

**Northern Spirit Executive Minutes
February 14, 2024 via Zoom**

EXECUTIVE PRESENT	Helen Reed (Chair), Mary Annan, Margaret-Anne Hall, Leslie Penny, Donna Kline, Peter Chynoweth A quorum was present.
REGRETS	None
CORRESPONDING MEMBERS PRESENT	Gaie Goin, Jim Belliveau
STAFF PRESENT	Shannon McCarthy (Executive Minister); Julie Graham (Justice & Communications Minister); Heather Dootoff (Finance Administrator), Chantal Winslow (Executive Assistant & Recording Secretary), Adam Hall (Pastoral Relations Minister); Leanne Templeton (Archivist), Chloe Burns (Administrative Support);
CALL TO ORDER	Helen called the meeting to order at 9:30 am. We checked in and Helen led us in reflection & prayer.
APPROVAL OF AGENDA	We reviewed the agenda.
APPROVAL OF MINUTES 032-2023/2024	It was agreed by consensus: That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive approve the minutes of January 10, 2024 as distributed.
BUSINESS ARISING	
Chinese United Update	Chinese United Church a. Russell Burns and Wilson MacLennan made the initial visit to the Chinese United Church and received the keys from Rev. Au and the office staff Person b. Donna Kline has visited the church and removed all of the financial documents and is in process of transferring the accounts to Northern Spirit c. Leanne Templeton- visited the church and removed the historical documents for the archives. d. Bruce Mccaron has agreed to be the caretaker and will physically enter the building three times a week to check it for insurance purposes, shovel snow, and remove any collected garbage.
CORRESPONDENCE	NA
FINANCE	Instead of a \$60,000 deficit we have a \$60,000 surplus.

Interest rates were better, and we underspent on the annual meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Chair Nothing new to report.

Community of Faith Support Edson United
Working on getting a supervisor in place. Hopefully by next week. Then we can move forward in whatever direction they are wanting to go.

Property Jim reported.
A lot of requests to close or transfer.

Youth NA

Incorporated Ministries 033-2023/2024 **It was agreed by consensus:
That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive approve the following actions:**

a) Surprise Lake Society

...pursuant to the Incorporated Ministries Policy of The United Church of Canada approve the Surprise Lake Society 2024-2025 Board of Directors

Natalka Dreichel
John R. Jones
April Keighan
Colleen Laforge-Griebel
Danielle Mathias
Jeannette Stabile
Arthur White Owl
Kerrie Yates

This is based on the Annual General Meeting minutes of January 20, 2024, the 2024 board member approval form, contact list provided and receipt of other required documentation per The United Church of Canada Incorporated Ministries Policy.

****NB** – *At the May 10, 2023 Northern Spirit Executive meeting it agreed to approve the Society as a Legacy Category 4 Incorporated Ministry effective the date the Legacy Agreement is signed. Staff and Legal Counsel continue to work with the Society on the final agreement as The United Church of Canada has never been included as an additional insured in the Society's insurance policy and cannot be due to means by which the kind of insurance the Society is insured. As the status of the Society is still that of an IM, this motion is provided.*

Nominations Chloe, Julie and Adam have been doing focused opportunities each week. Affirm and property committees will be highlighted coming up.

Two names have come forward. Since the committee is not functioning currently, they have given this to the Executive.

034-2023/2024 **It was agreed by consensus:
That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive name, with gratitude, Kimberly Roy to the Pastoral Relations Committee.**

035-2023/2024 **It was agreed by consensus:
That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive name, with gratitude, Lynn Maki to the Communities of Faith Support Committee.**

Chloe will communicate that to the committees and individuals.

Need a chair for Nominations committee. This should be a spotlight in the near future. If we can think of anybody who might want to fill this position, please send them to nominations.

**Other
Affirming Planning
Committee**

We basically need somebody to throw a party.

STAFF REPORTS

Executive Minister Feb 10 was the deadline to get the GCO numbers for commissioners. Cheryl-Ann will be sending information to Shannon. The commissioners will need to be elected in at the annual meeting in May.

Was in Yellowknife in January. It was great to connect with the community and have the opportunity to preach.

Staff have been excellent in helping during all of the personal things happening.

New office in Strathearn United Church. We will be taking two offices. Moving date will take place in March.

**Pastoral Relations
Minister**

Pastoral Relations Report- Feb 14, 2024- Executive meeting- Submitted by Adam Hall
1) At our last PRC meeting we approved the following appointments
a. Rev. Dirk Jessen- 1 -year appointment to Robertson Wesley Untied Church, Edmonton
b. Rev. Anne Telford- 3-year appointment to St. Albert United Church
c. Rev. Sungsoon Park- 1 -Year appointment to St. Johns United Church, Bonnyville.
d. Rev. Hugh MacGregor- 6-month short term Appointment. Grace United, Edmonton

e. Rev. Martha ter Kuile, 1-month short term appointment, Yellowknife Pastoral Charge

2) St. Andrew's United- Edmonton

a. Rev. Geoff Wilfong-Pritchard has been suspended by the remedial committee after an effectiveness review in the fall. He will be encouraged into a directed program.

b. I have helped the office administrator by putting together a worship coverage roster from this Sunday (Feb 18th) to the first week in April. They will also be given names to contact for pastoral care, funeral/wedding coverage, and PRC has a supervisor in place.

c. I will be working with the M&P committee, and myself and possibly Shannon will be working with the Board around their governance.

d. If need be, and depending on the length of the suspension, PRC will seek to fill an appointment to cover.

3) Workshops:

a. Feb 1st- Conversation with our Northern Communities about possibilities for future sharing and connection

b. Feb 8th (Pastoral Relations Workshop on Job descriptions and Search process)

c. March 5th – M&P 101

4) PR- Governance

a. See attachment

Question: Northern Spirit all of the committees report to the commission. In other regions they report to the Executive. Why?

Discussion was had regarding our governance structure.

One congregation inquired about paying their Pastoral Charge Supervisor (currently \$30/hr plus mileage). Since the region is the one who appoints them, would the region be willing to subsidize the mileage. We discussed and currently we have decided that the system will stay as it is.

**Justice &
Communications**

Remit

The current numbers are:

As of 12 Feb:

NS: 56/ 91 (62%) not voted

We have started to do phone outs. Thank you to the team of people who are willing to do that. Encouraging people to email their results rather than mail it in.

Last town hall was 2-3 weeks ago. We do not have another arranged for right now.

Advocacy for UCP threats

We discussed how best to show our support against the proposed anti-trans legislation.

Helen has written a letter and it has been sent out and it is also in the local newspaper.

Education is needed.

Chloe will add to the newsletter something that encourages our congregations to have conversations around the legislation, talk to MLA's for more information, write letters, etc.

OTHER

Centennial Celebration

Leanne joined us at our meeting today.

What are we wanting to do to celebrate 100 years. Other regions are discussing displays etc. If we want Leanne to do something, we need to start thinking about this now.

We are going to finish dealing with the Remit piece and then come back to this.

Anniversary Book

Leslie brought to our attention that there was an error. This can be passed along to the United Church Foundation as the region has no control over that.

Donations for the Healing Fund

Leslie asked a question about making donations to the healing fund. If we want to do that, it needs to go through the region. The money can be sent to Heather.

Annual Meeting

May 2 and 9 online

No theme or anything yet. To be further discussed after the remit has been completed.

Regional Council trusts 036-2023/2024

Creating a Regional Council Trust will allow us the right, legally speaking, to hold property in trust.

It was agreed by consensus:

That Northern Spirit Regional Council Executive approve Shannon McCarthy the authority to work with Kindred Works to create a Regional Council Trust.

Ecumenical Ministry MOU

Adam provided us with a copy of the document.

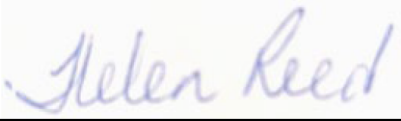
It is asking us, that moving forward, when we have a community of faith that is in transition, that we take a first look at whether we can create ecumenical shared ministries. Then we can go through other processes.

Received for information at this time.

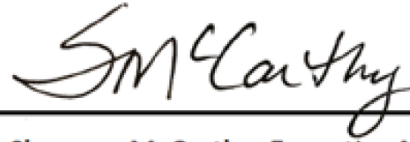
NEXT MEETING

Next meeting will be March 13, 2024.

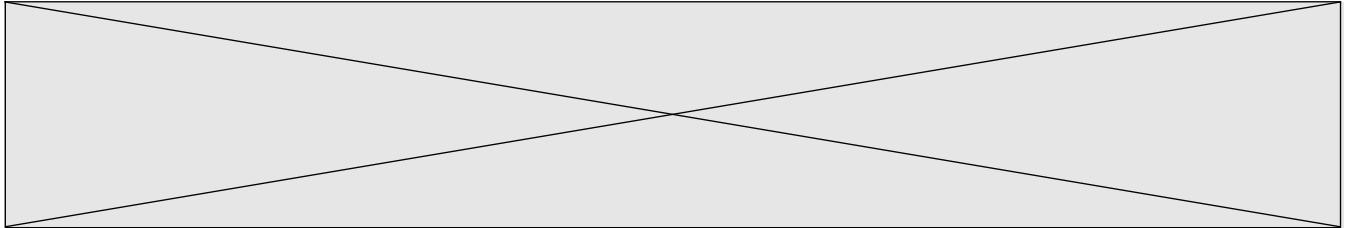
ADJOURNMENT



Helen Reed, Chairperson



Shannon McCarthy, Executive Minister



2023 Northern Spirit Regional Council 31-Dec-22 2023 Budget Dec 31-2023 2024 Approved Budget

Governance Revenue

Governance and Shared Services (from	\$ 325,000	\$ 325,000	\$ 325,000	\$ 325,000	
Shared Staff Grant Governance	\$ 90,775	\$ 67,000	\$ 76,375	\$ 67,000	2024 may increase
Annual Meeting Meal Fee		\$ 25,000	\$ 23,190	\$ -	
Misc	\$ 10,260	\$ 5,000	\$ 21,325	\$ 5,000	
	\$ 426,035	\$ 422,000	\$ 445,890	\$ 397,000	

Governance: Office and Staffing Expenses

Office Expenses:

Office Rent (Kirk Centre)	\$ 38,745	\$ 38,748	\$ 31,365	\$ 31,365	2024 revised 12341
Office Costs (supplies, phone, wifi, et	\$ 12,408	\$ 13,500	\$ 8,951	\$ 13,500	
Shared Service GC	\$ 11,167	\$ 11,000	\$ 13,378	\$ 14,000	
Website	\$ 1,007	\$ 1,005	\$ 1,132	\$ 1,500	
Audit/Prof Services	\$ 6,576	\$ 7,000	\$ 9,859	\$ 11,000	
Discretionary fund		\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ 5,000	

Shared Staff Costs

Shared EM, Asst and Finance staff	\$ 91,603	\$ 101,820	\$ 103,402	\$ 105,414	
Shared Staff Office Costs (office spac	\$ 923	\$ 3,500	\$ 1,332	\$ 2,000	
Shared Staff Travel Costs	\$ 2,386	\$ 7,000	\$ 8,907	\$ 9,000	

Staffing

Regional Staff - Governance	\$ 147,463	\$ 155,617	\$ 144,670	\$ 154,508	
All Staff Con-Ed	\$ 459	\$ 4,000	\$ 1,600	\$ 3,553	
All Staff Training Event	\$ 3,264		\$ 3,775		
Staff Travel/meals	\$ 2,289	\$ 4,000	\$ 3,958	\$ 7,000	

Governance: Committee and Structure

Annual meeting	\$ 958	\$ 60,000	\$ 40,045	\$ 16,000	15K to set aside for 2025
Governance Committee costs	\$ 1,949	\$ 12,000	\$ 1,853	\$ 8,000	

TOTAL GOVERNANCE **\$ 321,197** **\$ 424,190** **\$ 374,227** **\$ 381,840**

Remainder of Governance Total **\$ 104,838** **\$ (2,190)** **\$ 71,663** **\$ 15,160**

Mission & Ministry (Mission & Service F	\$ 240,000	\$ 239,000	\$ 240,000	\$ 180,000	
Other M & M Income	\$ 415,778		\$ 66,278		
	\$ 655,778	\$ 239,000	\$ 306,278	\$ 180,000	

Mission and Ministry Costs for Region 2

Staffing

Salaries and benefits	\$ 110,757	\$ 123,046	\$ 106,353	\$ 110,607	GC figures to Oct 31
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Mission & Ministry

Mission Support grants	\$ 136,750	\$ 150,000	\$ 134,100	\$ 136,000	
M&S/Indigenous from sales/closures	\$ 304,328		\$ 25,442		40K in corresponding revenue
Clusters & Events, other grants*	\$ 18,383	\$ 20,000	\$ 46,616	\$ 20,000	25K in corresponding revenue
Mission & Ministry Committee Costs		\$ 5,000	\$ 2,361	\$ 6,000	
	\$ 570,218	\$ 298,046	\$ 314,872	\$ 272,607	

Remainder of Mission & Ministry Total **\$ 85,560** **\$ (59,046)** **\$ (8,594)** **\$ (92,607)**

Restricted/Designated Funds

Revenue	\$ 79,766		\$ 20,639		
Expenses	\$ 61,194		\$ 23,119		
	\$ 18,572		\$ (2,480)		

Combined Surplus (Deficit) **\$ 208,970** **\$ (61,236)** **\$ 60,589** **\$ (77,447)**

2024 details

\$60,000 cut to Mission and Ministry grant
2% increase in salaries
Conservative estimate of revenue
Deficit to be covered by retained earnings

2022 details

Surplus largely due to funds received from property sales