

**Minutes of the Inaugural Northern Spirit Regional Meeting
Greenview Regional Multiplex
May 23 – 26, 2019**

Thursday, May 23, 2019

Gathering of Regional Council

The Inaugural meeting of Northern Spirit Regional Council of the United Church of Canada met from 3:00 PM on Thursday, May 23, 2019 to Sunday, May 26, 2019. The meeting was held at the Greenview Regional Multiplex in Valleyview, Alberta. Leigh Sinclair presided.

Registration began on Thursday, May 23, 2019 at 12:00 PM. An orientation for Table Group Facilitators led by Deanna Cox and Ruth Lumax began at 1:30 PM.

Smudge

Elder with Barbara Goodswimmer led us in a smudging ceremony.

Call to Order & Acknowledgement of Treaty Territory

Leigh Sinclair declared the Northern Spirit Regional Council Inaugural Meeting to be open at 3:00 p.m. with the following statement:

"In the name of Jesus Christ, and by the authority of the Northern Spirit Regional Commission, I call to order the inaugural meeting of the Northern Spirit Regional Council. We acknowledge that we do so on Treaty 8 Territory, a traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and travelling route to Cree, Dene, Dane-zaa, and Metis. We ask all the many First Nations, Metis & Inuit, whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries."

Leigh Sinclair introduced those at the front table. Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister; and Jamie McKay, Executive Assistant and Minute Secretary for this inaugural meeting.

Greetings

We heard words of welcome from Elder, Barbara Goodswimmer of Red Willow; R.W. Hoekstra, Edmonton: St. Paul's United Church; Valleyview Mayor, their worship Vern Lymburner; Dale Gervais, Councillor of Reeve; and Debbie Stewart, Valleyview United Church.

Video from the Moderator

We watched a video from the Moderator, The Right Reverend Dr. Richard Bott, who brought a message of hope and love. He hopes the transition into the new structure goes smoothly, recognizing this is a huge task that will give way to moments of excitement as we grow into this new way of working together to support the ministries and communities of faith as they gather to live out their calls.

We were challenged to reach out to communities of faith around us to learn from them, support them, and to build the body of the church in a way that we can celebrate each other's hopes, dreams, and successes; to truly live Jesus' call to love one another.

Welcome / Courtesies

Ruth Lumax and Marilyn Carroll introduced the physical space for this meeting. They

thanked the table facilitators, General Council staff, and Tri-Regional staff. They gave special thanks to people who put together this event including the local arrangements team, Northern Spirit Regional Meeting planning team, table facilitators, General Council staff, and regional staff. Youth will be gathering at the Valleyview United Church and will join the meeting.

Table Introductions

Ruth Lumax asked the table groups to take a few minutes and introduce themselves to each other.

**Enabling Motions
NSRC 001-2019**

Ruth Lumax/Marilyn Carroll

That Northern Spirit Regional Council accept the following Enabling Motions #1 – 10 for this Inaugural Regional Council meeting:

1. Roll of Regional Council:

That the Roll of the Regional Council for the purposes of the Inaugural meeting be:

- i. The members of the Order of Ministry within the bounds served by the regional council;**
- ii. Other ministry personnel in a covenantal relationship with a community of faith within the bounds of the regional council; and**
- iii. Lay members of the regional council are members of the United Church who are not ministry personnel and who are elected by communities of faith. (Manual 2019, C.1.1 & C.1.2)**

2. Corresponding Members:

That all invited guests, registered visitors, and staff be corresponding members of this regional council meeting, with voice but not vote.

3. The Bounds of the Council:

That the bounds of the Council for this meeting of the Regional Council be the plenary meeting room in the Greenview Regional Multiplex, Valleyview, Alberta.

4. Minimum Number of Members at Meetings:

That the regional council may meet only if a minimum number of members is present. If there are 60 or more members, at least 20 members must be present; and there must be at least one ministry personnel and one lay member who is not ministry personnel present. Corresponding members are not counted for this purpose. (Manual 2019; C.4.3)

5. Limits to Debate:

That, without the permission of the Council, no member shall speak more than once on any proposal or amendment; and that speeches be limited to two minutes per person on each proposal, except at the discretion of the Convener.

6. Election Procedures for Vacancies in Regional Council Appointed Positions:

- i. That the Nominating Committee present a proposal with a slate of**

names for all vacancies at a time prior to the agenda time for voting; and
ii. That all other nominations be presented in writing to the convener of the Nominating Committee, or her/his designate.

7. Scrutineers:

That the responsibilities of a Scrutineer are to distribute, collect and count ballots, reporting the result to the Meeting Convener or Executive Minister; and to count show-of-hand votes when requested by the Meeting Convener or the Regional Council.

8. Agenda Committee:

That the Agenda Committee for this inaugural meeting of the Regional Council be the members of the Regional Council Meeting Planning Team, plus one person designated as Parliamentarian.

9. Materials to be Distributed:

That aside from documentation relevant to this meeting, no other material shall be distributed to Regional Council Attendees or placed on tables or put on PowerPoint, within the bounds of the Regional Council Meeting without permission of one of the Regional Council Meeting Planning Team and Convener or a designate, the Meeting Convener, or the Executive Minister.

10. Rules of Debate and Order:

That the rules of debate and order for Parliamentary debate be those spelled out in Appendix to The Manual 2019 (pages 187-191); and that for any point not covered in such Appendix, the parliamentary rules accepted in Canada (Bourinot) shall be followed.

CARRIED

Act of Covenanting

“As the Northern Spirit Regional Council of the United Church of Canada, we come together as people of covenant, remembering our call to be the church, to celebrate God’s presence, to live with respect in creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, and to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

We are people of covenant, called to journey on together as lay people and order of ministry people who represent the communities of faith and ministries with our bounds. We share this ministry in the name of God, Creator, Christ and Spirit, seeking new paths for our journey as we move into new structures and new challenges. We are called to worship and work together with respect and compassion and encouragement so that we may be renewed in faith and in hope.”

Worship

Introduction of the Regional Structure

Ruth Lumax described the new structure of Northern Spirit Regional Council. Northern Spirit refers to all of us, the people, and encompasses the geographical areas as well as this gathering.

Executive Council

With the rise of this inaugural meeting, and with the acceptance of the nomination report, members will form the Executive of Northern Spirit Regional Council. The Executive may appoint one or more United Church members as a commission to take on specific responsibilities and make decisions on its behalf.

Property Commission

The property commission deals with property matters for the regional council. As there are always tight deadlines where responsiveness is key for quick timely decisions, they are a commission. They make their own decisions, share their minutes, and send their motions to the executive.

Pastoral Relations Commission

The pastoral relations commission is another group that needs to make decisions in a timely fashion. They make their own decisions, share their minutes, and send their motions to the executive. They work with closely with:

- Committee of Ministry Personnel Support
- Committee of Community of Faith Support
- Committee for Lay Leadership Support

Business Process of Northern Spirit Regional Council – May 23 – 26, 2019

The Northern Spirit Regional Council Commission has given approval in principle to using the General Council model for business at the meeting in Valleyview, Alberta, 2019.

Shannon McCarthy outlined the three-phase process for business at this meeting:

- Listen – Listening sessions to hear proposals that come before us and where originators of the proposal will answer questions for clarification.
- Discuss – Time to discuss in table groups and provide feedback. This is the time to rework proposals so they will be ready to be voted on during the decision time. We will use warm and cool cards to get a sense of the feeling on the floor without entering into parliamentary procedure. Everyone has a say and we are working towards a consensus before voting.
- Decide – We move into parliamentary procedure and vote using the green cards.

Request for 2020 site	Ruth Lumax made a request for sites for the 2020 meeting.
SUPPER	Scott Reynolds said a blessing.
Theme	Sandra Beardsall led a theme discussion.
Vespers	Vespers were held along with a theological reflection.
Adjournment	Leigh Sinclair adjourned the meeting until tomorrow at 9:00 AM.

Friday, May 24, 2019

Gathering Music

Gathering music began at 8:45 AM.

Morning Prayer

The meeting was opened with a prayer.

Theme

Sandra Beardsall continued the theme discussion.

**Executive Minister
Report**

Shannon McCarthy began her report by sharing a few humorous sayings she has deployed since the regional council entered the new structure on January 1, 2019. A few of them were:

- “It’s just a little wet and trampled, it’s still good.” We adopted the attitude that if everything wasn’t in place and in perfect running order on January 1st, it’ll be okay, we’ll still survive.
- “That’s not our stuff.” We learned quickly to stay focused on what work was important and essential for the commission and what work we could delegate to others.
- “It’s been 163 days!” The old structure was in place for 94 years and had that long to ripen and run as effectively as it did.

Shannon made special note of the incredible amount of work that was done by the Regional Council Transition Commission. Since August 2018, the commission met by Zoom 17 times, or every two weeks, with many meetings extending past two hours. They have gone above and beyond in taking on the work that has steadily reached their hands.

Voting is different this year. A ruling from the General Secretary has stated that the regional council can only add members-at-large in order to achieve balance between ordered and lay. Many pastoral charges remain vacant, but they still have the right to send delegates which means we have a lot more lay people present than we do ministry delegates.

At this meeting, we have a lot of people who previously had a vote but no longer have one. We’ve adjusted our business process to achieve consensus as much as possible until the actual vote happens. Even if you don’t have a green voting card, you can participate in every other part of the meeting. The General Secretary is writing a proposal that will go to the recall General Council Executive meeting in September which will allow the regional councils to add more members-at-large as needed to do the work of the regional council.

Shannon asked the Regional Council Commission members to come to the stage to be seen and acknowledged for the incredible amount of work they have done. Each commission member received a card of thanks.

Members of the 2018/2019 Regional Council Transition Commission:

- Ruth Lumax, Chairperson
- Shauna Scott, Treasurer

- Britt Aerhart
- Marilyn Carroll
- Deanna Cox
- Scott Reynolds
- Leigh Sinclair
- Nam Ok Yoo
- Susan Waldie

Regional council staff are the staff that work specifically for the Northern Spirit Regional Council, and they are:

- Earl Reaburn, Pastoral Relations Minister
- Kathy Jackson, Program Support
- Leanne Templeton, Regional Council Archivist

Tri-regional staff are the staff that are shared between Prairie to Pine, Living Skies, and Northern Spirit Regional Councils, and they are:

- Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister
- Jamie Mckay, Executive Assistant
- Heather Dootoff, Finance Administrator

Commission – Vision from August 2018

Ruth Lumax, Northern Spirit Regional Transitional Commission Chairperson, reported.

Work to begin the transition from conferences and presbyteries to pastoral charges and regional councils began in May 2018. The commission began work by filling initial staffing requirements, reviewing our mandate, and reviewing the transitional and preliminary budgets. They also identified some key areas of priority and agreed to work by consensus.

The transition commission met monthly in 2018 and began meeting every two weeks beginning in January 2019. They met three times for face-to-face meetings with the majority of meetings held online via Zoom.

They identified several things that can be used as touchstones:

- The mission of the church
- The covenantal relationship between communities of faith and the larger body of the United Church
- The value of shared leadership between lay people and clergy

Under the transition commission's decision-making mandate, they have:

- Fulfilled staffing requirements and provided severance and gratitude to staff not being retained
- Established a budget and set amounts for 2019 Mission Support Grants
- Established a Property Commission and developed a Property Policy
- Set a date and place for the inaugural regional meeting
- Agreed to be the body to receive and approve the 2018 Financial statements for Alberta Northwest Conference

The transition commission proposes the following for ongoing work and approval by the regional council:

- A vision for the regional council
- The composition of the regional council's governing body
- A process and timeline for determining the longer term governance of the regional council following the interim period filled by the commission
- Nominations policies
- A process for selecting a name for the regional council
- A plan regarding current resource centres

**What we've done –
Policies and Feedback
pages**

Leigh Sinclair invited everyone to fill in the feedback forms.

Pastoral Relations

Earl Reaburn, Pastoral Relations Minister, reported.

Earl introduced the Pastoral Relations Commission and the three pastoral relations committees of the Northern Spirit Regional Council:

- The Lay Leadership Support Committee
- The Communities of Faith Support Committee
- The Ministry Personnel Support Committee

Pastoral Relations Commission

The focus of the Pastoral Relations Commission is to establish and end pastoral relationships between pastoral charges and ministry personnel, and to provide support to communities of faith that are between pastoral relationships or are without ministry leadership.

The Pastoral Relations Commission is authorized by the regional council commission to take responsibility for all pastoral relations matters and to make decisions on those matters on behalf of the regional council.

The members of the Pastoral Relations Commission are:

- Lois Belanger
- Gaie Goin
- Blaine Gregg
- Lloyd Henderson
- Kimberly Roy

Lay Leadership Support Committee

The Lay Leadership Support Committee will support the variety of lay leadership that communities of faith rely upon to enhance their mission and ministry which includes training for Ministry and Personnel Committees, supporting Congregational Designated Ministry, overseeing the Licensed Lay Worship Leader program, and making recommendations about appointment of Sacrament Elders.

The members of the Lay Leadership Support Committee are:

- Tazvionepe Nyarota
- Linda Roberts
- Lesley Verdin

Community of Faith Support Committee

The Community of Faith Support Committee oversees and coordinates the regional responsibility to support communities of faith in their life and work. This is an open-ended and wide area of responsibility. They have begun to review annual reports and coordinate annual self-assessments and from there the committee will coordinate the United Fresh Start program, provide support to new and emerging ministries.

The members of the Community of Faith support Committee are:

- Vera Engel
- Wendy Galloway
- Steven Johann
- Chang Lee

Ministry Personnel Support Committee

The Ministry Personnel Support Committee focuses on encouraging ministry personnel toward health, joy, and excellence in the practice of ministry. They are considering ways of providing pastoral support to ministry personnel and their families, keeping connection with retired ministry personnel, and creating opportunities for collegiality, encouragement, and well-being.

The members of the Ministry Personnel Support Committee are:

- Dirk Jessen
- Deborah Springer
- Ray Olsen.

Stewardship & Gifts

Kathryn Hofley, Stewardship and Gift Officer, reported on Stewardship & Gifts.

Also known as the Giving and Generosity Team, the Philanthropy Unit provide consulting, resources, and support for individuals and congregations and other communities in the areas of:

- Congregational giving & stewardship
- Mission & Service
- Planned and major giving
- The work of The United Church of Canada Foundation

Kathryn finished her report by sharing a story of a conversation she had once with a man who asked her if she had any children. When she answered that she did not, he said, "That means you are a rich Christian woman." To this, Kathryn replied, "Yes, I am a Christian and I am a woman," and stopped herself before saying she was not a rich person.

When we think of what rich is, one might think of money, and who has more of it than

we do. Kathryn told the man that he was right, that she was indeed rich because she had everything she could possibly want, that the work and life she has been given has been a gift.

Kathryn Hofley is retiring on June 27, 2019 after 19 years and 9 months of service.

Nominations

Britt Aerhart reported from the Nominations Committee.

The nominating committee recommends persons to be appointed by the Northern Spirit Regional Council or its Executive, to serve members of its Executive or committees, and if required as representative to General Council. The nominations committee attempts to follow the diversity parameters established by the General Council of The United Church of Canada as well as the Calls to the Church by the Caretakers of our Indigenous Circle.

The members of the Nominations Committee are:

- Britt Aerhart
- Marilyn Carroll

Britt made a call for nominations and gave an overview of the positions:

- Regional Gathering Convenor – Executive Commission (Corresponding member)
- Chairperson-Elect – Executive Commission
- Nominations Committee – 1 seat
- Annual Meeting Planning – 1 seat

Make a nomination

To make a nomination, please seek out either Britt Aerhart or Marilyn Carroll.

Music United Video

We watched a video introducing us to Music United which exists to connect and support musicians of all sorts who find themselves in leadership within The United Church of Canada.

Music United is a group of committed and passionate volunteers working in various communities. They have an active Facebook page where they engage in discussions and upcoming events and a website (musicunited.ca) where you can learn more about their executive and regional convenors, find proposed job opportunities, learn about the Oxford Fund, and connect with other available resources.

Connect with them online or tell someone in your sphere of influence. They would like to know what you are up to and to know what they can do to be a relevant and life-giving community that supports God's Calling.

Announcements

LUNCH

Sharon McRann said grace.

Office of Vocation

Rev Dr. Karen Medland, Office of Vocation Minister for Prairie to Pine, Living Skies and Northern Spirit Regional Councils gave a report outlining the responsibilities that are now retained by the Office of Vocation.

Reports from General Council

- Adam Hanley

Adam Hanley, Ministry and Employment, brought greetings from General Council.

Work of the General Council consists primarily of supporting the regional councils in their pastoral relations work, creating resources for mission and service committees, working on pastoral relations resources development, and support of financial assistance committees. Their focus is what can be implemented right now such as the implementation of ChurchHub and updating the ecumenical handbook.

- Dr. Paul Douglas Walfall

Dr. Paul Douglas Walfall, General Council Executive, reflected.

Dr. Walfall indicated how important it was to hear from the constituents of the church. Questions and opinions are important. We have to be willing to question the assumptions we have been making and be implored to ensure that all persons are present at the table, however we want to describe that table. At the same time, find humility and listen more clearly to the voices of the Indigenous Churches and their right for self-determination. This new beginning is the opportunity to do more than simply express good intentions. To not just talk the talk, but to walk the walk as well. We have the opportunity to show we are a church that is open to all people.

**MOTION
NSRC 002-2019**

Peter Chynoweth / Gord Waldie
That the Court now cease to be Northern Spirit Regional Council and becomes the Alberta Northwest Conference Student Bursary Fund Society.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 003-2019**

Peter Chynoweth / Gord Waldie
That the Court now cease to be the Alberta Chinook Winds Northern Spirit Student Bursary Society and reconvenes as the inaugural meeting of Northern Spirit Regional Council.

CARRIED

Shannon McCarthy acknowledged the recent Doctorate completion by Paul Walfall.

**Community Capacity
Development
Coordinator (CCDC)**

Charlene Burns, Community Capacity Development Coordinator, gave her congratulations on the inaugural regional meeting and expressed that she is proud of the United Church for embracing Indigenous people.

Nominations

Britt Aerhart asked that nomination forms be filled out by supper today. She made note that if a convener and chair-elect is not selected during this meeting, the decision will fall to the Executive.

BREAK

Welcome New Neighbour

Earl Reaburn and Marilyn Carroll introduced Rev F. Hati Mvundura, from the Canadian Baptist Church of Western Canada.

Hati has been approved to the Order of Ministry by the Office of Vocation.

**Business 2:
LISTEN**

The proposals in the workbook were presented and time was provided for questions for clarification.

Announcements

SUPPER

We sang a song of grace.

Priority Setting

Vespers

Vespers were held along with a theological reflection.

Adjournment

Leigh Sinclair adjourned the meeting until tomorrow at 9:00 AM.

Saturday, May 25, 2019

Gathering Music

Gathering music began at 8:45 AM.

Courtesies

Welcome to Charles Wood, Stanley Half, and Christopher Wood from Saddle Lake.

Morning Prayer

The meeting was opened with a prayer.

Theme

Sandra Beardsall continued the theme discussion.

Visioning / Priority Setting

Ruth Lumax led us in a process of visioning and prioritization.

We focused on the following question:

- How will Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive discern how the financial monies be allocated for 2019/2020?

We were not to set budget amounts but to offer some thought about the guidelines the executive will use to allocate funds.

Announcements

With regret, we announce the passing of Margaret Ann Amour.

LUNCH

Leslie Penny said grace for lunch.

Clusters / Networks

Table group time was taken to discuss cluster and networks.

Business 3

Motions arising from the proposals.

(Decision)

**MOTION
NSRC 004-2019**

Gord Waldie / Peter Chynoweth
That having solicited suggestions, created opportunity for consultation and voting across the Regional Council, we ratify the online decision to name ourselves Northern Spirit Regional Council.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 005-2019**

Peter Chynoweth / Gord Waldie
That only the full court of Northern Spirit Regional Council have the authority to set additional assessments for the Northern Spirit Regional Council.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 006-2019**

Gord Waldie / Peter Chynoweth
That Commissioners to General Council be elected by the full court of NSRC when possible, with the NSRC Executive empowered to appoint up to one third of the commissioners to General Council if necessary.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 007-2019**

Peter Chynoweth / Gord Waldie
That the full court of Northern Spirit Regional Council determine the annual meeting schedule and meeting method for the full court for each Triennium.

Alan Stebbing / Stuart Jackson
That the full court of Northern Spirit Regional Council determine the annual meeting schedule and meeting method for the full court for each ~~Triennium~~ three years of the General Council cycle.

Amendment CARRIED

Alan Stebbing / Stuart Jackson
That the full court of Northern Spirit Regional Council determine the annual meeting schedule and meeting method for the full court for each ~~Triennium~~ three years of the General Council cycle.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 008-2019**

Peter Chynoweth / Gord Waldie
That the Northern Spirit Regional Council meet in person in 2020 and 2021 with the dates to be determined by the Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive.

CARRIED

Motion arising from Proposal #1: Commitment to Inclusive Church

**MOTION
NSRC 009-2019**

Gord Waldie / Peter Chynoweth
That Northern Spirit Regional Council commit to becoming an inclusive and Intercultural church - that is Welcoming, Relational, Adaptive, Justice-Seeking, Intentional, and Missional; that NSRC adopt the United Church of Canada definition wherein Intercultural means living together with a respectful awareness of each

other's differences. We do this by examining ourselves, building relationships, and distributing power fairly.

Stephen Sparks / Tamara Wright

That Northern Spirit Regional Council commit to becoming an inclusive and Intercultural church - that is Welcoming, Relational, Adaptive, Justice-Seeking, Intentional, and Missional; that NSRC adopt the United Church of Canada definition wherein Intercultural means living together with a respectful awareness of each other's differences. We do this by examining ourselves, building relationships, and ~~distributing power fairly~~ to share power that is both equitable and fair.

Amendment DEFEATED

Gord Waldie / Peter Chynoweth

That Northern Spirit Regional Council commit to becoming an Intercultural church - that is Welcoming, Relational, Adaptive, Justice-Seeking, Intentional, and Missional; ~~that NSRC adopt the United Church of Canada definition~~ wherein Intercultural means living together with a respectful awareness of each other's differences. We do this by examining ourselves and building relationships, and ~~distributing power fairly~~ fairly sharing power responsibly and equitably.

Amendment CARRIED

Gord Waldie / Peter Chynoweth

That Northern Spirit Regional Council commit to becoming an Intercultural church - that is Welcoming, Relational, Adaptive, Justice-Seeking, Intentional, and Missional; wherein Intercultural means living together with a respectful awareness of each other's differences. We do this by examining ourselves and building relationships, and sharing power responsibly and equitably.

CARRIED

Motion arising from Proposal #7: Establishment of Standing "Being Good Relations Circle"

**MOTION
NSRC 010-2019**

Peter Chynoweth / Gord Waldie

That the Northern Spirit Regional Council identifies being in good relations with our Indigenous neighbours as a priority. That NSRC refer the Proposal on "Establishing a Standing Being Good Relations Circle" and the Discuss Forms related to this proposal, to the NSRC Executive for consultation with the Indigenous church; exploration with the Tri-region around staffing implications; and the possibility of funding through EDGE.

Heather MacKenzie /Janice Bishop

That the Northern Spirit Regional Council identifies being in good relations with our Indigenous neighbours and members as a priority. That NSRC refer the Proposal on "Establishing a Standing Being Good Relations Circle" and the Discuss Forms related to this proposal, to the NSRC Executive for consultation with the Indigenous church; exploration with the Tri-region around staffing implications; and the possibility of funding through EDGE.

Amendment CARRIED

Kathy Martin / Cecile Fausak

That the Northern Spirit Regional Council identifies being in good relations with ~~our~~ Indigenous neighbours and members as a priority. That NSRC refer the Proposal on "Establishing a Standing Being Good Relations Circle" and the Discuss Forms related to this proposal, to the NSRC Executive for consultation with the Indigenous church; exploration with the Tri-region around staffing implications; and the possibility of funding through EDGE.

Amendment CARRIED

Peter Chynoweth / Gord Waldie

That the Northern Spirit Regional Council identifies being in good relations with Indigenous neighbours and members as a priority. That NSRC refer the Proposal on "Establishing a Standing Being Good Relations Circle" and the Discuss Forms related to this proposal, to the NSRC Executive for consultation with the Indigenous church; exploration with the Tri-region around staffing implications; and the possibility of funding through EDGE.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 011-2019**

Gord Waldie / Peter Chynoweth

That the existing Being Good Relations Circle be encouraged to continue as a network and that this network be eligible to apply for funds through the Clusters/Networks portion of the NSRC budget to support the function of this network.

Chelsea Masterman / Grace Hussey

That the existing Being Good Relations Circle be encouraged to continue as a network. We encourage the network to collaborate and consult with Indigenous Communities of Faith and urban Indigenous peoples; and that this network be eligible to apply for funds through the Clusters/Networks portion of the NSRC budget to support the function of this network.

Amendment CARRIED

Elise Willison / Felicia Drever

That the existing Being Good Relations Circle be encouraged to continue as a network. We encourage the network to collaborate and ~~consult~~ engage with Indigenous Communities of Faith and urban Indigenous peoples; and that this network be eligible to apply for funds through the Clusters/Networks portion of the NSRC budget to support the function of this network.

DEFEATED

Gord Waldie / Peter Chynoweth

That the existing Being Good Relations Circle be encouraged to continue as a network and that this network be eligible to apply for funds through the Clusters/Networks portion of the NSRC budget to support the function of this network.

DEFEATED

Announcements

Marilyn reminded to take everything from their tables.

**MOTION
NSRC 012-2019**

Peter Chynoweth / Gord Waldie
That NSRC Executive name a task group to begin the educational process of becoming an Affirming Regional Council through Affirm United.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 013-2019**

Peter Chynoweth / Gord Waldie
That the Northern Spirit Regional Council provide agenda time in 2020 for education and decision-making regarding becoming an Affirming Regional Council.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 014-2019**

Gord Waldie / Peter Chynoweth

That the Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive name a task group to help NSRC continue living out our Intercultural commitment in a good way; including education, resources for Communities of Faith, and ensuring our representation, policies and practices distribute power equitably.

Larry Wright / Kathy Martin

That the Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive ~~name a task group~~ work with the existing Intercultural Ministry network to help NSRC continue living out our Intercultural commitment in a good way; including education, resources for Communities of Faith, and ensuring our representation, policies and practices distribute power equitably.

Amendment DEFEATED

Bernie Huedepohl / Elise Willison

That the Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive name a task group to help NSRC continue living out our Intercultural commitment ~~in a good way~~; including education, resources for Communities of Faith, and ensuring our representation, policies and practices distribute power equitably.

Amendment DEFEATED

Deborah Hoektra / Deborah Springer

That the Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive name a task group to help NSRC continue living out our Intercultural commitment in a good way; including providing a definition of Intercultural that take into consideration the diversity of “cultures” in our Regional Council; and providing education, resources for Communities of Faith, and ensuring our representation, policies and practices distribute power equitably.

Amendment CARRIED

Donna Klein / Leslie Penny

That the Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive name a task group to help NSRC continue living out our Intercultural commitment in a good way; including providing a definition of Intercultural that take into consideration the diversity of “cultures” in our Regional Council; and providing education, resources for Communities of Faith, and ensuring our representation, policies and practices ~~distribute~~ share power

responsibly and equitably.

Amendment CARRIED

Gord Waldie / Peter Chynoweth

That the Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive name a task group to help NSRC continue living out our Intercultural commitment in a good way; including providing a definition of Intercultural that take into consideration the diversity of “cultures” in our Regional Council; and providing education, resources for Communities of Faith, and ensuring our representation, policies and practices share power responsibly and equitably.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 015-2019**

Gord Waldie / Peter Chynoweth

That we encourage the current Intercultural Ministry group to continue to function as a network; and that this network be eligible to apply for funds through the Clusters/Networks portion of the NSRC budget to support the function of this network.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 016-2019**

Peter Chynoweth / Gord Waldie

That the Northern Spirit Regional Council commit to funding University of Alberta Campus Ministry (Faithlift) for budget years 2020 and 2021 up to \$43,037 with additional Funds to be sought through Edge, and other granting bodies.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 017-2019**

Gord Waldie / Peter Chynoweth

That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive appoint two members to serve on a Campus Ministry Advisory Board in consultation with St. Paul’s United Church – Edmonton, AB.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 018-2019**

Peter Chynoweth / Gord Waldie

That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive explore how best to support youth and young adults and children’s ministries within our regional council, including, but not limited to, campus ministry, camps and youth and young adults.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 019-2019**

Alan Stebbing / Bernie Huedepohl

That Northern Spirit Regional Council extend the order of day to finish discussion.

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 020-2019**

Gord Waldie / Stuart Jackson

That Northern Spirit Regional Council approve the nominations report with the following additions:

- Convenor, Britt Aerhart
- Chair-Elect, Heather MacKenzie
- Planning Committee

- **Sharon Adams**
- **Shelley Sabo**
- **Deborah Hoekstra**

CARRIED

**MOTION
NSRC 021-2019**

Peter Chynoweth / Gord Waldie

That Northern Spirit Regional Council refer the proposals “Representation of Northern Spirit Regional Council at Ecumenical Interfaith and Community Tables” and “Financial Support for our Journey with all our ecumenical and community relations” to the Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive for consultation with those involved and that the Convener position cover these responsibilities where possible.

CARRIED

Announcements

There was a request for people at this meeting to share their email/contact information list. There will be an on-line directory once the website is up and running. There will also be a page on the website that enables clusters, networks, communities of faith to advertise events and share news.

Closing Prayer

Adjournment

Leigh Sinclair adjourned the meeting at 5:15 PM.

Retirees Banquet

A banquet was held to honour the retirees.

Sunday, May 26, 2019

Rehearsal

There was a rehearsal of the Celebration of Ministry Service.

**Celebration of
Ministry Service**

The Celebration of Ministry Service was held at Greenview Regional Multiplex in Valleyview, Alberta.

**Reception to follow
Service**

A lunch reception followed the service.

Leigh Sinclair, Convenor

Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister