

SOCIAL ACTION AND OUTREACH COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

Purpose

Rideau Park United Church (RPUC) established a Social Action and Outreach Committee (SA&O) to:

1. Promote active concern for all God's people and creation;
2. Identify and be aware of social justice and other relevant issues affecting society, both within and beyond the Church community;
3. Put into action programmes that support social justice and other relevant issues, according to priorities set by the Committee and approved by **Council**.

Structural Accountability

The SA&O is a committee of, and accountable to, **the Council of RPUC**. The Committee Chair reports to the **Council Liaison**.

Responsibilities

General

1. To provide leadership in increasing the Congregation's awareness and understanding of social justice and other relevant issues, and then to initiate action in response to these issues;
2. To educate the Congregation on outreach programmes;
3. To prepare and administer an annual budget;

Specific

1. To develop a communication strategy of informing the Congregation of programmes and services in the community;
2. To provide effective programming opportunities to educate the Congregation;
3. To establish and liaise with community groups in order to provide spiritual, economic and social justice;
4. To ensure that all Church programmes supported by the Committee are staffed and funded;
5. The SA&O oversees and acts as a resource for RPUC activities in areas such as:
 - Peace and Development
 - Refugees
 - Christmas Cheer
 - Housing
 - Group for Friends
 - **Indigenous issues**
 - **Food Bank Security**
 - **Community Partners**

Membership

- The Chair is elected by the Congregation at the Annual Congregational Meeting; usually for a term of three years;
- Committee membership is composed of members and adherents of the Congregation reflecting the broad diversity of programmes the Committee oversees;
- Sub-committees may be created relative to areas of activity, such as those named above and are comprised of interested members or adherents of the Congregation;

- Generally there are 10-12 members, including representation of the various sub-committees;

Frequency of Meetings

The Committee meets on a **quarterly basis (September, November, January or February and May) on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Sub-Committees may meet on an “as need” basis.**

April, 2019