



Volunteers Needed

General Council Executive (7 vacancies)

Who are the forward-looking, faithful, strategic leaders the church needs for its General Council Executive? Seven new members will be appointed to this 18-person governance body. We are seeking nominations for people who can lead and contribute to discussions of strategy, performance, and risk, guided by the Call and Vision of the United Church.

Mandate

The General Council Executive is the decision-making body for the United Church between meetings of the General Council. The General Council Executive is in covenantal relationship with the General Council, regional councils, and communities of faith. The Executive has the following authority and responsibility:

- dealing with all unfinished matters referred to it by the General Council
- dealing with all routine and emergency work of the General Council between meetings of the General Council
- establishing standing and other committees
- exercising additional authority of the General Council subject to any limitations as set by the General Council
- Acting as the legal administrator of the pension plan and amending the group insurance plans contracts

The 45th General Council Executive will be guided by the [Call and Vision](#) of the United Church and work in partnership with the General Council Office to monitor and assess the implementation of the objectives of the strategic plan.

Membership

The General Council Executive is made up of 15 members elected by the General Council along with the Moderator, the immediate past Moderator, and the General Secretary. The membership of the General Council Executive aims to reflect the broad diversity of The United Church, with particular attention to its equity commitments and the presence of both lay people and ministry personnel from across the geography of the church.

Eight of the currently serving elected members will continue, along with the General Secretary, the current Moderator, and the next Moderator to be elected at the 45th General Council.

The Nominations Committee and the Executive will work in partnership with the National Indigenous Elders Council to ensure that the voting and/or corresponding membership of the Executive supports relationships between the General Council Executive and the Indigenous Church.

Member Skills and Experience

General Council Executive members will understand how to lead a large diverse and complex organization and be forward-looking and future-focused to realize the vision of the church in support of the strategic objectives. Members will be able to see the big picture, manage risks, and appreciate the impact of decisions on the people and communities of faith of the United Church. The Executive needs to be able to recognize who is not at the table and actively seek them out in understanding issues and the impact of decisions.

Overall, the Executive requires people with expertise in such areas as finance, pension, human resources, governance, global or ecumenical experience, different forms of ministry, participation in the francophone church, and theological leadership as well as the knowledge to contribute to governance-level conversations, such as on the six objectives of the current GCO strategic plan:

1. Embolden justice: collaborating to mend church and world
2. Invigorate leadership: adapting and innovating for bold discipleship
3. Nurture the common good: equity and sustainability in resources
4. Deepen integrity: living climate commitments
5. Strengthen invitation: humility and confidence in sharing faith
6. Journeying Indigenous pathways: forging right relations

People with experience with non-profit or charitable board governance would be an asset to the Executive, as would those with an understanding of the charitable environment or the compliance context of a large complex charitable organization with significant legal and financial accountabilities.

Executive members will be committed to right relations, the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the vision of becoming an intercultural church, and the journey to becoming an anti-racist denomination.

Executive members need to be comfortable with and able to participate in electronic meetings and able to commit the time required for this responsibility.

United Church Relationship: Full member

Required Relational Abilities

Members of the General Council Executive need to be able to work effectively within a diverse team, as demonstrated by

- interdependence and the ability to build synergy in working with others
- flexibility in thought and perspective
- self-awareness to reflect on one's own intentions and actions
- openness to healthy ways of addressing and managing conflict

Equity Commitment

The United Church is committed to working toward the full participation of people with disabilities; youth and young adults; people who identify as Two Spirit or LGBTQIA+, Indigenous, racialized, or francophone; people active in French ministries; people who speak a primary language other than English or French; and people from marginalized communities not named here. This is a part of the United Church's commitments to equity and self-determination, as well as eliminating barriers and working toward the full participation of all peoples. Individuals with these identities and lived experiences are encouraged to express interest.

Expectations and Term

The General Council Executive holds four regular meetings each year, customarily, at least one is held in person. Special meetings may be called as needed. Regular meetings are a minimum of two days in length. Significant reading and preparation are required for these meetings. Additional learning sessions and conversations may occur by videoconference between meetings.

Many members of the Executive will additionally serve as a chair or member of a standing committee or short-term groups, including the Governance Committee, Finance Advisory Committee, and General Secretary's Supervision Committee.

In addition to their duties, members of the Executive are required to participate in Equity, Diversity, and Anti-Oppression training and to commit to abide by the [Behavioural Covenant](#). These materials strengthen each member's ability to honour the commitments the church has made.

Terms of appointment are for six years beginning in August 2025 with the rise of the 45th General Council until the 47th General Council in 2031.

Visit our [opportunities page](#) for information on this and other opportunities.
Use our [online nominations form](#) to nominate someone or express your own interest.
Deadline: Thursday, March 20, 2025.