

James Bay United Church Board Meeting Minutes

Date: 2026/03/19

Time: 6:33 to 8:32 p.m.

Location: Sanctuary

Chair: Martin Stewart

Secretary: D'Arcy McPherson

In attendance: Martin Stewart (Chair)
Karen Halliday (Trustee)
Gordon Miller (Communications)
Colleen Nichol (Pastoral Care)
Marg Lunam (Thrift Shop)
Mahima Sylvester (HR/M&P)
Diane Monteith (Member at large)
Heinz Unger (Trustee)
Rev. Greg Powell (Minister)
D'Arcy McPherson (Secretary)

Regrets: Scott Jantzen (Member at large)

Opening Prayer & Lighting Christ Candle: Greg

Personal Check-in: 1-2 minutes each to share where we are at this moment and to connect a little more deeply with each other, as we wish.

Covenant: We covenant together... to listen and speak with respect ...to express our views ... to be aware of each other and ourselves ...to be mindful of time, making room for each person to contribute ...to consider prayerfully ... to care about the life of the congregation, the community and the world ... to ask for help as needed ...to meet our commitments.

Approval of Minutes – February 19, 2026 (Colleen/Diane) Carried.

Minister's report (Greg) (See Appendix A)

Greg noted that the majority of updates are included in the written report.

He disclosed a minor conflict of interest, advising that Jamie (sound technician) will be undertaking pruning work with his company. Greg indicated that he is mindful of and attentive to this conflict.

Greg also invited Board members to participate in sharing personal testimonies of faith, either during Sunday worship or via recorded video. This initiative is planned to begin during the Easter season (from April 5 onward), with encouragement to begin earlier if possible. He emphasized the importance of sharing how the Spirit is active in our lives as a meaningful faith practice.

Board Chair's report (Martin)

- Retreat information
 - The Board confirmed that the retreat facility has been reserved, with deposit paid and dates secured.
 - Discussion focused on facilitation. It was noted that securing an external facilitator may be challenging due to scheduling conflicts, including a regional meeting. The possibility of facilitating the retreat internally was explored.
 - A resource (*The Great Search* by Philip Newell) was identified as a potential foundation for the retreat's visioning work. The Board discussed using guiding questions, informed by this material, to engage both Board and congregation in a broader discernment process.
 - Members considered the option of identifying a facilitator from within the congregation, noting both the benefit of familiarity with congregational culture and the importance of maintaining an effective and balanced process. It was also suggested that additional options could be explored, including seeking proposals or external recommendations where feasible.
 - There was general agreement on the need for further discernment regarding facilitation, including clarifying expectations, process design, and potential supports, with Board members encouraged to continue reflecting on options.
- AGM update
 - The Treasurer advised that the Annual General Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 16 at 6:30 p.m. Work is underway to prepare the budget, including presentation of the previous year's financial statements.
 - It was noted that documentation for the AGM is being compiled, and contributors are being contacted as needed. A Trustees' report is required.
 - Discussion also highlighted the need to plan for Board recruitment as part of the AGM, including the nominations process. Further consideration is needed regarding how this will be managed during the meeting.
- New Board membership and governance questions (Please see background information in Appendix B)
 - The Board expressed deep appreciation for Karen Halliday's service on the board. Karen will be stepping down from the board after the AGM. The Board acknowledged Karen's service, contributions, wisdom and compassionate presence.

- Discussion was held regarding Board leadership succession. A potential transition in the role of Chair was considered, including the possibility of a new Chair with the current Chair continuing in a supporting role. The importance of discernment, gifts for leadership, and alignment with the Board's vision and operational needs was noted.

The Board discussed recent expressions of interest in Board participation from individuals within the broader church community. This prompted consideration of recruitment practices, Board composition, and governance processes.

Key themes included:

- identifying desired skills, experience, and gaps (e.g., fundraising)
- clarifying eligibility requirements, including membership expectations
- establishing clear terms of reference, including term lengths, roles, and expectations
- ensuring an appropriate vetting and discernment process
- maintaining alignment with the church's faith foundation and values
- considering how to respectfully manage nominations, including those from the floor at the AGM

The Board also reflected on the value of engaging individuals connected to church programs beyond Sunday worship, while ensuring appropriate orientation and integration into the life and ministry of the congregation. It was agreed that further work is needed to define a clear and thoughtful recruitment and selection process.

Moved that Gordon connect with those individuals who have expressed interest in Board involvement, to learn more about their interest and share information about the church and its governance, and to report back to the Board. (Marg/Colleen) Carried.

- AGM Preparation

- The Board discussed the process for nominations from the floor at the AGM. It was agreed to invite nominations in advance, with follow-up communication to the congregation the following Sunday.

It was noted that, where the number of nominees exceeds available positions, the decision rests with the congregation at the AGM. The importance of openness and access to Board participation was affirmed, including the opportunity for any member to attend Board meetings.

The Board also noted additional expressions of interest in Board service and the need to consider these within the broader nominations and discernment process.

- It was suggested that a message of appreciation will be included in the AGM report to acknowledge the contributions of the church's ministries and programs.
- Victoria Civic Heritage Trust (Exterior Paint and Windows)
 - The Board received an update on the exterior painting project. Progress continues toward securing a heritage grant, with the project currently on track for a 50% subsidy.

An expert has been engaged to complete an assessment, develop paint specifications, and coordinate quotes from multiple vendors. Oversight during the project will include site inspections. Window restoration work has also been identified as necessary prior to painting.

Preliminary cost estimates suggest a project budget of approximately \$100,000, with an anticipated grant contribution of up to \$50,000. Final costs will be confirmed following receipt of vendor quotes, at which point a formal application will be submitted.

The Board also discussed the importance of ongoing maintenance to preserve the work. Consideration will be given to establishing a regular maintenance plan and funding approach to extend the lifespan of the paint and avoid significant future costs.

Trustees Report (Heinz Unger)

- Enshrining the safety and security ethos
 - The Board discussed next steps following a previously completed building condition report, including obtaining a depreciation report to support long-term asset planning. A quote for this work has been received.

An update was provided on a grant application submitted to support building-related work, with a decision expected by May.

Fire safety was also discussed. Recent inspections have identified repairs and deficiencies, and further follow-up is planned. The Board noted the absence of a formal fire safety plan and confirmed the need to develop one, including determining building occupancy limits. Preliminary estimates of seating capacity were discussed; however, confirmation from the fire

department is required, including consideration of different areas within the building.

The importance of clearly posted occupancy limits, trained greeters, and inclusion of all church spaces and activities (including programs and the Thrift Shop) in safety planning and inspections was emphasized.

Treasurer's Report (Gordon) (Please see Appendix C)

An update was provided on budget preparation, with individual ministry budgets being gathered and consolidated into a comprehensive budget.

Progress continues on the transition to a new financial system and chart of accounts, which will support improved reporting. While the process has required significant effort, it is expected to strengthen financial management and transparency.

Ongoing collaboration and discussion have been helpful in supporting this work.

Other Ministries

- Music Ministry (Please see Appendix D)
- Arts Ministry (Please see Appendix E)
- Reconciliation Ministry (Please see Appendix F)

Human Resources (M&P) (Mahima)

- Update from HR/M&P
- Staffing updates (in camera)

Motion to move in camera (Karen/Marg) Carried

.....
In Camera proceedings

Motion to move to public (Colleen/Marg) Carried

Motions

Moved: That the Board of James Bay United Church approve the revised Minister's Job Description, reflecting the proposed increase to 0.9 FTE and the updated responsibilities as presented; and that the HR (Ministry & Personnel) Committee be authorized to upload the approved Job Description to ChurchHub in order for the Region to proceed with issuing a new call. (Mahima/D'Arcy) Carried.

Other

- The Board discussed opportunities for participation in broader church activities, including regional council engagement and a visioning initiative toward 2035. Interest was invited from Board members, with further details to be shared as they become available. It was noted that attendance at the upcoming regional meeting may be limited due to its location (Kelowna), and participation is to be determined.

Closing Prayer: Greg

[The Board Meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.]

APPENDIX A

Minister's Report

March 2026 | Rev. Greg Powell

Friends, I have to say I am feeling really good about things at James Bay UC. I look forward to Sundays; I look forward to mid-week office days; I look forward to visits; and I look forward to our meetings. I believe the Spirit is very active in this place and I feel honoured to be a part of it.

With that, here is some of what's been capturing my attention:

1. Gordon Miller and I wrote a Terms of Reference for the Monday night guitar choir: [JBUC Guitar Choir ToR](#). Kelby is suggesting some minor changes, so when those changes arrive, I will update the document. I presume the board wishes to see these as they are produced and approved.
2. During the Easter season, we will be gathering and sharing testimonies: "how have you sensed the Spirit at work in your life?" It would be wonderful if some board members participate.
3. I will host an "ambassador's training" session shortly after Easter. Participants will practice telling their story of James Bay UC.
4. I am working with our trustees to move our emergency preparedness along. (Heinz will report on that.)
5. I have met with a ministry colleague who has agreed to coach/mentor me as I take on more responsibilities. I look forward to increasing my productivity and reducing delays.
6. Pursuant to 3. above, these are the things I've neglected but will prioritize in the coming weeks:
 - a. Move our affirming committee along
 - b. Connect with our critical mass of young adults: what programming, if any, would they like?
 - c. Follow up from the pledge campaign, specifically in terms of time commitments.
 - d. Develop and print a photo directory in-house.

With much gratitude,
Greg

APPENDIX B

James Bay United Church | Board Chair Report

For Board consideration:

- The needs, qualities and skills we're looking for, then direct recruitment to fill gap(s)? e.g., With Karen Halliday's departure, we'll need someone on the Board to oversee fundraising. In turn, recruitment would focus on finding someone with fundraising ability/experience and connections in the wider community.
- Pay attention to the composition of the Board, e.g., how many spaces are open for community members--one/two?
- Decide voting eligibility--would the community member be given full voting rights or attend in an advisory capacity?
- Set out expectations for length of service (1 or 2-year term?) and attendance.

It's important to vet candidates with care. After the Board has had a chance to consider the above questions, I'd suggest Gordon make the first contact with identified people laying out what we're looking for and seeing if this interests them. If there's interest, the Chair and a Board member would schedule a meeting with them. After that meeting, we would bring our findings to the Board to make the decision.

Further on the topic of Board membership, I'd recommend reviewing what the method might be for removing Board members in a respectful way. And how at the AGM to handle unvetted nominations from the floor for Board membership.

APPENDIX C

James Bay United Church | Treasurer's Board Report

For March 19th 2026

Ongoing Treasurer Training:

I am still learning the details of our financial framework. Each week I feel a little more capable of answering questions and helping people (staff, volunteers, ministry leads) problem-solve and receive timely solutions.

My weekly posts in the ENews are getting good reviews. While I know there are only a few dedicated readers, the feedback I am receiving tells me that the conversation is worthwhile. Also, the process of writing the posts helps me validate my own understanding of what's happening.

Procedure development with Cheques and Balances support staff continues.

- Standardizing pre approval of payments to regular vendors.
- Cash procedures for Tuesday Night Jazz at the Church and Thursday Lunch.
- I have completed online orientation on our new bookkeeping system Quickbooks.
- 2025 YE closing entries are being reviewed.
- 2026 data is now being entered in our new chart of accounts on the new software. (this is several months ahead of previous years timeline - and is a movement in a positive direction)

On-line reimbursement/payment procedure (reported as new last month) is working without any glitches.

Terms of Reference - Ministries and user groups

I have been working with Greg to get our Terms of References finalized. We need to know what our relationships look like (ministries, programs activities, user groups in relationship with JBUC) so that they can be properly expressed in our Chart Of Accounts, with an eye toward legality, transparency and readability. The work is on-going.

Here is an example of a DRAFT Terms of Reference Document

[JBUC Guitar Choir ToR](#)

Budget Progress

Teams completed or reporting in:

Christian Education, Climate Action Team, Communications, Hospitality Team, JBUC Community Choir, Music Ministry, Operations/Office/Admin, Property Team, Reconciliation Team, Refugee Team, Tech Team, Thrift Shop, Thursday Lunch, Worship Team

Teams unresponsive or not yet contacted:

Arts Ministry, Library, Archive,

As this is my first time leading the budgeting process, I have to cut myself some slack, but I am feeling dismayed that I arrive to the March meeting unable to present a preliminary budget for fiscal 2026. Meetings and work this week should produce something concrete before the end of the month.

Submitted March 17th 2026

by Gordon Miller

Treasurer, James Bay United Church

APPENDIX D

James Bay United Church | Music Ministry Report

2025 was a great year for Music Ministry at James Bay United with new initiatives, more choir opportunities, musical offerings, and ongoing work to create organizational systems to manage choir and sheet music. In the Spring, our Music Minister, Jennifer Turner, began her fourth year at JBUC, feeling ever more confident in her position and dreaming of possibilities to come.

The Music Ministry at JBUC strives to create an atmosphere that is meaningful, beautiful, fun, and inclusive. Music facilitates worship and is an important way to express one's intention toward the inner and outer journey. The Music Ministry involves many personnel including our Music Minister, members of the JBUC Worship Choir, volunteer musicians, guest musicians, an advisory committee, the James Bay Community Chorus, and music mentors.

This was Greg's first full year at JBUC and his presence has brought great energy and stability to the workings of the Music Ministry. Along with the guidance of the Worship Team, Greg and Jennifer work very closely together in planning for Sunday Worship and it is a solid team full of trust, idea sharing, and meaningful conversation.

On April 1, 2025, Jennifer's hours were increased to 15 hours per week. Below is an outline of **New Initiatives** from this past year:

- 1.) The choir is now singing monthly between September and June. The Sunday Worship Choir creates important opportunities for social connection, creativity, learning, and the giving and receiving of musical gifts.
- 2.) An invitation was sent out to the broader community to join the Christmas Eve choir. We held extra rehearsals in December and had a great turnout. People are interested in project choirs.
- 3.) We had a children's choir for the Christmas Pageant on December 24.
- 4.) We launched a vocal recital series with concerts on March 21 and June 20th.
- 5.) In August, Jennifer attended a three-day training course in Vancouver for Choral Conductors.
- 6.) Jennifer is creating a library system for Choral music and sorting through the giant boxes of music that have been stored in the Minister's Office for many years.
- 7.) Jennifer has taken on the role of music reporting to One License.
- 8.) Jennifer, Gordon, and Christine put together a children's concert for the September Open House.

APPENDIX E

James Bay United Church | Arts Ministry Report

Hello dear friends on the JBUC board!

It is my great pleasure to offer this report summarizing some of the incredible things that happened at the church over the month of February.

Overview:

Let me begin with a side-note and an overview at the same time.

For those of you that I have not had the opportunity to speak with in person, I began a Masters Degree program at Simon Fraser University (Masters of Arts in Arts Education) this September and have been travelling once a week to Vancouver for studies. The studies have felt incredibly pertinent to my work at JBUC and provide new insight and meaning as well as opportunity for growth.

In my first term there was a book that has been particularly meaningful to me and the quote that feels particularly pertinent for this month is “all flourishing is mutual” from Robin Wall Kimmerer’s *Braiding Sweetgrass*. A variation on the proverbial “the rising tide lifts all boats” seems apropos of our continuing Arts Ministry programs which are coming into a period of flourishing. This is different in each program, sometimes shown in diversity of attendees, or in abundance of attendees or donations or countless other metrics, but it is certainly a fitting theme to my observation. As such, February was an abnormally busy month!

Broad Month Summary:

As a community we shared joy, heartache, learnings and community as we celebrated Valentines Day, Chinese New Year, Mardi Gras Community Pancake Extravaganza and Black History Month in addition to our regular ongoing programming.

February saw us open up some new ideas and possibilities to engage different members of our community in terms of race, ethnicity, gender, age and different interests.

In summary of all current programs:

- All current programs are financially stable and self-sustaining in their relative models and running well.
- Some programs are paused; some under-construction.
- Work is ongoing to develop Terms of Reference for all programs under Arts Ministry

- The New Horizons For Seniors Grant which was applied to in late September will release its decisions in Feb/ March.

Details and Specifics of New Ventures and Updates: February 2026

Community Yoga Class with Ida - Pilot Program

This program is designed to be an intentionally “not typical” yoga class. We all are aware of the many health benefits for the physical body, the nervous system, the spirit, engaging in a community through yoga practice; and we are all most likely aware that “typically” you seem need to wear fancy yoga pants and already be an accomplished yogi, practising weekly on the beach in Hawaii with your legs, wrapped over your shoulders and handstand. This is not that! This is a class designed to be accessible, with modifications provided to suit our own individual abilities, while still honouring the wisdom of a complete yoga Practice.

I have had first-hand experience in the great benefit from the practice however, I was waiting for just the right teacher for our community. At the time, Ida Manly (an accomplished and certified Yoga instructor with 2 decades of teaching experience) had left her formerly thriving yoga studio (which did not survive the early stages of the COVID-19 pandemic) and had left that work to pursue steady employment elsewhere. However, a few months ago, she reached out to me with the idea of teaching specifically through the Arts Ministry at James Bay citing the alignment of core values of accessibility, spirituality through practice, wellness and community.

We began a pilot project in January and have worked hard with Greg and Bev and the custodial team to find ways to make space available in the sanctuary and have had a fabulous community response.

Valentines Day 2026

In response to increasing attendance at Tuesday Night Jazz and feedback from the community expressing a desire for matinee concerts, we decided to explore the idea of a Saturday jazz matinee in celebration of Valentine’s Day. And for my role as Arts Minister my intention was to create a concert that would be fun and lighthearted and welcoming for the community and also support the different musicians in the community. In this context my aim was to support vocalist Sara Marreiros as she continues to work with some debilitating challenges and side effects of living and performing with Multiple Sclerosis, and also supporting the young guitarist Andrew Jannusson who is working through some personal challenges.

This concert was coming together well in terms of preparation of material and initial promotions and then we were all struck by the tragedy of the Tumbler Ridge shooting. At that time we were unsure whether to proceed or not but eventually decided to proceed and to donate all of the

proceeds of the concert to the families of the Tumbler Ridge tragedy. The event I hope provided people with opportunities to come together and share and community and also contribute to the families. We were able to donate 100% of the donations directly to the Go Fund Me campaign with the help of Gordon Miller. We were able to pay the band out of our discretionary fund from proceeds from Tuesday Night Jazz ventures thereby able to donate \$860 from James Bay United Church.

Mardi Gras 2026

The annual Mardi Gras Parade, community pancake supper and New Orleans traditional jazz concert three-part event was a wild success and perhaps our most lively, well attended, and well supported economically.

The Arts Ministry brought together musicians from various musical communities at home and as far away as Vancouver, bringing together a diversity of ages and communities for a joyful parade and traditional jazz concert. The hospitality team did an incredible job hosting a fabulous turn out of pancake enthusiasts celebrating community and friendship in the welcoming lower hall.

The Tuesday Night Jazz portion of the event brought in enough donations to pay for the parade band, artist travel and honorarium with some left over.

Part of the less-tangible deliverables of an event like this is the opportunity to minister to the local musical community, and in this regard we brought together different musicians, some of whom had never played together or were from different musical circles and communities, which can be intimidating but also inspiring and as such we were able to create a really positive and rewarding musical experience for the participating musicians which is an energy that is palpable to the audience and has numerous reverberations for each of the musicians involved. It is truly both ministering to the musicians on stage and the audience in such an event.

Chinese New Year Celebrations 2026

For the third year in a row we celebrated Chinese New Year with a special topic in health and well-being practice and community micro-potluck. This year we decided to expand into a three-part series featuring weekly lectures on specific topics for cultivation of health and well-being. I was struck by the diversity of participants in terms of age, ethnicity, gender identity, experience in western or eastern meditation traditions. This was a great success measured in numbers, and enthusiasm and also in the energizing experience of the facilitator and a reminder to me to recognize the importance of sharing our gifts. The facilitator is an older Tai Chi and meditation practitioner who has spent his entire lifetime learning and teaching but his teaching less and less and his enjoyment at sharing these aspects of the tradition was inspiring. The lead facilitator Eric Tuttle requested to offer these three free workshops completely free of charge and open to all the community in part in gratitude to what we have offered the community through the arts ministry of JBUC

Black History Month 2026

For a number of years now we have been celebrating Black History Month through Tuesday Night Jazz which allows us to provide a cultural context, and to honour the roots, of the music we love and share at Tuesday Night Jazz. This year we chose to expand and offered three concerts beginning with a solo concert of United Church Music Minister Louise Rose leading us through a history of Gospel Music and it's contemporary practice; secondly we featured Louise in a trio configuration in a jazz context also incorporating numerous multicultural influences from the Beatles to Willie Nelson to Stevie wonder and George Gershwin; finally we featured Afro Cuban pianist Pablo Cardenas in a dynamic concert celebrating Afro Cuban traditional music, music of south America and also contemporary reimagining's of classical piano compositions of JS Bach, Claude Debussy and more.

Women's History Month (March 2026)

The end of February also saw us making preparations for something new and well overdue in our Arts Ministry programming which is a concert recognizing and honouring Women's History Month! We enjoyed putting together our first ever all-female band spanning multiple generations and styles in a community celebration of women and jazz.

- On a personal note, I have often received questions, and at times concern and criticism regarding the predominantly male-oriented roster of performers at Tuesday Night Jazz. This is completely understandable and, as the son of a female artist mother and as the father of our young artist daughter, I feel I am well-versed in some of the challenges. There are some very interesting statistics around music schools in Canada and the US regarding participation of students identifying as male or female and those differ strikingly between instrument, genre and ethnicity. To my way of thinking, there are numerous societal, educational and gender issues that come into play and I think the best way to counteract and support that is to bring in additional female artists who can guide us in the process of mentoring more women musicians. This project has given us a great opportunity to start on that work and I am excited to do more in the future!

Regular and Ongoing Program Overview:

- Monday Jazz Master Class with John Lee is a continuation of a pilot program launched this Fall and specifically targeting the mentorship and engagement of young artists and intergenerational learning with the goal of providing some "real life" jazz instructional and mentorship opportunities with our young leading jazz artist of Asian heritage. This program was developed as a pilot project by John Lee and Kelby MacNayr and is hovering just in the success bracket, it is economically self-sustaining and we are excited to further support the program as it develops.

- The Monday night guitar program with Aaron Watson is doing very well, continuing to offer an evening of community, spiritual-uplift and inspiration in a very unique and enjoyable setting.

- Tuesday Night Jazz is continuing to flourish, finding some of our highest numbers of attendees in our seven year history and inviting opportunities to expand and extend the good work in the community.

- Wednesday morning Chi Gong class is doing well, hovering just in the low-end of the success bracket. The class provides meaningful instruction and engagement in these powerful and ancient practises of well-being and community.

- The “Moving with Grace“ is a movement and wellness program that is currently on hiatus pending recovery from surgery from the facilitator

- The Friday Chen and Yang style Tai Chi classes are going very well. Attendance is stable and has room to grow.

- Saturday Artist Gathering: This program is running beautifully. Originally brought to life by Sarah Hovey and taken on by Chef John from the Thursday Lunch Program, this program provides an opportunity for people to share time and space making art together on a Saturday afternoon. Funding for additional supplies has been requested via NHFS Grant pending.

- Movie Night and Potluck: Co-ordinated by Gary Brandstadt this program is delightful and an ongoing success in community building. Funding for additional projection supplies has been requested via NHFS Grant pending

- Wednesday Night Community Choir: Led by Chritine Chepaya. Running well with strong attendance. Additional funding possibilities in play. (See Grodon Miller)

- Thursday Kids Choir: Part of the Sing Your Joy Family of Choirs providing exceptional choral training, social connection and off-screen activity and positivity for young people!

Paused programs:

- The “Awakening the Spirit through music program facilitated by Anne Schaefer is on indefinite hiatus. Facilitator and Schaefer did some tremendous work for us and the program on further study in Greece.

- The “Healing Sounds with Sara Marreiros“ program is set to restart in early summer 2026, this program was well-loved and well-attended. Currently paused while Sara recovers from some extensive healthcare treatments.

Upcoming programs:

- Friday night folk: We have been long exploring the idea of Friday Night Folk concert series since the time of my predecessor Gordon Miller and are hot on the trail of some great artists. Pending.

- The Swing and Tea Dance program has been re-imagined through discussion with the local swing, dance community, participant musicians from the amateur musician community and professional musicians. Pending.

- Fiddle Faddle: A program still in planning and discussion designed to support intergenerational learning and community development through the many traditions of Fiddle music. Very exciting discussions are ongoing but no imminent launch date.

- Poetry and Author Readings: Initial explorations into possibilities have been exciting and we are interested to follow-up leads and offer new programs. Notable artists include the renowned US Poet (who also has a home in James Bay!) Heather McHugh (!)

Thank you very much for the opportunity to be at the helm of a dynamic, caring and creative Arts Ministry, rooted in the values of Christianity and open to the whole community. It is truly a joy to be a part of this community!

Thank you sincerely,
Kelby MacNayr
Director of Arts Ministry, JBUC
March 17, 2026

APPENDIX F

James Bay United Church | Reconciliation Ministry Report

Greetings JBUC Board

The Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples and the Land (RIPL) group meets once a month and has had three areas of focus.

1) At the request of Carl Olsen , 'Save Goldstream/ SELEKTEL', buttons were designed. Two orders totaling 550 were made. Although the BC government has paused construction into the park, the management of Goldstream Park is questionable - no active restoration work.

2) Production and hosting of a webinar has been organized to discuss the effects of BC gov't legal decisions (Cowichan and Gitxaala). Led by Simon Owen - lawyer specializing in Indigenous issues. So far 80 people have signed up.

Date: March 19, 7p.m.

3) Design of a website/landing page for RIPL.

Upcoming is the possibility of another webinar.