



General Council Equity Support Team

Key Points

We are searching for people to form a team to support General Council 46 as it strives to be a space of equitable participation and decision-making.

Vacancies: Three vacancies, including one appointed by the Indigenous Church

Key skills: An understanding of equity and diversity and how these play out in meetings and decision-making; knowledge of the church's governance process; compassion, grace and non-anxious presence

Meeting expectations: Online team meetings every two months (frequency may increase closer to General Council). Attending General Council events, including online pre-Council sessions, in-person at General Council 46, and annual online meetings in 2029 and 2030

About this Volunteer or Elected/Appointed Member Opportunity

Mandate

The General Council 46 Equity Support Team is part of the General Council's leadership. It has responsibilities before, during, and after each regular and any special meetings of General Council 46, including:

- General Council 46 Learning, Discussion, and Decision sessions (June 2028, online)
- General Council 46 in-person meeting (July 31–August 4 2028, St. Catharines, Ontario)
- General Council Annual Meeting (October 2029, online)
- General Council Annual Meeting (October 2030, online)

Equity realizes that in order to ensure fair treatment, access, opportunity, and advancement for all peoples, we need to identify and eliminate barriers that have prevented the full participation of some people and groups; particularly people from marginalized identities. Equity moves closer to justice, and it is part of the work of the whole church. While working toward equity is everyone's collective responsibility, the members of the Equity Support Team have a particular role in helping to highlight equity issues at governance gatherings.

Membership

The Equity Support Team will consist of five members who reflect the diversity of The United Church of Canada—for example, in Indigenous identity, ethnocultural identity, racial identity, gender identity, sexual orientation, francophone and linguistic diversity, age, ability,

neurodiversity, and geographic diversity. Lay people and ministry personnel are sought, as well as people with additional identities and life experiences.

Two members will be appointed by the General Council Executive, and one by the National Indigenous Church; two co-chairs will be appointed by the General Secretary. Those appointed by the General Council Executive cannot be General Council 45 commissioners.

Member Skills and Experience

Equity Support Team members will:

- have an understanding of equity and diversity and how these play out in meetings and decision-making
- be able to listen carefully to questions and concerns from meeting participants
- have experience as a member of a committee or working group
- understand the governance processes of the church
- have a willingness to offer proactive strategies or make recommendations to advance equity and challenge discrimination on committees
- be the non-anxious presence in difficult situations
- bring grace and compassion to the difficult reality of human failings, as well as conflict resolution skills or experience

This team would additionally be strengthened by someone who brings an intercultural lens to this work, based on:

- lived experience as an Indigenous, racialized, or francophone person, or
- leadership with Indigenous, racialized, or francophone communities, or those that include a diversity of cultures

The Equity Support Team members for General Council 46 will need to become familiar with the United Church's [equity commitments](#), the church's [Equity Aspirations](#), as well as United Church governance processes. Education and training will be provided for Equity Support Team members to assist with learning more about these.

United Church Relationship: Active participant

Expectations and Term

- **Online meetings:** Once every two months; meeting frequency may increase closer to General Council
- **In-person meetings:** General Council 46, with pre- and post-events: July 29–August 6, 2028 (St. Catharine's, Ontario)
- **Appointment term:** December 2026–December 2030

For all Elected and Appointed Member Roles

The following expectations apply to all elected and appointed member roles for denominational committees and task groups.

Elected and appointed members will be:

- active in a community of faith or ministry
- committed to the calling of the United Church and willing to discern God's yearnings for this work
- predisposed to collaboration and teamwork
- able to listen and discern
- committed to right relations, the principles of the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the vision of becoming an intercultural church, and the journey to becoming an anti-racist denomination
- comfortable with and able to participate in electronic meetings
- able to commit the time required for this responsibility

Elected and appointed members agree to a [Behavioural Covenant](#) as a way of committing to mutual relationships, responsibilities, and accountabilities.

All boards and committees of the General Council play a role in living into the [Call and Vision](#) of the United Church in fulfilling their responsibilities. Boards and committees work in partnership with the General Council Office as it implements the objectives of the strategic plan.

Equity Commitment

The United Church is committed to working toward the full participation of people with disabilities; youth and young adults; people who identify as Two Spirit or LGBTQIA+, Indigenous, racialized, or francophone; people active in French ministries; people who speak a primary language other than English or French; and people from marginalized communities not named here. This is a part of the United Church's commitments to equity and self-determination, as well as eliminating barriers and working toward the full participation of all peoples. Individuals with these identities and lived experiences are encouraged to express interest.

To the extent possible, each committee or task group will reflect the broad diversity of The United Church of Canada, with particular attention to its equity commitments and the presence of both lay people and ministry personnel from across the geography of the church.

Visit our [opportunities page](#) for information on this and other opportunities.
Use our [online nominations form](#) to nominate someone or express your own interest.
Deadline: Wednesday, October 14, 2026