

CUC Strategic Priorities

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<https://cuc.ca/about-cuc/governance-management/>

Goals 2022/2023

The CUC ensures that it has resources to maintain its own sustainability in order to advance the cost-effective achievement of the following four primary goals:

1. Strengthen and nurture community resilience so our congregations and Unitarian Universalist communities are connected to each other, and thrive spiritually, theologically, organizationally, economically, and socially in a diverse, multi-generational context; (SAME)
2. ~~2022: Enhance religious exploration and spiritual growth grounded in the vision, principles, sources, and aspirations of the Canadian Unitarian Universalist (UU) movement;~~

New 2023: Enhance **community resilience** through exploration, education and sharing of **diverse and inclusive spiritual and organizational practices**, *including* those from our own faith tradition;

Comment: Highlighting “community resilience” rather than “religious exploration and spiritual growth” ; Broaden “sources” to INCLUDING (but not limited to) those from our own faith tradition as opposed to naming only the direct CUC statements. One example could be for the Decision-making group who may be exploring Sociocracy, Convergent Facilitation, etc. ideas and methods in sync with our statements but weren’t created by or for Unitarians.

3. Advance socially responsible actions to live out our vision of interdependence, love, and justice to bring benefit to Canadian and global communities; (**SAME**)
4. ~~2022: Strengthen local, regional, national, and global~~ networks of **collaborative and interdependent** UU congregations and communities.

NEW 2023: *Strengthen collaborative and interdependent UU networks of congregations and communities.*

Comment: ‘Collaborative and interdependent’ included in both years, but in different placement. Perhaps just wordsmithing? More organic/amorphous than specifying words that suggest a particular “organization” . Meant to include networks that are not directly affiliated with a formal organization or congregation, such as youth and young adult communities.

Question: are there specific communities that are named for CUC support? Could a network request staff or other support? What would be the process?

Strategic Priorities proposed 2023

A. Strengthen the national fabric

of our **Unitarian Universalist congregations and communities** by:

- a. Nurturing and enhancing innovation and sustainability; (same)
- b. **Strengthening (?professional?) ministry and shared ministry;**
- c. Developing, curating and focusing on **Canadian resources** to advance religious exploration, spiritual growth, and **congregational resilience** in a multigenerational context; and
- d. Ensuring that the CUC and its **member** congregations and communities are well positioned to welcome and embrace those who seek Unitarian Universalism. (minor addition of the word “member”.)

2022 Wording

- Strengthen the national fabric of our UU **community** by
 1. Nurturing and enhancing innovation and sustainability;
 2. ~~Enhancing and optimizing connections and relationships among UU communities in intentionally inclusive ways; and~~ (includes b & c for 2023 wording?)
 3. Ensuring that the CUC and its congregations and communities are well positioned to welcome and embrace those who seek Unitarian Universalism.
- Develop, curate and focus on Canadian resources to advance religious exploration and spiritual growth in a multigenerational context.

B. Live into the 8th Principle

of individual and communal action that accountably dismantles racism and systemic barriers to full inclusion in ourselves and our **institutions**, through:

Question: “Institutions” = “congregations and communities”?

2022 Text

- Advance these social justice initiatives:
 1. Truth, Healing and Reconciliation
 2. Enact the 8th Principle: Individual and communal action that accountably dismantles racism and systemic barriers to full inclusion in ourselves and our institutions
 3. Environmental justice
 4. Refugee support

Comment: Similar content, re-arranged to be under the heading of 8th principle.

Also with more detailed points on what would be focused on for 3 of the 4 initiatives.

a. Truth, Healing and Reconciliation

- i. Uncolonizing ourselves and our processes;
- ii. Supporting First Nations / Indigenous self-determination and initiatives;
- iii. Acting on repudiation of the Doctrine of Discovery

b. Enacting environmental justice

through respectful stewardship practices, which include:

- i. Consulting and collaborating with **Indigenous communities** in order to advance policies and practices which end environmental racism; and
- ii. Effective environmental actions and climate initiatives which minimize and mitigate the effects of climate change.

c. Identifying systemic barriers to full inclusion and acting on dismantling

these in ourselves and our institutions; and

(REPEATED)

d. Refugee support

Comment: UCV now has our own Refugee Sponsorship Agreement through the Canadian government, so we no longer go through CUC for our refugee sponsorships.

Note: Not all refugees are IBPOC

C. All these goals and strategic priorities shall be achieved with sound financial management, including sustainable revenue **sources**, to continue the work of building vital **Unitarian Universalist congregations and communities**;

2022 Text

- Ensure sound financial management, including sustainable revenue **generation**, to continue the work of building vital Unitarian communities;

Comment: It seems previously “communities” included congregations, whereas in new wording, congregations and communities are named as different groups.

CUC Statement:

Strategic Priorities are approved annually at the Annual General Meeting. Each year the CUC Board of Trustees reviews the goals against needs and what has been accomplished.

Comment: This practice of embedding the requirement in the by-laws and voting every year is at least 10 years' practice.

Some links:

2023 Documents (not yet on cuc.ca website) in Google Drive Folder

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1XI76crxK1MorHGL8RBP3PLVX3jB0FST_

Background Information on Resolutions

<https://cuc.ca/about-cuc/annual-general-meeting/resolutions-information/>

Past Resolutions

<https://cuc.ca/about-cuc/annual-general-meeting/past-cuc-resolutions/>

Annual Reports (including congregational numbers and financial statements)

<https://cuc.ca/about-cuc/reports-publications/>

Symposium 2023

<https://cuc.ca/events/cuc-national-symposium-2023/>

Delegate Information

<https://cuc.ca/about-cuc/annual-general-meeting/delegate-information/>