

**Mission and Discipleship Commission**  
**Antler River Watershed Regional Council**  
**OF THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA**  
*Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith*

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*Approved Minutes*  
*April 6, 2021*  
*10am -12 noon via Zoom*

**Roster:** Richard Auckland (Chair), Robert Harris, James Haupt, Glenda McMillan, Linda Badke, Carey Wagner, Tabitha Carey.

**Staff Support:** Diane Matheson-Jimenez - Minister, Social Justice

Kathy Douglas - Minister, Faith Formation

Thérèse Samuel – Minister for Right Relations and Social Justice

Dave Jagger - Stewardship and Gifts Officer

Ruthanna Mack - Admin Support

**Present:** Richard Auckland (Chair), Bob Harris, Glenda McMillan, Linda Badke, Tabitha Carey, Carey Wagner, Jim Haupt, Kathy Douglas, Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Thérèse Samuel,

**Guest:** Jane Van Patter -ARW President

**Regrets:** Ruthanna Mack - Admin Support (Note taker-Kathy Douglas)

**Welcome and Constitute Meeting:** Richard welcomed everyone and ask us to check in with a favourite sport story

**Acknowledging the Land:** Richard acknowledged the land.

We acknowledge that we gather on the traditional territory of a number of First Nations and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages. This Land known as Antler River Watershed, was once settled by the Attawandaran Peoples. Later the Algonquin, the Anishinabe, the Lenne-Lenape and the Haudenosaunee Peoples who used their lands as their traditional gathering, hunting and congregating place. Let us also recognize our three closest neighbours from these nations: The Chippewa of the Thames First Nation, The Munsee-Delaware Nation, and the Oneida Nation of the Thames. We seek a new relationship with the Original Peoples of this land, one based in honour and deep respect.

**Opening Worship:** Tabitha Carey

**Approval of Agenda:**

Additions to agenda--ARW Rep for GLI Work

- MOTION by Linda Badke/Glenda McMillan that the 2021-04-06 ARW M&D Agenda be accepted as amended.

MOTION

CARRIED

-Carey inquired about a report to the Regional Gathering in May from this commission. Jane explained that commission will be asked to create a 'video report' that will be included in a full report from the region. This full report will go out ahead of the gathering and not to be added to agenda of regional gathering, unless a motion/proposal need to be made.

Do we need to meet to create a report?

Change date of June 1, to Tuesday, May 25@ 1-3pm Richard, Tabitha, Glenda & DMJ will work on the video ahead of meeting, seeking support from all as it is created.

**Approval of Previous Minutes:**

- MOTION by Tabitha/Carey that the Mission and Discipleship of Antler River Watershed Regional Council approve the minutes of 2021-03-02 as circulated.

MOTION

CARRIED

**Business Arising:**

1. ISARC support. Our commission does not directly support but it is through the Social Justice Network (with them actually sending fee to ISARC)
2. Several of our commissioners have had struggles getting access with Racial Justice Training. Seems to be better now. Kathy to follow up on that with RJT folk.
3. Follow up from presentations of Grand River Resources Centre. A wonder, from Richard....if ARW is only 10% of their users, does that impact our support? No comments
4. Folks were given an opportunity to reflect on Racial Justice Training.
  - there is a lot of material presented very quickly and can be hard to digest. A challenge to integrate. It is on us to continue to do the work.
  - for some, definitions are challenging. Read it many times. It is work.
  - reading slides can be difficult. Presentation is not as engaging as hoped...chats and reflections with a bigger group would be rich.

- receiving the chats after to read through is helpful
  - story telling of real-life experiences are very important
  - the fact that white folks gather and talk about racism with BIPOC people present can be re-traumatizing, and/or just challenging. It is the work of the white to do the work not ask BIPOC to be retraumatized for the benefit of the white people
  - we are reminded of the need to have an equity monitor for even these meetings.
5. There is correction to allowing the commission authorize the staff spending. All expenses have to be approved before staff spends money rather than them having complete discretion to spend.
  6. We need to 'name' a person to sit on Guarantee Living Income National group from this ARW region. Time commitment is various (meeting 6-8 weeks) and the time to share the work back to the region. Please consider who this could be

**Correspondence:**

- a) Ridgeway had a gala and Richard sent greetings on behalf of ARW M&D Commission.
- b) Checking of dates for M&S application dates. Hoping all have it set up Dates for review of M&S Grants Sept. 7 & 9

**New Business:**

- a) Report from Carey Wagner:

**Report from the Antler River Watershed Region Social and Ecological Justice Network ARWR SEJN**

We met on March 30 2021 By Zoom

Web site Our site is continuously updated. [Social & Ecological Justice Network – ARW Region – The Social and Ecological Justice Network of the Antler River Watershed Region connects people who are passionate about social justice concerns. \(arwsej.ca\)](#) We are aware the webpage has not linked to the Region website as yet.

Climate Justice

Marg and Carey have scheduled another *Cathedral on Fire* book study, beginning April 12. Books are available most readily at the Grand River book store. Still room for anyone interested. The Book is 7 chapters and less than 7 pages. An easy read but thought provoking.

Networking

Regional Commission minutes were circulated by Carey. According to the minutes there was no mention of a process for including the work of our Network and website in their publications, and no guidance for us of how to make this process happen. Carey will attempt to follow up with the Commission at their next meeting April 6.

Next meeting: Thursday May 13 10AM by Zoom.

- b) Terms for commissioners of ARW M&D. Glenda asked about terms...saying hers is up this year. (Carey has also a term ending this year) Does that mean they no longer comes after April regional meeting? Jane Van Patter suggested that if present members wish to stay on, that they fill out an Expression of Interest form and all new or renewed members need to be approved at June ARW Regional Meeting. (If stepping aside, the Executive should be told as well)
  - WE need more members...and need to get that information out. Tap folks and encourage. Richard will send out Expression of Interest for such
  - It would be good to review the terms of our membership and send that out before the next meeting (May 25)
- c) Jane Van Patter has asked us to offer names of folks who would act as Equity Monitor for our June ARW Regional Meeting.
- d) Jane Van Patter asked that regional staff help to facilitate an event/session following June Regional gathering that focuses on 'action' regarding Murray Sinclair's presentation.
- e) DMJ offered to send Ruthanna Mack a get well card on behalf of M&D
- f) Richard highlighted the need to build 'safety' into all our meetings, including M&D Commission meetings. Both an Equity Monitor and Pastoral Care Presence should be named and given permission to offer this important detail.

### Staff Reports:

- **Kathy Douglas, Minister for Faith Formation:**

**Taste of Palestine**-Interest in offering another virtual tour in Palestine with a focus on Youth/Children's experience living under occupation.

**Pastoral Care Training/Support**-two time slots for Volunteer/Lay Pastoral Care support are very popular. Perhaps indicating great need for help in these stress filled times. Tuesday, April 13 @7 and Wednesday, April 14@10am

**Music Ministry Support**-helping music ministry people in our churches to share celebrations and struggles...feel support and collaborate. I have been asked to help coordinate this

**Youth Leadership Ministry Gathering (Tuesday, April 13@1pm)** Support and sharing resources. Also hearing about need to gather and find youth/young adult representatives to National youth forum and GC (2022)

**Ted McMeekin event: How to talk so politicians will listen.** Tentative date set for this zoom event.

**My Sabbatical is May 17 -Aug 13, 2021**

- **Diane Matheson-Jimenez, Minister for Social Justice**

\*April 7 at 11 am (EDT) all who are interested in conversation about the crisis in long term care facilities are welcome to a Zoom meeting. After a time of grounding and community building, we will break up into small groups to talk about the concrete ways we are being called to respond to the crisis. No prior experience necessary; all are welcome. For more information, please contact Diane MJ

\*Thursday April 8 at 12:30 pm we are invited to light a candle in support of guaranteed livable income. Take photos of your candle and share them to your social media accounts – and don't forget to add your photo to the ARW Facebook page:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/arwrcucc>

\*Monday April 12 at 4 pm (EDT) all who are engaging with the For the Love of Creation resource (or who are interested to learn more) are welcome to a national Zoom conversation. GC staff will walk those gathered through updates and then facilitate discussion about how the resource is being used. For more information, and to register, contact Lori at [ineale@united-church.ca](mailto:ineale@united-church.ca)

- **Thérèse Samuel, Minister, Right Relations and Social Justice**

- Sinclair Events- Mohawk Institute full
- Still room in both
- Still room in the 101 Event
- **June 6 2PM Affirming Ministries Service of Celebration – planning team**
- April 8<sup>th</sup> Vigil for Guaranteed Living Income

**Next Meeting: May 25, 1-3pm, via zoom** (Ruthanna will not be there)

**Future meetings confirmed:** 10am to Noon for all meetings

June 1<sup>st</sup> is changed to May 25@1-3

September 7<sup>th</sup> (both September meetings to review and approve Mission Support Grant applications)

September 9<sup>th</sup>

November 9<sup>th</sup>

April 6, 2021

CC 21-14

December 7<sup>th</sup>

January 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022

Linda offered a closing prayer.

Carey made a motion to adjourn