

Remit 1-Preparing to submit Emmanuel's VOTE

"In 2022, at General Council 44, the National Indigenous Council proposed that the church identify and remove any structural barriers that would prevent the development and sustaining of an autonomous National Indigenous Organization within The United Church of Canada. When any requested change in church structure will alter the Basis of Union of *The Manual*, as this will, a Category 3 Remit is required.

Approval of this remit will enable the creation of an autonomous National Indigenous Organization within The United Church of Canada.

This would acknowledge Indigenous peoples' rights to their own spiritual identities and to self-determination, and would be consistent with the Caretakers of our Indigenous Circle's document, *Calls to the Church*, and the *United Nation's Declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples.*"¹

Our own Regional Council, (EOORC) has submitted its "Yes" vote, but this is not enough. The *Emmanuel Council must vote on Remit 1* and submit its decision in writing by March 31, 2024. Abstentions or non-submissions are considered a vote against the remit.

The information on both the United Church of Canada's website, some of which is quoted above, can be found here:

<https://united-church.ca/news/establishing-autonomous-national-indigenous-organization>

More is on the EOORC website:

<https://eoorc.ca/resources/remit1/>

These resource pages are comprehensive and answer many questions already posed.

Emmanuel's Council will meet specially on November 21st to vote on Remit 1. If you have not already done so, please visit the websites listed and read the proposal.

If anyone has any strong objections to a "Yes" vote, please contact the Chair of Council for an opportunity to discuss them before the November 21st Council meeting.

Sincerely,

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Chair, Emmanuel Council

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¹ <https://united-church.ca/news/establishing-autonomous-national-indigenous-organization>