



Minutes of a meeting of the Council of Kanata United Church (KUC) held over Zoom on Tuesday May 20, 2025, 2025, at 7:05 p.m. with Robert Ashton as Chair.

Present: Robert Ashton (Co-Chair), Rev. Cindy Casey (Minister), Kathy Beamish (Treasurer), Kathi Campbell (Trustees representative, nonvoting), Jan Chanter (Ministry and Personnel), Sue Davidson (Children Youth and Families), Clara Freire (Co-Chair), Penny Gelinas (Outreach), Shawn Neeson (CYF), Walter Prager (Member at Large), Al Quirt (Secretary), Kathleen Turner (Member at Large), Marilyn Wong (Member at Large).

Corresponding Members: None. **Regrets:** Marilynne Dean-Romanow (B&G), Julia Duffy (Past Chair), Ed Goodridge (B & G).

We Gather Together – A Time for Growth/Learning/Team Building

Robert welcomed us to this meeting and lit a Christ Candle.

Jan's meditation was from Devotions for Women on the Go by Stephen Arterburn and Pam Farrell. Choosing Joy - a response to "how are you doing" in times of stress. How do you choose joy? If you look you can find joy even in hard times.

We agreed on the agenda as circulated.

We Review Past Business

Minutes

Moved by Al, **seconded** by Jan to approve the minutes of the April 15 Council meeting as circulated. **Carried.**

Business Arising from minutes - Robert

- Council Email Update:
- Flag Etiquette Update - A Canadian Flag has been erected outside on the front of the church, and that has been shared on social media.
- Fireside Room Refresh - BG will report to Council on progress in creating a group to develop a plan for the room. It is now nearly empty making any changes easier.

Communications Received - Al

- Steve Free sent a detailed email based on his view of our Vision and Call statement. Received for information. A brief response will be sent explaining that it needed to be clarified before posting it prominently on the web site, and that in the next year or so the congregation will be engaged in reviewing the statement.

We Grow in Faith and Consider Our Mission - a time for major issues

Minister's Update - Cindy

- A survey from General Council asks for views especially on the structural change that eliminated the Presbytery level of UCC structure.

- Three stumps were removed from the circular garden at the front of the church, and a small team is looking at how the garden should be rebuilt. They will be consulting with an expert. A plan and budget will be sent to Council.
- June 15th 100th Anniversary at EY Centre. Andrea will be sending out details of carpooling etc. There are many volunteer opportunities. We will be providing two items for the event museum: an early Affirming pin, and the architect's framed original design (on an airline napkin) for KUC.
- Cindy will be attending General Council in Calgary starting Aug. 5 and staying a few days longer as part of a group working on the strategic plan for the next ten years.

Upcoming BBQ Planning & Council Assignments for Sunday June 8th:

Julia sent out detailed information from past years to guide Council's involvement.

We have an offer from Dawn and Ed Goodridge's son who is willing to bring his pizza oven and make two kinds of pizza, with donations requested. And we will use the excellent BBQ donated by Ron Allen for Bison Sliders and hotdogs Last year's 3 dozen sliders went fast so we will have 4 dozen this year). Robert will set up a sign-up sheet. Agreed to have essentially the traditional BBQ now and have pizza for our welcome-back lunch in the fall, with only salads as pot luck.

Several Council members will be away June 8, and Al will miss the June Council meeting. Robert will share a sign-up sheet.

Congregational Workshops and Next Steps - All

- We have received Mary's report, and more ideas came out of last Friday's special Stewardship meeting. We will share the report and some ideas with the congregation, leading to sharing our action plan in the fall.
- The report is about 2 pages, plus a few pages of ideas recorded during the workshops. We will summarize for those who may not read that much information. We will put some of the content onto bulletin boards and the TV in the hallway.

B&G Status Report

The new B&G team has come up to speed, aided by having Tomasz handling most of the day to day maintenance. There are additional volunteers in the wings. Cindy and Andrea will be meeting with B&G.

Council discussed whether we should provide industrial strength vacuum etc. for church maintenance. We need to consult with the user before buying anything.

Growth Journey / Stewardship - Robert

- It would help to have signs outside the building visible to visitors during the Book Fair. Words like safe space, for example. Send phrases to Cindy.
- There was an action from the AGM to have a discussion of stock donations. We have a person to lead it and will find a date probably in early fall. Perhaps a lunch after church based on one of Shawn's food ideas (make a little money?) and

including other topics not just stock donations.

Review of Shawn's Stewardship Fundraising Ideas - All

- Stewardship Cttee - currently Shawn and Julia. Small team of 4-5 would be ideal, and all should take the UCC course in the fall. Members will consider whether additional specific skills are needed, and Cindy will pass on any names from last year's Stewardship interests survey.
- Priorities - exec summary and action plan will be sent soon.
- Kathy will provide a financial update for the June meeting.
- Marilyn has created a simple spreadsheet to track progress with our 5% growth in revenues and \$20K growth challenge.
- Compost sale and Flowers revenues way up (780 bags of compost!). Fundraising in general has gone well but we need to bolster PAR. We will have little fish tokens for people to put in the plate to represent their PAR contributions.
- Stewardship Fundraising Ideas: Dinner at KUC - May 30. Fewer than half the people expected have signed up to date for the May 30 dinner. Starting additional publicity including Facebook groups such as Kanata Moms, and nearby churches. We can invite local politicians to mention it in their newsletters and attend themselves. Important that people sign up so that proper amounts of each food are bought.
- Fun Fair - pushed to 2026. Create a team now for proper planning and preparation.
- Hoping to start Stewardship campaign right after Thanksgiving so that it is complete before our usual request for Christmas donations.

We Steward our Ministries – Looking After Our Administrative Details and Financial Health

New Business

- Hoping for a strong Council presence for the Noon June 1 Pride Flag Raising and Open House for Centre 33. Politicians will be present. We are the hosts.
- Updated job description for CYF position, based on survey results, is now out.

Planning and Review - Clara

- *June 8, 2025* *KUC Church Picnic (Council assignments / organizers)*
- *June 17, 2025* Chair: Clara Reflection: Kathi Campbell
Fall/Winter planning (potluck at KUC at 6 pm, inviting Book Fair team)
- *September 16, 2025* Chair: Robert Reflection: Kathy Beamish
Strategic Planning for 2025/2026, Quarterly Finance Update
- *October 21, 2025* Chair: Clara Reflection: Marilyn Dean-Romanow
- *November 18, 2025* Chair: Robert Reflection: Julia Duffy
M&P salary proposal
- *December 16, 2025* Chair: Clara Reflection: Penny Gelinas
AGM, Budget, Quarterly Finance Update
- *January 20, 2026* Chair: Robert Reflection: Ed Goodridge
AGM, Budget (final), Yearly Recap, 2026 priorities

- February 17, 2026 Chair: Clara Reflection: Sue Davidson
AGM (final prep)
- *February 22, 2026 AGM*

We Go Out

Cindy led us in closing prayer.

We agreed to end the meeting at 8:50 pm.

Robert Ashton

[Robert Ashton \(Jul 1, 2025 08:05 EDT\)](#)

Chair - Robert Ashton

Al Quirt

[Al Quirt \(Jun 30, 2025 07:33 PDT\)](#)

Secretary - Al Quirt










2025-05-20 Council Minutes Draft (1)

Final Audit Report

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