

**DUCC Coordinating Committee**  
**Accountability Report to the 2022 DUCC Gathering**

As the global pandemic has been wont to do to our sense of time since the early days of 2020, it has hard to remember the timing of activities and meetings. For this reason, my report will be an imperfect accounting from the Coordinating Committee. However, I believe it captures most of what the Committee has been up to since we last met in-person.

The highlights of the business of the Coordinating Committee (CC) between spring of 2018 and the fall of 2022 is as follows:

- Members of the Coordinating Committee
  - Melanie Ihmels (BC), Vicki McPhee (AB), Helen Reed (AB), Denise Davis-Taylor (AB), Jen Dresser (SK), Ted Dodd (MB), Marlene Britton (ON), Lori Crocker (NS), Eric Tusz-King (NB)
- Strengthening connections and networks amongst the diaconal community
  - Continued to seek out and coordinate Regional Leads to share information within each of the Regions and to encourage local gatherings of DUCCs
  - Ensured the DUCC budget included funding for Regional gatherings
  - Invited leaders from the Indigenous church into discussion, exploring how best to connect with and support indigenous diaconal ministers and candidates
- Recognizing a considerable gap in the archiving of DUCC's history over the past years, arrangements were made to hire Erin Acland, archivist for the Prairie to Pine Region. Work is ongoing to find and catalog the history, work and activities of DUCC.
- Following an ongoing discussion regarding succession and how to pass knowledge and information to those people who will follow us in leadership at DUCC, the CC worked with the Communications Cluster to establish a new website and new system of email address and online storage.
- With new committees and task groups emerging, the CC has prepared a set of bylaws for DUCC, which will be presented at the National Gathering in Tatamagouche.
- After receiving notice that some Candidates for Commissioning were having difficulty finding approval for Regionally Recognized Ministries, the CC requested that the Advocacy Committee work on behalf of the Candidates, to see how best to support them in their applications for Regionally Recognized Ministries.
- We received reports from the DUCC staff person, Eric Tusz-King; the rep to DOTAC, Ted Dodd; the Treasurer, Helen Reed; and the Communication Cluster through Lori Crocker.
- A Staff Review for the DUCC Staff person was completed. The CC would like to express gratitude and appreciation for the ongoing commitment and dedication that Eric brings to his role.

- In advance of the 44<sup>th</sup> meeting of the General Council, the CC worked to suggest diaconal nominees for the various working groups and commissions.
- The diaconal Commissioners to the GC44 were invited to meet together before the business portion of the meeting to discuss the proposals that might most interest the diaconal community.
- Pandemic Pivoting:
  - Instead of meeting in Ottawa in May of 2020, the CC designed and facilitated an online gathering. Eighty people registered for the event, including ecumenical guests from as far away as Great Britain.
  - The CC would like to thank the local arrangements group from Ottawa and other leaders for the work they put into the Ottawa gathering that needed to be cancelled.
  - Members of the CC created and facilitated an online Advent Retreat in November 2020.
- The CC attempted to align future DUCC in-person gatherings within the meeting schedules of DOTAC and World Federation of Diakonia, however there is still uncertainty as to when these dates will be. It was concluded that DUCC should set a meeting and future timings will be sorted as more information is known. In the fall of 2021, the CC decided to plan for an in-person gathering in the fall of 2022. The Maritimes DUCCs agreed to host the gathering.
- Leads for Theme, Worship and Local Arrangements were established and the planning for DUCC 2022 began.

Submitted with respect,

Vicki McPhee  
Diaconal Minister  
DUCC Chair  
Diakonia of the United Church of Canada