



Thanks to the generous members of the United Church and the General Council Office, we are pleased to announce the following grants made through:

The Seeds of Hope Granting Program:

27 grants were awarded through 2020 Fall round of the Seeds of Hope Granting program at the United Church of Canada Foundation totaling \$331,355.

Children, Youth, and Young Adult Programs

From the Living Spirit Fund

- \$5,000 to **Camp Whitney; St. Paul Presbytery** (Cold Lake, AB) in support of Camp Whitney's security upgrades. This will address the campsite security and health & safety concerns in anticipation of little let up in pandemic regulations for kids camps. The project will see both a technological upgrade of monitoring cameras and site connectivity, through integration of a security system with a HUB remote system. Beachfront fencing will allow them to segregate and restrict access to the camp along public access pathways and all will need to be done prior to winter.

From the United Church of Canada Foundation's General Fund

- \$12,000 to **Calvary United Church St Jacobs & Leadership Development Camp** (St. Jacobs, ON) in support of the EQUIP - LAUNCH Program. EQUIP is a ministry that seeks to invest in the faith and leadership development of young people. This particular Equip program called "LAUNCH" refers to specific training opportunities to raise up and launch young people into leadership. The two specific training programs include a mentorship-training course and a running after group (helping young people determine what God may be putting on their heart to do for the Kingdom based on their gifts and passions).

From then Living Spirit Fund, and the Kingscourt United Church Endowment Fund

- \$7,500 to **Turner Zion Pastoral Charge** (New Denver, AB) in support of Goat Mountain Kids Centre/Turner Zion Partnership. Turner Zion fosters spiritual growth and community connections to maximize well-being relating to children, seniors and parents struggling in a poor rural economy. The short-term goal is to match a contribution to help launch a daycare centre at Lucerne School in New Denver. The longer term goal develops a partnership with the child care centre to provide parents child care when using a non-profit co-work space.
 - \$6,000 from the Living Spirit Fund
 - \$1,500 from the Kingscourt United Church Endowment Fund

Events

From the Alfred J. Mitchell Trust Fund

- \$10,000 to **Fred Victor** (Toronto, ON) in support of the Taste of Regent Park project. This will establish Taste of Regent Park as the community's annual summer market festival by animating the central green-space as a family-friendly weekly world market, increasing community safety, food security and economic opportunity in a neighbourhood struggling with poverty and stigma.
- \$2,500 to **Christian Resource Centre/Fred Victor** (Mitchell, ON) in support of Christian Resource Centre, CPT Fairmont Campus. The Christian Resource Centre is opening a resource room at the Centre for Practical Theology Fairmont Campus in London Ontario. It will be open on Wednesdays from 9:30 am to 2 pm and The Rev. Dr. Jeff Crittenden will begin holding Inviting Circles welcoming everyone to a time of community worship and learning. CRC's role will be to provide an area of hospitality and resources for all who come through the doors.

From the James Robertson Memorial Trust

- \$5,000 to **McDougall United Church** (Calgary, AB) in support of the McDougall United Church Reconciliation Events. A Reconciliation Tipi was installed at McDougall United Church on Treaty Day (September 22, 2020). The Reconciliation Tipi is a teaching centre and cultural learning hub for children, youth, visitors and congregants. The Tipi highlights several significant observances for our church; Recognition of Treaty Day (the McDougall namesake was a Treaty signatory), Orange Shirt Day workshop (a intergenerational residential school trauma), Sisters in Spirit Day Events, Wellness Day and Memorial Service Vigil, and Indigenous World Day of Prayer/National Indigenous Peoples Day celebrations.
- \$8,500 to **Beaconsfield United Church** (Beaconsfield, QC) in support of the Philippines Human Rights Advocacy Training and Capacity Building project. The project focuses on training UCC communities of faith, NGO's, and volunteers on Philippine Human Rights issues and the Canadian connexion. It proposes to bring together experts from within and outside Canada to sharpen the understanding and involvement in working for change on the well-documented human rights violations and atrocities currently facing our church partners in the Philippines. The focus of the training is on capacity building within existing networks.

From the Jean Moore Endowment Fund

- \$10,000 to **Montreal City Mission** (Montreal, QC) in support of the Ancient Texts... Contemporary Conversations project. The ATCC pilot project aims to go deeper and further than the typical Bible study by tapping into Christian, Jewish, and Muslim thought on sacred scripture as it sheds new light on today's challenges. A group from St James United & Montreal City Mission will engage with a guest conversation leader in each session (between 1-4 sessions for each section) and then debrief, adjust and plan next section. Sessions will be recorded and posted online.



Faith Formation & Congregational Ministry

From the Watkins Fund for Innovative Ministries with Senior Adults

- \$1,500 to **Riverside United Church** (Windsor, ON) in support of the Computer System Upgrade for Live Sunday Service Broadcast project. Due to the COVID19 crisis, their congregation, which is 90% seniors, cannot attend services. Their goal is to provide real-time YouTube Sunday services. Their current computer system does not have the capacity or speed to handle this and this grant will help them upgrade it.
- \$10,000 to **Central Westside United Church** (Owen Sound, ON) in support of the Technology Expansion project. They would like to expand their audio/visual equipment to be able to live stream their Sunday morning services. There is a senior congregation with a number of members residing in senior residences. This upgrade would give them the ability to reach out to these members. Furthermore, Central Westside UC is located in a geographical area with a high senior population and this upgrade can help them expand their outreach. Winters can also create a challenge, at times, in attending services for all members.
- \$1,000 to **Kilworth United Church** (London, ON) in support of the Reaching Out during the Pandemic project. Due to COVID19 restrictions (as well as their small sanctuary and many members who need to stay home due to the health risks), they need to implement a way to still engage with their more senior members. Kilworth is a historical building that is not up to date in its technology. They wish to develop a way to live stream services so that all members can connect.

Peace, Justice, and Leadership Programs

From the Brian and Belva Piercy Endowment Fund

- \$5,605 to **Davenport Perth Community Ministry** (Toronto, ON) in support of the Tracing Gete-Onigaming Routes. Tracing Gete-Onigaming Routes will build on the work of Tasting Davenport Routes, with inclusive engagement of community members at Davenport Perth in the gathering of stories, preparing the scenario for storytelling and celebrating as well as using film or other art forms as means of recording and bearing witness. Engaging in place, Davenport, or Gete-Onigaming, is important as we take care of this place and expect caring and kindness come out of this place.

From the United Church of Canada Foundation's General Fund, and the Brian and Belva Piercy Endowment Fund

- \$19,400 to **Davidson United Church** (Davidson, SK) in support of the Treaty Land Sharing Network - removing barriers to Indigenous access to land project. Land is fundamental to Indigenous ways of life. Yet in Saskatchewan, the overwhelming majority of land below the treeline is privately owned. Since February 2019, the Treaty Land Sharing Network have been engaging land holders, ranchers, farmers, and rural people to discuss the concept of safe access



to land for Indigenous people. Indigenous partners have identified the need for signage indicating the land can be safely accessed as necessary.

- \$17,900 from the United Church of Canada Foundation's General Fund
- \$1,500 from the Brian and Belva Piercy Endowment Fund

Seniors Ministries

From the Watkins Fund for Innovative Ministries with Senior Adults

- \$8,000 to **North Bramalea United Church** (Brampton, ON) in support of the Engagement with Seniors project. Before COVID 19 North Bramalea was already a church that was connecting with people online. However, this has increased exponentially through the realities of COVID19. They are finding that some seniors struggle to be able to connect online (worship, small groups, courses, social media, etc.) and this project is intended to ensure that they get the same opportunity as others.
- \$3,150 to **Chalmers Community Services Centre of the United Church of Canada** (Guelph, ON) in support of the Listening to Guests project. The "Listening to Guests" Project will provide them the tools to determine whether they are contributing to an overall improvement in health. Through the Community Engaged Scholarship Institute, they have had the opportunity to partner with students from the Master of Nutrition program at the University of Guelph. The students created an excellent, clear language survey for them to use. The "Listening to Guests" Project will allow them to move forward with the survey.
- \$20,000 to **Knox United Church** (Lower Sackville, NS) in support of the Freedom Kitchen Food Security project. Freedom Kitchen provides free meals (up to 10,000 meals served) once a week to individuals experiencing homelessness, seniors, and others in need, but people were not comfortable with coming inside a Church building for many different reasons (which includes, but is not limited to, COVID19). They have identified the need for a mobile food truck/service point where these folks feel comfortable in obtaining food and personal items and clothing. The site also allows them to meet the clients and direct them to appropriate professional services.
- \$4,500 to **Cedar Park United Church** (Pointe-Claire, QC) in support of the Highlighting the Message and More: Livestreamed and In-person project. The project involves providing additional programming for seniors both in person (post-pandemic) and via livestreaming. They want to offer onsite and at home options for worship, speakers, concerts, drama, and special events, to reduce social isolation. The initial planning that went into their application in April was during the Covid-19 lockdown in Quebec, and they have since realized that they must also invest in lighting to ensure a quality, inclusive experience.
- \$20,000 to **Trinity United Church Gravenhurst** (Gravenhurst, ON) in support of the Trinity Community Food Hub. The Trinity Community Food Hub works in partnership to provide nutritious food to all in need in a safe, socially, and spiritually comfortable setting with the goal of eradicating food instability in the greater Gravenhurst area. They provide a large kitchen critical to their programs with many volunteers capable of preparing for large groups. The kitchen requires urgent renovation to meet increasing demand, and inspection requirements, with costs being met by fundraising and grants.



- \$10,000 to **Christ First United Church** (Mississauga, ON) in support of the Kitchen Ministry. They use their kitchen as a space for a not for profit group called Options, to teach safe food handling skills to mentally challenged adults which helps them become employable. To get this kitchen up to full commercial grade they must improve the exhaust system and install a fire suppression system. When completed, Options can expand their offering and make a NFP catering to support churches. This will open up the space for additional groups.
- \$11,200 to **Jimmy Pratt Memorial Outreach Centre** (St. John's, NL) in support of the Innovative Activities for Seniors, OWLS (Older Workers Life Skills) project. The Innovation Owls project is intended to develop innovative activities with the Seniors Inclusion Program while addressing social interaction, poverty and nutrition to help for those in the region and facing safety and other challenges. The objective for this phase would be to identify the various needs of their outreach centre volunteers and match those with possible skills that they would survey in the seniors organizations.

Housing Programs

From the Ina Grafton Gage Trust Fund

- \$50,000 to **Eastern Ontario Outaouais Regional Council** (Carleton Place, ON) in support of the Multifaith Housing Initiative - Veterans' House: The Andy Carswell Building project. Veterans' House is a 40-unit permanent and supportive housing community built specifically for veterans who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Built on the former Rockcliffe Airbase, it will help veterans gain stable housing, recover from health challenges (mental health and addiction-related issues), and improve their overall quality of life and the lives of their families who are unable to provide them with the support they need. It is a model that they plan to replicate across Canada.
- \$20,000 to **Pearce Williams Summer Camp Retreat Facility** (Fingal, ON) in support of the Seniors on Site: Affordable Housing for Seniors project. Pearce Williams will build affordable housing, on site at the overnight summer camp and retreat facility, with the intended occupants being retired summer camp directors, retired ministers and/or other individuals who were (or still are) actively involved with the United Church of Canada. This project will provide affordable housing for seniors, while also giving seniors innovative opportunities to provide mentorship, ministry and leadership to the staff, volunteers, children and youth on site.

Poverty, and Individuals At Risk Programs

From the United Church of Canada Foundation's General Fund

- \$5,000 to **Operation Sharing** (Woodstock, ON) in support of the Operation Sharing Food for Friends & the Homeless Shelter projects. Individuals and families in the Oxford County area of low income or experiencing financial difficulties. Food for Friends provides families and individuals in need of emergency food assistance a specially designed food card in pre-determined denominations as an alternative or supplement to the food bank. The Homeless Shelter (The Inn) provides shelter for individuals experiencing homelessness who are 16 years



and older. The Inn provides a bed, evening meal as well as breakfast, washrooms, laundry and showers.

From the Jean Moore Endowment Fund and the United Church of Canada Foundation's General Fund

- \$13,000 to **1JustCity** (Winnipeg, MB) in support of a Housing Coordinator for "Just a Warm Sleep" overnight shelter project. The Just a Warm Sleep emergency overnight warming shelter is a barrier-free shelter that is offered during the cold Winnipeg winter months. They want to add a Housing Coordinator staff person and program to the shelter services; in order to ensure that this project can grow beyond meeting the immediate needs of individuals experiencing homelessness in Winnipeg, and offer a more meaningful and transformative kind of support - helping individuals experiencing homelessness to find suitable permanent housing.
 - \$9,000 from the Jean Moore Endowment Fund
 - \$4,000 from the United Church of Canada Foundation's General Fund

Research, Scholarship, & Academic Awards

From the Rowntree Scholarship Fund

- \$18,500 to **Ross Bartlett** (Halifax, NS) in support of The Impact of Bi-vocational Ministry in the United Church of Canada project. This proposal is for a major study of the current state of bi-vocational ministry within the United Church of Canada with the goal of providing resources for ministry personnel, communities of faith, and the structures of the church. Bi-vocational ministry is a growing and yet little understood reality. Anecdotal evidence suggests that: (a) majority of current vacancies are listed as less than full-time; (b) there are challenges filling those vacancies and sustaining ministry personnel within them; (c) one reason is the burden of requiring a second occupation; (d) simultaneously, there are growing numbers of clergy who freely identify a bi-vocational calling. Despite this rapidly growing body of practitioners, the United Church of Canada has no specific resources for understanding and supporting this expression of ministry. We have no explicit theology of ministry that explores a bi-vocational calling and no declared guidelines to assist clergy and communities of faith to foster a beneficial relationship.

The New Ministries Fund:

Seven New Ministry grants were awarded in the 2020 fall round of the Seeds of Hope granting program.

- \$25,000 to **Huron Shores United Church** (Grand Bend, ON) in support of the Community Wellness Project. This is the third and final instalment of a three-year grant of \$25,000 per year.



- \$25,000 to ***Oxbow and Alameda United Churches*** (Alameda, SK) in support of *R.E.A.C.H. (Rural Energy and Christian Hope)*. This is the third and final instalment of a three-year grant of \$25,000 per year.
- \$25,000 to ***Beaconsfield United Church*** (Beaconsfield, QC) in support of the Refugee Integration and Support Program. This is the first instalment of a two-year grant of \$25,000 per year.
- \$25,000 to ***Christ First United Church*** (Mississauga, ON) in support of the Community Network Ministry program.
- \$25,000 to ***Pearce Williams United Church Christian Centre*** (Fingal, ON) in support of Outdoor Ministries Institute Canada. This is the first instalment of a three-year grant of \$25,000 per year.
- \$25,000 to ***The United Church of Canada, EDGE Unit*** (Toronto, ON) in support of The HUB Ministry project. This is the first instalment of a three-year grant of \$25,000 per year.
- \$25,000 to ***Trinity United Church*** (Napanea, ON) in support of the Trinity LIFE Ministry project. This is the first instalment of a three-year grant of \$25,000 per year.

If you have questions about these awards, would like to apply for a grant, find out if your project is eligible for funding, or would like to learn more about the Foundation, please contact us at 1-866-340-8223 or by email at grants@united-church.ca