**Mission and Discipleship Commission**

**Antler River Watershed Regional Council**

**of The United Church of Canada**

***Holding and Encouraging Communities of Faith***

***APPROVED MINUTES***

***Emergency Meeting of M & D Commission of ARW***

***April 14, 2022 - 10 am  
via Zoom***

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

**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

Michele Petick-Administration

Ruthanna Mack-Administration

**Present:** Richard Auckland (Chair), Linda Badke, ~~Cheryl Bolton~~, Tabitha Carey. Robert Harris, James Haupt, ~~Glenda McMillan~~

**Staff:** Diane Matheson-Jimenez, ~~Kathy Douglas~~, Thérèse Samuel, Michele Petick, ~~Ruthanna Mack~~

**Agenda**

1. **Acknowledgement of the Land/Territory** 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 Attawandaron 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.
2. **Opening Prayer/Worship: Richard Auckland**
3. **Approval of Agenda for April 14, 2022**

**MOTION by** Linda Badke / Tabitha Carey **that the Mission and Discipleship Commission of Antler River Watershed Regional Council accept the agenda as circulated.**

**CARRIED**

1. **Purpose: To review the Ridgetown Campus application for M&S funds**

(application in DropBox).

MOTION: Jim Haupt /Bob Harris That the application from Ridgetown Campus be received with thanks for their patience. And that $5,000 be funded for the total amount as follows; from the Mission and Support fund balance of $250 from the 2022 budget and recommend that the Antler Rive Watershed Executive fund the balance of $4750 to be awarded to their organization to support their mission.

**CARRIED**

1. **Discussion about the M&D Retreat:**

As we have discussed, a M&D Commission Retreat has been endorsed.

We have created a draft of the intent and possible outline for agenda and content. (See below in).

Please review and offer feedback, in general

Specifically, we need to:

Pick a date - The staff would propose Tuesday, June 28, 9am-1pm as a date and time frame

Your input on this time and/or a suggestion for a different date/time would be appreciated.

It’s suggested that Each commission will take on some leadership. Could your commission agree to offer leadership in one of the following ways and let us know by April 29 what you select (first come first serve)?

i. One to plan and lead the opening- Land Acknowledgment, Check-in Activity, Prayer or Reflection (15 minutes)

ii. One to plan and lead the closing- Gratitude, Check-out Activity, Blessing and Sending (15 minutes)

iii. One to plan and lead some engagement in the break. (about 45 minutes-and we suggest 15 minutes of activity and 30 minutes of free time)

**Proposed W.H.A.Together M&D Commission Retreat**

4. Who: M&D Commission members and support staff from all three regional councils will be encouraged to attend the WHAT M&D Commission Retreat. Possible presenters could include the Executive Minister and GCO stewardship staff.

5. Where: Zoom

6. When: Window of time June 21-30; two 1-1.5-hour sessions with a lengthy break between. Tentative date Tuesday June 28th, 9AM-1PM. If any wish, we can end with a lunch/supper room to gather informally at the end.

7. What:

a. Explore the roles of M&D Commissions, the commissioners and the staff

i. What was the intention?

Perhaps CA and/or a member of the original transition team in each region share original vision and hopes for M&D Commissions. What was the hope for resource pools?

ii. What are we actually doing?

b. Consider

What we would like to see.

Resource Pools? Clusters/networks?

How can we connect with, support and encourage faith formation, social justice and right relations work in our regions?

c. Review MS Grant priorities and process, granting work in general and meaning of the word ‘Mission’

d. Succession Planning How do we connect with potential future Commission members, and plan intentionally for turnover of leadership? What have we been doing? What has or has not worked? What might we do going forward?

How: Presentations; Break-out groups to address our specific regional contexts; Plenary discussions to share and hear from each other. Prayer. Relationship building.

Preparation:

Do some reflection in advance on the topics that will be discussed, and come prepared to share, listen to one another, and listen for the Spirit in our midst.

Each commission will have a small leadership role:

i. One to plan and lead the opening- Land Acknowledgment, Check-in Activity, Prayer or Reflection

ii. One to plan and lead the closing- Gratitude, Check-out Activity, Blessing and Sending

iii. One to plan and lead some engagement in the break.

**Upcoming Events:**

SJNORC – Social Justice Round Table May 1st – 7-9pm

[Food Security & Faith Event](https://arwrcucc.ca/event/food-security-and-faith/) – April 21 – 7pm

[Acknowledgement of Territory](https://arwrcucc.ca/event/acknowledgment-of-indigenous-territory-workshop/) – April 27 - 10am

**CLOSING PRAYER:** Richard Auckland

**Next Meeting:** May 10th at 10am