

# connecting resources with ministry

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**The Toronto United Church Council** works with the church community to connect resources with ministry. Offering access to professional advice, financial support and leadership development, Council helps our church address the social and spiritual challenges of the day.

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## The Baillie Fund makes a new round of awards, calls for new nominations

Twice annually, Council's Baillie Fund Awards are presented to up to 10 young church members in Toronto Conference. The award gives congregations an opportunity to recognize the excellent contributions made by young people, aged 13 to 30, to both church and community life. The nomination procedure for the May 30, 2015 round can be found [here](#).

The successful nominees in the second round of 2014 awards have now been named and they are:

**Darryl James** - Birchcliff Bluffs United Church, Toronto  
**Brendan Jeffers** - Emmanuel United Church, Brampton  
**Hannah Linn** - North Bramalea United Church, Brampton  
**Catherine Pearce** - Tottenham United Church, Tottenham  
**Mariah Smith** - Trinity United Church, Huntsville

We congratulate these young people, and thank them for their service.

## **The Vincent Alfano Fund**

With Vince Alfano's retirement in 2014, Council moved into a new era and its work will continue with a tangible reminder of Vince's commitment to the development of church leadership. The Vincent Alfano Fund is a new endowment fund at Council that will help fund internships for new ministers in Toronto Conference congregations. An important element of the internships to be funded will be their focus on developing ministry with diverse community groups. Watch for announcements in the coming months regarding application procedures and our campaign to build the capital of the fund to ensure its work is funded in perpetuity.

## **Council welcomes Janet Marshall to its Centre for Church Development and Leadership**



Council is delighted to welcome Janet Marshall to lead the work of the Centre for Church Development and Leadership. Janet has over 20 years' experience working with congregations and judicatories building healthy, vital mission and ministries.

Janet brings particular strengths in cultivating change-oriented strategic visions rooted in context-based best

practices. Most recently her work has: helped established churches prepare themselves to seed new expressions of ministry (become mixed economy churches); developed grass-roots regional ministries in rural and suburban areas; supported and equipped church leaders through needs-focused workshops (e.g. marketing your church, ministry with young adults, understanding and managing conflict), facilitated peer learning, and coaching.

Over the past 7 years Janet has been lead facilitator in an international *indaba* project of conflict resolution and reconciliation. Indaba is an African model of listening and dialogue that deepens relationships across all types of difference. While allowing for disagreement, it builds respectful mutual understanding and common ground releasing energy for mission.

Janet has worked extensively with the United Church in Ontario and Nova Scotia as a consultant with *Potentials*. She is looking forward to working with churches and church leaders questing a fresh and life-giving approach to the United Church's presence, mission and ministry in these profoundly dynamic and changing times.

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