

The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the Canadian Unitarian Council – December 2018



December 2018, Issue 70

- [CUC IT Improvements](#)
- [AGM Planning](#)
- [OWL—Filling the Sex Ed Gap](#)
- [Breathing Room for Nonprofits](#)
- [Canadian Unitarian Book Club](#)
- [Social Justice at the UU Church of Halifax](#)
- [The UU Challenge of Holiday Music](#)
- [Meet the New CanUdle Coordinator](#)
- [Parliament of World Religions: A Gathering of Faith](#)
- [In Memoriam](#)
- [Jobs and Volunteer Opportunities](#)
- [Upcoming Events](#)
- [Contact Us](#)

Submissions to the CUC eNews:
Due by the 14th of each month
Send to: communications@cuc.ca

CUC on Facebook

The CUC is on Facebook at
<https://www.facebook.com/CanadianUnitarianCouncil/>

If you haven't already visited and liked our Facebook page, please do!

If there is a post you like, please share it and help us get the word out about Canadian Unitarian Universalists.

Council Matters

Technology & Communications Improvements at the CUC



CUC eNews: A New Look and Format

The CUC eNews will move to a new weekly format in 2019. Starting in January, subscribers will receive a short weekly email from the CUC featuring introductions to a limited number of articles, with links to the website for more in-depth information. The goal is to provide you with news and information that is timely, engaging and easier to read.

The Canadian Unitarian (CanU), the longer CUC twice-a-year publication, will no longer be produced. The CUC eNews will be the vehicle for delivering news and issues of interest to Canadian Unitarian Universalists.

Customer Management Relations: An Upgrade

Technology is constantly evolving, and at the CUC office, a new Customer Relationship Management (CRM) system is being put in place so staff can maintain an up-to-date database, and better manage information from and to member congregations and UUs. The new system will come up to full speed over the next months as CUC office staff collect and synchronize data into the new system.

The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



Mark the date - 2019 Annual General Meeting (AGM)

The CUC's 2019 Annual General Meeting is set for Saturday, May 11th. Hosted by the [Unitarian Congregation in Mississauga](#), participants and delegates are welcome, both in person and online.

Preparing for the AGM

Motions going to the AGM will be sent to congregations in early January. Congregations are asked to set aside time before the end of February to discuss these motions (there will be several), decide how delegates will vote, and provide feedback to the proposers of motions by February 28. Details will follow in January.

Delegate selection and registration

Congregations are encouraged to select their online and in-person delegates early - delegates need to be registered by April 1. Tips on delegate selection are on the [CUC's AGM page](#).

Already know who your 2019 delegates are? Register them [here](#).

Online participation and voting

There will be full online participation and voting ability for the AGM. The [delegate registration form](#) asks how your delegates are participating, and instructions and tech requirements for voting online will be sent prior to the AGM. Orientation sessions will also be held for those new to the online voting system and Zoom webinar platform.



Got a motion?

If your congregation or group is considering submitting a motion, consult with the Executive Director BEFORE you submit a resolution. This will save you time! Email resolutions@cuc.ca. Submit a motion only if: a) there is no previous resolution AND it addresses a completely new issue; b) is of national importance, and c) is timely. Motions are due by December 15.

Find out how to submit a motion, who can submit motions, why a new motion may not be necessary, and a summary of previously approved motions on the [CUC's Resolutions page](#).

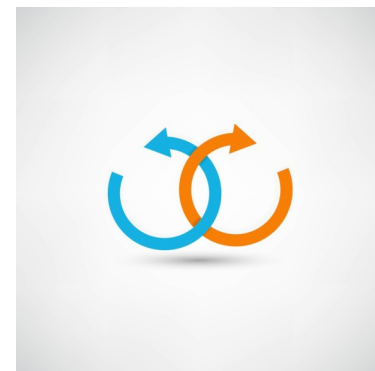
The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



CUC Liaison - Your Congregation Needs One!

We asked and you responded! Over the past months, the CUC eNews has carried requests for congregations to revitalize the role where one person is the appointed liaison from your congregation to CUC news and events. Over 20 congregations have answered and sent in their CUC Liaison contact information - thank you!



The CUC Liaison role is especially important for Annual General Meetings, National Conferences, and resources of interest for your congregation. Stay in the loop - please send us the name and contact information for your congregation's CUC Liaison to info@cuc.ca by January 15.

Spotlight: Our Whole Lives - Filling the **Sex Ed Gap in Ontario**



When it comes to sex ed in schools, a truly comprehensive education that runs from kindergarten through high school and goes beyond the mere mechanics of reproduction can be hard to come by. Although Ontario's 2015 update to the province's sex ed curriculum-placed a new focus on concepts such as consent and gender identity, the Ford government's reversion to the 1998 curriculum drops references to these, even though students are sure to face these issues.

At the same time, school is far from the only place where children and adolescents learn about sexuality, buffeted by sometimes conflicting messages they receive on the topic from pop culture and their peers.

But if school teachers sometimes lack adequate training, **or** if parents are reluctant to address issues of sexuality, and if peers are often ill-informed, where are youth with burning questions to go? A church may not be the first answer that comes to mind for many people, and yet the OWL (Our Whole Lives) program offers an extensive lifespan sexuality education program in that very setting.

The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



Our Whole Lives - Filling the **Sex Ed** Gap in Ontario (continued)

When the CUC issued [a public statement](#) in August calling on the Ontario government to reinstate the 2015 curriculum, it also highlighted the gap the OWL program can fill. With OWL curricula covering a range of topics including relationships, gender identity, and sexual orientation and covering all ages, OWL recognizes that human sexuality is a much broader than people sometimes realize — that it really does affect “our whole lives”.

Although not designed to replace sexuality education in schools, participants in the OWL program have found that it offers benefits that school settings sometimes lack. For Ruby Gaudet, a youth at Calgary Unitarians who participated in the elementary program, the fact that both OWL teachers and fellow participants had chosen to be there was a refreshing change from the classroom.



I felt much more comfortable to ask questions about things I didn't understand than I did when I learned about human sexuality at school. As well, OWL went more in depth with all concepts, and the facilitators weren't uncomfortable talking about any of it.
~Ruby Gaudet

While covering the “basics” of sexuality education, OWL also delves into real-life areas that schools may be less likely to cover. For Ben Bradt from Calgary Unitarian who took OWL in high school, participating in an exercise of asking someone out stands out in his mind. He felt comfortable with this activity as it was in the company of his friends from the youth group, rather than with classmates he felt little connection to. Ben definitely preferred the OWL experience over the sex education he received in high school.

Whether OWL would supplement a comprehensive sexuality education in schools or substitute for it, Gaudet is convinced of the program's value.

“I believe that everyone should have the chance to go through OWL”, she says “as it is an extremely safe space to learn information that you need to know”.

It was much more open, less judgmental, and covered the often-overlooked social aspects as opposed to just 'how to make a baby.'
~ Ben Bradt

The CUC eNews

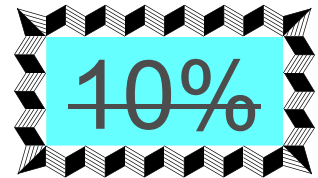
Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



Breathing Room for Nonprofits

In the September eNews, we reported on an [Ontario Supreme Court ruling](#) striking down the 10 percent rule around engaging in political activity for charities.

On October 25, the Minister of Finance tabled proposed changes to the Income Tax Act (ITA) that respond to recommendations made by the Consultation Panel on the Political Activities of Charities. These changes were introduced as Bill C-86 and now refer to the rules governing political activities by charities as “public policy dialogue and development activities”. The bill has received concurrence by the [Standing Committee on National Finance](#) in advance of a second Act to implement certain provisions of the budget.



Currently, charities have to devote “substantially all” their resources to fulfilling their charitable purposes, leaving about 10% for political action and advocacy. The proposed legislation removes this “substantially all” test. In essence, the new rules, if adopted in its current form, would remove the distinction between “political activity” and other public policy work that charities do, and would remove the numerical limit on charities’ public policy work. It would amend the ITA by providing that “charitable activities includes public policy dialogue and development activities carried on in furtherance of a charitable purpose.”

Charities will still have to be strictly non-partisan in their public policy work, and all such work will need to be related to and further their charitable purpose as enforced by the Canada Revenue Agency.

[Carter’s Charity Law and Not-for-Profit Law Bulletin](#) provides an analysis of Bill C-86 and its potential impact on charities, and also explains that, “Although Bill C-86 does not provide a definition of the phrase “public policy dialogue and development activities, the explanatory notes accompanying the Notice of Ways and Means Motion of October 25, 2018 (“Explanatory Notes”),¹³ not included in Bill C-86, explain that “[p]ublic policy dialogue and development activities generally involve seeking to influence the laws, policies or decisions of a government, whether in Canada or a foreign country.”

The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



Breathing Room for Nonprofits (continued)

The CUC welcomes this proposed change and had advocated for it during the rounds of consultations held by Canada Revenue Agency in 2015. The removal of quantitative limits on non-partisan charitable activities in pursuance of charitable purposes will free up resources and staff time currently spent on making sure the CUC does not exceed the 10% rule, and is much more in keeping with the necessary advocacy work done by charities.

Imagine Canada, the national umbrella for Canada's charitable and nonprofit sector, shared: "We anticipate draft guidance from the Canada Revenue Agency very soon and we will work with the CRA to ensure maximum clarity. We are also working with the CRA to determine the implications of the ITA changes on the existing requirement for charities to track, quantify, and report political activity on their annual T3010 return." Read more from [Imagine Canada](#).

UU Community News

News from our Congregations

Do you have news from your congregation you'd like to share? Send it our way: communications@cuc.ca

Canadian Unitarian Online Book Club

Winter has arrived in Canada, and wouldn't it be nice just to curl up at home and discuss a good book with like-minded folks, without having to brave the weather?

Mary Maler from the Unitarian Church of Montreal is proposing an online book club that could meet every month or so via Zoom at a time convenient to those interested, possibly Sunday at 4:00 ET, to discuss some of the classics of Canadian literature.



Please contact [Mary Maler](#) if you're interested.

The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



Social Justice at the UU Church of Halifax

Margaret Galbraith, Co-chair, UUCH Refugee Sponsorship Committee



In 2015, like many other UU congregations in Canada, the [UU Church of Halifax](#) decided to sponsor a Syrian refugee family, but we didn't stop there. As of this month, we are facilitating the sponsorship of fifty-six people - passion can get you far!

As a small congregation, we decided right after supporting our own family of six, that while our financial and human resources were limited, we could provide access to the government allocated spaces for refugees through our [Sponsorship Agreement Holder \(SAH\)](#) - the CUC, and, as of six months ago, ourselves, when we became authorized as a SAH. We normally work with Constituent Groups who know, and are frequently related to, the applying refugees, so that they raise the funds required and are prepared to manage the settlement process once the refugees arrive. In this way, we have supported nineteen people over the last two years.

In September 2018, funding became available to provide the sponsors' share of costs for the government cost-[shared Blended Visa Office-Referred \(BVOR\)](#) program for more vulnerable refugees, if a SAH managed the process.

The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



Social Justice at the UU Church of Halifax (continued)

With the committed involvement of our local East African community acting as the Constituent Group, we are now enabling the sponsorship of thirty-seven individuals in four large Somali and Sudanese families.

Our belief in social justice and a passion to do what we can for the desperate refugees of the world has inspired the work of this small committee, and particularly the tireless Andy Blair, our co-chair. Part of our original mandate from our congregation was to assist other groups or sponsors with non-financial assistance if needed to facilitate refugee sponsorship in Atlantic Canada.

By becoming a SAH ourselves, we have been able to accomplish far more than we originally anticipated. We not only are assigned our own spaces by [Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada](#), but now we are part of a nation-wide network of SAHs, able to share spaces, support each other, and attract more volunteers and funds for sponsorship. We encourage other UU churches already involved in refugee sponsorship to take the next step of support and become SAHs.

Watch this [moving video](#) of Halifax congregation members welcoming newly arrived Ethiopian refugees. (Facebook login required to view.)

The UU Challenge of Holiday Music

The holiday season may be “the most wonderful time of the year”, but for music directors in Unitarian congregations, it can also present challenges: how does one make space for sacred music and secular music, incorporate songs from both Christmas and other holidays, and play old favourites while still featuring some contemporary tunes? Jane Perry, music director with [Unitarian Church of Calgary](#), admits this task can be tricky.



We certainly have a lot of folks in our Canadian congregations who honour Christmas in some way and therefore just are very happy to hear traditional Christmas carols”, she says.

The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



The UU Challenge of Holiday Music (continued)

“There are others who of course come from Jewish backgrounds or completely secular backgrounds or are pagans and always appreciate hearing music from their traditions reflected as well. So it's a bit of a balancing act, really”.

Perry consults a variety of sources for her congregation's holiday music, often beginning with the Unitarian hymnal *Singing the Living tradition*. She also looks to Canadian composers and arrangers who have written their own songs or done new takes on the classics. And she draws inspiration from attending holiday concerts by other choirs, a reflection of what she jokingly describes as a “long-standing and honoured tradition of stealing repertoire”.

Borrowing from varied sources is also common practice for Sandra Hunt, music director at the [Unitarian Church of Montreal](#) (UCM), who incorporates French-language carols, the Romanian Christmas carols of Béla Bartók, and jazz arrangements of traditional songs. The UCM program this year will also include a Mexican component with the a children's pageant featuring a contemporary telling of Las Posadas, a re-enactment of Mary and Joseph's search for refuge on Christmas Eve. “We try to mix up the cultures”, she says, noting that the church will also feature Hanukkah and solstice music during the season.

As in other Unitarian congregations, both Calgary and Montreal have long standing traditions relating to Christmas music, such as a candlelight singing of “Silent Night” at the Christmas Eve service. But Perry has also learned there are risks that come with focusing too heavily on this genre, something she discovered when she got some pushback over an explicitly Christmas-centred holiday concert. She ultimately decided to go with selections from a variety of faiths, something she found was well-received.

But while congregants may come from varied backgrounds, there's a common desire to feel the spirit of the season in some fashion. The main consideration for choosing holiday music, Perry confirms, “is to make people feel welcome”.



The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



Youth and Young Adults

CanUUdle has a new Coordinator - Heather MacLean-Smith!

We're very excited that Heather will be working part-time from now through the end of May to support [CanUUdle, the CUC's annual national youth conference](#). She'll be working with a volunteer team of youth and adults from across the country to plan an inspiring long weekend of friendships, fun, and deepening of our Unitarian Universalist identities.

CanUUdle XIX will be taking place at the [Unitarian Church of Calgary](#), May 17-20, 2019. [Link](#)

Here's a little bit more about Heather:

Heather had an alternative childhood, raised free-range and off-the-grid... radically unschooled by her alternative, back-to-the-lander parents. Upon moving to Edmonton, Heather and her family became very active at [Westwood Unitarian Congregation](#). She joined Westwood's Youth Group from 2000-2004, attended CanUUdle as a youth in 2002, and joined youth staff for CanUUdle in 2004. Both cons had a long-lasting impact on her. Heather's family moved away in 2004, to a remote location that had no UU congregation.

Although Heather's values remained solidly UU, she deeply missed her home congregation. Heather ended up returning in 2012 and has been active at Westwood ever since. Most recently, she has been co-creating with Westwood's DRE a new youth outreach program. Cosmic Connections is set to launch January 2019. Heather continues to serve on Westwood's worship committee and was a youth advisor from 2015-2017.

Throughout her life, Heather has spent time on a goat farm, as a shepherd, in a city, a town and a hamlet; lived in Roberts Creek Cohousing, traveled the world and eventually landed back in Edmonton. She is in her fourth year of private practice as a Registered Massage Therapist. These days, she enjoys spending time with her partner Desiree, nerding out about the health sciences, creative writing, and



The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



International News

Parliament of World Religions: A Gathering of Faith

Over 200 faith communities came together at the [Parliament of World Religions \(PoWR\)](#) held November 1-7, in Toronto. Among those gathered, there was an abundance of Unitarian Universalists.

The CUC presented three sessions: Truth, Healing and Reconciliation: Moving Towards Understanding, Trust & Respect: [Rev. Samaya Oakley](#) and Stephen Paquette (read Stephen's bio on [Linked in](#)); Our Whole Lives: [Rev. Jessica York](#) and Monica Bennet; and Welcoming Congregations: [Vyda Ng](#) and Art Brewer. In addition, *The Clergy Project*, a play featuring the Rev. Shawn Newton, First Unitarian Congregation of Toronto's minister, one of the three author/performers, was also presented. The play received a standing ovation from the mostly-clergy audience, amidst calls to the three clergy actors to continue the production.



The Quilt of Belonging, displayed at the 2018 Parliament of the World's Religions (photo by Rev. Nicoline Guerrier)

Comments from Attending UUs:

"This has been a very powerful place to be. Compared to what's going on in the world, with the violence and anxiety we've witnessed recently," said **Rev. Nicoline Guerrier**, a Unitarian Universalist minister who lives in Montreal and works in Plattsburgh, N.Y. "It's a microcosm of how the world could be if we came together in a spirit of curiosity." ([Globe and Mail](#), November 4, 2018)

"It's actually really moving and touching to have over 200 faith communities represented here," said **Vyda Ng**, the [Canadian Unitarian Council's executive director](#), who was featured in a presentation on the LGBTQ-affirming Welcoming Congregations program. "I heard somewhere that over 80 countries [are represented]."

The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



Parliament of World Religions: A Gathering of Faith (continued)

“I think it’s been a great opportunity for Toronto to host it and to have a Unitarian presence here.” ([UUA World](#), November 20, 2018)

Bruce Knotts, the director of the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office, is a Parliament of the World’s Religions trustee and was a programming presenter. “Part of me wants to say everybody here is a UU,” Knotts said. “We share many of the sensibilities and the idea of inclusion and working together and acceptance of each other as we are.” ([UUA World](#), November 20, 2018)

Rev. Linda Thomson, the [CUC Congregational Life Lead for the Central and Eastern region](#) shared, “What a week and a half it has been. The other night I watched US election returns, after spending a full day (one of many) at the just



concluded Parliament of World Religions in Toronto. Just over a week ago I stood on the Bema of a local Synagogue, adding my words of sympathy and resolve to those of other interfaith leaders.

During my days at the Parliament I sometimes found myself wondering why I was there. The workshops I attended

rarely had obvious practical connections to my work with the Canadian Unitarian Council. On reflection though, it became apparent to me that showing up was important. Hearing others, allowed me to learn something about those who see the world in different ways than I do. We say we “covenant to affirm and promote the free and responsible search for truth and meaning”; at our core, we are a pluralistic tradition. Being at the Parliament was just as important being at the Synagogue was. The people at the Parliament didn’t expect that my beliefs were the same as theirs, neither did those who gathered at the Synagogue. In both cases, though, we knew though that our lives, our faiths and our fates were interdependent. I believe I have an obligation to be with those I disagree with; to know something of their hopes, fears and dreams, so I can understand and respond appropriately.”

Besides the Parliament of World Religions event held every few years, PoWR has a number of ongoing [active programs](#) including the United Nations Task Force, Justice, The Next Generation, Climate Action, Faiths Against Hate, and the Indigenous People’s Program, among others.

The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



In Memoriam

Valerie Ann Chapman (1935 - 2018)

Susan Ruttan

The death of Valerie Chapman in September is a loss not only for her family and her Halifax UU congregation but also for the Unitarian Universalist United Nations Office. She had been the Halifax UUs' Envoy to the UU-UNO for 10 years. Before that, she was the UU Envoy from Burlington, Vermont for 15 years.

An Envoy serves as a UU-UNO representative within their local congregation and connects the congregation to our world community. Envoys receive information on UN initiatives, global UU connections, and international engagement opportunities, and then plan events in their congregation to promote the program.



“Like few others, Valerie saw and thought clearly about how to enhance engagement with the United Nations and our office,” wrote UU-UNO director Bruce Knotts in a tribute. “She worked with intelligence, with thoughtfulness and without ego,” he said. Being the UU-UNO Envoy was one of Valerie’s greatest passions, says her husband Colin Kerr.

Born in England in 1935, Valerie trained there as a nurse. She moved to Montreal in 1959 to pursue her nursing career. In the 1980s, while living in Vermont, she co-founded the Vermont Respite House, a new form of hospice. She also raised three children.

In 1974, Valerie founded a renewable energy enterprise, Windstream Power, a company that makes small wind-powered generators. Windstream was relocated in the 1980s from Quebec to Vermont, where Valerie and Colin were living. She managed Windstream till 2006; it’s still in operation, with a staff of 14.

Valerie and Colin moved to Dartmouth in 2007 after she retired, buying an old sea captain’s house that overlooks Halifax Harbour.

The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



In Memorium (continued)

She first joined the Unitarians in 1960 at the Montreal congregation; she later attended the North Hatley congregation in 1970, and then the Burlington one in 1980, before joining the Halifax congregation in 2007.

In her last years, Valerie suffered from an incurable neurological condition called Progressive Vascular Cognitive Impairment. She chose to enter the medical assistance in dying program, and died a quick and peaceful death, with her husband by her side, on September 10.

Patrick Turner (1922 - 2018)

[Patrick Anthony \(Pat\) Turner](#), father of Kim Turner (Halifax), previous CUC Board President, passed away in his sleep on November 17, 2018 at the age of 96. Kim lost her mother Bunny Turner last year.

Jobs and Volunteer Opportunities



First Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo Ministerial Search

The [First Unitarian Fellowship of Nanaimo](#) (FUFON) is looking for a two-thirds-time consulting minister to lead us into the future. We are located on beautiful Vancouver Island in British Columbia, Canada in a region with a population of 160,942. As an affordable harbour town, Nanaimo offers residents the west coast lifestyle with breathtaking scenery, a mild climate, outdoor recreational activities, a vibrant arts scene, and a burgeoning local food culture. Find [more information here](#).

Neighbourhood Unitarian Universalist Congregation (NUUC): Part-time Director of Lifespan Learning

[Neighbourhood Unitarian Universalist Congregation](#),

a liberal, progressive, multi-faith congregation in Leslieville, Toronto, is seeking a Director of Lifespan Learning who enjoys working with children and has the ability to creatively teach them about meaning and spirituality in our culture. The candidate does not need to be Unitarian, but should feel comfortable teaching and modeling [our Seven Principles](#).



The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



Upcoming Events

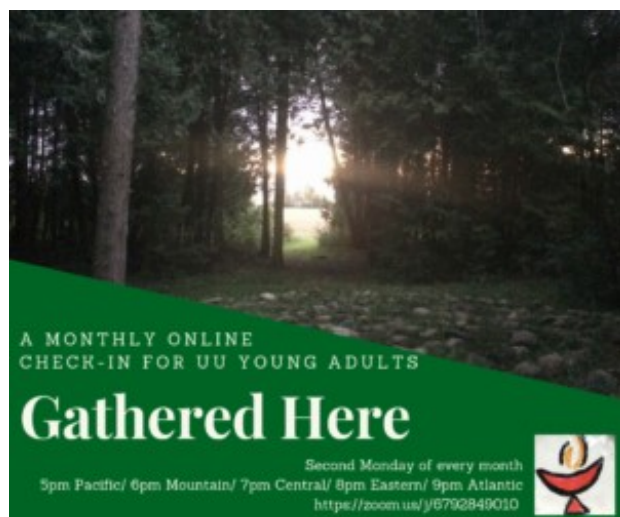
December, 2018

Webinar: Church Social Media and Membership Growth

December 8, 12:30 - 2:00 pm ET

Presentation by Peter Bowden, a Unitarian Universalist consultant specializing in congregational growth, outreach, and media. Peter has trained thousands of leaders across the United States and globally through his online programs.

[More information and registration.](#)



Gathered Here

December 10, 8:00 - 9:15 pm, ET

Join other UU 18-35 year olds on Zoom (a video-conferencing platform) for sharing of joys and concerns, deeper check-ins, prayerful reflections, and an opportunity to process current events with a spiritually grounded community. 2019 dates: 1/14, 2/11, 3/11, 4/8, 5/6, 6/10, 7/8, 8/12

[More information.](#)

Shining Lights Deadline - December 15

The Shining Lights Award celebrates innovation and sustainability in congregational initiatives and programming. Nominations can be submitted to shininglights@cuc.ca.

Please note that the CUC Office will close at noon on Friday, December 21, 2018 and will reopen Wednesday, January 2, 2019.

The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



January, 2019

Owl Facilitator Training

January 11 - 13, 2019—Unitarian Church of Vancouver

Become a facilitator for Our Whole Lives sexuality education – junior high and high school levels (grades 7-9 and 10-12)! Cost: \$250

[Registration](#) is open until Friday, January 4.



Financial Webinars with Clyde Harris, CUC Bookkeeper

– Part 3

January 23: Financial Records

All webinars from 7:30 - 8:30 pm ET, Cost: \$10 each

This session covers whether charities should rent out their property, and why this should or should not happen.

[Learn more and register.](#)

Roundtable: Board Legal Considerations 101

January 26, 2019 - 12:30 pm ET

In this roundtable, we'll discuss insights, and questions arising from the "[Serving on a UU board in Canada: legal and practical perspectives](#)" video; prepared for UU congregations. [More information and registration.](#)

February, 2019



30th Annual Southern Ontario Midwinter Retreat

February 1 - 3, 2019

Theme: Connecting Our Stories

Keynote speaker: Jessica Purple Rodela

All UU's are welcome to this retreat at the YMCA Cedar Glen Retreat Centre in Bolton, ON (just north of Toronto).

[Learn more and register.](#)

The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the [Canadian Unitarian Council](#) – December 2018



February (continued)

Roundtable: Practical Applications of Social Media

February 9, 12:30 - 2:00 pm

Facilitated by Margo Ellis, the CUC's Communication and Web Manager.

We'll discuss various social media concerns such as who is doing social media in your congregation? What social media channels are you using? What are your social media goals? What's working, what's not?

[Register and learn more.](#)



Peterborough Self Care UU Youth Con

February 22- 24, 2019

Unitarian Fellowship of Peterborough

Please note: this con is run by the Unitarian Fellowship of Peterborough.

[Learn more](#), registration will be online soon.

March, 2019



Webinar: Worship as a Beacon for Congregational Growth

Saturday, March 30, 9:30 – 12:30 PT (6:30 – 9:30 ET)

Cost: \$35 per session

In this workshop, Part one of two, we'll explore ways to create meaningful worship that engages minds, hearts, and spirits. Our presenter is the Rev. Dr. Barbara Wells ten Hove.

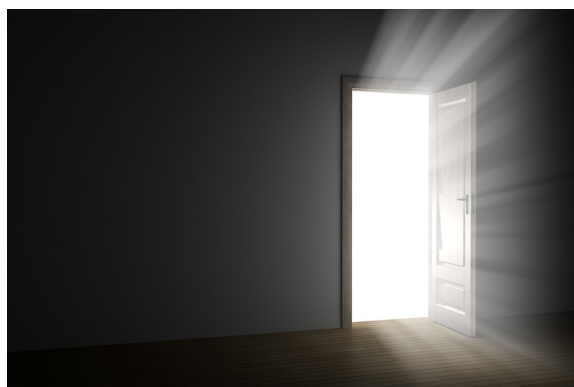
[Learn more and register.](#)

Virtual Gathering: Hope in Hard Times

Wednesday, March 6, 7-8:30 ET or Saturday, March 9, 12:30 - 2 ET

Arising out of a common concern, voiced by religious professionals, we invite people to join in this time of reflection and sharing – looking at the ways we find Hope in Hard Times.

[Learn more and register.](#)



The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the Canadian Unitarian Council – December 2018



Save the Date!

UU United Nations Office Intergenerational Seminar April 10-13, 2019

The UU-UNO's annual Intergenerational Spring Seminar will take place in New York City, April 10-13, 2019 with a focus on the theme of gender equity. Registration opens in December and additional details, including applications for youth and adult leadership positions, can be found at www.uua.org/unspringseminar. NB: This year there are special rates for Young Adult attendees!



Canadian Unitarian Council
Conseil unitarien du Canada

Interdependence. Love. Justice.

CUC's 2019 Annual General Meeting

The CUC's 2019 Annual General Meeting is set for **Saturday, May 11, 2019**. Hosted by the [Unitarian Congregation in Mississauga](#), participants and delegates are welcome both in-person and online. More information will soon be available on the [CUC website](#).

CanUUdle XIX

CanUUdle XIX will be taking place at the [Unitarian Church of Calgary](#), **May 17-20, 2019**. More information will soon be available on the [CUC website](#).

The [Events Calendar](#) on the CUC website lists all upcoming CUC events. Check it often to keep up on webinars and roundtables, training being offered, and gatherings and conferences.

The CUC eNews

Newsletter of the Canadian Unitarian Council – December 2018



CUC STAFF:

Ahna DiFelice | Organizational Administrator | info@cuc.ca

Caitlyn Seale | Administrator Assistant | caitlyn@cuc.ca

Asha Philar | Youth & Young Adult Ministry Specialist | asha@cuc.ca

Casey Stainsby | Youth & Young Adult Program and Events Coordinator | casey@cuc.ca

Joan Carolyn | Congregational Life Lead—BC & Western Region | joan@cuc.ca

Rev. Linda Thomson | Congregational Life Lead—Central & Eastern Region | linda@cuc.ca

Margo Ellis | Communications and Web Manager | margo@cuc.ca

Erin Horvath | Social Justice Lead | erin@cuc.ca

Vyda Ng | Executive Director | vyda@cuc.ca

CUC BOARD:

Jane Ebbert | president-board@cuc.ca

President, Western Region

Margaret Wanlin | margaret@cuc.ca

Vice-President, Western Region

Tanya Cothran | tanya@cuc.ca

Treasurer, Central Region

Kiersten Moore | kiersten@cuc.ca

Secretary, BC Region

Rev. Rod Solano-Quesnel | rod@cuc.ca

Central Region

Chuck Shields | chuck@cuc.ca

Eastern Region

Carol Cumming Speirs | carol@cuc.ca

Eastern Region

Michael Riess | michael@cuc.ca

BC Region

Rev. Debra Thorne | minister@cuc.ca

Minister Observer

Liv Gardiner | yob@cuc.ca

Youth Observer



L to R: [Michael Riess](#) (BC region), Rev. [Debra Thorne](#) (Minister Observer), [Carol Speirs](#) (Eastern region), Rev. [Rodrigo Emilio Solano Quesnel](#) (Central region), [Chuck Shields](#) (Eastern region), [Tanya Cothran](#) (Treasurer, Central region), [Kiersten Moore](#) (Secretary, BC region), [Jane Ebbert](#) (President, Western region), [Margaret Wanlin](#) (VP, Western region)
Not pictured: [Liv Gardiner](#) (Youth Observer.)

CONTACT US:

Canadian Unitarian Council

@ Centre for Social Innovation

302-192 Spadina Ave

Toronto ON M5T 2C2, 1-800-568-5723

info@cuc.ca | <https://cuc.ca/>