

POLICY ON FORMAL ASSOCIATION WITHIN PRAIRIE TO PINE REGIONAL COUNCIL

In accordance with section I.2.5.3 (The Manual 2019), which states that “Ministry Personnel who are not called or appointment to a community of faith, may carry out the functions of ministry in the United Church only if:

- a) They have a formal association with a community of faith, are acting on behalf of that community of faith, and have the approval of the community of faith’s governing body;”

Ministry Personnel who are members of Prairie to Pine Regional Council who are required to demonstrate a formal association with a community of faith in order to be eligible to exercise any of the functions of ministry including performing marriages under the authority of a License requested through Prairie to Pine Regional Council, will do so by:

- A letter from the governing body of a community of faith including a motion responding to a request from the Ministry Personnel to be in a formal association with that community of faith and acknowledging that they understand the accountability relationship associated with that request.

Policy approved by Prairie to Pine Regional Council Executive on September 18, 2019:

Procedure

In order to comply with the above policy, ministry personnel within the bounds of Prairie to Pine Regional Council can request to be in a “formal association” with a community of faith by writing to the governing body of the community of faith outlining the functions of ministry that they intend to make themselves available for throughout the Regional Council area and/or a portion of it (worship leadership, pastoral care, funerals, weddings). The governing body of the community of faith will be asked to indicate their support of the request through a motion. That motion indicating the support of the community of faith and the support of any incumbent ministry personnel would then be communicated in writing to the Pastoral Relations Minister of the Prairie to Pine Regional Council, Judy Hare. The initial request or an indication that formal association request is in process should be received no later than December 1, 2019.

This formal association is required for ministers to place their names on the Pulpit Supply List, maintain a License to Officiate at Weddings or for some categories of ministers to celebrate the sacraments.