



Board Members Nomination Guidelines (Revised 2021)

Please read Acts 6:3, 1 Timothy 3:1-13, and Titus 1:6-9. These references give a biblical perspective on the qualifications for church leadership. No one will meet all criteria to perfection, but this should not deter us from seeking to elect those who most closely approximate these standards. A prospective Board member should:

- be a Member in good standing of the Church for at least two years;
- be at least 18 years of age;
- not have been found by a court in Canada or elsewhere to be of unsound mind;
- not have the status of bankrupt;
- not be an “ineligible individual”, as defined in Section 149.1(1) of the Income Tax Act (Canada);
- possess the six team building elements of functional leadership as described in the Church’s 6C’s of qualified leadership;
 - **Calling:** the sense of purposeful direction you receive when you are answering the question, “How might I best serve God with the resources I have?” It is the conviction that a particular point of direction is where your character (person), chemistry (relational abilities), competencies (skills and experience), and capacity (the ability to bring it - to focus) should be spent.
 - **Character (1 Timothy 3:2-7 and Titus 1:6-9):** what a leader possesses when, through his convictions, he demonstrates biblical principles consistently. A Person who is demonstrating Christian and leader-like character is one who exercises himself towards godliness.
 - **Competency:** being true to who God has created you “to be” and “to do”. Both the Church and the leader are responsible for the discernment of how God has “shaped” the leader for the task/role. (S.H.A.P.E. – Spiritual Gift, Heart, Abilities, Personality, Experience).
 - **Chemistry:** the relational ability of the leader to “fit” into and “blend” into the existing team. A Person who fits and blends well is one who adds an intangible value to the cause of the community.

- **Capacity:** speaks to the leader's state of being and ability to "bring it" to the task/role. A person who has capacity is one whose heart is devoted and mind is focused. Maintenance of capacity is the responsibility of the leader but must be recognized and respected by the church.
- **Conviction:** having firm but aligned beliefs and values as to the nature, purpose, pathways, and policies of the church. These convictions stem from experience within the church and from other points of reference.
- agree with the vision and philosophy of ministry that the Church leadership espouses;
- be prepared to commit his time, talent, expertise, and leadership abilities to the Church for a period of three years;
- consistently participate in the Life Groups Ministry of the Church;
- be committed to maintaining the unity, purposes, and values of the Church and its pastors. A positive, supportive attitude does wonders for both pastor and congregation. A cynical, negative, or critical spirit is not conducive to church unity;
- can maintain the confidentiality of information he might receive during performance of Board duties;
- be a good manager of his own home and family, and finances;
- if married, his spouse should exhibit similar character qualities, and be supportive of his involvement in this ministry;
- regularly attend services and functions of the Church;
- support the operation of the Church and its ministries through tithing;
- have been regularly involved in at least one area of ministry at the Church;
- have a "servant's heart". The Greek word, Diakonos, from which we derive our English word, "deacon", means one who serves tables. The New Testament uses this word to denote the nature of Board Members – they are servants of Christ and His Church, elected to serve;
- have a growing walk with Christ, which is exemplified by a life of obedience to God's Word;
- not be a Family Member of any other member of the Board;
- not be a spouse, parent, or child of a staff member of the Church; and
- in accordance with the Church's Plan to Protect Policy, provide a recent police check.

*(Please refer to the attached **General Operating By-Law for Elections**)*



General Operating By-Law (Excerpts)

Definition of Board

1.1 "Board" means the Board of the Church, which shall be deemed to be the Board of Directors of the Corporation pursuant to the Act;

5.1 The property and business of the Church shall be managed by a Board of seven Directors of whom a majority of that number from time to time shall constitute a quorum.

For more detailed information on the role and duties of a Board Member, please refer to the Board Member role description article 5 of *the bridge's* General Operating By-Law.

Authority of Board

5.9.1 General Authority

The Board is chosen to serve the Church and, therefore, shall act in an advisory and administrative capacity with the Pastor in matters pertaining to the Church, its spiritual life and financial affairs and shall be responsible with the Pastor for the overall affairs of the Church as a governing board, approving policy, plans, budgets and audits, and shall make or cause to be made for the Church in its name any kind of contract which the Church may lawfully enter into, save as hereinafter provided, and generally may exercise with the Pastor such other powers and do such other acts and things as the Church is by its Letters Patent, the Act, or otherwise authorized to do.

There are four decisions that the Board may not make without approval of Membership:

- (i) the Board may not appoint nor dismiss the Pastor;
- (ii) the Board may not approve debt in excess of 10% of the previous year's general fund receipts for the organization;
- (iii) the Board may not change or establish the denominational affiliation of the Church; and
- (iv) the Board may not change the Constitution.

9.1 Definition and Duties of Nominating Committee

9.1.1 There shall be a Nominating Committee composed of a minimum five (5) Members and a maximum ten (10) Members, having the qualifications set out in Section 9.2. The members of the Nominating Committee shall be

- (i) the Pastor, or if the office of Pastor is vacant the person fulfilling the duties of Pastor as set out in this General Operating By-law;
- (ii) at least two members of the Board to be appointed by Resolution of the Board; and

- (iii) at least two other additional Members as the Board shall appoint by Resolution.
- 9.1.2 The Nominating Committee shall invite submissions of nominations for the position of Board Member from the Members. Members shall be entitled to make submissions to the Nominating Committee until a date set by the Committee, which shall not be less than 30 days prior to the date of the annual Meeting of Members at which the Board Members are to be elected. Submissions shall be made according to the procedure communicated to the Membership by the Nominating Committee.
- 9.1.3 The Nominating Committee shall determine if the nominees are qualified to hold the office for which they have been nominated in accordance with the qualification criteria set out in Section 5.2 and Appendix C. The Nominating Committee shall prayerfully consider all eligible nominees and select those who are willing and whom they deem best able to support the vision, mission, strategy, and needs of the church as Board Members.
- 9.1.4 Members of the Nominating Committee shall serve without remuneration; provided that a committee member may be paid reasonable expenses incurred by him in the performance of his duties.
- 9.1.5 The membership of the nominating committee shall be made known to the Membership at the time of the call for nominations.
- 9.1.6 During its considerations, the Nominating Committee has the authority to nominate someone not already nominated by the Membership.
- 9.1.7 The Nominating Committee shall make all reasonable efforts to present to the Members at the annual Meeting of Members a list of nominees, equal to the number of open positions to be filled on the Board. However, should the Nominating Committee be unable to find a sufficient number of qualified candidates to fill the number of open positions on the Board, the Nominating Committee shall present only those candidates who are qualified, leaving the remaining positions open until such time as a qualified candidate can be elected to the Board by the Members. Positions not filled by majority vote shall also remain vacant until a qualified candidate can be elected. Despite any such vacancies on the Board, the remaining directors may exercise all the powers of the Board so long as a quorum of the Board remains in office.

*(Please refer to the attached **Board Members Nomination Guidelines**)*