



THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA  
L'ÉGLISE UNIE DU CANADA

## September 22, 2017

*The General Council Office is in the midst of a transformation, which is nothing compared to what the broader church is going through.*

I am writing from my new cubicle in the new open space General Council Office.

The move is complete, or as complete as it can be when there are still some renovations ongoing, and some boxes that can't be unpacked until all the bookshelves and filing cabinets are in place. Our workspaces are all set up, and most of us had things unpacked and arranged and were already getting going with regular work within a couple of hours Monday morning. (See [photos on our Facebook page](#).)



There is a lot to get used to, but overall, I am finding that there is a lot of energy and enthusiasm in the office.

All the excellent planning done over the past few months (very little of it by me) has really paid off. Based on this week's experience, I have some observations about change.

- Good planning makes the experience of change easier.
- New situations require a lot of problem solving and working out of details. This can be daunting but also rewarding.
- For many, change is energizing.

- Some people adapt to change more readily than others.
- Change brings opportunities to try different and creative approaches.
- The attitude people bring to the experience makes a big difference.

What has taken place in our office this week, and in the months of preparation, is minor compared to the change processes that are underway in the United Church right now.

Perhaps though, we might find these same principles at work.

I pray that in the midst of the struggles of changing times in church, we may find energy, creativity, and hope for new ways of serving God in our church and in our world.

Peace and blessings,

Nora

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This message has been sent to subscribers to the General Secretary's Letter, "Note from Nora."

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