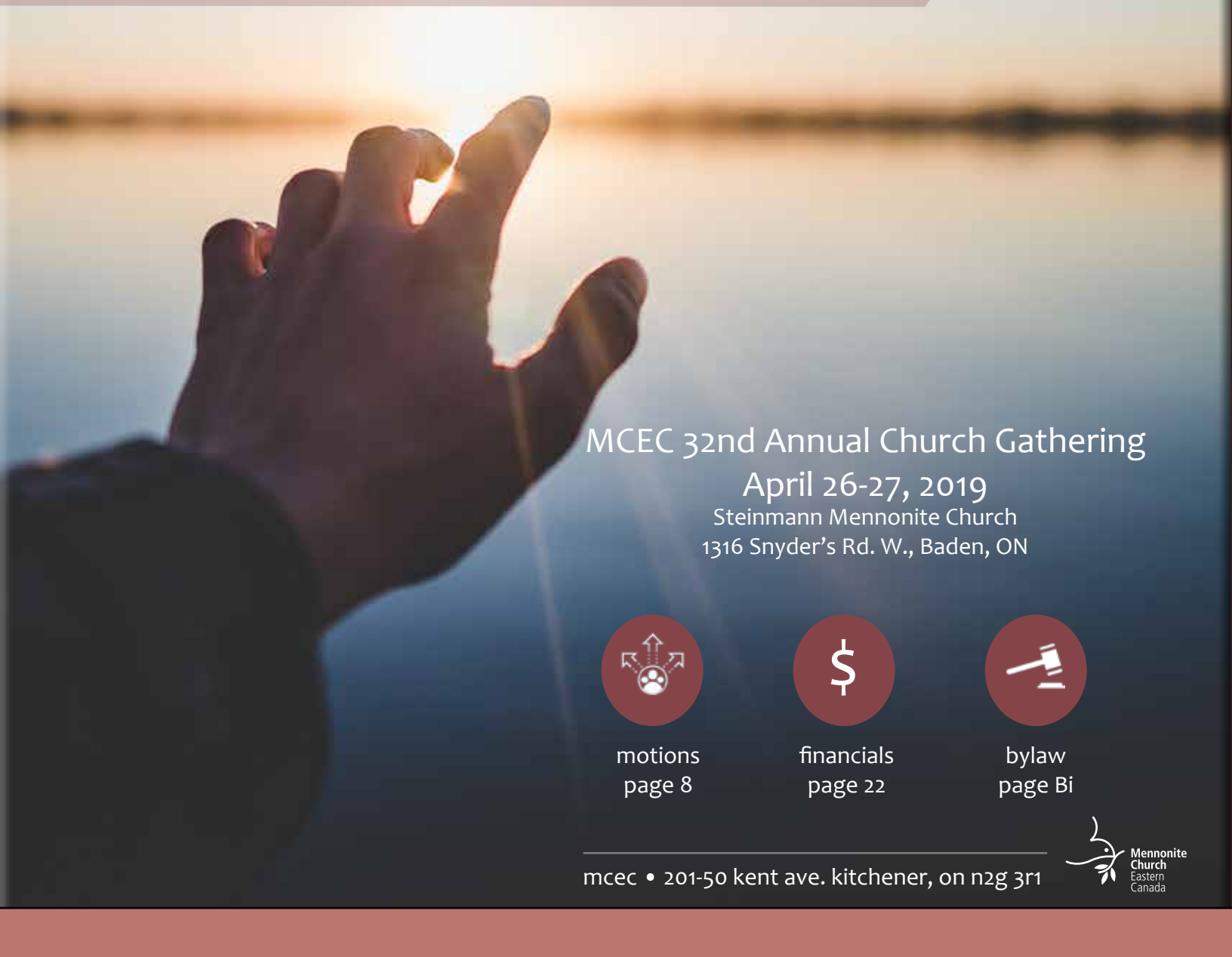


deepening our relationship with God - Psalm 27

discernment documents



MCEC 32nd Annual Church Gathering

April 26-27, 2019

Steinmann Mennonite Church
1316 Snyder's Rd. W., Baden, ON



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Facility Map



Steinmann Mennonite Church
1316 Snyder's Rd W,
Baden, ON N3A 3K8

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- Executive Council Members
- Legacy Initiatives Fund Project Descriptions
- Minister Introductions
- MCEC Staff
- MCEC Volunteers
- New Volunteers

Mennonite Church Canada: Our Nationwide Community of Faith

- Executive Staff Group
- Joint Council
- MC Canada Report 2017
- MC Canada Staff
- Regional Churches Reports

04 *Logistics*



Congregational Mailing

There are packages for your congregation. Thank you for helping us deliver them! Pick up is at the registration table.



Displays

Please visit our Partners in Ministry at their displays located in the hallway as indicated on the facility map.



Emergency Telephone

MCEC Cell: 519-781-5197
Available during Annual Church Gathering hours.



Evaluation

An evaluation form will arrive by email. We would appreciate if you would take a few moments to complete it.



Listening Committee

J.D. Penner and Ernie Harris will be our listening committee. Please feel free to approach them if you have a concern or question about you have heard or are experiencing at our gathering.



Livestream

www.mcec.ca
This event will be live-streamed.



Name Tags

Please help us recycle the name tag holders. At the end of the Gathering please remove the white name tag, tuck the string inside and leave in the boxes at the door.



Offering

Offering envelopes will be provided. To use your credit card:

- Fill out the form provided inside the offering envelope.
- Make a donation at the registration table.
- Go to www.mcec.ca and make your donation through our website.



Parliamentarian

Aldred Neufeldt is our parliamentarian and will advise us on procedural process when necessary.



Prayer Room

There is a prayer room available for your use. Please see facility map. Mennonite Spiritual Directors of Eastern Canada have formed a prayer circle and are praying for our gathering.



Twitter

Look for @extendthepeace and use hashtag #mcecacg2019 to share your reflections electronically.



WiFi

WiFi is available at Steinmann Mennonite Church. However, we strongly recommend that you download your documents to your devices prior to the ACG.

Friday, April 26, 2019

6:00 p.m. Registration
 7:00 - 9:00 Worship with April Yamasaki, Mike Erb, Anneli Loepp Thiessen
Drawing Near to God
 Psalm 27:1-14
 Table Discussions - Listening for God
 Congregational Milestones
 Financial Story of MCEC
 Ministry of Working Groups: Palestine/Israel and Truth and Reconciliation
 9:00 Celebration reception and fellowship

Saturday, April 27, 2019

8:00 a.m. Registration and Refreshments
 9:00 Worship with April Yamasaki, Mike Erb, Anneli Loepp Thiessen
Seeking and Waiting for the Lord
 Psalm 27:7-14
 Table Discussion: Listening for God
 Celebration of Leadership and Ministry Transitions
 Celebration of Nationwide Community of Faith
 Celebration of Congregations Transitioning to Full Members
 Refuge de Paix, Sherbrooke, QC and Markham Christian Worship Centre, Markham, ON
 12:00 noon Lunch
 1:00 p.m. Celebration of MCEC Ministry
 Celebration of Nationwide Community of Faith - Mennonite Church Alberta
 Blessing of Brian Bauman, MCEC Mission Minister retiring December 2019
 Table Discussion - Mission Ministry in MCEC
 Table Discussion - Mission Ministry in Your Neighbourhood
 4:30 Closing Worship



How We Communicate With Each Other

- Please treat each other with respect in Christian love.
- Identify yourself and your congregation/organization before making your remarks.
- Direct your remarks to the moderator and speak for yourself only, unless specifically commissioned to speak for a group. If so, name the group.
- Clarify whether you support the motion on the floor or have a different view.
- Keep your remarks brief to allow others time to speak.
- Allow everyone who wants to speak an opportunity to do so before speaking a second time to the same motion.
- Floor privileges are extended to all attendees.
- Voting privileges are reserved for delegates.

06 *Speakers & Worship Leaders*

**Speaker - April Yamasaki**

is a writer, pastor, and author of books on spiritual growth and Christian living. She leads workshops, retreats and conferences across North America and as of January 2019, will serve as Resident Author with Valley CrossWay Church, a liturgical worship community in Abbotsford, BC. She was the first woman ordained for pastoral ministry in Mennonite Church British Columbia and pastored Emmanuel Mennonite Church (Abbotsford, BC) for over 25 years.

You can follow her blogs at Writing and Other Acts of Faith and When You Work for the Church. Her book publications include: *Four Gifts: Seeking Self-Care for Heart, Soul, Mind, and Strength*; *Upside-Down Living: Sharing Faith Stories*; and *Sacred Pauses: Spiritual Practices for Personal Renewal*.

**Worship Leader - Mike Erb**

is a professional musician in the Waterloo area and a member of the Voices Together team - the committee tasked with creating the new Mennonite hymnal/worship resource. He is co-president, owner and instructor at Sight and Sounds Studio in New Hamburg specializing in group/individual instructions, commissions and audio recordings. He and his wife, Diana Erb, form a traditional and original country-roots band, Twas Now which was nominated for a 2018 Canadian Folk Music Award.

Mike is a lifelong member of MCEC - first as a child/young adult at Erb Street Mennonite Church in Waterloo, and now as a member of Hillcrest Mennonite Church in New Hamburg. Mike and Diana have a twelve year old son, Elliott.

**Worship Leader - Anneli Loepp Thiessen**

is passionate about sacred music. She is currently a piano performance and pedagogy student at the University of Ottawa and a recent graduate of Canadian Mennonite University with a Bachelor of Music Concentrations in piano performance and music ministry. She has worked the past number of years with Ontario Mennonite Music Camp as a director and instructor. Anneli is also involved with Voices Together and brings a rich depth of worship training and love for worship in the church.

St. Jacobs Mennonite Church - 175 Years of Ministry

St. Jacobs Mennonite Church (SJMC) began 175 years ago as the land around the village of St. Jacobs was being cleared for the first time by pioneering families. On October 29, 1844, just over 1 ¼ acres of land was bought for five shillings on behalf of those in the area wishing to form a Mennonite congregation. SJMC began sponsoring refugees from Laos in 1979 and by the late 1980s Grace Lao Mennonite Church began meeting for worship services at the St. Jacobs church. Through the late 1970s and 1980s an intentional effort was made to provide opportunities for young people within the congregation to test their gifts in pastoral ministry. This resulted in a number of young people who became pastors in various North American settings.



SJMC prays for Janet Bauman as she begins her ministry in 2018

St. Jacobs Mennonite Church is a vibrant, active, caring, inter-generational congregation. Communal worship, engaging the Biblical story, following Jesus, community life, spirituality, and peacemaking are all vital aspects of their life together.

- Excerpts From The Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online

KW House Church - 50 Years of Ministry

We celebrate God's goodness in this 50th anniversary year of K-W House Church. The beginnings, inspired by Reba Place in Chicago, took root in the Victoria Park Neighbourhood in downtown Kitchener. Many young families formed a rich life together in those early years and these relationships continue. Today our intentional communities continue to meet to study, worship and share life in each other's homes. We have experienced the fullness of life and loss as we travelled together these past 50 years. God's presence has accompanied us as we established The Refugee Reception Centre, at our original place of living and worship, 101 David St. Kitchener, and we celebrate the good life of retreats and worship that occur at Blenheim Retreat Centre. We trust that the future will unfold in the gracious ways that have been significant from the beginning.

As age and interest enfold us we celebrate God's presence in the journey. - Margaret Nally



KW House Church prepares to clean up on Earth Day

SMARRT - 25 years of Ministry

We celebrate 25 years of ministry of the Sexual Misconduct Resource Response Team (SMARRT). This congregational support team was formed by Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, Ontario Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, Be In Christ Church, and Mennonite Central Committee Ontario to respond to incidents of sexual misconduct in the church. As of fall 2018, SMARRT has begun a process of re-visioning its mission.

Calvary Mennonite Church (Monetville) - Withdrawal of Membership

Monetville is a small French/English community between the West Arm of Lake Nipissing and the French River. In 1944, the Ontario Mennonite Mission Board visited the area to determine the feasibility of starting a mission work among the English-speaking population. The first Summer Bible School was conducted in 1945, and the following November Sunday school began in the old school house. Differing worship styles prompted some members to leave Calvary Mennonite Church in 1998 to begin The Tree of Life (Mennonite) Church. The two churches together continued holding Summer Bible School for the community. In 2009 Calvary Mennonite offered a traditional style of worship to the local and tourist population, with an emphasis on living Christian lives as an example to the community. In a letter to MCEC dated February 2019, Calvary Mennonite Church has requested a withdrawal of their membership in MCEC.

- Excerpts From The Global Anabaptist Mennonite Encyclopedia Online

08 *Motions*

1. Adoption of the Financial Statements FYE January 31, 2019

MOTION: That we accept the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2019 as printed.

2. Appointment of Auditors

MOTION: That we appoint PricewaterhouseCoopers as auditors for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2020.

3. Acceptance of Minutes of 2018 Annual Church Gathering

MOTION: That we accept the minutes of the 31st annual meeting of Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, held April 27 & 28, 2018.

4. Approval of Executive Council Actions for 2018 - 2019

MOTION: That we approve all actions taken by the MCEC Executive Council for the year May 2018 to April 2019.

5. Adoption of MCEC General Bylaw No. 4

MOTION: Whereas Mennonite Church Eastern Canada desires to have a Bylaw that serves the mission of MCEC, which is dedicated to actively support God's mission in the world and the congregations of MCEC; and

Whereas MCEC for the purposes of greater clarity and due to the numerous amendments to the existing General Operating Bylaw, being By-law No. 3; and

Whereas the revised Bylaw No. 4 has been reviewed in its entirety, and with opportunity for amendment, by Delegates to the 2019 MCEC Annual Church Gathering;

Be It Resolved that the Corporation of MCEC shall now adopt a new General Operating Bylaw, being Bylaw No. 4, which replaces in entirety the existing General Operating Bylaw No. 3.

6. Approval of Clarifying MCEC Ministry Priorities

MOTION: Whereas MCEC seeks to be a church that supports God's purposes in the world;

Be it resolved that in addition to the purposes expressed in the bylaw governing MCEC, that MCEC also adopts as one of its primary mission priorities, the sharing of MCEC owned or leased properties with other charitable organizations at nominal cost, provided that the mission of such charitable organizations is deemed to be compatible with MCEC. Decisions to support the efficient and cost effective operation of such minded charitable organizations shall be made at the discretion of the Executive Council.

7. Approval of MCEC Spending Plan for 2019 - 2020

MOTION: That we accept the 2019 - 2020 spending plan as presented.

8. Approval of Slate

MOTION: That we accept the 2019 - 2020 slate as presented.

Minutes 09



Minutes of MCEC's 31st Annual Church Gathering

Redeemer University College, 777 Garner Road East, Ancaster ON
April 27 – 28, 2018

Friday, April 27, 2018 - 7:00 p.m.

1. **Welcome & Prayer** – David Martin, Executive Minister
2. **Witness / Myanmar** – Brian Bauman, Mission Minister, Norm Dyck, Mission Engagement Minister, Yoel Masyawong, Mission Associate, Fanosie Legesse, Mission Associate, Jehu Ching Lian, Myanmar Mission International, spoke on International Witness and a visit to Myanmar. Brian and Norm affirmed the idea that the international mission work of Mennonite Church Canada was continuing. MCEC has 21 diaspora congregations. There were four congregations attending the gathering to discern whether they want to partner with MCEC.

Pastor Western, Assemblée de la Grâce, and Jehu prayed in their own languages for God's leading.

3. **Celebrating and Thankfulness for our Faith and Work** – David Martin
 - a. **Milestones**
 - i. **Congregational Milestones:**
 - Jane Finch Faith Community – 25 years
 - Rainham Mennonite Church – 225 years
 - Riverdale Mennonite Church – 71 years, closed in 2017
 - The Village International Mennonite Church – 7 years – closed in 2017
 - Mennonite Church Eastern Canada – 30 years
 - b. **Staff Milestones:**
 - i. Departures: Liz Weber (Administrative Assistant), Henry Paetkau (Church Leadership Minister)
 - ii. New staff: several new staff members were acknowledged. David led in a prayer of blessing for departing and new staff.
4. **2017 – 2018 Financial Statements** – Paul Wideman, MCEC Moderator, introduced the Listening Committee for the weekend as Eleanor Epp-Stobbe and Randell Neudorf.
 - a. **Review of audited financial statements** - Lloyd Redekopp, chair, Administrative and Financial Services Council, and Sean East, MCEC Financial Manager, reviewed the audited financial statements
Motion "On behalf of the Executive Council, Lloyd Redekopp moved to accept the audited financial statements for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2018 as printed." Seconded by Joachim Dau, Niagara United Mennonite Church. Carried.

5. **Legacy Initiatives Fund Update** – Lloyd Redekopp reviewed the financial report for the Legacy Initiative Fund.
6. **Approval of Auditors – Motion** “On behalf of the Administrative and Financial Services Council, Lloyd Redekopp moved to appoint PricewaterhouseCoopers as auditors for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2019.” Seconded by Dale Schmidt, Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church. Carried.
7. **Offering** - An offering was held and proceeds were given to initiatives in Myanmar.
8. **Ministry Initiatives** – David Martin introduced MCEC’s Peace and Justice Working Groups:
 - a. Palestine-Israel Working Group – Palmer Becker and Kathy Bergen explained their work in response to the resolution at the Mennonite Church Canada Assembly in 2016.
 - b. Indigenous-Settler Working Group
 - c. Anabaptist Learning Workshop – Matthew Bailey-Dick, Coordinator, showed a promotional video and initiated table activities to encourage and demonstrate working together.
9. **Sending Worship** - The worship team led in songs of worship.

Adjourned - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, April 28, 2018 - 9:00 a.m.

1. **Opening Worship and Welcome** - Arli Klassen, Mennonite World Conference, introduced the main speaker, Barbara Nkala, from South Africa. A short video of Mennonite World Conference was presented. Barbara Nkala spoke on Hebrew 10:24-25: Connected to the body of Christ. She shared her experiences of how she is connected to herself, her family, her local church, national churches and to everyone around the world.
2. **Minutes of 2017 Annual Church Gathering** – Eleanor Epp-Stobbe, Executive Council secretary, highlighted the minutes of the 2017 Annual Church Gathering. **Motion** - “On behalf of Executive Council, Eleanor Epp-Stobbe moved to accept the minutes of the 30th annual meeting of Mennonite Church Eastern Canada, held April 28 and 29, 2017.” Seconded by Dave Burkholder, Rouge Valley Mennonite Church. Carried.
3. **Review and Accept Executive Council Actions – Motion** – “On behalf of the Executive Council, Eleanor Epp-Stobbe moved to approve all actions taken by the MCEC Executive Council for the year May 2017 to April 2018.” Seconded by Lois Konrad, Leamington United Mennonite Church. Carried.
4. **2017-2018 Slate** – Jeff Taylor, chair of the Gift Discernment Committee, introduced the slate.
5. **Ministry Transitions** – Henry Paetkau, Church Leadership Minister, introduced pastors new to MCEC. The assembly prayed for them.

David Martin introduced Marilyn Rudy-Froese as the new Church Leadership Minister. Marilyn shared how God has lead her and walked with her in her ministry, and that she is trusting God in how God will lead and reveal the journey.

6. **Connected ONE** – Norm Dyck introduced the guest speakers who will share how they are connected to the church and their communities
 - a. Neighbourhood Church - Jacquie East, West Hills Fellowship, shared her story about being connected with families at the hockey arena.
 - b. Regional Church - Randell Neudorf, pastor for The Commons, talked about how God is building bridges and how people are putting kingdom building first.
 - c. Neighbourhood Church - Ruth Boehm, pastor for Faith Mennonite Church, shared how we are all connected through one person, Jesus. We all share the same journey of sharing faith with youth and connecting with

other youth groups.

- d. Nationwide Church Joint Council, Regional Representative for Eastern Canada – Alicia Good as a member of the Mennonite Church Canada Joint Council informed how they are working at establishing nationwide priorities. The Joint Council meets in different provinces to learn about experiences in each province. Congregations need to work together in this time of change: share ideas, resources, tools and upholding each other in prayer.

7. Connected TWO

- a. Leadership Training in Under-Resourced Neighbourhoods (LTURN) - Colin McCartney likened the movement of God to the Amazon River. What makes the Amazon so powerful is all the little tributaries feeding into it. God calls rivers to connect in inner city Toronto through LTURN. He introduced three rivers:
 - i. Jordan Thoms, pastor of Warden Underground, grew up in Warden Woods, Toronto with great mentors. He mentors others to form their lives around God.
 - ii. Judith McCartney, pastor at Soul House, has a passion to plant churches to give people a place to belong and become a healthy community reflecting God's love.
 - iii. Jon Folkeringa has been apprenticing as a church planter for the past year. He is involved in three different churches. This time next year, he hopes to have planted his first church.
- b. Round Table Discussion regarding what people heard in the Connected presentations -
 - i. How do these broader church structures strengthen your congregation?
 - ii. How could they do better?
 - iii. How and when do you feel connected to the many aspects and expressions of the Church?

8. Celebration of the MCEC Community of Congregations

MCEC Mission Associate, Michel Monette, has been making connections to congregations in Montreal. Two new emerging congregations were introduced.

- a. Assemblée de la Grâce, Montreal – Pastor Jean Westerne Joseph shared greetings.
 - a. Matu-Chin Christian Church, Kitchener – Pastor Thingsai shared greetings.
- Paul Wideman presented each church leader with a potted plant.

9. Offering

10. Lunch Break

- 11. Introduction of 2019 Spending Plan** – Sean East reviewed the 2019 Spending Plan, explaining how the funds will be handled to reflect the new financial relationship with MC Canada. There was affirmation for the new layout of the financial reports as understandable and clear and a request that MCEC add support for youth and provide leadership around how we engage youth in congregations. David Martin responded that youth ministry will be addressed in the coming year.

- 12. New Regional and Nationwide Church Structure** – Ryan Siemens, Mennonite Church Saskatchewan Executive Minister, brought greetings, and informed us of their ministries. He was excited about new ways that we can share resources, such as ReLearning Community, across our nation.

13. Connected THREE

- a. Staff Changes – Brian Quan, Assistant Moderator, and David Martin introduced staff changes
 - i. Blessing and sending of Liz Weber and Henry Paetkau
 - ii. Blessing and welcoming of Norm Dyck, Mission Engagement Minister, Marilyn Rudy-Froese, Church Leadership Minister, Scott Albrecht, Accounting Assistant and Ellen Kim, Administrative Assistant.
 - iii. Blessing and welcoming of Regional Ministry Associates: Roberson Mbayamvula, Kevin Derksen and Cathrin van Sintern-Dick
 - iv. Blessing and welcoming of Conrad Grebel University College President: Marcus Shantz
- b. 40 Wood St. E. in Hamilton has been divested from MCEC to Welcome Inn Community Centre. There was a blessing for Welcome Inn Community Centre and Executive Director, Jenn Kellner.
- c. Warden Woods Community Centre and MCEC have reached a resolution with a 49-year lease to allow Warden Wood Community Centre to have first right of purchase at 50% of value of property. MCEC will have

two representatives on their board of directors. The lease allows Warden Underground to have access to the community centre for worship.

- 13. ReLearning Community** – Following a promotional video, Norm Dyck explained how ReLearning Community has functioned at MCEC, and the possibilities for this ministry nationwide.

14. MCEC Discernment

- a. Congregations discerning their relationship to MCEC – David Martin responded to congregations that have struggled to belong to MCEC because of the same-sex issue and other theological issues. He apologized for not understanding their position and concerns well enough. Five congregations are assessing departure from MCEC. David acknowledged that their voices speak a truth which we need to hear. We need to love each other deeply.

Arli Klassen, incoming Moderator, expressed Executive Council's concern that we find new ways to hear each other better and communicate our love and commitment to each other, especially when we disagree. She invited congregants to reach out to these congregations in love. Likewise, everyone should consider the unity within their own congregations.

- b. Arli invited those present to share wisdom, questions and comments:

Kevin Peters Unrau from Hillcrest Mennonite Church asked how churches in MCEC with diversity actually know each other if we don't talk to each other. He suggested the idea of a Relearning huddle model where groups learn to appreciate the theological gifts of everyone.

Dave Tiessen informed that Bethel Mennonite Church is part of an Evangelical Anabaptist Partners group. It is not a group that is encouraging disengagement but to nurture a vision of faith. He appreciated hearing from David because it has been a difficult journey.

Steve Drudge from Steinmann Mennonite Church was hearing a lot of "them/they" language. This does not lead to unity.

This was followed by silent and then corporate prayer.

- 16. Approval of MCEC Spending Plan** – Lloyd Redekopp thanked Sean East and Brent Charette, Operations and Church Engagement Minister, for their financial work on behalf of MCEC. The giving covenant is evolving and will continue. He thanked churches for supporting MCEC.

Motion: "On behalf of the Executive Council, Lloyd Redekopp moved to accept the 2018-2019 spending plan as printed on pages 44 – 46 in the Discernment documents." Seconded by Victor Klassen, Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church. Carried.

Brent thanked Lloyd for his work on the Administrative and Financial Services Council for the past seven years, which included participation on the Executive Council. His term has ended. Lloyd is a wise, thoughtful lover of the church.

- 17. Approval of Slate – Motion:** "On behalf of the Gift Discernment Committee, Jeff Taylor moved to accept the 2018 – 2019 slate as presented." Seconded by Craig Frere, Community Mennonite Fellowship (Drayton). Motion carried.

Jeff acknowledged council members whose terms are completed.

- 18. Informed Conversations** – To better resource congregations, Al Rempel's role as Regional Minister was increased and additional support given through three Regional Ministry Associates. Al has been using a congregation self-reflection tool called Informed Conversations, developed by Credence & Co, inviting congregations to look at how God is active in their churches.

Betty Pries from Credence & Co spoke about the ten themes of a thriving congregations. Louise Wideman from Vineland United Mennonite Church and Wazir Ally and Steve Cox from The Gathering Church (Kitchener) shared their experiences with the tool.

19. Connected FOUR: Mission / International Witness broad overview - Norm Dyck described MCEC as a regional church that is building international relationships with

- longstanding connections with international witness workers
- leaders in Ethiopia, Myanmar, Thailand, Caribbean/Haiti, Brazil, Eritrea, Benin and Columbia.

Norm also explained ReLearning Community and how congregations build relationships in their communities.

Brian Bauman commented on new churches in MCEC: 11 exploring conversations, 10 church plants, 15 emerging churches.

Pastor Thingsai concluded in a prayer of blessing for MCEC congregations.

20. Closing Comments – Paul Wideman's term on the Executive Council ended with the Annual Church Gathering. David Martin thanked Paul for his eight years on Executive Council, three as moderator. He has made incredible sacrifices and volunteered many hours with MCEC and MC Canada.

21. Adjourned - 4:30 pm

14 *Executive Council Actions*

May 22, 2018

- a. Approved minutes of the March 20, 2018 meeting
- b. Approved a long-term, no-interest loan and grant for Meheret Evangelical Church (Kitchener) to purchase a building
- c. Approved an initial three-year commitment for a Mission Associate contract, time and expenses, for one day per week as teacher and coach with East-African diaspora pastors and leader
- d. Approved an initial three-year commitment to fund teachers from MCEC to Meserete Kristos College for one month per year

June 19, 2018

- a. Approved minutes of the May 22, 2018 meeting

September 18, 2018

- a. Approved minutes of the June 19, 2018 meeting
- b. Appointed Keith Regehr, First Mennonite Church, as an MCEC representative to the Mennonite Central Committee Ontario Board
- c. Appointed Sylvia Hook, Erb Street Mennonite Church, as MCEC representative on the Mennonite Publishing Services Board
- d. Appointed Rich Steinmann, Steinmann Mennonite Church, to the Executive Council as Administrative and Financial Services Council representative
- e. Approved Ernie Harris, Nairn Mennonite Church, as Executive Council Secretary, replacing Eleanor Epp-Stobbe

November 20, 2018

- a. Approved minutes of the September 18, 2018 meeting

January 15, 2019

- a. Approved minutes of the November 20, 2018 meeting
- b. Appointed Kim Penner, Shantz Mennonite Church, and Charleen Jongejan Harder, North Leamington United Mennonite Church, to the Gift Discernment Committee. Charleen began her term February 1, 2019 and Kim begins her term on May 1, 2019
- c. Received Refuge de Paix and Markham Christian Worship Centre into full status membership in MCEC upon affirmation of delegates at the 2019 Annual Church Gathering
- d. Affirmed the directions for budget development
- e. Affirmed how the Gift Discernment Committee is working at nominating Mennonite Church Canada delegates.
- f. Approved renewing *Canadian Mennonite's* covenant for another year

February 22, 2019

- a. Approved the minutes of the January 15, 2019 meeting
- b. Appointed Marilyn Rudy-Froese, Church Leadership Minister, to act as the official liaison in relation to the provinces of Ontario, Quebec, and New Brunswick when requesting a licence for MCEC credentialed pastors to perform marriages
- c. Adopted a revised Bylaw for MCEC for approval by delegates at the 2019 Annual Church Gathering
- d. At the request of the congregation, removed Calvary Mennonite Church (Monetville) from membership in MCEC

March 19 2019

- a. Approved the minutes of the January 15, 2019 meeting
- b. Approved the recommendation that the name of Administrative and Financial Services Council be simplified to Finance Council
- c. Appointed Jonathan Brubacher, Elmira Mennonite Church, to fill a vacancy on the Gift Discernment Committee
- d. Received Conrad Grebel University College's Historian's Report
- e. Approved adopting the Audited Financial Statements for Fiscal Year End 2019 for delegate approval at the 2019 Annual Church Gathering
- f. Approved recommending PriceWaterhouseCoopers as auditors for Fiscal Year End 2020 for appointment at the 2019 Annual Church Gathering
- g. Approved financial statement FYE 2019 to be presented at the 2019 Annual Church Gathering
- h. Approved adopting the 2020 Spending Plan for delegate approval at the 2019 Annual Church Gathering
- i. Took action to conclude a relationship with a church plant

16 *Slate of Volunteers*



MCEC COUNCILS AND COMMITTEES

Executive Council

20-1	J.D. Penner		Toronto United
20-1	Randell Neudorf		The Commons
21-2	Brian Quan	Assistant Moderator	Toronto Chinese
20-0	Richard Steinmann	Finance Representative	Steinmann
21-1	Ernie Harris		Nairn
22-1	Maciel Arias		Toronto New Life
22-1	Stephanie Chandler Burns		Bloomingtondale
22-2	Arli Klassen	Moderator	First Mennonite (Kitchener)
22-2	Suzanne Bender		Steinmann
	<i>David Martin, ex officio, MCEC Executive Minister</i>		

Finance Council

20-0	Richard Steinmann		Steinmann
21-0	_____		
21-1	Joyce Collard		Erb Street
21-1	Robert Tiessen		Toronto United
22-1	_____		
22-1	_____		
22-1	_____		
	<i>Brent Charette, ex officio, MCEC Operations and Church Engagement Minister</i>		
	<i>David Martin, ex officio, MCEC Executive Minister</i>		

Leadership Council

20-2	Jessica Reesor Rempel		Stirling Avenue
20-1	Karen Sheil		Harrow
21-1	Ben Cassels		Waterloo-Kitchener
21-1	Alissa Bender		Hamilton
22-1	Chung Vang		First Hmong
22-2	Louise Wideman		Vineland
22-2	Richard Ratzlaff	Chair	Toronto United
	<i>Marilyn Rudy-Froese, ex officio, MCEC Church Leadership Minister</i>		

20, 21, 22 year term is complete 0, 1, 2 - term person is serving (0 indicates a mid-term replacement)
Individuals in bold have agreed to serve an initial or subsequent term.

Mission Council

20-1	Rebecca Riek		First Mennonite (Kitchener)
20-2	Tim Wagler		Avon
21-1	Yoel Masyawong	Chair	Grace Lao
21-1	Judith McCartney		Soul House
21-1	Craig Frere		Community (Drayton)
22-1			
22-2	Kara Carter		Wellesley
	<i>Brian Bauman, ex officio, MCEC Mission Minister</i>		

Gift Discernment**Appointed by Executive Council, Accountable to Executive Council**

20-1	Gladys Bender	Chair	Steinmann
22-0	Charleen Jongejan Harder		North Leamington
21-1	Kim Penner		Shantz
22-1	Jonathan Brubacher		Elmira
22-2	Peter Janzen		Niagara
	<i>David Martin, ex officio, MCEC Executive Minister</i>		

MCEC REPRESENTATIVE APPOINTMENTS**Canadian Multifaith Federation (CMF) Board**

20-0	Judith Stamp	Toronto United
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Conrad Grebel University College Board

20-1	Barb Smith-Morrison	Bloomingtondale
20-2	Carol Ringer	Toronto United
21-1	Morgan Grainger	The Gathering
21-2	Jim Tiessen	Hamilton
21-2	Paul Fieguth	Waterloo North
22-1	Roger Kehl	First Mennonite (Kitchener)
22-1		
22-2	Cate Falconer	Hagerman
22-2	Andrew Roth	Erb Street

Detweiler Meeting House Board

20-1	Mike Erb	Hillcrest
22-3	Doug Roeder	Calvary Ayr

Mennonite Central Committee Ontario Board

21-2	Lynn Rempel	Waterloo North
22-1	Keith Regehr	First Mennonite (Kitchener)

Mennonite Publishing Services Board

22-1	Sylvia Hook	Erb Street
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Ontario Mennonite Music Camp Board

22-1	Melinda Metzger	St. Jacobs
22-1	Sara Fretz	Stirling Avenue
22-2	Sue Wahl	Erb Street

20, 21, 22 year term is complete 0, 1, 2 - term person is serving (0 indicates a mid-term replacement)
 Individuals in bold have agreed to serve an initial or subsequent term.

Rockway Mennonite Collegiate Board**Term begins in November**

20-1 John Klassen
 21-1 Chanel Cressman
 22-1 _____

East Zorra
 Breslau

Silver Lake Mennonite Camp Board

22-2 Wendy Janzen

St. Jacobs

United Mennonite Educational Institute Board**Term begins in November**

22-1 _____

Warden Woods Community Centre Board

22-1 Judith McCartney
 22-1 Jordan Thoms

Soul House
 Warden Underground

Mennonite Church Canada Assembly Delegates – 26 regional church delegates for 2019 Gathering

	David Martin	MCEC Executive Minister	
	Al Rempel	MCEC Staff	
	Ruth Boehm	MC Canada Joint Council	
19-2	Suzanne Bender		Steinmann
19-1	Stephanie Chandler Burns		Bloomingtondale
19-2	Ernie Harris		Nairn
19-2	Randell Neudorf		The Commons
19-2	Brian Quan		Toronto Chinese
19-1	Gladys Bender		Steinmann
19-1	Tina Charbonneau		North Leamington
19-1	Gord Driedger		Petitcodiac
19-1	Hannah Geurkink		Montreal
19-1	Karlie Haining		Vineland
19-1	Emily Hunsberger		Shantz
19-1	Max Kennel		Rainham
19-1	Anneli Loepp Thiessen		The Gathering
19-1	Gloria Martin		Elmira
19-1	Yoel Masyawong		Grace Lao
19-1	Roberson Mbayamvula		Hagerman
19-1	Judith McCartney		Soul House
19-1	Michel Monette		Hochma
19-1	J.D. Penner		Toronto United
19-1	Yared Seretse		Meheret
19-1	Katie Steckly		Stirling Avenue
19-1	Chung Vang		First Hmong
19-1	Mesfin Woldearegay		Bethel Ethiopian

20, 21, 22 year term is complete 0, 1, 2 - term person is serving (0 indicates a mid-term replacement)
 Individuals in bold have agreed to serve an initial or subsequent term.

Mennonite Church Canada Joint Council

	Arli Klassen	MCEC Moderator	
21-1	Alicia Good	MCEC Constituency Representative	North Leamington

Mennonite Church Canada Nominating Committee Appointee

22-1	Gladys Bender	Steinmann
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*20, 21, 22 year term is complete 0, 1, 2 - term person is serving (0 indicates a mid-term replacement)
Individuals in bold have agreed to serve an initial or subsequent term.*

20 *New Congregations*

Full Membership Status

is granted by action of the executive council and affirmed by delegates with public welcome at the MCEC Annual Church Gathering. This year we welcome Markham Christian Worship Centre and Refuge de Paix.

What would you like to say to the MCEC family?

Markham Christian Worship Centre, Markham, ON



“As a church we are here to sow the seed and make disciples. It is God who brings the growth. Sometimes we wonder why everyone else is growing and we are not growing but God has time for everything and a plan. His plan will prevail above anything else when we trust him. Staying in the presence of God makes all the difference.”

- Pastor Kapilan Savarimuthu

- 75 people with roots in Sri Lanka
 - Language of Worship: Tamil
 - Congregation joined MCEC in 2009
 - Share facilities with Hagerman Mennonite Church and Markham Chinese Mennonite Church in Markham, ON
 - Meet Sunday evening: Sunday school, worship & teaching; Tuesday evening: Prayer; Special times of prayer and fasting
-

Refuge de Paix, Sherbrooke, QC



“We have been attending the Annual Church Gathering since 2007 and my eyes have tears in gratitude to God every time for the brotherhood and unity of the gathered brothers and sisters, with differences in language and ethnicity, but with the same open heart to serve the Lord. Do not stop dreaming about God’s plans, continue to do everything possible to spread His word.”

- Pastor Lucy Roca

- 25 people with roots in South America
- Language of Worship: Spanish
- Congregation joined MCEC in 2011
- Rented facilities in Sherbrooke, QC
- Offers settlement and assistance ministry to Hispanic migrants

Litany of Response for Welcoming New Congregations

Leader: These persons now presented to you have witnessed to their faith in Jesus Christ and offer themselves as companions in our obedience to Christ. It is our privilege and joy to reaffirm our partnership in our family of faith.

People: **We freely receive you, even as Christ has received us.**

We open ourselves to continue in fellowship with you in worship, study, service, and discipline.

We reaffirm our willingness to give and receive counsel and to offer and accept forgiveness in the redeemed community.

We joyfully renew our commitment to you as partners, both in the care of our spiritual family, and in our mission to the world.

22 *Balance Sheet and Operations Statement*

STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDED January 31, 2019

	ACTUAL YEAR TO DATE \$	BUDGET YEAR TO DATE \$	OVER (UNDER) BUDGET \$	BUDGET CURRENT YEAR \$
REVENUE				
Revenue - Individual and Estate Donations (MCEC)	\$102,547	\$110,000	(\$7,453)	\$110,000
Revenue - Individuals & Churches (MC Canada)	\$50,393	\$0	\$50,393	\$0
Revenue - Church Giving	\$1,862,423	\$1,885,383	(\$22,959)	\$1,885,383
Revenue - Relational Witness Giving	\$297,998	\$82,120	\$215,878	\$82,120
Revenue - Women of MCEC	\$1,500	\$4,500	(\$3,000)	\$4,500
Revenue - Interest Income	\$81,872	\$89,117	(\$7,245)	\$89,117
	<u>\$2,396,734</u>	<u>\$2,171,120</u>	<u>\$225,614</u>	<u>\$2,171,120</u>
Partner Ministries				
Mennonite Church Canada - Operating	\$632,460	\$630,000	\$2,460	\$630,000
Mennonite Church Canada - Relational Witness	\$297,998	\$82,120	\$215,878	\$82,120
Pass Through Donations	(\$5,411)	\$0	(\$5,411)	\$0
Mennonite World Conference	\$8,962	\$6,962	\$2,000	\$6,962
Mennonite Central Committee	\$951	\$0	\$951	\$0
Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary	\$56,000	\$56,000	\$0	\$56,000
Conrad Grebel University College	\$154,171	\$154,171	\$0	\$154,171
Rockway Mennonite Collegiate	\$73,911	\$73,911	\$0	\$73,911
United Mennonite Educational Institute	\$27,905	\$27,905	\$0	\$27,905
Ontario Mennonite Music Camp	\$2,300	\$2,300	\$0	\$2,300
Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp	\$11,498	\$11,498	\$0	\$11,498
Silver Lake Mennonite Camp	\$11,498	\$11,498	\$0	\$11,498
Willowgrove Camp	\$11,498	\$11,498	\$0	\$11,498
Canadian Mennonite	\$78,726	\$78,530	\$196	\$78,530
	<u>\$1,362,467</u>	<u>\$1,146,393</u>	<u>\$216,074</u>	<u>\$1,146,393</u>
TOTAL OPERATING FUND REVENUE	<u>\$1,034,266</u>	<u>\$1,024,727</u>	<u>\$9,539</u>	<u>\$1,024,727</u>
OPERATING FUND EXPENDITURES				
Executive (Schedule 1)	\$125,254	\$114,613	\$10,641	\$114,613
Leadership Resourcing (Schedule 2)	\$119,948	\$124,454	(\$4,506)	\$124,454
Mission Resourcing (Schedule 3)	\$217,304	\$230,892	(\$13,588)	\$230,892
Congregational Resourcing (Schedule 4)	\$177,111	\$184,673	(\$7,563)	\$184,673
Operations (Schedule 5)	\$428,034	\$446,371	(\$18,337)	\$446,371
Occupancy (Schedule 6)	\$108,667	\$108,941	(\$274)	\$108,941
Operations Support of Restricted Funds (Schedule 7)	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$0	\$22,000
Total Operating Fund Expenditures	<u>\$1,198,317</u>	<u>\$1,231,944</u>	<u>(\$33,627)</u>	<u>\$1,231,944</u>
Net Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations	<u>(\$164,051)</u>	<u>(\$207,217)</u>	<u>\$43,166</u>	<u>(\$207,217)</u>
Transfers (to)/from Faithful Steward Fund	\$164,051	\$207,217	(\$43,166)	\$207,217
Net Operating Fund revenue (expenditures)	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES
FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDED January 31, 2019

	ACTUAL YEAR TO DATE \$	BUDGET YEAR TO DATE \$	OVER (UNDER) BUDGET \$	BUDGET CURRENT YEAR \$
Executive (Schedule 1)				
Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoveries	(\$7,405)	\$0	(\$7,405)	\$0
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	\$92,219	\$92,863	(\$643)	\$92,863
Staff Travel and Expenses	\$3,219	\$8,000	(\$4,781)	\$8,000
Staff Professional Development	\$421	\$500	(\$79)	\$500
Staff Professional Development Pool	\$3,409	\$9,250	(\$5,841)	\$9,250
Council & Committee Travel & Expenses	\$23,408	\$2,000	\$21,408	\$2,000
Special Projects	\$9,982	\$2,000	\$7,982	\$2,000
	\$125,254	\$114,613	\$10,641	\$114,613
Leadership Resourcing (Schedule 2)				
Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoveries	(\$1,983)	(\$3,000)	\$1,017	(\$3,000)
TiM - Fees, Donations, Recoveries	(\$30,236)	(\$23,000)	(\$7,236)	(\$23,000)
Lebold Banquet - Tickets, Donations, Sponsorships	(\$12,498)	(\$16,000)	\$3,502	(\$16,000)
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	\$89,738	\$89,504	\$235	\$89,504
Staff Travel and Expenses	\$8,348	\$7,000	\$1,348	\$7,000
Staff Professional Development	\$812	\$500	\$312	\$500
Council & Committee Travel & Expenses	\$1,133	\$1,500	(\$367)	\$1,500
Pastor & Congregational Support	\$5,323	\$9,200	(\$3,877)	\$9,200
TiM Program Expenses	\$30,236	\$23,000	\$7,236	\$23,000
Education & Training	\$17,627	\$19,750	(\$2,123)	\$19,750
Lebold Banquet Expenses & Donation	\$11,448	\$16,000	(\$4,552)	\$16,000
	\$119,948	\$124,454	(\$4,506)	\$124,454

**SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES
FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDED January 31, 2019**

	ACTUAL YEAR TO DATE \$	BUDGET YEAR TO DATE \$	OVER (UNDER) BUDGET \$	BUDGET CURRENT YEAR \$
Mission Resourcing (Schedule 3)				
Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoveries	(\$38,804)	(\$12,000)	(\$26,804)	(\$12,000)
Transfers In From Restricted Funds	(\$179,852)	(\$179,852)	\$0	(\$179,852)
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	\$196,692	\$198,744	(\$2,052)	\$198,744
Staff Travel and Expenses	\$12,515	\$12,000	\$515	\$12,000
Staff Professional Development	\$284	\$1,000	(\$716)	\$1,000
Council & Committee Travel & Expenses	\$962	\$1,000	(\$38)	\$1,000
Education, promotion and outreach	\$3,728	\$5,000	(\$1,272)	\$5,000
Church Planting				
Mission Associates	\$13,976	\$17,000	(\$3,024)	\$17,000
Missional leadership development	\$22,628	\$21,000	\$1,628	\$21,000
Church plant support	\$165,800	\$152,000	\$13,800	\$152,000
International Mission	\$12,468	\$10,000	\$2,468	\$10,000
Other Mission Initiatives	\$6,907	\$5,000	\$1,907	\$5,000
	\$217,304	\$230,892	(\$13,588)	\$230,892
Congregational Resourcing (Schedule 4)				
Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoveries	(\$62,857)	(\$28,700)	(\$34,157)	(\$28,700)
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	\$135,734	\$136,873	(\$1,139)	\$136,873
Staff Travel and Expenses	\$14,402	\$10,100	\$4,302	\$10,100
Staff Professional Development	\$1,901	\$2,000	(\$99)	\$2,000
Council & Committee Travel & Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Education, promotion and outreach	\$0	\$1,200	(\$1,200)	\$1,200
Congregation Resourcing Program Expense	\$62,309	\$37,500	\$24,809	\$37,500
Y/YA Program Expense	\$25,621	\$25,700	(\$79)	\$25,700
New Ministry Initiative Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$177,111	\$184,673	(\$7,563)	\$184,673
Operations (Schedule 5)				
Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoveries	(\$19,265)	(\$20,815)	\$1,550	(\$20,815)
Transfer In From Restricted Funds	(\$10,000)	(\$10,000)	\$0	(\$10,000)
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	\$344,939	\$377,706	(\$32,767)	\$377,706
Staff Travel and Expenses	\$3,745	\$5,780	(\$2,035)	\$5,780
Staff Professional Development	\$1,117	\$2,250	(\$1,133)	\$2,250
Council & Committee Travel & Expenses	\$291	\$500	(\$209)	\$500
Office & Admin Expenses	\$34,183	\$32,950	\$1,233	\$32,950
Equipment and Furniture (expensed)	\$5,846	\$4,000	\$1,846	\$4,000
Amortization	\$19,685	\$0	\$19,685	\$0
Legal & Audit Expenses	\$19,920	\$28,000	(\$8,080)	\$28,000
Program Expenses	\$27,572	\$26,000	\$1,572	\$26,000
	\$428,034	\$446,371	(\$18,337)	\$446,371

SCHEDULE OF EXPENDITURES
FOR THE 12 MONTH PERIOD ENDED January 31, 2019

	ACTUAL YEAR TO DATE \$	BUDGET YEAR TO DATE \$	OVER (UNDER) BUDGET \$	BUDGET CURRENT YEAR \$
Occupancy Costs (Schedule 6)				
Rent & CAMS	\$103,293	\$103,441	(\$148)	\$103,441
Office & Building Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Insurance	\$5,374	\$5,500	(\$126)	\$5,500
	<u>\$108,667</u>	<u>\$108,941</u>	<u>(\$274)</u>	<u>\$108,941</u>
Operations Support of Restricted Funds (Schedule 7)				
Transfers to (from) Operating				
Leadership Formation Fund	\$22,000	\$22,000	\$0	\$22,000
	<u>\$22,000</u>	<u>\$22,000</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$22,000</u>
Transfers from Operating re gain on capital asset	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

26 *Restricted Funds*

	Externally Restricted Funds			
	Blenheim 1/31/19	Reesor 1/31/19	Mission Capital 1/31/19	Mission Donations 1/31/19
ASSETS				
Cash and Short-term deposits	\$26,594	\$12,665	\$274,211	\$913,553
Account Receivable	\$277	\$0	\$236	\$11,706
Loans Receivable	\$0	\$0	\$50,000	\$0
Prepaid Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Assets	\$26,871	\$12,665	\$324,446	\$925,260
LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Loan Payable	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Liabilities	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
EQUITY				
Balance Beginning of Year	\$25,971	\$13,522	\$830,399	\$1,039,607
Interest	\$932	\$274	\$11,348	\$21,720
Donations	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$43,784
Other Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Transfers In	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
	\$26,903	\$13,796	\$841,746	\$1,105,112
Expenses	(\$32)	(\$1,131)	\$0	\$0
Grants and Disbursements	\$0	\$0	(\$517,300)	\$0
Transfers Out	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$179,852)
Balance End of Year	\$26,871	\$12,665	\$324,446	\$925,260
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$26,871	\$12,665	\$324,446	\$925,260

	Internally Restricted Funds			
	Faithful Steward 1/31/19	Property 1/31/19	Discretionary Retirement & Assistance 1/31/19	Leadership Formation 1/31/19
ASSETS				
Cash and Short-term deposits	\$1,292,960	\$0	\$12,558	\$168,528
Account Receivable	\$14,852	\$0	\$12	\$157
Loans Receivable	\$0	\$1,425,000	\$0	\$0
Prepaid Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Assets	\$1,307,812	\$1,425,000	\$12,570	\$168,686
LIABILITIES				
Accounts Payable	\$0	\$19,395	\$0	\$0
Loan Payable	\$0	\$398,227	\$0	\$0
Total Liabilities	\$0	\$417,622	\$0	\$0
EQUITY				
Balance Beginning of Year	\$1,381,445	\$1,007,378	\$21,715	\$201,024
Interest	\$30,196	\$0	\$305	\$3,947
Donations	\$64,025	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Income	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Transfers In	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$23,000
	\$1,475,666	\$1,007,378	\$22,020	\$227,970
Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Grants and Disbursements	(\$3,803)	\$0	(\$9,450)	(\$59,285)
Transfers Out	(\$164,051)	\$0	\$0	\$0
Balance End of Year	\$1,307,812	\$1,007,378	\$12,570	\$168,686
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$1,307,812	\$1,425,000	\$12,570	\$168,686

28 *Spending Plan/Budget*

MCEC OPERATING FUND STATEMENT OF REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

	2019-20 Budget \$	2018-19 Actual (YTD) \$	2018-19 Budget \$
Revenue - Individual and Estate Donations (MCEC)	\$100,000	\$102,547	\$110,000
Revenue - Individual Donations (MC Canada)	\$50,000	\$50,393	\$0
Revenue - Church Giving	\$1,828,451	\$1,862,423	\$1,885,383
Revenue - Relational Witness Giving	\$300,000	\$297,998	\$82,120
Revenue - Women of MCEC	\$1,500	\$1,500	\$4,500
Revenue - Interest Income	\$81,004	\$81,873	\$89,117
Gross Revenue	\$2,360,955	\$2,396,734	\$2,171,120
Partner Ministries			
Other Pass Through Donations	\$0	-\$5,411	\$0
Mennonite Church Canada - Operating	\$610,000	\$632,460	\$630,000
Mennonite Church Canada - Relational Witness	\$300,000	\$297,998	\$82,120
Mennonite World Conference	\$6,962	\$8,962	\$6,962
Mennonite Central Committee	\$0	\$951	\$0
Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary	\$40,000	\$56,000	\$56,000
Conrad Grebel University College	\$146,462	\$154,171	\$154,171
Rockway Mennonite Collegiate	\$70,215	\$73,911	\$73,911
United Mennonite Educational Institute	\$26,510	\$27,905	\$27,905
Ontario Mennonite Music Camp	\$2,185	\$2,300	\$2,300
Hidden Acres Mennonite Camp	\$10,923	\$11,498	\$11,498
Silver Lake Mennonite Camp	\$10,923	\$11,498	\$11,498
Willowgrove Camp	\$10,923	\$11,498	\$11,498
Canadian Mennonite	\$79,842	\$78,726	\$78,530
Total Partner Ministries	\$1,314,946	\$1,362,467	\$1,146,393
Net Operating Revenue	\$1,046,009	\$1,034,267	\$1,024,727
Executive Council (Schedule 1)	\$133,795	\$125,254	\$114,613
Leadership Council (Schedule 2)	\$105,536	\$119,948	\$124,454
Mission Council (Schedule 3)	\$270,793	\$217,304	\$230,892
Congregational Resourcing (Schedule 4)	\$160,723	\$177,111	\$184,673
Operations (Schedule 5)	\$429,462	\$428,033	\$446,371
Occupancy Costs (Schedule 6)	\$108,214	\$108,667	\$108,941
Operations Support of Restricted Funds (Schedule 7)	\$32,500	\$22,000	\$22,000
Total Ministry Expenses	\$1,241,022	\$1,198,318	\$1,231,944
Surplus/(deficit) from operations	-\$195,013	-\$164,051	-\$207,217
Transfer from/(to) Faithful Steward Fund	\$195,013	\$164,051	\$207,217
Net Operating Surplus/Deficit	\$0.00	\$0	\$0

	2019-20 Budget \$	2018-19 Actual (YTD) \$	2018-19 Budget \$
Executive Council (Schedule 1)			
Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoveries	\$0	-\$7,405	\$0
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	\$94,715	\$92,219	\$92,863
Staff Travel and Expenses	\$6,000	\$3,219	\$8,000
Staff Professional Development	\$500	\$421	\$500
Staff Professional Development Pool	\$9,250	\$3,409	\$9,250
Council & Committee Travel & Expenses	\$21,330	\$23,408	\$2,000
Special Projects	\$2,000	\$9,983	\$2,000
Total Executive Council	\$133,795	\$125,254	\$114,613
Leadership Council (Schedule 2)			
Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoveries	-\$26,000	-\$1,983	-\$3,000
TiM - Fees, Donations, Recoveries	-\$33,000	-\$30,236	-\$23,000
Lebold Banquet - Tickets, Donations, Sponsorships	\$0	-\$12,498	-\$16,000
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	\$83,336	\$89,738	\$89,504
Staff Travel and Expenses	\$7,000	\$8,348	\$7,000
Staff Professional Development	\$500	\$812	\$500
Council & Committee Travel & Expenses	\$1,500	\$1,133	\$1,500
Pastor & Congregational Support	\$2,700	\$5,323	\$9,200
TiM Program Expenses	\$33,000	\$30,236	\$23,000
Education & Training	\$36,500	\$17,627	\$19,750
Lebold Banquet Expenses & Donation	\$0	\$11,448	\$16,000
Total Leadership Council	\$105,536	\$119,948	\$124,454
Mission Council (Schedule 3)			
Transfer In - Mission Donations & Bequests	-\$160,070	-\$179,852	-\$179,852
Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoveries	-\$15,000	-\$38,804	-\$12,000
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	\$202,363	\$196,692	\$198,744
Staff Travel and Expenses	\$12,000	\$12,515	\$12,000
Staff Professional Development	\$1,000	\$284	\$1,000
Council & Committee Travel & Expenses	\$1,000	\$962	\$1,000
Education, promotion and outreach	\$5,000	\$3,728	\$5,000
Mission Associates	\$19,500	\$13,976	\$17,000
Missional leadership development	\$20,000	\$22,628	\$21,000
Church plant support	\$142,500	\$165,800	\$152,000
International Mission	\$20,000	\$12,468	\$10,000
Other Mission Initiatives	\$22,500	\$6,907	\$5,000
Total Mission Council	\$270,793	\$217,304	\$230,892

	2019-20 Budget \$	2018-19 Actual (YTD) \$	2018-19 Budget \$
Congregational Resourcing (Schedule 4)			
Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoveries	-\$73,334	-\$62,857	-\$28,700
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	\$141,973	\$135,734	\$136,873
Staff Travel and Expenses	\$13,500	\$14,402	\$10,100
Staff Professional Development	\$2,000	\$1,901	\$2,000
Council & Committee Travel & Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0
Education, promotion and outreach	\$500	\$0	\$1,200
Congregation Resourcing Program Expense	\$54,884	\$62,309	\$37,500
Y/YA Program Expense	\$21,200	\$25,622	\$25,700
New Ministry Initiative Expense	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total Congregational Ministries	\$160,723	\$177,111	\$184,673
Operations (Schedule 5)			
Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoveries	-\$55,442	-\$29,265	-\$30,815
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	\$390,612	\$344,939	\$377,706
Staff Travel and Expenses	\$5,080	\$3,745	\$5,780
Staff Professional Development	\$1,750	\$1,117	\$2,250
Council & Committee Travel & Expenses	\$500	\$291	\$500
Office & Admin Expenses	\$32,950	\$34,183	\$32,950
Amortization	\$1,012	\$19,685	\$0
Equipment and Furniture (expensed)	\$4,000	\$5,846	\$4,000
Legal & Audit Expenses	\$23,000	\$19,920	\$28,000
Program Expenses	\$26,000	\$27,572	\$26,000
Total Operations	\$429,462	\$428,033	\$446,371
Occupancy Costs (Schedule 6)			
Rent & CAMS	\$102,714	\$103,293	\$103,441
Office & Building Maintenance	\$0	\$0	\$0
Insurance	\$5,500	\$5,374	\$5,500
Total Occupancy Costs	\$108,214	\$108,667	\$108,941
Transfers to (from) Operating (Schedule 7)			
Leadership Formation Fund	\$26,000	\$22,000	\$22,000
Discretionary Retirement & Assistance Fund	\$6,500	\$0	\$0
Total Transfers to (from) Operating	\$32,500	\$22,000	\$22,000

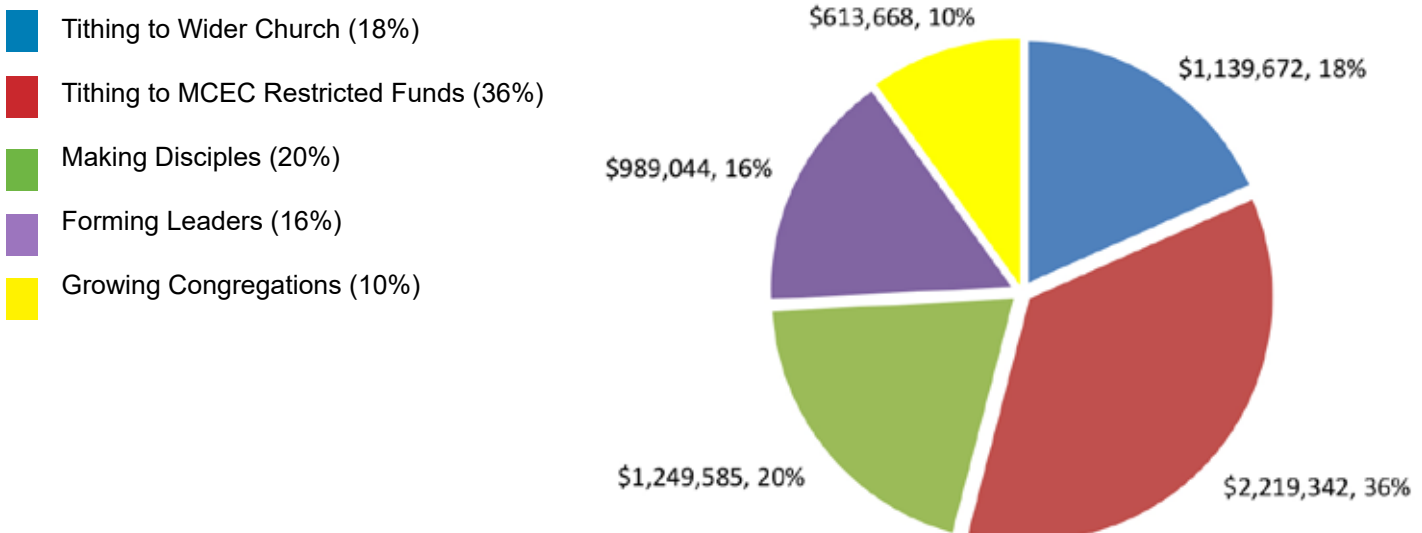
Legacy Initiatives Fund

31

Legacy Initiatives Fund Revenue and Disbursements to Date For Period Ending January 31, 2019

	Actual FYE 31-Jan-19	Actual Prev. Years	Total to Date	Projected Totals
Revenue				
Estate Gifts	\$0	\$11,233,063	\$11,233,063	\$12,993,063
Interest Income	\$106,174	\$501,150	\$607,324	\$1,065,650
Less: Legal Costs	\$0	-\$140,775	-\$140,775	-\$165,775
Net Revenue to date	\$106,174	\$11,593,438	\$11,699,612	\$13,892,938
Disbursements				
Tithing to Wider Church	\$0	\$1,139,672	\$1,139,672	\$1,313,172
Tithing to MCEC Restricted Funds	\$0	\$2,219,342	\$2,219,342	\$2,566,342
Making Disciples	\$200,178	\$1,049,407	\$1,249,585	\$1,400,841
Forming Leaders	\$579,140	\$409,904	\$989,044	\$1,281,132
Growing Congregations	\$137,692	\$475,976	\$613,668	\$812,792
Total Disbursements	\$917,010	\$5,294,302	\$6,211,312	\$7,374,280
MCCO Loan (50 Kent)			\$398,227	\$398,227
Fund Balance			\$5,090,073	\$6,120,431

LIF Project Spending - Totals to Date



32 *Ministry Transitions*

February 1, 2018 - January 31, 2019

Ordained

Geoff Wichert	Toronto United Mennonite Church	Minister
Craig Frere	Community Mennonite Fellowship, Drayton	Minister
Margaret Nally	KW House Church	Minister
Sara Erb	Breslau Mennonite Church	Minister
Heather Whitehouse	Bethany Mennonite Church	Minister
Jonathan Brubacher	Elmira Mennonite Church	Minister
Sririsack Saythavy (Transfer)	Grace New Life Mennonite Church	Minister

Licensed Toward Ordination

Len Rempel ◇	St. Agatha Mennonite Church	Minister
Danielle Raimbault ◇	Listowel Mennonite Church	Minister

Placements

Rebecca Penner ◇	Bethany Mennonite Church	Youth Ministries Coordinator
Stephanie Ball	Community Mennonite Fellowship	Youth Worker
Jim Loepp Thiessen	Floradale Mennonite Church	Lead Minister
Zach Charbonneau ◇	Leamington United Mennonite Church	Minister
Clare Lebold	Listowel Mennonite Church	Interim Supply Minister
Norm Dyck	Mennonite Church Eastern Canada	Mission Engagement Minister
Waldo Pauls	Niagara United Mennonite Church	Intentional Interim Minister
Greg Yantzi	Nith Valley Mennonite Church	Intentional Interim Minister
Charleen Jongejan Harder	North Leamington United Mennonite Church	Minister
Kendall Jongejan Harder	North Leamington United Mennonite Church	Minister
Mesfin Zeme	Pioneer Park Christian Fellowship	Interim Supply Minister
Fred Redekop	Poole Mennonite Church	Pastor of Senior Ministry
Gary Knarr	Preston Mennonite Church	Interim Minister
Sara Erb	Steinmann Mennonite Church	Faith Forming Pastor
Rudy Baergen	Valleyview Mennonite Church	Interim Minister
Carmen Brubacher ◇	Waterloo North Mennonite Church	Associate Minister
Kendra Whitfield-Ellis	Waterloo North Mennonite Church	Associate Minister
Lisa Carr-Pries	Wellesley Mennonite Church	Interim Minister of Worship and Christian Formation

◇ Participants in the Transitioning into Ministry (TiM) Program

Concluding Assignments

Sara Erb	Breslau Mennonite Church	Associate Minister of Children, Youth and Young Adults
Josh Martin	Community Mennonite Fellowship	Youth Worker
Gary Knarr	Floradale Mennonite Church	Interim Supply Minister
Nichelle Bauman	Floradale Mennonite Church	Music Ministry
James Whitehead	Living Water Community Christian Fellowship	Interim Minister
David Lewis	Niagara United Mennonite Church	Intentional Interim Minister
Hendrike Isert Bender	Nith Valley Mennonite Church	Minister
Matthew Isert Bender	Nith Valley Mennonite Church	Minister
Jim Loepp Thiessen	North Leamington United Mennonite Church	Intentional Interim Minister
Doug Amstutz	Poole Mennonite Church	Minister

Chris Hutton Jonathan Seiling	The First Mennonite Church (Vineland) Vineland United Mennonite Church	Minister Associate Minister of Family Ministries
Susan Kennel Harrison	Windsor Mennonite Church	Minister

Pastoral Retirements

Johanna Wall	Pioneer Park Christian Fellowship	Minister
Victor Winter	Leamington United Mennonite Church	Minister
Nancy Mann	Floradale Mennonite Church	Associate Minister

Deaths

Raymond Erb	Retired Minister (Maple View, Crosshill, Listowel, Bethel)	April 20, 2018
Henry P. Epp	Retired Minister (W-K, Windsor, St. Catharines, Bethany, Grace, Lao Christian)	October 11, 2018
Adolfo Puricelli	Retired Minister (Toronto Mennonite New Life)	December 31, 2018
Vernon Brubacher	Retired Minister (Hillcrest, Hunta)	January 23, 2019
Gerald Schwartzentruber	Retired Minister (St. Agatha, Wellesley, Hunta, Chaplain at Nithview Home)	January 27, 2019

Ordination Milestones 2018-2019

60 years

Werner Fast

55 years

David Groh

40 years

Jacob Reimer
Waldo Pauls

25 years

Steve Drudge
Victor Ratzlaff
Jim Loepp Thiessen

10 years

Jean Lehn Epp
Myrna Miller Dyck
Pieter Niemeyer

Ordination Milestones 2017-2018

40 years

Brice Balmer

25 years

Muriel Bechtel
Ruth Boehm

10 years

Steven Janzen
Darrell (Chip) Bender
Ilene Bergen
Jameson Sung
Cathrin van Sintern-Dick
Greg Yantzi
Paul Mo

Clarification and MCEC Apology

The 2015 Annual Discernment Documents recorded Dalton Jantzi's 40-year ordination milestone. This was a mistake. Jantzi's ordination credential did not in fact exist at that time. Termination of Jantzi's credentials occurred on October 12, 2001, following a disciplinary investigation into nine allegations of sexual boundary violations. We regret this error, and apologize to his victims/survivors for the pain this error has caused.

A recent review of the disciplinary actions taken by MCEC in relation to Jantzi's credential highlighted an omission in the process. MCEC publicized an initial disciplinary action that consisted of a two-year probation with conditions. The review found that in 2001 MCEC failed to communicate publicly to the constituency the termination of Jantzi's credential. MCEC apologizes for the confusion and pain this omission and the mistake in 2015 has caused for victims/survivors. The full text of MCEC's apology is online at <https://mcec.ca/mcec-apologizes-for-causing-pain>.

Bi *Introduction to the MCEC 2019 Bylaw Revision*

Reasons for Changing the Bylaw

The Executive Council brings a proposed Bylaw revision for delegate approval at the 2019 Annual Church Gathering. The reasons for an update are as follows:

1. The province of Ontario is planning to change the legislation under which not-for-profit organizations are governed. The revised bylaw will bring MCEC into compliance with the proposed legislation and its legal requirements for not-for-profit organizations.
2. The updated bylaw reflects the changing ways that MCEC does ministry. One important example is the new relationship that we have with Mennonite Church Canada. The new bylaw reflects these changing patterns and specifically names the new covenant with MC Canada.
3. The new bylaw will be easier to follow, provide clearer protocols, and provide greater flexibility to adapt to changing ministry circumstances.
4. The bylaw revision creates a stronger faith-based framework, particularly in terms of framing membership as a covenant relationship between congregations.
5. Bylaws ought to be updated about every five years; it has been 13 years since we last updated our bylaw.

Adoption Process

1. Anyone who is interested is invited to attend electronically hosted meetings in advance of the Annual Church Gathering to ask questions and offer their feedback on the new bylaw. These advance meetings will help ensure that there is enough time at the Annual Church Gathering to deal with other agenda. To that end, the advance meetings will be the primary forum to offer feedback on the bylaw.
2. In addition, the Executive Council has requested that any suggestions or motions related to the bylaw revision are submitted to it in writing (electronic or paper) in advance of the Annual Church Gathering. Please send any suggestions or motions to Joan Schooley at jschooley@mcec.ca. Up to half an hour is allotted in the agenda to process the bylaw motion at the Annual Church Gathering.

Commentary on the Bylaw Revision

While much of the content of the current bylaw is carried over into the revised bylaw, the structure of the proposed revision is significantly different. A “track changes” approach to comparing the two bylaws is too confusing to be helpful. As an alternative, this bylaw commentary will highlight some of the important differences. If you are interested, the current bylaw is available online for comparison.

Philosophically, an organization’s bylaw is a description of how the organization is legally structured. It describes the basic way that members enter and leave the organization, how the organization is

governed, and what powers are delegated to elected leaders. Although bylaws can be long documents, at their best, they only speak to the essentials required to effectively and fairly operate the organization and ensure that all member voices are heard and respected. Bylaws are not theological statements or day-to-day operational procedures. For instance, this bylaw will point to the Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective and a statement on church polity but does not contain the details of those statements. Likewise, bylaws are written to provide maximum flexibility so that the organization can adapt to changing needs without having to constantly revise its bylaw.

The Executive Council developed the proposed bylaw by reviewing the current bylaw and making changes to bring it up to date. Those changes were then reviewed by MCEC legal counsel who then made additions required by provincial legislation and ensured that the bylaw was legally sound.

Summary of Changes

In general, the formatting of the bylaw has been revised so that sections flow in a natural order and a table of contents has been added to make it easier to find specific items. In addition, numbered lists have been used wherever possible so that content is more quickly accessible and readability improved.

Section 1. Definition of Terms

The revised Bylaw includes a list of definitions which describes the meaning of terms that are used throughout the bylaw. The definitions add clarity to the bylaw and avoids the need for repetition. Note that a capitalized word in the bylaw typically indicates that a definition is being referenced.

Section 2. Confession of Faith

Like the current bylaw, the Confession of Faith is referenced as being the common understandings that guide the faith and practice of the Mennonite church

Section 3. Church Polity

This section was added to highlight the polity understandings contained in A Shared Understanding: A Polity Manual for Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church USA. This is a complementary document/booklet to the Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective. Taken together, these are two foundational documents for our denominational understandings.

Section 4. Purposes

The purposes section replicates the purposes of the current bylaw, which reflect the original articles of incorporation for MCEC. While this section might benefit from some additions or refreshing of the language, changing the wording in any way would require a lengthy and costly legal process of reapplying for incorporation. Legal counsel has advised MCEC to leave the purposes unchanged.

Section 5. Membership

This section is mostly new. Section 5.2, for instance, offers a somewhat more rounded description of a congregation. It frames membership more clearly as a covenant relationship between congregations and adds a section on managing conflict among the members or between members and MCEC. The revised bylaw also provides greater clarity on the process for applying for membership and how one is either removed from Membership or withdraws from Membership. Further, this section names what we have been practicing for some time in terms of receiving new members. The term “Emerging Church”

has often been used for new members but the broader term, “Provisional Membership” is being used instead, along with a description of this initial membership status.

Section 6. Affiliation with MCEC

This section is new and describes what has been the longstanding practice in MCEC as reflected in the work of the Mission Council. This early, exploratory level of relationship is referred to in the new bylaw as “Affiliated Faith Community.”

Section 7. Delegate Gatherings

This section is reformatted and has some improved readability but for the most part retains, with some editing, the essence of the existing Bylaw. Changes include the option for attending a meeting electronically, the ability for a delegate to appoint a proxy, which is required by law, greater clarity on providing notice, and a simpler approach to defining quorum.

Section 8. Representation and Participation at Delegate Gatherings

This section is very close to the existing bylaw, with a note added on non-delegate participation at delegate gatherings.

Sections 9 to 16. MCEC Governance Procedures

These sections are detailed legal descriptions of how MCEC as an organization is governed. While order and formatting is different than the current bylaw, the principles of the existing bylaw are effectively carried forward, with an eye to greater clarity and flexibility. As required by law, a section has been added on the legal qualifications necessary to be a member of the Executive Council as well as a section describing conflict of interest.

Section 17. Protection of Directors and Others

This is new to the bylaw and is required by law. It describes how directors (members of the Executive Council) and others in the organization are protected by MCEC when they are acting on its behalf.

Section 18. MCEC Records

This section is essentially the same as the current bylaw, with the addition of electronic records.

Section 19. Finances

This section on finances is essentially the same as the existing bylaw but in some items uses more precise language for greater clarity of meaning or uses generic terms so as to avoid naming specific institutions.

Section 20. Amendments

This article is essentially the same as the current bylaw, except a clearer definition of notice is provided.

Section 21. Dissolution of MCEC

This is a new section and is considered a best practice in drafting bylaws. If a decision was ever taken to dissolve MCEC, this article provides clarity on how the remaining assets of the corporation would be dispersed.

Section 22. Coming into Force

This section is both new and old. It includes material that is at the beginning of the current Bylaw and provides a history of the various versions of MCEC's bylaw and states when the bylaw comes into force.

Adoption

This is effectively the same as the current bylaw and is a formal declaration by the Moderator and Secretary that the above bylaw was duly adopted by the delegates.

Motion for Delegates at the Annual Church Gathering

Whereas Mennonite Church Eastern Canada desires to have a Bylaw that serves the mission of MCEC, which is dedicated to actively support God's mission in the world and the congregations of MCEC; and

Whereas MCEC for the purposes of greater clarity and due to the numerous amendments to the existing General Operating Bylaw, being By-law No. 3; and

Whereas the revised Bylaw No. 4 has been reviewed in its entirety, and with opportunity for amendment, by Delegates to the 2019 MCEC Annual Church Gathering;

Be It Resolved that the Corporation of MCEC shall now adopt a new General Operating Bylaw, being Bylaw No. 4, which replaces in entirety the existing General Operating Bylaw No. 3.

Mennonite Church Eastern Canada

Église Mennonite de l'est du Canada

A Not-for-Profit Corporation created by
the registration of Letters Patent of Amalgamation
dated February 1, 1988

General Operating Bylaw No. 4

Last Updated April 27, 2019

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1. Definition of Terms

In this Bylaw, unless the context otherwise requires, terms are defined as follows:

- 1.1. **"Act"** means the *Ontario Corporations Act* as amended from time to time and any statute enacted in substitution thereof (for greater certainty, the proposed *Not-for-Profit Corporations Act, 2010*, which is expected to come into force at the earliest opportunity after 2019), and in the case of such substitution, any references in the By-law of the Corporation to provisions of the Act shall be read as references to the substituted provisions thereof in the new statute or statutes;
- 1.2. **"Affiliated Faith Community"** means a faith community that may or may not be a Congregation as defined in this Bylaw and may or may not be an informally structured or experimental faith community, which desires to have an affiliation with MCEC for the purposes set out in [Section 6](#) below;
- 1.3. **"Annual General Meeting"** means the Annual General Meeting of the Members, namely a Delegate Gathering at which the annual general business of the corporation as required by this Bylaw is conducted and actions taken that are in compliance with this Bylaw and the Act;
- 1.4. **"Bylaw"** means any Bylaw of Mennonite Church Eastern Canada from time to time in force and effect, including this General Operating Bylaw;
- 1.5. **"Cluster"** means a geographical clustering of Congregations whose boundaries are defined from time to time by MCEC;
- 1.6. **"Congregation"** in MCEC means a body of persons who have responded to the call of Christ in repentance and in faith, who symbolize their unity through the practice of baptism and communion, and who are visibly grouped for the express purpose of implementing their obedience to Christ as head of the church and are the primary unit for worship, nurture, outreach, service and mission, and for the purpose of this Bylaw, Congregation shall mean a Congregation holding Membership in MCEC, whether Provisional Membership or Full Membership;
- 1.7. **"Corporation"** means the Corporation of Mennonite Church Eastern Canada that has passed these Bylaws under the Act or that is deemed to have passed these Bylaws under the Act;
- 1.8. **"Covenant"** means the commitments that Congregations make to each other to act in accordance with this Bylaw of which the ultimate purpose is to create a visible community of faith, whose head is Jesus Christ and whose mission is to serve God's purposes in the world;
- 1.9. **"Delegate(s)"** means the person(s) appointed by Member Congregations to represent it at a duly-called Delegate Gathering in accordance with this Bylaw;
- 1.10. **"Delegate Gathering"** means an Annual General Meeting or a Special Meeting of the Delegates appointed by each Congregation and such other persons as may be entitled or invited to attend at such Delegate Gathering in accordance with this Bylaw;

- 1.11. ***“Executive Council”*** means for the purposes of the Act the board of directors of the Corporation and also that which is set out in [Section 12](#) below;
- 1.12. ***“Executive Minister”*** means the Executive Minister of MCEC, who is the Executive Council’s staff person acting on their behalf to oversee the management of MCEC ministries, staff, and operations, and is the executive leader of the MCEC staff team;
- 1.13. ***“Executive Team”*** means the senior staff members of MCEC, who have oversight of an MCEC ministry portfolio that is directly supported by a Council of MCEC and act under the direction of the Executive Minister;
- 1.14. ***“Full Membership”*** means the permanent Members of MCEC with all the rights and privileges as set out in [Section 5.5.ii](#) below;
- 1.15. ***“MC Canada”*** means Mennonite Church Canada, a covenant community created by the Regional Churches in Canada;
- 1.16. ***“MC Canada Covenant”*** means a signed covenant that MCEC and other Regional Churches within MC Canada have agreed will guide their common structure and ministry;
- 1.17. ***“MCEC”*** means the Corporation known as Mennonite Church Eastern Canada/Église Mennonite de l’est du Canada, which is also one of the member Regional Churches that constitutes MC Canada;
- 1.18. ***“MC USA”*** means Mennonite Church USA, a denomination affiliated with MC Canada;
- 1.19. ***“Member”*** for the purposes of the Act means a Congregation holding Membership in MCEC;
- 1.20. ***“Member of Executive Council”*** means for the purposes of the Act an individual occupying the position of director of the Corporation by whatever name he or she is called;
- 1.21. ***“Membership”*** means the collective Members of MCEC;
- 1.22. ***“Mennonite World Conference”*** means the organization representing the global community of Anabaptist related churches to which MCEC belongs through its relationship to MC Canada
- 1.23. ***“Moderator”*** means for the purposes of the Act the chair of the Board and that which is set out in [Section 15.2](#) below or the person delegated by the Moderator to fulfill such role;
- 1.24. ***“Officer”*** means an Officer of the Corporation as described in [Section 15](#) below;
- 1.25. ***“Policy Statements”*** mean the Policy Statements adhered to by MCEC as adopted by the MCEC Delegate body from time to time concerning practical applications of biblical principles and Christian conduct or similar policy statements that MCEC adheres to through its covenant with MC Canada;

- 1.26. ***“Protected Person”*** means each person acting or having previously acted in the capacity of Executive Council, Officer or any other capacity at the request or on behalf of the Corporation, and includes the respective heirs, executors, administrators, estate, successors, and assigns of a person who:
- i. is a member of the Executive Council;
 - ii. is an Officer;
 - iii. is a member of a committee and/or advisory body of the Corporation; or
 - iv. has undertaken, or, with the direction of the Corporation is about to undertake any liability on behalf of the Corporation or any body corporation controlled by the Corporation, whether in the person’s personal capacity or as a member of the Executive Council, an Officer, employee, or volunteer of the Corporation or such body corporate.
- 1.27. ***“Provisional Membership”*** means that which is set out in [Section 5.5.i](#) below;
- 1.28. ***“Regional Church”*** means a body of Congregations in a geographical area that have covenanted to form a denominational expression of the church, and that have joined the Membership of MC Canada by having agreed to work together in the spirit of partnership and for the betterment of the collective Membership of MC Canada;
- 1.29. ***“Special Meeting”*** means a specially-called meeting of MCEC Delegates and such other persons as may be entitled or invited to attend as called by the Executive Council according to the provisions of this Bylaw;
- 1.30. ***“Treasurer”*** means the chair of the financial oversight body of MCEC unless otherwise designated by an action of the Executive Council;
- 1.31. ***“Youth Delegate”*** means a person who is a secondary school student, or the age of a secondary school student, who is appointed by a Congregation to serve in the capacity of Delegate. All references to Delegates in this Bylaw shall include Youth Delegates.

[**Note:** A capitalized word in this Bylaw typically indicates that a definition is being referenced.]

2. Confession of Faith

- 2.1. MCEC accepts the *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective*, as adopted by Mennonite Church Canada, as a guide that informs its faith and practice and that of its Congregations.

3. Church Polity

- 3.1. MCEC accepts *A Shared Understanding of Church Leadership: A Polity Manual for Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church USA* or its successor polity guide as adopted by MC Canada as a guide that informs its understandings of church leadership and congregational practice.

4. Purposes

MCEC's primary purposes include the following:

- 4.1. To assist its affiliated congregations in fulfilling their responsibilities of worship, nurture, outreach, and mutual assistance.
- 4.2. To give a visible expression of our unity in Christ and to provide a Mennonite/Anabaptist witness that reflects oneness.
- 4.3. To gather in assembly to discern the will of God so that our community of faith might be strengthened.
- 4.4. To empower our mission outreach to persons in need of salvation that can be found in Christ.
- 4.5. To provide leadership in relating to the broader church and community.
- 4.6. To encourage and strengthen the nurture, outreach, service, and mission of the congregations who are affiliated with MCEC.
- 4.7. To offer assistance and counsel where problems arise with, in, or among congregations affiliated with MCEC.
- 4.8. To support and work with the Conference of Mennonites in Canada, General Conference Mennonite Church and the Mennonite Church, or their successors. [**Note:** *The successors of the above are Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church USA.*].

5. Membership

5.1. ***Covenant Membership***

Membership in MCEC is understood to be a Covenant relationship that unites Member Congregations into a spiritual body that finds its unity in Christ and is far greater than a simple contractual relationship;

Members of MCEC will relate to each other and the MCEC community of faith in a way that reflects the biblical understanding of covenant and respects the spiritual nature of our common bond in Christ.

5.2. ***Role of Congregations***

MCEC recognizes Member Congregations as a gift from God, and the primary unit for worship, nurture, pastoral care, mutual-aid, disciple-making, service, and mission.

5.3. ***Clusters***

Congregations affiliated with MCEC are encouraged to relate to each other in geographical Clusters, for the purpose of mutual support and fellowship, strengthening and encouragement of pastoral and lay leaders, and collaboration in ministry and witness.

5.4. Eligibility for Membership

- i. Congregations seeking membership in MCEC shall give evidence of:
 - a Acceptance of the purposes of MCEC as described in [Section 4](#) above;
 - b Acceptance of the *Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective* as a guide that informs our faith and practice;
 - c Acceptance of *A Shared Understanding of Church Leadership: A Polity Manual for Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church USA* or its successor document as adopted by MC Canada as a guide that informs MCEC's understandings of church leadership and congregational practice;
 - d A level of congregational vision, leadership, and stability that will foster healthy congregational life and mission; and
 - e Acceptance of the governing principles of MCEC as described in this Bylaw.

5.5. Types of Membership

i. *Provisional Membership*

Provisional Membership is the first step towards full membership in MCEC. It is intended to give MCEC and a Congregation new to MCEC a period of time during which they can get to know each other better and to mutually assess compatibility with MCEC's faith and practice and discern the appropriateness of entering into Full Membership;

Provisional Membership in MCEC is open to any congregation which meets the eligibility requirements contained in this Bylaw;

Provisional Membership provides a congregation new to MCEC with all the rights and privileges of a Member Congregation, including appointment of its members to elected positions but with the following exclusions, namely election to the position of Officer or chairperson of an MCEC council or committee. In addition, the base number of Delegates from a Provisional Member Congregation is restricted to two (2) as per [Section 8.1.v](#);

Provisional Membership is intended for a period of up to five years, after which it is replaced by Full Membership, unless the Congregation requests an extension of the duration of the Provisional Membership, as mutually agreed upon by the Provisional Member and the Executive Council;

ii. *Full Membership*

Full Membership in MCEC is open to any congregation which meets the eligibility requirements contained in this Bylaw, including a satisfactory period of Provisional Membership;

Full Membership grants a Congregation all the rights and privileges contained in this Bylaw.

5.6. ***Application for Membership***

- i. Congregations interested in either Provisional Membership or Full Membership will explore the meaning of membership in MCEC with the Executive Minister or another representative of MCEC as delegated by the Executive Minister;
- ii. A congregation that desires to belong to the MCEC community of faith may apply for membership in MCEC by submitting a written request to the Executive Council;
- iii. The membership request shall then be approved by resolution of the Executive Council;
- iv. Membership is granted after approval of the Executive Council resolution by Delegates at a duly-called Delegate Gathering of MCEC.

5.7. ***Conflict in MCEC***

- i. Conflict is normal within the life of the church and a God-given means to clarify differing perspectives on beliefs, practices, or purposes within the life of the church;
- ii. When conflict between Members or between Members and MCEC escalates to a point that conversation becomes challenging, in order to try and resolve matters, Members and MCEC covenant to engage in structured conversation along the lines that may be defined in this Bylaw and in any documents, guidelines and/or Policy Statements adopted by Delegates from time to time to guide it in times of disagreement;
- iii. Only after the above steps in [Section 5.7.ii](#) have been taken will a Congregation initiate steps to withdraw from Membership in MCEC.

5.8. ***Termination of Membership***

- i. A Congregation may be removed from Membership in MCEC only by a resolution of the Executive Council that is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of Delegates at a duly-called Delegate Gathering, provided, however, that:
 - a Such Congregation is given not less than 15 days' written notice of the termination, which notice will set out the reasons for the termination; and
 - b such resolution may only be made after: (a) the Congregation receiving the notice has been given the opportunity to provide a written submission opposing the termination to the Executive Council not less than five (5) days before the end of the 15-day period set out above; and (b) the Executive Council has invited the Congregation to engage with representatives of MCEC in at least two conversations that are facilitated by a third-party and has followed the procedures that may be defined in any documents, guidelines and/or Policy Statements adopted by MCEC from time to time to guide it in times of disagreement in order to try and resolve matters with the Congregation, doing so in a way that would avert the need for a recommendation of removal of the Congregation from Full Membership in MCEC.

5.9. Withdrawal from Membership

- i. A Congregation that is a Provisional Member of MCEC and has determined that MCEC is not a compatible fit for them covenants to engage in a conversation with representatives of MCEC to explore their concerns;
- ii. If requested by either party, both parties will respect a request for a facilitated conversation with a third-party facilitator. The purpose of a facilitated conversation is to ensure that differences are clearly articulated, that each party feels fully heard, and that opportunity is given to explore options for further resolution;
- iii. A Congregation that is a Provisional Member of MCEC and has fulfilled the requirements of [Section 5.9.1](#) and [Section 5.9.2](#) above, may withdraw its membership in MCEC by requesting such in writing from the Executive Council, after which the Executive Council will act on this request and report it to the MCEC Membership;
- iv. A Full Member Congregation that determines to withdraw from Membership in MCEC, at a minimum, covenants to engage with representatives of MCEC in at least two conversations that are facilitated by a third-party. The purpose of this facilitated conversation is to ensure that differences are clearly articulated, that each party feels fully heard, and that opportunity is given to explore options for further resolution;
- v. A Congregation that is a Full Member of MCEC and has fulfilled the requirements of [Section 5.9.iv](#) above, may withdraw its membership in MCEC by requesting such in writing from the Executive Council, after which the Executive Council will act on this request and report it to the MCEC Membership.

6. Affiliation with MCEC

- 6.1. A faith community, whether experimental, exploring, or not yet functioning as a Congregation, which would like to affiliate informally with MCEC for the purposes of encouragement, inspiration, learning about the Mennonite/Anabaptist faith, support, accountability, or relationship building is welcome to enter into an informal affiliation with MCEC on the approval of the appropriate oversight body for MCEC. A faith community so recognized will be referred to as an Affiliated Faith Community;
- 6.2. Normally such Affiliated Faith Communities will be in relationship with an MCEC staff person or a Congregation of MCEC;
- 6.3. Such affiliation shall not provide any of the rights or privileges contained in this Bylaw, the sole purpose being that of beginning of an informal relationship that may or may not transition to Provisional Membership.

7. Delegate Gatherings

7.1. *Location of Delegate Gatherings*

Delegate Gatherings for the purpose of conducting an Annual General Meeting or Special Meetings of MCEC shall be held in Canada at a location east of the western boundary of the province of Ontario.

7.2. *Timing of Delegate Gatherings*

Delegate Gatherings may be held on any date as determined by the Executive Council, except that a Delegate Gathering that includes conducting an Annual General Meeting of MCEC must be held within 15 months of the previous Annual General Meeting and within six (6) months of the end of the fiscal year of the Corporation, on a date determined by the Executive Council.

7.3. *Purpose of Delegate Gatherings*

The purpose of Delegate Gatherings may include, but is not limited, to the following:

- i. Opportunities for Delegates and non-delegates to assemble for fellowship, worship, and teaching;
- ii. Direction setting and discernment regarding various aspects of MCEC program and ministries through discussion, prayer, and deliberation;
- iii. Providing information about MCEC programs and ministries so that Delegates may be informed and equipped to participate in Delegate discernment;
- iv. Conducting the annual business of MCEC and/or any other necessary business; and
- v. Making collective pronouncements on issues of faith or practice that are important to the life and mission of MCEC.

7.4. *Attendance at Delegate Gatherings*

- i. In order to facilitate fellowship, discernment, worship, and effective decision-making, MCEC requests, whenever possible, that Delegates attend in person at Delegate Gatherings;
- ii. When possible, MCEC may choose to provide electronic access to a Delegate Gathering for guests and Delegates who are unable to attend in person;
- iii. In the event that the Executive Council, at its sole discretion, chooses to make available telephonic, electronic, or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately for the purposes of decision-making during a Delegate Gathering, any person entitled to attend such gathering may participate in the gathering by means of such telephonic, electronic, or other communication facility, and a person participating in a Delegate Gathering by such means is deemed to be present at the Delegate Gathering.
- iv. Notwithstanding any other provision of this Bylaw, any Delegate participating in a

Delegate Gathering who is entitled to vote at such gathering may vote by means of any telephonic, electronic, or other communication facility that MCEC has made available for that purpose.

- v. Any Delegate is entitled to vote at a Delegate Gathering by proxy in accordance with this By-law. The proxy holder is required to be a member of the Member Congregation that appointed the Delegate. The proxy holder must, before voting, produce such proxy form as approved by the Executive Council for use at such Delegate Gatherings, which shall contain the hand-written signature of the Delegate granting the proxy. Proxies may be transmitted by hand delivery, mail, fax, scanned email, or other methods of electronic delivery directed to the Corporation; however, the hand-written signature of the Delegate must appear on the proxy form described herein, which proxy form shall be deposited with the Secretary of the Corporation.

7.5. *Annual General Meetings of MCEC*

A Delegate Gathering at which the annual general business of MCEC is conducted will be held according to the requirements of this Bylaw as specified in [Section 7.2](#) above. In addition to any other agenda as determined by the Executive Council, each Annual General Meeting of MCEC shall at a minimum include the following components:

- i. Receipt of the agenda;
- ii. Receipt and adoption of the minutes of the previous annual and subsequent special meetings;
- iii. Adoption of all actions taken by the Executive Council since the previous Delegate Gathering at which an Annual General Meeting was conducted;
- iv. Any necessary decision-making as determined by the Executive Council;
- v. Electing a slate of persons to serve on MCEC councils and committees and to serve as MCEC representatives on the boards or committees of partner organizations;
- vi. Adopting financial statements, including approval of the audited financial statements of MCEC for the previous fiscal year;
- vii. Appointment of auditors for the subsequent fiscal year; and
- viii. Transacting any other necessary business.

7.6. *Special Meetings of MCEC*

- i. Special meetings of MCEC Delegates may be called by the Executive Council as it deems necessary; or
- ii. The Executive Council shall convene a Special Meeting of the MCEC Delegates on the written request of not less than ten percent (10%) of the Congregations received into Membership by the Corporation. Items for consideration shall be

included in an advance announcement along with the place and time of the meeting. The Executive Council shall call a Special Meeting within 21 days of receiving such petition.

7.7. Notice

- i. Notice of a Delegate Gathering at which the Annual General Meeting of MCEC is conducted will be provided at least thirty (30) days in advance of the meeting;
- ii. Notice of Special Meetings of MCEC Delegates will be provided at least ten (10) days in advance of the meeting;
- iii. Whenever this Bylaw requires that notice be given, such notice may be provided in any of the following means: in person, by telephone, electronically by postal mail or by such other means as may be determined by the Executive Council from time to time;
- iv. Notice will be provided to Member Congregations who in turn will provide notice to their Delegates;
- v. For the purpose of service of notice to any Congregation, member of the Executive Council, or Officer for any meeting or otherwise, the address of any Member Congregation, member of the Executive Council or Officer shall be the last known address as recorded in the books of MCEC;
- vi. The provision of notice or other documentation, whether in person, by telephone, electronically by postal mail or by such other means as may be determined by the Executive Council, will be deemed to have been served at the point in time at which it was delivered electronically or posted to a public mail receptacle.
- vii. Any meeting notice shall contain a reminder that a Delegate may vote by proxy in accordance with the provisions of this By-law.

7.8. Errors or Omissions in Notice

- i. No errors or omissions in giving notice of any Annual, general, or Special Meeting or any adjourned meeting, whether Annual, or Special, of the Delegates of MCEC shall invalidate such meeting or make void any actions taken at that meeting;
- ii. Any Delegate, member of the Executive Council, or Officer may at any time waive any notice of any meeting required to be given under the Bylaws of MCEC and may ratify and confirm any or all actions taken at that meeting.

7.9. Quorum

- i. A quorum for the transaction of business at any meeting of the Delegates of MCEC shall consist of no less than 35% of the Congregations comprising the Membership of MCEC. If a quorum is present at the opening of a meeting, those present may proceed with the business of the meeting, even if a quorum is not present

throughout the said meeting.

7.10. Voting

- i. At all Delegate Gatherings each Delegate is entitled to one vote;
- ii. At all Delegate Gatherings every question shall be decided by a simple majority of the votes of the Delegates present in person and those who may be attending via electronic means as per [Section 7.4.iii](#) or by proxy as per [Section 7.4.v](#), unless otherwise required by law or by the Bylaws of MCEC;
- iii. Every question shall be decided in the first instance by a show of hands unless a ballot vote be requested by any Delegate;
- iv. A declaration by the moderator of the meeting that a resolution has been carried or not carried and an entry to that effect in the minutes of MCEC shall be sufficient evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution;
- v. A request for a vote may be withdrawn, but if a vote be requested and not withdrawn, the question shall be decided by a simple majority of votes given by the Delegates present in person and such vote shall be taken in such manner as the moderator of the meeting shall direct and the result of such vote shall be deemed the decision of MCEC;
- vi. The Moderator shall only be entitled to exercise his or her vote in the event that there is an equality of votes. The Moderator is entitled to cast such deciding vote, whether that vote was taken by a show of hands or by a ballot vote.
- vii. Provided, however, that at any meeting of Delegates a resolution may be passed that any matter may be decided at such meeting by consensus without a specific vote taken and thereafter a declaration by the moderator that there is consensus with respect to a matter without any opposition thereto by any Delegate and an entry to that effect in the minutes of MCEC shall be sufficient evidence of the approval of such a matter.

7.11. Appointment of Auditors

- i. One or more auditors shall be appointed at each Annual General Meeting of the Delegates of MCEC. The auditors of MCEC shall hold office until the next Annual General Meeting after their being appointed, or until their successors are appointed, unless previously removed by resolution of the Delegates in a general meeting or by the Executive Council. The remuneration of the auditor or auditors shall be fixed by the Executive Council or such person as they may delegate;
- ii. The auditors shall be supplied with a copy of the balance sheet, and it shall be their duty to examine the same with the accounts and vouchers relating thereto. The auditors shall have a list delivered to them of all financial records kept by MCEC,

and shall at all reasonable times, have access to same and the accounts of MCEC;

- iii. The auditors shall make an annual report to the Delegates and every such report shall state whether in their opinion the balance sheet is a full and fair balance sheet properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the financial affairs of MCEC.

8. Representation and Participation at Delegate Gatherings

8.1. *Delegate Representation*

- i. The representation of Congregations at Delegate Gatherings shall consist of Delegates from the Congregation who are elected or appointed annually to serve in the capacity of a Delegate;
- ii. The election or appointment of Delegates by the Congregation shall occur in adequate time for Delegates to receive advance notice of the Delegate Gathering;
- iii. Each Congregation shall provide the Secretary of MCEC with a list of Delegates prior to the Annual General Meeting of MCEC and in adequate time for the dissemination of information;
- iv. Each Full Member Congregation is eligible to send a minimum of three (3) Delegates to a Delegate Gathering;
- v. Each Provisional Member Congregation is eligible to send a minimum of two (2) Delegates to a Delegate Gathering;
- vi. And each Full Member or Provisional Member Congregation that has a membership in excess of 150 members shall be entitled to elect one (1) additional Delegate for each additional 50 members or part thereof;
- vii. And in addition to the above, each Congregation may appoint or elect one Delegate called a Youth Delegate. This Delegate shall be a secondary school student or the age of a secondary school student. The Youth Delegate will fulfil all the requirements of Delegates as specified in this Bylaw.

8.2. *Pastoral Leaders as Delegate*

Each Congregation is also encouraged to include within its Delegates persons who are the pastoral leaders of the Congregation.

8.3. *Non-delegate Participation*

Persons from Congregations who have not been appointed as a Delegate, persons from Affiliated Faith Communities, representatives of partner agencies, and other guests are welcome to participate in Delegate Gatherings but are not eligible to vote. Non-delegate

participation in the discussion related to a Delegate vote is at the sole discretion of the Moderator.

9. Adjournments

9.1. *Adjournments*

Any meeting of the Members of MCEC or of the Executive Council may be adjourned to any time and from time to time and such adjourned business may be transacted at the original meeting from which such adjournment took place. No notice shall be required of any such adjournment. Such adjournment may be made notwithstanding that no quorum is present.

10. Head Office

- 10.1. The head office of MCEC shall be in the City of Kitchener, in the Regional Municipality of Waterloo, and Province of Ontario, and at such place therein as the Executive Council may from time to time determine.

11. Corporate Seal

- 11.1. The seal, an impression whereof is stamped in the margin hereof, shall be the corporate seal of MCEC.

12. Executive Council

12.1. *Executive Council*

The affairs of MCEC shall be governed by an Executive Council that shall function as a policy governance board to oversee the mission of MCEC. The Executive Council shall consist of the persons set out in [Section 12.2](#) below, each of whom and throughout their term of office shall be a member of an MCEC Congregation and shall be elected for a term as hereinafter provided. In addition to the foregoing, each member of the Executive Council shall:

- i. Be an individual who is at least eighteen (18) years of age;
- ii. Not have the status of a bankrupt;
- iii. Not be a person who has been found under any applicable statute to be incapable of managing property;
- iv. Not be a person who has been declared incapable by a court in Canada or elsewhere;
- v. Comply with the qualifications of the Act.

If a person ceases to be qualified as provided above, the person thereupon ceases to be a member of the Executive Council, and the vacancy so created may be filled in the manner prescribed in this Bylaw.

12.2. *Members of Executive Council*

Members of Executive Council shall consist of the following persons:

- i. Moderator;
- ii. Assistant Moderator;
- iii. Secretary;
- iv. Treasurer;
- v. Five (5) persons elected from the Membership of MCEC; and
- vi. the Executive Minister acting in a non-voting ex officio capacity.

12.3. *Term of Executive Council Members*

Each member of the Executive Council shall be elected for a three-year term, with the possibility of being elected for one additional term. Any exceptions shall be approved by the Delegates.

12.4. *Removal of an Executive Council Member*

A member of the Executive Council shall cease to hold office upon the occurrence of any of the following:

- i. He or she ceases to meet the qualifications in [Section 12.1](#) above;
- ii. He or she dies;
- iii. He or she resigns his or her office by written notice to the Executive Council, which resignation shall be effective at the time it is received, or at the time specified in the notice, whichever is later;
- iv. The Delegates of MCEC may, by a resolution passed by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of votes at a Delegate Gathering of which notice specifying the intention to pass such resolution has been given, remove any member of the Executive Council before the expiration of their term of office and may by a simple majority of votes cast at the meeting elect any person for the remainder of their term.

13. Executive Council Authority and Responsibilities**13.1. *Powers of Executive Council***

In addition to the governance of the general affairs of MCEC and the powers herein set forth, the Executive Council shall:

- i. Be responsible for the overall coordination of MCEC programs;
- ii. Be responsible for the hiring of the Executive Minister;

- iii. Appoint a member of the Executive Council, or its delegate, to sit as a member on the search committee that will assist the Executive Minister in the hiring of Executive Team staff;
- iv. Set general policies and procedures to guide the mission of MCEC;
- v. Direct the Executive Minister to institute management policies necessary for the efficient, safe and effective operation of MCEC and for compliance with any applicable statute or law;
- vi. Give direction for budget planning and take final responsibility for the MCEC budget;
- vii. Provide leadership and assistance in addressing the concerns of MCEC programs and ministries as well as those of the Congregations;
- viii. Be responsible for decision-making between Annual General Meetings; such actions shall be confirmed by the Annual General Meeting;
- ix. Serve as a catalyst and liaison between the Congregations and church-wide boards and agencies, ecumenical bodies, government agencies, and other agencies and bodies as deemed necessary;
- x. Call the Delegate Gatherings for Annual General Meetings and Special Meetings of Delegates;
- xi. Appoint ad hoc committees as needed;
- xii. See that MCEC is in compliance with the Act under which it is incorporated and is in compliance with any policies or laws as required by any applicable statute or law;
- xiii. Manage the documents of MCEC as follows: Keep a roll of the names and addresses of the Members; Ensure the proper recording and maintenance of minutes of all meetings of the Corporation, the Executive Council, and other Councils; Attend to correspondence on behalf of the Executive Council; Have custody of all minute books, documents, registers, and the seal of the Corporation and ensure that they are maintained as required by law; and ensure that all reports are prepared and filed as required by law or requested by the Executive Council.

14. Executive Council Procedures

14.1. Vacancies

- i. Vacancies on the Executive Council, however caused, may, so long as a quorum of the Executive Council remains in office be filled by the Executive Council from among the qualified Membership of MCEC if they shall see fit to do so. The names of persons so appointed shall be placed on the slate of persons to be ratified by

Delegates at the next Annual General Meeting. Otherwise, such vacancy shall be filled at the next Annual General Meeting of the Delegates. If there is not a quorum of the Executive Council, the remaining Executive Council shall forthwith call a meeting of the Delegates to fill the vacancies.

14.2. *Quorum and Meetings*

- i. Five members of the Executive Council shall form a quorum for the transaction of business;
- ii. Except as otherwise provided by law, the Executive Council may hold its meetings at such place or places as it may from time to time determine;
- iii. No formal notice of any such meeting shall be necessary if all members of the Executive Council are present, or if those absent signify their consent to the meeting being held in their absence;
- iv. Executive Council meetings may be formally called by the Moderator or Assistant Moderator or by the Secretary on direction in writing of three members of the Executive Council. Notice of such meeting shall be telephoned to each member of the Executive Council not less than one (1) day before the meeting is to take place or delivered electronically not less than three (3) days before the meeting is to take place or shall be mailed to members of the Executive Council not less than ten (10) days before the meeting is to take place. The statement of the Secretary that notice has been given pursuant to this Bylaw shall be sufficient and conclusive evidence of the giving of such notice;
- v. The Executive Council may appoint a day or days in any month or months for regular meetings at an hour to be named and of such regular meetings no notice need be sent;
- vi. A meeting of the Executive Council may also be held, without notice, immediately following the Annual General Meeting of MCEC;
- vii. Meetings of the Executive Council are for duly elected members and may also include such persons that the Executive Council, at its sole discretion, invites to be in attendance;
- viii. The Executive Council may consider or transact any business either special or general at any meeting of the Executive Council;
- ix. If the Executive Council elects to meet in whole or in part by telephonic, electronic, or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately for the purposes of decision-making, any person entitled to attend such meeting may participate by means of such telephonic, electronic, or other communication facility;
- x. Any and all actions taken by the Executive Council at any such telephonic or

electronically convened meetings are deemed to be as equally valid to actions taken at meetings that are held in person.

14.3. Errors in Notice

No errors or omission in giving notice for a meeting of the Executive Council shall invalidate such meeting or invalidate any actions taken at such meeting. Any member of the Executive Council may at any time waive notice of any such meeting and may ratify and approve of any or all proceedings taken thereat.

14.4. Voting

- i. Questions arising at any meeting of the Executive Council shall be decided by a majority of votes. The Moderator shall only be permitted to exercise his or her vote in the event of an equality of votes;
- ii. All votes at any such meeting shall be taken by ballot if so requested by any member of the Executive Council present, but if no request is made the vote shall be taken in the usual way by assent or dissent. A declaration by the Moderator that a resolution has been carried and an entry to that effect in the minutes shall be *prima facie* evidence of the fact without proof of the number or proportion of the votes recorded in favour of or against such resolution;
- iii. Provided, however, that at any meeting of the Executive Council a resolution may be passed that any matter may be decided at such meeting by consensus without specific vote taken and thereafter a declaration by the Moderator that there is consensus with respect to a matter without any opposition thereto by any member of the Executive Council and an entry to that effect in the minutes of the Executive Council meeting shall be sufficient evidence of approval of such matter.

14.5. Remuneration

Members of Executive Council shall serve as such without remuneration and no Member of Executive Council shall directly or indirectly receive any profit from occupying their position on Executive Council, except that Members of Executive Council may be reimbursed for reasonable expenses they incur in the performance of their duties as a Member of Executive Council.

14.6. Conflict of Interest

No member of the Executive Council shall place himself or herself in a position where there is a conflict of interest between his or her duties as an Executive Council member and his or her other interests. Every Executive Council member who is in any way directly or indirectly interested in or may become interested in a material way in an existing or proposed contract, transaction or arrangement with the Corporation or who otherwise has a conflict of interest by virtue of involvement with a member of his or her family (with "family" defined as spouse, father, mother, child, brother or sister, or the spouse of such family members) or by the involvement of his or her partner, business associate, or corporation that the Executive Council member is involved with, either as a director, shareholder, officer, employee, or agent, then such member of the Executive Council shall declare his or her conflict of interest

fully at a meeting of the Executive Council and shall withdraw from any discussion or vote thereon.

15. Officers of MCEC

15.1. *Officers*

The Officers of MCEC shall consist of the Moderator, Assistant Moderator, Secretary, and Treasurer, all of whom shall be members of an MCEC Congregation. The Executive Council may appoint such other officers and agents as it deems necessary, and who shall have such authority and shall perform such duties as the Executive Council may prescribe from time to time. Any officer shall cease to hold office upon the resolution of the Executive Council.

15.2. *Duties of the Moderator*

The Moderator shall preside at all meetings of the Executive Council and at the Annual General Meeting and Special Meetings of Delegates and be responsible for providing leadership for the overall governance of MCEC. The Moderator shall perform such other duties as may be required by law or as the Executive Council may determine from time to time.

15.3. *Duties of the Assistant Moderator*

The Assistant Moderator shall act in the absence of the Moderator or at the Moderator's request. The Assistant Moderator shall perform such other duties as may be required by law or as the Executive Council may determine from time to time.

15.4. *Duties of the Secretary*

The Secretary shall attend all meetings of the Executive Council and of the Annual and Special Meetings of the Delegates of MCEC and shall oversee the recording of minutes of all such proceedings in the books or electronic records kept for that purpose. The Secretary shall perform such other duties as may be required by law or as the Executive Council may determine from time to time.

15.5. *Duties of the Treasurer*

The Treasurer, who is normally the chair of the financial oversight body of MCEC, shall be custodian of all funds of MCEC, ensure an accurate accounting of all receipts and disbursements of MCEC, and see that an annual audited financial statement is prepared for the Executive Council and the Annual General Meeting of Delegates of MCEC. The Treasurer shall perform such other duties as may be required by law or as the Executive Council may determine from time to time.

15.6. *Execution of Documents*

Deeds, transfers, assignments, contracts, obligations, and other instruments in writing requiring execution by the Corporation may be signed by any two of its Officers or Members of Executive Council. In addition, the Executive Council may from time to time direct the manner in which and the person by whom a particular document or type of document shall

be executed. Any person authorized to sign any document may affix the corporate seal, if any, to the document. Any Member of Executive Council or Officer may certify a copy of any instrument, resolution, Bylaw, or other document of the Corporation to be a true copy thereof.

16. Additional Councils

16.1. *Other Councils/Committees*

MCEC may have such other councils and committees as are from time to time established by resolution of the Executive Council and approved by the Delegates of MCEC. Such councils and committees shall have such duties and responsibilities and be comprised of such members and be organized and function as is determined from time to time by resolution of the Executive Council and approved by the delegates of MCEC.

17. Protection of Directors and Others

17.1. *Protection of Directors, Officers and Others*

- i. Every Protected Person shall be indemnified and saved harmless, from time to time and at all times, out of the funds of the Corporation, from and against all costs, charges and expenses which such Protected Person sustains or incurs:
 - a in relation to any demand, action, suit, or proceeding which is commenced against such Protected Person in respect of any matter made, done, or permitted or not permitted by such Protected Person, in relation to the execution of the duties of such Protected Person's office; or
 - b in relation to the affairs of the Corporation generally;save and except costs, charges, or expenses occasioned by the failure of such person to act honestly and in good faith in the performance of the duties of office.
- ii. Absent the failure to act honestly and in good faith in the performance of the duties of office, and save as may be otherwise provided in any legislation or law, no Protected Person shall be personally liable for any loss or damage or expense to the Corporation arising out of the acts, receipts, neglects, omissions, or defaults of such Protected Person or of any other Protected Person arising from any of the following:
 - a insufficiency or deficiency of title to any property acquired by the Corporation or for or on behalf of the Corporation;
 - b insufficiency or deficiency of any security in or upon which any of the monies of or belonging to the Corporation shall be placed out or invested;
 - c loss or damage arising from the bankruptcy or insolvency of any person, firm, or corporation including any person, firm, or corporation with whom or which any monies, securities, or effects shall be lodged or deposited;

- d loss, conversion, misapplication, or misappropriation of or any damage resulting from any dealings with monies, securities, or other assets belonging to the Corporation;
 - e loss, damage, or misfortune which may occur in the execution of the duties of the Protected Person's office or trust or in relation thereto; and
 - f loss or damage arising from any wilful act, assault, act of negligence, breach of fiduciary or other duty, or failure to render aid of any sort.
- iii. It shall be the obligation of any person seeking indemnity from the Corporation to cooperate fully with the Corporation in the defence of any demand, claim, or suit made against such person, and to make no admission of responsibility or liability to any third party without the prior agreement of the Corporation.
- iv. Before giving approval to the indemnities provided in this Section, the Executive Council shall confirm that it has considered:
 - a the degree of risk to which the Protected Person is or may be exposed;
 - b whether, in practice, the risk cannot be eliminated or significantly reduced by means other than the indemnity; and
 - c whether it advances the administration and management of the property to give the indemnity and has concluded that the granting of the indemnity is in the best interest of the Corporation.
- v. Such indemnity will only be effective upon the exhaustion of all available and collectible insurance provided to the Protected Person by the Corporation, as applicable, inclusive of whatever valid and collectible insurance has been collected.
- vi. The Corporation shall also indemnify any Protected Person, firm, or corporation in such circumstances designated by law, upon approval by the Executive Council.
- vii. Nothing in this Section shall limit the legal right of any person, firm, or corporation entitled to indemnity to claim indemnity apart from the provisions of this Section.

18. MCEC Records

18.1. *Ownership of Records*

All records of Councils, committees, and staff persons of MCEC are the property of MCEC.

18.2. *Archives*

The depository for archival materials of MCEC will be the Mennonite Archives of Ontario located at Conrad Grebel University College.

18.3. *Files of Retiring MCEC Officer/Council Member/Committee Member/Staff Person*

All files, whether paper, electronic, or otherwise, pertaining to the activities of the councils, committees, or the work of a staff person shall be transferred by an Officer, member, or staff person to their successor or to MCEC offices.

19. Finances

19.1. *Financial Year*

The financial year of MCEC shall terminate on the 31st day of January in each year or at such other date as determined by the Executive Council and approved by the Delegates of MCEC.

19.2. *Financial Signing Authority*

- i. All cheques, bills of exchange, or other orders for the payment of money, notes, or other evidence of indebtedness issued in the name of MCEC, shall be signed by such Officer or Officers, agent or agents of MCEC and in such manner as shall from time to time be determined by resolution of the Executive Council;
- ii. Any one of such Officers or agents may alone endorse notes and drafts for collection on account of MCEC through its bankers, and endorse notes and cheques for deposit with MCEC's bankers for the credit of MCEC;
- iii. The same may be endorsed "for collection" or "for deposit" with the bankers of MCEC by using MCEC's rubber stamp for the purpose. Any one of such Officers or agents so appointed may arrange, settle, balance, and certify all books and accounts between MCEC and MCEC's bankers and may receive all paid cheques and vouchers and sign all the bank's forms of settlement of balances and release or verification slips.

19.3. *Deposit of Securities for Safekeeping*

- i. The securities of MCEC shall be deposited for safekeeping with one or more bankers, credit unions, trust companies, or other financial institutions to be selected by the Executive Council;
- ii. Any and all securities so deposited may be withdrawn from time to time, only upon the written order of MCEC signed by such Officer or Officers, agent or agents of MCEC and in such manner as shall, from time to time, be determined by resolution of the Executive Council and such authority may be general or confined to specific instances;
- iii. Investments and/or endowments held by MCEC shall be invested with trusted institutions who share and reflect MCEC's values, whenever possible. Exceptions shall be ratified by the Executive Council.

19.4. ***Borrowing and Purchase or Sale of Real Property***

- i. *The Executive Council may from time to time pass a resolution to:*
 - a. Borrow money on the credit of the Corporation by obtaining loans, advances, or otherwise;
 - b. Charge, mortgage, or pledge any or all of the real or personal property, including books or debts, and to secure any bonds, debentures, or other securities, or any liability of MCEC;
 - c. Purchase real estate for use by MCEC or sell MCEC owned real estate;
- ii. And from time to time the Executive Council may pass a resolution to authorize any member of the Executive Council or employee of MCEC or any other person to act on its behalf within the parameters of such resolution in order to make arrangements with reference to the monies borrowed or to be borrowed as aforesaid or to the purchase or sale of real estate as aforesaid, as to the terms and conditions of the loan or the purchase or sale thereof, and as to the securities to be given therefore, with power to vary or modify such arrangements, terms and conditions and to give such additional securities for any monies borrowed or remaining due by MCEC as the Executive Council may authorize, and generally to manage, transact, and settle the borrowing of money, or sale, or purchase of real estate by MCEC.

20. **Severability and Precedence**

- 20.1. The invalidity or unenforceability of any provision of this Bylaw shall not affect the validity or enforceability of the remaining provisions of this Bylaw. If any of the provisions contained in the Bylaws are inconsistent with those contained in the Articles or the Act, the provisions contained in the Articles or the Act, as the case may be, shall prevail.

21. **Amendments**

- 21.1. All or any part of any Bylaw of MCEC may be amended or repealed by the Executive Council provided that such proposed repeal or amendment is approved by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the Delegates at a duly-constituted Delegate Gathering according to the requirements of [Section 7](#) and [Section 8](#) of this Bylaw and of which prior notice of the proposed repeal or amendment has been duly given;
- 21.2. Notice to Congregations for such amendments shall be no less than 30 days in advance of a duly called meeting of MCEC Delegates.

22. Dissolution of MCEC

- 22.1. If the Delegates of MCEC, acting at a duly-called Delegate Gathering of MCEC approve by a two-thirds (2/3) majority vote an action that calls for the dissolution of MCEC as a covenanted faith community and in addition the dissolution of MCEC as a legally incorporated entity, the remaining assets of MCEC will be transferred in equal parts to MC Canada and Mennonite World Conference or their successor bodies.

23. Coming into Force

- 23.1. Given that MCEC was created as a Corporation by the registration of Letters Patent of Amalgamation dated February 1, 1988, its first Bylaw, Bylaw No. 1, came into force on February 1, 1988;
- i. Bylaw No. 1 was amended on March 24, 1990;
 - ii. Bylaw No. 1 was further amended on October 27, 1990;
 - iii. Bylaw No. 1 was further amended on October 26, 1991;
 - iv. Bylaw No. 2 replaced Bylaw No. 1 on April 10, 1999;
 - v. Bylaw No. 3 replaced Bylaw No. 1. on April 29, 2006;
 - vi. This Bylaw No. 4 comes into force at the conclusion of the Delegate Gathering at which it is adopted;
 - vii. Any subsequent amendments to this Bylaw come into force at the conclusion of the Delegate Gathering at which they are adopted.

Adoption

THE FOREGOING BYLAW, being a bylaw respecting the general operations of the Corporation, is hereby passed by all of the directors of the Corporation, as evidenced by the signatures of the Moderator and the Secretary of the Corporation hereto.

Dated the 19th day of March, 2019.

Arli Klassen, Moderator

Ernie Harris, Secretary

CONFIRMED by the Members of the Corporation on the 27th day of April 2019.

Per:

Ernie Harris, Secretary

Clarifying MCEC Ministry Priorities

B26

Context

At the 2017 Annual Church Gathering, delegates approved a motion that resolved the lawsuit brought against MCEC by the Warden Woods Community Centre (WWCC), which disputed the ownership of the MCEC owned property at 74 Firvalley in Scarborough, ON. In resolving the lawsuit, MCEC agreed to provide WWCC with a 49-year lease at nominal cost. In exchange, WWCC dropped its lawsuit and acknowledged MCEC as the undisputed owner of the property.

MCEC was informed by legal counsel that providing low cost rent to other charitable organizations was an acceptable charitable purpose and was advised to have that approved by the delegate body. The following motion formally clarifies that one of MCEC's ministry priorities is to provide low cost rent of MCEC owned or leased properties as a part of it's mission.

MOTION

Whereas MCEC seeks to be a church that supports God's purposes in the world;

Be it resolved that in addition to the purposes expressed in the bylaw governing MCEC, that MCEC also adopts as one of its primary mission priorities, the sharing of MCEC owned or leased properties with other charitable organizations at nominal cost, provided that the mission of such charitable organizations is deemed to be compatible with MCEC. Decisions to support the efficient and cost effective operation of such minded charitable organizations shall be made at the discretion of the Executive Council.

MCEC Community of Congregations

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| 1. Agape Fellowship | 39. Hochma | 71. Preston Mennonite Church |
| 2. Avon Mennonite Church | 40. Hunta Mennonite Church | 72. Rainham Mennonite Church |
| 3. Bethany Mennonite Church | 41. Jane Finch Faith Community - Connect City | 73. Refuge de Paix |
| 4. Bethel Ethiopian Evangelical Church | 42. Kingsfield - Clinton | 74. River of Life Fellowship |
| 5. Bethel Mennonite Church (Elora) | 43. Kingsfield - Zurich Mennonite Church | 75. Rockway Mennonite Church |
| 6. Blenheim Ecumenical House Church | 44. Kitchener Emmanuel Church | 76. Rouge Valley Mennonite Church |
| 7. Bloomingdale Mennonite Church | 45. KW House Church | 77. Shalom Worship and Healing Centre |
| 8. Breslau Mennonite Church | 46. Lao Canadian Evangelical Mennonite Church | 78. Shantz Mennonite Church |
| 9. Brussels Mennonite Fellowship | 47. Lao Christian Fellowship | 79. Soul House - Connect City |
| 10. Calvary Church Ayr (Mennonite) | 48. Leamington United Mennonite Church | 80. St. Agatha Mennonite Church |
| 11. Cassel Mennonite Church | 49. Listowel Mennonite Church | 81. St. Catharines United Mennonite Church |
| 12. Chin Christian Church (Kitchener) | 50. Living Water Community Christian Fellowship | 82. St. Jacobs Mennonite Church |
| 13. Chin Christian Church (Ottawa) | 51. Mannheim Mennonite Church | 83. Steinmann Mennonite Church |
| 14. Church of the Living Word in Ottawa | 52. Maple View Mennonite Church | 84. Stirling Avenue Mennonite Church |
| 15. Community Mennonite Church, Stouffville | 53. Markham Chinese Mennonite Church | 85. Tavistock Mennonite Church |
| 16. Community Mennonite Fellowship | 54. Markham Christian Worship Centre | 86. The Commons |
| 17. Crosshill Mennonite Church | 55. McArthurs Mills Christian Fellowship | 87. The First Mennonite Church |
| 18. Danforth Mennonite Church | 56. Medahnialem Ethiopian Evangelical Church | 88. The Gathering Church |
| 19. East Zorra Mennonite Church | 57. Meheret Evangelical Church | 89. The Network Church |
| 20. Église Évangélique Mennonite de Joliette | 58. Mennonite Fellowship of Montreal | 90. Toronto Chinese Mennonite Church |
| 21. Elmira Mennonite Church | 59. Milverton Mennonite Fellowship | 91. Toronto Mennonite New Life Church |
| 22. Erb Street Mennonite Church | 60. Mississauga Mennonite Fellowship | 92. Toronto United Mennonite Church |
| 23. Erie View United Mennonite Church | 61. Naim Mennonite Church | 93. Tree of Life/Arbre de Vie |
| 24. Faith Mennonite Church | 62. Niagara United Mennonite Church | 94. Valleyview Mennonite Church |
| 25. Famille Assemblée de la Grâce | 63. Nith Valley Mennonite Church | 95. Vineland United Mennonite Church |
| 26. First Hmong Mennonite Church | 64. North Leamington United Mennonite Church | 96. Wanner Mennonite Church |
| 27. First Mennonite Church | 65. Open Table | 97. Warden Underground - Connect City |
| 28. Floradale Mennonite Church | 66. Oromo Evangelical Church of Ottawa | 98. Waterloo North Mennonite Church |
| 29. Freedom Gospel Ethiopian Church | 67. Ottawa Mennonite Church | 99. Waterloo-Kitchener United Mennonite Church |
| 30. Grace Lao Mennonite Church | 68. Petitcodiac Mennonite Church | 100. Waters Mennonite Church |
| 31. Grace Mennonite Church | 69. Pioneer Park Christian Fellowship | 101. Wellesley Mennonite Church |
| 32. Grace New Life Mennonite Church | 70. Poole Mennonite Church | 102. West Hills Mennonite Fellowship |
| 33. Hagerman Mennonite Church | | 103. Westview Christian Fellowship |
| 34. Hamilton Mennonite Church | | 104. Wideman Mennonite Church |
| 35. Hanover Mennonite Church | | 105. Wilmot Mennonite Church |
| 36. Harrow Mennonite Church | | 106. Windsor Mennonite Fellowship |
| 37. Hawkesville Mennonite Church | | 107. Zion Mennonite Fellowship |
| 38. Hillcrest Mennonite Church | | |

107 Congregations
12,441 Members