

United Church Apology to the 2 Spirit and LGBTQIA Communities

An Update from

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The southwestern Ontario tri-regional councils, Antler River Watershed (ARW), Horseshoe Falls (HF) and Western Ontario Waterways (WOW), are Affirming Ministries with a shared commitment and action plan. The apology offered by the United Church of Canada to 2 Spirit and LGBTQIA communities on August 8, 2025, was an apology by the church and to the church. There are implications to our regional councils as Affirming Ministries. An apology might start with words, but without meaningful action it becomes empty words.

Many may wish to have the action complete immediately, but this is a marathon, not a sprint. Action will be an ongoing process, and with our faithful engagement and the Spirit's help we can live into the apology over the coming months and years.

As a first step, we encourage individuals and congregations in each of WRW, HF and WOW Regional Councils to be aware of the apology and begin to ask the questions:

- How does this apology impact me?
- How does this apology impact others in my congregation and wider community?
- How does this apology impact the Regional Council?
- What is God calling us to do, be or change to live into this apology?

For more information, and links to the apology and background go to:

Apology Link: <https://united-church.ca/news/apology-offered-today-united-church-2s-and-lgbtqia-communities>

Watch for more follow-up activities in the spring. If you have any suggestions, comments or questions for follow-up, please reach out to the Social Justice Ministers:

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