



REGIONAL NETWORK GROUP SERVICES FOR THE WESTERN REGION

MAY 2006

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SERVICE CONSULTANTS

Western region volunteer Service Consultants combine special expertise and training with UU backgrounds to nurture the development of Unitarianism and Universalism.

THE ROLE OF SERVICE CONSULTANTS

Service Consultants work directly for congregations, with the CUC Director of Regional Services West and the National Director of Lifespan Learning. Consultants support, train, and consult with regional UU congregations by:

- Delivering workshops, materials and other programs asked for by congregations or groups of congregations and mandated by the Director of Regional services, and
- Developing networks of people within the Western region and network with Service Consultants in other regions.

WESTERN REGIONAL SERVICE CONSULTANTS AND THEIR MANDATES

Rachel Collins - Congregational Wellness and Vitality

Services:

- Congregational growth,
- Leadership development,
- Congregational conflict management, and
- Vitalizing congregations.

Rachel is a member and leader of the Calgary congregation. She has served the CUC as a growth team facilitator in the Helping Unitarian Universalists Grow (HUUGS) program. She was a key presenter at CU*UL school in 2005. Congregations have benefited from her workshops on communications, appreciative inquiry and personality dimensions. Rachel's professional experience includes human resources management and workshop facilitation skills.

Vacant - Lifespan Learning

Services:

- Professional and lay leadership in religious education,
- Development in children's and adult religious education programs,
- Big picture visioning,
- Program administration and implementation,
- Workshop facilitation,
- Current curriculum and practices,
- New resources and directions for Canadian curriculum development, and
- Youth, young adult and campus ministry directions in Canada.

Richard Armstrong - Mission, Vision and Long Range Planning

Services:

- Development, review and updates of mission and vision statements, and
- Planning and visioning consultation and workshops for congregations.

Richard is trained by the Canadian Council on Social Development and is a founder of Volunteer Organization Leadership Training. He is an experienced workshop facilitator. Richard was a long time member and leader at Lakehead Unitarian Fellowship, developing a long range planning initiative for the congregation. He is member of the First Unitarian Church of Winnipeg. At work Richard is a manager. In the community he has served on boards at local, provincial, nation and international levels for labour, youth, seniors, cooperatives, and not for profit organizations.

Keith Wilkinson - Ministerial and Congregational Transition

Services:

- Leadership covenant workshop with lay leaders and newly called ministers,
- Sabbatical Covenant and Sabbatical Re-entry covenant with lay leaders and ministers,
- Consultation and services where there has been a negotiated resignation with a minister, and
- Preparing for Ministry workshops for unministered congregations.

Keith is member of the Unitarian Church of Vancouver. He has led his congregation as Board chair and the denomination as CUC consultant (Worship). Keith has facilitated workshops for B.C. congregations and Regional Fall Gatherings, and developed a Worship manual for congregations.

Vacant - Worship

Services:

- Guidelines and consultation on lay worship services
- Development of an inventory of B.C Sunday service speakers for congregations
- Networking throughout B.C and Canada to increase offerings
- Workshops and consultation for congregations

Peter Scales – *Financial Stewardship*

Services:

- Canvass
- Dreams and Dollars; Creating a Culture of Generosity.

Peter is a member of Capital and First Victoria congregations. He has served on the Board of two Ontario congregations and is an EAGLES leadership graduate. Peter has delivered workshops and consultation to BC and Western congregations. He was a facilitator at CU*UL 2005 school. Peter brings enthusiasm and successful experience of 'doing right fundraising' to share with Western and BC region congregational leaders.

REGIONAL NETWORK GROUPS (RNGS)

Volunteer service consultants and congregational networkers serve the Western region of the Canadian Unitarian Council.

Together, with the Director of Regional Services - West (a CUC staff position), they form a leadership team – the Western Regional Network Group (RNG).

The RNG carries out a four-part mission for the CUC:

- Connects Western congregations with one another by networking, organizing gatherings and celebrations.
- Provides and/or manages training to enhance leadership skills and the quality of life in Western congregations.
- Provides services to Western congregations including Worship; Wellness and Vitality; Mission, Vision and Long Range Planning; Ministerial and Congregational Transition; Finance and Canvass, and Lifespan Learning.
- Provides opportunities for congregational leaders to reflect together on CUC policy and plans.
- CUC RNGs have no governance function.

All staff and volunteer RNG services are free to congregations.

THE ROLE OF NETWORKERS

The vision for Canadian UU's identifies good communication as a key to maintaining service delivery in the new CUC model.

Networkers are the RNG members whose job it is to keep in touch.

Networkers visit each congregation at least once a year and keep in quarterly contact. As well, they develop positive relationships with congregational lay leaders.

Networkers create links, foster communication and support among Canadian UU communities by:

- Sharing information and identifying concerns,
- Suggesting possible contacts and programming ideas,
- Assisting lay leaders and ministers in finding the help they need, and
- Sharing information with RNG and CUC staff to plan and deliver quality service.

CONGREGATIONAL NETWORKERS AND THEIR TERRITORIES

Laura McDonnell – Saskatoon and Edmonton congregations, UCE and Westwood locations.

Kris Breckman – Arborg, Winnipeg and (Lakehead) Thunder Bay congregations.

April Grosse– Calgary, Red Deer, Lethbridge and Regina congregations

CUC WEST STAFF

For more information about your Western RNG services, contact Sara McEwan, Director of Regional Services West.

P: 1-866-877-7787 (toll free) E: sara@cuc.ca

For more information about Lifespan Learning services (youth, young adult and adult RE), contact Sylvia Bass West, Director of Lifespan Learning.

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