



CANADIAN
UNITARIAN
COUNCIL

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**2019 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING – MAY 11, 2019
PROPOSED MOTIONS**

TO: Presidents, Ministers and Delegates of congregations of the Canadian Unitarian Council
FROM: Canadian Unitarian Council Board of Trustees |
RE: Motions for 2018 Annual General Meeting
DATE: January 8, 2019

The following motions are proposed for the CUC's 2019 Annual General Meeting. Please:

- Allow time for your congregation and delegates to discuss the motions, and how your delegates will vote
- Provide feedback to the proposers by **February 28th** using the Resolutions Feedback Form at the end of this document. Please use a separate form for each motion

If you have new delegates, presidents or folks in your congregations who would like to participate on-line, please have them:

- Attend an on-line orientation session in April – please check the CUC website under About the CUC – Annual General Meeting for dates and registration information
- Sign up for the delegates email group, if they are not already a member, by emailing info@cuc.ca with a request to join

Delegate selection and registration: Please register all your delegates **by April 1st**.

All information about the Annual General Meeting, including agenda and delegate registration, is available at <https://cuc.ca/about-cuc/annual-general-meeting/>.

Questions about the AGM? Please email executivedirector@cuc.ca.

Please note: A motion will be coming about the Annual Program Contribution for 2020, and will be sent to you as soon as this is finalized.



MOTION 1: Change to bylaw #5 – Board of Trustees

PROPOSED BY: CUC Board of Trustees

CONTACT: board@cuc.ca

BACKGROUND

1. In 2018, the Nominating Committee had difficulty finding two nominees per region, possibly related to statistically significant differences in the population of the four regions, resulting in one vacancy coming out of the AGM.
2. The proposed bylaw change, as stated in the new wording for 5.3.1, will give the Nominating Committee more flexibility in finding Trustees, while clearly maintaining two Trustees per region as the preferred representation.
3. The current text of 5.3.1 reads:
 - a. The Board shall be comprised of eight Trustees elected at the Annual Meeting, or their replacements appointed pursuant to this by-law and any additional Trustees appointed by the Board as provided below. Two of the Trustees shall be resident in each of the four Designated Geographical Areas.
4. The proposed change also has the benefit of making it possible for a Trustee to change region of residence and still remain as a Trustee, with an attendant change to 5.5.1, which currently reads:
 - a. (Termination of Office: The office of a Trustee shall be vacated before the completion of the term of office:) if such individual ceases to be a member in good standing of a member congregation or ceases to reside in the Designated Geographical Area from which elected.

BE IT RESOLVED that bylaw 5.3.1 shall now read (with changes in italics):

The Board shall be comprised of eight Trustees elected at the Annual Meeting, or their replacements appointed pursuant to this by-law and any additional Trustees appointed by the Board as provided below. *The Nominating Committee shall make every effort to nominate two Trustees per Designated Geographical Area, but in the event that two nominees cannot be found from the relevant regions, shall have the flexibility to nominate a minimum of one Trustee and a maximum of three Trustees per Designated Geographical Area, with the total number of Trustees not to exceed eight.*

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that bylaw 5.5.1 shall now read:

If such individual ceases to be a member in good standing of a member congregation.



MOTION 2: Change to bylaw #3.9 – Meetings: Participation in Meetings

PROPOSED BY: CUC Board of Trustees

CONTACT: board@cuc.ca

BACKGROUND

1. UU ministers in Canada are entitled to speak at Annual General Meetings. Currently, bylaw 3.9 states:
 - a. Participation in meetings: The following individuals shall be entitled to be present at any Annual or Special Meeting and, subject to the time limit imposed for any particular item of business, to address the meeting:
 - i. 3.9.1: The voting delegates of member congregations, members of the Board, the Executive Director or designate, the official representatives of Affiliates, Ministers of member congregations, retired and community ministers, staff, public accountant.
2. To provide further clarity and to ensure that all relevant ministers are included in this category, a change is proposed to 3.9.1 to reflect this.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT bylaw 3.9.1 shall now read (with changes in italics):

The voting delegates of member congregations, members of the Board, the Executive Director or designate, the official representative of Affiliates, *Ministers in good standing with the Unitarian Universalist Ministers of Canada*, staff, and the public accountant.



MOTION 3: Study Resolution on an 8th Principle
PROPOSED BY: Twenty five individuals who are members of at least three different member congregations located in at least three of the four CUC regions
SUBMITTED BY: Rev. Julie Stoneberg (Peterborough) and Beverly Horton (Hamilton)
CONTACT: Rev. Julie Stoneberg – uurevjs@gmail.com

BACKGROUND

1. Unitarian Universalists are covenanted to affirm and promote:
 - The inherent worth and dignity of every person;
 - Justice, equity and compassion in human relations;
 - Acceptance of one another and encouragement to spiritual growth in our congregations;
 - Respect for the interdependent web of all existence of which we are a part
2. Both personal and institutional racism continue to persist in Canada as confirmed by multiple recent reports, and that as membership within our faith tradition is primarily white/European, we are accountable to these realities.
3. White Supremacy and Colonialist Culture function as the social, political, and institutional glue that connects the racialized historical experience and lived realities of Indigenous Peoples and People of Colour in Canada.
4. The CUC in its 2003 anti-racism resolution called on all its congregations to be active witnesses for racial justice in our communities and encouraged congregations to engage in racial justice education and work.
5. The CUC “Resolution on Racial, Religious, and First Nations Equity” of 2007 resulted in training and production of materials focused explicitly on reconciliation and healing with Indigenous Peoples.
6. An 8th Principle calling for its member congregations to build diverse, multicultural Beloved Community through actions that “accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions” has been proposed within the UUA.

Be it resolved that that a study group be struck to:



1. research and recommend a protocol for amending the CUC principles
2. Draft a proposed 8th Principle, relevant for the Canadian cultural and historical context, calling for the CUC and its congregations to accountably dismantle racism in our institutions and within ourselves. (This may be an adaptation of the UUA's proposed 8th principle.)
3. Produce a report and/or resolution to be considered at the 2020 CUC AGM that serves as the basis for a subsequent adoption of an 8th Principle.

The initial study group members will be Rev. Julie Stoneberg (Peterborough) and Beverly Horton (Hamilton) as co-chairs. Constitution of the remainder of the study group (5-7 members) will reflect racial and regional diversity and engage both professional and lay ministers of CUC member congregations.



MOTION 4: Approval of CUC Goals and Strategic Priorities for 2019 – 2020
PROPOSED BY: CUC Board of Trustees
CONTACT: board@cuc.ca

BACKGROUND

- A. Under Bylaw 3.5.3.4 the CUC is required to seek approval at each Annual General Meeting (AGM) for strategic priorities for the coming year.
- B. The goals and strategic priorities listed below were developed by the CUC Board and staff in joint face to face meetings in the fall of 2016, and subsequently amended as necessary and approved by delegates at each Annual General Meeting.
- C. Board and Staff agreed that the goals and strategic priorities should be recommended for approval at the May 2019 AGM to guide: a) the 12 months of staff work, 1 Jan to 31 Dec 2019; and b) the 12 months of board work, 1 Jun 2019 to 31 May 2020.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The work of the CUC be guided in 2019 - 2020 by the following goals and strategic priorities:

Goals

The CUC ensures that it has the resources to maintain its own sustainability in order to advance the cost-effective achievement of the following four primary goals:

1. **Enhance religious exploration and spiritual growth** grounded in the vision, principles, sources, and aspirations of the Canadian Unitarian Universalist (UU) movement;
2. **Advance socially responsible actions** to live out our vision of interdependence, love, and justice to bring benefit to Canadian and global communities;
3. **Build community resilience** so our congregations and communities are connected to each other, and thrive organizationally, economically, and socially in a diverse, multi-generational context;
4. **Strengthen local, regional, national, and global networks** of collaborative and interdependent UU congregations and communities.



Strategic Priorities

Within these goals, the Board recommends the following **strategic priorities** for 2018-2019:

- A. Ensure **sustainable revenue generation** to continue the work of building vital Unitarian communities;
- B. Optimize communications capabilities so that they are flexible, robust, and effective, with a **continuing focus on the CUC website** to make it a useful and appealing communications tool for both members and visitors, and on extending the reach and effectiveness of other communication mechanisms;
- C. Advance social justice initiatives, including **truth, healing, and reconciliation amongst Indigenous and non-Indigenous people in Canada**;
- D. Encourage innovation and sustainability in the growth and development of UU communities, **including youth and young adults** as they strive to foster a just and sustainable world and to enrich the spiritual lives of their members.



APPENDIX A Action Plan for Study Resolution on an 8th Principle

We, Rev. Julie Stoneberg and Beverly Horton, propose the following actions to support the implementation of our resolution, if approved by delegates at the Annual General Meeting:

PROPOSED ACTION	DETAILS	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE	SUGGESTED COMPLETION DATE
For Proposers of resolution			
1. Form study group in consultation with the CUC Board, CUC staff and UUMOC	5-7 members who represent diverse aspects of the CUC community		June 15, 2019
2. Maintain primary responsibility for communication with CUC Board, Staff, Congregations, and UUMOC			Continuous
3. Establish a clear mandate for the study group, including time lines and member roles and tasks	See adopted study resolution		April 1, 2019
For CUC			
1. Aid in communication as necessary for CUC congregations and communities	Enews and website; and may involve some mailings to congregations.	CUC Staff	As necessary
2. Aid the study group in their preparation of a report/proposal for the 2020 AGM		CUC Staff	As necessary; by report deadline



PROPOSED ACTION	DETAILS	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE	SUGGESTED COMPLETION DATE
3. Engage with the Study Group as they explore the possibilities/process for an 8 th principle to be adopted		CUC Board and Staff	As needed
4. Supply a small budget for printing/communication	To be agreed upon with Executive Director	CUC	To be determined
For Study Group			
1. Research possible methods and processes for changing or amending the CUC principles	Find out how this is done in other UU organizations		
2. Consult with the CUC Board about how to establish a process for changing the principles		With CUC Board	
3. Educate themselves through study and research about racism and other oppressions in the Canadian context.	The intention here is to give background for the express wording of a proposed 8 th principle for the CUC		
4. Draft an 8 th principle for the CUC to consider	Be in conversation with those who drafted the proposed 8 th principle for the UUA.		December 1, 2019?



PROPOSED ACTION	DETAILS	WHO IS RESPONSIBLE	SUGGESTED COMPLETION DATE
5. Prepare a report and/or resolution to be presented to the CUC at the 2020 AGM. Report would include a recommended process for changing the principles AND a process for moving toward adoption of an 8 th principle.	This will depend on what is discovered in the study group's research and learning. It may be a report, or it may be a resolution to adopt an 8 th principle.		December 15, 2019
For Member Congregations			
1. To receive and disseminate information and reports about the proposed 8 th principle to their membership	May include study materials and/or worship service suggestions		As needed
2. To ensure that their delegates to the 2020 AGM are informed	Delegates to come to AGM in 2020 with some feedback/input from their congregations		May 1, 2020



APPENDIX B Unitarian Universalist Association Proposed 8th Principle

Black Lives of Unitarian Universalism (BLUU), an organizing collective dedicated to expanding the power and capacity of Black UUs within our faith, advocate the adoption of an 8th principle, which is being considered by the Unitarian Universalist Association (UUA):

“We, the member congregations of the Unitarian Universalist Association, covenant to affirm and promote: journeying toward spiritual wholeness by working to build a diverse multicultural Beloved Community by our actions that accountably dismantle racism and other oppressions in ourselves and our institutions.”



RESOLUTION FEEDBACK FORM FOR CONGREGATIONS

This form is designed for congregations to easily provide structured feedback to proponents of a resolution for a general meeting of the Canadian Unitarian Council. We invite you to respond to the following questions. Your responses, along with those from other congregations, will assist the proponent of the resolution in preparing a final version of the resolution for a vote at the upcoming Annual General Meeting (AGM). Please submit your feedback by **February 28th** in order for your responses to be considered by the proponents.

The final version of the resolution will be circulated to all congregations by mid-March of each year so that your congregation can engage in further discussion about the resolution and decide how you may wish to instruct your delegates to vote on the resolution at the AGM.

If there is more than one resolution being proposed at the AGM, please use a separate form for each resolution. For more information or support, please contact the Resolutions Advisory Committee at resolutions@cuc.ca



YOUR CONGREGATION	
Congregational Contacts	<i>Name of contact(s):</i> <i>Email address(es):</i> <i>Phone number(s):</i>
Name of Resolution:	
Is the proposed resolution relevant and timely?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>Comments:</i>
Does it address an issue that is important or significant for our national UU community?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>Comments:</i>
Does the resolution address or connect to one or more of the CUC principles?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>Comments:</i>
Do you support the principles underlying the resolution?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>Comments:</i>
Does the resolution propose appropriate, reasonable and realistic actions for the CUC, member congregations and others?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>What actions do you believe it proposes for your Congregation?</i> <i>Is your Congregation interested or willing to get involved?</i>
Is the wording of the resolution clear and concise?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <i>Comments:</i>



YOUR CONGREGATION	
Do you have specific suggestions to improve or amend the resolution?	<i>Please elaborate:</i>
Other comments:	