

General Council 43 - July 26, 2018

Tours, Voting, Discussions, and Final Decisions

Another couple of days have passed. Yesterday we dealt with business in the morning and then had the afternoon for excursion tours to see some of the area beyond Durham College campus. Several tours were organized, and I chose a winery tour to Prince Edward County. Beautiful countryside, lots of trees, the beach, all made for a great drive. Oh, yes, and there was wine. Lovely.

Today, after FIVE ballots, we elected a new moderator, Rev. Richard Bott, from B.C. (pictured right).

We also met in our discussion groups to delve into more proposals, which we will then make decisions on in the plenary session tomorrow.

This evening, the youth (some 60 young people) offered a presentation, recognizing more than 30 years since the first apology to Canada's indigenous people. Some of the youth offered reflections on their understandings and learnings in this area. I am surprised at how many of them spoke of not learning about this part of Canada's history in either Sunday School or their public schooling.



It's been good to have time at our table groups for discussion and reflection on what we're experiencing here. There are so many common points in the stories we share - although we live in a very large country, this United Church of ours is like a family that shares common traits. It's been wonderful getting to know people from every corner of our church, and share in the work of being the church together.

One more full day, with a whole lot of decision making yet to happen, then closing worship tomorrow evening, and we travel home on Saturday.

Blessings, all.

Tammy