

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

Answered: 81 Skipped: 2

#	Responses	Date
1	Hearing all the presentations on diversity. The Thursday afternoon presentation was excellent. Meeting and hearing from the people for ordination and admittance and the connecting with other UCC enthusiastic people are the highlights for me	6/13/2017 1:57 PM
2	* I appreciate the ministry of David, Audrey, and the Toronto Conference Staff in preparing a helpful gathering! * I appreciated the presence of the PROK Delegation. The Toronto Korean Drummers added an enjoyable interlude. * Becoming an Affirming Conference was a positive decision. Finally, after about 35 years!!!!!! * The Celebration of Ministries Service is always a highlight. I was appalled that the scripture was read from an electronic device. What has happened to the use of the Bible in Toronto Conference?	6/11/2017 2:08 PM
3	Hearing Emily Heath.	6/10/2017 7:02 AM
4	n/a	6/9/2017 10:31 AM
5	Having lunch with the Korean Women and sharing issues we both have in our countries. UCW being recognized for raising \$134 million for M& S since 1962, and also be acknowledged that we are celebrating our 55th Anniversary this year. Becoming an Affirming Conference.	6/7/2017 2:11 PM
6	Hearing from the ordinands, and retirees The presentation by Rev. Emily C. Heath The panel presentations	6/7/2017 10:37 AM
7	I really appreciated the panelists and the guided conversations, although we could have shortened it a bit. I also appreciated the use of multiple languages in worship.	6/5/2017 9:15 AM
8	The music. Listening to the guest speakers (all topics) Final worship service at St. Paul's.	6/3/2017 7:40 AM
9	Emily	6/2/2017 9:40 AM
10	The panelists and speakers on the Affirming Ministry theme particularly Emily Heath, Michael Blair, Sharon Aylesworth, and Dennis Posno - although all were excellent and presented Affirming in many of its perspectives.	6/2/2017 9:29 AM
11	There weren't any	6/1/2017 9:50 PM
12	Hearing the Korean Drummers Celebration of Ministries Meeting new colleagues and folks and visiting with old colleagues and friends the decision to work on Becoming an Affirming Conference	5/31/2017 6:36 PM
13	Korean visitors, theme speaker	5/31/2017 4:45 PM
14	Emily Heath speaking at C of M service Working with the friendly volunteers from St. Paul's. Hearing from Sharon Aylsworth and the other 2 speakers after her, about accessibility and other barrier issues. Hearing the Retiree and Ordinand/ Admittand speeches.	5/31/2017 4:15 PM
15	Worship and table discussions.	5/31/2017 2:25 PM
16	As Always Music it is so good to hear all those voices praising God. The discussions were all interesting, I was a table facilitator and everyone was giving their thoughts and opinions. There was no dissension. Everyone's opinion was valued. The panel discussions were also interesting I learned something from each speaker. The Korean Lady Drummers were excellent and were a bright spot on Saturday. I missed the ordination ceremony due to a prior commitment at our church but I am sure it was moving as always.	5/31/2017 10:54 AM
17	The focus on being an Affirming Ministry. The speakers were also excellent.	5/30/2017 10:35 PM
18	Vote for affirming conference, celebration of ministries, listening to retirees.	5/30/2017 7:16 PM
19	Seeing everyone again! Highlights for me was my being a table facilitator and the people that joined my table for the two days. They weren't the same people and that was great. We had respectful and good discussion with each other and to see the vote on our Toronto Conference becoming an Affirming Conference was a great experience. to have been part of the conversation at the beginning and then through "process" we were able to come to the table and have good and and honest conversation and to vote. Totally awesome.	5/30/2017 4:37 PM
20	The Panel discussions, seeing one of the ordinands be ordained, and becoming an Affirming Conference	5/30/2017 4:12 PM

21	The whole first day--with the focus on becoming an affirming Conference. The guest speak and panelists (all us!, that is people from our Conference) were outstanding. The breadth of their presentations gave proof to the all-inclusive nature of what it means to become "affirming". Well done!!!	5/30/2017 3:38 PM
22	Connecting with people	5/30/2017 3:24 PM
23	First it would have to be being present at the ordination of Janet Jones. I have been a part of her walk in her E&S committee since she began her journey. Next it was the process/discussion/speakers of becoming an Affirming Conference. It's about time! Meeting with the women from the PROK was definitely a high point for me, reminding me of the work which is done by those women and memories of my own visit with them 8, maybe 9 years ago. As we finished our meal with them I was sharing the "hope" found at the Reunification Bridge, and one of the women began to cry.....she had been 2 when her family escaped the north....we all felt/saw refugees in a different light. Help....don't know where to add a totally different suggestion, so here goes.....do you think it could be considered to renew the covenanting services being done by the Chairs of the presbyteries? That was always a special time for them before it was placed in the hands of the Settlement Committee!	5/30/2017 2:57 PM
24	The music The panels and speakers about affirming ministry Patty Evans facilitation Emily C. Heath's messages worship Audrey Brown's and David Allen's leadership The Celebration of Ministries service	5/30/2017 12:54 PM
25	Panel discussions regarding the Affirming proposal. It was a good cross reference of participants with each an individual story to share. Very good.	5/30/2017 12:22 PM
26	The "panelists" - music.	5/30/2017 11:53 AM
27	Connecting with colleagues, meeting new people. Becoming Affirming. Celebration of ministries service.	5/30/2017 11:30 AM
28	Our guest speaker'a presentation time in table groups to hear each other's stories and discuss questions the celebration of ministries service	5/30/2017 11:28 AM
29	Really just the usual - reconnecting with friends and co-workers.	5/30/2017 8:37 AM
30	Affirming conversations, panelists and speaker Korean presence and stories Being able to address the court as a panelist	5/30/2017 8:22 AM
31	Worship, Emily Heath's Affirming Talk, Ordinand's and Retiree's speeches.	5/29/2017 10:31 PM
32	I liked the set up with tables. The music neatly complimented the discussion and proceedings. Tot	5/29/2017 7:47 PM
33	The music. The visitors from Korea and the reports from three TC people who went there on exchange. The closing celebration of ministries service.	5/29/2017 7:37 PM
34	Learning about the difficulties people face due to being different from what society deems "normal." Also the fact that Toronto conference became an affirmed conference.	5/29/2017 5:16 PM
35	the great hospitality and care from the people of St. Paul's UC becoming affirming visit from Koreans/ church partnerships ordinands and admittands (although I could not stay for the worship service)	5/29/2017 4:30 PM
36	The ordinands and admittands service.	5/29/2017 3:44 PM
37	So many! First off, the coming together of people representing many different churches gave me a better sense of the United Church outside of just my local church. The vote to ordain ministers was fantastic! I liked that they all picked a verse of their favourite hymn that almost everybody knew. Also, seeing their elation after being voted in to be ordained was just great! The speeches were all fantastic! They all had so much to say and it opened up everyone's eyes to a different perspective. I think the young woman who spoke twice has a real future in ministry.	5/29/2017 3:39 PM
38	First, being part of a large and vibrant body of people who are actively living our faith and continuing to be the church. Secondly, being present for the vote to become an officially Affirming Conference.	5/29/2017 3:32 PM
39	Good conversations about affirming worship seeing people, although you have to make an effort to cross to the other side. Saw lots on 'my side' of the room!	5/29/2017 3:27 PM
40	I appreciated Patty's facilitation, Emily's presentation and the panel discussions on inclusion.	5/29/2017 2:45 PM
41	Panels	5/29/2017 2:34 PM
42	I only attended as a guest on Saturday but I enjoyed hearing the experiences of those retiring and attending the Celebration of Ministries service at St. Paul's, Midland. Korean presentation was interesting.	5/29/2017 2:19 PM
43	Ordination experience	5/29/2017 12:32 PM
44	setup, sound, projection was awesome! Well done	5/29/2017 11:49 AM

45	Becoming affirming. I want to say a special thank you to Audrey Brown for her open compassionate but effective approach to challenges from the court. Her approach took courage and thoughtfulness and I believe that it allowed for the will of the court to go forward - while allowing all voices to be heard.	5/29/2017 11:37 AM
46	Table group time around Affirming Ministry Celebration of Ministries	5/29/2017 10:45 AM
47	Doing the work of the church which is good. Building community. Being allowed to sit where we want to sit. This allows for the newcomers to feel safe.	5/29/2017 9:02 AM
48	The speeches of the retiring ministers. They should be allocated more time. It would have been good for someone to define what Affirming Ministry means. Some believe it involves all "disadvantaged" people. But Affirm United's Web site clearly states it is all about sexual orientation and gender identity.	5/28/2017 9:54 PM
49	The panels and video concerning Affirming. The celebration of ministry service.	5/28/2017 9:26 PM
50	The music team of Andrew Donaldson and Wendy Wyatt Donaldson were outstanding. The final hymn of the ordination service with new lyrics to the melody by Holtz was a moment of divine splendour. The number of song lyrics in languages other than English seemed greater this year than ever before. It gave the conference a Pentecostal character. Some suggested that it was a sign of being a wealthy conference to be able to pay for the costs of the Donaldson's and the Rev. Emily Heath. If the recruitment of these individuals was the idea of the Rev. Audrey Brown, President, then she is to be congratulated and thanked. Another highlight was the visitation of the delegation from the Seoul Presbytery of the Presbyterian Church in the Republic of Korea. The gift from the Rev. Ik Pyo Jo is to be treasured. And, the report by those who visited Korea in the fall of 2016 was informative and appreciated. Several details are recalled: the weekly demonstration by the "comfort women" at the Japanese Embassy for twenty-five years; the photos of the DMZ, and the fact of political prisoners in South Korea - all were important. The discussion and vote on becoming an affirming ministry was well organized and creative. However, the circulation of folks to other table groups felt strange. I moved to a different table group and found myself cautious about sharing feelings in reaction to the panel presentation about peoples' experiences with gay and lesbian and bi-sexual and trans people. Rev. Heath's presentation was valuable. The sharing of both those being ordained and admitted and retired was very edifying. I had a role at the Five Oaks display which was to engage those who were showing interest. A number of people shared their stories about Five Oaks and learned of the new initiatives. My request to speak about Five Oaks for ninety seconds wasn't realized, but had I spoke I would have mentioned how at last year's conference my defeated proposal to have a mandatory course of World Religions taught in the high schools became instead, an opportunity for me to associate myself with the inter-cultural, inter-faith vision of the Members' Working Group for a re-organized Five Oaks. It has been most satisfying to assist in the re-constitution of Five Oaks.	5/28/2017 9:25 PM
51	Worship, Conversations outside sessions	5/28/2017 9:12 PM
52	- keynote address by Rev Emily Heath - all of the panel presentations	5/28/2017 9:10 PM
53	Hearing some of the speakers: Emily Heath, Basil Coward, Sara Jane.	5/28/2017 9:02 PM
54	The Friday morning speaker panel addressed a variety of issues in an interesting manner. The retirees comments on their career in ministry The handling of the Greta Vosper motion was well done.	5/28/2017 5:39 PM
55	The excellent conversations at table on Friday with most being very positive. The resultant vote on Friday afternoon with an overwhelming majority. The very jubilant service on Saturday evening	5/28/2017 4:28 PM
56	They were: the worship and the music; the hospitality (great snacks and friendly volunteers) and the table groups. The topic of sexual diversity was covered very well. Lots of opportunity for thinking and discussion, as well as prayer and reflection.	5/28/2017 4:15 PM
57	Chatting with colleagues that I don't get to see often. And, exchanging information and viewpoints during the table discussions.	5/28/2017 4:05 PM
58	First time their, so learning was the biggest highlight.	5/28/2017 1:35 PM
59	Becoming and Affirming Conference, being part of the Youth Group.	5/28/2017 12:28 PM
60	The Friday night panel, the Korean drummers and the presence of PROK visitors. The military chaplain launched many conversations with ministers about how they could reach out around mental health and special needs folks. That work will live on. It was very moving to hear of their life in Korea and to experience their generosity in enduring that long trip just to share God's work in Korea with us all the way over here. We had great opportunities to talk with folks about the affirming process there.	5/28/2017 12:00 PM
61	Getting to listen to many people's story's	5/28/2017 11:50 AM
62	My highlights were meeting new friends; listening to the stories of the panelists; feeling safe to engage in conversation at my table. The progression of questions the Affirming Process Facilitator had available for table discussion built on one another and helped to bring points of view and individual stories to the table. Staying in the room at a table instead of moving to another room for a presentation, allowed for continuity and efficiency of time for conversation.	5/28/2017 7:09 AM

63	Celebration of Ministries, Table Group Discussions, excellent support provided by the folks from Midland.	5/28/2017 6:59 AM
64	the fellowship	5/27/2017 11:13 PM
65	Music, Focus on Table discussions re Becoming an Affirming Conference I attended the Ordination Service for the first time; I found it quite moving.	5/27/2017 11:09 PM
66	Emily Heath and Friday panels. The presentation about the visit to Korea was also excellent.	5/27/2017 11:04 PM
67	The 3 theme times as well as the workshop on Thursday. The speakers were great.	5/27/2017 10:58 PM
68	Valuable and thought provoking conversations and speakers on Friday. Emily Heath was incredible, and everyone else was excellent too. The service of remembrance was excellent.	5/27/2017 10:32 PM
69	Friday panel which included stories from Dennis Posno and Ann Harbridge and 2 others.	5/27/2017 10:18 PM
70	Listening to the reasoned and intelligent comments from the floor.	5/27/2017 10:11 PM
71	Table groups discussions; candidates speeches; PROK presentation and drumming; music; opening worship; ordination/transferring celebration	5/27/2017 10:01 PM
72	Loved the venue. I missed last year due to illness. I appreciated the opportunity as always to have time for good table discussion /conversation. Loved the speakers that broadened our thinking about what "Affirming" might be. Many of the speakers words touched me deeply, especially Rev Neil Parker's as he spoke about those with mental illnesses. I enjoyed the presentation by those who went to Korea. The Korean drummers were wonderful.	5/27/2017 8:21 PM
73	I loved the guest speaker and most of the panelists. I liked the atmosphere of the gathering , very positive. Comes from president's tone. Thanks Audrey. Good balance between allowing conversation and moving things along.	5/27/2017 8:04 PM
74	Panel speakers were very good. Enjoyed worship, particularly remembrance service. Super well organized!	5/27/2017 7:54 PM
75	The discussion and discernment regarding affirming ministry was very educational and ultimately, very rewarding. I was glad to be a part of that process. The improvement on sound and video was outstanding. The hosting services were top-notch in every respect - kudos to St. Paul's United folks. Musical ministry was good. Timer was useful for allocating speaking times.	5/27/2017 7:40 PM
76	The highlight of the meeting was the decision to become an Affirming Conference. There was good table discussion and good presentations that stimulated those discussions. Rev. Emily Heath was a highlight with her presentation. Another highlight would be the presence of the south Korean drummers. Well done. The food was great - as it was last year - along with the hospitality of the volunteers.	5/27/2017 7:24 PM
77	Thought that the process for discussing the affirming proposal was excellent Very good speakers on all subjects and good questions and at the four tables I was at people were willing to be engaged and good discussion - well facilitated - occurred. Well run AGM. Audrey Brown did an excellent job. Use of multi screens and power point worked well. Thank you to St Paul's - such welcoming hosts -	5/27/2017 7:21 PM
78	Korean drumming group meeting in table groups	5/27/2017 7:11 PM
79	The music. The worship liturgies. The ways in which the 3 discussions on Friday for the Affirm motion were supported with the speakers and the questions. The screens/projection was excellent - as was the sound. The Korean drummers were great! The snacks/coffee/tea were amazing - always lots and always there.	5/27/2017 6:26 PM
80	Conversations around affirming	5/27/2017 4:34 PM
81	The personal stories that people told as they were so personal and moving to listen to The man on the panel who spoke about mental health from a perspective of someone without a mental illness. I thought it was great to hear that view and he was very moving.	5/27/2017 4:29 PM

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

Answered: 74 Skipped: 9

#	Responses	Date
1	* If possible, when Guests are present in table groups, if the Facilitator could plan time for conversation ... perhaps before or at the end of plenary sessions there seemed to be little opportunity to dialogue with them ... unless during breaks. * In regard to the Vosper issue, she chose to abdicate her Ordained Vows. PLEASE encourage The United Church of Canada to place her on the Discontinued Service List and move forward. Faith discussions and development, in my opinion, should not be related to her decisions! * Can the screen be elevated to avoid information blocks by delegates? ..not always an issue! * I am concerned about the lack of Presbyters in attendance that challenges quorum. I don't have a good idea to address the issue! Could Congregations pay the expenses of lay delegates? I think some do! * Trust that all the Staff will continue to have the energy to prepare another Conference. it is a LOT of work!!!!!!, Thank you so much!	6/11/2017 2:08 PM
2	Not spending 30 minutes on a workshop that really needs a whole day. The United Nations workshop needed to done with more information given to delegates ahead of time and we needed to spend more time on it. My table group felt this way and I feel that it was not right to give only 30 minutes for such a complex issue.	6/10/2017 7:02 AM
3	For staff purposes, deadlines need to be met and adhered to. No last minute changes.	6/9/2017 10:31 AM
4	Make SURE there is a QUORUM!!	6/7/2017 2:11 PM
5	not sure how to remedy this - ensuring that everyone can easily read the screens in such a large room -- even more difficult if you have to move from your chosen location. If in the central part of the room, the screens are off to the side.	6/7/2017 10:37 AM
6	I appreciated the worship although I was put off by the constant use of Yahweh to address God. We made a commitment when we passed "Bearing Faithful Witness" to be sensitive to our Jewish siblings in this regard. They are hurt by our usage and yet we keep doing it. Also, I recommend we put preferred pronouns on our nametags.	6/5/2017 9:15 AM
7	I can't think of any.	6/3/2017 7:40 AM
8	cushions	6/2/2017 9:40 AM
9	The music was not inspiring. While some of the meditative selections were appropriate for parts of the meeting, there was little sense of joy and celebration, particularly at the close when we should have been going out with gladness at the decisions made, particularly with reference to Affirming Ministry. Stronger accompaniment instruments (e.g., piano or keyboard) would help.	6/2/2017 9:29 AM
10	No matter how packed the agenda is , time should be made for breaks so that can have time to mingle without disrupting the meeting and possibly a quorum would be effortlessly achieved . Could we have a	6/1/2017 9:50 PM
11	how the meals are served, more serving stations more fruit platters rather than desserts	5/31/2017 6:36 PM
12	If quorum is a problem, create an agenda that people want to be part of, strong theme speaker/ a name people know, great music and worship, programs for children and teens, make it something people "want to be part of" not something people "have to be part of".	5/31/2017 4:45 PM
13	The organizers always have a good plan and theme worked out. The only thing I would add and I am not sure how we would get it out is trying to get the local churches to put more emphasis on the youth. My granddaughter is in the explorer programme and is at Oak Bay so was also at BC conference this weekend. She was talking to the youth there about the opportunities for youth work across the church and I was talking to youth at our conference. There are so many youth who have no idea what amazing things the church can offer them. I don't know how we can get this out any better.but we need to. The youth seem oblivious to amazing opportunities that are available. The local units don't seem to be doing much more than putting up the posters and not letting people, young and old, know what is interesting for their youth to widen their view of the church and the opportunities available to them. Sometimes money is a factor and I know not all churches have the fund to send youth out to the various activities but there must be something we can do. If we don't have the youth enthused about church we won't have a church in the future They are our future.	5/31/2017 10:54 AM
14	Perhaps the chance to space out topics over the weekend. Having an entire day devoted to being Affirming, then spending a few hours the next day was a bit overwhelming.	5/30/2017 10:35 PM
15	Hold them on Sat and Sunday. More people can attend celebration of ministries. Also easier for clergy to justify getting supply for Sunday morning.	5/30/2017 7:16 PM

16	It is a good place. Sometimes I found it hard to hear what was being said as there was so much noise around our table. The music could have been a little more upbeat but I found the two days the music were contemplative and maybe that there was a reason for that? I didn't know many of the hymns/music but it was nice to sit back and listen.	5/30/2017 4:37 PM
17	Promote all Residential Camping programmes within Toronto Conference in the Book Room I would like to see the YAYA who attend Conference be more involved in previous years there were two youth at each table this year YAYA were all clustered in their own tables with their own YAYA Facilitator. Also in other Years youth have been involved with Worship and Music more. BC Conference has a Children's Programme it would be interesting to see how we at Toronto Conference could do that	5/30/2017 4:12 PM
18	Having the deadline for "new business" submissions being late at night and then not having printed copies until after Staples opened at 10 am with just hours to go before adjournment was in the end unhelpful to the Court. New business deadlines can be much earlier!	5/30/2017 3:38 PM
19	More business	5/30/2017 3:24 PM
20	The music could be a little brighter as we began each day..... I understand everyone cooked last year.....this year we froze.....maybe next year they could find a happy medium, or at least a reminder to come prepared for changing temperatures!!!	5/30/2017 2:57 PM
21	Can't think of anything. I thought everything was really well done for this year's meeting.	5/30/2017 12:54 PM
22	Planned breaks of half hour would be useful and appreciated throughout the days. Realizing that with time constraints this may not be feasible. But just to be able to get out of the room - step outside for fresh air etc	5/30/2017 12:22 PM
23	No suggestions - meeting was very much improved. Professional musicians - great volunteers - better sound - worship was great. Good job planners!!!	5/30/2017 11:53 AM
24	There wasn't time for additional business and we spent a lot of time on the Affirming process which people seemed pretty comfortable with. One of the speakers on the Affirming panel was offensive. I'm sure there was feedback about this, but it wasn't addressed by the court. I wish the speaker had been vetted more carefully, and failing that, that the court has responded to his message.	5/30/2017 11:30 AM
25	continue using table groups allow more time for what can be important topics like the United Nations Declaration try to shorten the day, allowing evenings for fun social interactions like some form of dance or entertainment	5/30/2017 11:28 AM
26	The main piece of business was around becoming an affirming ministry. That topic got 3 sessions, which presumably meant it was important. However, of the 8 speakers who presented, they were all clearly on the "yes" side. I was very disappointed that there were no speakers on the "no" side. In fact, there was very little space for the "no" side - table group conversations were not even shared to the larger group, and the use of the red/yellow/green cards - in my opinion - stifled any negative voices. I am delighted with the "yes", but disappointed in the process. In future, I suggest that any idea worth debating must have representation on both sides. Or if it's really a "slam dunk", then don't give the issue so much time on the agenda.	5/30/2017 8:37 AM
27	Make sure guests from Korea et cetera have translations of materials we will be discussing at table groups with them participating through interpreters.	5/29/2017 10:31 PM
28	Tighten up the process. No evening sessions. The concluding service was quite long and could have focussed on the ordination.	5/29/2017 7:47 PM
29	Have more people from UCC in the USA attending.	5/29/2017 7:37 PM
30	the food and the facility were both good and the meeting was run well, appreciated them staying on time the arena was quite cold at times, several people were mentioning it	5/29/2017 4:30 PM
31	Nothing.	5/29/2017 3:44 PM
32	It's too much to accomplish in just 2 days, and should be spanned out over 3. I know it's an extra expense, but people are not focussed on the issues, and when they just want to get out of an all day, all night meeting, they are more likely to vote for the thing that will get them out fastest instead of seriously pondering all of the options. While the musicians were quite good, and I enjoyed the fact that they were bringing in music from different cultures, it was all the same musicians. I know for a fact that there were other very competent musicians in that crowd that would've loved to have performed on something other than just guitar and voice. I did enjoy when the notes were put up on the screen with the words. It made it much easier to sing, and I felt more involved and included in the singing.	5/29/2017 3:39 PM
33	The evening of the first day was heavy with the memorials and lamenting all that we're sorry for. Could we end the first day, not diminishing those important components, but on a more hopeful, uplifted note? After a funeral, people round it out with food and social interaction. It doesn't take away from the gravity of the loss but helps heal so that people can go on. Maybe these parts could be during the day, maybe before lunch or supper?	5/29/2017 3:32 PM
34	I hope we can have good conversations next year. There may be lots to talk about, or maybe lots of questions, with few answers.	5/29/2017 3:27 PM

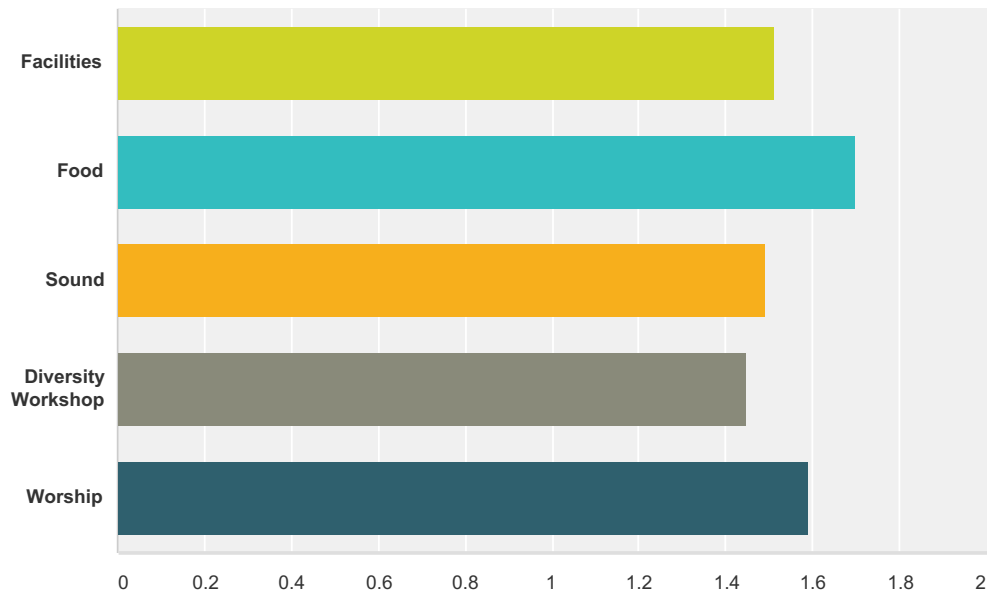
35	A larger space with more room to move around. It felt that once I was wedged into a table, it was very difficult to get out. Maybe a few minutes of movement every hour would help.	5/29/2017 2:45 PM
36	Okay	5/29/2017 2:34 PM
37	Provide more time for people to speak and listen to each other.	5/29/2017 2:19 PM
38	The business meeting was not well organized and got bogged down in procedure. Those organizing need to keep the meeting moving.	5/29/2017 12:32 PM
39	the saturday lunch was awesome, but really SLOW to get through... if the side table arms (it was in a T shape) had been separated out with the meats... it would have been double sided for the fast scoop salads and grab a bun, then the tables with meats would each have been double sided to speed up the slower process of picking the filling options for the sandwiches The nominations information with a lot of names in it had many of the names underlined in Red because Word thought that they were spelled wrong - the table next to mine was quite concerned wondering what the underlining meant in the listing of people.	5/29/2017 11:49 AM
40	I am wondering if we could schedule the quorum counts?	5/29/2017 11:37 AM
41	While the music was very good, I believe a keyboard would have helped capture the attention of attendees, particularly in the gathering music times. I was disappointed in the lack of participation in the singing.	5/29/2017 10:45 AM
42	Don't ever ask for medical and medications of participants. It blurs the lines between privacy and employer.	5/29/2017 9:23 AM
43	I would like to have seen the response to the Affirming plan and next steps. It seems dismissive, yet again, gathering our opinions and ignored. Really, we can do better than that. Much better. If you don't want to show us what others were suggesting for improvement, don't ask. Don't crush our hope that our opinion is even worthy of your eyes.	5/29/2017 9:02 AM
44	I did not attend Friday because it looked as if it was going to be all table discussion groups. I was told it was a very good session. So a better description on the agenda would have helped.	5/28/2017 9:54 PM
45	Please do not ask people to stand to sing in the meeting room. They block the view of the screens for those in the back half of the room as well as those who for mobility issues cannot stand for any period of time.	5/28/2017 9:26 PM
46	The orange card suggesting the value of recording personal data in case of terrorist attack seemed beyond my imagination. While the security threat was raised in the United Kingdom to extreme, there was no heightened threat announced for Ontario. The need for the card felt misplaced. At the ordination service on Saturday evening more instruction about how communion would be received would have helped. There was a long time between the reception of the bread and the instruction to receive together. Some, including myself, received prematurely.	5/28/2017 9:25 PM
47	really my first time so hard to say	5/28/2017 9:12 PM
48	I enjoyed the music and the musicians. However, it got to be a bit monotonous at times. I needed more variety in the songs. Also, we should have been asked to stand to sing some of the hymns/songs, to generate more energy. It felt like most of the time, we were passive and we were like an audience, watching them sing. I also felt there was too much time given for the table group discussions about the affirming and about the panelists. The meeting was not very energizing. Although we did something major, like pass the "Affirming" proposal, it felt like we did not do very much. I felt deflated after coming out of the 2 day meeting. I didn't feel charged to go and do something! I was missing the "Spirit".	5/28/2017 9:02 PM
49	1. Friday was rather long, so I would just schedule a vespers after dinner rather than a working session on Friday night.. 2. The music was plaintiff, but I could have used a good rousing hymn sing with a choir or band leading. A lot of people just ignored the music and talked their way through it as though it was meant as background music. Generally, it didn't get many people's attention. 3. Could we conclude with rousing music that allowed us to end on a positive upbeat note.	5/28/2017 5:39 PM
50	Arrange the professionals to complete the conference by running the sound system at the church. The lack of sound for some speakers (at times) made it hard for those with hearing impairments to get the full impact of a great service.	5/28/2017 4:28 PM
51	I would like to keep the same table group as we started with, instead of rotating people in and out throughout the day. We had "bonded" and were having deeper conversations about the issues assigned, but the rotation got in the way of continuing in that manner since we had new people.	5/28/2017 4:15 PM
52	I am sure many people have mentioned the absence of a hot vegetarian option at lunch.	5/28/2017 4:05 PM
53	I have none, was a little long the first day, but a lot of business had to covered I assume.	5/28/2017 1:35 PM
54	Better food and wider selection of meals. Attention to dietary restrictions.	5/28/2017 12:28 PM

55	Close the shades behind the projection screens. It was very hard to see them with the ambient light and the glare from the spotlights used by the tech folks. The facilitator for the first day's discussions projected so much anxiety and fear that it made it feel as if everyone was opposed to becoming an affirming conference. Some gays and lesbians told me that the mood created made them feel on the spot--as if they were dangerous. For goodness sake, these are our colleagues and partners in ministry.	5/28/2017 12:00 PM
56	Making sure there is meals for all dietary needs	5/28/2017 11:50 AM
57	I enjoyed the music very much but missed some lively singing to move the spirit and to get the body moving. The table I was at was a very engaging table. When someone moved, it took away their voice on which we could continue to build our conversation. I see the value in moving people around.	5/28/2017 7:09 AM
58	It felt very much like a "one note" AGM. Affirming deserved significant attention, but there was very little else about which we could engage.	5/28/2017 6:59 AM
59	keep up the relationship building	5/27/2017 11:13 PM
60	Specific music times where everyone is participating and standing as able. The table discussions were also long.	5/27/2017 10:58 PM
61	The keynote speaker - in this case Emily Heath - could have an additional time to speak.	5/27/2017 10:32 PM
62	Some worship sessions too long.	5/27/2017 10:18 PM
63	Is two days really necessary	5/27/2017 10:11 PM
64	I found it disconcerting to lose two table-mates in the midst of the discussion because there was a good trust and some very deep and personal and vulnerable sharing. It was difficult to get that with a new group. And that happened twice! Not good.	5/27/2017 10:01 PM
65	I am a musician and I always look forward to the music and worship parts of the meeting. This year though I know we were trying to have world music , particularly Aboriginal / Korean, quite honestly I felt very lost in many of the songs. Although they were repetitive, many were not familiar and I had a hard time participating. I minister in a 2 point small rural pastoral charge and I am always careful to not introduce too many new hymns at one time. I felt that there was not enough that was "familiar".	5/27/2017 8:21 PM
66	Presenting ordinands should be done in combination with pres e&s and others involved in formation not just CIC. Youth program needs to be careful not to leave the court at key moments. Leaders may have had a schedule but disrupted presentation by Korean guest and may have unintentionally insulted him. Call and response music while people are trickling in didn't work.	5/27/2017 8:04 PM
67	There was excessive agenda time given to the Affirming process. It could have been completed in half a day. The Korean visitors at our table were clearly not briefed on the topic of discussion in advance and struggled with the conversation. Robin Wardlaw raised an important issue - it's time to talk about our faith and how it is expressed theologically. Following the lead of his presbytery, could we please have agenda time next year for discussion, perhaps workshops or break out discussions? It is too important to be dealt with in a strictly parliamentary manner. Could we please also diversify topics and spend time on things we are all dealing with in our congregations? Mental health, grief, trauma, addiction, crises of faith, anxiety and the toll dealing with all those things takes upon clergy and lay leadership? Thanks!	5/27/2017 7:54 PM
68	Music - I recommend inclusion of a piano or key board to help lead us in singing, especially with new hymns and songs. I personally find guitar to be hard to follow if I do not know the melody. I would like a bit more patience displayed when the process of actually voting on motions takes place. People need time to collect their thoughts and actually move to the microphones to speak.	5/27/2017 7:40 PM
69	I would like to see a keyboard used for the music. It is hard to sing to a guitar, especially when the music is new and not well known by many attending.	5/27/2017 7:24 PM
70	Do something about the too cold air conditioning - this is the second year when it has been very uncomfortable to sit in the meeting room and in the arena. If they can not turn air down to comfortable temperature please remind everyone ahead of time to bring warm clothes.	5/27/2017 7:21 PM

71	<p>continue meeting in table groups have some 'get acquainted' table group time have some fun! education pieces as part of the meeting e.g.. speakers, videos, etc. opportunity to share at table groups--hear stories make it so I happily WANT to go, not feel that I grudgingly HAVE to go Suggestions re: students I was appalled at the disrespect we showed them by not projecting their faces on the screens as they were speaking. Really, we project a stopwatch?? That's just crazy! As an E & S convenor, who has walked with students sometimes for 4 or 5 years, I am sad that there is no place for me in the process of their approval at the AGM. What does the CIC actually know about these people, except that they have interviewed them twice during their journey. I have talked with Kirsty H. about this, and she is on the same page. This needs to change, even if we have only 2 years of meetings leftActually, I'm even sadder that there is no place for me in the laying on of hands at the service of celebration of ministries. re: retirees Ditto to what I said about projecting students' faces on the screen. I was saddened that there was little to no (20 minutes) follow up on last year's theme of right relations. The journey, right? Well, from this meeting it feels like we've packed in that part of the journey, and moved on to another. Will it be another journey we start on next year? And what of the 2 we've begun during the past two years? Will they be forgotten????</p>	5/27/2017 7:11 PM
72	<p>The room was COLD on Friday. The line ups for the food were too long. Another serving station would have been better.</p>	5/27/2017 6:26 PM
73	<p>Youth tables and voting - experienced process persons may have been lacking at all their tables and they were confused about the vote to table -- we all made assumptions everyone understood what that meant. Need youth voices at each table - sitting with the usual demographic limits spirit. Clarification ahead of quorum taking conversation - do all understand their categories? Sounds like students were unclear. Maybe specify on name tag or voting card and then problem is solved?</p>	5/27/2017 4:34 PM
74	<p>A better worship time- more instruments. More food selection for picky eaters More break time</p>	5/27/2017 4:29 PM

Q3 Please provide feedback for the following areas

Answered: 82 Skipped: 1



	Very Satisfactory	Satisfactory	Room for Improvement	N/A	Total	Weighted Average
Facilities	54.88% 45	39.02% 32	6.10% 5	0.00% 0	82	1.51
Food	46.91% 38	24.69% 20	19.75% 16	8.64% 7	81	1.70
Sound	56.79% 46	35.80% 29	6.17% 5	1.23% 1	81	1.49
Diversity Workshop	31.51% 23	17.81% 13	2.74% 2	47.95% 35	73	1.45
Worship	49.37% 39	36.71% 29	10.13% 8	3.80% 3	79	1.59

#	Comments for "Facilities"	Date
1	* The place was crawling with assistance very helpful!	6/11/2017 2:08 PM
2	It was too cold in meeting room	6/7/2017 2:11 PM
3	The room was still too cold most of the time.	6/7/2017 10:37 AM
4	There were four screens at the front of the meeting area and only one at the back. There was too much twisting and turning for some of us when we needed to see the screens.	6/1/2017 9:50 PM
5	the dining area was chilly	5/31/2017 6:36 PM
6	Large open space. No washroom line ups.	5/31/2017 2:25 PM
7	There seems to be lots of room the people who work to make things better for us are marvelous I think it all went very well.	5/31/2017 10:54 AM
8	Excellent wifi, accessible, plenty of space to find a quiet spot.	5/30/2017 10:35 PM
9	I liked the area. Parking was great. Room was very comfortable. Easy access to washrooms and elevator.	5/30/2017 4:37 PM

10	The meeting room is just barely large enough and its narrow depth and wide length make it difficult to get a sense of "community".	5/30/2017 3:38 PM
11	As above...sitting under an air conditioning fan was not good....I don't really know how that could be remedied.	5/30/2017 2:57 PM
12	The meeting room was a little cool - so I brought more layers on Saturday.	5/30/2017 12:54 PM
13	Temperature was cool in the meeting space. There was not a lot of room to maneuver between tables in some spots.	5/30/2017 12:22 PM
14	I found the stark white wall with shadows behind the speakers less than joyous. I realize that we cannot put anything on the wall, but a banner, quilted hanging on a stand would have softened the look and brightened the atmosphere.	5/30/2017 11:28 AM
15	nice casual setting. Perhaps turn down the A/C a bit.	5/30/2017 8:37 AM
16	Last year, I was limited to the side of the room because of floor wires and table arrangement. This year with the pathways marked on the floor and respected it was easier to move around. Much appreciated change	5/30/2017 8:22 AM
17	I could hear and see and the temperature was comfortable as were the chairs.	5/29/2017 10:31 PM
18	arena was far too cold at times	5/29/2017 4:30 PM
19	Beautiful town with amazing volunteers!	5/29/2017 3:39 PM
20	the visual supports did not work well in the space	5/29/2017 12:32 PM
21	Excellent hospitality.	5/29/2017 11:37 AM
22	good space for the meeting	5/29/2017 9:02 AM
23	I am not a big fan of round tables. But the multiple screens overcame that objection.	5/28/2017 9:54 PM
24	The setting is ideal; the welcome from congregation members is superb; the church acoustics were excellent for singing.	5/28/2017 9:25 PM
25	A little cool inside	5/28/2017 9:12 PM
26	- lots of parking and room for plenaries - liked having the tables - room was very cold at times	5/28/2017 9:10 PM
27	Very good facilities, although at times the temperature was quite cold.	5/28/2017 5:39 PM
28	felt this worked well this year. a year of experience paid off.	5/28/2017 4:28 PM
29	The spaciousness and accessibility of the Rec Centre are great. The parking is ample and it is centrally located. Note that it is right next to the YMCA and the Huronia Museum. Please tell people about these! I went swimming in a wonderful large pool at the Y for only \$7 (and could have used the whole facility for that price since I am over age 60). I visited the Huronia Musuem too, and they had a pre-Settler display outdoors of a Wendat Village! With all of our talk about Aboriginal Peoples, that experience spoke to me about the richness of their community and culture; the museum had more artifacts indoors too. They have a special group rate for 5 people or more, but this could be organized through a simple sign-up sheet at our conference.	5/28/2017 4:15 PM
30	Lots of room	5/28/2017 1:35 PM
31	The hosts were awesome. Greeting you each morning with a smile and welcome made my early morning commute worthwhile.	5/28/2017 7:09 AM
32	I did feel a little bit cold at times	5/27/2017 11:09 PM
33	Meeting room works well and the audio visual systems worked well.	5/27/2017 11:04 PM
34	Placement of the screens when we needed the words - awkward.	5/27/2017 10:32 PM
35	Darned chilly on Friday but not bad by evening and Saturday was okay. When standing, hard to see the screen (not much you can do about that).	5/27/2017 10:01 PM
36	A good feeling, very spacious. Good space allowed for the book room.	5/27/2017 8:21 PM
37	Great hospitality. Loved the fruit. Very low key but friendly location.	5/27/2017 8:04 PM
38	The ceiling is pretty low making it difficult to set the viewing screens high enough so that they can still be read when people stand up.	5/27/2017 7:24 PM
39	See above #2	5/27/2017 7:21 PM
40	Temperature control please!	5/27/2017 6:26 PM
41	Everything was clean and the staff were very nice	5/27/2017 4:29 PM
#	Comments for "Food"	Date

1	*The meals and snacks well prepared and plentiful.	6/11/2017 2:08 PM
2	We need to be more inclusive regarding vegan options. It's usually best to plan a vegan menu and then add meat protein if needed.	6/5/2017 9:15 AM
3	Meals were very good as were snacks. Appreciated having decaf coffee available and fruit.	6/3/2017 7:40 AM
4	For me, the food was satisfactory but I heard comments about the lack of appetizing selections for vegans.	6/2/2017 9:29 AM
5	Adequate snacks , but we could use less "sweets"	6/1/2017 9:50 PM
6	could be warmer for the hot food supper meal expensive for what you get	5/31/2017 6:36 PM
7	food quality was uneven. Some items were good - others quite bland. LABEL food items to help with dietary restrictions.	5/31/2017 4:15 PM
8	Good variety. Liked the fruit cups as well as muffins/cookies	5/31/2017 2:25 PM
9	The food was good and varied	5/31/2017 10:54 AM
10	Food allergy issues.	5/30/2017 7:16 PM
11	Excellent can't say anything about the food	5/30/2017 4:37 PM
12	Last year there was more options for Vegetarian, Vegan, GF food Selection	5/30/2017 4:12 PM
13	Great variety....food line moved quickly....easy to find beverages and desserts as your main course was served.	5/30/2017 2:57 PM
14	Lots of variety.	5/30/2017 12:54 PM
15	The people at the back of the line should have the same options as the people at the front of the line. We are all paying the same price.	5/30/2017 12:22 PM
16	Lunch on Friday didn't have much of a vegetarian option. The vegetarian choices at other meals weren't great. Most meat eaters will eat vegetarian food. Why not have all the meals vegetarian or have meat in the side. More significantly the snacks provided were nearly all high sugar pastries. Less processed snack options would be fabulous and would fuel us better for meetings and encourage healthy eating in our church.	5/30/2017 11:30 AM
17	It would have been helpful to have a vegetarian option. More variety in bread for the sandwiches.	5/30/2017 11:28 AM
18	na	5/29/2017 10:31 PM
19	I did not order meals, but the snacks were amazing.	5/29/2017 7:37 PM
20	very good and nice variety	5/29/2017 4:30 PM
21	snacks were varied and plentiful - thanks didn't take the meal package	5/29/2017 3:27 PM
22	Didn't register in time for meals. Snacks were okay, but very sugar/carb oriented.	5/29/2017 2:45 PM
23	The food was very good but I am hoping different method for people to get their food could be considered. The length of time to reach the food was much too long.	5/29/2017 11:37 AM
24	The vegie options were lacking. Rather sad to spend two days eating beans and assuming that would cover vegies in the crowd. So for example, eating salads is insufficient nutrition. Not asking for tofu-turkey, but what about a variety of cheeses, eggs, and combining grains to create a complete protein.	5/29/2017 9:02 AM
25	I did not get any meals. It would be nice if you could buy meals on site. But the availability of coffee and snacks was tremendous.	5/28/2017 9:54 PM
26	Excellent variety of snacks and beverages.	5/28/2017 9:26 PM
27	The turkey casserole for lunch on Friday and the beef sandwich for lunch on Saturday was very tasty. I missed my supper on Friday evening.	5/28/2017 9:25 PM
28	Good food - served efficiently - lots of it	5/28/2017 9:10 PM
29	Good variety and the service was well handled with such a large group being served in a reasonable time frame. It seemed that everywhere you went their was food of some kind . If people had signed up too late to enjoy a meal o site they could well have had a reasonable lunch with yogurt , fruit and a muffin.	5/28/2017 5:39 PM
30	enjoyed the selections for the three meals provided	5/28/2017 4:28 PM
31	All good choices and well made. Plenty for everyone.	5/28/2017 4:15 PM
32	I only had the break items, didn't stay for the meal.	5/28/2017 1:35 PM

33	Dietary options ie, Vegetarian, Dairy free, Vegan	5/28/2017 12:28 PM
34	Snacks, coffee, water, fruit were great to have available throughout the meeting.	5/28/2017 7:09 AM
35	Well catered!	5/27/2017 11:09 PM
36	food was fine. More serving stations for serving lunch and dinner would reduce the line ups. The fruit cups for snacks were good.	5/27/2017 11:04 PM
37	The snacks were tasty - but more variety of healthy options. All the muffins/bread were very high fat. I liked the variety of salads, and they were very good. The meals were excellent.	5/27/2017 10:32 PM
38	The food itself was good, tasty, but did hear that vegetarians had a difficult time because there was no protein ... salad just doesn't cut it! Is it possible to have two stations so the line moves quicker?	5/27/2017 10:01 PM
39	I am sorry to say that we did not purchase meal tickets. I really need a break from the setting when I am in an all day meeting so it is always my choice to leave to get fresh air and time away from the venue. I also enjoy exploring the city in which we are meeting in and like to support the local stores.	5/27/2017 8:21 PM
40	Good food but with numbers you need more lines for a buffet.	5/27/2017 8:04 PM
41	great! Especially the break food.	5/27/2017 7:24 PM
42	We were well fed for breakfast, breaks and meals. Lots of selection and people with allergies etc were looked after well. Enjoyed the fresh fruit cups...on the breakfast and break tables	5/27/2017 7:21 PM
43	vegetarian options & vegan options were ONLY salad & buns! That's not good enough.	5/27/2017 7:11 PM
44	The Food was great - but the line ups to get the food were not.	5/27/2017 6:26 PM
45	Not enough options for those who are picky eaters	5/27/2017 4:29 PM
#	Comments for "Sound"	Date
1	* Sound was alright, but sometimes people blocked out information on the screens.	6/11/2017 2:08 PM
2	it was good - could hear all the speakers at the microphones	6/7/2017 10:37 AM
3	Sound had 100 percent improvement from last year, thank you !!	6/3/2017 7:40 AM
4	The only microphones were in the middle of the room and so difficult for those on the edges.	6/1/2017 9:50 PM
5	The music peoples mic's could have been louder	5/31/2017 4:45 PM
6	obvious issues in the C of M service. As far as I could tell, sound was fine at the arena, and for MOST of the C of M service.	5/31/2017 4:15 PM
7	No problem hearing at all.	5/31/2017 2:25 PM
8	The sound was good but we do need to find a better wa of making sure everyone can see the screens. The back half of the room felt that they couldn't see properly when people stood up.	5/31/2017 10:54 AM
9	Clear sound, but some tech issues like setting up the Powerpoint and microphone to be available to everyone.	5/30/2017 10:35 PM
10	Sports facility great. Church poor.	5/30/2017 7:16 PM
11	It was a little hard to hear some of the times when there was conversation from David or Audrey as there were people continuing to talk	5/30/2017 4:37 PM
12	Much improved over last year.	5/30/2017 12:54 PM
13	In the meeting the sound was great. There is room for improvement at St. Paul's United Church for the Celebration of Ministries service.	5/30/2017 12:22 PM
14	Sound at the celebration of ministries service wasn't consistant.	5/30/2017 11:30 AM
15	very good, microphones worked and that was appreciated	5/29/2017 4:30 PM
16	better than last year at the rec centre too bad it was not as good at St. Paul's	5/29/2017 3:27 PM
17	Especially at Celebration of Ministries service at St. Paul's, it took a while for the microphones to be properly activated.	5/29/2017 2:19 PM
18	Sound at St. Paul's was NOT good	5/29/2017 12:32 PM
19	Great improvement from last year. Thanks!	5/29/2017 11:37 AM
20	Except for glitches at Celebration of Ministries	5/29/2017 10:45 AM

21	Like very much that the place was not blaring noise.	5/29/2017 9:02 AM
22	At the civic centre the sound was excellent. At the church the excellent sound facilities had some performance trouble. Was Rev. Heath miked? It is always necessary to rehearse the sound system in advance and consider what to do when something falters.	5/28/2017 9:25 PM
23	- worked well for me	5/28/2017 9:10 PM
24	At the recreation centre - much better than last year. At the church - see prior note.	5/28/2017 4:28 PM
25	THANK YOU for fixing this from last year's fiasco! Much improved - no complaints whatsoever.	5/28/2017 4:15 PM
26	Very clear	5/28/2017 1:35 PM
27	The quality of the sound system made listening so much better.	5/28/2017 7:09 AM
28	In the Celebration of Ministries, there were numerous sound and technical glitches - it was distracting and disappointing.	5/28/2017 6:59 AM
29	No problems here!	5/27/2017 11:09 PM
30	Was fine.	5/27/2017 10:01 PM
31	Weird echoes on occasion and brutal eye blinding light on stage.	5/27/2017 8:04 PM
32	Huge improvement over last year. Well done folks!!	5/27/2017 7:24 PM
33	I sat at both ends of the room and could hear fine.	5/27/2017 7:21 PM
34	No issues at all this year	5/27/2017 4:29 PM
#	Comments for "Diversity Workshop"	Date
1	Good idea to mix the people up and get different view points	6/7/2017 2:11 PM
2	wide variety	6/3/2017 7:40 AM
3	The presentations were not really in keeping with the "theme" - some definitely didn't fit in. There wasn't any time to properly and meaningfully discuss the presentations in our table groups Hope the Conference will allow congregations to freely make their decisions	6/1/2017 9:50 PM
4	did not attend.. but was interested in going. Will there be another opportunity to hear him?	5/31/2017 4:15 PM
5	Good involvement	5/31/2017 2:25 PM
6	Did not attend	5/31/2017 10:54 AM
7	Didn't attend	5/30/2017 2:57 PM
8	Really enjoyed all the panels and speakers	5/30/2017 12:54 PM
9	Interesting.	5/30/2017 8:37 AM
10	Too one sided. No negative views just promotion of one view on the affirmative question. The second day agenda should have been on the first day.	5/29/2017 7:47 PM
11	did not attend	5/29/2017 4:30 PM
12	I know that there were complaints that there was no representation for those who opposed accepting homosexuals, but aren't we all berated by that every single day in our every day lives? It's great that we passed the motion by %93, but the %7 that voted no, shows that we still have a lot of work to do, and that they education was essential.	5/29/2017 3:39 PM
13	did not attend	5/29/2017 3:32 PM
14	Liked the diverse voices, Sharon, Michael and others lots of food for thought	5/29/2017 3:27 PM
15	Was this part of the live-streaming? I noticed a couple of people on social media questioning why it wasn't.	5/29/2017 2:45 PM
16	Did not attend.	5/29/2017 2:19 PM
17	Did not attend on Friday	5/28/2017 9:54 PM
18	see above	5/28/2017 9:25 PM
19	N/A	5/28/2017 9:10 PM

20	I came away with mixed feelings . I didn't really learn much that was new. Most of the people at ,my table were conversant with the issues and felt that they had moved beyond the point were they needed further sensitivity training on this issue. However, the content regarding disabilities and mental illness was helpful and could have used more attention.	5/28/2017 5:39 PM
21	did not participate	5/28/2017 4:28 PM
22	Jeremy Dias was articulate and entertaining. He made a difficult subject understandable and used humour in unusual (i.e. new and refreshing) ways. His organization is one that I would like to come visit our small rural community - a good eye-opener for many!	5/28/2017 4:15 PM
23	Opened my eyes further.	5/28/2017 1:35 PM
24	Charming and interesting presenter, but not capable of answering questions. Also he did next to nothing to address the issue of being a "brown guy", as he said, in northern Ontario--surely that is a big issue in most of the northern towns and churches.	5/28/2017 12:00 PM
25	Did not attend	5/28/2017 7:09 AM
26	The presentations were largely very good. There was one that was offensive and should have been vetted - I am sure that the speaker meant well, but their words created sadness and anger in our table group and in conversations after the event. There was not enough direct plenary involvement in the process. There was clearly a dichotomy in those who were from Affirming Congregations and those who were not - it might have been valuable to put those who have been through the Affirming process together with those who have not - for information sharing and inspiration.	5/28/2017 6:59 AM
27	Informative and a good lead-in to Affirm discussion.	5/27/2017 11:09 PM
28	Too long.	5/27/2017 10:11 PM
29	Well structured. Good questions to spark conversation. Great theme speakers.	5/27/2017 7:24 PM
30	See comments above.	5/27/2017 6:26 PM
31	The panel were incredible and they were very brave to share their stories	5/27/2017 4:29 PM
#	Comments for "Worship"	Date
1	Please use the Bible during the Worship service.	6/11/2017 2:08 PM
2	The microphones at the church didn't work during the celebration of ministries service. I cannot read the words to music from a screen so I would have appreciated have Voices United and More Voices hymn books available.	6/10/2017 7:02 AM
3	See my comments above anout use of YHWH.	6/5/2017 9:15 AM
4	Worship music was diverse, energetic and fit so well with the theme. The worship itself during meetings was good. I liked, very much, the final worship service at St. Paul's.	6/3/2017 7:40 AM
5	Spoken parts of worship were great but the music was not. A better mix of familiar with new music would have helped.	6/2/2017 9:29 AM
6	I found something missing, but cannot quite place my finger on what - Most of the music was new , so the group wasn't "singing "	6/1/2017 9:50 PM
7	Service of remembering was powerful and could have ended with more hope, the intercultural piece was powerful and strong	5/31/2017 4:45 PM
8	Very interesting ! EXCELLENT speaker, Emily Heath. Drummers were fun ; things went very smoothly (thanks Emily Gordon ?)	5/31/2017 4:15 PM
9	meaningful. Enjoyed all the new music.	5/31/2017 2:25 PM
10	The worship was moving and including the Korean voices was excellent	5/31/2017 10:54 AM
11	Very moving and effective. There were some issues with connecting the Powerpoint and the music, where people lost track of the lyrics. Perhaps some clearer communication between worship leaders?	5/30/2017 10:35 PM
12	I enjoyed the worship very much just needed to know the hymns	5/30/2017 4:37 PM
13	Could have had more energy but under the context of the theme the music was ok	5/30/2017 4:12 PM
14	This was so well done it is hard to know where to start--it certainly led to an outstanding day on Friday and continued through Saturday.	5/30/2017 3:38 PM
15	Especially found the In memorium service moving.....also enjoyed the way musical responses were used one service	5/30/2017 2:57 PM
16	Emily Gordon and all the participants did a great job. And the music was superb!	5/30/2017 12:54 PM

17	Worship was good - some portions seemed a little long. By the end of the weekend I was getting discouraged with all the hymns - songs being sung in the different languages. Some familiar hymns would have been more appreciated by me.	5/30/2017 12:22 PM
18	While I appreciated the music leadership, I personally found it hard at times to join in the singing because there was so much that was unfamiliar, and guitar accompaniment doesn't give me enough to track. A keyboard would have been helpful. The service of remembrance was carefully interwoven with music and images, but I would have liked more grace, more of an upswing at the end. All of that lamenting left me in a bit of a hole. The celebration of ministries service was one of the best, if not the very best I have attended.	5/30/2017 11:28 AM
19	worship good in general. I didn't like the "sing after me" approach for the celebration of ministries service - we are all in this together and it was starting to feel like the Andrew Donaldson show.	5/30/2017 8:37 AM
20	I thought the liturgies were quite beautiful, there is perhaps too much unfamiliar music with challenging tunes and not adequate accompaniment. When new music is being introduced (unless it is a repetitive chorus) it helps if there is a keyboard.	5/29/2017 10:31 PM
21	well done, appreciated the different languages sometimes the music did not seem to fit the occasion, at times it was too meditative; that would have been fine as going out music as we ended the evening, but not for gathering for the evening session after supper	5/29/2017 4:30 PM
22	Very good, articulate speakers. The only issue was with the gluten free bread. Not because I don't like gluten free, but the bread disintegrated in my hand before I could dip it in the "wine."	5/29/2017 3:39 PM
23	Emily has a very gentle way of worship which has an important impact. I liked the integration of voices and languages	5/29/2017 3:27 PM
24	Would have appreciated some musical variety	5/29/2017 2:45 PM
25	Guest speaker was very good. Enjoyed the music and time of worship. Thanks.	5/29/2017 2:19 PM
26	Music was good. Some disconnect between what was on screen and what was being sung.	5/29/2017 12:32 PM
27	Fabulous planning and leadership by Emily	5/29/2017 10:45 AM
28	okay. United Church style. I worry that singing other languages is cultural appropriation. I don't mind learning, but worry this more tokenism, than not.	5/29/2017 9:02 AM
29	I did not really like the music. It was hard to sing all the strange songs.	5/28/2017 9:54 PM
30	The leadership by the Rev. Emily Gordon was appreciated. Her love for words was noted in the various readings used in the services. She is clearly a well-respected worship leader.	5/28/2017 9:25 PM
31	Thoughtful and entirely appropriate at each moment	5/28/2017 9:12 PM
32	- particularly enjoyed the singing	5/28/2017 9:10 PM
33	I appreciated the work that went into planning it. However, I felt that I never got into the "groove". I didn't get inspired or energized. The worship was so low key and so quiet. The whole thing felt like a meeting and I never felt like I was in "worship".	5/28/2017 9:02 PM
34	So many new and different language pieces made it hard to participate until the third or fourth time the piece was sung. Enjoyed the very up tempo of the music for Saturday evening.	5/28/2017 4:28 PM
35	Great planning - Great musicians (I was privileged to be asked to participate with them) - and great themes. Very moving and meaningful.	5/28/2017 4:15 PM
36	Wasn't always sure of the questions meaning, Layman's term needed at times.	5/28/2017 1:35 PM
37	The worship was very, very wordy. Having everything read to us felt like a super-long story time for kids. Also, one service was basically a long prayer of confession, with no assurance of pardon or any other part of a liturgy. It felt as if the worship leader disliked everyone in the room and just wished to beat people up. The music leaders didn't provide a melody line to support congregational singing. They also pitched songs too high for most non-musicians. It would help to have a keyboardist playing with them. The music selection was very narrow.	5/28/2017 12:00 PM
38	I liked seeing the youth involved at some point.	5/28/2017 7:09 AM
39	Some of the best liturgy and worship experiences of any Conference AGM. Thoughtful, provocative, varied and integrated. Excellent music leadership as well.	5/28/2017 6:59 AM
40	Music was superb. Varied and Lively! Great worship leaders!	5/27/2017 11:09 PM
41	Services were well planned and about the right length. More youth participation in the readings would have been good. The youth had a pretty low profile this year compared to past years.	5/27/2017 11:04 PM
42	length of some worship segments long	5/27/2017 10:18 PM

43	Please see my comments above re music . Otherwise the choice of words and focus passage for the worship was great. Very good solid leadership in the worship. Lots of diversity. Thank you for your work everyone!	5/27/2017 8:21 PM
44	Great music but PowerPoint was out of sync and didn't have the correct words. Hard to follow.	5/27/2017 8:04 PM
45	The liturgy tended to be rather long and repetative in places. Thought the music could be improved with a keyboard.	5/27/2017 7:24 PM
46	I appreciated the many voices, cultures included. Felt that there had been alot of thought and work put into worship and music - followed the theme well. But at times I found that it left me without hope, grace or joy. Fine to have us be thoughtful and remember our shortcomings but in these times when the church and world are in such flux we need to be uplifted as well. Musicians were talented, knowledgeable but I felt that there were too many pieces sung that many, including myself, were not familiar with and that too many were not upbeat enough - ie needed more variety in hymns sung both in style, and type and the inclusion of well known ones - appreciated the ordinands and retirees selection as a result... Perhaps part of the problem is the use of a guitar as the main instrument... Music is a way to create community and unite. This, sadly, I felt was missing from the get go. Sorry, to be so negative.	5/27/2017 7:21 PM
47	I found it all quite sad and mournful, full of remorse, etc. and most particularly Friday night. Yes, we need lament, but we also need resurrection and hope. We are the resurrection people, and even at the service on Saturday afternoon, I felt no joy or celebration about our decision. Also, too many words!	5/27/2017 7:11 PM
48	See comments above.	5/27/2017 6:26 PM
49	Not much engagement/interaction. Music was slow and reflective - needed some more pick me up songs. Heard so much of the word 'fear' in worship and it took over the worship experience for me. So many words - didn't really engage senses. Hoped to hear some familiar music aside from a verse of a song with students and retirees.	5/27/2017 4:34 PM
50	The singing was sometimes off tune. The music was good.	5/27/2017 4:29 PM