

**Northern Spirit Executive Minutes  
October 14, 2020 via Zoom**

<b>Present</b>	Gord Waldie (Chair), Shauna Scott (Treasurer), Mary Annan, Marilyn Carroll, Peter Chynoweth, Margaret-Anne Hall, Alistair MacKay.  A quorum was present.
<b>Corresponding Members</b>	There were no corresponding members in attendance.
<b>Regrets</b>	Britt Aerhart (Convenor)
<b>Staff Present</b>	Shannon McCarthy (Executive Minister), Earl Reaburn (Pastoral Relations Minister), Heather Dootoff (Tri-Regional Finance Administrator), Jamie Mckay (Tri-Regional Executive Assistant & Recording Secretary).
<b>Call to Order</b>	Gord Waldie opened the meeting at 9:30 AM (MT).
<b>Worship / Check-in</b>	Gord Waldie read scripture and we checked in by sharing how our Thanksgivings have been different this year.
<b>Agenda Review</b>	We reviewed the agenda and agreed that it would be our agenda for this meeting. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Discuss plans for regional meeting in Fort Nelson for 2021</li><li>• Review the splitting of the chair and the convenor of the regional meeting.</li></ul>
<b>008-2020/2021</b>	<b>It was agreed by consensus: That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive accept the agenda as amended.</b>
<b>Correspondence</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Correspondence with Madeline Riversong</li></ul>
<b>Approval of Minutes</b>	We reviewed the minutes from September 9, 2020. Margaret-Anne Hall will be added to the present list.
<b>009-2020/2021</b>	<b>It was agreed by consensus: That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive accept the minutes from September 9, 2020 as amended.</b>
<b>Finance Report</b>	The year-to-date budget with projections to September 30, 2020 were presented for information. There were no changes.
<b>010-2020/2021</b>	<b>It was agreed by consensus: That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive receive the financial statements ending September 30, 2020, as presented.</b>

<b>Bursary Fund Society</b>	<p>There was nothing new to report on The Bursary Fund Society.</p>
<b>M &amp; M Grants</b>	<p>Peter Chynoweth and Mary Annan are meeting with the grants committee on October 29, 2020 via Zoom to review the grant applications received.</p>
<b>Pastoral Relations</b>	<p>Gibbons United Church is having their Service of Closure on Sunday, October 18, 2020. Britt Aerhart will attend on behalf of the regional council.</p> <p>Tuesday clergy gatherings are continuing to take place.</p> <p>The report on the review of Robertson-Wesley United Church has been distributed to the Pastoral Relations Commission. The commission will arrange a meeting with the board of Robertson-Wesley and the reviewer. Following that meeting, the commission will consider the recommendations the report makes and work with the board to implement any recommendations.</p> <p>There is a long discussion about covenanting between the regional council and pastoral charges. We would like to reflect upon in more detail and have further discussion on this. We would prefer an in-person meeting for this discussion but will continue to follow COVID-19 guidelines set in place for meetings and gatherings.</p>
<b>Executive Minister's Report</b>	<p>Shannon McCathy reported.</p> <p>Shannon has been focused on getting ready for the regional meeting this evening, October 14, 2020. Northern Spirit has the first of two regional meetings via Zoom tonight. There was a technical training meeting last night as a dry run before the regional meeting.</p>
<b>Incorporated Ministries</b>	<p>There were no motions to be made for incorporated ministries.</p>
<b>Together We Worship</b>	<p>For the next few months, we will continue the course we've been doing.</p>
<b>October 2020 NSRC Online Regional Gathering</b>	<p>Gord Waldie will draft a letter on behalf of the executive to send to Britt Aerhart thanking her for her work on the regional meeting.</p> <p>Fort Nelson is still excited to host the regional meeting in 2021. They have the technology to be able to host an online meeting, either full or in part.</p> <p>Due to ongoing COVID-19 restrictions, we are not confident that we will be able to gather by May 2021 or June 2021. We discussed postponing the current commitment to hold the 2021 regional meeting in Fort Nelson, British Columbia, by one year.</p>

**011-2020/2021**      **It was agreed by consensus:**  
**That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive, with regrets, will postpone the previous commitment to hold the 2021 regional council meeting in Fort Nelson, British Columbia, by one year, and consider 2022.**

Gord Waldie will write a letter to Hillcrest United Church communicating the change.

**012-2020/2021**      **It was agreed by consensus:**  
**That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive will plan an in-person meeting in 2021 at a large facility which would include a virtual component, and due to possible COVID-19 restrictions regarding large in-person gatherings, can easily be cancelled if needed.**

**Nominations**      We had a discussion about the splitting of roles between the chair of the region and the regional meeting convenor. We can make a call during the meeting for a regional meeting convenor which will be voted on at a different meeting.

We agreed that we need to look for people to make the executive more diverse. We would like to make connections with the Indigenous Church to recruit from that pool of knowledge.

We will continue this discussion at future meetings.

**Next Meeting**      November 10 @ 8:30-10:30 AM.

**Closing Prayer**      Gord Waldie said a closing prayer.

**Adjournment**      Gord Waldie adjourned the meeting at 11:15 AM.

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Gord Waldie, Chair

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Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister

