

The Presbyterian Church in Canada The Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod

Alberta, Canada

Regular Meeting September 23, 2025

Gathering in God's Name

Called to Order & Constitution

In Calgary, Alberta and within St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church there, the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod met in regular session on Tuesday, September 23, 2025, at 1:51 p.m.

Worship was led by the Rev. Laurie McKay, with Dr. Heather Bryant preaching. The incoming Moderator, Rev. Laurie McKay, was ill and departed shortly after being inducted. The outgoing Moderator, Dr. Heather Bryant served in her place pro-tem and constituted the meeting with prayer at 1:53 p.m.

Treaty 7

We are on Treaty 7 territory, the traditional lands of the Stoney Nakoda Nations of Wesley, Chiniki, and Bearspaw; three Nations of the Blackfoot Confederacy: the Pikani, Kainai and Siksika; and the Tsuut'ina First Nations.

Treaty 7 territory is also shared with the Métis Nation of Alberta, Region III.

Before the signing of Treaty 7, and prior to the establishment of provincial boundaries, this region was also used by the Ktunaxa and the Maskwacis people. We acknowledge the past, present, and future generations of these nations who help us steward this land, as well as honour and celebrate this place of creativity, collaboration, and learning.

Roll

Present with the Moderator pro-tem Heather Bryant were the ministers of Word and Sacrament: Maren McLean Persaud, Christian Persaud, Greg Smith, Daniel Surya, Bartholomew Alexander, Chandra Mannix, Christopher Joiner, Heather Carlson, Gergely Kása.

Also present were ruling elders: Moira Brownlee, Dennis Daly (*alternate from St. Giles*), Cathy Gale, Lynn Judd, Emese Mic (*alternate from Calvin*), Karen Robbins, Mary Rozsa de Coquet and Helen Snortland.

Regrets

Regrets were received from Ministers of Word and Sacrament: Peter Baek, Grant Gunnink, Jake Van Pernis and ruling elders: Sandra Cameron Evans, Marj Havens, and Tom Paasuke

Appendix Ministers on the Appendix also present: Rod Ferguson, Jean Morris, and Fiona Swanson.

Also present: Phil Gaiser (*Treasurer*), Deirdre Harris and Mary Jardine (*Mission Care Co-Conveners*).

Courtesies The Court welcomed Pat Kövér, and Layne Kilbreath.

Consent Agenda

Consent Agenda

MOVED by C. Persaud, seconded by K. Robbins, that the following reports with recommendations be approved by Consent Agenda. **CARRIED**

- **Adoption of the Minutes**
 - Regular meeting: June 10, 2025
 - Emergent meetings: June 20, 2025
June 24, 2025
September 4, 2025
- **Correspondence**

Being the Body of Christ

Consent Agenda Minutes

Adoption of Minutes – Clerk

Recommendation: that the minutes of regular meeting held on June 10, 2025, and the minutes of the emergent meetings held on June 20, June 24, and September 4, 2025 of the be accepted. **CARRIED**

Consent Agenda Correspondence

Correspondence – Clerk

The Clerk presented the correspondence.

Recommendation: that the correspondence be dealt with as indicated below. **CARRIED**

Receive for Information

25-066	A. Facey, Grace is Hiring, distributed
25-067	C. Persaud, Rev. Joe Riddell Funeral information, distributed

25-069	L. McKay, Grounded in Spirituality, Acting in Solidarity, distributed
25-070	M. Copeland, Degree updates for 2025 A&P, distributed
25-072	R. Lockhart, 2025-26 CML Certificate program, distributed
25-073	B. Weaver, 7th annual citywide pride interfaith service, distributed
25-074	Camp Kannawin, Camp news and powerpoint slide, distributed
25-076	C. Persaud, presbytery contact information, pulpit supply, distributed
25-079	Donations PCC, PCC gifts by presbytery, distributed
25-080	W. Min, How can we help your vacant churches?, distributed
25-081	K. Muir, changes to the roll, distributed
25-083	I. R-McDonald, call for nominations - associate secretary of stewardship, distributed
25-084	G. Smith, Ministry opportunity at VAPC, distributed
25-086	I. R-McDonald, PCC equity survey, distributed
25-088	Donations PCC, PCC gifts by presbytery, distributed
25-091	S. Cameron Evans, posting for recording secretary, distributed
25-092	S. Cameron Evans, posting for St. Giles office administrator, distributed
25-093	K. Muir, Referrals to presbyteries from the 2025 GA, distributed
25-096	H. Currie, notice of meeting for Synod, distributed
25-097	T. Hamilton, 2025 Minimum stipend and allowances - revision, distributed
25-098	G. Smith, Blanket exercise at VAPC, distributed
25-099	J. Astop, Important Fall grant updates, distributed
25-100	M. Jardine, Poster for The Road to Truth, distributed
25-101	R. De Vries, Certificate in Lay Leadership Course, distributed
25-102	D. Forcade, MAiD discussion, distributed
25-103	D. Harris, Trinity Fund revised application forms, distributed
25-104	Donations PCC, PCC gifts by presbytery, distributed
25-105	L. Semple, AHS Workshop, distributed
25-107	I. R-McDonald, Letter to clerks and colleges regarding counselling funds, distributed
25-108	I. R-McDonald, The fund for ministerial assistance, distributed
25-109	I. R-McDonald, Policy and procedures for addressing harassment in the church, distributed
25-110	K. Muir, Call for nominations for moderator, distributed

Refer to the Clerk

25-068	M. Tremblay, Request for Transfer of Presbytery Certificate to Presbytery of Kingston
25-071	M. Copeland, Changes affecting students, professional church workers, etc. reports
25-075	J. J. Orr, pulpit supply availability
25-077	P. Kim Sun, Listening Session at CKPC
25-078	P. Kim Sun, Listening Session at St. Giles
25-082	L. Maki, Presbytery authorization for G. Kasa
25-085	D. Delpont, Certificate of ordination request for temporary license
25-087	C. Joiner, Extract minute Knox Session August 12
25-089	K. Muir, 2025 Remit
25-090	T. Gaskarth, Extract minute St. Giles Session August 19
25-094	K. Robbins, St. Andrew's 140th anniversary
25-095	K. Muir, Overtures, petitions and memorial deadlines for 2026
25-106	D. Bonar, Extract Minute re: student minister at Centennial

Docket

The Clerk presented the docket for the day:

It was agreed that the hours of meeting be 2:00 p.m. to the conclusion of business.

Motion: MOVED by C. Persaud, seconded by G. Smith that the docket be accepted. **CARRIED**

Discerning the Future of our Presbytery

Prayer

G. Smith led us in Prayers for the work of the congregations within the Presbytery.

Permission to Withdraw

Requests to withdraw early from the court were received from C. Mannix and M. McLean Persaud at 2:45pm. **GRANTED**

**Motion to
Receive**

Motion to Receive: MOVED by B. Alexander, seconded C. Gale, that the reports be received and their recommendations considered. **CARRIED**

**Interim
Moderator
Reports
Centennial****Interim Moderator's Report for Centennial Church** – *Chandra Mannix***The Health of the Congregation:**

I have been serving as the IM for Centennial since July 2025. The current situation (Sunday attendance, finances, committee activity) has remained stable without much change over the summer or since under the previous IM (Rev. Mark Tremblay) due to the active roles of the session and multiple lay leaders. I would like to express my gratitude to the clerk of session, Doug Bonar, for his guidance, leadership, and steady presence at Centennial. He is a trusted member of the community who exemplifies transparent communication, commitment to servant leadership, and faithful presence. In addition, Okello Aballa has continued to serve the Anyuak and English-speaking adherents and members of the congregation diligently with wisdom and gentleness both in his student role and his role as an elder on session. The support with the pastoral care of the congregation, the attention to administrative responsibilities, the updating of the roll, the offering of membership education, and the coordinating of efforts with the various committees in the life of the church are a direct result of the competent leadership of these two brothers in Christ specifically, along with all of the elders on session. The session is collaborative, cooperative, and very actively leading the life of the church. Pulpit supply has been arranged until the end of November. I am providing communion on the first Sunday of each month for 2025, and most weeks I try to physically work from Centennial on Fridays, making myself available to Okelo, Doug, and others at the church. The Rev. Dr. Jean Morris has been and continues to be regularly consulted by the IM regarding Okelo and for general guidance.

Pre-Search Process:

There was no session meeting in July. In the August session meeting, a Presbytery Representative was chosen for Centennial (Simon Tibui) who will be able to attend most meetings, with alternates available. Work on ascertaining an accurate membership roll, reviewing elder districts, and discerning next steps will continue in the fall. This will include formally seeking permission from Presbytery to initiate a search, appointing a search committee, beginning the gathering and preparations for the creation of a congregational profile, and determining stipend and allowances in consultation with the Board of Managers. The session has also chosen to extend further opportunities for student ministry with Okelo Aballa, making motions at the August session meeting for him to continue

as their student minister until next May, and agreeing to provide a monthly payment of \$6,500. His supervision (as well as the development and finalizing of these terms of reference from October until May) will continue to be led by the Clergy Care Committee at the Presbytery, though the session did provide a 'pre-approved' list of numerous acceptable duties to the committee for their consideration in advance of the September Presbytery meeting to increase the efficiency of the approval process. While the session is demonstrating their strong commitment and support to Okelo, including being willing to pay for his ministry in full, the congregation would appreciate the ongoing financial support of Presbytery and would appreciate \$3,000 per month towards his pay. They understand that this request could be rejected, and currently have an unrestricted fund invested with the PCC from which they could draw to provide the full payment in that event. However, they ask Presbytery to recognize that the congregation has very low offerings which they have committed to addressing through their Board of Managers. The formal motions regarding student ministry will come through Presbytery Care.

IM Report
Knox, Calgary

Interim Moderator's Report for Knox Church Calgary – Chris Joiner

The following are the Terms of Reference for the Interim Moderator with appropriate updates.

Interim leadership to guide the Session and congregation in moving expediently into an amalgamation with another congregation of the presbytery, ensuring appropriate stewardship of the congregation and assets.

1. Active guidance and facilitation/coordination and convening of the Transition Team (managing the operational and administrative needs of Knox budget, rentals, etc.), the Conversation Team (discussions with potential congregations for amalgamation, the Session, and the Congregation).
 - a. Transition Team – I have had one meeting with the Transition Team in September.
 - b. Conversation Team – I met with the Conversation Team five times in June and July, culminating in the decision of the team to recommend to the Session an amalgamation process with St. Giles.
 - c. Session – I met with the Session four times – twice in regular meetings and twice in emergent meetings to consider Conversation Team matters.

- d. Congregation – I have communicated updates to the congregation regarding the amalgamation decisions and will call a meeting once there is an amalgamation plan to consider.
2. Work with Session and the congregation to prepare a decision for the future to bring to presbytery by June 30, 2025. If the decision is to amalgamate with an existing congregation, there will need to be confirmation of the decision by both sessions involved.

In working with the Conversation Team and Session, we determined the need to extend this deadline. An extension was granted by the Moderator and Clerk. We were able to complete this work and bring a recommendation to an emergent meeting of presbytery on September 4. Please see my report for that meeting for details.

3. Work with Session and congregation to prepare a detailed plan for the future to bring to presbytery by the October regular meeting (October 21).

I have been working closely with leadership with St. Giles following the September 4 meeting of presbytery to schedule an initial joint meeting with the sessions from each church to work on an amalgamation plan. We are closely following the process laid out in the "Policy for the Amalgamation or Dissolution of Congregations: Revised, January 2019" published by the Presbyterian Church in Canada national office, to which I refer the members of presbytery for details.

To date I have met with St. Giles's leadership two times to go through the policy and map out next steps, and we are currently arranging the first joint meeting of the sessions.

Due to the extension of the initial deadline for presbytery approval of the process, it is not likely we will have a plan ready for the October regular meeting of the presbytery.

Amalgamation
Plan Extension

MOTION: It is moved by Chris Joiner, seconded by Chandra Mannix that the presbytery grant an extension of the deadline for the detailed amalgamation plan to December 15, 2025. **CARRIED**

4. Work with Session, presbytery and a potential amalgamation partner to continue next steps for the building (at present these steps involve supporting presbytery's due diligence around the future of the building, i.e., reviewing possibilities for development by the presbytery and/or facilitating the terms of an amalgamation plan where the building would be among assets to be considered. Any

sale of the building would require presbytery's approval of a formal request).

We invited Joel Den Haan to make an initial presentation to the September 4 emergent meeting of presbytery. We intend to invite him to a subsequent joint meeting of the sessions to outline potential next steps in fulfilling the above mandate of presbytery. I anticipate this will involve a request for funding to enable us to hire the appropriate real estate consultants for a comprehensive assessment of both the Knox and St. Giles properties. We will take this counsel into account in the amalgamation plan.

5. Regular written communication to the congregation in conjunction with Session ensuring information is shared and questions and concerns are addressed.

See 1.d above.

6. Moderate Session and Congregational meetings.

See 1.c above.

7. Ensure that pastoral care and pulpit supply are in place (currently being managed by congregational volunteers) and address any potential conflicts of interest in pulpit supply.

I confirmed with current volunteers their willingness to continue providing coverage for pastoral care and pulpit supply, which they agreed to do and have done so ably, with attention to the conflict-of-interest issues.

8. Ensure that regular communication about the process is continuing with renters, building users and with churches that have expressed interest.

Regular communication has gone out to the users of the building updating terms of rental to include a one-month notice provision. I held off on any meetings with users who had an interest in purchasing the building until we had greater clarity on direction. I have a meeting scheduled this month with some of those users.

9. Report regularly to the Presbytery

These reports will happen at each regular meeting of presbytery. Additionally, I supplied a report to the emergent meeting on September 4.

10. Encourage an awareness that presbytery is responsible for the general oversight and well-being of congregations and has the right,

among other options, to “unite or disjoin congregations in pastoral charges, raise or reduce the status of charges as self-supporting...and to dissolve congregations...” (200.9).

I communicated this to the leadership at Knox early in my time as Interim Moderator and continued to emphasize it throughout the process.

11. Will work with the support of the current Interim Moderator until June 30, 2025, to ensure continuity and progress of the process.

I worked closely with Rev. Greg Smith throughout June, meeting in person and on the phone numerous times. He was generous with his time and very helpful in acclimating me to the work that had happened to date, making introductions, and seeing that I had all the necessary documents. He was also able to bring to a resolution a couple of outstanding matters. Greg's work with Knox was fruitful in helping them make important decisions in their discernment process and preparing them for the next phase of the process. I am grateful to him for his faithful work.

Committee Reports

Clergy Care

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Clergy Care and Resource – *Chris Joiner & Daniel Surya (Co-Conveners)*

Background

The Clergy Care Committee met on September 8, 2025, from 7:00 to 8:07 PM via Zoom. Present were Lynn Judd, Toomas Paasuke, Pat Kover, Sherry Shephard, Rod Ferguson, Bruce Clendening, and Daniel Surya. Regrets were received from Chris Joiner, who was attending another meeting at Grace.

The meeting was opened with prayer and a short devotion by Rev. Daniel Surya on the theme “Eyes to See the Good.”

Discussion

1. Confidentiality Procedures

The committee considered which body should be responsible for overseeing confidentiality: the Presbytery Care Committee, the Clergy Care Committee, or both together.

2. Student Oversight Team Report

The committee expressed support for the proposal to hold a Fall 2025 Recognition Service of Thanksgiving for Okelo's ministry, both within presbytery and the Anyuak Community where he has served for 19 years. Concern was also expressed regarding Okelo's workload as he completes his studies at Vancouver School of Theology while caring for his family.

3. Committee Liaison

Toomas Paasuke requested a break from his liaison role. The committee agreed that Rev. Daniel Surya will assume this responsibility.

4. Professional Development

Discussion focused on aligning professional development opportunities with presbytery meeting schedules to accommodate clergy from outside Calgary. The matter of budget support for clergy professional development was also raised. Bruce Clendening shared information about a University of Calgary program costing \$599, prompting reflection on how clergy may be supported financially.

5. Clergy Survey

The committee discussed uncertainty about whether a presbytery clergy survey has been conducted in the past, and if such a survey should be considered in the future.

6. Visitation Plan 2025/2026

Clarification is needed with the Congregational Care Committee regarding visitation responsibilities, scheduling, and evaluation of the 2024/2025 plan.

7. Clergy Wellbeing

The committee raised the question of who will organize the annual Presbytery retreat. Members also affirmed the value of the June social gatherings and recommended continuing them in 2025/2026.

8. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled via Doodle poll, with consideration given to Harle's availability.

Considerations

CONSIDERATIONS:

1. That Presbytery clarify the responsibility for managing confidentiality (Care Committee, Clergy Care Committee, or both).
2. That Presbytery affirm the proposal for a Fall 2025 Recognition Service of Thanksgiving for Okelo's ministry, while also noting the committee's concern for his workload.
3. That Presbytery encourage further discussion regarding budget support for clergy professional development opportunities.

4. That Presbytery request clarification from the Congregational Care Committee regarding visitation responsibilities and evaluation of the 2024/2025 plan.
5. That Presbytery appoint an organizer for the annual Presbytery retreat.

Gladys Black
Application

MOTION: Moved by M. Rozsa de Coquet, seconded by C. Mannix, that Okelo's application to the Gladys Black scholarship be approved.
CARRIED

Centennial
Student Ministry

MOTION: Moved by M. Rozsa de Coquet, seconded by C. Mannix, that Presbytery approve a continuing student appointment for Okelo Aballa at Centennial starting October 1, 2025 through June 1, 2026. **CARRIED**

MOTION: Moved by M. Rozsa de Coquet, seconded by C. Mannix, that presbytery pay \$3000 per month for 8 months.

Discussion:

Where would the funds come from?

There were funds budgeted each year for hiring a general presbyter which have not been used to date.

What's the thought behind the motion for \$3000 (as opposed to \$1000 for example)?

This was basically a halfway point. Not a lot of thought given around other percentages or amounts.

We do not want to make it appear like the onus is on the presbytery to financially support the student just because presbytery has oversight of candidates for ministry.

Essentially it seemed like this was seeking a subsidy for the congregation. Wanted to ensure that there would not be an ongoing expectation for presbytery to pay for students under their oversight.

CARRIED

MOTION: Moved by M. Rozsa de Coquet, seconded by C. Mannix, that presbytery approve and re-confirm that the Clergy Care Committee through the current Oversight Team (as opposed to a presbytery-appointed Interim Moderator or mentor) support Okelo through the provision of

pastoral care, encouragement of his ministry through his student placement at Centennial and coach him in his theological studies. **CARRIED**

Last Meeting: September 8, 2025

Next Meeting: October 6, 2025 via Zoom

**Congregational
Care**

Congregational Care and Resource – Jake Van Pernis (Convenor)

No report

Mission Care

Mission Care and Resource Committee – Deirdre Harris & Mary Jardine (Co-Conveners)

Trinity Fund Applications for Mission and New Ministries:

Revised application forms are included in this Presbytery Report. The Representative Elders should ensure that all congregations are aware of these. Deadline for submission is October 15. We have been strongly encouraged to invite applications. There are significant funds available.

Revised TOR for the Trinity Fund will be discussed at our next MCRC meeting and recommendations will be brought to the October Presbytery meeting.

Walk As We – An Urban, Ecumenical Indigenous Ministry:

The MCRC has had several conversations with both Rev. Laurie McKay and Rev. Layne Kilbreath. The proposal as presented is still in its early stages. The MCRC has asked for more information that will guide us in our discussions. For example, are there community partners that could participate? Could *Walk as We* operate under the umbrella of or in partnership with Hummingbird Ministries in B.C.? It will be important that this project fit the strategic priorities of the Presbytery. The MCRC is aware that several fundraising letters have been circulated. We look forward to further discussions.

Partnerships:

No update at this time. Partnerships will be discussed at our next MCRC meeting. Outcomes and recommendations from this discussion will be brought to a Presbytery meeting this Fall.

Ray Aldred educational event:

This well attended event on June 20 and 21 was deemed a genuine success. Our thanks to Rev. Chandra and the St. Giles team for implementing a thoughtful, informative, and insightful 2 days.

Committee Recruitment:

The committee continues to explore several suggestions for new members. We will re-issue an invitation to Rev. Gergely Kasa. He had expressed an interest in perhaps becoming involved this Fall.

Work Plan:

This is a work in progress. We are exploring an opportunity to bring the Mission reps together this Fall.

Trinity Fund
Application Forms

Trinity Fund Application for Mission and New Ministries

To honour the legacy of the former Trinity Presbyterian Church, the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod has established the "Trinity Fund for Mission Initiatives". It was merged with the existing "Fund for New Ministry Initiatives". The grants offered are from the interest generated from these combined assets. *They are intended to encourage congregations to be more engaged with the communities they serve.*

The Trinity Fund Grant is a single-year grant, with the freedom to apply the following year for further funding. Annual grant deadlines are on February 15 and October 15 of each year, and will be considered by an adjudicating subcommittee of the Mission Care and Resource Committee (MCRC) convened by a member of the MCRC, with recommendations given for approval to the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod.

There are two grants available. The first is for *smaller projects* (small capital projects or equipment needed for missional ministry), with a maximum \$10,000 available, and no need for follow up funding in subsequent years anticipated. These are single year grants for missional projects that align with the terms of reference for the Trinity Grant.

The second grant is for *larger, more experimental missional projects*, with a maximum limit set at \$30,000 per year. They are undertaken with the understanding that relationships take time to build, and that time is often required to determine if there are sufficient resources (people, space, energy, funding) available for continuation. Follow up grants may be needed in subsequent years, and these applications are encouraged, with the understanding that there is no guarantee of future funding. Each year's application will be considered for the stage the experimental missional project it is in, and for what funding is needed in each calendar year. There are a maximum of 2 follow up applications allowed for the same project (i.e. maximum 3 years funding for an experimental missional project).

Small Grant Form

Trinity Fund Grant - Small Grant Form

Maximum Request \$10,000

Important Dates and Information	
Application Deadline	11:59 pm October 15, 2025
Email Application and Questions to	missioncare@calgarymacleod.ca
Tentative Notification Time	End of November 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Submission Date:

Congregation Name:

Church Name:

Applicant's Name:

Email:

Phone Number:

Address:

Project Name:

Location of Project:

Cheque Payable to:

Charitable Status/BN Registration Number:

Has your session approved the full application as written below:

Amount requested:

Format Instructions: Application responses should use a 10-12 point font, no smaller than 1" margins and single-line spacing. **Please use the questions as "headings" for your responses.** Applications should be emailed back in either **DOCX or PDF format.** Budget information should be submitted as an attachment in a **DOCX, PDF or XLSX** formatted file.

SUMMARY

This Summary section will serve as a public description and summary of successfully funded projects, whether wholly or partially.

1) Provide a summary/description of the project, including the following:

- Project Title
- Purpose or goal of the project
- Who is it intended to benefit?
- What factors led to the development of this idea?
- Does it build on previous work or is it a new venture?

Total section maximum length - one page

ALIGNMENT

- 2) Please explain how this initiative aligns with the terms of reference for the Trinity Fund for Mission and New Initiatives. For example, how will the proposed equipment purchase facilitate the missional efforts of the congregation?
- 3) Describe how this project will further the Christian faith of the people involved.

Total section maximum length - two pages

FEASIBILITY

Total section maximum length - one page, not including budget. For funding requests to be spent over multiple years (max. three years), please provide an annualized budget. (Attach budget separately)

- 4) Proposed Start Date of Funding (month/year):
- 5) Proposed End Date of Funding (month/year):
- 6) Proposed timeline of the Project:
- 7) Please list any external partners involved in the project.
- 8) Please include the project budget in a separate document listing:

Revenue

- dollars requested in this application
- financial contributions from other sources (granting organizations, businesses, the congregation, individuals)
- projected ticket or item sales or participant donations in-kind contributions
- other

Expenses

- project costs or quotes for equipment or materials
 - professional fees or personnel costs
 - communication and promotion
 - other
- 9) Are the financial contributions from other sources confirmed or, if not, when will confirmation be received?
- 10) Can the project be completed with the requested funds? If not, what is the plan for the completion of the project?
- 11) Approximately how many volunteers will the project require? Can the project be implemented if there are not the number desired? How many volunteers are confirmed at this time?

LEARNING AND IMPACT

Total section maximum length - one page

- 12) Please describe how you will measure the success of the project (both qualitative and quantitative). These should include:
- What are the specific achievements you envision as the result of the project?
 - What community relationships do you hope to foster? What community engagement do you hope will continue beyond the length of the project?
 - How will this project encourage leadership development within your congregation?
- 13) In what ways will the results of this project be shared with the wider church? At minimum, a report to Presbytery will need to be made (format TBA).
- 14) Please provide any other thoughts about your project's impact.

SIGNATURES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Please have the following people date and sign this application:

- Project Coordinator
- Clerk of Session
- Presbytery Representative for your congregation

Large Grant Form

Trinity Fund Grant - Large Grant Form Maximum Request \$30,000

Important Dates and Information	
Application Deadline	11:59 pm Oct 15, 2025
Email Application and Questions to	missioncare@calgarymacleod.ca
Tentative Notification Time	End of November 2025

ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS

Submission Date:

Congregation Name:

Church Name:

Applicant's Name:

Email:

Phone Number:

Address:

Project Name:

Location of Project:

Cheque Payable to:

Charitable Status/BN Registration Number:

Has your session approved the full application as written below:

Amount requested:

Format Instructions: Application responses should use a 10-12 point font, no smaller than 1" margins and single-line spacing. **Please use the questions as "headings" for your responses.** Applications should be emailed back in either **DOCX or PDF format.** Budget information should be submitted as an attachment in a **DOCX, PDF or XLSX** formatted file.

SUMMARY

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- 1) Provide a summary/description of the project, including the following:
 - Project title
 - Purpose or goal of the project
 - Who is it intended to benefit?
 - What factors led to the development of this idea?
 - Does it build on previous work, or is it a new venture?

Total section maximum length - one page

ALIGNMENT

- 2) Please explain how this initiative aligns with the terms of reference for the Trinity Fund for Mission and New Initiatives. What is the experiential question being asked?
- 3) Describe how this project will further the Christian faith of the people involved.

Total section maximum length - two pages

FEASIBILITY

Total section maximum length - one page, not including budget. For funding requests to be spent over multiple years (max. three years), please provide an annualized budget. (Attach budget separately.)

- 4) Proposed Start Date of Funding (month/year):
- 5) Proposed End Date of Funding (month/year):
- 6) Proposed timeline of the Project (include project information beyond the applied for funding window if appropriate, such as planning a renewal application to the Trinity Fund):
- 7) Please list any external partners involved in the project.
- 8) Please include the project budget in a separate document listing:

Revenue

- dollars requested in this application
- financial contributions from other sources (granting organizations, businesses, the congregation, individuals)
- projected ticket or item sales or participant donations in-kind contributions
- other

Expenses

- project costs or quotes for equipment or materials
- professional fees or personnel costs
- communication and promotion
- other

9) Are the financial contributions from other sources confirmed or, if not, when will confirmation be received?

10) Can the project be completed with the requested funds? If not, what is the plan for the completion of the project?

11) Approximately how many volunteers will the project require? Can the project be implemented if there are not the number desired? How many volunteers are confirmed at this time?

LEARNING AND IMPACT**Total section maximum length - one page**

12) Please describe how you will measure the success of the project (both qualitative and quantitative). These should include:

- What are the specific achievements you envision as the result of the project?
- What community relationships do you hope to foster? What community engagement do you hope will continue beyond the length of the project?
- How will this project encourage leadership development within your congregation?

13) In what ways will the results of this project be shared with the wider church? At minimum, a report to Presbytery will need to be made (format TBA).

14) Please provide any other thoughts about your project's impact.

SIGNATURES AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Please have the following people date and sign this application:

- Project Coordinator
- Clerk of Session
- Presbytery Representative for your congregation

Camp Kannawin Representative: *Vacant*

Calgary Interfaith Council: *Mary Rozsa de Coquet*

Carolyn Meussig shared that the University of Calgary announced that the Faculty of Arts is undertaking 3-yr review process. They are currently not taking in new students under religious studies. There is a consultation process with community, imploring involvement, so that there is solid feedback for the university regarding the value of religious studies, student experience, etc. The clerk will circulate an email about this.

Indigenous Gathering Place: *Cathy Gale*

In mid-August the Indigenous Gathering Place Society announced that it had renewed the partnership agreement with the City of Calgary. In the first part of this year, it was clear there were some issues that needed clarifying and resolving. This renewed partnership re-establishes the relationship between the City and the IGP, providing a clear framework in how the project will move forward. This agreement strengthens the accountability in how the vision of an IGP will become a reality. Next steps include identification of project land, the various funding pathways that will be explored, and establishing clear business cases reflecting current realities. While there are new Indigenous spaces emerging across the city, the Society remains committed to providing an Indigenous-led and purposefully built, culturally safe, space for celebration, ceremony, connection, healing and learning. The Board of the Indigenous Gathering Place Society is primarily composed of Indigenous leaders, and is co-chaired by Buddie Dixon and Shawna Morning Bull.

Ecumenical Campus Ministry, Lethbridge: *Karen Robbins* – No Report Received

Ecumenical Campus Ministry, Medicine Hat: *Joyce Engel*

Medicine Hat Ecumenical Campus Ministry Student Retreat

Planning is underway for the Fourth Medicine Hat Ecumenical Campus Ministry Student Retreat. Gathering at Whispering Pines Camp near Elkwater, students have an opportunity to connect with God, nature and each other! Food, Fun and Fellowship is a great way to describe the retreat. Running from Friday Evening, September 12, through noon on Sunday, the weekend offers a wonderful balance of activities including Rockwall Climbing, Archery, Paintball and Hiking. Evening Campfires supplement times of Praise and Worship as students leave the city and enjoy the beauty of the Cypress Hills. In a typical year our students will come from 8 to 10 different countries and represent multiple religions and

faith traditions. For many this is their first taste of the raw beauty of Canada. During the retreat, relationships are established that last throughout college and beyond. For those who find the \$80.00 registration fee prohibitive, a limited number of scholarships are available.



Next Meeting: First week in October, tbd

Presbytery
Care

Presbytery Care and Resource – Sandra Cameron Evans (Convener)

Presbytery Secretary

The posting for the position has been recirculated amongst the congregations.

Monies From the Closing of St. Andrew's, Fort Macleod/Determining Future Presbytery Priorities

The committee agreed to hire a facilitator who would lead the presbytery in determining future presbytery-wide priorities to guide the use of these and other non-designated funds. A Request for Assistance has gone out.

Letter from Knox, Calgary

The Clerk of Presbytery had received a letter from the Session of Knox, Calgary in February 2024 that was forwarded to the Presbytery Care and Resource Committee at that time. In its May 2024 report, the Presbytery Care and Resource committee shared that an Ad Hoc Team had been

formed to work with Knox Session on the issue with a follow-up to happen in a year's time. The Knox Session has completed the identified follow-up. The issue is resolved.

Additional Compensation for the Presbytery Clerk

The Presbytery Care and Resource Committee, without the Clerk in attendance, agreed that in the absence of a Recording Secretary or Deputy Clerk, starting in June 2025, to increase the Clerk's honorarium by \$100/month. This will be reviewed at such time as either position is filled.

Clerk
Honorarium

RECOMMENDATION: Moved by D. Surya, seconded by G. Smith. That effective June 2025 and until such time as either the Presbytery Secretary or Deputy Clerk position is filled, the Presbytery Clerk's honorarium will be increased by \$100/month. **CARRIED**

Associate Secretary for Stewardship

The PCC is searching for candidates for the position of Associate Secretary for Stewardship. Applications are to be submitted to Ian Ross-McDonald by email by October 10, 2025.

Signing Authority for Presbytery

With the departure of Rev. Mark Tremblay, the presbytery requires a third signing authority in addition to Phil Gaiser and Sandy Churchill.

Signing
Authority

RECOMMENDATION: Moved by D. Surya, seconded by G. Smith, that Christian Persaud be named as a signer for the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod. **CARRIED**

Presbytery Committees for 2025-26

- 7-9 members; ½ can be non-presbyters
- Presbytery Care: 1 liaison from other 3 committees, the Moderator, a convener, 3 Members at Large

Clergy	Congregational	Mission	Presbytery
Chris Joiner/Daniel Surya (Co-convener)	Jake Van Pernis (Convener)	Deirdre Harris/Mary Jardine (Co-convener)	Sandra Cameron Evans (Convener)
Harle Burnett	Bartholomew Alexander	John Chik	Peter Baek
Bruce Clendening	Heather Bryant	Gergely Kása	Heather Bryant
Rod Ferguson		Chandra Mannix	Laurie McKay
Lynn Judd	Cathy Gale	Mary Lil Rozsa de Coquet	Mary Lil Rozsa de Coquet (Mission Liaison)

Pat Kover	Marj Havens	Helen Snortland	Daniel Surya (Clergy Liaison)
Tom Paasuke	Maren McLean Persaud		Jake Van Pernis (Cong Liaison)
Sherry Shephard	Karen Robbins		Christian Persaud (Clerk)
	Greg Smith		Phil Gaiser (Treasurer)

Grant
Application

Grant Application Centennial, Calgary

In reviewing the application, it was noted that the response to *describe the ministry's partners/launch team*, needed to be updated.

RECOMMENDATION: Moved by D. Surya, seconded by C. Joiner, that presbytery approve the application of Centennial, Calgary to the New and Renewing Ministry Fund, contingent upon recommended changes to the application and the expected approval of Centennial Session. **CARRIED**

Presbytery Committee for Valleyview Voluntary Withdrawal

With the move of Rev. Mark Tremblay, the Presbytery Care and Resource committee is searching for a replacement member on this committee.

Application for Synod of Alberta and the Northwest Funds

Regional funds from the PCC are available from Synod for presbytery purposes.

Regional Funds
Request

RECOMMENDATION: Moved by D. Surya, seconded by C. Mannix, that presbytery request \$5000 from Synod to use for a facilitator to lead the presbytery in determining future presbytery-wide priorities. **CARRIED**

Amalgamation Support Team

The Policy for the PCC Amalgamation or Dissolution of Congregations references a presbytery committee to support the congregations through the amalgamation process. The Presbytery Care and Resource Committee is working to form this team.

*Respectfully submitted,
Sandra Cameron Evans*

***Last meeting: September 11 at 9:30AM by Zoom.
Next meeting: October 9 at 9:30AM by Zoom***

Transition Team **Transition Team** – Heather Bryant

Report from Transition Team

The Transitional Team met in August with some of our incoming members and some of our 2024/25 members. There were two principal areas of discussion.

General Presbyter Position

Heather Bryant and Chris Joiner have met and developed a letter to be sent directly to potential candidates. Following circulation to the Transition Team, the letter was sent out to about 25 individuals and follow-up is ongoing.

The chief comment made by a few presbyters about this position have been whether it should be full-time. As presbytery has only approved a part-time role to date, the invitation letters reiterated this but encouraged respondents to consider what portion of an FTE they would require to fulfill the role.

It was also noted that the prior incumbents had only been paid a portion of a stipend, and no housing allowance. In order to make the salary fair and competitive, for those who are not already receiving a full-time housing allowance, the Transition Team noted that the remuneration offered should be the relevant FTE portion of the stipend and housing allowance received by most ministers in the presbytery. The Transition Team wants to bring this to the presbytery's attention, and invite any comments as we move towards filling this role.

Confidentiality and storage of presbytery documents

The confidentiality work had been discussed by presbytery in April, and the recommendation was made that the consultant (Sarah Moore-Nokes) put together a list of what reports could be considered confidential to the requisite committee, and which should be widely shared with the presbytery and posted with their minutes.

This has been completed and now has been circulated to the new convenors. It will be discussed at the next Transition Team meeting with the plan to bring some recommendations to the presbytery in October.

*Respectfully submitted,
Heather Bryant*

Treasurer's
Report

Treasurer's Report – Phil Gaiser

Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod Comparative Income Statement

	Actual 01/01/2025 to 06/30/2025	Actual 01/01/2024 to 06/30/2024
REVENUE		
Revenue		
Dues	52,722.98	62,429.46
Fort MacLeod Funds	50,534.99	0.00
Revenue	103,257.97	62,429.46
 Other Revenue		
Investment Interest	13,551.13	10,904.43
Unrealized Gains	49,723.18	32,835.22
Total Other Revenue	63,274.31	43,739.65
 TOTAL REVENUE	 166,532.28	 106,169.11
 EXPENSE		
Community		
Community	0.00	350.00
Community	0.00	350.00
 Missions		
University of Lethbridge Grants	3,000.00	1,500.00
Medicine Hat College	1,000.00	750.00
New Ministries Initiatives	0.00	4,200.00
Trinity Grants	47,000.00	0.00
Missions Total	51,000.00	6,450.00
 Pastoral Effectiveness		
Workshops	9,289.30	8,994.64
Police Checks	0.00	110.95
Pastoral Effectiveness Total	9,289.30	9,105.59
 Payroll Expenses		
Student Ministry	5,000.00	0.00
Total Payroll Expense	5,000.00	0.00

Clerk of Presbytery
Christian Persaud

General & Administrative Expenses

Website	750.00	604.92
Presbytery Retreat	5,768.27	12,797.19
Promotion	324.00	0.00
Synod Dues	14,609.50	15,930.50
Clerk - Secretarial	100.00	0.00
Clerk - Honorarium	4,999.98	5,599.98
Treasurer	11.00	0.00
Travel	7,668.76	8,895.99
Bank Charges	33.04	40.02
Office Supplies	257.90	0.00
Miscellaneous Expenses	171.03	0.00
Total General & Admin. Expenses	<u>34,693.48</u>	<u>43,868.60</u>
TOTAL EXPENSE	<u>99,982.78</u>	<u>59,774.19</u>
NET INCOME	<u>66,549.50</u>	<u>46,394.92</u>

**Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod
Comparative Balance
Sheet**

	As at 06/30/202 5	As at 06/30/2024	
ASSET			
Current Assets			
Chequing Bank Account	<u>34,506.99</u>	<u>12,650.93</u>	
Total Cash	34,506.99		12,650.93
Investments - RBC Black Acct	10,105.00		10,105.00
Investments - RBC	384,352.50		365,193.05
South of Fish Creek Fund	1,006,709.49		894,476.22
Accounts Receivable	41,932.19		38,440.31
Accounts Receivable GST	4.02		16.90
Knox Loan	<u>32,500.00</u>		<u>50,500.00</u>
Total Current Assets	<u>1,510,110.19</u>		<u>1,371,382.41</u>
TOTAL ASSET	<u>1,510,110.19</u>		<u>1,371,382.41</u>
LIABILITY			

Clerk of Presbytery
Christian Persaud

Current Liabilities

Accounts Payable	-5,933.33	6,855.14
Accounts Payable Promotion	3,032.68	3,032.68
GST Paid on Purchases	<u>-241.01</u>	<u>-63.14</u>
GST	-241.01	-63.14
Prepaid Dues	99.62	1,605.63
Clerk's Conference	575.00	575.00
Youth Conferences	723.35	723.35
Youth Ministry	<u>2,000.00</u>	<u>2,000.00</u>
Total Current Liabilities	<u>256.31</u>	<u>14,728.66</u>

TOTAL LIABILITY256.3114,728.66**EQUITY****Owners Equity**

Trinity Funds	748,790.81	748,790.81
Retained Earnings - Previous Year	694,513.57	561,468.02
Current Earnings	<u>66,549.50</u>	<u>46,394.92</u>
Total Owners Equity	<u>1,509,853.88</u>	<u>1,356,653.75</u>

TOTAL EQUITY1,509,853.881,356,653.75**LIABILITIES AND EQUITY**1,510,110.191,371,382.41

*Respectfully submitted,
Phil Gaiser*

**Request for a
Consultation**

Request for a consultation – *Maren McLean Persaud, Christian Persaud or Tom Paasuke*

The request is for the purpose of seeking information, clarification, or general advice on how to proceed with a matter that concerns the presbyter.

Clerk's Report

CLERK'S REPORT – *Christian Persaud*

Representative Elders 2025-26

A letter was sent to Clerks of Session and Clergy asking them to name their respective representative Elder, and alternate, to Presbytery.

Responses are still required from:

Knox, Calgary

Knox, Bassano & Gem

Clerk of Presbytery
Christian Persaud

St. John's
St. Paul's
Valleyview

Contact List

A draft of the contact list has been circulated. Please advise if any changes are required, or if you have additional information to provide (eg. date of ordination, alternate elder, etc.)

Synod

Synod will be taking place Friday, October 17 – Saturday, October 18 at St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Calgary. Registration begins at 1pm. Presbyters are expected to attend. If representative elders are unable to attend, please make arrangements with your respective alternate.

Hotel information was circulated by email on August 28.

Reports will be sent out at a later date. There will be an educational component built into Synod with the Rev. Dr. Dale Woods as our speaker, with a topic of "Considering Conversations for Change."

Changes to the Roll

Rev. Mark Tremblay requested his presbytery certificate be transferred to the Presbytery of Kingston effective July 1, 2025.

Revs. Bertalan and Eniko Bocskorás were never officially removed from the appendix. The clerk has been in touch with them regarding a historical certificate so that they can be identified as ministers in good standing with the PCC, but not on our appendix to the roll since they have not lived within the bounds of the presbytery for over two years.

Leading with Care – Fire Drill Procedures

Due in September: Knox, Bassano; Calvin; Grace

Upcoming:

St. Andrew's, Calgary; St. Andrew's, Lethbridge; St. John's (October)
St. Giles (November)

Overdue

- Varsity Acres (July)
- Westminster (May)
- Centennial (April)
- St. Paul's (February)
- Gem (January)

- Knox, Calgary (November)

*Respectfully submitted,
Christian Persaud*

Other Business**Other Business****Voluntary
Withdrawal****Voluntary Withdrawal Committee**

The session of Valleyview Community Church has been collecting documents to present a “package” to the congregation, likely in early October. 30 days after the package has been received, a congregational meeting will be held, and the first vote will take place. The second vote will take place 6 months later at another congregational meeting.

The package will include 2 appraisals of the property (2.6 and 2.7 million), an audited statement of all financials (underway), and the potential future of the congregation.

The Voluntary Withdrawal Committee will review the package, consult with the Chief Financial Officer and the Clerk of Assembly before it is distributed to the congregation.

The Presbytery Care committee is asking another person to take Rev. Mark Tremblay's position on the committee.

*Respectfully submitted,
Laurie McKay on behalf of the Voluntary Withdrawal Committee*

**General
Assembly
Commissioner
Reports****General Assembly Commissioner Reports**

This past week, I had the privilege of serving once again as a commissioner to the 2025 General Assembly of the Presbyterian Church in Canada.

From June 1 to 5, commissioners from across the country gathered at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario—to pray, to worship, to discern, and to make decisions together as a church.

This year was especially meaningful, as we marked the 150th anniversary of our denomination.

What a sacred milestone. One hundred and fifty years of worship and witness, of faithful communities seeking to follow Jesus together—across generations, geographies, and changing times.

It was a gift to be there.

Throughout the days, I found myself struck by the beauty of our process—not just in the reports and recommendations, but in the very way we gather. There's something deeply thoughtful about how we structure our time, how we speak, how we listen. Motions rise, amendments are offered, discussions unfold. The rhythm might seem slow from the outside, but inside it, there's care. There's trust. There's space for many voices and perspectives.

We use certain rules of order to guide us. It's more than a set of procedures—it's a framework for listening. A way to ensure that every voice has room. That discernment is shared. That we move not hastily, but humbly. At its best, it's not just governance—it's grace in practice.

I witnessed that grace again and again.

I saw it when someone stood up to speak with courage and vulnerability. I saw it when people disagreed with gentleness and conviction. I saw it when someone voiced a minority view, and rather than being dismissed, they were heard with full attention. Even when a motion passed, those who didn't agree were still given space to register their dissent—not as division, but as faithfulness to their conscience.

That stayed with me.

Because in a world that often demands certainty and sides, there's something holy about a church that makes room for discernment and difference. That doesn't rush to easy answers. That allows people to stay—even when they see things differently.

At one point, during worship, we sang a setting of Psalm 100: *“All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.”* And as I sang, I looked around the room. I saw ministers, elders, young adults, retired clergy, first-time commissioners, and long-serving saints—all gathered in one space. And I found myself filled with gratitude. Not because we all thought alike, but because we chose to be there. Together.

I thought about those who came before us. The ones who gathered in 1875 to form the Presbyterian Church in Canada. The ones who preached in barns, taught children in makeshift Sunday schools, who opened their doors during storms and sang hymns in uncertain times. I thought about

the prayers whispered in kitchens and the sermons preached in small chapels on quiet corners of the land.

And I wondered what they would think of us now. I think—they would recognize us. Not by the form or the technology. But by the spirit.

Because even now, 150 years later, we are still trying to listen. Still trying to follow Jesus. Still trying to be faithful in a complicated world.

And we're doing it together.

As we sat through session after session, it was the words of Jeremiah 29:11 that we returned to together—*“For I know the plans I have for you,” declares the Lord, “plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future and a hope.”* It became a shared anchor, a quiet thread running through our time together.

That promise wasn't made in easy times. It was spoken to exiles. To people far from home, uncertain of what the next season would bring. People trying to live faithfully in a place that didn't feel familiar. And yet—that's exactly where God met them. With a word of assurance. With a promise of hope.

That verse doesn't promise comfort. It doesn't offer shortcuts or clarity. But it *does* promise something we desperately need in seasons of discernment: a future and a hope.

Hope is not passive. It's not wishful thinking.

Hope is active trust. It's remaining present when you could walk away. It's choosing community over certainty. It's believing that God is not done with us, even when we don't yet know what comes next.

I carry that hope with me now.

Hope in a church that listens.

Hope in leaders who stay open.

Hope in structures that leave space for the Spirit to move.

Hope in a God who has not abandoned His people.

Hope in the sacred unfolding of “not yet.”

I return home to Lethbridge carrying stories, prayers, and questions. I carry a deeper love for our denomination—not because it's perfect, but because it keeps showing up. Keeps wrestling with real questions. Keeps trusting that the Spirit is still speaking. And I return with a renewed confidence in the future—not because of anything we've done, but because of God's faithfulness.

Even here, in Hamilton.

Even here, in long sessions and careful votes.

Even here, where worship meets discernment and tradition meets the present moment—Even here, God is at work.

Thanks be to God, who still gives us a future.
Thanks be to Christ, who still holds our hope.

*Peace and Grace,
Daniel*

- should we consider unlocking doors to the church/sanctuary?? Possible?
- the need to support Presbyterian sharing – bring more awareness to congregations of all that money does for operations
- continue to work with partners organizations and churches in our community to support initiatives around diversity. Ministry with 2SLGBTQIA+ people: a guidebook for congregations in the PCC
- congregations and Presbytery should increase awareness of and focus on the 5 commitments from the apology
- discussion about Jubilee year for Presbytery and/or congregations. What could we do??
- Independent Jewish Voices – supporting Gaza through Connectinggaza.org - what can the role of the church be?
- we need to pursue Intercultural awareness and learning opportunities
- PC USA - trends, congregations growing for those doing outside witness and mission work – it's bringing people into church.

What does it mean to be Presbyterian? Values, policies (eg. wholeness and peacemaking, socially responsible investments), reclaiming voice of the church. Why do we do what we do? What does that mean for us?? Should we revisit our values as a church to refocus what we do??

Lynn Judd

The 150th General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada took place in Hamilton, ON, from June 1 through 5. Attending from the presbytery of Calgary-Macleod were Heather Bryant, Bruce Clendening, Sandra Cameron Evans, Lynn Judd, Christian Persaud, and Daniel Surya. The following report reflects on some of the highlights; you will have received more details in the overtures that have already been sent out through the Clerk.

Hope and Possibility

The Working Group on Narratives of Hope and Possibility has been meeting over the past two years. The working group reported that the gospel story in John 20 and 21 had been chosen as a foundational

narrative needed for the PCC now and in the future. These two post-resurrection narratives encapsulated in two Easter watchwords — “Jesus shows up” and “Jesus sends us”— have emerged as clear ways to imagine God’s desire and direction for the church.

There was a good presentation on the report (<https://presbyterian.ca/gao/assembly-council/narrative-of-hope-and-possibility/>) and a sense of momentum. After initial discussion, we broke up into groups as part of a “committee of the whole”. Feedback from these groups, too, was largely positive, with excitement at the idea of moving from waiting and towards active attempts to move forward quickly with a new structure that would be more attuned to the realities of the current state of the church. Cautionary voices urged against forming new layers of bureaucracy, and against doing things differently.

The motion called for the formation of a commission to work for two years to design and implement change. After much debate, the motion was passed and most of the membership announced. The presbytery can expect to hear more about this in the near future as the commission begins their work.

International Affairs Committee

This committee presented an excellent speaker, Mr. Corey Balsam, who, as a Jewish man, spoke strongly against the current Israeli government’s actions in Gaza, and the deaths and destruction that is attributable to them. They then presented 5 motions:

Recommendation IAC-001

That Authentic Christian Pilgrimage be commended to individuals, congregations, colleges, courts and agencies in the church to inform and guide visits to Palestine and Israel.

Recommendation IAC-002

That individuals, groups and organizations within The Presbyterian Church in Canada utilize readily available and effective tools for peace provided in this report and its referenced sources about concrete actions to take related to boycotting goods and services (including financial investments) that support the Israeli military occupation of Palestinian territory and resultant economic oppression of the Palestinian people.

Recommendation IAC-003

That, in response to the alarming escalation of deadly attacks and forced displacement faced by Palestinians in the Israeli-occupied West Bank, the Moderator of the General Assembly and all Presbyterians write requesting the Government of Canada to expand its existing sanctions on settler violence in the West Bank.

Recommendation IAC-004

That individuals within The Presbyterian Church in Canada prayerfully consider the opportunity to show solidarity with and learn about the current situation of Palestinian people in East Jerusalem and the Occupied Territory by participating in a study trip to be available through The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

Recommendation IAC-005

That, in acknowledging the presentation by Executive Director of Independent Jewish Voices, Corey Balsam, to this year's General Assembly, individuals, presbyteries and synods within The Presbyterian Church in Canada continue to learn about ways to work in solidarity with the actions of Canadian Palestinians and people of Jewish and Muslim faiths to support those individuals and agencies within both Israeli and Palestinian civil society who are opposing the use of weapons of war to depopulate Gaza, forcibly displace Palestinians in the West Bank and erase the culture and economy of the Palestinian people.

These were debated for a lengthy amount of time, as people strove to find the balance to acting in the face of considerable human trauma in Gaza, while not allowing any antisemitism to creep into our churches. These were adopted, with some asking to register their dissent. There is further information in the referrals to presbytery (Gaza and the West Bank) and in the minutes of the 4th sederunt on the General Assembly page of the website.

Apology to Indigenous Peoples

There were recommendations that all congregations review the Apology and use the resources available to study it. Resources are available at the Social Action Hub at <https://presbyterian.ca/justice/social-action/indigenous-justice/>.

We were also encouraged to consider the five commitments in the Apology in their congregational life or the work with which they are tasked and how they will live out those commitments. The five commitments follow:

We therefore offer five fundamental commitments:

We will continue to listen and learn from Indigenous people, leaders, Elders and Knowledge Keepers, welcoming and engaging voices from both within and beyond The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

We will continue the work of reconciliation, responding to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's 94 Calls to Action and the work of reparation that we have begun.

We will respect traditional Indigenous spiritual practices.

We will listen to and tell the truth about the past.

We will work to support Indigenous led healing and wellness initiatives and be in solidarity with Indigenous people and communities.

Financial Issues

In the past, most of the funding designated for the support of ALL the activities of the PCC are derived from Presbyterians Sharing givings from congregations or individuals. A smaller amount is made up from investment returns and other sources. In years where these givings do not

meet the financial needs of the church, the deficit is made up by transferring money from endowment funds to supplement the operating budget.

A motion was presented that those congregations who did not provide at least 25% of their assessment from Presbyterians Sharing be required to give reasons to their presbyteries, along with a plan as to how they would try to provide more in the upcoming year. Amendments included considering sending the reasons to the Life and Mission Agency, anonymously or not. Commissioners were concerned that this might be seen as punitive, especially as it would single out some of our congregations who are struggling, along with those who simply choose not to contribute to our national church and its work. After much discussion, it was referred to back to the Life and Mission Agency to bring a motion back next year.

Discussion of the problem presented at GA, and how presbytery can consider this

In 2024, the PCC was able to deliver on expenditures of \$8.9M with only \$4.7M being given to Presbyterians Sharing. This \$5.2 M deficit could be dealt with because investment income was high; however, the church still registered a deficit of \$950K. However, for the 2026 budget, it is expected that \$4.7 M will need to be transferred from funds to cover deficits.

Why is this happening? We know that membership in the PCC and other churches is declining, but despite that, in the ten years between 2013 and 2023 (the last year for which A&P data were available) congregational givings have been quite steady. For example, in 2013, money raised by the churches for congregational purposes amounted to \$113M, and by 2023, this had risen to \$119 M. However, the money that congregations have decided to share with Presbyterians Sharing declined from \$7.3M to \$4.8 M. This is why the estimate for 2026 continues to fall and was set at \$4M, while the budgeted expenditures are \$9.6M.

Clearly, this is not sustainable in the long term.

It's possible that most congregations do not know that "Presbyterians Sharing" is the principal source of income for ALL the activities of the Presbyterian Church in Canada. Thus, the PCC may need to be encouraged to strengthen their communications strategy.

However, we may need to ensure that congregations get information on these issues prior to developing their budgets and deciding on their "accepted allocation" from Presbyterians Sharing. In our church, allocations for the pension fund and for lower courts are not negotiable, while we allow

congregations to determine how much support they give to the overall function, administration, and program of the national church.

In 2024, the congregations in the Presbytery of Calgary-Macleod gave \$180K to Presbyterians Sharing, or about 50% of our collective allocations. Congregations vary widely in their approach to this:

Contributions to Presbyterians Sharing compared to allocation, by congregation, 2024

Congregations contributing more than 90% of allocation
Centennial St. Andrews, Calgary St. Paul's Westminster
Congregations contributing 60 to 90% of allocation
Knox, Bassano Varsity Acres
Congregations contributing 30 to 60% of allocation
Gem St. Andrew's, Lethbridge St. Giles St. John's
Congregations contributing less than 30% of allocation
Calvin Grace Knox, Calgary
Congregations not contributing
Valleyview

In addition to the innovations that we hope will be suggested by the Hope and Possibility, a careful consideration of what is needed by each to support the national church would be beneficial as we try to move the work of the church forward.

*Respectfully submitted,
Heather Bryant, Sandra Cameron Evans*

I enjoyed having the opportunity to serve as a commissioner to this year's General Assembly, which marked the 150th anniversary of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. It was a good reminder that Presbyterians have been faithful for many, many years, and are continually trying to be faithful even now amid much change.

It was previously noted that two reports from the General Assembly in particular garnered lots of interest and attention: the International Affairs

Committee report, and the report from the Apology Committee working group. Additionally, there was a lot of discussion for the Narratives of Hope and Possibility. These conversations indicated to me that the wider church is still wrestling with what it means to be faithful today, taking into consideration what has happened and what is ahead. The time for action is now....or at least the time to make a decision. I was happily surprised to see motions passed at this year's General Assembly and not deferred to a future one.

While many individuals had varying perspectives, the 'debate' and discussion was always respectful and it was refreshing to see healthy dialogue without making matters personal.

There is much ahead, both for the denomination and for our presbytery, but as long as we remain committed to serving God and each other, we can overcome the challenges presented.

*Respectfully submitted,
Christian Persaud*

**Adoption of
Reports**

MOVED by B. Alexander, seconded by G. Smith, that the reports as a whole be adopted. **CARRIED**

**Enthusiasm &
Concerns**

Enthusiasms and Concerns

H. Snortland – Memorial hymn sing fundraiser taking place at St. John's. There will be a coat drive in October, and Sunday school has resumed now that children are attending once again.

G. Smith – VAPC will be hosting a blanket exercise by Rev. Tony Snow.

P. Baek – apple pie fundraiser announcement shared, and will be emailed

M. Rozsa de Coquet Evening Grace, every 2nd week

O. Aballa – received a family of 7 from Kenya

C. Gale – if individuals are looking for activities associated with the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation, University of Calgary has a film on Monday evening at the Central Library, and you can also look under the office of indigenous engagement

H. Bryant – Westminster lunch program, served 1100 lunches to kids in need over the summer months

K. Robbins – will be on the PCC standing committee on history

D. Surya – St. Andrew's, Lethbridge 140th anniversary, PCC 150, exhibits to help people see the past, present, and future. Guest speaker from the University of Lethbridge.

L. Kilbreath – a number of churches were at the reconciliation walk

C. Persaud – thank-you to Pat Kövér for being a faithful presbyter in her years of service on behalf of Calvin, who recently elected new elders and will identify a new representative elder.

**Prayers of
Intercession**

O. Aballa led us in Prayers for the world and our role in it.

Going Out in God's Name

Time & Place

The next regular business meeting of the Presbytery will be Tuesday, October 21, 2025 at St. Andrew's Lethbridge with lunch at noon. The meeting begins at 1PM.

**Adjourn to Serve
Benediction**

MOVED by K. Robbins that the Court be adjourned.
The Court was dismissed at 3:14 p.m.

Moderator pro-tem
Dr. H. Bryant

Clerk of Presbytery
Rev. C. Persaud