purposes, goals and policies. These regions share employees and accounting with the Northern Spirit Regional Council.

United Church of Canada is the governing body for all Regional Council's in Canada and they provide grants and assistance to each region.

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2020

6. Pension Plan

Retirement benefits for employees of the Council are provided through the pension plan of The United Church of Canada (the "Plan"). The Plan is a multi-employer pension plan which provides pensions for members of the Ministry Personnel and lay employees of the Offices of the General Council, Regional Council, or Community of Faith of The United Church of Canada. The Plan is a contributory defined benefit pension plan which is financed by contributions from participating employers and employees, and by the investment earnings of the Plan. The Plan is registered under the Pension Benefits Act, (Ontario), Registration #0355230.

At the date of the last actuarial valuations and publicly available financial information, there were no unfunded liabilities related to either past service or to amendments to the Plan.

During the year, the Council made employee contributions to the plan of approximately \$19,851 (\$22,239 in 2019).

7. COVID-19 Uncertainty

The global pandemic, COVID-19, has disrupted economic activities and supply chains. It has also impacted the Council's operations and, in particular, its ability to support local Communities of Faith. Although temporary, and given the dynamic nature of these circumstances, the duration of the business disruption and its financial impacts cannot be reasonably estimated at this time. The Council's ability to pay for its operating costs depends on its ability to continue to receive grants, payment of loan receivables and cash flows for operations.

NORTHERN SPIRIT REGIONAL COUNCIL

Notes to Financial Statements

For the year ended December 31, 2020

8. Financial Instruments

The Council is exposed to different types of risk in the normal course of operations. The Council's objective in risk management is to optimize the risk return trade-off, within set limits, by applying integrated risk management and control strategies, policies and procedures throughout the Council's activities.

(a) Credit Risk

Credit risk is the risk that one party to a financial instrument fails to discharge an obligation and causes financial loss to another party. Financial instruments that potentially subject the Council to significant concentrations of credit risk consist primarily of cash and bank, investments and accounts receivable. The Council is not exposed to significant credit risk as the accounts receivable have typically been paid when due, and investments are diversified.

(b) Market Risk

Market risk is the risk the fair value of future cash flows of a financial instrument will fluctuate because of changes in market prices. The Council is not exposed to significant market risk. The risk has not changed in the year.

(c) Interest Rate Risk

Interest rate risk is the risk that the value of a financial instrument will fluctuate due to changes in market interest rates. The Council is not exposed to significant interest rate risk as its cash and cash equivalents are held in short-term investments or variable rate products. The risk has changed in the year.

(d) Foreign Currency Risk

The Council is not exposed to significant foreign currency risk as it does not have any financial instruments denominated in foreign currency and the number of transactions in foreign currency are minimal. The risk has not changed in the year.

Northern Spirit Regional Council
Schedule of Funds
For the year ended December 31, 2020
(unaudited)

	Opening Balance	Receipts	Expense	Internal Transfers	Closing Balance
Externally Restricted					
Ann Mazur Fund	\$ 183,181	\$ 336	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 183,517
Archive Trust Fund	145,325	509	(7,950)	-	137,884
Reclaiming the Mission Fund	24,160	-	-	-	24,160
Emergency Relief Trust Fund	13,912	-	-	-	13,912
Special Conflict Resolution Trust Fund	7,606	-	-	-	7,606
Student Bursary Fund	-	250	-	-	250
Living Spirit United Church	-	23,123	(12,573)	-	10,550
	374,184	24,218	(20,523)	-	377,879
Internally Restricted					
Mission and Ministry Fund NSRC (Finance Policy 4.1.3)	291,591	1,461	(200)	-	292,852
Contingency Reserve Fund (Finance Policy 3.1.1)	150,000	-	-	-	150,000
Conflict Resolution Trust Fund	29,370	-	(3,565)	-	25,805
Pastoral Relations Emergency Fund	10,000	-	(7,400)	-	2,600
	480,961	1,461	(11,165)	-	471,257
Total Funds	\$ 855,145	\$ 25,679	\$ (31,688)	\$ -	\$ 849,136