



Fall 2021

Interested in starting a Network or Cluster in Prairie to Pine Regional Council of the United Church? Wanting to connect? Confused? Have ideas to share? We want to hear from you!

Contact Cherry Abad at the Regional Council office:

cabad@united-church.ca or local (204) 233 – 8911, or toll free 1-866-860-9662

And see our web page here: <https://prairietopinerc.ca/programs/clusters-networks/>

What are Clusters and Networks? How do we get involved?

Clusters generally share the same geography- though in our Regional Council that area can cover a large territory. They often focus on ministry support, and can include ministry personnel only, lay people only, or be shared by both. Some Clusters focus on a particular concern shared by others in the same geographic area, such as worship, right relations between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people, being LGBT Affirming, and more.

Networks are more topic or concern-focused, and may cover much wider geography. Many cross provincial or Regional boundaries.

The name isn't really important. It's the ministry and community we create that's most important. The Regional Council has a budget you can access to support your work. Don't be shy- contact the office for more information. And please help us keep this list up to date!

Ministry Support Clusters

Agassiz Cluster: Community of Faith /Pastoral Charge clergy and lay leaders from the following Pastoral Charges have been meeting to discuss ways to support one another, especially those without paid accountable ministry: Roland, Graysville, Miami, occasionally Pembina Parish and Crossroads
Contact: Allison Abbott-Wiebe, wiebej@snet.ca

Assiniboine Ministry Personnel Network: Gathering for ministry personnel in the former Assiniboine Presbytery area, usually monthly. Contact person: Craig Miller craig.miller@rfnw.com

Assiniboine Intentional Gathering Cluster: This is open to all UCC folk in the area (former Assiniboine Presbytery). Gathering often has participants bring a bag lunch and is focused on a theme. Contact person: Craig Miller craig.miller@rfnw.com

Cambrian Cluster: The United Churches of the Rainy River District and Atikokan. The purpose of this group is to offer support and encouragement to one another, and to plan faith formation events for our district. This includes our annual summer camp, for which this group has oversight. Contact: Frances Flook, frances@vitaluna.net

Selkirk Ministry Personnel Cluster: Informal gathering of clergy in the former Selkirk Presbytery area Contact person: Beth McLean, ebethmcl@mymts.net

T'BJGGN is a cluster of Winnipeg churches composed of Transcona Memorial United Church, Birds Hill United Church, John Black Memorial United, Immanuel United Church, Grey Street United Church, Gordon-King Memorial United and North Kildonan United Church. To learn more about the Cluster, please click [here](#) or contact Luane Campbell at l.c.campbell@hotmail.com or Cathie Morgan Matula, cathiemorgan7@gmail.com

Clusters and Networks: community partnerships and social justice

Affirming Cluster in the SW corner: supporting Two Spirit and LGBTQIA+ people and rights. Contact Laura Crookshanks, crooks@wcgwave.ca

Cambrian Youth United Network: Made up of members of the former Cambrian Presbytery with the purpose of planning twice yearly youth retreats to be held in Northwestern Ontario (but open to all youth of both Prairie to Pine and Canadian Shield Regional Councils). Contact: Frances Flook, frances@vitaluna.net

The **Justice Network** is a network that gathers together in the Brandon area. There is an email list and with mailings and a Facebook page. Contact person: Craig Miller: craig.miller@rfnw.com

The Korean Network in the United Church of Canada. This is an extensive network covering all of Canada. Some of the Korean ministers started discussing network building in 2019 and now it has borne results. All Korean ministers who are currently serving or studying in The United Church of Canada and all Koreans attending United Churches are eligible to attend as regular members. The mission of the network is "Support/Advocacy, Education, Fellowship, and Engagement" with the wider United Church. The network wants to support one another and partner with wider networks within the UCC to advance the mission of the UCC.

Korean Rainbow United is a network of United Church of Canada for Korean queer people and allies, lay and clergy and their co-creating relationship. Our mission is to unite our voice with the affirming Christian alliances in Korea and beyond, and join in the "RainbowYesu (RainbowJesus)" activism currently struggling in Korea to resist the discrimination, hate and stigma caused by homophobic/heterosexist scripture reading, interpretation and teaching.

United Church Rural Ministry Network www.UCRMN.ca or Catherine Christie, christiecatherine4@gmail.com

Western Intercultural Ministries Network

Prairie to Pine Regional Council reps for 2021: Kwang Beom Cho, Damber Khadka, Bill Millar. Please contact them through the Prairie to Pine office.

Winnipeg Interfaith and Ecumenical Cluster Informal, connects largely by email and promotes interfaith/ ecumenical representation at services and events. Contact: Loraine McKenzie Shepherd, westworthminister@gmail.com

Winnipeg United Churches Truth and Reconciliation Action Group: Contact: Mary McNairnay jmcnairnay@mts.net or Norah McMurtry, nmcmurtry@hotmail.com

Groups with which the Truth and Reconciliation Action Group connects:

Share the Gifts: Honour the Treaties: The purpose of this group is to find ways of encouraging and enabling Settler and Newcomer folk to make payment to Indigenous folk for the land we inhabit. This organization was started largely by Quakers and Mennonite Central Committee Manitoba, among others. There is also Anglican involvement and support from a number of Indigenous Elders. Contact: Irene Greenwood, imgreenwood@shaw.ca

Music for Life: This group exists to raise funds that are shared with Indigenous communities to establish music camps for children and youth. It is understood to be a suicide and gang prevention effort. This started as a program of the Quakers and now has support from the Anglican Diocese of Prince Rupert, and Kairos. Contact: Irene Greenwood, imgreenwood@shaw.ca

We Are All Treaty People: The purpose of this group is to recognize that those of us who are on Treaty One land are indeed, parties to the Treaties and need to acknowledge this in ways that build relationships. An annual celebration is held at the Forks to honour this relationship. Contact: Mary McNairnay
