



# ORGANIZATIONAL REPORT 2020



connecting resources with ministry  
TORONTO UNITED CHURCH COUNCIL

# MISSION STATEMENT

*The Toronto United Church Council works with the church community to connect resources with ministry. Offering access to professional advice, financial support, and leadership development, TUCC helps our church address the social and spiritual challenges of the day. Our primary service area includes the boundaries of Horseshoe Falls, Western Ontario Waterways, Shining Waters and East Central Ontario Regional Councils.*

## CONTENTS

- Letter from the President and Executive Director ..... 3
- Recognition of the Land..... 4
- Introducing TUCC Leadership..... 5
- Developing Partnerships in Ministry ..... 6
- Financing Communities of Faith and their Ministries..... 10
- Encouraging Innovation in Ministry ..... 12
- Stewarding Church Property ..... 14
- Facilitating Ministry with Children and Youth ..... 16
- Celebrating Social Justice ..... 18
- Demonstrating Financial Accountability ..... 22

November 2020

Greetings.

With pressures from within and without, our United Church is in the midst of great change. Discerning where God is at work, and the meaning of Christ’s life and our discipleship in the changing context of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century is work in which the Church is called to engage. We do so without many of the cultural advantages and certainties of the past and this can be disorienting. But in so doing, we are actually engaging in the adventure of faith that has been the true focus of the Church at its best, from the first companions of Jesus to the present.

The Toronto United Church Council (TUCC) is committed to sharing the resources entrusted to its stewardship to enable the Church to pursue this adventure of faith. Supporting effective ministry with financial, property and knowledge resources, it serves communities of faith in south central Ontario. Its information resources are made available beyond regional and denominational boundaries.

This report highlights key elements of TUCC’s varied work. The Investing in Ministry Fund facilitates cooperative investment, making capital readily available to congregations undertaking construction or reconstruction projects. TUCC’s contributions to our church’s reconciliation efforts are highlighted. Property management and leadership development initiatives are presented – as is the organization’s extensive collaboration with United Church children’s camps in Shining Waters Region.

Thank you for the ministries that you provide to your community. If any of our services might be helpful to your ministry, please don’t hesitate to contact us.

Yours in Christ,



Ross Leckie  
President



Ron Ewart  
Executive Director

# RECOGNITION OF THE LAND

*We acknowledge with gratitude that the Toronto United Church Council's work is conducted on the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Petun, Seneca, the Mississaugas of the Credit and other Indigenous Peoples. This territory is covered by the Dish with One Spoon Wampum Belt Covenant, an agreement between the Haudenosaunee and the Ojibway and allied nations to peaceably share and care for the lands around the Great Lakes. Today south-central Ontario is home to Indigenous people from across Turtle Island, including survivors and intergenerational family members who have been impacted by the legacy of the residential school system. We honour them as we stand committed to be partners in healing, reconciliation, and justice.*

## *We are all Treaty Peoples*



A reproduction of the Dish With One Spoon wampum belt. The dish and spoon image is constructed with authentic wampum from circa 1650 (surface collected) from Seneca territory in Western New York. Acrylic beads were used to complete the belt.

IMAGE COURTESY OF RICHARD HAMELL, WITH PERMISSION FROM ANSLEY JEMISON

## BOARD\* AND COMMITTEE MEMBERS (2020)

Rev. Ross Leckie (President)\*

### COMMITTEE OF FINANCE & PROPERTY

- Carole Bennett\*
- Barry Butwell
- Greg Daly\*
- Peter DeVita
- Charles Donley
- Brian Heinmiller\*
- Don Hunter
- Bill Jermyn (Chair)\*
- Ted Meyers (Treasurer)\*
- Doug Smith\*

### FINANCIAL DEVELOPMENT

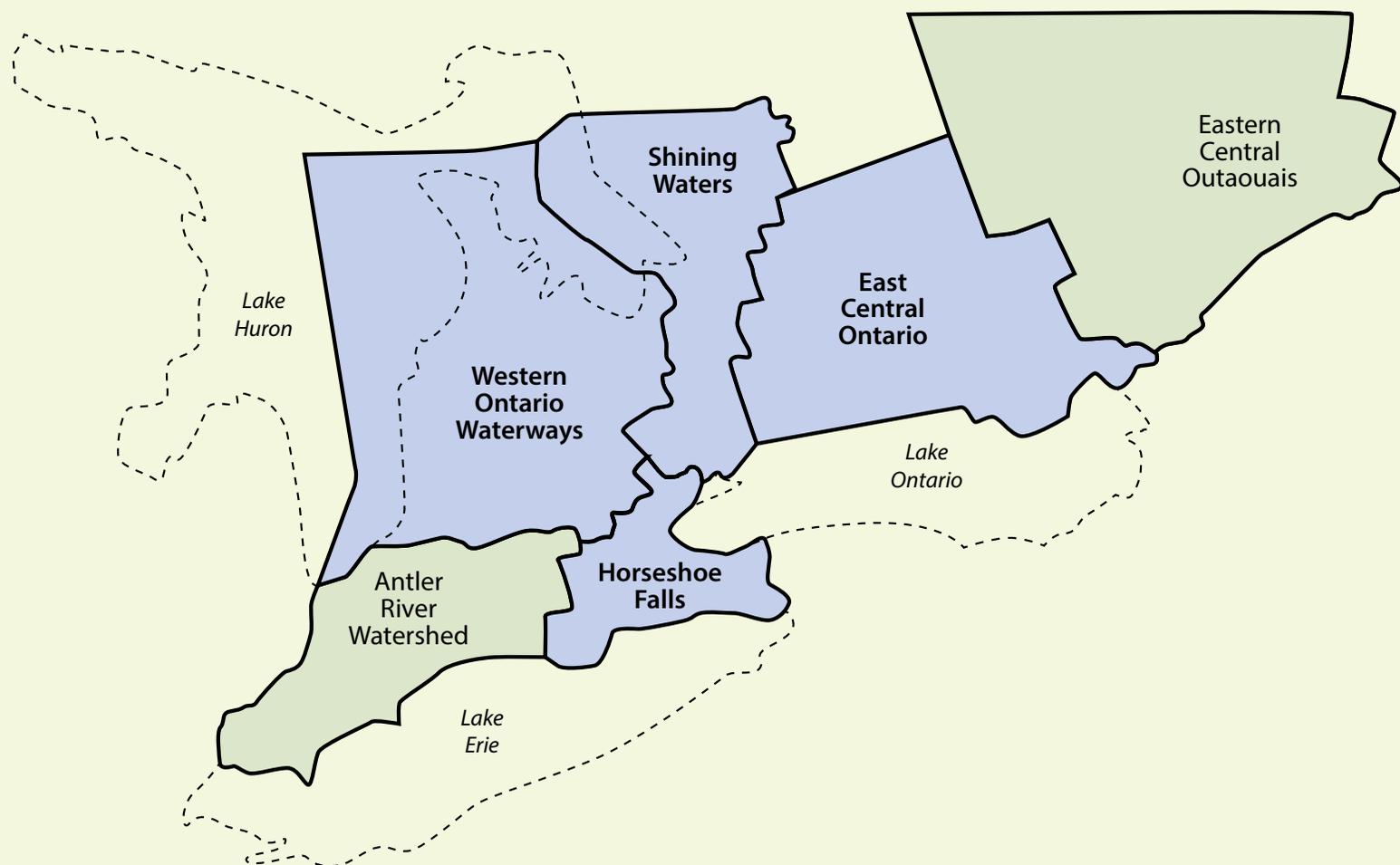
- Rev. Dan Benson
- Jim Hilborn
- Rev. Roberta Howey (Chair)\*
- Rev. Dr. John Joseph Mastandrea
- Rev. Norm Seli

### CHURCH DEVELOPMENT AND LEADERSHIP COMMITTEE

- Rev. Linda Butler
- Rev. Elizabeth Cunningham
- Catherine Hions
- Rev. Dr. Michael Kooiman\*
- Rev. Hannah Lee\* (Chair)
- Pam Lock
- Rev. Henry Poutiainen
- Rev. Linda Wheler
- Rev. Christopher White\*
- Rev. Grant Williams\*

### STAFF

- Rev. Ron Ewart**, Executive Director
- Katja Brittain**, Associate Director for Property & Mission
- Ken Clarke**, Director of Property Services & Capital Loans
- Ali Hayes**, Administrative Assistant: Communications, Program, & Event Planning
- Joyce Kung**, Director of Finance & Operations
- Louise Kung**, Bookkeeper
- Rev. Tay Moss**, Coordinator Innovative Ministry Centre
- James Patterson**, Director of Financial Development
- Wendy Sims**, Administrative Assistant: Governance, Finance, & Office Administration
- Jill Strapp**, Coordinating Consultant for the Centre for Church Development & Leadership



Tucc's CURRENT AREAS OF COLLABORATION

## OUR PARTNERS

Tucc's programming helps focus and enhance vision and energy already present within the church. The success of its work depends on the generous partnership of individuals and organizations within and outside the church. Professional counsel, financial contributions, volunteer leadership and program partnership all contribute to the success of Tucc's initiatives in the healthy development of communities of faith, social ministries and future-focussed opportunities for youth.

These are some of the partners on whose support Tucc's program success depends:

### **The United Church of Canada:**

- Western Ontario Waterways Region
- Horseshoe Falls Region
- Shining Waters Region
- East Central Ontario Region
- Presbyteries of Toronto Conference Corporation
- EDGE | A Network for Ministry Development
- United Property Resource Corporation
- The Fred Victor Centre/Toronto Christian Resource Centre
- Hillcrest Lodge Corporation
- Camp Big Canoe
- Lake Scugog Camp
- Camp Simpresca
- Sparrow Lake Camp
- Ryde Lake Camp
- Emmanuel College

### **The Anglican Church of Canada**

- The Diocese of Toronto's Congregational Development Department
- The Anglican Diocese of Niagara
- Trinity College, Faculty of Divinity

### **Professional Services**

- Mills & Mills LLP
- Adams & Miles LLP
- CIBC Wood Gundy The Hamilton Knight Group
- Martindale Planning Services

# THE PARTNERS CIRCLE

*A gift in one's Will is a simple way to reflect a commitment to ministry. Many Partners Circle members appreciate the simplicity and security of investing in our church's future ministry through TUCC.*



## A COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY

**DOROTHY AMOS** built up a lifetime of experience in the financial industry over nearly 50 years, so it's not surprising that she's making plans for her wealth to have lasting influence. In 2013, Dorothy made an important gift to TUCC, establishing the Dorothy L. Amos Legacy Fund. The fund will support United Church camping programs and a United Church educational institution, as well as many vital community organizations that she has helped throughout her life.

Dorothy is now watching that fund grow and her estate, after providing for relatives, will contribute another generous amount to her Legacy Fund growing it even more.

TUCC stewards 37 partnership funds to provide for camping programs, congregational ministries, and social ministries through church partners. For information on how we might serve your commitment to community, contact the TUCC office.

**PARTNERS CIRCLE** membership is conferred upon those individual and organizational donors who make individual or cumulative gifts of \$10,000 in support of TUCC ministries or who declare their intention to make a bequest. The following is a list of such donors.

Anonymous (2)	Humber Valley United Church
Leslee & Vincent Alfano	Jubilee United Church
Dorothy Amos	Kingsway Lambton UCW
Lynne Brennan & Douglas Varey	Kingsway Lambton United Church
Cora Brodie	Knox United, Scarborough
Ron Ewart & Ilze Kuplens Ewart	Lansing United Church
Graeme Hamilton	Lawrence Park Community Church
Joan Hart	Leaside United Church
Brian & Nancy Heinmiller	Northlea United Church
Peter & Eleanor Heinz	Ryde Lake Camp
Jim Hilborn	St. Andrew's United Church, Toronto
Don & Joan Hunter	Timothy Eaton Memorial Church
Kay Johnstone	Toronto Southeast Presbyterial
Ross & Jean Leckie	Trinity UCW, Newmarket
Tom & Irene Lowry	Bank of Montreal
Stephen Mabee & Barbara Fullerton	The Brumara Foundation
Alanna Mitchell & Jim Patterson	CIBC World Markets Foundation
Anne & David Patterson	City of Toronto – Live Green
Thea & John Patterson	The G. H. Wood Foundation
M.J. Perry	The George Cedric Metcalf Charitable Foundation
Carolyn Stafford	Sobeys Ontario
Lois Wilson	The Toronto Star Fresh Air Fund
Gordon Winch	The Willowool Foundation
Bloordale United Church	The Estate of James Baillie
Camp Big Canoe	
Fairlawn Avenue United Church	

# FINANCING CAPITAL PROJECTS



**Metropolitan United Church** (SWR), Toronto, is conducting a multi-million dollar retrofit of its building to serve more faithfully with accessibility features and enhanced programming for both the local community and their membership.

**Wasaga Beach United Church** (WOWR) has now completed its second major building expansion in five years.

**Trinity United Church** (ECOR), Uxbridge, undertook a major engineering study and building revamp.

**Emmanuel United Church** (WOWR), Waterloo, borrowed funds to undertake a complex roofing repair.

## INVESTING IN MINISTRY FUND

Since 2001 TUCC's *Investing in Ministry Fund* has been an important source of construction and renovation capital for congregations and church ministries in south-central Ontario. The Fund is established with revolving loans from congregations and individuals and, in turn, makes loans to United Church congregations undertaking capital projects. The fund currently has 60 investments and 19 loans, making it a unique partnership of regional communities of faith.

*"TUCC has been Wasaga Beach United Church's funding partner since 1998....I can't express our appreciation adequately for the assistance they provided on countless occasions. For example, when we were surprised by an unexpected expense, they quickly provided an additional bridge loan."*

Jayne Nelson, CPA CMA  
Treasurer, Wasaga Beach United Church

## A BIAS TOWARD MINISTRY: TUCC'S PARTNERSHIP MAKES A DIFFERENCE!

TUCC has a reputation of being able to act quickly. Sometimes, such as when we receive a phone call in the middle of the night saying a church's boiler has died, or the rain is coming through the roof, and funds are required the next day to ensure the integrity of the building, we can act decisively and swiftly.

When the project is more long-term or complex we live up to our reputation as the 'friendly banker' – ready to sit down and work together with communities of faith and ministries to develop the best possible, and most actionable plan. You will find TUCC shares your desire for the church to make a difference in the world, and knows that a combination of realism, flexibility, and innovation are essential to achieving that.

Healthy congregations thrive in community. With expertise in finance, the management of property, and missional approaches to ministry, TUCC offers action-oriented leadership to communities of faith whatever the situation.

# INNOVATION IN MINISTRY

*Healthy congregations thrive when they are engaged in the life of their local community. With expertise in facilitation and small group leadership, TUCC offers action-oriented leadership to communities of faith in transition.*



**SHAUN LONEY** In January 2020, TUCC hosted 120 people at workshops featuring Shaun Loney. Shaun's message is a critique of the non-profit sector's propensity to give away its creativity in exchange for "handouts." He argues that churches should pursue social investment rather than accepting charitable donations. Look around, he says, our churches respond to challenges in community and those responses have value. Innovate, invest and invite another generation to join us in God's work!



The first recipient of a grant from the **Vincent Alfano Fund** was the new faith community, Resistance Church. Meeting in person, and since December 2019, online, the Resistance Church ministers to individuals on the margins of society and the church's theology. The Alfano Fund, established in honour of TUCC's late Executive Director, engages communities of faith in local outreach.

For ten years, The Centre for Church Development and Leadership (CCDL) has offered consulting services to help churches with the following:

**EFFECTIVE MISSION PLANNING:** CCDL staff and volunteers help communities of faith to discern where God is calling them next and to create implementable plans to get there. The result is a new sense of purpose and new relationships within the church and with neighbours.

**THE CHURCH FUTURES PROGRAM:** is a four-step program that helps communities of faith, facing critical choices about the future to identify and consider all the realistic options and then to choose the one to which they feel God is leading them.

**AMALGAMATION AND REGIONALIZATION:** CCDL consultants offer a structured pathway to manage all of the dimensions of an amalgamation or regionalization process, focusing on the possibilities they can bring for new mission and energy.

**TRAINING AND COACHING:** we provide training to local teams on behalf of Shining Waters Regional Council, hold workshops for groups of congregations and provide training and coaching to individual communities of faith and ministries.

## THE INNOVATIVE MINISTRY CENTRE (IMC)

Churches face unprecedented challenges in adapting a faithful expression of the Gospel to their local cultures and communities. The IMC equips the church to meet this challenge. It equips communities of faith and the wider church with the capacity, motivation, and skills to nurture new expressions of ministry.

Drawing on a wide assembly of innovation sources, a first step has been the creation of a training course for teams of lay and ordained leaders. The first course includes 23 students from six congregations. In addition, a new website has been developed, along with a new video and audio resources which are available to course participants and the wider church.

Learn more at [innovativeministry.ca](http://innovativeministry.ca) or connect directly with program coordinator Tay Moss at [imc@tucc.ca](mailto:imc@tucc.ca)

# PROPERTY STEWARDSHIP

*Our church buildings can be vital mission assets in a time of change. TUCC supports the church in its stewardship of these built properties.*

TUCC holds property for ministry opportunities and offers property management services to church-affiliated bodies.

Its services include:

- Property management for regional councils;
- Small grants for capital projects that enhance a faith community's ability to meet social needs within their community;
- Professional analysis and marketing expertise in improving the use of space for ministry and revenue purposes;
- Holding properties for social ministries;
- Funding of energy conservation programs through the SELF.

## THE SUSTAINABLE ENERGY LOANS FUND (SELF)

TUCC has been actively involved in the church's efforts to reduce carbon emissions since 2006. Through the SELF, TUCC makes interest free and low interest loans to United Church congregations taking remedial action to improve their building's carbon footprint. Since 2013, loans totaling \$824,000 have assisted 21 projects.



**KATJA BRITTAIN's** popular blog guides congregations as they develop strategies to enhance the practical use of church buildings. She brings a wealth of experience to her consultations with individual communities of faith.



**KEN CLARKE's** long experience in the banking industry adds depth to TUCC's ability to manage its mortgage portfolio. Ken's services include the oversight of TUCC's camp properties and those of other church property holders. He also administers the Sustainable Energy Loans Fund (SELF).

# MINISTERING WITH CHILDREN, YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS

*Nurturing children and youth and recognizing the gifts they bring to community.*



## THE BAILLIE YOUTH LEADERSHIP AWARDS

Concerned as he was with young people’s drifting away from participation in their churches, James Baillie left funds in his will to help ensure that young people understood the importance of participating in their communities of faith. The Baillie Awards recognize young people’s leadership in their home congregations, at school and in their communities. They celebrate the leadership of a younger generation of our church.

## STUDENT INTERNSHIPS

TUCC engages students in summer internships.

In 2019, Alex Jebson, a theology student at Emmanuel College, produced a hands-on guide on accessibility at communities of faith. His report will inform church planning for years to come.

In 2020, Connor Jay, a graduate student at Martin Luther University College, consulted with eleven congregations to improve their web and social media presence.

## SUMMER CAMPS IN SHINING WATERS REGION

Just as language immersion courses provide students with the opportunity to “live” their language skills, United Church Camps provide campers a chance to put their faith skills into practice. Over periods of seven or 15 days, campers live in community, practice the Golden Rule and explore the “God” questions with young leaders.

Council provides the properties for four of five Shining Waters Region church camps which together host 2,600 campers and youth leaders every year.

TUCC’s Camping Opportunities Fund raises funds to subsidize camp fees for families whose children would otherwise miss an important experience. Each year more than 600 campers are subsidized in whole or in part by the Camping Opportunities Fund. In this, the year of COVID-19, the Fund is assisting camps to meet fixed costs at a time when their registration fee income has vanished.

Other TUCC Funds help camps maintain the camps’ properties. Capital funds are raised through the generous partnership of donors and, with the participation of the camps in the annual Scotiabank Toronto Waterfront Marathon and 5K Walk. From 2008 to 2019 the marathon and walk raised more than \$180,000 for capital construction and maintenance at the camps.

## JOURNEY OF RECONCILIATION

TUCC helps sponsor Bloor Street United Church’s Gibimishkaadimin program which brings Indigenous and Settler youth together on annual wilderness canoe trips (see photo on opposite page).

# THE HEART & VISION CONCERT CELEBRATES SOCIAL JUSTICE

*In 2009, TUCC launched the annual Heart & Vision Award with a concert series that recognizes great accomplishment in social justice initiatives within and outside the church. Church leaders, cultural heroes and political trailblazers have all been recognized in musical extravaganzas.*



### EVENT BENEFICIARIES

United Church Camps in Shining Waters Region  
40 Oak Street/Fred Victor Centre  
The Massey Centre  
Outreach ministries of local communities of faith

### THE HON. DR. MARGARET MCCAIN

In 2019 the Heart & Vision Award was presented to the Hon. Margaret McCain in recognition of her leadership in the development of research and programming recognizing the importance of the nurture of children and their families from their early years onwards. At a dinner at the Enoch Turner Schoolhouse, Dr. McCain spoke warmly of her co-chair of the Ontario government committee focused on these efforts, the late Dr. Fraser Mustard. She shared a brief history of the development of the field and current challenges. Appropriately, the evening's fundraising was in support of United Church camping programs for children.



### WE THANK OUR GENEROUS EVENT SPONSOR

*Heart & Vision*  
2009-2020



**Jackie Richardson, Gail Berry, and Lorraine Scott** entertain at the 2019 Heart & Vision Awards Concert.

# RECONCILING RELATIONSHIP



From 2016 to 2018, Council used the forum of its annual Heart & Vision Awards concert to highlight the exemplary leadership of individuals committed to the work of reconciliation.

**2016** – **Dr. Roberta Jamieson**, Ontario Ombudsman and executive director of Indspire, an organization which funds First Nations' post-secondary students. **Dr. Marie Wilson**, Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada;

**2017** – **The Very Reverend Dr. Stan McKay**, past moderator of the United Church and **Dr. Cindy Blackstock**, McGill University professor, judicial activist and executive director of First Nations Child & Family Caring Society;

**2018** – **The Reverend Dr. Grafton Antone**, social activist, **Dr. Eileen Antone**, educator and **Senator Murray Sinclair**, Lead Commissioner of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission.

## FINDING PETER BRYCE



TUCC helped fund the production of *Finding Peter Bryce*, a film produced by Gumboot Productions. The film depicts the contributions of Dr. Peter Bryce, a federal government health administrator, who in the early 20<sup>th</sup> Century sought to rectify the twin scourges of malnutrition and tuberculosis in Canada's residential school system.

He was fired from his oversight role at the schools and the epidemics continued for decades, proving that information is power only if it is used wisely. To gain access to the video for congregational use, contact TUCC.

Eileen and Grafton Antone, elders of the Oneida nation and founders of the Toronto Urban Native Ministry receive 2018 Heart & Vision Awards from the (then) Co-chair of the regional right relations circle, Rev. Brian McIntosh and (then) TUCC President, Wendy Jarvis.

## RECONCILIATION

In Canada, the process of reconciliation between First Nations and Settler Peoples invites us to a resurrection of community.



▲ The Rev. Grafton Antone and M.C. Jesse Wenthe present a 2017 Heart & Vision Award to the Very Reverend Dr. Stan McKay.

◀ The Young Creek Performers danced at the 2018 Heart & Vision concert.

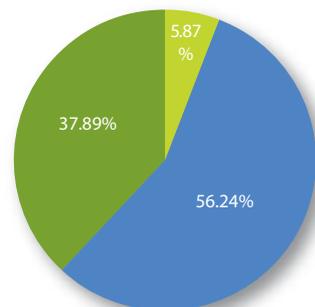


## TUCC'S OPERATING FUND

TUCC's General Fund holds the organization's operating fund. For a complete report on the General Fund, see TUCC's audited financial statements at [www.tucc.ca](http://www.tucc.ca).

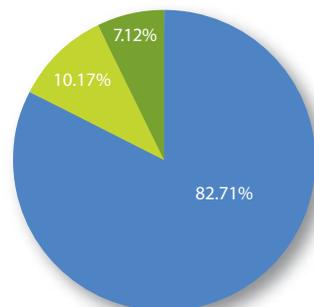
The 2019 net loss in the operating fund is a result of the volatile stock market performance which is the operating fund's primary source of income.

INCOME \$761,291		EXPENSE \$1,135,506	
■ Grants and Gifts.....	\$44,658	■ Administrative .....	\$115,512
■ Investment Income.....	\$428,164	■ Program Ministry.....	\$939,136
■ Program Income .....	\$288,469	■ Promotion & Fundraising	\$80,858



**INCOME**

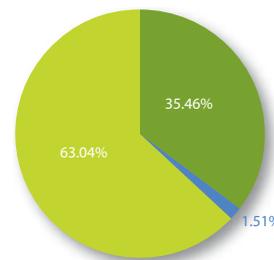
- Grants and Gifts - 5.87%
- Investment Income - 56.24%
- Program Income - 37.89%



**EXPENSE**

- Administrative - 10.17%
- Program Ministry - 82.71%
- Promotion and Fundraising - 7.12%

## Investing in Ministry Fund Holdings December 31, 2019



- Mortgages and Promissory Notes
- Cash
- Marketable Securities  
(43.26% fixed income  
10.19% preferred shares  
46.55% equity)

## TUCC'S INVESTING IN MINISTRY FUND

The Investing in Ministry Fund is a capital pool available to United Church communities of faith and ministries in South Central Ontario. Currently investors and borrowers come from the four regions named on page 6.

The Investing in Ministry Fund grew in 2019 to \$13,552,420 adding four new investors while three others came to the end of their investment terms. Interest on loans and dividend payments remained strong. Despite volatility within the financial markets, the fund paid investors a 4.0% return.

## TUCC'S RESTRICTED FUNDS

An integral part of TUCC's ministry is the establishment and management of endowment and ministry reserve funds, currently 37 in number, and with a collective value of \$11,113,911 at December 31, 2019. 3.37% of the Fund's value was distributed as Ministry Grants and a further 1.41% issued as no-interest ministry loans.

### 2019 INCOME & EXPENDITURE Opening balance, January 1, 2019: \$10,562,899

INCOME		EXPENSE	
Gifts & Grants .....	\$881,156	Ministry Grants .....	\$356,113
Investment Income.....	172,992	Loans .....	149,244
Loan Repayment & Other	98,559	Administration .....	96,336

Fund Balance at year end was \$11,113,911

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