

Fact Sheet: Serving the General Council of The United Church of Canada through Committees, Task Groups, and Representative Roles

The committees and task groups of the General Council carry out the decisions of the General Council and its Executive. This work relates to matters concerning the whole of the denomination including our theology, our polity, our ministries, and our justice work. Representatives of The United Church of Canada engage on our behalf in ecumenical dialogue or serve in common cause with our faith partners.

Opportunities to Serve

Each year there are two recruitment cycles for General Council committees, task groups, and representative roles (September–October and February–March). Details on these opportunities to serve are posted on the Website (www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/servegc) and circulated through the Conferences and networks of the church. Individuals are invited to offer their skills and gifts for a specific position and encourage others to do so.

Skills and Experience

The church is looking for people with many of the following characteristics: active participants in a local pastoral charge or ministry, familiar with the polity of The United Church of Canada, predisposed to collaboration and teamwork, sensitive to diversity issues, leaders in any court of the church, passionately committed to the mission of The United Church of Canada, and willing to discern God's yearning for this work.

Do you know someone with the skills and gifts to serve?

Is God calling *you* to share your gifts by serving the General Council?

Prayerfully consider the work of the church and who the Spirit may be calling to the current opportunities. Invite others to discern with you to confirm your sense of who is called. This can be especially important if you or the person you would like to nominate holds culturally based values that honour the call to leadership from the wisdom of others.

If you—or those you discern—feel called and are willing to serve, please submit an expression of interest. Provide the information listed below about the person willing to serve (the nominee) in no more than 500 words. The expression of interest may be written by the nominee directly or collaboratively between a nominee and nominator.

- Name and contact information
- Name of home pastoral charge/congregation or ministry
- The skills and experiences that the nominee would bring, referring to the mandate and needs of the position
- A summary of current and recent involvement in The United Church of Canada (pastoral charge, presbytery, Conference, or General Council)
- A statement by the nominee explaining his or her sense of call to this role and commitment to serve
- The names and contact information of two people who have discerned with the nominee and support this call (one of whom may be the nominator, where applicable)

If willing to be considered for more than one role, submit a separate written expression of interest for each and specify the order of preference. A person will be appointed to only one role in each recruitment cycle. Incomplete expressions of interest or those received after the deadline cannot be considered. All submitted expressions of interest will be acknowledged by e-mail to the nominee within a few days. If you do not receive acknowledgement of your submission within a week, please contact Committee Member Services.

Selection and Appointment

The Nominations Committee uses a spiritual discernment process to make recommendations for appointment to the Executive of the General Council. Prior to discernment, all names are forwarded to Conference executive secretaries/speaker for comment, and to the appropriate chairperson and staff resource for the role. Screening procedures are applicable if members are in contact with at-risk or vulnerable groups. Members who are not appointed are encouraged to express interest again when next called to do so. All who express interest will be contacted following the meeting of the Executive of the General Council.

Submit expressions of interest or direct questions to Diane Bosman, Committee Member Services:

E-mail (preferred): nominations@united-church.ca

Mail: Committee Member Services, The United Church of Canada
3250 Bloor St. West, Suite 300, Toronto, ON M8X 2Y4

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