

List of changes to *The Manual*, 2024

1. Minor edit to A.5.3.

There are procedures for creating, keeping, transferring, and depositing records. These procedures must be followed by councils.

These resources are available from the [General Council Archives](#). [General Council Office](#).



2. The General Secretary is suggesting the following changes to section D.1.1.g) to clarify which meeting of the General Council given that it now meets annually:

D.1.1 g) the members of the Executive of the General Council who will be continuing to serve on the executive following ~~that meeting the first of the~~ General Council meeting **of the triennium**; and

3. D.2.3 Purpose

The General Council is responsible for the following:

- a) joining our collective hearts, voices, and resources to witness to the gospel and vision of Jesus for a compassionate and just society, both in Canada and around the world;
- b) engaging denominational-level ministry and mission, ~~including resource development,~~ **enabling the church to do ministry in both of Canada's official languages**, and being a resource to regional councils and communities of faith;

[Add *fyi* notation to read:]

La Table des ministères en français supports The United Church of Canada in fulfilling its commitment to do ministry in the French language. To find out more about La Table and its covenants with regional councils, see egliseunie.ca.

4. D.2.7 Authorizing Remits

The General Council authorizes remits. This responsibility cannot be fulfilled by the Executive or Sub-Executive of the General Council.

[numbering that follows has been corrected]

5. D.5.3.5 on: just renumbering

[The following errors need to be corrected:]

D.5.3.6 to **D.5.3.5**

D.5.3.7 to **D.5.3.6**

D.5.3.8 to **D.5.3.7**

6. F.2.2.7 Enacting the Remit

If a remit has been approved by the required majority of all regional councils—and for category 3 remits, communities of faith that are pastoral charges—the General Council must decide whether or not to enact it. **Except for category 1 remits, this responsibility cannot be fulfilled by the Executive or Sub-Executive of the General Council.**

If a remit has not been approved, the General Council ~~may~~ **shall** not enact it.

7. I.1.2.1 Community of Faith

A pastoral charge or other community of faith that has completed and filed a profile may issue a call or appointment.

In the case of a ministry shared among more than one community of faith, such decision is made by the participant communities of faith in the shared ministry, acting for this purpose as a single community of faith, under the procedure approved by the applicable regional council.

FYI: Under this section, each voting member of the participant communities of faith will have one vote towards the decision.

8. I.1.7.1 Community of Faith Approval

The community of faith is responsible for making a decision on the Search Committee's recommendation to call a member of the order of ministry or request that the regional council appoint a designated lay minister to the community of faith.

In the case of a ministry shared among more than one community of faith, such decision is made by the participant communities of faith in the shared ministry, acting for this purpose as a single community of faith, under the procedure approved by the applicable regional council.

FYI: Under this section, each voting member of the participant communities of faith will have one vote towards the decision.

9. I.2.5.3 Functions of Ministry—Outside Pastoral Relationship

At any time that ministry personnel are not called or appointed to a community of faith, they may carry out the functions of ministry in the United Church only if

- a) they have a formal association with a community of faith, are acting on behalf of that community of faith, and have the approval of the community of faith's governing body; or

An example of a "formal association" with a pastoral charge would be where the minister has been designated as a "voluntary associate minister" or "honorary associate minister" by the community of faith or its governing body.



- b) they have been appointed to a **paid accountable ministry and/or other ministry recognized by a regional council.** ~~community of faith to exercise the functions of ministry associated.~~

10. I.3.4.2 and I.3.4.4. The General Secretary recommends:

I.3.4.2 Salary and Benefits—Six-Month Period

The spouse or dependent children of a ministry personnel are entitled to receive **the equivalent amount of** ministry personnel's salary **and the equivalent amount and/or use of the ministry personnel 's benefits** for six months. This includes the use of the manse or alternative accommodation. It does not include a travel allowance **or other allowances for professional duties.**

They are entitled to the same amount of salary and benefits as the ministry personnel was receiving at the date of death.

The six-month period starts following the end of the month in which the death took place. The month in which the death took place is not counted.

There is one exception, set out in section I.3.4.3 below.

I.3.4.4 Responsibility to Pay

The community of faith is responsible for providing the support **outlined in I.3.4.3.**~~equivalent amount in salary and benefits.~~

It may ask for financial assistance if it is unable to fulfill this responsibility. The request is made through the regional council to the appropriate General Council working unit.

11. J.6.7 Financial Support

This section (J.6.7) applies if **where the appropriate body within the Office of Vocation has:**

- a) ~~the appropriate body within the Office of Vocation requires the ministry personnel to take a directed program, and the ministry personnel is not serving in a community of faith while taking the directed program~~ **suspended a ministry personnel;** or
- b) **required ministry personnel, who is not actively serving in a community of faith and who is otherwise without remuneration from the United Church, to engage in a directed program for the improvement of their pastoral skills.**

~~¶The appropriate body within the Office of Vocation has suspended the ministry personnel for a specified period of time~~ **may provide Personnel Emergency Funding in an amount not less than the minimum salary set by the General Council, for a period of time and subject to terms as set by the appropriate body.**

~~The ministry personnel is entitled to financial support from the Office of Vocation for the time period set by the appropriate body within the Office of Vocation. The financial support must be equal to the minimum salary and allowances set by the General Council. It will be discontinued if the ministry personnel does not take or complete any directed program as required.~~