



Minutes of a meeting of the Council of Kanata United Church (KUC) held over Zoom on Tuesday January 21, 2025, at 7 p.m. with Julia Duffy as Chair.

Present: Kathy Beamish (Treasurer), Kathi Campbell (Trustees representative, nonvoting) Rev. Cindy Casey (Minister), Sue Davidson (Children Youth and Families), Julia Duffy (Chair), Clara Freire (Co-Chair-Elect), Al Quirt (Secretary) Kathleen Turner (Member at Large), Marilyn Wong (Member at Large). **Corresponding Members:** None. **Regrets:** Robert Ashton (Co-Chair-Elect), Brenda Beattie (Worship), Donna Caron (Outreach), Jan Chanter (Ministry and Personnel), Ed Goodridge (B & G).

Julia welcomed Council members and Cindy lit a Christ candle.

Sue presented a reflection: When a flashlight grows dim, you don't throw it away, you change the batteries. When a person messes up, we should share our light to help them glow again.

We agreed on the agenda as circulated.

We Review Past Business

Minutes - Julia

Moved by Al, **seconded** by Marilyn to approve the minutes of the Dec. 17 Council meeting as circulated. **Carried.**

Business Arising from minutes - Julia

Communications Received - Al

Four emails were received at Council's public email address, all from Steve Free.

- Steve suggested that we celebrate the birthday of Marion McDonald, who just turned 99, and who is one of the few remaining charter members of KUC. - She was acknowledged in church before Christmas, and Pastoral Care is sending a card.
- He thanked all involved in the first Visioning and Renewal Workshop and requested a copy of Cindy's sermon preached that day. - The sermon is available, in context, in the recording of the service, on our YouTube channel @kuclive.
- He expressed interest in participating in the EOORC celebrations for the 100th anniversary of the United Church of Canada. - Cindy is chairing that celebration, and there will be much more about it in church.
- He hopes to learn soon what will be covered in the remaining two visioning workshops. - Our facilitator's process is to base the second and third workshops on our congregational input during the first workshop. We invite all to come to the remaining two workshops and participate as they unfold.

We Grow in Faith and Consider Our Mission - a time for major issues**Minister's Update - Cindy**

- Aleesha Katari, a student who has practiced at KUC for years, will be filling in as organist until April. Nick is helping to provide leads for a permanent replacement.
- Nick will be out of town Feb. 2 but returns for his last Sunday Feb. 9, which will have a celebration of his time with us.
- Cindy will also be away Feb. 2 to attend a friend's funeral in Nova Scotia. Mary our workshop facilitator will lead worship that day, proceeding into the workshop.
- Tickle Trunk sale coming up (donation and purchase of kids' clothing). Tickets will go to two women's shelters.
- Christmas services went very well with many new faces in the congregation.
- A woman, not a member, has offered to create a team to update our front garden. There are also several volunteers from the stewardship forms.
- Centre 33 has a new projector that works well, and we will try it for the AGM. We may buy the same kind from our Seniors' grant.
- Worship has recommended that we install a permanent ramp to the raised level of the sanctuary. Looking at designs, and grants to support this.
- Given Donald Trump's attack on gender diversity, which may raise echoes in Canada, we are planning to host a gathering to support Centre 33.

Revised AGM Agenda - Julia

Discussion of whether we should continue to hold the AGM as a hybrid event online and in person. Council agreed to return to an in-person-only AGM, with a light snack after the service. We will try to achieve a timeline of 90 minutes. New procedures to keep the meeting moving should help.

Financial Update - Kathy

Draft budget was circulated. Some adjustments are still to be made, especially treating the sabbatical expenses properly as an amount to be paid into reserves each year then spent when the time comes. Other changes will correct things that were wrong before, including some that should have been in the budget that was approved last year. In particular, we should have shown a small budget deficit for 2024. See notes at the end of this draft budget. This is being worked out with the accountants who are preparing our financial statement (pro bono again!).

The loss of two key staff members (Michelle and Nick) will reduce expenses until replacements are found but that is not good news.

We need to ensure that our budget each year reflects what we believe we will need, whether or not it is similar to past years. Things are likely to change according to changing circumstances, on both revenue and expense sides. We should show a budget deficit based on full staff, even if for a few months we are spending less, because that will keep us focused on the real cost of what we are trying to do.

Growth Journey Update - Cindy

- Review of Grant Spotlight Slides - there is potential for new grants but they can only be shown if and when they are approved. This is another exciting aspect of our growth, which is exceptional among UCC congregations.
- Review of Stewardship Spotlight - Campaigns have been successful. Significant growth in pledges and PAR, and continuing arrival of new members including 5 new choir members. All of that is good news.
- Ask: Please send photos to Andrea for Gratitude Video (Celebrating Life at KUC)

AGM Readiness: Key Dates (Review/Finalize)

Final Committee Reports for AGM –

- Deadline to Send to Andrea Tuesday, January 28th at 12 noon. Sooner is better.

Council AGM Final Package

- Deadline for Council to Complete Draft AGM Slides- January 28th, 2025
- Deadline for Council to Complete Final Edited AGM Slides - February 4th, 2025
- Final AGM Package Ready for Congregation Distribution
 - Sent Electronically - Friday, February 7th
 - Printed for Distribution - Sunday, February 9th

Council Roles Required for AGM (Finalize Roles & List of Volunteers)

AGM Package Assistance (Andrea is away for some days)

- 2 Volunteers (maybe) to Print/Prepare AGM Package for February 9th Distribution (Andrea to Guide/Train)

Editing AGM Slides

- Volunteer(s) to edit our AGM slides - All to participate. Marilyn and Sue will be the nominal mover and seconder of procedural motions.

AGM A/V Support

- 1 Volunteer to Run AGM Slides, Sue Volunteer to Manage In-Person Questions (speak only to the chair, from microphone on stand). We will have a process (flip chart?) to capture parking lot questions.

AGM TimeKeeper

- 1 Volunteer (Kathy) to keep time for Q & A. Firm start time of 11:30 for meeting.

AGM Snacks

- 2 Volunteers to make muffins for 50 people (estimated) with options for food sensitivities. Agreed.

Steps Toward Reconciliation Update - Kathleen Turner

Update was circulated.

An exciting speaker Beverly Illauq could provide a one-time course on Inuit issues this

spring for us. Perhaps we could we invite the community outside our congregation. Beverley is not Inuit but has lived in that community and is accepted as an expert. More info will be circulated. This could be a lead-in to work with Inuit groups, e.g. to explore the disproportionate number of deaths for Inuit in Ottawa.

Also looking for donations of red dresses to display in the sanctuary. And in 2026 perhaps an outdoor Installation. Annie is willing to lead on this topic.

Council Evolution

Cindy suggested several new Council members, some of whom have agreed to run.

We do not have a candidate for Treasurer. Kathy will fill in for now.

We Steward our Ministries – administrative details and financial health

Quarterly Council Planning and Review - Julia

- February:
 - AGM Prep
- March:
 - 2024 AGM Retro & Quarterly Planning
- Long Term Planning
 - Review of FY2025. Vision and Call Statement

We Go Out

Cindy led us in closing prayer.

We agreed to end the meeting at 9 pm.

Julia Duffy

Julia Duffy (Apr 12, 2025 07:12 EDT)

Chair - Julia Duffy

Alan Quirt

Alan Quirt (Apr 5, 2025 15:21 EDT)

Secretary - Al Quirt

Future Meetings

February 2, 2025	Congregational Workshop 2
February 11, 2025	Council - Reflection: Donna Caron (Feb 11?)
February 18, 2025	Council AGM Walkthrough
February 25, 2025	2025 AGM
March 2, 2025	Congregational Workshop 3
March 18, 2025	Council - reflection Al Quirt











2025-01-21 Council Minutes

Final Audit Report

2025-04-12

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