

**BEDFORD UNITED CHURCH
ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
SUNDAY, APRIL 14, 2024
(in person & recorded)**

The Annual General Meeting of Bedford United Church was held in person (and recorded online) after the service on Sunday, April 14, 2024.

Present: Tim Rorabeck (Chair of Council), Andrea McQuillin, Val Welsh, Carolyn Crowell (Secretary), Rev. David Hart, Rev. Katie Aven, Tony Janes, Rev. Robyn Brown-Hewitt, Janice Reid, Carol McKnight, Jan Oakey, Shawn Oakey, Dennis Boucher, Heather Boucher, Mary Louise Mills, Leslie Reid, Susan Reid, Bill Maes, Joyce Riddell, Kevin Gildart, Bruce McCulloch, Mary Belliveau, Nancy Wynn, Marlene MacDonald, Bernice Marryatt, Bob Marryatt, Amy Elms, Don MacVicar, Ann MacVicar, Chris Gallant, Bruce Wilson, Lucas Wilson, Heather Dickson, Isobel Fleming, Linda Stewart, Jean MacLeod, Cheryl Inman, Murray Hartwell, Jocelyn Tingley, Nic Fieldsend, Claire Oakey, Debbie Pryde, Beth Corey, Anne Boutilier, Carolyn Innes, Andrea Richard, Peter Davison, Bonnie Dawson, Terry Choyce, Nancy Wells, Daniele Hart, Tara Dixon, Barbara Etter, David Greeley, Wayne Putnam, Sarah Birch, Cathy Cox, Sue Stewart, Cliff Dahms, Ruby Barss Brown, Bob Hodgson, Alan MacDonald, Sylvia Branton, Patrick Branton, Joan Johnston, Brian King, Sandra Nimmo. Penny McKeen, Sabrina Dunphy.

Regrets: none received

Welcome: Tim Rorabeck welcomed the members of BUC, the Council and others to the AGM. The meeting is being streamed online, but only people present will be able to vote.

Agenda: A slide outlined the Agenda which will be followed.

Opening Prayer: Rev. David Hart (supply lead minister) opened the meeting with prayer.

Remarks by Chair: Tim Rorabeck asked members to listen to the challenges that are to be laid before us ... but, instead of focusing on the limitations, asked us to consider what opportunities will emerge if each one of us is willing to engage differently with BUC. With challenge comes great hope and opportunity. (Hope comes from a place of pain! Hope is an action!)

Omnibus Motion: It was moved (Cliff Dahms/Andrea McQuillin) and **CARRIED**

1. that Bedford United Church formally constitute the 2024 Annual General Meeting on April 14, 2024, and that the meeting is now open;
2. that Bedford United Church formally adopt the minutes of the AGM held on March 26, 2023 as printed and circulated;
3. that Bedford United Church adopt the 2023 Annual General Meeting Reports as printed and circulated, *apart from the financial statements and Nominations Report* which will be considered separately in this agenda.

Stewardship: Tim Rorabeck reminded us that the definition of 'Stewardship' from Merriam Webster is "the act of taking care of or managing something". It is an action. It is the action of taking care, care for something outside ourselves. As members of BUC we are all stewards because we care, we act in ways that express care in many ways, ways was numerous as we are all individuals.

Slides of 2023 Financial Performance and 2023 Balance Sheet: Janice Reid walked the group through these and answered questions.

Motion: It was moved (Janice Reid/Carol McKnight) and **CARRIED** that Bedford United Church accept the 2023 Financial Report and unaudited 2023 Financial Statement dated December 31, 2023.

Slide of 2024 Budget: Janice Reid went over these figures and explained the reasoning behind them.

Motion: It was moved (Janice Reid/Tim Rorabeck) and **CARRIED** that Bedford United Church accept the 2024 Budget as printed and circulated in the Report Booklets.

Recognition: Tim Rorabeck noted that some members of Council will not be continuing to serve in that manner: Matt Murphy, Maurice Tugwell, Tammy Humphries, Jocelyn Tingley and Jan Oakey. He noted that they have all made incredible contributions to BUC and are truly thanked by all of us.

Slide of Nominating Report: Tim Rorabeck noted that there are definitely some gaps in our roster of volunteers for 2024. He invited anyone curious about any aspect of BUC activities to be in touch with him.

Slide of Incoming Council: Tim Rorabeck turned our attention to the BUC Council specifically. This graphic describes the structure of BUC Council and names the individuals who have offered to serve in the various roles. If approved in a moment, this is the group of people who will form BUC Council from the rise of this meeting until the next AGM in 2025. He paused a moment to give everyone time to look at the slide. There are still some vacancies.

Call for Additional Nominations: As required by the United Church of Canada, the congregation is invited to nominate other individuals for any elected position at Bedford United Church. Please raise your hand in the Sanctuary if you would like to offer another nomination. Are there any other nominations?

Motion: It was moved (Janice Reid/Cliff Dahms) and **CARRIED** that Bedford United Church accept the Nominations Report as printed and circulated in the Annual Report Booklet, with the additions of any nominations made at this AGM.

Tim Rorabeck thanked all the people who have offered to serve Bedford United Church in each and every capacity for the next year. He noted that guests are always welcomed at Council Meetings. Get in touch with Tim Rorabeck or the church office if you would like to be sent the Zoom link.

Date of AGM in 2025: Tim Rorabeck noted that to help with planning in 2024, we should set the date for the next AGM before finishing this meeting. This date is changeable if circumstances require, but it is helpful to have a target.

Motion: It was moved (Bob Hodgson/Andrea McQuillin) and **CARRIED** that the next AGM of Bedford United Church be held on Sunday, March 30, 2025.

Closing Remarks: As we leave in a minute, Tim Rorabeck asked us to think about how we might engage differently with BUC to turn the challenges into opportunities. As we heard from Rev. David Hart last week, hope comes from places of pain and hope requires action.

Closing Motion: It was moved (Bob Hodgson/Andrea McQuillin) and **CARRIED** that, having concluded the business agreed to as the agenda of this 2024 AGM of Bedford United Church and with thanks to all who made it possible and to all who attended, the meeting is now closed.

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Tim Rorabeck, Chair

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Carolyn J. Crowell, Secretary