

Antler River Watershed Regional Council
PRESIDENT ELECT NOMINEE – Richard Auckland

My name is Richard Auckland. I use the pronouns he/him, and would like to acknowledge my ancestors as well as our indigenous ancestors who called and still call this land home.

My sincere hope is that we can all work together to make the world a better place, and that we leave this world having done just that. With that in mind, we all have gifts which we can use to help others. With a background in administration in education, I have been responsible for the staff and students at elementary schools varying in size from 200 to 800.

After retirement in 2018, one goal I had was to serve in our home church, First United in St. Thomas. I submitted an expression of interest form and found myself on the Discipleship & Justice Commission of the Antler River Watershed Regional Council. I have chaired that commission since 2020, and believe that collectively, we have learned a great deal about our camps, our Mission Support Grant recipients and more recently learning more about social justice issues such as the LGBTQ+ community, the Dresden Landfill, Israel/Palestine relations, homelessness and Safe Consumption sites. In turn, this personal education has been extended to those in our broader community of faith.

I am not clergy, but feel a call to serve and feel I have the skills to be able to serve as your president for the coming 2 years. Having a succession plan is always helpful so that we continue to engage those in our churches. I am pleased to say that I have been in discussion with others who have expressed that they would be willing to serve in the future.

