

BYLAWS
OF
NORTH AMERICAN BAPTIST CONFERENCE ASSOCIATION
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA CHURCHES
(hereinafter referred to as the "Association")

BYLAWS

DEFINITIONS:

Association General Meeting:	AGM
Majority Vote:	A simple majority unless specified otherwise.
Church(es)	A church affiliated with the North American Baptist Conference Association of B.C. Churches
Delegates:	A church appointed representative in attendance at an Association General Meeting or Special General Meeting.

ARTICLE I. MEMBERSHIP

- (1) Membership shall be open to any Baptist Church or any Church of like faith duly organized in the Province of British Columbia and recognized by the North American Baptist Conference.
- (2) A Church wishing to unite with the Association may make application, in writing, to the Secretary or Executive Minister of the Association, with written reports of its origins, development, organization and statement of faith. The Executive Council shall review the application and make its recommendations at the next Association General Meeting. Upon being so recognized, the Church shall be presented for an acceptance vote. Affiliation shall be extended upon approval of a resolution for affiliation at a meeting of the Association. Membership in the Association shall constitute membership in the North American Baptist Conference.
- (3) In order to retain membership status in the Association, member churches shall abide by the purposes of the Association as outlined in its Bylaws and Policies. A church will be considered to be in good standing if they have representation at an AGM at least once in three years. If a church is unable to send a representative to the AGM, due to a lack of financial resources, within a specified time frame the Association will provide sufficient funding to send one representative.
- (4) The Association shall have the right to withdraw the Hand of Fellowship from a member church charged with departing from scriptural teachings and commonly accepted Baptist practices, upon the recommendation of the Executive Council and seventy-five percent (75%) majority vote at an AGM.
- (5) Any member church may withdraw from the Association by church action and notification in writing to the Executive Council or non-action (see Article II paragraph 3). The request shall be then presented at an AGM for consideration and/or ratification.
- (6) Each member church shall have the right to be represented at the AGM in the following way:
 - a. For the first fifty (50) members, four (4) delegates and the pastor or pastors;
 - b. For each additional twenty-five (25) members, or fraction thereof, one (1) delegate.

- (7) Officially invited North American Baptist Conference representatives, special guests, member camps, schools and missionaries are entitled to participate in the AGM or Special General Meeting, and may be extended the right to have voting privileges.

ARTICLE II. MEETINGS

- (1) Every notice of an Association General Meeting or Special General Meeting shall state the nature of the business of the meeting and such notice shall be given in writing and/or by electronic means to every Church not less than thirty (30) days before such a meeting.
- (2) The Executive Council or twenty percent (20%) or more of the member churches may call a Special General Meeting of the membership of the Association. A Special General Meeting of the membership, called by other than the Executive Council, shall be called by written request, specifying the general nature of the business proposed to be transacted, and submitted to the Moderator of the Executive Council or to the Executive Minister. The Moderator of the Executive Council or the Executive Minister shall cause notice in writing to be given promptly to the member, stating that a meeting will be held at a time and place specified by the Executive Council, provided that the meeting shall be held no less than thirty (30), and no more than one hundred & twenty (120) days from the date of notice.
- (3) A quorum for the transaction of business at any AGM or SGM shall consist of any participating delegates from within the Association.
- (4) Any vote at an AGM or SGM will be considered passed with a simple majority.
- (5) Senior Pastor, Moderator or other officer of the Church shall submit a list of the delegates to the secretary of the Executive Council.
- (6) Churches having items they wish to be put on the AGM agenda must be submitted in writing to the Executive Council one hundred (100) days prior to the AGM.

ARTICLE III. DIRECTORS AND OFFICERS

- (1) The officers of the Association shall consist of no less than 4 members-at-large plus the Executive Minister. The Executive Council will elect a Moderator from within and otherwise organize itself in order to effectively carry out the purposes of the organization. The Moderator shall chair all meetings of the Association and the Executive Council.
- (2) The officers of the Association shall be elected at the Association General Meeting by the Delegates for a term of three years. Members are permitted to succeed themselves subject to affirmation at the end of each term.
- (3) Upon recommendation from the Executive Council at an AGM the delegates can elect to extend the position of an officer.
- (4) The Executive council is the Board of Directors of the Association.
- (5) The Executive Council shall serve as an Accreditation Committee with respect to Churches wishing to join the Association as an affiliated Church, and in guiding local Churches in the ordination and/or licensing of Pastors. The Executive Minister, along with the Executive Council or their appointees shall serve as a Credential's Committee on behalf of the Executive Council.
- (6) Officers of the Association shall receive no remuneration for the performance of their duties.
- (7) Officers of the Association may be removed as officers by a majority vote of the Association Delegates at any Association General Meeting or Special General Meeting.
- (8) When vacancies occur during the course of the Association year in any of the Offices or Committees, the Executive Council shall have the right to fill the vacancies until the next Association General Meeting has elected a successor.

ARTICLE IV. AUDIT OF THE ACCOUNTS

The treasurer shall present before the Delegates of the Association at the Association General Meeting, a financial statement showing the income and expenditures, assets and liabilities of the Association during the preceding year. The financial statement shall be

signed by two Members of the Association, appointed by the Executive Council for the purpose to examine and audit the financial statement.

ARTICLE V. BANKING

All cheques, drafts, notes and other bills of exchange shall be executed or endorsed by such person or persons as the Executive Council shall determine by resolution.

ARTICLE VI. BORROWING POWERS AND CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

All expenditures which entail the borrowing of funds to be repaid or guaranteed by the Association or individual Churches, shall be made only with the prior approval of a special resolution by a majority of not less than seventy (75%) five percent of the votes of those Delegates present at a meeting held following at least six (6) weeks' notice in writing, stating all pertinent details of the proposed expenditure or borrowing of funds. Each delegate shall seek direction as to how he or she should vote on this special resolution, from the Church which he or she represents. Any absent delegate shall be entitled, at such a meeting, to cast a vote in writing by delivering a letter to the Association Secretary prior to or at such a meeting.

ARTICLE VII. ASSOCIATION RECORDS

Minutes from the AGM shall be sent to affiliated Churches.

ARTICLE VIII. INSPECTION OF RECORDS

The books and records of the Association shall be open to inspection by the Members at all reasonable times by prior arrangement with the Secretary.

ARTICLE IX. ALTERING BYLAWS

The Bylaws of the Association may be amended at any Association General Meeting or Special General Meeting by a special resolution adopted by seventy (75%) five percent majority vote of the Delegates present at any Association General Meeting or Special General Meeting called as outlined in Article II paragraph 2.

ARTICLE X. AD HOC COMMITTEES

- (1) The Executive Council may appoint Ad Hoc Committees as required.
- (2) The Executive Council shall be responsible for appointing the Balloting Committee, and Scrutineers for the Secretary's minutes.
- (3) The Association General Meeting Program Committee shall consist of the Executive Council, the Representative(s) of the Host Church, and others as needed.

ARTICLE XI. ANNUAL ASSOCIATION GENERAL MEETING

- (1) An Association General Meeting will be held annually in accordance with the Societies Act of British Columbia.
- (2) Business meetings will be conducted with mutual respect and consideration and when necessary according to parliamentary law as stated in "Robert's Rules of Order."

ARTICLE XII. EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS

Ex-officio Members of all Committees shall have voting rights on the Committee on which they serve.

ARTICLE XIII. FISCAL YEAR

The Fiscal Year of the British Columbia Association shall be the Calendar Year

ARTICLE X1V. NON PROFIT

The organization will be carried on without purpose of gain for its members, and any profits or other gains to the organization shall be used in promoting its purposes.

ARTICLE XV. DISSOLUTION

After the organization dissolves and pays all its debts and liabilities, it will distribute or dispose of its remaining property to the North American Baptists Inc. (Canada), a body

corporate under the laws of Canada by 2-3 Elizabeth II Statutes of Canada 1954, Chapter 79, assented to May 27, 1954.