Opportunities to Serve the General Council

Pension Board (2 vacancies: Members at Large)

We are seeking two members at large who will bring experience in the United Church, experience with the United Church’s pension plan, and the capacity to articulate the theological values of the church.

Mandate

The Pension Plan of The United Church of Canada is a multi-employer pension plan maintained for the benefit of approximately 9,000 active and retired plan members, with assets exceeding $1 billion. The Executive of the General Council is the plan administrator in accordance with the Pension Benefits Act (Ontario), and has established the Pension Board to support the Executive in governing, managing, and operating the plan and its assets (the fund).

The Executive of the General Council approves
- the Statement of Beliefs and Guiding Principles
- appointments to the Pension Board and its committees
- terms of reference for the Pension Board
- the fund trust agreement
- annual accountability reports received from the Pension Board

All other plan functions have been delegated to the Pension Board, the details of which are set out in its terms of reference, available upon request from the General Council Office. A brief description can also be found in the governance structure section of the plan’s Annual Report to members, available at www.united-church.ca/minstaff/pension/information.

Membership

The Pension Board is made up of 9 to 11 members, consisting of
- at least five specialists who collectively have senior relevant knowledge, experience, and expertise in the following core areas of practice: institutional investing; actuarial; legal; human resources; pension governance
- a member of the Permanent Committee on Ministry and Employment Policies and Services (PC-MEPS)
- one or two members of the Executive of the General Council
- two or three members at large

The members at large will join current board members Marcus Robertson (chair), Jacqui Allard, Malcolm Boyle, David Gilliland, Douglas Greaves, Paul Purcell, Brian Copeland (PC-MEPS representative), and Steve Lowden (GCE representative). Alan Hall (Executive Officer, Ministry and Employment) and Erik Mathiesen (Executive Officer, Financial Services) are resource staff to the board.

Member Skills and Experience

At this time, we are seeking two people to serve as members at large. Collectively, the members at large enhance the expertise on the board by bring additional gifts including the capacity to articulate the theological values and perspectives of the United Church, and broadening the geographic, gender, and ethnocultural balance on the board.

Members at large do not need to be pension experts, but should bring some knowledge and interest in the work of pension boards. The board is particularly interested in including people who have experience as pension plan members, and those who have had
responsibility for pension-related aspects of the employment of United Church ministry personnel.

Members at large will be active participants in a local pastoral charge or ministry, familiar with the polity of The United Church of Canada, predisposed to collaboration and teamwork, sensitive to diversity issues, leaders in a court of the church, passionately committed to the mission of the United Church, and willing to discern God’s yearning for this work.

Expectations and Term
A member of the board is expected to participate in all board meetings, and to be available, dedicated, and willing to invest the time to be educated and otherwise obtain the knowledge necessary to discharge his or her obligations as a board member. Board members are asked to take on additional roles or projects from time to time.

A member is expected to be willing to submit to background checks concerning conflicts of interest, criminal record or civil suits, and credit history, and to be bondable.

The board meets at least four times a year in Toronto. Members may meet by conference call. Electronic communication will be used.

The members at large will be appointed to staggered terms. One member will be appointed for a two-year term of appointment and the other for a three-year appointment. Each may be reappointed for two additional three-year terms for a total of eight and nine years, respectively.

Accountable to the Executive of the General Council
Terms of Reference approved, GCE November 2011

Go to www.united-church.ca/getinvolved/servegc to learn how to nominate someone or express your own interest. Deadline: Tuesday, October 15.