

Indigenous Ministries Development Liaison

Regional Staff Position

within Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario

The Presbyterian Church in Canada

Narrative and Priorities

This staff position is envisioned primarily as a support to the existing Indigenous Ministries (Presbyterian Church in Canada) within Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario, specifically the Kenora Fellowship Centre, Winnipeg Inner City Missions, and Place of Hope Indigenous Presbyterian Church.

Each of these ministries, while sharing many commonalities, also face a unique set of challenges. Support must be contextual for each, though all require more funding and various forms of assistance with strategic planning, communications, and staffing solutions.

The following areas have been identified as the highest priorities in the three Indigenous ministries for this staff person:

Kenora Fellowship Centre

- Fundraising / funding searches / developing a funding tool kit
- Technology / communication
- Long-term planning, plus developing plans such that Executive Director and other staff can have adequate time off.

Winnipeg Inner City Missions

- Management of narratives including social media, video, print, including newsletters and direct mail, specifically for the purpose of revenue development.

Place of Hope Indigenous Presbyterian Church

- Funding for ministries within the church, poverty of members
- Strategic planning:
 - succession planning for the Parish Social Worker and Minister
 - with the membership and staff regarding the overall direction of the ministry.
- Marketing / Social media Presence / Communication / Use of technology

Connecting Work

The majority of the staff person's work will be done in the areas outlined above and in any further ways that arise out of relationship and conversation with the Indigenous Ministries. The job description also calls for establishing connections between Indigenous and non-indigenous persons across congregations. This connecting work is to be undertaken only in ways that are of benefit to Indigenous peoples and only in such ways that prioritize the support that is needed for Indigenous Ministries. Further, such benefit is to be assessed by the leadership and people connected to the Indigenous Ministries and not by non-indigenous (settler) congregations.

The Indigenous Ministries Development Liaison will work within the structures of the Presbyterian Church in Canada to advocate for and assist the Indigenous Ministries and their leadership. Primarily, this is done within the Presbytery, but will also involve consulting when needed with National staff or others within the denomination.

Job Description

The following job description was approved by the Synod of Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario in September 2024 as “Indigenous Ministries / Healing and Reconciliation Regional Staff”

In consultation with leaders of the Indigenous ministries, the job title will be:

“Indigenous Ministries Development Liaison”

Full-time position, appointed for 3 years

“The Church’s relationship with Indigenous peoples in Canada has been marked by colonization and the racist beliefs that underscored colonization (namely, the superiority of a Christianized, western European worldview). The Church has confessed its role in running residential schools, its complicity in the harms of colonization, and rejected the [Doctrine of Discovery](https://www.presbyterian.ca/healing). The church is committed to walking toward reconciliation.” – <https://presbyterian.ca/healing>

The Church is committed to continuing education, awareness, ongoing accountability.

Purpose: To provide ongoing support for Indigenous Ministries and work with congregations in the area of reconciliation and healing.

Scope: The primary focus is on the three recognized Indigenous Ministries within the Presbytery of Winnipeg, but the staff person is also available to ministries and congregations within the Presbyteries of Superior and Brandon.

Responsible for:

1. Working with Indigenous Ministries in strategic planning.
2. Working with Indigenous Ministries in raising funds (including but not limited to assisting with grant writing).
3. Identifying and encouraging emerging Indigenous leaders and connecting them to learning opportunities.
4. Organizing opportunities for healing and reconciliation activities, networks, or other opportunities where settler and Indigenous peoples are brought together for relationship building, learning, and listening.
5. Educating the wider Church on the work and challenges of the various Indigenous Ministries.
6. Connecting with existing congregations or emerging new ministries to move them to action in areas of Indigenous Justice and/or Healing and Reconciliation work.

Qualifications:

- Has professed faith in Jesus Christ and is part of Christian community
- Preference for an Indigenous person
- Non-profit experience
- Working knowledge of Indigenous cultural practices
- Awareness or working knowledge of traditional / local language.
- Awareness or working knowledge of colonization.
- Strong Communication skills.
- Skills and experience (working knowledge) in facilitation, group leadership, capacity building.
- Education and relevant experience will be considered.

Location

The candidate would ideally live within or close to the city of Winnipeg (but consideration would be given to someone living in Kenora). The position will include regular visits to the Kenora Fellowship Centre, Winnipeg Inner City Missions, and Place of Hope Indigenous Presbyterian Church (in Winnipeg).

Reporting, Support & Accountability

The scope of this position begins in the Presbytery of Winnipeg but may extend as needed or requested more broadly throughout the Synod of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario. The synod's regional resourcing funds are a main source of funds for this position.

The Presbytery of Winnipeg will provide the regular support, oversight, and logistical management for this position.

The staff person will provide annual reports to the Synod of Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario.

The staff person will report at every regular meeting of the Presbytery of Winnipeg.

The Presbytery of Winnipeg is responsible to:

- Provide ongoing support and accountability for the Staff Person
- Make provision for 3 reviews of the position and the work, the results to be shared directly with all three Presbyteries within the bounds of the Synod, the Synod itself, and any relevant funders, on the following schedule:
 - o 9 months into the appointment
 - o 18 months into the appointment
 - o 30 months into the appointment – this final review will provide recommendations looking toward the end of the 3-year term.

Salary \$74,000 + Benefits

2 weeks Study Allowance

5 weeks Vacation

Apply with cover letter, resume, and references

To Rev. Matt Brough matt@prairiechurch.ca