

Q1 For you, what were the highlights of this year's annual meeting?

Answered: 66 Skipped: 2

#	Responses	Date
1	The blanket ceremony as a graphic way to understand the injustice of how the aboriginal peoples have been treated. The music was super, too ... as was Midland as a location!	6/4/2016 4:05 PM
2	I enjoyed the idea of table groups. I feel it helped me focus more on what was happening during the meeting.	6/2/2016 10:16 PM
3	The musician and the music, the wampum story.	6/2/2016 7:31 PM
4	The ordination of our student minister, Alex Constable.	6/2/2016 12:13 PM
5	The presentation and workshops on "Truth and Reconciliation" was greatly appreciated. Regular checking for quorum was another highlight. Hospitality by the folks from St. Paul's and surrounding churches was greatly appreciated. The spacious well air-conditioned facilities; Little Lake was great.	6/2/2016 8:40 AM
6	The workshops especially "Wampum" Truth & Reconciliation	6/2/2016 7:48 AM
7	'Celebration of Ministries Service' I admire the way the business meeting Saturday p.m. was conducted with a very sensitive issue, three cheers for those responsible for conducting the meeting.	6/1/2016 9:09 PM
8	a. workshop by Brian on wampum belts...what a great speaker, what a great subject. b. workshop by Ed Bianchi on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples. c. the blanket exercise. d. ordination. e. our struggle to achieve a quorum...a lesson for us there. f. presentations by those being ordained/admitted. Wow! Quite frankly, more meaningful and revealing than those who spoke at GC 42 to become Moderator.	6/1/2016 7:27 PM
9	The video workshop	6/1/2016 6:30 PM
10	Living out the Church's apologies to Indigenous Peoples and responding to the findings and the Calls to Action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission. See our Toronto Conference Right Relations page for news and information on being a witness in Toronto Conference.	6/1/2016 6:13 PM
11	Wampum belt workshop Jennifer Henry	6/1/2016 4:49 PM
12	As usual, the major highlight is connecting again with friends we only see once a year, and others we see at Presbytery meetings, and making new friends. The music is usually a highlight as well.	6/1/2016 4:36 PM
13	The workshop on wampum belts that I attended was excellent.	6/1/2016 2:31 PM
14	- the constant return to friendship and love, throughout all aspects. - hearing the candidates speak on Friday. - attending the Celebration of Ministries - the group activities on Riday morning - the Saturday service of remembering	6/1/2016 12:46 PM
15	Getting together with colleagues Jennifer Henry's presentations - very engaging presenter Youth participation and influence on vote regarding mandatory world religions course.	6/1/2016 11:42 AM

16	Wampum workshop - Reading the Talk. I liked it so much that I redid the workshop on the second day. A former chair of Toronto Southeast said that he thought it the best workshop that he had ever attended. More time would have been useful or, alternatively, split into two 1 1/2 hour workshops. A chance to have a table-talk discussion about the process surrounding Gretta Vosper's review and the clarification of the appeal process available to her to ensure a fair and impartial hearing. I thought that David Allen's explanations were clear and it is unfortunate that some members of the court had not taken time to familiarize themselves with the background to the process.	6/1/2016 10:53 AM
17	Blanket Exercise and related items	6/1/2016 9:51 AM
18	The focus on Indigenous relations: opening worship, workshops, speakers Mass blanket exercise Excellent workshops	6/1/2016 8:44 AM
19	Talking with colleagues. The wampum presentation.	6/1/2016 7:06 AM
20	Could only attend the Saturday morning and aft session. Workshop on Wampum belts was excellent.	5/31/2016 10:45 PM
21	The drive to/from Midland Sitting at tables - more comfortable than the pews Dealing with the Gretta Vosper issue This year ordinands' presentations were very thoughtful	5/31/2016 10:10 PM
22	The music Wampum session	5/31/2016 8:30 PM
23	Listening to the ordinands, admittands and retirees, and the ordinations on Saturday. Jennifer Henry.	5/31/2016 7:31 PM
24	The blanket exercise, young adults programming, the biblical allies workshop, the food. The friendly volunteers/other participants!	5/31/2016 7:08 PM
25	Only had the time to attend one workshop and it was very good - Wampum Belts	5/31/2016 6:20 PM
26	Right relations program - blanket exercise and wampum presentations in particular Fair and controlled process for addressing the Greta motion. It was impressive that the West Hill folk were informed of the process and had their say via written documents and their chair of council. The background material provided by conference was very helpful. I was particularly impressed with the table group discussions as it gave us a chance to clarify and share together. Well done to the staff who prepared for and conducted the meeting.	5/31/2016 6:11 PM
27	I was unable to attend on Friday, but watched via the Live Streaming to the ordinands and retirees. That was a highlight & I could speak to individuals on Saturday.	5/31/2016 5:36 PM
28	Getting new resources at the bookstore.	5/31/2016 5:32 PM
29	The music - very singable The Wampum Workshop was outstanding.	5/31/2016 5:16 PM
30	The First Nation workshop on wampum belts was very informative and brought out the history of the revealing treaties between First Nation and settlers. The blanket exercise(which I have done before) is an amazing way to learn how poorly the original population was treated with their lands.	5/31/2016 4:48 PM
31	Great community building in circles. Jake singing and drumming and sharing his connection to the 7 teachings. Jennifer Henry's first address to the gathering.	5/31/2016 4:47 PM
32	Listening to Jennifer Henry speak was the biggest highlight. I'll look for opportunities to hear her again. Also her colleague Ed ___ - cannot recall his last name. The Friday night café was great! I thought David and Brian did a fabulous job of running the business of the meeting especially with the added challenge of quorum. The St. Paul's folks did a fabulous job of hosting us! The snacks were excellent!	5/31/2016 4:31 PM
33	really, just being together and sharing. The workshops were interesting too.	5/31/2016 4:26 PM
34	Blanket exercise and presentation by native person, Brian regarding Wampum.	5/31/2016 4:15 PM
35	The sincere effort to implement the Truth and Reconciliation recommendation That was evident in Workshop offerings, the Blanket Exercise, all the symbolism associated with the first nation's beliefs and culture etc	5/31/2016 3:38 PM

36	For me the highlights were the sessions related to our Truth and Reconciliation work. The "blanket" experience was particularly enlightening and meaningful. Given that this was my first "Toronto" conference AGM, I enjoyed meeting a whole group of new folks.	5/31/2016 3:14 PM
37	Blanket Exercise, Every time Jennifer Henry spoke Vote to reinstate the review of Rev. Greta Vosper	5/31/2016 2:55 PM
38	wampum workshop presentations re aboriginal concerns/right relations air conditioned space helpful volunteers great snacks	5/31/2016 2:34 PM
39	Intentionally taking time to learn about the Aboriginal people and some of their stories. The Blanket Exercise, the Seven Sacred teaching and the presentation of the main speaker, Jennifer. The introduction of the candidates for ordination and the celebration of ministry service.	5/31/2016 2:13 PM
40	Hearing the heartfelt and passion from our guest speakers, Jake in particular. I also enjoyed the music with Paul on the guitar, though I would suggest we add some percussion and maybe another guitar bass and go full our band celebratory. There was so much food, many thanks to St. Paul's and their volunteers I enjoyed the cafe time, we all need more time to simply "hang out."	5/31/2016 2:10 PM
41	The Wampum Belt Workshop Opening worship each morning. The friendliness and hospitality shown by the volunteers and the meals. Hearing from the ministry candidates. I thoroughly enjoyed everything but I found the service Saturday night overly long.	5/31/2016 1:49 PM
42	Hearing ordinands and retirees etc. speak and share hymns. Appreciated learning about First Nations history, wampum, etc.	5/31/2016 1:22 PM
43	Renewing relationships, Blanket experience, Saturday workshop on UN declaration, voting on church business. Also appreciated the information on Truth and Reconciliation actions.	5/31/2016 1:10 PM
44	Meeting new and old friends	5/31/2016 12:40 PM
45	As usual, connecting with those we see little of since restructuring.	5/31/2016 12:39 PM
46	The beautiful city that is Midland. I needed some time for self-care this weekend and instead of attending workshops, went for walks around the waterfront. It was a gift and blessing for my soul. The time spent with colleagues and friends is also the biggest part for me - checking in to see how people are doing and what their ministries are up to. The thing I wanted to be there for the most was the Greta Vosper vote.	5/31/2016 12:37 PM
47	The ordination and admission service	5/31/2016 12:37 PM
48	Ordination service Wampum session	5/31/2016 12:36 PM
49	Paul Rumbolt's music and Brian Ransom's very capable and gracious leadership/chairing.	5/31/2016 12:32 PM
50	Hearing the candidates speak and the blanket exercise.	5/31/2016 12:23 PM
51	Celebration of Ministry and workshop on Wampum belts	5/31/2016 12:19 PM
52	I liked the blanket task. It provided a real understanding of what our indigenous population experienced. I also attended the wampam presentation which was an interesting approach to the understanding our history.	5/31/2016 12:11 PM
53	One highlight was the networking with people I don't see from one AGM to the next or the new people I met. Another highlight was the blanket exercise but it went on too long.	5/31/2016 12:07 PM
54	Blanket Exercise was extremely well done and impactful. The Music throughout was excellent.	5/31/2016 12:05 PM
55	Workshops were well done. I appreciated seeing the process around the Rev. Vosper review.	5/31/2016 12:03 PM
56	The blanket exercise. Seeing/catching up with colleagues from the other presbyteries	5/31/2016 12:03 PM
57	I liked the ideas of weaving our stories and the 7 sacred words	5/31/2016 11:58 AM
58	blanket exercise candidates for ordination	5/31/2016 11:45 AM

59	The music was very good. The workshops were good and informative.	5/31/2016 11:30 AM
60	The wampum workshop, the blanket exercise and the ordination service.	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
61	Blanket Excercise Jennifer Henry and Ed Bianchi	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
62	hearing from the ordinands blanket exercise learning about wampum the welcome and hospitality we received from the St. Paul's folks as well as others organizing the event lovely meals our decision around Rev. Vosper	5/31/2016 11:12 AM
63	I appreciated the focus on right relations - especially Jennifer Henry's reflections, the worship, the wampum workshop. Worship was also a highlight.	5/31/2016 10:57 AM
64	One highlight for me was the worship. I found the music choices to be really good and the man who played guitar and sang was amazing . Another highlight was having the native American drummer back this year. Not only his amazing drumming skills but the story he told was incredibly inspirational. The last thing I liked was the blanket exercise. It was very interesting and I personally learned alot about the Native American community.	5/31/2016 10:49 AM
65	Challenging highlights: 1Youngsters negative expression towards religion 2 Minister becoming atheist affecting the Pastoral charge 3 Wampa....session not helpful to my need in growing a new mission church	5/31/2016 10:48 AM
66	Blanket Excercise Getting to know amazing fellow Young Adults, youth, and other lay people involved in the United Church	5/31/2016 10:47 AM

Q2 What suggestions would you make for improvement of future annual meetings?

Answered: 61 Skipped: 7

#	Responses	Date
1	None	6/4/2016 4:05 PM
2	I would like to see more done for the recognition of LGBTQ members within the United church. This would be a great way to make people feel more welcome and open to the United church.	6/2/2016 10:16 PM
3	Billets.	6/2/2016 7:31 PM
4	Timing constraints are always a problem but keep up the good work and I am sending out prayers.	6/2/2016 12:13 PM
5	I was very disappointed with the choice of workshops ... do we have other issues, learning etc. than indigenous topics. I will admit I did not attend workshops and I know many, many others were not there ... when I arrived I thought it was a break only to learn the lobbies were full of people that were not attending sessions and break had not began. I am sure there is concern about the difficulty acquiring quorum ... there needs to be topics (workshops) that create interest.	6/1/2016 9:09 PM
6	a. sound system was deplorable and a huge distraction. b. music needs to be enhanced, in terms of accessibility to the large space and numbers of people. A guitar is not enough to pull people into the mood, nor to generate energy when needed. c. I liked the round tables...but seating is a challenge as it forces some to have their back to the stage and podium.	6/1/2016 7:27 PM
7	On the first day have a filling dinner and if that's not possible then have more filling snacks.	6/1/2016 6:30 PM
8	Although the whole meeting was one and a half days only and a half day for the ordination, the whole meeting was well arranged and most effectively executed.	6/1/2016 6:13 PM
9	If using the same musician, he needs to have a back-up band. One guitar does not carry well in a room that shape/size. It also makes it difficult for those entering the room to realize that something is happening 'up front'. I tried to guestimate space needs--would it work to use the second half of the arena as our meeting space? We could use the same number of round tables but they would likely be further apart and it would be easier to get to the microphones, etc. The meeting room has a very low ceiling which is the best when trying to use the whole space by a large group either. The book room might even be a "buffer" between the meeting space and the dining space.	6/1/2016 4:49 PM
10	It works best when all activities are I the same venue, or maybe across the street. I understand that this cannot always be the case, but it did seem that perhaps St Paul's was large enough to accommodate us. Maybe that was not the case, and you would know better than would I.	6/1/2016 4:36 PM
11	Even though there was not a huge amount of business, by scheduling it on the Saturday afternoon, it felt rushed (only compounded by the quorum count). The one hour allotted to speakers the previous late afternoon was also only half the time needed. In contrast, the morning storytelling time felt a little longer and over-directed than needed. For future meetings I would like to see the business broken up with a sense that discussion was encouraged.	6/1/2016 2:31 PM
12	This was my first time at conference. I felt that the agenda moved along smoothly. I learn well in group activities. Perhaps there could be more, time permitting.	6/1/2016 12:46 PM
13	Midland group was very friendly and made the venue work well, but Midland is a long way away for the conference. Somewhere closer to Toronto would be more convenient.	6/1/2016 11:42 AM

14	This year quorum was important (for obvious reasons). Should something similar happen again it is important that members and potential members of the court be advised prior to the meeting of the importance of exercising their responsibility to "show up".	6/1/2016 10:53 AM
15	Recognizing that TC is a large area. Midland was too far north for the majority of members. Note difficulty of getting quorum.	6/1/2016 9:51 AM
16	The obvious: fix the sound system. Strong theme tied to all aspects of the agenda; minimize business agenda	6/1/2016 8:44 AM
17	More time for constructive conversation about what is happening in our congregations so we can help one another and develop visions for the future.	6/1/2016 7:06 AM
18	Very disappointed in the confusion over quorum. Also disappointed that the "interviewers" for Rev. Vosper's review were sent from the room and not allowed to hear relevant information. They have been exposed to newspaper articles, magazine articles and letters, TV reports and blogs. Why now must they be protected from information that they are quite capable of discerning it's importance? Also very disappointed in the total confusion regarding the intent of the motion re: Rev Vosper. Simply review the questions asked and it is abundantly clear that many did not understand the implications of a yes or no vote. I question the validity of the outcome considering the confusion over the voting process	5/31/2016 10:45 PM
19	If ta all possible, schedule time to enjoy the local area. This would prevent members returning late for sessions	5/31/2016 10:10 PM
20	I would do all business on the Friday when most are there and move the workshops etc. to the Saturday. I would have liked more workshops and plenary speakers	5/31/2016 8:30 PM
21	Getting people to attend ! I found the whole event to be lacking vitality. I'm sorry, I can't be more specific than that, which is not helpful to you.	5/31/2016 7:31 PM
22	I know it was a new facility, but the sound system problems really prevented immersion in the blanket exercise/ordination ceremony.	5/31/2016 7:08 PM
23	There was much concern about having a quorum. This was no doubt significantly influenced by the fact that the meeting was in Midland. I recognize that many conference members do not reside in the GTA however having the meeting at a significant distance from the largest concentration of members just did not make a lot of sense. During the business meeting the last lotion regarding Rev. Gretta Vosper derailed due the to the complexity of the motion (S) and the significant lack of understanding of the result of voting Yea or Nay. In cases such as this a complete, simple and understandable overview should be provided. I have significant concern that the results of the vote were skewed by the process....this should never happen	5/31/2016 6:20 PM
24	I would suggest that is there is room, there be access lanes within the tables and to the microphones that could be navigated by a wheelchair so that a person does not need to sit at the edge.	5/31/2016 6:11 PM
25	Changing venues is always a challenge. who will be there? I am sure the planning committee will have a better understanding of the strengths and shortcomings of the venue.	5/31/2016 5:36 PM
26	Do not hold it in the summer when people are already committed to holidays, cottage and wedding ceremonies. Fall season?	5/31/2016 5:32 PM
27	Please make sure, in future,that the wording of anything to be voted on is very clear. A lot of time was wasted prior to the vote re the Gretta Vosper review with people asking questions as to the exact meaning of the wording as it was somewhat convoluted. As this review is contentious and controversial, people of course wanted to know what a yes or no meant, so they could vote according to their conscience.	5/31/2016 4:48 PM
28	Sounds was challenging because it was not reliable when people were ready to speak in the large group or from the front. Sound issues wasted time. Blanket exercise centrifugal should have been done in the same room in chair circles followed by a large group sharing from each group. The trip from the gym to the meeting room meant we lost people and focus. Discussion around Greta needed more intentional thought about how we base our decisions in love and ground ourselves in the way of Jesus.	5/31/2016 4:47 PM
29	To improve attendance: We need to provide a reason for not attending if we won't be there. More reminders would help; the email came early and then there were no reminders for a long time. I know we shouldn't need that - but some of us do. Is there a child care subsidy available? I don't recall since it's not something I need. A hotel subsidy would certainly be welcome. Worship at conference is something that I look forward to. This year it simply didn't feel very worshipful. I'm wondering why - possibly the setting.	5/31/2016 4:31 PM

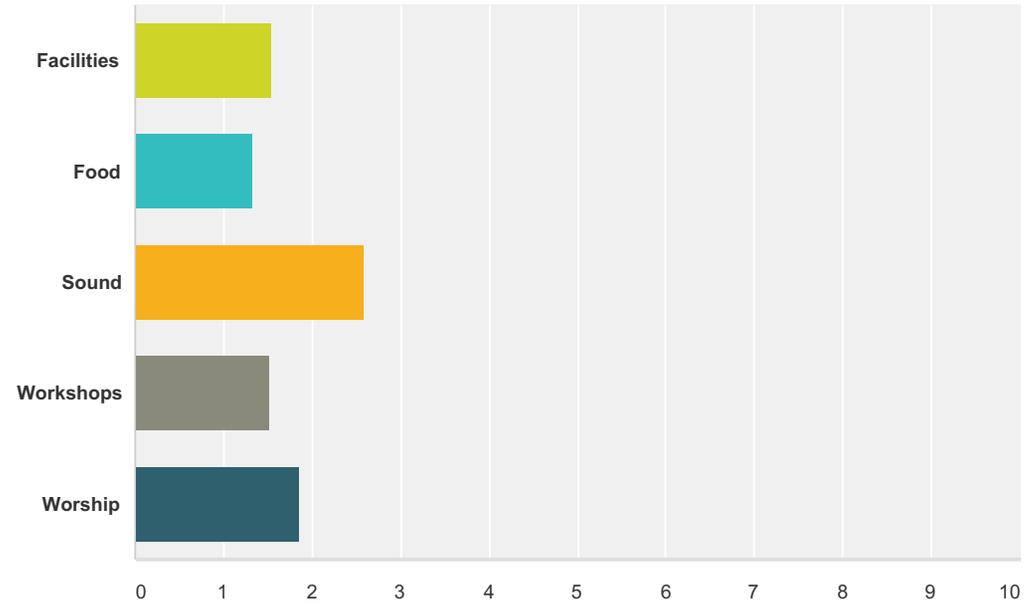
30	I always wonder if we could have 3 day meetings even when it isn't a GC year. That would give a bit more space for other workshops or - imagine - something a bit more sociable, like some type of team-building. From Midland, we could race sailing dinghy or something like that?	5/31/2016 4:26 PM
31	Find some way to have more people attend. I believe we should not meet every year. In an 'off' year we could have a education/fellowship event which is largely user pay.	5/31/2016 4:15 PM
32	On Saturday afternoon, I needed some water, but none was left behind since everything was taken over to the church	5/31/2016 3:38 PM
33	I acknowledge that this was a new location, but the sound system is very important at such a gathering. There were multiple problems with the audio even at the church where one would have thought, things would be good. As we age and in a facility with a low ceiling like the meeting room we had, a good sound system is imperative. I would like to see a larger band involved with the music. One guitar doesn't quite have the power to get folks moving or grab their attention. When the key board was used for part of the meeting, it was a little better, but a band would have given the assembled much more energy. The songs written by the musician were also rather low key and this makes it hard to keep engaged.	5/31/2016 3:14 PM
34	Do the business portion of the meeting earlier in the meeting	5/31/2016 2:55 PM
35	sound quality in plenary session fans in church sanctuary if temperatures are similar to this year. there was plenty of room in vestibules adjacent to sanctuary for fans to pull air in	5/31/2016 2:34 PM
36	It could be great to have band or other musical instruments there to accompany the musician.	5/31/2016 2:13 PM
37	One of the youth who is very interested in politics shared that he found it difficult to engage his mind with the switching between business and worship and guest speakers. He suggested and I would agree that perhaps that we get the business done right away on the first day when everyone is in the right head space. Or perhaps even business is in the morning only and after lunch having worship. I know that the goal is to integrate our worship with the business but in my experience this is really difficult to do well as it requires time for people to get their head in the right space. I would also suggest weather cooperating we take advantage of the lovely surroundings of the area, the rec centre can be a little cold (metaphorically). The issue of Quorum is an obvious problem and I am not sure what the solution is, perhaps we need to ask those who don't show up and have honest conversation about what the problems are or reevaluating membership of conference.	5/31/2016 2:10 PM
38	I would suggest especially when there is a large number of ordinands/admittands that the service be shorter. As good as Saturday evenings sermon was I think with scripture and hymns we don't need a sermon. I admit the extreme heat made it seem longer than it actually was. I think we should start right on time each day. When we start 15 minutes late and then something goes overtime it puts us even further behind and makes for a very long day.	5/31/2016 1:49 PM
39	Wonderful ordination service! But we should have had people guiding the congregation to come forward in an orderly fashion. Could have had a station between 2 sections so we could enter by the centre and return circling left and right (needed an additional basket for glasses). Sound system was touchy, too.	5/31/2016 1:22 PM
40	Since we were focusing on the Truth and Reconciliation findings would have been nice to have a drum society come with native musicians to add to our worship (mini church pow-wow with native foods) so that people could have experienced some native culture. Big One - really needed someone who knew what they were doing with the sound system. With the speakers behind the microphones, the squealing and squaking was not only distracting but painful. Also, since so many came from the city, would have been nice for some if there was an organized car pooling site. We might have been closer to quorum. Some don't own cars and older retired members wouldn't feel comfortable driving that far. There were only two of us in the car and I had room for three more people I could have taken with me.	5/31/2016 1:10 PM
41	It was great	5/31/2016 12:40 PM
42	I was concerned about the order of the agenda in leaving the business so late in the day on Saturday and as it turned out the day had to be extended, leaving the dinner hour very rushed.	5/31/2016 12:39 PM

43	<p>We sit too much. My year of focusing on self-care has me noticing how much sitting we do. I'd love to see a Fitbit challenge for Fitbit users and participants and an invitation for those who need to move to sit near the back (so we're not disruptive). Ensuring there is at least one workshop that gets us moving would help me achieve my fitness and wellness goals and these can be done while we're learning... just need to be creative. I have to admit that I really just wanted to be there for the social component and the business. I feel I've been learning in the area of TRC work for a number of years and I just couldn't pour more into my soul, though I know the workshops were fabulous. How we figure out quorum - I feel like Toronto Conference may be the laughing stock of the UCC as I look through posts on social media and such. Why is it that we aren't committed. Was it because of the theme? The content? The workshops? Or the lack of business? Could we do all the business in one day in hopes of ensuring quorum for the bulk of our work? I wish we could change what quorum looks like, but I understand that will happen if the remits move forward. If we are well beyond quorum next year, I think we really need to celebrate it and ask the question about why more attended than last year. It could name what folks are looking for.</p>	5/31/2016 12:37 PM
44	<p>That we plan a social evening for all delegates to socialise.</p>	5/31/2016 12:37 PM
45	<p>Thought it was a good conference.</p>	5/31/2016 12:36 PM
46	<p>1) When the notice of meeting is sent out, emphasize that it is critically important that we have a quorum and that everyone who is not in the hospital with two broken arms and two broken legs needs to make the effort to attend. 2) Have some kind of signal for people to come to order (shut up and listen) - perhaps a couple of bars of a theme on the keyboard which is introduced at the beginning of the meeting - to make it easier for the Chair to reconvene after breaks etc.</p>	5/31/2016 12:32 PM
47	<p>Make sure we have quorum, but I haven't a clue how to do that.</p>	5/31/2016 12:23 PM
48	<p>While there were lots of volunteers on hand, I didn't find the hospitality to be very gracious. My husband came as a visitor for a short time and was actually grabbed on the arm by a volunteer. It was totally unnecessary.</p>	5/31/2016 12:19 PM
49	<p>I would prefer a shorter day . I found the Friday too long. I would like to see a workshop late afternoon, a later dinner (6 p.m. or 6:30) and a conclusion of the day immediately after dinner which could include a short vespers service.</p>	5/31/2016 12:11 PM
50	<p>I realize that the TRC is important but not to everyone! There should have been options for workshops which were not related to the TRC. The operations of the sound system should have been checked out before the meetings started. I understand rented equipment doesn't always operate the way it is suppose to operate but after the first few hours everything should settle down, not continue for two full days. This played havoc on a couple of people I am aware of who just left the court because their headaches were to severe as result. The problems also continued at the church so I hope it was still rented equipment and not the permanently installed system.</p>	5/31/2016 12:07 PM
51	<p>Better control of the Agenda. On Friday we were so far behind on the Agenda that I and several others, felt drained and without a lengthy dinner break decided to skip the programmed workshop. Things could have been improved dramatically on Friday, has the Ordinands and Admittands been held to 90 seconds (or 3 minutes) and been instructed to come forward during the singing of the hymn. By my count we would have saved well over 30 minutes. Further, a respectful time limit imposed on retirees. Having made these comments - it was still a well spent afternoon.</p>	5/31/2016 12:05 PM
52	<p>I find the agenda long and therefore tiring. Leave the evenings open or just the Storytime Cafe. Have a trained sound person run the sound system, not volunteers. Room was very cold.</p>	5/31/2016 12:03 PM
53	<p>I would like to see business and workshops mixed i.e. morning worship, Business, Workshop, evening. Saturday Business, Workshop, and Worship. I would also like workshops that have us moving more.</p>	5/31/2016 11:58 AM
54	<p>The sound system. Workshops start earlier or shorten them. Attendance at this meeting should have at least one representative from all churches so quorum can be met. Have the whole meeting in one building.</p>	5/31/2016 11:30 AM
55	<p>The blanket exercise is valuable and I think it should be done again at the annual meeting, but chairs should be provided for those who find it difficult to stand for a long period. (Or perhaps they should be invited to switch with someone who has been asked to leave the blankets.) The recreation centre's air conditioning was too cold for people who were sitting for long periods. We would have been uncomfortable without air conditioning, but, in future, it might be noted that the temperature should be set a little warmer for the comfort of people engaged in sedentary activity. It would also be helpful if a little more time was allowed in between activities, sessions, so we could move around, go outside etc.</p>	5/31/2016 11:14 AM

56	The sounds system needs to be drastically improved, for those with sound sensitivity the loud booms and squeals was very difficult. How can we make the meeting feel more important so that members attend? Since 2017 is the last Toronto Conference, lets make it big! Midland is wonderful, but too far away for most Toronto people.	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
57	the sound system was very irritating (and painful) at times; if possible, more work and planning ahead of time to make sure things are working well	5/31/2016 11:12 AM
58	Allow time to breaks. Continue to have the annual meeting as both education and business.	5/31/2016 10:57 AM
59	One improvement would be the sound quality. In both the rec center and the church the sound was really bad. Half the time the mics were not working and if they did they would crack whenever someone spoke into it. Another improvement would be to if possible find another church that has air conditioning. Being in that environment for 2 hours was quite uncomfortable.	5/31/2016 10:49 AM
60	1 Let's go back to the basic: To know God To serve God To serve God's people 2 Let's sing upbeat encouraging music 3 Bring in powerful enthusiastic speakers to revive the life of the church	5/31/2016 10:48 AM
61	Make the documentation easier to understand Use a different sound system Stick to the agenda Have more diverse music	5/31/2016 10:47 AM

Q3 Please provide feedback for the following areas

Answered: 68 Skipped: 0



	Very Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Room for Improvement	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
Facilities	53.73% 36	38.81% 26	7.46% 5	0.00% 0	67	1.54
Food	67.69% 44	13.85% 9	7.69% 5	10.77% 7	65	1.33
Sound	6.25% 4	28.13% 18	65.63% 42	0.00% 0	64	2.59
Workshops	50.79% 32	26.98% 17	9.52% 6	12.70% 8	63	1.53
Worship	30.65% 19	46.77% 29	17.74% 11	4.84% 3	62	1.86

#	Comments for "Facilities"	Date
1	Great facilities; fabulous hospitality by the folks of St. Paul's	6/4/2016 4:05 PM
2	A very nice comfortable facility.	6/2/2016 7:31 PM
3	Low ceilings are often tough on sound systems. Room was very wide, hard to scan, not easy to move about when people in their seats - borderline big enough, even with barely enough people for quorum.	6/1/2016 7:27 PM
4	The community centre worked quite well - lots of room for plenary, lots of washrooms, lots of room for meals, lots of different rooms for workshops.	6/1/2016 4:36 PM
5	The arena space worked very well. Enjoyed the table group setup and found the positions of the screens good as well. St. Paul's was a nice space, but the heat was definitely a challenge.	6/1/2016 2:31 PM
6	the space, though bright felt small and cramped. Microphones were hard to reach and were very close to people who were sitting next to them.	6/1/2016 1:09 PM
7	Too cold in some parts of the facility.	6/1/2016 11:42 AM
8	Excellent space for large and small gatherings; the sound system was obviously the big problem.	6/1/2016 8:44 AM
9	I guess a sports arena is the best we could afford. Parking-ok, hosts were fabulous. There were issues with my overnight at Comfort Inn which I am addressing with them directly.	6/1/2016 7:06 AM
10	Utilitarian and somewhat spartan	5/31/2016 10:45 PM
11	It was clean , accessible , welcoming and pleasant. There was space for all to work comfortably.	5/31/2016 10:10 PM
12	Stayed at the Best Western	5/31/2016 8:30 PM
13	I'm sure it was problematic for Conference Staff with plenary upstairs. I found things easily. I'm sorry the chairs weren't more comfortable.	5/31/2016 7:31 PM
14	Facilities were adequate.....completely fictional but not necessarily "good".....especially the ability to work in small groups.	5/31/2016 6:20 PM
15	Facilities were fine. As mentioned above, I would have appreciated a chance to access other parts of the room - my wheelchair couldn't fit except at the edge and then there were cables etc. It was difficult to connect or to reach microphone.	5/31/2016 6:11 PM
16	Good location & easy access.	5/31/2016 5:32 PM
17	I know it is hard to control the temperature in the facilities but most of the rooms were very cold.	5/31/2016 5:16 PM
18	Sound not great in main meeting room due to size and high ceilings, but can be improved by better use if microphones.	5/31/2016 4:48 PM
19	I would have appreciated a quiet room that had a door for privacy.	5/31/2016 4:47 PM
20	Too cold.	5/31/2016 4:31 PM
21	great facility - EXCEPT - that I froze the whole time. In this day of "green sensitivity" I can't understand why the A/C has to be cranked so high.	5/31/2016 4:26 PM
22	I liked the small tables we sat around; it provided for more meaningful conversation and collaboration on activities	5/31/2016 3:38 PM
23	The hall was a good size, lots of room and the table groupings were good. The arena, as a dining area, was excellent and provided lots of room.	5/31/2016 3:14 PM
24	The community venue that we used of the AGM was very great and spacious.	5/31/2016 2:13 PM
25	Excellent. Easy to find, lots of help if we needed anything and nice and cool in that heat. I did hear people saying they were chilly but you can always put on a sweater. There is only so much you can take off!	5/31/2016 1:49 PM

26	Good for meeting room, meals, washrooms, outdoor surroundings.	5/31/2016 1:22 PM
27	Glad that it was accessible	5/31/2016 1:10 PM
28	Room for tables, close but not crowded	5/31/2016 12:39 PM
29	Easy to find washrooms, never a lineup in my experience. Access to refreshments and cold water was a huge success.	5/31/2016 12:37 PM
30	Very adequate and spacious.	5/31/2016 12:37 PM
31	The rooms were large enough to hold the group without being crowded and comfortably cool, despite the hot weather.	5/31/2016 12:32 PM
32	Sound quality in the meeting room was poor	5/31/2016 12:19 PM
33	The facilities were nicely spread out so you got some exercise going from one place to another. The air conditioning was appreciated. At times it was a bit cool but if people were warned in advance to dress for that it would be OK.	5/31/2016 12:11 PM
34	Generally, well suited for the churches style of meetings. The rink provided lots of area to spread out for meals.	5/31/2016 12:07 PM
35	Excellent location and used well.	5/31/2016 12:05 PM
36	Very cold. Otherwise, great.	5/31/2016 12:03 PM
37	Liked having table groups again!	5/31/2016 12:03 PM
38	Space was nice but directions to workshops was confusing	5/31/2016 11:58 AM
39	Parking was very accessible. The volunteer guides were very helpful and pleasant.	5/31/2016 11:30 AM
40	My only complaint was the temperature inside the building.	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
41	Lots of great spaces, meeting room was good. Enjoyed being in table groups again.	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
42	some rooms were very cool, but otherwise a very good space for our meeting needs	5/31/2016 11:12 AM
43	Great to meet in an air-conditioned place.	5/31/2016 10:57 AM
44	Washrooms were always very clean and had toilet paper.	5/31/2016 10:49 AM
45	I just attended on Saturday	5/31/2016 10:48 AM
#	Comments for "Food"	Date
1	Great variety; well prepared	6/4/2016 4:05 PM
2	A little more variety would be nice	6/2/2016 10:16 PM
3	The price was too high. I appreciate snack tables.	6/2/2016 8:40 AM
4	The food was excellent - lots of variety and no shortage - even if one arrived a bit after the crowd, there was still food available.	6/1/2016 4:36 PM
5	The snacks were wonderful - a good range of food and drinks!	6/1/2016 2:31 PM
6	Excellent food, good variety	6/1/2016 1:09 PM
7	I ate from the concession stand. Good poutine.	6/1/2016 12:46 PM
8	Excellent, almost overwhelming, selection of meals and snacks	6/1/2016 8:44 AM

9	Not fond of cold cuts and processed meats, etc. (I don't eat deli-food.) Salads were okay.	6/1/2016 7:06 AM
10	The snacks were adequate and nutritious	5/31/2016 10:10 PM
11	I thought the food was excellent	5/31/2016 8:30 PM
12	very good variety and very tasty ! food stations were thoughtfully placed and the fruit bowls were a very good idea.	5/31/2016 7:31 PM
13	Only had lunch on Saturday.....very good however the surroundings (hockey rink) was somewhat less than inviting	5/31/2016 6:20 PM
14	I have special diet requirements and while there was food to meet them, it was not exceptional. I purchased three meals but gave up after the first when there were no vegetables for me. There were reasonable restaurants near by though so it worked out	5/31/2016 6:11 PM
15	Snacks were very good & plentiful I did not have any meals at the conference.	5/31/2016 5:36 PM
16	Registered too late to include meals.	5/31/2016 5:32 PM
17	The food was tasty and generous. Great snacks available all the time.	5/31/2016 5:16 PM
18	A lot of pasta and salads were served to keep the price down. More variety of main courses would have been appreciated.	5/31/2016 4:48 PM
19	good selection of food. The evening meal included roast beef (which I really don't like), but there were so many other things available that I had no complaint at all!!	5/31/2016 4:26 PM
20	The meals were excellent; it exceeded my expectations	5/31/2016 3:38 PM
21	Very pleased with the food. Good quantities and nutritious	5/31/2016 3:14 PM
22	Great hospitality from the people of Midland	5/31/2016 2:13 PM
23	Excellent and lots of it! Snacks (a large variety) and coffee were readily available all day. Very impressive!	5/31/2016 1:49 PM
24	Excellent.	5/31/2016 1:22 PM
25	I can't comment on the meals. All else was excellent	5/31/2016 12:39 PM
26	Thank you for giving us well-balanced meals and refreshments. On a diet, it is helpful to know there were options that could keep me on track. Well done!!	5/31/2016 12:37 PM
27	The food was great - a nice variety and a good selection and the service was pretty efficient.	5/31/2016 12:32 PM
28	Great snacks.	5/31/2016 12:23 PM
29	The food was satisfactory, but I found the pushiness of those collecting meal tickets a bit over the top. What was the point of that? Have we previously ended up with not enough food? It seemed there was plenty and there was no need to bar someone from entrance because they lost/forgot their ticket.	5/31/2016 12:19 PM
30	Food was tasty, well prepared and quickly served. There was something for everyone. Some of our people are of Asian heritage. It would be appreciated by them if at least one thing on the menu were made available for them.	5/31/2016 12:11 PM
31	I enjoyed the meals. There was always sufficient to choose from to fill the plates as desired. Snacks and drinks available during the full two days was a nice touch. Could have had a better choice of beverages for those who do not drink coffee.	5/31/2016 12:07 PM
32	Very good - morning and break muffins etc were greatly appreciated.	5/31/2016 12:05 PM
33	Did not partake. Cannot comment.	5/31/2016 12:03 PM
34	Did not purchase meals.	5/31/2016 11:30 AM

35	I hadn't bought tickets for the meals, but the snacks provided were outstanding.	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
36	Very delicious.	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
37	lovely meals and good choices and very well organized	5/31/2016 11:12 AM
38	Appreciated the attention to different dietary needs. Nice to have fruit as snacks too.	5/31/2016 10:57 AM
39	Lots of choice	5/31/2016 10:49 AM
40	I had yogurt, muffins, fruits! Great!	5/31/2016 10:48 AM
#	Comments for "Sound"	Date
1	Too much feed back	6/2/2016 10:16 PM
2	The volume was little too low.	6/2/2016 8:40 AM
3	Got better, clearer as time moved on	6/2/2016 7:48 AM
4	Sound systems at both facilities need to be improved for next year.	6/1/2016 9:09 PM
5	Not good, never got better, at the Rec Centre or at the church. Not certain if the problem was equipment or operators or space...maybe a bit of both.	6/1/2016 7:27 PM
6	It would be better with previous preparation and test for the system and all the floor microphones.	6/1/2016 6:13 PM
7	Either we need a better sound system or better technicians. I can understand a person not being familiar with equipment, but it never got any better, nit even at St. Paul's. this needs to be addressed so that we can both hear and not have our ears assaulted with squeals and squawks.	6/1/2016 4:36 PM
8	There were clearly challenges with the sound system in both venues. My frustration was not so much that there were challenges, as that there did not seem to be improvement over the two days - I would have liked to known that people were asked to practice with the microphone, and that the sound had been worked out at St. Paul's before the celebration of ministries service. Also, the gathering music was not very successful this time around - sometimes the sound wasn't working well, we didn't necessarily have the words, and it felt brief.	6/1/2016 2:31 PM
9	Many issues with sound including mikes not working and constant squeals better system and co-ordination needed.	6/1/2016 1:09 PM
10	Some people were difficult to hear. Someone needs to show how to speak into a mike, or correctly position the mike for individuals. The two mikes set up for participants worked well.	6/1/2016 12:46 PM
11	Some wrinkles need to be worked out.	6/1/2016 11:42 AM
12	I suggest more use of lapel microphones.	6/1/2016 10:53 AM
13	You know the problems: feedback, poor volume control	6/1/2016 8:44 AM
14	Difficult to hear speakers.	6/1/2016 7:06 AM
15	Some problems wit the micro[hones esp when the business session was under way	5/31/2016 10:45 PM
16	There were some glitches, which eventually got worked out	5/31/2016 10:10 PM
17	Worked most of the time. Always unpredictable.	5/31/2016 8:30 PM
18	Lots of room for improvement at both community centre and especially at the church. I suspect a professional sound engineer would give the results we are after; or a volunteer familiar with using various equipment. Besides problems with David's microphone, the piano should have been mic'd as we couldn't hear the piano accompaniment well, sitting in the back rows under the balcony.	5/31/2016 7:31 PM

19	Microphones during the business meeting were a problem	5/31/2016 6:20 PM
20	sometimes volume was low from where I sat near the door	5/31/2016 6:11 PM
21	It was unfortunate that both in the meeting room & on the live streaming I listened to on Friday, the sound quality was not good.	5/31/2016 5:36 PM
22	Very poor sound system.	5/31/2016 5:32 PM
23	The challenge with the feedback and screeching sound but when that was not happening the sound was clear.	5/31/2016 5:16 PM
24	Fine as long as people spoke into the microphones.	5/31/2016 4:48 PM
25	Some issues with sound - hopefully next year (assuming we're in the same location) that would be all figured out.	5/31/2016 4:31 PM
26	frequent feedback bursts were a bit painful. When the system was working, however, it was fine.	5/31/2016 4:26 PM
27	many glitches to be worked through in this area. Feedback at times was very problematic. We had a person at our table with hearing deficits who heard very little	5/31/2016 4:15 PM
28	Too much feedback on mikes; I'm sure someone will figure out how that can be improved	5/31/2016 3:38 PM
29	Definitely need for improvement. Low ceiling rooms require extra attention from an audio standpoint. There also needs to be more coordination of mics so that the switching is seamless.	5/31/2016 3:14 PM
30	there were some problems interfering with the sound during the celebration of ministries	5/31/2016 2:13 PM
31	I think we know that it is a learning process with a new space. I would suggest someone be on hand to be the person who lowers and raises the mike for people speaking. And ask for a little more patience from the court as I found it quiet rude the way people let those on stage know they couldn't hear.	5/31/2016 2:10 PM
32	A few glitches here and there but it was the first year in Midland. Maybe they'll have the problems ironed out next year.	5/31/2016 1:49 PM
33	Sound fine in meetings but at St. Paul's there were glitches.	5/31/2016 1:22 PM
34	As commented before... the speakers should go in front of the microphones. Distracting and painful.	5/31/2016 1:10 PM
35	There were a few moments in plenary with problems. The worst was at the celebration of ministries service. this has to be corrected before 2017	5/31/2016 12:39 PM
36	Feedback from mics, miscues on turning them on. I understand, which is also why I usually sit in the front when there's a first-time.	5/31/2016 12:37 PM
37	Work needs to be done on this for next year to ensure that the microphones work and that the screeching from the speakers doesn't happen.	5/31/2016 12:32 PM
38	Horrible at blanket exercise.	5/31/2016 12:23 PM
39	It was either difficult to hear people at the mics or there was feedback.	5/31/2016 12:19 PM
40	I think that people who are speaking need a better understanding of how to use a microphone, so they can be heard without prompting. I understand that some tinkering with the sound system was necessary if it was new to the people setting it up.	5/31/2016 12:11 PM
41	A lot of room for improvement. It might be worth hiring a sound technician who is trained on the equipment. A student from Ryerson U who is studying audio would possibly jump at the opportunity for experience in the real world. See above.	5/31/2016 12:07 PM
42	Some issues with mic feedback in the plenary, but over all the sound was fine.	5/31/2016 12:05 PM
43	Need trained sound people.	5/31/2016 12:03 PM
44	Lots of squeals and other tech issues that I know will be ironed out in the coming years.	5/31/2016 12:03 PM

45	Needs improvement. The squeal from the microphones was hard on the ears	5/31/2016 11:58 AM
46	as one with a hearing impairment, I found the sound in the plenary meetings satisfactory (so long as it was the mikes at the front being used), but I had difficulty hearing/understanding the people speaking at the floor mikes	5/31/2016 11:45 AM
47	It needs great improvement. The high pitch sounds were very uncomfortable for those wearing hearing devices.	5/31/2016 11:30 AM
48	All worked well, unless speakers forgot to talk into the microphone.	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
49	The sound was dreadful. The sounds system needs to be drastically improved, for those with sound sensitivity the loud booms and squeals was very difficult. It ruined many parts of the meeting.	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
50	lots of concerns here with squealing mic's --hard on the ears; suggest more planning ahead of time, if possible, to make sure volumes work well and no feed back	5/31/2016 11:12 AM
51	The sound was the most difficult aspect of the meeting - was often hard to hear. Need better quality microphones and/or a dedicated sound technician.	5/31/2016 10:57 AM
52	I just need to listen more info on growing a church	5/31/2016 10:48 AM
#	Comments for "Workshops"	Date
1	The youth video workshop was amazing!	6/2/2016 10:16 PM
2	Need to Consult was a good one. It was not well attended but we could have plenty of time for conversation.	6/2/2016 8:40 AM
3	Need more variety and choices ...	6/1/2016 9:09 PM
4	Great - some of the best.	6/1/2016 7:27 PM
5	Excellent arranged in relation to the main themes, and both are well interrelated and supported with in-depth knowledge, research and support with the theme and theme speakers.	6/1/2016 6:13 PM
6	I attended the wampum belt workshop which was one of the best ever! Worth repeating another year.	6/1/2016 4:49 PM
7	I found the blanket exercise to be very worthwhile, but was dismayed that all 10 workshops were on the same topic. While I realize it is a very important topic, many of us have attended numerous workshops & presentations on the topic, and are ready for more variety.	6/1/2016 4:36 PM
8	I learned quite a bit.	6/1/2016 2:31 PM
9	Just ok. A bit tired of this model	6/1/2016 1:09 PM
10	I only attended the wampum workshop. Very enlightening	6/1/2016 12:46 PM
11	See my favorite moment above, (Item # 1).	6/1/2016 10:53 AM
12	I learned lots - and the audience participation was well facilitated	6/1/2016 8:44 AM
13	Did not appreciate Blanket Exercise. Too much information in a distracting format. Would have preferred a simple power point. Speaker's voice felt a bit condemning -- I work with First Nations Peoples and I do not need to be made to feel guilty. I am doing my part to make amends with First Nations People in my life and cannot be responsible for the unforgivable collective guilt of the past. Such shaming does not bring healing; possibly brings resentment. (Sorry to be so negative, but the Blanket Exercise did more harm than good for me.)	6/1/2016 7:06 AM
14	The workshops were all on the same topic. It would have been good to offer at least one with a different theme	5/31/2016 10:10 PM
15	The ones I went to were excellent	5/31/2016 8:30 PM

16	Jennifer Henry gave lots to think about.	5/31/2016 7:31 PM
17	I attended only the workshop on the UN Declaration on the rights of Indigenous Peoples. It was excellent. Thanks	5/31/2016 5:36 PM
18	Not relevant for me, as we covered this topic in great length (including the wonderful blanket exercise) at DLM circle. Too late to register for my 1st choice on Friday.	5/31/2016 5:32 PM
19	The Wampum presentation was excellent. I learned quite a lot. The speaker was a great story teller. The Duty to Consult presentation was informative but the screen was too small so the images were very hard to see.	5/31/2016 5:16 PM
20	I attended two excellent workshops. Wampum belts and scripture. Both were excellently led.	5/31/2016 4:48 PM
21	Went to Jennifer's on being an ally. As I said earlier - excellent! Ed was very knowledgeable about the UN charter - really good.	5/31/2016 4:31 PM
22	good topics, well-run.	5/31/2016 4:26 PM
23	Great items of education and awareness around TRC matters. Need some takeaways that can be translated back to the local scene.	5/31/2016 4:15 PM
24	The 2 I attended were well run, allowed for collaboration, and provided a great deal of learning - UN Declaration of First Nations Rights, and Biblical study group	5/31/2016 3:38 PM
25	Informative, moving and timely.	5/31/2016 3:14 PM
26	I somehow missed signing up for workshops. I don't know how that happened but I was told they were very good.	5/31/2016 2:55 PM
27	very informative	5/31/2016 2:13 PM
28	I would like to click excellent for the Wampum belt workshop and Room for improvement for the Duty to Consult. Brian's knowledge of history, his enthusiasm and the belts were amazing. I wish we had longer to spend with him. I am really not sure what the point of the Duty to consult workshop was. The presenter stood in front of his powerpoint, read his material (poorly) and many people left.	5/31/2016 1:49 PM
29	Good. Would have liked a bit more choice.	5/31/2016 1:22 PM
30	Loved my workshops, but heard others weren't as good.	5/31/2016 1:10 PM
31	I didn't attend any. Would have appreciated a choice on a different theme.	5/31/2016 12:39 PM
32	I skipped these so I could take time for self-care. I offer my apologies to the workshop leaders but sometimes my soul needs to be fed by the outdoors	5/31/2016 12:37 PM
33	The leadership of the theme sessions and workshops (particularly by Jennifer) was very good. It would have been nice to have a little free time built into the program to look around the Town of Midland and visit some of their features, perhaps by foregoing one of the workshop sessions, but I know it is very difficult to fit everything into a two day program.	5/31/2016 12:32 PM
34	Enjoyed both the Wampum workshop and the workshop on the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous People.	5/31/2016 12:19 PM
35	Workshops were thought provoking, interesting and well delivered.	5/31/2016 12:11 PM
36	While what was presented were good the choice was very limited. It is good to have a theme but a secondary theme would also be helpful.	5/31/2016 12:07 PM
37	As noted above, I missed my workshop.	5/31/2016 12:05 PM
38	Did not participate.	5/31/2016 12:03 PM
39	Could one workshop be going to the Museum across the street from the recreation centre. Maybe a workshop on liturgical dance, or get moving challenges. What about workshops on the power of camp - Camp Simpresca is only a 10 minute drive from the recreation centre	5/31/2016 11:58 AM

40	Those I attended were very good. The evening ones went a little too long for those driving home.	5/31/2016 11:30 AM
41	Excellent. The presenters were well informed, expressed themselves well and provided ample time for questions. The subjects (wampum, UN Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples) were discussions we all needed to hear.	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
42	Both workshops i attended were fairly boring and non engaging.	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
43	lots of good learning, good presentations	5/31/2016 11:12 AM
44	Great workshops with Jennifer Henry and Brian Charles - meaningful, thoughtfully prepared, learned new things. Especially enjoyed Jennifer's bible study. It sparked a lot of enthusiasm at my table!	5/31/2016 10:57 AM
45	The presenter was excellent but I don't need it to help the church	5/31/2016 10:48 AM
#	Comments for "Worship"	Date
1	I enjoyed the primitive sound of guitar. It was very effective.	6/2/2016 8:40 AM
2	Enjoyed the guitarist and his music/singing	6/2/2016 7:48 AM
3	Music was only adequate, themes were good - the 7 Grandfather teachings.	6/1/2016 7:27 PM
4	Worship itself was great, but the plenary meeting ran so late that the 40 Toronto Conference attendees they were expecting to join the choir ended up being only 4, and we had to sight read during the worship as by the time we got there, practice was over. This needs to be addressed in future - an event that should end at 4 cannot be allowed to continue until 4:30 or beyond, impacting other activities. Particularly when quorum was so sensitive, and the issue being debated & voted on was so contentious, so that we felt we couldn't leave to go to choir practice.	6/1/2016 4:36 PM
5	The worship felt a little long - both the first morning and the celebrations of ministry service. I enjoyed hearing readings in many languages. The symbolism (heart, rocks and cloth) was good, but a little over-explained.	6/1/2016 2:31 PM
6	Worship didn't "catch the crowd, people never seemed to quite engage.	6/1/2016 1:09 PM
7	I was touched by the service of remembering.	6/1/2016 12:46 PM
8	Worship songs tended to be reflective and, while beautiful, lacked the joy and energy we needed at some parts of our worship.	6/1/2016 11:42 AM
9	Like more musicians. stronger dressing of worship area for Friday	6/1/2016 9:51 AM
10	Wonderful content, symbolism I prefer more dynamic music.	6/1/2016 8:44 AM
11	Worship was interesting but not transformative.	6/1/2016 7:06 AM
12	Was too focused on the one theme	5/31/2016 10:10 PM
13	Not impressed with the worship. Could have been more.	5/31/2016 8:30 PM
14	Ordination is always the most important, to me personally. It was done well, but unfortunately, in our area, we were not familiar with the sung refrain from MV and the lyrics on the screen did not reflect the sung repeats that were necessary. That was very disappointing.	5/31/2016 7:31 PM
15	I find it hard to comment because I was only present Saturday & wasn't able to stay for the Celebration of Ministries. The service of remembering was very good.	5/31/2016 5:36 PM
16	Very meaningful.	5/31/2016 4:48 PM
17	I liked the worship and group time balance at tables. loved the music by Paul. Celebration service needed more ease with music. songs by Paul in that service needed to give us words.	5/31/2016 4:47 PM

18	Some sound issues. Location didn't lend itself to a good worship experience. I did enjoy Paul's music.	5/31/2016 4:31 PM
19	As a religious professional, I don't feel any need to have extended worship at GC (other than the ordination service of course). And the guitarist was OK, but as the only musician, I found all the music pretty much the same.	5/31/2016 4:26 PM
20	We were at times asked to discuss things and then were not given appropriate time. Music was great!	5/31/2016 4:15 PM
21	The daily worship sessions in the meeting hall could have been helped with better music.	5/31/2016 3:14 PM
22	Always love the singing	5/31/2016 2:55 PM
23	see above re temperature ordination service was extremely disjointed	5/31/2016 2:34 PM
24	Very great worship the musician was a wonderful person. May be we could have added a few instruments to it	5/31/2016 2:13 PM
25	I am being honest that I don not enjoy the style of the worship leader, but that is my personal preference and it's not about me. I would suggest that Paul have some backup on leading music let's get someone who can engage the group, Paul was great be he is only one person.	5/31/2016 2:10 PM
26	Paul's music leadership was very good, the cairn building was poignant and each day I was inspired by the worship.	5/31/2016 1:49 PM
27	Good music, well-written prayers.	5/31/2016 1:22 PM
28	Was nice, but a bit low-key, but would have like some more uplifting and enlivening worship that would have fed me.	5/31/2016 1:10 PM
29	Particularly enjoyed the music and moments of centering on Jesus. In a liberal thinking denomination it is easy to forget that it is God in Jesus who sets the Christian Church apart from all other faith communities.	5/31/2016 12:39 PM
30	The length of the worship and content were both good and Paul Rumbolt's music was excellent. There was enough table group time built in to allow for some community building.	5/31/2016 12:32 PM
31	Always uplifting.	5/31/2016 12:23 PM
32	Sometimes we try to do so much in worship that it becomes a bit unfocused. Also, it would be nice to incorporate some movement, although we would need space for that to happen and we really didn't have it.	5/31/2016 12:19 PM
33	I enjoyed the worship and music. I did note however that there was a lacking of the up-beat lively singing of the past few years.	5/31/2016 12:07 PM
34	Karen's leadership and sensitivity to being inclusive and also using various learning styles is a gift! Liturgies were thoughtful and wove the theme wonderfully into/out of the business, learning, plenary, conversations... beautifully.	5/31/2016 12:03 PM
35	I would like to have more experiences that have people moving. I also feel it is important to have more Youth and Young Adult interactions in worship Could there be an outdoor service	5/31/2016 11:58 AM
36	Very good. But again the sound system needed some improvement.	5/31/2016 11:30 AM
37	There was plenty of good music to accompany the words (which were eloquent and meaningful.)	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
38	Worship seemed to feel tired this year.	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
39	well done and meaningful, it related to our theme	5/31/2016 11:12 AM
40	Very thoughtfully prepared. I also used the 7 weeks of materials prior to conference - this was very helpful in leading into a service I then did on living in reconciliation.	5/31/2016 10:57 AM
41	I am just looking for a more substantial and spirit filled worship	5/31/2016 10:48 AM

42

Loved everything except the communion, which felt cluttered and rushed

5/31/2016 10:47 AM

Q4 If workshops were offered another year, are there particular topics you would find of value? Please comment.

Answered: 42 Skipped: 26

#	Responses	Date
1	Theology & Religion Reconciliation with scientific views eg "Genesis Meets The Big Bang" - article in UC Observer by Gordon Nodwell Honouring a range of views about a higher power	6/2/2016 7:48 AM
2	I wouldn't mind more follow on stuff related to TRC, etc.	6/1/2016 7:27 PM
3	I enjoyed the workshops this year throughly.	6/1/2016 6:30 PM
4	I would like to hear the process report and discussion after one year.	6/1/2016 6:13 PM
5	As long as there is variety, the topics will likely have several that will be of interest.	6/1/2016 4:36 PM
6	None	6/1/2016 1:09 PM
7	How can one hold onto some tenants of Christianity, yet embrace change, ie: the concept of historical Jesus.	6/1/2016 12:46 PM
8	Workshops on areas of current concern/focus within the United Church are very helpful.	6/1/2016 11:42 AM
9	My bias is one of a TRC witness. Having said that, the Midland area is a very special spiritual place and I would like to see the next two years devoted to TRC follow-up themes. Some of these might be an elective, i.e. an extra day, (Thursday, Sunday or Monday, as the case may be), at a personal cost for pilgrimages, etc.	6/1/2016 10:53 AM
10	Continue with more on Indigenous relations; add other social justice issues Assuming the current remits are approved, more about restructuring, helping congregations to adapt, etc.	6/1/2016 8:44 AM
11	Value/power of interim ministry or other successful revitalization programs.	6/1/2016 7:06 AM
12	I guess we missed an opportunity to do something around the remits! Any GC denomination changing issues	5/31/2016 10:10 PM
13	Understanding the makeup of the UC for newcomers and how it all works together Preaching 101 for newbies Sermon writing for newbies Developing boundaries with your congregation When you have a church for the first time - Help where do you start?	5/31/2016 8:30 PM
14	I really enjoyed the workshop connecting ally-ship and the Bible. I found it very valuable learning. If something similar was offered in the future around other topics, that would be neat!	5/31/2016 7:08 PM
15	Ethics, values, mission statements, the spectrum of faith and belief.	5/31/2016 6:20 PM
16	Self-help; finding balance; Innovative ideas for doing special/holy days year after year. Reaching out to cluster churches.	5/31/2016 5:32 PM
17	Workshops based around changes in the church structure. Ie. merging of presbyteries and conferences and how that will work.	5/31/2016 4:48 PM
18	explorations of new ministry ideas, like fresh expressions, coffee shop/bar ministries, new types of street ministry, etc. How to "do church different".	5/31/2016 4:26 PM

19	More on TRC. Something on Stewardship, Evangelism-United Church style	5/31/2016 4:15 PM
20	I'd like to hear some of the ideas that smaller congregations are trying to keep themselves afloat.	5/31/2016 3:38 PM
21	Nothing at this time.	5/31/2016 3:14 PM
22	Would like more on how we can get to know our indigenous brothers and sisters and their cultures.	5/31/2016 2:55 PM
23	i would be happy to here more about some of the issues facing Canada interms of our Aboriginal peoples struggles like missing women and children, taking children to foster care etc.	5/31/2016 2:13 PM
24	Once I hit send I'm sure three or four will come to mind but as a fairly new minister it seems I can benefit from anything that is offered. Perhaps assisted dying and end of life issues might be worthwhile and timely?	5/31/2016 1:49 PM
25	Depends on the theme.	5/31/2016 1:10 PM
26	If we hope to attract young families and young people to Christian ministry I think we need to explore more closely the programs and events that thriving churches are engaged in that is working for them and find new ways to tell the old story. Too often the story has been changed while using the same old ways to tell it. The trick is finding a balance that meets the needs of the old and faithful and appealing to the young and searching.	5/31/2016 12:39 PM
27	I would love to see workshops or opportunities where we can gather in our clusters to talk about and explore what living into the remits might look like. What will things look like if everything goes forward or not. I would love to see workshops that offer opportunities to explore new ways of balanced ministry - be it in the area of fitness and wellness or other... something that we could bond over while doing while also possibly taking it back for our own lives or for the lives of those in our congregation. Practical ministry things - Confirmation programs, youth in worship, music in worship when the team is low in numbers, worship planning (narrative and common lectionaries), and stuff like that	5/31/2016 12:37 PM
28	No. I think the bible study workshop could be repeated, but I just sense that we more representation of the indigenous people there. I also that a session on refugees would have been very appropriate.	5/31/2016 12:37 PM
29	New forms of church, work of consultant Marshall, new forms of worship	5/31/2016 12:36 PM
30	Sharing ideas of what has worked/hasn't worked in congregations and why in various areas of ministry - outreach, faith development, youth ministry, becoming more multicultural etc.	5/31/2016 12:32 PM
31	It depends on the theme chosen. Do the themes always have to center on social justice issues? Could they be focused on skills development - entrepreneurial leadership, how to create and effect change. leadership and faith development for young people etc.	5/31/2016 12:11 PM
32	LMU administration changes as a result of remits. Where are the dollars coming from to pay for the new assessments? Change and how do we cope with it in the church with volunteers? Pastoral relations with pastoral care but meeting the human rights requirements. Is the paperwork necessary? What precipitated it and how do we manage? Some insight to the remits coming? Issues arising at a high level with recommendations to meet the issue head on.	5/31/2016 12:07 PM
33	Something to do with the restructuring.	5/31/2016 12:03 PM
34	I believe they are powerful if they feed into the general theme of the conference!	5/31/2016 12:03 PM
35	Discernment Technology Effective Clustering Remits re next GC Community outreach Service projects or legacy gift to Midland	5/31/2016 11:58 AM
36	Our most important work is still Living Into Right Relations. Reconciliation should be a focus.	5/31/2016 11:14 AM
37	Remits	5/31/2016 11:14 AM

38	usually we have a theme to do with social justice; I would like to see us have a theme about being in ministry, what it's like on the ground with the people, the more practical aspects of our day to day lives as ministers ministry in a time of transition for the church how do we minister to the seekers and how do we minister to the aging saints who cannot do what they once did pastoral and palliative care administrative stuff balancing the week, balancing our lives	5/31/2016 11:12 AM
39	New music (for example, the kind of music that you would find in More Voices, but which has been written since then!)	5/31/2016 10:57 AM
40	I would love to have a workshop with the native American drummer. Possibly learn more about his community and learn some words in his language.	5/31/2016 10:49 AM
41	Growing a Vibrant Enthusiastic Evangelical United Church which focuses on the love of God the Father, Son and the Holy Spirit!	5/31/2016 10:48 AM
42	Influential Theologians Radical Hospitality Living our Faith in Daily Life	5/31/2016 10:47 AM