



Minutes of a meeting of the Council of Kanata United Church (KUC) held in person at KUC on Tuesday June 17, 2025 at 7:00 p.m. with Clara Freire as Chair.

Present: 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), Kathleen Turner (Member at Large), Marilyn Wong (Member at Large), Ed Goodridge (B & G) **Corresponding Members:** None. **Regrets:** Al Quint (Secretary). Marilynne Dean-Romanow (B&G), Julia Duffy (Past Chair), Robert Ashton (Co-Chair)

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

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

Kathi's reflection was from 'The Serviceberry' - Robin Wall Kimmerer. In sharing Speaks to living our lives with gratitude and investing in community. Building relationships is a 'gift' and sharing what we have to offer with others is what builds relationships and community. We agreed on the agenda as circulated with an inclusion to ask M&P to review the 'Sabbatical Fund'

Moved by Shawn, seconded by Jan - Carried

We Review Past Business

Minutes

Moved by Marilyn, seconded by Kathleen to approve the minutes of the May 20th Council meeting as circulated. Carried.

Business Arising - Clara

- **Presentation from Book Fair - Marc Caron**

Marc circulated a detailed report on this year's Book Fair. Some key points reviewed included the following:

- Highlighted the volunteers. Sign up sheets filled quickly and many volunteers made for a successful event
- Increased book prices. This was still on par with other local book fairs and businesses
- Excellent marketing brought in new customers
- Children's books did not sell as well with the increased cost so will remain at \$1 going forward
- Bargain bin sold approx. 22%. Will try to highlight/advertise more

- Approx. 59% of books received. Total revenue \$53,000. Increase in price main factor
- *Council asked to help ensure volunteer requests are spread out through the year to not overload. Ensure there is clear communication. Request Council to host a volunteer dinner that would include those from the Book Fair as well as Flea Market, Puzzle Sale, etc. Also looking at creating 500 new door hangers to circulate in the community.
- **Council email updates:** Robert replied to email from Steve Free as discussed from May meeting
- **Debrief of recent events/activities**
 - Pride Flag Raising: Event well attended and several politicians present. Wonderful to see new congregants from Centre 33 at KUC and many new connections being made.
 - Church Picnic: great success. Many hands were on deck to help with food prep, set up and clean up
 - Family Dinner: very well attended with 69 adults and 10 children. 20% were non-KUC members. Youth volunteers were fabulous and willing to try new tasks in the kitchen. Will increase the cost for next event and possibly add more tables to help spread out guests as some mentioned the noise level was too loud. HUGE thanks to Shawn for his leadership.
- Communications received: None

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

- **Minister's Update - Cindy**
 - UCC 100th Anniversary was well attended by approx. 1500 people that offer both a lament and celebration (discussed past mistakes but celebrated accomplishments) KUC was well represented and special thanks to Andrea for all her work promoting and creating the orders of service. Many commented that this celebration was very well organized and uplifting proving that 'church is not dead'. AGM also had Kim from Centre 33 to talk about youth
 - UCC Structural Change Survey: Cindy feels it's important for us to submit. She will circulate and Council will submit as a combined submission
 - Cindy on vacation & sabbatical from July 6 - August 25
- **M & P Update - Jan/Penny**
 - Music Director: Please to report there are 3 applicants. Interview committee will start interviews next week before Cindy's vacation
 - Jan also shared that she will be stepping down as Chair of M&P after 6 years. New members have been recruited and a list of additional candidates will be reviewed. Plan to add 3 more people to the M&P team
- **B & G Update - Ed**
 - New portable Centre 33 will need to be painted in July along with additional needs (concrete barrier, ramp, walkway, etc.)

ACTION: Marilyne will circulate the list of needs to recruit volunteers

- **Quarterly Financial Update - Kathy**

- Draft Jan to May Income statement circulated to Council along with financial update. Book Fair was a great success helping overall though PAR & loose donations are down. It was suggested that a financial update be shared with the congregation.

ACTION: Kathy, Clara and Robert will work on an update that will include the summary from the Congregational meetings as well as a finance narrative to reflect our current situation.

Marilyn asked for clarification on how KUC uses the funds raised from Book Fair. Funds go through Outreach donations/projects, pastoral care, M&S etc.

- **Other Business**

- Andrea asked for committees, teams, individuals, etc. that are planning events to ensure they check with her first to confirm dates and use the KUC calendar as a guide.
- Garden Team has been working on a plan for the main garden out front (Memorial Garden). A backhoe will be brought in to turn the soil and a professional planner will be brought to help with the planning. Will utilize funds from the Memorial fund (approx. \$10K). Hope to have it cleaned up, soil turned and plants decided on by fall

ACTION: Ed will check to see if the backhoe can also move the concrete barriers by portable

- Volunteer Appreciation lunch/dinner should be open for all volunteers. Ensure we are open to new ideas for events/fundraisers, share the space and be sure to use the space that is booked for the time it's booked for
- Sabbatical leave - Marilyn wanted to confirm how we cover this cost. M&P has this built into their budget. Pulpit supply is covered under the Worship Budget

Growth Journey / Stewardship Team Update - Shawn

- Family Dinner was a great success with \$1300 profit. Next 4 dates are already planned (November 8th next dinner). Debrief was held with Shawn, Cindy and Sue to discuss any potential changes. Andrea once again a huge help.
- Family Fun Fair scheduled for September 19, 2026. Circus Delight will visit to determine best use of space and equipment. Will book a mobile ice cream truck
- Cooking Classes - working with contact to see when and how best to deliver cooking classes

Looking Ahead

- Sue mentioned that CYF will be working closely with Outreach to coordinate events/fundraisers together so that dates and volunteers don't overlap. It will allow youth to be involved and better engaged in outreach activities.

- Committees will have time during Council meetings to share event plans with the Council for information and support
- Outreach asked for Council's opinion on supporting a month-long fundraiser for Lebreton Flats Housing Project. It was decided that it can always be shared with the congregation and they can determine on an individual basis if it is something they wish to support
- Kathleen was looking into hosting a 'Lunch & Learn' on Inuit culture. Will decide at a later date.

Planning and Review - Clara

- 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 Gelinias
AGM, Budget, Quarterly Finance Update
- January 20, 2026 Chair: Robert Reflection: Ed Goodridge
AGM, Budget
- 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 9 pm.



Clara Freire (Oct 8, 2025 16:44:02 EDT)

Chair - Clara Freire



Suzanne Davidson (Oct 9, 2025 19:51:31 EDT)

Secretary - Sue Davidson

2025-06-17 Council Minutes

Final Audit Report

2025-10-09

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