



The Presbyterian Church in Canada
PCCConnect Monthly E-Newsletter
June 2024

NEWS

GENERAL ASSEMBLY 2024

The 2024 General Assembly took place from June 2-6 at Wilfrid Laurier University, with Sunday's opening worship held at Knox PC in Waterloo. Following worship, the Rev. Dr. Patricia (Pat) Dutcher-Walls was elected and installed as Moderator of the 2024 General Assembly.

The new Moderator declared that she is humbled and delighted to take on this service to the church and that she looks forward to a year of greeting old friends and meeting new ones. Thanking Mary for her friendship, care and compassion she brought to the position of Moderator in 2023, Pat spoke to the commissioners about the gifts they have been given to use for God's glory and prayed that they would love, forgive, serve, listen and respect each other as they moved through Assembly together.

A renewed Apology for Residential Schools and Colonization was adopted. It can be [viewed](#) or [downloaded here](#). Several guest speakers shared their stories and perspectives with commissioners, and on the final day, the Young Adult Representatives reflected on their experience and eloquently shared their vision for the future of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

You can find minutes, photos and video recordings of the proceedings [here](#).

HAVE YOU HEARD? WE'RE MOVING!

It's official! The United, Anglican, and Presbyterian churches have signed leases to share national office space at the redeveloped site of Bloor Street United Church at 300 Bloor St. West in Toronto. The agreement reflects the churches' ongoing commitment to nurturing ecumenical relationships and cooperation, reducing costs, and lessening their carbon footprint. Besides being a practical solution for resource optimization, the shared space is also a tangible expression of the denominations' commitment to collaboration, greater impact in the public space, and increasing the ability to innovate and share ideas between denominations. Read more [here](#).

REMINDERS AND EVENTS

NATIONAL INDIGENOUS HISTORY MONTH AND NATIONAL INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY

June is National Indigenous History Month and June 21 is National Indigenous Peoples Day; it is a time to celebrate and honour Indigenous peoples in Canada. This day may be observed on National Indigenous Peoples Day Sunday (June 16, 2024).

Though The Presbyterian Church in Canada has a history of harm to Indigenous people through its legacy of colonization and operating residential schools, including through previously supporting the ban on important Indigenous cultural and spiritual practices, we have been trying to walk a path of reconciliation. Along with the reparations and repentance we are trying to live out, honouring the cultures, languages, spiritual practices, and identities of Indigenous peoples is one important way to do so.

Learn more about Indigenous Ministries within The Presbyterian Church in Canada [here](#).

Learn more about the church's commitments regarding Indigenous rights, truth, and reconciliation, and find study resources regarding those commitments on the PCC's Social Action Hub, Indigenous Justice [webpage](#).

SAVE THE DATE! AN INTERCULTURAL AWARENESS EVENT FOR GTA PRESBYTERIES

How can our denomination become a healthier multi-ethnic church? Register for this workshop designed by the PCC to assist participants in engaging in difficult conversations about culture, race, and ethnicity, understanding privilege and power conferred by culture and the dynamics of other cultures and relationship-building between them. Facilitated by Carmen Ramirez, Assistant to the Bishop, Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Tim Purvis, Associate Secretary, Ministry and Church Vocations, The Presbyterian Church in Canada. Registration is limited to 30 participants.

When: Friday, Sept. 27, 7:00-9:00 p.m.—Saturday, Sept. 28, 9:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.

Where: Armour Heights Presbyterian Church, 105 Wilson Ave., Toronto

Cost: \$20 per person

Lunch will be provided on Saturday.

Please [pre-register](#) by **September 20, 2024**.

If you have any questions or need further information, contact [Liz Brewer](#).

RESOURCES

MARRIAGE AND WEDDING RESOURCE PAGE

We pray for God's blessing upon all who are planning to be married. If you are planning a wedding and looking for a Presbyterian church near you, visit the PCC's Marriages and Weddings page [here](#). Included is a list of congregations and ministers who will host and conduct same-sex marriages.

NO PHISHING: HELPFUL TIPS AND TOOLS RELATED TO CYBERSECURITY

This is a friendly reminder to be extra cautious when receiving requests for confidential information. Please always check with the person who sent the request – not by replying to the email received, but by reaching out through phone or text message. We cannot be too cautious. You will find various resources related to scams and other cybersecurity concerns, as well as other helpful tips and tools [here](#).