



May 28, 2025

From Rev. David Old, Unity Canada President, Rev. David Old

A Remarkable Gathering, A Bright Future Ahead

Dear Unity Canada Community,

As President of the Unity Canada Board, I am honored to reflect on the incredible experience we shared at our **2025 Unity Canada Conference** in Calgary, Alberta. From Wednesday evening, May 14, to Saturday noon, May 17, our time together was nothing short of **extraordinary**. The energy, the learning, and the sense of connection were deeply inspiring.

I want to extend a heartfelt **thank you** to the people who made this event a resounding success. **Debbie Long, LUT**, our 2025 Conference Chair, ensured everything flowed seamlessly. **Lou Kurjata**, our Host City Team Lead, and **Claude Pellerin**, our Host City Chair, brought local warmth and hospitality that made everyone feel at home.

Much gratitude also to the **Unity Calgary Spiritual Community volunteers** who provided attendee gift bags, plus hands-on help with décor, room set up, tech and the Bus Tour.

And what would our gathering be without **music that moved the soul**? Thanks to the 2025 Conference musicians, the **Unity Band** led by musician-songwriter **Anthony Burbidge**, the harmony wasn't just in the sessions—it was in the air.

Participants raved about the **smooth program flow** and **varied learning experiences**. Our keynote speaker, **Martha Creek**, once again **delivered wisdom and inspiration**. Her keynote *Awakening to New Levels of Thriving* and workshop *Unleashing Inner Strength* resonated deeply, encouraging us to lean into our inner power and embrace new possibilities. High praise too to all the **facilitators of the workshops and activities**: we were blessed by both their expertise and enthusiasm.

After the conference, the **UC Board and I remained together for four additional days**, diving into **AIM (Annual Intentional Meeting)** planning for the upcoming year. These in-person, roll-up-the-sleeves discussions accomplished **far more** than any Zoom meeting ever could. The combination of **skills, insights, and dedication** on this Board is truly remarkable.

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I am privileged to continue serving as **Board President**, alongside an outstanding leadership team:

- **Debbie Long, LUT** – Vice President
- **Janet Law** – Treasurer
- **Susan Ferrante, LUT** – Secretary – the newest member of our board (Welcome, Susan!)
- **Cheryl Rodgers** – Board Prayer Chaplain
- **Rev. Vicki Vanderhorst** – Member-at-Large
- **Rev. Thomas DeShutter** – Member-at-Large

A special shoutout to **Rev. Thomas** for his invaluable assistance at the conference with **set-up and technical expertise!**

We also extend deep gratitude to **Rev. Vicki** who was not only the **MC of the Conference** but also the **organizer of our AIM**: our heart-felt thanks for leading us so lovingly and thoughtfully through both events.

Anna Harvey, our **Communication and Connection Coordinator**, whose **organizational mastery** and **expert facilitation** at both our AGM and AIM helped everything run smoothly.

It was truly a **team effort** that made this year's Conference and AIM such a success, with each person bringing their unique gifts and dedication to create an experience that **inspired, uplifted, and strengthened our Unity Canada community.**

As we move forward, the **passion, dedication, and unity** of this group will continue to shape the journey ahead. Our Unity Canada website will soon be updated to show **the Board's work and vision for the coming year.** Watch for news of this in The Canadian Path.

Thank you for being a part of this **thriving and evolving** community. Here's to a **future of growth, inspiration, and deeper connection!**

With gratitude,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "David".

Rev. David Old

President, Unity Canada Board