

## **Regional Council Responsibilities**

**The responsibilities of the regional council include...**

### **Mission and ministry**

1. Providing on-going leadership training for ministry personnel and lay persons
2. Providing funding partnerships with United Church educational and leadership training centres and camps as determined regionally
3. Support emerging new ministries
4. Support communities of faith in their life and work
5. Promoting articulation of mission and ministry
6. Joining our collective hearts, voices and resources to witness to the gospel and vision of Jesus for a compassionate and just society, both in Canada and around the world
7. Engaging in local regional national and global initiatives and partnerships (community, ecumenical and interfaith) for ministry, mission and justice work
8. Engaging in ministry with children, youth and young adults
9. Honouring and living into intercultural ministry and mission
10. Living in covenant with Mother Earth and All my Relations in Earth community
11. Recruitment and discernment of persons for ministry
12. Accompaniment and supervision of persons in the ministry preparation process
13. Celebrating retirements
14. Encouraging and supporting ministry personnel towards health, joy and excellence in ministry practice
15. Promoting and fostering direct dialogue between communities of faith and the denominational council councils

### **Governance and shared services**

1. Recognizing a new community of faith by entering into a covenantal relationship with it
2. Living in a covenantal relationship with each community of faith, with mutual responsibilities for the life and mission of the community of faith, and fulfilling its responsibilities under the covenant
3. Living in a covenantal relationship with ministry personnel
4. Providing support, advice and services to communities of faith in human resource matters
5. Providing support, advice and services to communities of faith in dealing with congregational property
6. Managing regional archives
7. Administering policy set by the denominational council, and setting appropriate regional policy

8. Buying, selling, leasing and renovating community of faith property in cooperation with communities of faith, and distributing any proceeds within denominational guidelines
9. Buying, selling, leasing and renovating regional property, and distributing any proceeds within denominational guidelines
10. Receiving, dealing with, and forwarding on proposals from communities of faith to the denominational council based on denominational policy
11. Setting and maintaining its annual budget including revenue from the denominational assessment and setting any additional regional assessment for any additional services the regional council wishes to undertake
12. Participating in determining priorities for mission and ministry work through Mission & Service
13. Meeting at least annually as the entire regional council or through its executive
14. Ordination and commissioning of members of the order of ministry
15. Recognition of Designated Lay Ministers
16. Licensing of Licensed Lay Worship Leaders
17. Celebrations of admissions and readmissions
18. Cooperating with communities of faith in recruiting, choosing, calling, appointing and covenanting with ministry personnel and communities of faith, and in ending calls and appointments/covenants with ministry personnel and other staff
19. Assisting with informal conflict resolution processes
20. Maintaining the roll of ministry personnel and informing the office of vocation of those ministry personnel in good standing
21. Electing members to serve on denominational council
22. Receiving, dealing with, and forwarding on proposals from members of the community of faith to the denominational council communities of faith
23. Assuming control of a community of faith in extraordinary circumstances where the community of faith is unable or refuses to meet its responsibilities or acts outside of denominational policies
24. Serving, supporting and providing oversight when necessary of camps and incorporated ministries in the region
25. Reviewing and periodically auditing the self-assessments of communities of faith in light of the covenant between the community of faith and the regional council
26. Ensuring compliance with the policies and polity of The United Church of Canada and reviewing any relevant records
27. Through staff, supporting the regional council in meeting its responsibilities