



# Chinook Winds Region

Newsletter: December 5, 2018

## **Together we are stronger...**

The Chinook Winds Regional Commission met on November 29th and 30th. In these two days of work, we believe that we have made some decisions that will help our Region move forward into 2019 with boldness and excitement as well as good supports for the work ahead.

We continue to listen to your feedback and weigh each opinion with the good of our whole region in mind.

## **Regional Office:**

We are pleased to announce that the Regional Office for Chinook Winds will be located in the Okotoks United Church. This site is easily accessible, and offers us many opportunities for gatherings large and small. It is a comfortable space which reflects the welcome that we are striving to offer. We are still pursuing options for storage of Presbytery information and hope to have that confirmed soon.

## **Regional Assessment:**

After much deliberation and discussion we have decided that we will be having a small regional assessment. This assessment will be included in the official Assessment notice that you will be receiving very soon from the General Council Office.

In our new structure we are encouraging our members to work together in clusters and networks and to create opportunities for new programs that can be shared with our region members. Although, in the long term, many of these opportunities will be self-supporting, we felt that it would be beneficial to offer financial support to get them started.

The assessment gives us funds for program, cluster and network support .

## **GC Assessments:**

Your Pastoral Charge should receive your final assessment soon. You will notice that you have choices on how to pay your assessment. You have options of paying a full assessment, a modified assessment, and paying on an annual or monthly basis.

**Policies:**

We reviewed the current policies of Alberta and Northwest Conference. There are many that will be a good fit for us moving forward and some that will need to be changed. To help in this transition period, we will follow the policies and procedures of Alberta and Northwest Conference, where applicable. Where policies are deemed to need review, we will do so in a timely manner and share with you all changes.

**Staffing:**

Chinook Winds Region is currently served by:

Executive Minister: Doug Goodwin      dgoodwin@united-church.ca

Executive Assistant: Mauricio Araujo      maraujo@bc.united-church.ca

Pastoral Relations Minister: Lee Spice      lspice@united-church.ca

Contract positions:

Community of Faith Minister:

Communication Support:

Volunteer Position:

Treasurer: John Den Hoed

**Inviting you in.**

The work of the Region, much like the work of Presbyteries, will rely on skilled volunteers .

We are going to create working groups, supported by Pastoral Relations and Community of Faith councils, to help with the work of our church. These will be small groups so we will be inviting applications so that we can help place folk in the best place for their skills.

**Please consider if you can offer your time and experience to any of the following:**

**Pastoral Relations**

**Interim Ministry**

**Sexual Abuse Prevention**

**Pensioners**

**Community of Faith Support**

**Property and Assets**

***(application forms will be available soon)***

**Next Commission Meeting:**

Our next meeting will be on December 11, 2018.

Commissioners: Helen Reed (chair), Tammy Allan, Bob Wallace, Ray Goodship, Sue Brodrick, Kathy Yamashita, Russel Burns, Darrel Beaver.

## Moving Forward...

As we move forward into 2019 there are some tasks which need to be done and some roles that need to be clarified...

### **1. Are you a Presbytery Representative?**

Your work is not done on December 31st! On January 1, 2019 you become the Regional Representative for your Community of Faith. Our Regional Representatives will be meeting at our first Gathering in Lethbridge June 7 & 8, 2019. New Representatives can, of course, be chosen at your local Annual meetings.

### **2. Are you a Presbytery Treasurer?**

Your work must be completed by December 31st, 2018. Bank accounts must be closed, remaining funds should be forwarded to the Chinook Region. We recognize that there may be some outstanding items that don't happen in time. We are requesting that you give us a list of outstanding accounts and receivables and after December 31st, these should be paid to Chinook Region. Your physical financial books/invoices etc. will be stored with the Region. More information on our address etc. will be sent to you via your Presbytery Secretary.

### **3. Are you a Presbytery Secretary?**

We know that you have already been working hard to get your papers ready for Archives and to be moved into Regional Storage. You will also be gathering the financial records to go to storage too. Your job does not end until all items are distributed as they should be. We know that you are sharing and gathering information for both the Region and General Council. Thank you for your persistence, dedication and patience!. We are hopeful that your tasks will be completed early in 2019.

We will continue to send information to Presbyteries through you until December 31, then we will be sending directly to the new Regional Representatives.

### **4. Are you on a Presbytery or Conference Commission?**

**Do you have Supervisory responsibilities?**

**Are you working with property matters?**

These responsibilities continue into the region until such time as your task is complete, or a review would determine otherwise.

*Thank you for your continued support and engagement in  
our changing and growing church.*

## Communications

As we move forward the Chinook Winds Region would like to make it easy for folk to be in contact with us.

### What we are doing...

1. to begin with, our Chair, Helen Reed can be contacted re: transitional and process questions. Email: [helen.reed9266@gmail.com](mailto:helen.reed9266@gmail.com)  
Cell phone: 403-664-9266
2. After January 1st, Pastoral Relations matters can be forwarded to Lee Spice, Pastoral Relations Minister. Email: [lspace@united-church.ca](mailto:lspace@united-church.ca)
3. We will have a phone number for the Region... but we don't know it yet.
4. A website is being developed and we hope to have that functional by January 1, 2019.
5. A Facebook presence is also being worked on.
6. Group emails will also be sent with information about events and activities in our Region.

### What you need to do...

1. Check out the home page of the Alberta Northwest Conference website. ([albertanorthwestconference.ca](http://albertanorthwestconference.ca)) . There will be an option appearing soon so that you can sign up to receive Chinook Winds emails/e-newsletters.
2. If you know that someone in your area would like to receive emails, but doesn't do Facebook or Websites... please help them to sign up for the emails.
3. Please keep in touch with us. We are grateful for the support and feedback and cannot make informed decisions if you won't join in with us.

### What we need to do for each other...

Have grace.

This exciting path before us is unfolding quickly. We know that everything won't be in place for January 1st. If we don't have an answer for you, please be assured that we are looking for one. Let's be gentle with each other.







## Chinooks Winds Regional Commission

Commissioners:  
Helen Reed,  
Tammy Allan,  
Kathy Yamashita,  
Sue Brodrick,  
Bob Wallace,  
Ray Goodship,

Missing from picture:  
Darrel Beaver,  
Russel Burns

Staff:  
Mauricio Araujo,  
Doug Goodwin

## Chinook Winds Regional Office.

Will be located at  
43 Riverside Drive  
Okotoks, Alberta

In the  
Okotoks United Church

