

Safe Church Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2024

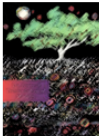
  AUGUST 14, 2024	All were welcomed to the meeting. In total there were 10 people in attendance from 4 churches.
 Agenda August 14, 2024 6:30 - 9 pm 1. Welcome. Let's eat! 2. Introductions and church updates 3. Minutes from May 25th meeting 4. Abuse Awareness Sunday 5. Annual Review/Refresher training 6. Classis Abuse Response Team (next steps) 7. Schedule next meeting date	As it was a potluck meal and meeting, we broke bread (and salad and other nummy dishes) before getting into the agenda. As we enjoyed some dessert, we shared what was happening within our respective churches since the last meeting in May.
Minutes  	Carolyn shared where to find May 25th meeting information, as well as other resources found under the "Safe-r Church" tab on the Classis Quinte website.

Abuse Awareness Sunday – Documents and Discussion:

Abuse Awareness Sunday 	As a team we reviewed the following Oct. 27th Abuse Awareness Sunday information. Churches are encouraged to use these resources, or portions thereof. As well, Safe Church teams are encouraged to ask Council and Worship teams if they would schedule Oct 27th in order to align with most of Classis Quinte churches. (Some are not able due to pre-scheduled events – Anniversary.)
 Video promotion	Churches may want to show a short video clip to promote Abuse Awareness. (Length 3:12 minutes)
 Bulletin announcement	Each church has been forwarded all the documents for Bulletin Announcement, Liturgy, Songs for Worship Service, and Bulletin Insert resources.
 Liturgy	The October 27th Order of Worship (or liturgy) was taken from resources found on the THRIVE website. I put everything together in one document for ease of use. The last page of this document provides sermon starters for pastors.

Safe Church Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2024

 Service Songs	The words/verses to all songs listed in the Order of Worship are listed in the Service Songs document. If your church does not have the red Lift Up Your Heart hymnal and cannot locate the song on CCLI, please let me know and I will try to send you a copy of the sheet music. Some of the songs may be new to your church. I have inserted links on (or around) the title of most songs to provide a sound sample.
 Bulletin inserts	If your Safe Church team / church would like to include brochure on information around what Safe Church is all about, there are a number different variations you can order from Faith Alive (Burlington, ON). The cost is free, though you may have to pay for shipping.
Source 	All of these resources listed above were taken from the THRIVE Safer Churches site.
	We watched/read/discussed all the resources mentioned above for Abuse Sunday. All were in favour of forwarding the information to Classis Quinte Church Administrators, Council, and Safe Church Team members. (Completed)

Safe Church TRAINING

Annual Review/Refresher 1  Read Church Abuse Policy 2  Watch Video – review and feedback 3  Complete Quiz – review and feedback Volunteers/Employee sends results to Office Admin or SC Team	Training happens in 3 steps:
1  Read Church Abuse Policy Youth Group volunteers would read the section on the definition of abuse, policy around Youth Group ratios, and other requirements, what to do if you witness abuse, how to report abuse, documenting incidents and injuries, etc. These ‘sections’ could be provided to each ‘voluntary role’ as a mini document. Carolyn will work on providing this ‘sectioned’ information per volunteer role. Policy Template is available under on the Safe-r Church tab on the Classis Quinte website.	Step One: Volunteers read the policy, specifically the areas pertaining to their role within the church. For example:

Safe Church Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2024

2  [Watch Video](#)

Step Two:

Volunteers individually watch the Training Video in its entirety. Video information helps to answer post video quiz questions. ([REFRESHER](#) or INITIAL)

Links to the Training video will be provided under the Safe Church Tab on Classis Quinte Website.

During the meeting, there were a few areas that required edits.

3  [Complete Quiz](#)

Step Three:

Each volunteer will access a link to complete the quiz. Results will be emailed directly to them, and they would be required to forward video and quiz completion to their church office admin or Safe church team.

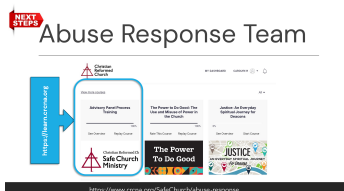


Based on Discussion:

ACTION:

1. Carolyn to correct a few edits required in video.
2. NOTE: Post meeting, in consultation with [Amanda Benckhuysen from THRIVE](#), the video will be developed as a generic CRC Training video, to meet training needs across Canada and US. She has asked to post this video and quiz on the [THRIVE Safe Church Facebook](#) site. This has delayed release by a few weeks (because I got COVID after the August 14th meeting).
3. Quiz questions were reviewed and some revised. NOTE: During the meeting there was a glitch in my laptop/connection to MS Forms and our edits did not save. I researched other Abuse Awareness quizzes and adapted some of those for our quiz. Making the quiz GENERIC for CRC churches requires some edits.

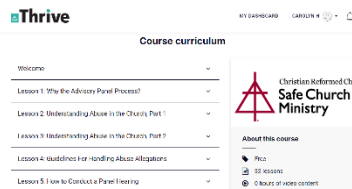
Other Agenda Items:



Shared some information on churches taking the Abuse Response Team training on learn.crc.org/courses.

ACTION: Recommended training for all church leaders (Councils, Ministry leaders)

Individual online learning.



Would like to get a list of those who complete training from each church, so that we can go to the next step. (I will ask Amanda B. to help us with the next step.)
Once we have that, we can then provide support to churches who require that in collaboration with THRIVE.

Safe Church Meeting Minutes

August 14, 2024

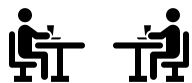
Abuse Response Team



Other courses available to Church leaders

- **The Power to do Good:** The Use and Misuse of Power in the Church
- **Justice: An Everyday Spiritual Journey for Deacons**

Next Meeting



or



In Person

via TEAMS

We decided that we do NOT need to meet prior to October 27th Abuse Awareness Sunday.

If you have any questions around this date, or the resources available, don't hesitate to ask me.

ACTION: Carolyn to send out a Meeting Survey date for sometime in November.

Carolyn will be providing an updated Safe Church Report at the January Classis Quinte meeting. If you have anything that you would like shared during the report, please email cq-sc-coordinator@outlook.com.

Thank you all for your continued work within your churches.