



General Council 46

Youth Forum Planning Team

Key Points

We are searching for people to form a team to support General Council 46 as it strives to be a space where high-school aged youth from across the country are encouraged to be involved in all aspects of the General Council.

Vacancies: 4–8 vacancies

Key skills: event planning, leadership and team development, faith formation, compassionate mental health support, organization, community engagement, creative ideas and problem solving, understanding of diverse youth perspectives

Meeting expectations: 1.5 to 2 hour meetings every other month more frequently closer to General Council; full attendance at General Council, including pre- and post-events, from July 29 to August 5, 2028

About this Volunteer or Elected/Appointed Member Opportunity

Mandate

The General Council 46 Youth Forum Planning Team is part of the General Council's leadership, chaired by the appointed Youth Forum Coordinator. It visions, designs, operationalizes, and evaluates the events of Youth Forum that run concurrently and intersect with General Council 46 meetings. It aims to express The United Church's Call to Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, and Daring Justice.

Membership

The Youth Forum Planning Team will consist of up to 10 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 young people (15–25 years old) with additional identities and life experiences.

Note: Apart from the Planning Team, there will be additional shorter-term opportunities to provide leadership at Youth Forum, which will be posted at a later date.

Member Skills and Experience

Youth Forum Planning Team members demonstrate strong collaboration, communication, and organizational skills; value youth leadership and inclusion; bring creativity and flexibility to planning processes; and are committed to creating meaningful experiences that support connection, learning, faith formation, and leadership development among young people.

Members will have:

- interest in nurturing youth leadership and participation in the life of the church
- an understanding of equity, diversity, and mental health, and how these play out in large group gatherings
- experience as a member of a committee or working group
- willingness to offer proactive strategies or make recommendations to create a welcoming, equitable, and formative experience for youth from across Canada

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 within Indigenous, racialized, or francophone communities, or those that include a diversity of cultures

The Youth Forum Planning 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 to assist with learning more about these.

United Church Relationship: Active participant

Expectations and Term

- **Online meetings:** 1.5 to 2 hour meetings once every two months; (frequency may increase closer to General Council); meeting times will be decided based on the group and time zones
- **In-person meetings:** General Council 46, with pre- and post-events, from July 29 to August 5, 2028 (St. Catharine's, Ontario)
 - Children and youth program options will be available, should that support your presence
- **Appointment term:** December 2026 to December 2028

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, 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: Thursday, November 12, 2026

Appointments will be made by the General Secretary, on the recommendation of the Youth Forum Coordinator in consultation with General Council planning and First Third ministry staff.