 Volunteers Needed

## Indigenous Candidacy Board (3 vacancies)

Lay members and ministry personnel are needed for the Indigenous Candidacy Board, which helps people determine their readiness for ministry.

### Candidacy Board Mandate

The Indigenous Candidacy Board is one of seven candidacy boards in the United Church. It is appointed by the National Indigenous Council to serve the Indigenous church. This is in response to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples and in keeping with the Calls to the Church.

The responsibilities of candidacy boards include naming candidates, terminating candidacy, and determining readiness for accreditation for commissioning to the diaconal ministry of education, service, and pastoral care; ordination to the ministry of Word, sacrament, and pastoral care; and recognition of designated lay ministry. They serve as commissions of the Board of Vocation.

### The Candidacy Pathway

The Candidacy Pathway process is intended to be nimble, responsive, and streamlined in order to prepare individuals, who each have unique gifts and experiences, for the vocation of ministry. For this reason, individuals will journey in similar but sometimes different ways toward ordination, commissioning, or recognition. Candidacy boards determine the process on a case-by-case basis with each applicant. Candidacy boards also ensure that the principles and requirements of the seven phases and the procedural markers are applied in each case.

The Indigenous Candidacy Board supports the development work of the Candidacy Pathway in collaboration with the Board of Vocation and the National Indigenous Council. The Indigenous Candidacy Board will determine how best to implement the Candidacy Pathway Policy for the Indigenous Church in keeping with the Calls to the Church.

### Skills and Experience

We particularly encourage graduates of the Sandy-Saulteaux Spiritual Centre or its predecessor theological schools to consider this nominations call, as well as diaconal and designated lay ministers and lay people with leadership experience in Indigenous communities.

We are looking for people who have

* knowledge about the realities of the practice of ministry
* capacity for leadership assessment
* skills to determine readiness for ministry leadership
* the ability to apply standards of practice
* the ability to exercise wisdom, compassion, and fairness in decision-making
* awareness and experience with traditional teaching and spiritual ceremonies as they relate to Indigenous spirituality

Members of candidacy boards will be members of the United Church who are able to commit the time required for this responsibility and are able to participate in video-conference or tele-conference meetings.

### Composition

The Indigenous Candidacy Board consists of a minimum of six members from across the geography and diversity of the Indigenous Church in Canada, including urban and on-/off-reserve ministries, and the Two-Spirit LGBTQ+ community.

Ideally, each candidacy board includes someone from each stream of ministry and members with fluency in various languages.

You will serve alongside current members: Carmen Lansdowne (Chair), Grafton Antone, Rhonda Johns, Martha Pedoniquotte, Grant Queskekapow, Lawrence Sankey, and Evan Smith, as well as Office of Vocation Minister Tim Hackborn.

### Expectations and Term

This appointment is until the National Indigenous Spiritual Gathering in 2022, with the possibility of reappointment for a second three-year term. The time commitment will vary in any given year as it will be driven by the number of candidates. Candidacy Board members will be required to prepare for all meetings and participate in virtual or in-person meetings as required one or more times each month.

### Selection Process

Members are invited to nominate those who bring the essential skills, commitment, and vision to serve on the Indigenous Candidacy Board. Members may also nominate themselves.

If you are interested in serving on this committee, tell us about yourself and what you would bring to the group. Deadline: **Thursday, March 4, 2021**

**Online form**: <https://unitedchurch.formstack.com/forms/nic>

**Email**: nominate@united-church.ca

**Fax**: 416-231-3103 (Attention Diane Bosman)

**Phone**: *1-800-268-3781 ext. 2211 (the office is closed, but messages will be returned)*

*If you have questions or if we can offer any assistance, don’t hesitate to contact Diane Bosman, Member Engagement, at* *nominate@united-church.ca* *or 1-800-268-3781 ext. 2211.*