GENERAL COUNCIL 44 JULY 21-25, 2021, CALGARY, ALBERTA

The General Council is the decision-making body for the United Church as both a denomination and a legal corporation (*The Manual* Section D). The members of the General Council decision-making body are called Commissioners. Commissioners serve for three years. During that time, the General Council meets once in person and at least once per year electronically.

The General Council follows a three-step process:

Listening/Learning
Discussion
Decision-Making

The Listening/Learning phase will happen online early in 2021.

Electing Western Ontario Waterways Regional Council's Commissioners (*The Manual* 2019 Section D.1.1.e)

The regional council will elect 13 Commissioners. In addition, the person who becomes President-Elect in 2020 and is installed as President in 2021 will attend, for a total of 14 Commissioners.

At its November 16, 2019 meeting, the regional council agreed to the following process for the election of commissioners:

Proposal #2 GC Commissioners – Process for Elections
Tim Reaburn introduced the process for election of General Council Commissioners from our regional council. Our regional council is entitled to elect 13 Commissioners to attend the 44th General Council July 21-25, 2021 in Calgary, Alberta. The regional council President elected in 2020 and installed in 2021 will also attend, for a total of 14. The regional council needs to determine the process by which its commissioners will be elected.

Following an explanation of the proposal, President Gary Clark asked for any questions of clarification, resulting in one amendment to the diversity ballot.

A) Have an initial round of voting to elect:
   1) Two (2) Indigenous Commissioner.
      The process to secure nominations for these positions to be determined in consultation with Indigenous ministries.
   2) Four (4) Commissioners who self-identify as meeting the areas of diversity outlined in *The Manual*, as well as people with disabilities

B) Have a second round of voting to elect the balance of Commissioners. Any positions not filled in the first round will be filled by the second. Any nominees not elected in the first round will be on the ballot for the second round.

Any positions described under section A) not filled at the May 2020 meeting and any other vacancies and alternates will be elected at the WOWRC Fall, 2020 meeting.

Please consider who has the gifts to serve as a Commissioner and encourage them to let their name stand as a nominee.

Requirements

1) A full member of a United Church of Canada congregation within the bounds of this regional council (*The Manual* Section B.3.3.);
2) Time to prepare for General Council by familiarizing themselves with the material in advance and participating in the Listening/Learning online seminars;
3) Availability to travel to Calgary for General Council (note Commissioners' travel is covered at economy rates; all accommodation and meals are provided).

Loving the church and longing for its faithful witness and its well-being are valuable qualities for a Commissioner to have.

Click for *The General Council Commissioner Nomination Form*.

There will be an orientation session for the regional council Commissioners prior to General Council 44. The church is strengthened when there is a mix of experienced and first-time Commissioners.

General Council Proposals (*The Manual* Section F)

A proposal is the way the church initiates action and change. Detailed information is laid out in the *The Manual*. Click here to view the *GC 44 proposal formatting template*.

> If you would find advice helpful in framing the desired action or change as you craft a proposal, please feel free to be in touch with Executive Minister, Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa at *csampa@united-church.ca*.