



PLACEMENT PROFILE

Casey Cardinia Region Ministry Team Leader

Presbytery:	Port Phillip East
Time fraction:	Full Time (1.0)
Term:	5 years
Suitable for:	Minister of the Word/ Deacon
Approval date:	

Primary purpose of placement:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Provide visionary leadership to the implementation of the Presbytery Vision of Regional Ministry across the Casey/Cardinia local Government areas. 2. Facilitate the Casey Cardinia Regional Council's exploration of joint ministry and mission across the area including the congregations who are committed to this regional ministry and mission. 3. Work collaboratively with the Regional Council in developing ownership of the Vision and its emerging goals and building partnership bridges with the local congregations and any other stakeholders. 4. Enable all potential partners to envision and establish the mission and ministry vision for the Casey Cardinia Region, which is agreed to by all stakeholders. 5. To help build a ministry team with the necessary gifts and skills for the region's ministry and mission.

The Context

The Uniting Church is a multicultural church. It seeks to live as a community that includes and celebrates the rich diversity of God's created peoples living out the Gospel call transcending cultural and other barriers.

The Uniting Church rejoices in diversity of races, cultures and languages as God's gracious gift to the human family. On any Sunday, around 200 congregations within the Uniting Church gather to worship using a language or languages other than English. Around 45 languages, 15 of which are languages of our First Peoples, are used each week across our congregations.

The Casey Cardinia Region is a strategic priority of the Port Philip East Presbytery within the Victoria and Tasmania Synod. It involves six congregations: Hampton Park Uniting Church, Endeavour Hills Uniting Church, Narre Warren North Uniting Church, St Andrew's Berwick Uniting Church, Pakenham Uniting Church and Cranbourne Uniting Church. This is a new mission initiative of the Presbytery. All Ministry Agents in the Regional Ministry Team bring certain gifts and skills as discerned by the Regional Council and the congregations within the region as members of the regional ministry team.

The Mission

The mission of Casey Cardinia Region follows the strategic direction of the Victoria and Tasmania Synod of the Uniting Church to nurture and grow cross-cultural and intercultural connections within the local communities.

We do this by:

- building relationships that are based on mutual respect, collaboration and recognition of the gifts and calling of peoples of diverse cultural and language backgrounds
- assisting the Congregations to fully utilise the gifts and calling of members from culturally diverse backgrounds
- continuing to develop respectful and reconciling relationships with First peoples across the life of the church
- developing culturally sensitive and appropriate policies that respond to the needs of all Uniting Church members
- fostering models of cross-cultural ministry and mission, outreach and evangelism that reflect the hospitality of God.

Key roles include:

- Exercising oversight and coordination (pastoral, missional) of those providing ministry undertaken in the Casey Cardinia Region;
- Supporting congregations in their worship and missional life and witness;
- Ensuring the shared flow of resourcing (missional, financial, education and practical) for equipping leadership for mission within the region;

- Providing pastoral and liturgical expression of the ministry where appropriate;

Presbytery Context

Description of the geographic and demographic area of the Presbytery

The Casey Cardinia Region is part of the Presbytery of Port Phillip East which stretches from Burnley in the north to Flinders in the south, from Port Melbourne in the west to Pakenham in the east. Local government areas covered are Port Phillip, Bayside, Kingston, Frankston, Mornington Peninsula, Casey, Greater Dandenong, Monash, Glen Eira, Stonnington, and parts of Cardinia and Yarra.

The region includes long established and affluent suburbs in the north, industrial suburbs around Dandenong, the Mornington Peninsula, and an urban growth corridor on its south-east boundary. The Presbytery contains one of the most culturally diverse areas in the country. The region is socially, culturally, economically and generationally diverse.

Description of the Uniting Church in the Presbytery of Port Phillip East

There are more than 50 congregations, two formally recognised faith communities, two parish missions and other gathering initiatives in the Presbytery. Congregations concentrated in the north are long established and small in most cases. Congregations are sparser in the growth areas to the south and east. Congregations and faith communities in the Presbytery worship in many languages, including English, Indonesian, Korean, Fijian, Samoan, Shona and Tamil. Several congregations are multicultural in nature.

Uniting Church associated schools in the Presbytery are Wesley College, St Kilda, Elsternwick and Glen Waverley; St Leonard's College, Brighton; Cornish College, Bangholme. The Presbytery has a connection with Beaconhills College, Berwick and Pakenham.

Uniting AgeWell and Uniting have programs and centres located throughout the Presbytery.

Presbytery operations are run from a purpose-built office at St Columba's Noble Park Uniting Church, 1 Allan St, Noble Park, where most committee meetings and other Presbytery events are held. The office is no more than an hour from both the northern-most and southern-most points in the Presbytery.

The Presbytery in 2022 identified five key priorities for the short to medium-term life of the Presbytery:

1. Intercultural Ministry & Mission
2. Listening to First Peoples
3. Forming Lifelong Discipleship
4. New Ways of Being Faith Communities
5. Expressing Faith in Everyday Life

Role

Description of the: Casey Cardinia Region Ministry Team Leader role

Key Responsibilities

The Casey Cardinia Region Ministry Team Leader will undertake their responsibilities with the support and assistance of the Regional Council and the Regional Ministry team.

Team Leadership:

- Establish, lead, empower and support of the regional ministry team
- Coordination of the team's ministry and mission within the Casey Cardinia region
- Work to facilitate a strong team, exemplified through consistent accountability and collaboration.
- Foster a creative, supportive learning team culture
- Encourage a mindset of spiritual discernment in how the team operates and engages with each other.

Regional Leadership:

- Cultivation of unity and cohesion of the congregations within the region
- Fostering innovation and cultural change to meet the new missional context challenges

Strategic development

- Promote the vision, mission principles and values, shared priorities and strategies of the region, enabling the regional council and church councils to explore, discern and further implement these priorities and strategies.
- Work with the regional council and church councils in building strategic plans.
- Facilitate the provision of meaningful insights, key trends and timely information, which provide support, encouragement and value to congregations.
- Share, encourage and model best practice with the assurance that it is 'safe to fail'.
- Discern the next steps of the region and the ministry team leader role with the regional council

Operations

- Provide reports and updates as necessary to relevant committees/ councils.
- Establish and maintain a strong working relationship with the members of the regional council and the church councils. Work with staff to maintain effective data management and communication systems.

Required gifts/skills and experience

- Strong communication and interpersonal skills.
- Self-starter with ability to manage high degree of change.
- Ability to manage time commitments with flexibility and self-care.
- Ability to deal effectively and constructively with conflict.
- Strong decision-making skills, with ability to prioritise, empower and delegate.
- Strong facilitation skills.
- Proven strategic thinker, with experience in seeing strategies through.
- Experience in developing and leading church teams.
- Experience in bringing informed theological and spiritual reflection to the task of strategic development and discernment.
- Has a strong call for regional ministry

Desired gifts/skills

- Experience in using all forms of communication, including social media, to convey key messages
- Theological degree or equivalent from a theological academy/institution recognised by the Uniting Church.
- Experience in regional ministry

Qualities

- Commitment to ongoing spiritual formation and discernment.
- Self-aware with the ability to differentiate.
- Appreciation of diversity within the church.
- Values collegiality and collaboration.
- Engaging and motivating.
- Capacity to manage change.
- Adaptable and discerning.
- Commitment to personal and professional growth.
- Has a knowledge of, love for, and a commitment to, the Uniting Church in Australia.

Accountability

The Casey Cardinia Region Ministry Team Leader will be a member and will work with the Casey Cardinia Regional Council. They will also work with each of the congregations within the region.

They will be accountable to the Presbytery of Port Phillip East through the Presbytery Minister Team Leader.

They will attend Ethical Ministry refresher sessions twice a year, arrange and be part of Team Ministry Supervision for the Regional Ministry Team, and have regular individual professional supervision.

They will uphold and work within the ethos and polity of the Uniting Church of Australia and the Basis of Union.

Appendices

Appendix 1: Region Map

