

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
MEETING OF THE EXECUTIVE OF THE GENERAL COUNCIL
draft MINUTES
Wednesday, August 13, 2025

The 45th Executive of the General Council of The United Church of Canada met on Wednesday, August 13, 2025. Moderator, Kimberly Heath, presided.

Voting Members: Nia Bentayen, Michael Blair, Katherine Brittain, Michael Caveney, M Chorney, Catherine Glover, Wilson Gonese, Luke Haisa, Carmen Lansdowne, Alcris Limongi, David Leyton-Brown, Luc Noubissi, Thea Sheridan-Jonah, Hillary Van Spronsen, Deepak Nitesh Yohan,

Resource: Treena Duncan, Adele Haliday, Eric Herbert-Daly, Faith March-MacCuish, Mark Laird, Harry Li, Tyler Lodge, Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa,

Regrets: Alan Hall, Jennifer Janzen-Ball, Jennifer Henry, Japhet Ndhlovu, Peter Harmans, Sarah Charters, Kathleen (Kit) Loewen,

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

The Moderator, Kimberly Heath, and General Secretary, Michael Blair, welcomed those gathered for this meeting of the Executive, and the Moderator invited David Leyton-Brown to give the land acknowledgement.

Constituting the Meeting

The Moderator constituted the meeting in French and English.

"Au nom de Notre Seigneur, Jésus-Christ, seul chef souverain de l'Église, et par l'autorité qui m'a été conférée par le quarante-cinquième Conseil général, I hereby declare this meeting of the Executive of the General Council to be in session for the work that may properly be brought before it, to the glory of God."

Worship

The Moderator Kimberly lead a time of worship from the book of Hebrews and offered a prayer for the Executive and the United Church.

Introduction

The Moderator invited those who were present to introduce themselves and share their highlights from General Council 45.

Meeting Dates

The Moderator invited the General Secretary to outline the meeting dates for the triennium. The General Secretary noted that the Executive of the General Council normally meets once per year in person, as a way to manage costs and to model our carbon reduction commitment.

Motion: Michael Blair/ Wilson Gonese**2025-08-13-001**

That the Executive set the following dates for the triennium authorizing the General Secretary to alter as is necessary.

Date	2025	2026	2027	2028
February		GCE Feb. 20-21	GCE Feb. 19-20	
March				GCE TBA
May		GCE May 8-9	GCE May 7-8	
June	GC45 June 22 and 28			Potential dates for GC46 online
August	GC45 – Calgary Aug 7-12			GC 46 Host: Horseshoe Falls Date: TBA
September	GC45 Recall Sep 13 GCE September 25 -28 Orientation & Planning (In Person)	GCE Sept. 25-27	GCE Sept. 24-26	Orientation & Planning + Staff Leaders GCE Date: TBA
October		GC45 AGM Oct. 17	GC 45 AGM Oct. 16	
November	GCE Nov. 14-15	GCE Nov. 12-15 (In person)	GCE Nov. 12-14 (due to Nov. 11 – In Person)	

Carried**Motion to set recall date: Michael Blair/ Thea Sheridan-Jonah****2025-08-13-002**

That the General Council 45, 2025, Recall date be set for September 13, 2025, from 11am to 3PM Eastern, and inform the commissioners.

Carried*Approved motion 2025-09-25-006*

General Council Executive Resources

The Moderator invited the General Secretary to outline resources being given to the Executive.

The General Secretary noted the use of various systems the Executive will use and be introduced in the coming weeks. The General Secretary invited Cheryl-Ann Stadelbauer-Sampa, Senior Governance Lead, to introduce the Governance handbook.

GOV01 Cascading Appointments

The Moderator invited the General Secretary to introduce Diane Bosman. Diane Bosman, Program Coordinator, Member Engagement, introduced GOV01 Cascading Appointments, and outlined that the members of the Executive are appointed to other committees; the appointments below need to be dealt with immediately.

Motion: Michael Blair/ David Leyton-Brown

2025-08-13-003

That the Executive of the General Council make the following appointments to:

Sub-Executive of the General Council (3 + Moderator and General Secretary):

- Carmen Lansdowne
- M Chorney
- Michael Caveney
- Moderator
- General Secretary

Governance Committee (up to 4 GCE members)

- Kit Loewen (chair)
- David Leyton-Brown
- Luke Haisa
- *TBD*

Nominations Committee (2 GCE members)

- Katherine Brittain
- Alcris Limongi

Working Group on Ministry Leadership (1 GCE)

- Deepak Yohan

Pension Board:

- Kit Loewen
- Thea Sheridan-Jonah

Carried

NOM01 Recommendations for Appointment

The Moderator invited the General Secretary to introduce Diane Boseman. Diane introduced NOM01 Recommendations for Appointment noting the work of the nominations committee on behalf of the Executive, and the collection of very specialized professionals. She noted the three sets of appointments in this proposal, the benefits committee, treasure investment committee, and pension board, along with their reporting schedule.

Motion: Katherine Brittain/ Michael Caveney

2025-08-13-004

The Nominations Committee recommends the Executive appoint the following members with terms as noted:

Benefits Committee (August 2025 – December 2028)

- Erin Crump, *Professional*
- Kathy Thompson, *Professional*
- Mitchel Anderson (Ordained, Living Skies), *Member-at-Large*
- Kit Loewen (Lay, Living Skies), *GCE Member (interim until cascades are determined)*

Treasury Investment Committee (August 2025 – December 2028)

With the Joint Recommendation of the Financial Advisory Committee

- Brendan Livingstone

Pension Board (September 2025 – September 2028)

With the Joint Recommendation of the Pension Board

- Alison McKay, *second term*
- Tamara Demos, *second term*
- Bill Gilliland, *second term*

Carried

Letter

The Moderator invited the General Secretary to introduce the letter from the Public Issues Sub-Committee at General Council 45. However, as the General Council was unable to complete all the work before them, the Sub-Committee could not share the statement it had crafted. The General Secretary proposed that Executive approve and release the statement.

The General Secretary read the statement. There were comments and concerns about some of the language used, but the Executive was united in their affirmation of the letter.

Motion: Wilson Gonese/ Michael Caveney

2025-08-13-005

That the Executive accepts the statement and approves its dissemination.

Carried

Approved motion 2025-09-25-006

Closing Prayer

The Moderator prayed for the Executive and closed the meeting.

Moderator, Kimberly Heath

General Secretary, Michael Blair