

The Board of Trustees Runnymede United Church

What is the Board of Trustees?

The Board of Trustees is part of the governance structure mandated by the United Church of Canada for local congregations. The congregation is responsible for having a Board of Trustees for the congregation and can decide on the number of Trustees subject to a minimum of three and a maximum of fifteen. The Minister is automatically a Trustee. Lay Trustees are nominated and elected by the congregation at a congregational meeting.

The Board of Trustees of Runnymede United Church comprises eight members. The current Trustees are Jeff Horbal (Trustee Chair), Bob Cossitt, Cheryl Farrow, Rev. Ted Grady (Minister), Joan Howard, Julie Lee, Robert Nobel (Trustee Treasurer) and Brian Traquair.

What is the Role of the Board of Trustees?

Under provincial law, a congregation is not permitted to hold a building, land and many other kinds of property in its own name. The Trustees hold all congregational property as the legal owners *in trust for* the congregation as part of the United Church of Canada. In other words, the Trustees hold all of the congregational property for the use and enjoyment of the congregation. "Congregational property" means any kind of property that the congregation may own, including: land, buildings, money, investments, furniture and equipment.

In addition, the Trustees administer the Trust Funds of the church. These comprise the longstanding Estates Fund and Manse Fund as well as the four new funds established in 2019 - Outreach and Justice Fund, Congregational and Spiritual Growth Fund, Building Improvement Fund and Planned Giving Fund. The Trustees' financial statements are included in the annual report and as part of the Annual General Meeting briefing.

How does the Board of Trustees Relate to the Church Board?

The Trustee Chair (Jeff Horbal) represents the Board of Trustees on the Church Board and attends Church Board meetings as a member with voting rights. The Trustee Chair reports to the Church Board as needed or on request on matters relating to the congregational property and the Trust Funds.