



Constitution

and By Laws

May 21, 2024

Certified to be a true copy of
Eastview Community Church Constitution and By Laws
dated this 21st day of May, 2024

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Bev Dyck". The signature is written over a horizontal blue line.

Bev Dyck, Secretary of the Leadership Board Eastview
Community Church Mennonite Brethren, Inc.

PART ONE - CONSTITUTION

Clause 1. NAME

The name of this Church shall be Eastview Community Church Mennonite Brethren, Inc., located in and around the City of Winnipeg in the Province of Manitoba, hereafter referred to as the "Church."

Clause 2. DEFINITIONS

Refer to Article 1 of Part 2: By-Laws for definitions.

Clause 3. PURPOSE AND FUNCTION

Non-Profit Status

The Church shall operate as a charity and shall be carried on without purpose of financial gain for its members, and any profits or other gains to the charity shall be used in promoting its purpose.

Mission Statement

The mission statement of the Church shall be: Leading people to Christ and on to maturity in Him.

May God enable us by the power of his Holy Spirit to be his church in our community and throughout the world.

Functions of the Church

We, the people of the Eastview Community Church, commit ourselves to:

Worship - We joyfully worship in the Spirit as we express our love to God in everything we do. We deliberately and regularly gather together to worship, pray, learn, give thanks, and praise God as scripture calls us to do.

Evangelism - We purposefully share the good news about Jesus, and introduce people to Jesus who haven't yet met him.

Discipleship - We follow Jesus together and model our character, motivations, and actions after his. We join the family of the church through baptism and testimony. We learn to obey the teaching of scripture. We take responsibility for our own spiritual growth, and we intentionally disciple others in their journey of becoming like Jesus.

Serve with Compassion - We purposefully express the love of Jesus through acts of service, compassion, and generosity toward people we encounter in our community and people across the globe.

Fellowship / Community - We strive daily to become more like Jesus and encourage one another by practicing faithful stewardship, extending

hospitality, and exercising our spiritual gifts.

Clause 4. AFFILIATION

The Church is a member of the Mennonite Brethren Church of Manitoba and is thereby affiliated with the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches. As such we affirm the Mennonite Brethren Confession of Faith and are committed to providing moral and material support to projects and activities of the above named conferences.

Clause 5. AMENDMENTS TO THE CONSTITUTION

Amendments to the constitution may be proposed by any church member. Proposed amendments shall be referred to the Leadership Board for the Board's consideration. A motion to amend the constitution must originate with the Leadership Board, and the Board shall publish the motion a minimum of thirty days prior to when a vote is taken. A vote to adopt the amendments can only be made at a meeting where the lesser of 20% of the membership, or 100 voting members are present. The motion will pass if there is a 60% majority of all votes cast.

Clause 6. DISSOLUTION

In the event of the dissolution of the Church, funds and assets of the Church remaining after the satisfaction of its debts and liabilities shall be transferred to the Mennonite Brethren Church of Manitoba, unless otherwise decided by the members.

PART TWO – BY-LAWS

ARTICLE I DEFINITIONS

The “Church” means Eastview Community Church Mennonite Brethren, Inc.

The “Leadership Board” or “Board” means the governing body of the church.

A “Director” means a member of the Leadership Board elected by the membership from time to time.

The “Officers” of the Church means the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, and one other Director appointed by the Leadership Board.

The “Moderator” is appointed by the Leadership Board from one of its Directors.

The “Vice-Moderator” is appointed by the Leadership Board from one of its Directors.

The “Senior Pastor” is elected by the members of the Church and is an ex-officio member of the Board with voting privileges.

ARTICLE II AUTHORITY

The Church has the authority to borrow money.

The Church has the authority to raise and receive monies and disburse the same in accordance with the stated mission of the Church.

The Leadership Board may, from time to time, appoint committees as it deems necessary to assist in the work of the Church.

ARTICLE III MEMBERSHIP

Section 1. ADMISSION TO MEMBERSHIP

- 1.1 Baptism upon personal confession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ, evidence of Christian conduct, and willingness to submit to and support the principles and practices of the church. The interested person contacts a Pastor and agrees to participate in the required teaching sessions. The Leadership Board or their appointees will interview the candidate. A prospective member will then share a personal testimony of faith in Christ with the Church.
- 1.2 Testimony as to baptism upon confession of faith. The interested person contacts a Pastor and agrees to participate in the required teaching sessions. The Leadership Board or their appointees will interview the candidate. A prospective member will then share a personal testimony of faith in Christ with the Church.
- 1.3 Reinstatement of a dismissed member who gives evidence of genuine repentance. The dismissed member notifies a Pastor who discusses a reinstatement process.
- 1.4 The Church may request a signed covenant as part of its procedure for admission to membership.

Section 2. TERMINATION OF MEMBERSHIP

- 2.1 Transfer. The member shall notify a Pastor who, along with the Leadership Board, shall process the request and forward a letter of recommendation to the receiving church.
- 2.2 Release. The member shall notify a Pastor who, along with the Leadership Board, shall process the request. If a member fails to request a release after six months of non-participation , the Church may seek to facilitate such release. After an additional six months with no evidence of participation in church life such members may be removed from the membership of the Church. This does not apply to shut-ins, students or special workers.
- 2.3 Removal. When a Member is found to be living in open sin and is unresponsive to admonition the Leadership Board will initiate loving discipline and limit or remove a member from roles of service. Should they continue in their waywardness after receiving admonition, the Leadership Board will initiate suspension of membership. The action of the Church is to be in accordance with the principles set forth in Matt. 18:15-17 and 1 Cor. 5:1-3 and is to be corrective in its aim and redemptive in its process.

ARTICLE IV BUSINESS MEETINGS AND PROCEDURES

Section 1. ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

- 1.1 The Church shall convene for its Annual General Meeting once a year. The exact date of the meeting shall be set by the Leadership Board and be announced at least one month in advance.
- 1.2 The fiscal year shall end July 31, or as the Church shall direct.
- 1.3 The Annual General Meeting shall be held to receive reports from the Leadership Board and from Committees, for response to recommendations, and for elections/affirmations as may be required.
- 1.4 The members shall approve the appointment of an accounting professional providing the audit or review of financial position.
- 1.5 Items for the agenda at the Annual General Meeting shall be submitted to the Leadership Board for approval.
- 1.6 The agenda, including reports, recommendations and nominations for election shall be published and distributed on Sunday, at least two weeks prior to the Annual General Meeting.
- 1.7 The Leadership Board shall publish and introduce all members of Board-appointed standing committees to the church.

Section 2. INTERIM BUSINESS MEETINGS

- 2.1 Interim Church Business Meetings, when required, shall be called by the Leadership Board and duly announced at least one week in advance.
- 2.2 Items for the agenda at the Business Meeting shall be submitted to the Leadership Board for approval prior to the meeting to assure an orderly meeting.

Section 3. PROCEDURES

- 3.1 Qualifications for voting. Only members may vote.
- 3.2 All elections shall be conducted by secret ballot.
- 3.3 Any Church member may ask for the floor at any Church meeting.
- 3.4 The customary parliamentary rules as adopted by the Mennonite Brethren Church of Manitoba shall be observed at the Annual General Meeting and Interim Business Meetings.

Section 4. QUORUM AND VOTE

- 4.1 Unless stated otherwise by the Constitution, or the By-Laws, a vote can only be taken at a meeting where the lesser of 20% of the membership, or 75 voting members are present.
- 4.2 For a vote to pass, the following majorities are required.
 - General Business – majority of all votes cast.
 - Special Purpose – 60% of all votes cast.
 - Calling of a Senior Pastor – 75% of all votes cast.
 - Affirming a member to the Leadership Board – 75% of all votes cast.
 - Changes to organizational structure - 60% of all votes cast.

Section 5. NOMINATION PROCEDURES

- 5.1 The Leadership Board, or a Board-appointed committee, shall serve as the discernment team and Nominating Committee of the Church.
- 5.2 Nominations for Leadership Board members shall be solicited from the Church membership.
- 5.3 All persons willing to serve on the Leadership Board or a Board-appointed standing committee shall review and indicate agreement with the CCMBC Confession of Faith and sign the Code of Personal and Ministry Ethics.
- 5.4 Nominations requiring affirmation shall be published at least two weeks before elections.

Section 6. VACANCIES

Vacancies on Board-appointed committees shall be reported to the Leadership Board who shall take suitable action to fill the vacancy.

Section 7. DELEGATES

Provincial and Canadian Conferences. The Senior Pastor and/or members or the Leadership Board shall represent the Church as delegates if possible. Other delegates shall be appointed by the Leadership Board as required.

Section 8. WAIVER OF BY-LAWS

The Church may temporarily waive the By-Laws at any Church meeting for no longer than the duration of that meeting by a motion from the floor. The motion must be passed by 80% majority of votes cast at a meeting where a minimum of 75 voting members are present.

Section 9. AMENDMENTS TO BY-LAWS

Amendments to the by-laws may be proposed by any church member. Proposed amendments shall be referred to the Leadership Board for the Board's consideration. A motion to amend the by-laws must originate with the Leadership Board, and the Board shall publish the motion a minimum of thirty days prior to when a vote is taken. A vote to adopt the amendments can only be made at a meeting where the lesser of 20% of the membership, or 100 voting members are present. The motion will pass if there is a 60% majority of all votes cast.