

March 10, 2017

TO: Congregational Presidents and Leaders, Canadian Unitarian Universalist

Ministers, CUC Liaisons, CUC Leaders

RE: Report of the Canadian Unitarian Council Nominating Committee

From: CUC Nominating Committee

#### **CANADIAN UNITARIAN COUNCIL BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

## The following CUC Board members will continue their terms during 2017-18:

(Terms of office are for 3 years unless otherwise stated)

NAME	REGION	TERM
Susan Ruttan (Edmonton)	Western	3 <sup>rd</sup> year of 1 <sup>st</sup> term
Jane Ebbern (Calgary)	Western	3 <sup>rd</sup> year of 1 <sup>st</sup> term
Keith Wilkinson (Vancouver)	ВС	3 <sup>rd</sup> year of 1 <sup>st</sup> term
Tanya Cothran (First Toronto)	Central	2 <sup>nd</sup> year of 1 <sup>st</sup> term
Carol Cumming Speirs (Montreal)	Eastern	2 <sup>nd</sup> year of 1 <sup>st</sup> term

### The following are nominees for the CUC Board:

NAME	REGION	TERM
Rev. Rodrigo Emilio Solano- Quesnel (Ottawa Fellowship)	Eastern	1st year of 3 year term
Milton Orris (Kelowna)	ВС	1st year of 3 year term
Danielle Webber (Toronto First)	Central	1st year of 3 year term



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#### CANADIAN UNITARIAN COUNCIL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

### The following Nominating Committee members will continue their terms during 2017-18:

NAME	REGION	TERM
Bunty Albert (PEI)	Eastern	3 <sup>rd</sup> year of 2 <sup>nd</sup> term
Ben Robins (Toronto First)	Eastern/Central	3 <sup>rd</sup> year of 1 <sup>st</sup> term
Joanne Green (Regina)	Western	3 <sup>rd</sup> year of 1 <sup>st</sup> term
Rev. Debra Thorne (Beacon)	ВС	2 <sup>nd</sup> year of 2 <sup>nd</sup> term

### The following are nominees for the CUC Nominating Committee:

NAME	REGION	TERM
Rev. Helen McFadyen (Kamloops)	BC/Western	1 <sup>st</sup> year of 3 year term
Wendy Shusterman (Mississauga)	Central	1 <sup>st</sup> year of 3 year term

Further nominations may be submitted for the CUC Board of Trustees and the Nominating Committee to the Nominating Committee by petition signed by at least 25 members in good standing of CUC member congregations up to thirty days (April 14, 2017) prior to the Annual Meeting (May 13, 2017). Such nominations shall be accepted by the Committee. Please request a nomination form and send submissions to the Nominating Committee at <a href="mailto:nominations@cuc.ca">nominations@cuc.ca</a>, or by mail, received by April 14, 2017 to:

Canadian Unitarian Council

(a) The Centre for Social Innovation
Suite 400-215 Spadina Ave
Toronto ON, M5T 2C7

Job descriptions and role responsibilities are available on the CUC website at http://cuc.ca/board-of-trustees/ and from the Nominating Committee at nominations@cuc.ca.

Please ensure that members of your board, congregation and committees are aware of this Nominating Committee report.

Joanne Green Chair, CUC Nominating Committee nominations@cuc.ca



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# BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

#### **CUC Board Nominees**

### Milton Orris (BC Region)

Milton Orris has had a variety of careers, many of them related to aspects of the Unitarian Community. His background includes journalism, Director of Camp Easter Seal Saskatchewan, Sociology Professor in



Regina, Dean of Health and Social Services in London, Ontario as well as the Dean of Continuing Education at Ryerson University, and the first Director of Graduate Studies in Health Administration at the University of Toronto.

His first Unitarian connection was in Saskatoon. There he became a member and was very involved in providing services to the developing congregation. He later became involved in Regina then London, Ontario. His longest connections were with the First Unitarian and the Neighbourhood Unitarian congregations in Toronto. He recently moved to British Columbia and became a member of Kelowna Unitarians. He also supports Nelson Unitarian, where they are starting a new congregation.

Milton was a Lay Chaplain for several years performing ceremonies in Toronto and many other Ontario locations. He has also performed ceremonies in the Okanagan, and overseas. He was a chair of the Unitarian Intern Committee at First Unitarian, and a chair of Unicamp in Ontario. Other related activities include membership on the National Board for the Dying with Dignity program and the development of a major program on Loss, Grief and Growth for students and children undergoing serious losses.

His passion for the Unitarian Community has strongly focussed on development of the youth in our communities and the growing multi-cultural presence. Within the vibrant BC community, it is a personal commitment to keep our congregations growing while being a positive CUC Board presence.



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### **Danielle Webber (Central Region)**

Danielle grew up in Regina, Saskatchewan, and was dedicated in the presence of the Regina Fellowship



in 1991. In 1997, her father's work moved the family to Calgary, where she participated in the congregation off and on until she became a member of the congregation in 2009 at the age of 21.

She then served as a member and then Chair of the Committee on Shared Ministry, a member of the Hospitality Committee, the Caring Team, and was on the Host Committee for the CUCs Annual Conference and Meeting held in Calgary in 2013.

Although her Bachelor's degree was in Psychology, she started studying to become a minister in 2013 after determining she wanted to be able to live more fully into her faith and her principles, which included her career life, as well as private life. She graduated with a

Master's of Divinity from Meadville Lombard Theological School in May of 2016, and then started a second Masters in Leadership Studies, where her thesis is focusing different models of Leadership Development and Community Engagement for congregations within Canada. Danielle now serves as First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto's Intern Minister, under Rev. Shawn Newton, and will be spending the fall of 2017 preparing to see the Ministerial Fellowship Committee in December in Boston.

### Rev. Rodrigo Emilio Solano-Quesnel (Eastern Region)



Rod lives like a quantum particle - being in two places at once! Currently the Half-time Developmental Minister at the UU Fellowship of Ottawa, Rod also spends time in Toronto with partner Sarah, where they're members at Neighbourhood UU Congregation.

Originally from Mexico City, Rod has lived in Canada since the early 90s, spending some time in London, ON, and later going to Carleton University in Ottawa, graduating with a Bachelor of Public Affairs and Policy Management (B.PAPM). It was at Ottawa First that Rod found Unitarian Universalism, getting very involved with the Young Adults group, serving on the congregation's board, as well as Worship Associate and Lay Chaplain - this service was Rod's confirming experience in pursuing a call in ministry!

After going to seminary at the Montreal School of Theology (affiliated with McGill University), and serving as Board Secretary at the Unitarian Church of Montreal, Rod served as intern minister at

Toronto First, completed ministerial credentialing, and was ordained in 2016 at Neighbourhood UU Congregation in Toronto.

Rod is an active members of the Samba Elegua percussion band, making joyful noise by hitting stuff with sticks, particularly the cowbell. Having just aged out of the Young Adults demographic, Rod hopes to continue serving the Unitarian Universalist tradition in Canada, with vitality and vision!



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# **CUC Nominating Committee Nominees**

### Rev. Helen McFadyen (BC/Western Region)



Rev. Helen McFadyen is currently serving as Developmental Minister with the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Kamloops, BC. Originally from Montreal, Helen has also lived in Halifax, Edmonton, and Ottawa, and traveled extensively in a former career as a ship's cook that took her around the world on sea-going freighters and tankers.

Her call to ministry came at the age of 50. She received a Master of Divinity in 2012 from the Atlantic School of Theology, and is currently doing research on the subject of "spiritual intelligence" as part of a Doctor of Ministry program at St. Stephen's College. Before entering parish ministry in 2015, Helen was a certified hospital chaplain and has worked in palliative, acute care, & trauma settings.

### Wendy J. Shusterman (Central Region)

Always religiously curious & open, Wendy attended her first UU service in the summer of 2003, drawn by the inclusive and welcoming attitude of the UC in Mississauga (UCM) community. She has visited



many congregations in both the US & Canada. Reading UU history & philosophy has helped her to embrace a faith tradition that truly reflects her values and personal philosophy.

Wendy benefited from serving as a CUUL (Canadian UU Leadership) School facilitator. She attended a weekend training session in the spring of 2016 with a group of highly engaged UUs from across the country, recruited by CUC staff to serve as CUC facilitators. She was involved with the founding of CUURE (Canadian UU Religious Educators) and has attended & actively participated at many CUC national

conferences in the past decade. Wendy created and facilitated a Safe Steps workshop (right relations). Most recently, at the CUC May 2016 conference in Vancouver, she facilitated on-site for Rev. Kathy Sage who was linked in remotely for the all-day workshop named 'Justice Seeking People.'

Wendy is currently serving UCM as the Chair of the Worship Committee & is an active Service Leader. She has proudly & enthusiastically served the congregation as a Lay Chaplain (2009-2015) and Director of Lifespan Learning (2010-2013).

Wendy enjoys meeting new people and has developed many friendships over the years of involvement in the Canadian Unitarian community. She is honoured to have been nominated to serve on the CUC Nominating Committee and is looking forward to the opportunity.