

Biographies of Office of Vocation Ministers

These Office of Vocation ministers were appointed in September 2018. An OV minister who will serve the Indigenous Church will be announced at a later time.



Brenda Fawkes (Regions 1 and 3) is the Director of Theological Field Education and Instructor in Ministry Practice at the Vancouver School of Theology. Brenda was the project manager for BC Conference in the implementation of the Candidacy Pathway and chaired the Pathway after implementation. Through her current employment, she has established relationships with educational supervisors in BC and Alberta and has taught the Ministry of Supervision course. Brenda is a national consultant with the Sexual Misconduct Policy and Procedures. Brenda is excited to be part of the implementation of the candidacy pathway given the positive experience within BC.

Karen Medland (Regions 2, 4, and 5) is currently serving Carman United Church in Chilliwack, British Columbia. Karen brings extensive experience with the wider church, including Chair of Presbytery, Conference President, Co-Chair of Local Arrangements for General Council 2009, and service on the Conference Internship Committee. She is an Educational Supervisor and is working on her D.Min on Preaching, focusing on becoming an intercultural church. Karen is excited about supporting future leaders for the church. She plans to move into the geographical area she is serving.

Marlene Britton-Walfall (Regions 6 and 10) is currently serving Knox (Shuniah) United Church in Thunder Bay, Ontario. She is a member of the Conference Internship and Educational Supervision Committee, serves on the Association of Ministers Task Group, and is a commissioner to the 43rd General Council. Marlene has served on the Program Review Committee for the Centre for Christian Studies. She has also served the Methodist Church of the Caribbean in Belize, Barbados, and Guyana, including as a military chaplain. Marlene is excited to be supporting folk through the admission process as well as the Candidacy Pathway.

Tanya Cameron (Regions 7, 8, and 9) is currently serving as the Acting Personnel Minister of London Conference. She has supported the Education and Students system as they assess the readiness and fitness of inquirers and candidates within it. She is used to challenging conversations with ministry personnel as complaints or concerns are addressed. With a background in business administration and human resource management, Tanya is strong in planning, organization, facilitating, and evaluating, apparent in the rolling out of the Effective Leadership and Healthy Pastoral Relationships project of London Conference. She is used to working in teams and is excited to support the church in this transition.

Karen Valley (Regions 11, 12, and 13) works with The War Amps, where she has served in various capacities for 25 years. An active leader within her congregation, Zion-Memorial in Carleton Place, Ontario, Karen has honed her human relations skills in a church context. She has served on the Interim Ministry Transition Team, as Board and Council Chair, and as Chair of the Interview Team, and worked with the Ministry and Personnel Committee. For 25-plus years

Karen has worked in youth ministry in local presbyteries, the Bay of Quinte Conference, and Montreal and Ottawa Conference, and has served on the Executive of Four Rivers Presbytery. She brings a strong background in equity and accessibility. Karen is excited about supporting individuals and the systems that enable fulfillment of potential and calling, along with serving the francophone community through strong partnerships.

Andrew Richardson (Regions 14, 15, and 16) serves Trinity United Church in Summerside, PEI. Chair of the Boundaries Commission, a member of the Permanent Committee on Programs for Mission and Ministry, and a Moderator nominee in 2015, Andrew is already a leader in this denominational transition. He chairs the PEI Education and Student Committee and chaired the National Theological Education Working Group. Within the church and beyond, as Chair of the largest school district in New Brunswick, for example, Andrew brings strength in leadership and governance. Andrew has always liked working with students and is excited about establishing relationships within the regional councils and contributing to an environment of trustworthiness.