



April 4, 2018

To: Conference Presidents/Presidents-Elect/Leading Elders, Presbytery chairs and secretaries
Co-chairs of Aboriginal Ministries Council

Re: Naming people to Regional Council Transition Commissions

When the 43rd General Council meets in Oshawa in July, it will be asked to enact the remits that have been approved by presbyteries and pastoral charges. In the meantime, much work is being done now to prepare the church for implementing the remits on January 1, 2019.

This letter is a request for names of people willing to serve on a Transition Commission for the Regional Council that will be formed in your area if the remits are enacted (see the description of its responsibilities on the accompanying outline of a draft proposal).

There will be 16 commissions in total, one for each regional council. Each region will work in its own way, and what I am wanting is for you to tell me who should form the Transition Commission for your region. I suggest that you do that by:

- Submitting one name from each presbytery that is part of the future region
- Submitting 1 or 2 names of Conference Presidents/Presidents-Elect/Past Presidents or other Conference representatives resident in the future region
- FYI, the All Native Circle Conference and the Aboriginal Ministries Council will develop a process for naming and supporting the Indigenous members of the commission. Serving on a regional council transition commission does not make any assumptions about the future relationship between Indigenous communities of faith and any regional council. The Indigenous Church is in the process of working out what dual belonging means in accordance with the Calls to the Church document.

If you have already named a transition team and there is consensus from within the region that these people should be the ones to serve on the Transition Commission, simply forward me those names and contact information.

The point is that the choice of who will be on the Regional Transition Commission should be made within the region. The mechanism for appointing the Regional Transition Commissions will be through a proposal to the General Council.

Although the Regional Transition Commissions will not be formally appointed until after enactment of Remit 1 at General Council, the people whose names you put forward will likely want to begin their work on an informal basis almost immediately. As you know, the Executive Ministers who will be serving the regions have already been appointed, and they will want to

begin working with regional elected leadership as soon as possible to begin preparing budgets, staffing models, and staffing plans. Much of this demanding work will take place in May and early June. There will be much more work continuing through 2018, and into the new year until regional meetings are held to elect new leadership.

Could you please submit names as soon as you are ready, and at least by **Wednesday, May 2?** Please provide **names, contact information, current presbytery or Conference and your future region to Thivan Hoang at thoang@united-church.ca.**

As soon as the names are submitted, your Regional Transition Commission will be contacted by your provisional Executive Minister, and if you need support or advice about the process feel free to turn to your regional Executive Minister right away.

I recognize that this timeline is very tight, but as you know from previous communications, we are working hard to ensure that people and structures are in place as quickly and thoughtfully as possible.

Thanks for your support in helping to prepare the church for the future.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Nora Sanders". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nora Sanders
General Secretary, General Council