

Staff Report to 2022 National Gathering – Tatamagouche – October 2022

I continue to be very encouraged by DUCC and its work in Canada and globally. In my recent work review, conducted by the Coordinating Committee, I stated that I feel my time and skills are well valued and used in a very well-run organization.

Many DUCC members may be unfamiliar with the roles I play in DUCC. My position description asks that I do approximately eight hours of work per month. My work has two major foci – to keep abreast with policies and programs of General Council which affect Diaconal Ministers and secondly to support the work of the Coordinating Committee in carrying out its work.

When I started this position in 2015 keeping up on activities in General Council was mostly done through monitoring minutes of pertinent committees and GC Executive. More recently this work has been done through building trusting working relationships with GC staff who relate to Diaconal Ministers. This has been due to two factors – GC governance structure has been in upheaval, making it too difficult to track committee mandates and secondly, DUCC has developed more consistent relationships with GC staff. Now, GC staff often come to DUCC with concerns upon which they are seeking DUCC's input.

A good example has been GC staff person, Diane Bosman, responsible for Member Engagement, who came to me with a list of committees and other positions that she is seeking a Diaconal Minister to nominate. Thereafter, we have had several conversations obtaining further information and strategies to identify the right people for these positions. The Coordinating Committee proved extra support to this search. The list below shows both those who are serving and vacancies.

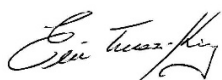
Another example was when Vicki and I had a Zoom call with the Diaconal Ministers who are commissioners to the GC 44. We provided background information on several proposals/ issues Adam Hanley, GC staff person who relates to Diaconal Ministers, suggested were important for Diaconal Ministers to consider. The participants on the call found this very supportive.

Much of my work in assisting the Coordinating Committee happens in preparation for, resourcing, and following up on committee meetings. I attend all Coordinating Committees and some sub-committee meetings such as the Archives, Communications, and Advocacy Committees. In the meetings themselves I generally participate as any member except I am always asking who needs to know about this work and who else can help.

The Coordinating Committee asked me to help strengthen regional clusters of DMs, but it has had limited success. Some regions have met regularly in person or virtually. Other regions have not met even after being offered support. Some individual members who live in regions without an active cluster have been welcomed to other regions. This is now easily accommodated using Zoom. Organizing regional clusters as a national initiative seems to have partial outcomes. Perhaps the best DUCC can do from the national level is to continually offer support to regional initiatives to organize. There are funds for travel and other meeting costs to encourage regional gatherings.

As I stated above, I am very pleased to be DUCC's staff person. Working with great leadership on all the committees makes it personally and professionally rewarding.

Together in ministry,



Eric Tusz-King

Appointments Made by the Board of Vocation

Admission Board - Sarah Bruer – Western Ontario Waterways, *2nd term*

Credentialing Committee - Ken Delisle – Prairie to Pine, *2nd term*

Standards for Accreditation Committee - Deborah Deavu – Western Ontario Waterways,
2nd term

- **Vacancies remaining**

Response Committee - Marcie Gibson – Horseshoe Falls, *2nd term*

South Western Ontario Candidacy Board

- Mary Elizabeth Piercy – Western Ontario Waterways
- Ellen Baynton-Walker – Western Ontario Waterways, *2nd term*

North and Central Ontario Candidacy Board

- Mary Jo Tracy – Canadian Shield
- **Vacancies remaining**

Prairie Candidacy Board (12 members) - Laura Fohse – Living Skies *second term*

Mountain Candidacy Board (12 members)

- Ian McLean – Pacific Mountain, *second term*
- Vicki McPhee – Chinook Winds, *second term*

[Committees Without Diaconal Ministers]

Atlantic Candidacy

No Diaconal Ministers – vacancies remaining

Quebec and Eastern Ontario Candidacy Board

No Diaconal Ministers – vacancies remaining

Remedial Committee

No Diaconal Ministers

Two remaining vacancies to be held for members who bring racial or equity identities

Appointments Made by the General Council or its Executive

Theology and Inter-Church Inter-Faith Committee (45th General Council, 2025)

- Michelle Owens – Antler River Watershed, *2nd term*

Board of Vocation (44th General Council, 2025)

- Patricia Baker – Prairie to Pine, *second term*
- Mark Green – Pacific Mountain, *second term*

Anti-Racism Common Table (August 2022- 2025) (For Information)

- Melanie Ihmels –

[Committees Without Diaconal Ministers]

Nominations Committee (44th General Council, 2025)

No Diaconal Ministers – 1 vacancy remaining (outside of Ontario)

Audit Committee (45th General Council, 2025)

No Diaconal Ministers – vacancies remaining

Judicial Committee

No Diaconal Ministers – no vacancies remaining