

Letter to Region 14, Presbyteries and Congregations

Regional Executive Minister

Rev. Faith March-MacCuish

FMacCuish@united-church.ca

709-691-3524

Presbyteries of Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council

Dear Friends,

As the end of the calendar year approaches, the shift to the three-council model of governance is soon to be upon us. That means that several familiar aspects of our life are winding up in Presbytery and Conference and new things are beginning in the Region.

On behalf of the Transition Commission, we are asking you to make sure that all the pastoral charges within your bounds are aware of the following:

#### #1 Membership in Regional Council

All ministry personnel, active and retired, are members of Regional Council;

Lay members are elected according to a familiar formula:

1 rep per community of faith with 100 or fewer resident members;

2 reps from every community of faith with 101-200 resident members;

3 reps from every community of faith with 201-300 resident members;

4 reps from every community of faith with more than 300 resident members

Please note that current representatives to Presbytery are eligible to become representatives to Regional Council but must be elected as such at a congregational meeting.

#### #2 Human Resources

Please note that the talents and experience of the current presbyters will be crucial in the work of the Region. We invite you to bring your enthusiasm and dedication to this new ministry. There will be committees/teams for virtually every aspect of our life and work, although some of these will be organized differently from the past.

In addition, the new structure calls for local clusters to provide a focus for any number of shared interests that we want to keep alive. These could focus on worship, mission, learning, collegiality, justice work, strategic planning – the only limit is our imagination! There will also be networks of folk in different parts of our country focused on particular issues or projects. There is only minimal definition provided by the General Council for clusters and networks. One place to think of them is to sustain relationships outside the Presbytery that you may have developed.

Please circulate the “Gift Inventory” through your congregations prior to December 31st. Those gifts and skills and that experience are too precious to lose. There’s an online form used by the Conference Nominating Committee that may be familiar. We’re using that and it can be accessed at <https://marconf.ca/nominations-form/>. This is the place to express interest. Please note that we may not be able to accommodate everyone’s expressed interest in their first choice.

### #3 Winding Up Work

If you haven’t already, the Presbytery should be deciding which files need to be destroyed and which forwarded. A checklist has been provided a couple of times by David Allen, Remit Implementation Project Leader (June 28, 2018). Conference Archivist Sarah Wallace can give direction on preparing records for the United Church Archives.

The list asks that each Presbytery provide the following:

JNAC processes underway and Presbytery reps

JSC processes underway and Presbytery reps

Notices of requests for Change in Pastoral Relations for which JNAC has not yet been named

List of Pastoral Charge Supervisors

Pastoral Charge currently engaged with a supervisor and the name of the supervisor

Licensed Lay Worship Leaders

List of Sacrament Elders

Sacrament Privilege holders

Supply Worship Leaders if different from LLWL

Trained Educational Supervisors (for OV use)

Train Intentional Interim Ministers (for OV Use)

Thank you to the Presbyteries who have forwarded their information. If you have not, please forward by December 21st, 2018.

Please note: After January 1, 2019, Presbyteries have no authority to initiate new activities or expenditures. Several Presbyteries have asked officers to continue in place to complete previously authorized work. That is fine. However, after January 1, any financial requests should go to the Regional Office. All monies should, therefore, be transferred to the Region. Matters normally conducted under the authority of the Presbytery will now be directed to the Commission who will act as the Regional Executive.

#### #4 Mission Support Grants

Ministries that previously received monies through Mission Support Grants and direct grants from Conference and /or Presbytery have all been informed about the decisions for 2019. If any group missed the application notice, they should contact the Conference Office (until December 31st) or the Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council Office (after January 1st) immediately.

#### #5 Communications

The Transition Commission is committed to doing our best to keep everyone in the loop. Effective January 1st, the Transition Commission becomes the Regional Executive until the first meeting of the Regional Council.

Transition Commission and Regional Council Executive meeting minutes will be posted on the Region website;

A new governance model is taking shape and will be posted as soon as possible. Please note that this is a living document that will see many changes as we move into the new reality;

The Nominations Committee will be contacting people regarding roles in the new structure. Please consider their requests carefully.

Who to contact if you need help in the following areas:

Emergency Number – 709-691-3524 - Faith March-MacCuish

Financial questions regarding the new Region should be directed to Jennifer Whittemore  
Jwhittemore@united-church.ca or Faith March-MacCuish FMacCuish@united-church.ca

Pastoral Relations/Pastoral Oversight questions should be directed to Regional Minister, Kendall  
Harrison, KHarrison@united-church.ca

Justice/Outreach questions should be directed to Laura Hunter, LHunter@united-church.ca

Youth Ministry questions should be directed to Lauren King, Lking@united-church.ca

Property Questions should be directed to Faith March-MacCuish, FMacCuish@united-church.ca

Students and Ministerial Matters – Andrew Richardson ARichardson@united-church.ca

Stewardship and Special Gift Matters – RJanes@united-church.ca

Administrative Support/Office Manager Assistant who will be beginning her new position can be  
contacted by TRose@united-church.ca

Archives/Avel – Sarah Wallace, SWallace@united-church.ca

#### #6 Inaugural Regional Council Meeting

The inaugural Regional Council Meeting will occur at Mount Allison University, May 23-26, 2019. Many  
more details to follow!!

Please note the change in email addresses and phone numbers will take effect Jan 1st, 2019

The Regional Commission will become the Regional Executive from January 1st until the inaugural  
Regional Meeting. Paperwork for decision making should be directed to the commission secretary Sheila  
Gallant: sfgallant@gov.pe.ca

Best wishes from the Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council Transition Commission as we approach this exciting time in our church's life.

Faith March- MacCuish

Sheila Gallant

Executive Minister

Secretary

Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters  
Regional Council Transition Commission

Fundy St. Lawrence Dawning Waters Regional Council

December 13, 2018