



May 4, 2025

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

This report deals with the Board of Trustees first and the Nominating Committee second.

CANADIAN UNITARIAN COUNCIL BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Changes made in 2020 re-established proper staggering of Trustee terms. Four positions are up for (re-)election in 2025, two in 2026, and two in 2027.

The following CUC Board members will continue their terms during 2024-25:

NAME	REGION	TERM
James Garland (Durham)	Central	2nd Year of First 3-year term
Alexandra Okrainetz (Vancouver)	BC	2nd Year of First 3-year term
Margaret Kohr (Toronto First)	Central	3rd Year of Second 3-year term
Margo Ellis (Unitarian Church of Montreal)	Eastern	3rd Year of First 3-year term

The nominees for the CUC Board are:

There are four new Trustees to elect, as explained below.



NAME	REGION	TERM
Debra Faulk (Victoria)	BC	1st Year of Second 3-year term
Tessa Walsh (Fredericton)	Eastern	1st Year of First 3-year term
Louise Charach (Edmonton)	Western	1st Year of First 3-year term
Ilara Stefaniuk-Gaudet	Western	1st Year of Second 3-year term

Debra Faulk and Ilara Stefaniuk-Gaudet are both standing for re-election to begin their second 3-year term. Tessa Walsh (Fredericton) and Louise Charach (Edmonton) are being nominated for their first 3-year term.

Yvette Salinas (Montreal) is leaving the Board after three years of service. Liz Goodger is leaving the Board after fulfilling a one year placement for Anna Isaacs. We thank both Yvette and Liz for their dedicated service!

CANADIAN UNITARIAN COUNCIL NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Changes made in 2021 re-established proper staggering of Nominating Committee terms. Two positions are up for (re-)election in 2025, two in 2026, and two more in 2027.

The following Nominating Committee members will continue their terms during 2024-25:

NAME	REGION	TERM
Lillias Cowper (Calgary)	Western	2nd Year of First 3-year term
Jamie Struthers (Regina)	BC/Western	3rd Year of First 3-year term
Carey McDonald (Guelph)	Central	3rd Year of First 3-year term
Cindy Dunning (Kingston)	Eastern/Central	2nd Year of First 3-year term

The following are the nominees for the CUC Nominating Committee:

There is one new Nominating Committee member to elect.

NAME	REGION	TERM
Pam Griffin-Hody (Halifax)	Eastern	1st Year of First 3-year term



Vacant	Western	1st Year of First 3-year term
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The Nominating Committee worked hard to find and fill the Western region position on the Nominating Committee without success. At this time, that position is vacant.

Kim Turner (Halifax) is leaving the Nominating Committee after four years of service, and Lesley Giroday (Comox Valley) is leaving after three years of service. We thank both Kim and Lesley for their dedicated service!

PROCEDURE FOR NOMINATIONS BY PETITION

Further nominations for the CUC Board of Trustees and the Nominating Committee could have been submitted to the Nominating Committee by petition signed by at least 25 members in good standing of CUC member congregations up to thirty days (May 1) prior to the Annual Meeting (May 31, 2025). No such nominations were received this year.

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

Kim Turner, Cindy Dunning, Carey McDonald, Lillias Cowper, Lesley Giroday, James Struthers

CUC Nominating Committee



BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

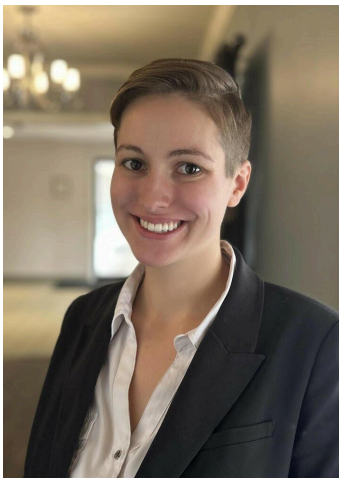
Board of Trustees

Rev. Debra Faulk (BC Region)

Rev. Debra Faulk retired in 2021 as Minister Emerita with Calgary Unitarians. She received a BA in psychology and anthropology from UVic and a Masters of Divinity from Vancouver School of Theology. She has been a chaplain at Vancouver General Hospital, Director of Religious Education in Victoria and Parish Minister to congregations in Alberta and Ontario.

She served on the Boards of the Calgary Interfaith Council and the Calgary Alliance for the Common Good, working to collaborate with labour and non-profits to address social change in the city. She is currently on the Board of the UU Partner Church Council, recently completed a term on the Collegial Development Team of the UU Ministers Association and previously served as Minister Observer to the CUC Board.

Debra raised two adult children as a single mom. They have blessed her with 5 grandchildren. She is excited with the new adventure of co-ownership of her new home in Victoria and being close to her grandchildren.



Teresa Walsh (Eastern Region)

Teresa Walsh has vocational experience in healthcare, customer relations, logistic network, and facility management which has led her to her current profession as a funeral director assistant in Fredericton, New Brunswick.

She became a member of the Unitarian Fellowship of Fredericton in 2023 and has been involved with a variety of committees including serving as the Co-Chair of the Public Awareness Committee and the Co-Chair of Building & Grounds Committee; she also served as the Associate Vice President and Vice President of Finance and Facilities on the Board.

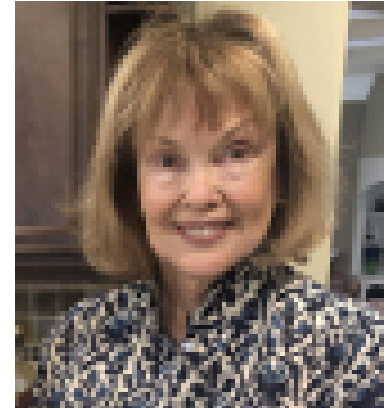
Teresa would like to support the congregations within the Eastern Region, help find solutions for any issues that arise within CUC, bring



back skills to the UFF, and be good representation/advocate for other young adults involved with Unitarianism.

Louise Charach (Western Region)

Louise Charach lives in Edmonton, Alberta where she has lived her entire adult life. Her career highlights include work in television, film as a writer producer. After receiving her Masters Degree in Sociology, Louise worked most notably in the field of addictions and held several senior positions with the Alberta Alcohol and Drug Abuse Commission (AADAC), retiring as an Executive Director in 2007.



Louise and her spouse Larry joined the Unitarian Church of Edmonton (UCE) in 2000 where they have both remained active members. Louise served as a board member and participated in several ministries. She co-authored a Governance Report in 2019 with UCE colleagues to lead UCE to best practices and excellence in Governance and has since chaired a Governance Implementation Team to ensure implementation of the recommendations.

Louise is currently Chair of The Right Relations Team for UCE and a member of the newly formed UCE Communications and Marketing Team.

Louise is honoured to join the CUC Board and looks forward to supporting deep connections and strong communication across the CUC community



Ilara Stefaniuk-Gaudet (Western Region)

Warm greetings to you from Amiskwaciwâskahikan in Treaty 6 Territory! My name is Ilara, and my pronouns are they and them. My lineage is maternally Ukrainian and paternally Acadien. I often say that I've been UU my whole life but didn't know it until I was 14. I was born with chronic illness, and from day one my parents surrounded me with Healers: Reiki Masters, Tai-Chi Masters, Cree Medicine People, Orthodox



Priests, New Age Mystics, Carmelite Nuns, Yogis, the list goes on. I am shaped by pluralism.

I am a Mystic, a Dreamer, an Artist, and a Student of Spirit. I am passionate and full of heart-fire, dedicated to systemic transformation, and committed to the aspirations of our UU Faith. May we do our work together, as Elder Sharon Jinkerson-Brass often says, "In a good and humble way," and may our shared ministry heal a wounded world.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

Nominating Committee

Pam Griffin-Hody (Eastern Region)

Pam has been a member of the Universalist Unitarian Community of Halifax (UUCH) since 2018 when she retired home to Nova Scotia. She was previously a member of Ottawa First. Marrying into a Unitarian family, Pam has been hanging out in UU spaces since the 80s in Moncton, Halifax, Ottawa, and Unicamp. Over the years, Pam has been an RE teacher, Youth Advisor, Choir member, and for the past seven years has served in various positions on the Board of UUCH where she is currently the Past President. She also serves on UUCH's Worship Committee.



Pam retired after a long career in university administration at Carleton University in Ottawa and Dalhousie University in Halifax. Her working life included four years as full-time union president and three years as a Governor of Carleton University as well as numerous volunteer positions with her union. She also volunteered with Girl Guides of Canada for 20 years in various leadership roles. Pam's skills include administrative and people. She wants to play a role in finding diverse, committed, and passionate UUs to fill CUC Board vacancies.