

REMIT INFORMATION



In 2022, at the gathering of the 44th General Council of the United Church of Canada, the National Indigenous Council proposed that the church identify and remove any structural barriers that would prevent developing and sustaining an autonomous National Indigenous Organization within The United Church of Canada.

When there is a requested change in church structure that alters the Basis of Union of *The Manual*, a remit is required. **The remit requires a vote by every regional council and each pastoral charge's governing body.**

If a regional council or a pastoral charge does not register a vote, that is considered a vote against the proposal. The church council of Cambridge Street United pastoral charge will be voting before the due date of March 31, 2024.

There is one question* to be voted on, as follows:

Does the regional council/pastoral charge agree to amend the Basis of Union to reflect:

- a. The United Church of Canada will be organized as follows: (1) a three-council structure, consisting of communities of faith, regional councils and a Denominational Council**;** and (2) an autonomous National Indigenous Organization; and
- b. That once the new autonomous National Indigenous Organization is established within The United Church of Canada, it will have its own mechanisms to make any future changes to its structure and processes, and, therefore will not be subject to the remit process under section 7.4.1 of the Basis of Union; and**
- c. The changes required for the establishment of the autonomous National Indigenous Organization.**

*This remit is one overall question. Parts a, b and c cannot be voted on separately.

** "Denominational Council" and "General Council" are often used interchangeably.

Indigenous Peoples' rights to their own spiritual identities and to self-determination would be acknowledged by the passing of the remit and would be consistent with the [Calls to the Church](#) and the [United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples](#).

For more information

- **Visit** <https://ecorcuccan.ca/> the website of the East Central Ontario Regional Council (ECORC). Scroll down and see a button on the left side that says, "Remit Information and videos". Notice abundant links to further United Church and Indigenous learning resources.
- **Discuss with others** with a study guide and other materials available on the General Council website at: www.generalcouncil44.ca. Click on Remit 1.
- **Attend** (in person or by watching on live streaming) our **September 24, 2023** worship service to observe **Orange Shirt Day** and **Truth & Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples**. Worship leader **Nancy Payne, LLWL**, will offer some historical and theological context for understanding the remit.