

# Key Definitions for the Bay of Quinte Conference Candidacy Pathway

**4C** – Conference Candidacy Coordinating Committee

**Admission** –the process to welcome ministry applicants from recognized global Christian traditions who feel called to serve The United Church of Canada.

**Applicant** – Someone preparing for Designated Lay Ministry who has reached the stage where CAB has determined the individual’s suitability and readiness to engage in the path to recognition. (See also, Designated Lay Minister.)

**Appointment** – Within the Candidacy Pathway, a time-limited presbytery-appointed ministry position authorized by presbytery and agreed to by 4C.

**CAB** – See Conference Assessment Board

**Call** – (1) the call from God to be engaged in a ministry vocation; the Call is at the core of on-going discernment and life-long service.  
(2) at the end of the Joint Search process, the pastoral charge may issue a “Call” for a permanent minister; only Ordained or Diaconal Ministers are eligible to apply for a call.

**Candidacy Pathway** – Within three conferences of The United Church of Canada, a pilot process of discernment leading toward designation, commissioning, ordination, or admission.

**Candidate** –Someone preparing for Ordered Ministry (Ordained or Diaconal) who has reached the stage where CAB has determined the individual’s suitability and readiness to engage in the path to ordination/commissioning.

**Candidate Supply** - Candidate who has successfully completed the educational requirements for commissioning to the diaconal ministry of education, service, and pastoral care, or ordination, but who has not yet been commissioned to the diaconal ministry of education, service, and pastoral care, or ordained, and who is appointed by the Presbytery to a Pastoral Charge, usually full-time.

**Circle of Accompaniment (COA)** - The COA or “Circle” is a group that provides support, discernment, celebration, and challenge to the Candidate.

**Commissioning** – The act of setting aside persons to the diaconal ministry of education, service, and pastoral care.

**Conference Assessment Board** – The interviewing body responsible for discerning, assessing, evaluating, growing, and recommending persons in the Pathway for Designation, Commissioning, Ordination, or Admission.

**Conference Candidacy Coordinating Committee (4C)** – The Conference Committee responsible for the work and flow of the Pathway Process and for the people in the process.

**DLM** – See Designated Lay Minister

**Designated Lay Minister** – A member of The United Church of Canada who has been appointed by the presbytery to meet a specific need of a pastoral charge or other presbytery-accountable ministry in a paid accountable ministry appointment.

**Diaconal Ministers** – Persons set aside to the diaconal ministry of education, service, and pastoral care.

**Discernment Event** – Within the Candidacy Pathway Pilot, an initial time of guided, intensive reflection and large- and small-group discussion on Call and on the Pathways Process.

**Educational Supervisor** – A person trained in educational supervision and approved by the Conference Assessment Board.

**Home Presbytery** – The presbytery in which the pastoral charge/local ministry unit of the Candidate/Applicant resides.

**Learning Outcomes** – Learning Outcomes for Ministry Leadership approved by The United Church of Canada.

- Used by the CAB and Candidates/Applicants as a measure of preparation and readiness for ministry.
- Goal Areas are: (1) Spiritual, Vocational and Personal Formation; (2) Teach and Facilitate Learning in and of the Christian faith; (3) Cultural and Contextual Sensitivities and Analyses; (4) Leadership within the Faith Community and Wider Community.

**Licensed Lay Worship Leader (LLWL)** – A member of The United Church of Canada who, while not entering an order of ministry, conducts worship when a regularly-designated minister is away due to illness, continuing education course work or vacation, and who

- has taken take a course of preparation to be licensed;
- has been recommended by the governing body of the pastoral charge to be a Licensed Lay Worship Leader;
- is willing to serve as a LLWL under the direction of the presbytery; and
- has been licensed by the presbytery within whose bounds the pastoral charge is accountable.

**LLWL** – See Licensed Lay Worship Leader

**Mentor Letter** – A letter of reference provided to 4C via the presbytery MVC Chair recommending someone to start structured discernment in the Candidacy Pathways process.

**Ministry Reflection Group (MRG)** – A group of people from the Supervised Ministry Education site who meet regularly with the student minister. It provides a safe, confidential venue for the student to reflect, learn, and grow in effectiveness in ministry and in ministerial identity.

**Ministry Streams (or Streams of Ministry)** – Ordered Ministry (Ordained or Diaconal) and Designated Lay Ministry.

**MRG** – See Ministry Reflection Group

**MVC** – See Ministry Vocations Committee

**Ministry Vocations Committee (MVC)** – A committee of presbytery that supports Applicants and Candidates during the Pathways Process. (Some may be called teams or other names in the re-structured presbyteries.)

**Ordered Ministry** – Diaconal and Ordained clergy

**Ordained Ministers** – A person set aside to the ministry of word, sacrament, and pastoral care.

**Paid Accountable Ministry** – Refers to the work of a minister who

- (a) is a member of the Order of Ministry or a Designated Lay Minister;
- (b) is accountable to a court of The United Church of Canada; and
- (c) receives a salary or other compensation from a pastoral charge, court of The United Church of Canada, presbytery-accountable ministry, or presbytery-recognized ministry

**Pastoral Charge Supervisor** – If a pastoral charge has no settled or appointed member of the order of ministry or designated lay minister who has been recognized by the appropriate court (or in any other situation where the presbytery decides it is appropriate), the presbytery is responsible for appointing a member of presbytery to the pastoral charge to fulfill the following responsibilities:

- Supporting any ministry personnel serving the pastoral charge;
- Providing general supervision of the work of the pastoral charge;
- Ensuring that a chair is elected for the pastoral charge governing body, the trustees, and meetings of the congregation and pastoral charge;
- Ensuring that the sacraments are administered and new members are received following the requirements of these bylaws;
- Delegating responsibility for the functions of ministry in the pastoral charge (if there are ministry personnel serving the pastoral charge) to the ministry personnel as appropriate; and
- reporting to the presbytery on the state of the pastoral charge.

**Pastoral Relations Committee** – Within the Candidacy Pathway process, a committee of Presbytery that recommends

- A SME site to CAB, and
- The appointment of Student Supply and Candidate Supply to Presbytery.

**Presbytery** – The court of the church that is made up of a number of pastoral charges/local ministry units. It oversees the work of those pastoral charges/local ministry units as well as making connections to the wider Church. The presbytery is responsible for

- Oversight of pastoral charges and other local ministry units;
- Oversight of Ministry Personnel on its roll;
- The presbytery is responsible for making decisions on the beginning, changing, or ending of pastoral relationships;
- Relationships with other courts;
- Property; and
- Assessments.

**Presbytery-Accountable Ministry** - Any kind of local ministry unit that is accountable to the presbytery. It includes congregations, pastoral charges, missions, and any outreach ministry or other ministry accountable to the presbytery.

**Presbytery-Recognized Ministry** – includes (a) all presbytery-accountable ministries; and (b) any other local ministry units that are not accountable to the presbytery but are recognized by it as valid expressions of Christian ministry.

**Recognition** – The act of setting aside lay persons by presbytery to meet a specific need of a pastoral charge or other presbytery-accountable ministry for paid accountable ministry appointment.

**Sacraments** – Baptism and Communion

**Shorter Course** – The Shorter Course provides an educational option for a person who does not have a university degree and for whom it would be difficult to consider completing an undergraduate degree followed by a three-year course in theology,

**Student Supply**

1. A Candidate currently studying at a university or theological school who is appointed by a Presbytery to a Pastoral Charge, Mission or Outreach ministry.
2. A Candidate who has finished all educational requirements, has been approved by CAB and 4C to be appointed to a Supervised Ministry Education appointment, and has been appointed by Presbytery to a Pastoral Charge, Mission or Outreach ministry approved by CAB and 4C as a SME site with an Educational Supervisor also approved by CAB and 4C.

**Support Person** – appointed for each CAB Interview by the home Presbytery Ministry Vocations Committee in consultation with the person being interviewed

**SME** – See Supervised Ministry Education

**Supervised Ministry Education (SME)** – an appointment of two years during which a Candidate serves as Student Supply at a CAB- and 4C-approved learning site under the supervision of an educational supervisor, also approved by CAB and 4C.

**Testamur** – The certificate issued by the theological College/School upon satisfactory completion of the course of study required by the General Council of The United Church of Canada for candidates for ministry.

**Vocational Assessment** – An assessment of relationship building, communication skills, leadership and management skills, and personal/vocational development.