



GC44 Commissioner

Nominations Deadline: June 4, 2021

General Council 44 Commissioners

At every level of our United Church denomination, we are seeking followers of Jesus who are interested in being part of the work of our church's 44th General Council!

What is General Council?

The General Council is the national gathering of The United Church of Canada that happens every three (3) years. Each Regional Council elects a certain number of Commissioners to comprise the General Council, based on the Regional Council's size. Commissioners are called so, because they are commissioned by the Regional Councils to attend the General Council meeting in a decision-making capacity. We, Pacific Mountain Regional Council, are able to elect fourteen (14) commissioners; the Regional Leading Elder / Presiding Officer (President or President-Elect) will also attend.

The 44th General Council meeting will be constituted in early 2022 and will consist of Listening/Learning and Discussion Sessions through the following months until a decision session is held in July 2022; the General Council will be a virtual meeting.

What to Expect as a General Council Commissioner

For those who were not at the 43rd General Council, or as a reminder for those who were, the General Council will once again be using a process with three separate parts: Listening/Learning sessions, Discussions in smaller groups, and Decision Making using reports from a Facilitation Group which has reviewed information from all the discussion sessions.

Commissioners will participate in the virtual General Council beginning with an opening in February 2022, listening/learning sessions from February to May, three days of discussion sessions in June, and 3 to 5 days of decision sessions between July 22 and 26, 2022.

Commissioners are expected to arrive at the Decision Session (July 2022) fully informed about the business before them, having:

- participated in/watched the Listening/Learning Sessions;
- participated in all Discussion sessions about proposals; and
- having read all background material provided.

Commissioners will also participate in the work of the General Council for the duration of the three-year term:

- prepare for and participate in the Annual Meeting of the General Council (currently a virtual meeting held in the fall);
- prepare for and participate in any special meetings of the General Council that may be called;
- report on meetings of the General Council to communities of faith and clusters within the Regional Council, and to the Regional Council, as may be required.

Being prepared and ready to work over the next year helps the 44th General Council to be as fruitful as possible. This also means that this is a four (4) year commitment as you are a Commissioner until General Council 45 (2025).

How Commissioners are Nominated and Elected

The Pacific Mountain Regional Council Executive has affirmed criteria for the election of Commissioners:

- at least 10% of our Commissioners be Youth and Young Adult (under 30 years old);
- at least one Commissioner be from a visible minority, preferably from an migrating ministry congregation; and
- at least one Commissioner be Indigenous.
- In addition, the Youth Forum Pilgrim will automatically elected.

In order to achieve a group of Commissioners who reflect all of these values and commitments, a process has been established by the PMRC Executive. We are calling for nominations now, plus nominations can come to the floor of the June 2021 Regional Council meeting.

At the June 2021 Regional Council meeting, a poll will be taken and each voting Council member can indicate up to seven (7) preferred nominees. A group of "elders" (three (3) or four (4) most recent former presidents of the what-was BC Conference) will work with the Nominations Committee to tabulate the results, and then will prepare a slate of thirteen (13) General Council nominees to bring to the Regional Council meeting for consideration and election as Commissioners. After the thirteen (13) Commissioners have been elected, (leaving space for the youth forum pilgrim) we will name the rest of the nominees as alternates.

How to be Nominated

To express interest and be nominated as President-Elect, you will find the [online expression form here \(click\)](#).

You will need to print off the [nominations signature form](#) and submit the completed form to gkbrownmiller@gmail.com

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