

**CHARTER OF THE
CANADIAN CONFERENCE OF THE MENNONITE BRETHERN CHURCH
OF NORTH AMERICA**

CANADA:

Office of the Clerk of the Parliament.

I, LESLIE CLARE MOYER, Clerk of the Parliament, Custodian of the Original Acts of the Legislatures of the late Provinces of Upper and Lower Canada, of the late Province of Canada and of the Parliament of Canada, certify the subjoined to be a true copy of the original Act passed by the Parliament of Canada in the Session thereof held in the ninth and tenth years of His Majesty's Reign, and assented to in His Majesty's name by the Governor General, on the eighteenth day of December, one thousand nine hundred and forty-five, remaining of record in my office.

Given under my Hand and Seal at the City of Ottawa, Canada, on the second day of January, one thousand nine hundred and forty-six.

Sig. **L.C. Moyer**, Clerk of the Parliaments.

First Session, Twentieth Parliament, 9 George VI, 1945.

THE SENATE OF CANADA

BILL G6.

An Act to incorporate Canadian Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Church of North America.

AS PASSED BY THE SENATE, 22nd NOV., 1945.

OTTAWA

EDMOND CLOUTIER

Printer To The King's Most Excellent Majesty

1945

46721

1st Session, 20th Parliament, 9 George VI, 1945

THE SENATE OF CANADA

BILL 6G.

CHAP. 52

An Act to incorporate Canadian Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Church of North America.
(Assented to 18th December, 1945.)

Preamble.

WHEREAS the persons hereinafter named have by their petition prayed that the Canadian Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Church of North American be incorporated for the purpose of administering in Canada such of the property, business and other temporal affairs of the said Canadian Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Church of North America as may be entrusted by the said Canadian Conference to the corporation hereby incorporated, and for the other purposes and objects hereinafter set out, and it is expedient to grant the prayer of the said petition: Therefore His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

Incorporation.

1. Henry S. Voth, of the town of Winkler, in the province of Manitoba, clergyman; Jacob F. Redekop, of Main Centre, in the province of Saskatchewan, clergyman; Cornelius A. De Fehr, of the city of Winnipeg, in the province of Manitoba, merchant; Abram Arthur Kroeker, of the town of Winkler, in the province of Manitoba, farmer; Benjamin B. Janz, of the post office of Coaldale, in the province of Alberta, clergyman; Cornelius F. Klassen, of the city of Winnipeg, in the province of Manitoba, collector; George David Pries, of the town of Winkler, in the province of Manitoba, teacher; John A. Harder, of the post office of Yarrow, in the province of British Columbia, clergyman; Frank Cornelius Thiessen, of the post office of Abbotsford, in the province of British Columbia, teacher; Gerhard Wilhelm Peters, of the post office of Hepburn, in the province of Saskatchewan, teacher; Henry S. Rempel, of the city of Saskatoon, in the province of Saskatchewan, missionary; being the Official Board of the said Conference by virtue of their office and their successors in the said offices, together with all the qualified voters from time to time of the said Canadian Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Church of North America, are hereby incorporated under the name of "Canadian Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Church of North America", hereinafter called "the Corporation".

Head Office.

2. The head office of the Corporation shall be at the city of Winnipeg, in the province of Manitoba, or at such other place in Canada as may be decided upon by the Corporation.

Objects.

3. The objects of the Corporation shall be:

- (a) to promote, maintain, superintend and carry on, in any and all parts of Canada, in accordance with the doctrinal laws, constitution, acts and rulings of the Mennonite Brethren Church of North America, any or all of the work of that body;
- (b) to organize, maintain and carry on, in any and all parts of Canada, charities and missions, and to erect, maintain and conduct therein churches, schools, colleges, orphanages, hospitals and homes for the aged;
- (c) to advance in other lawful ways education, religion, charity and benevolence;
- (d) to administer in Canada the property, business and other temporal affairs of the Corporation; and
- (e) to organize and carry on, in any and all part of Canada, in furtherance of the lawful objects of the Corporation, and not otherwise, the business of printing and publishing.

Management.

4. (1) The affairs of the Corporation shall be managed by a board of directors to be known as the Official Board consisting of not less than eleven and not more than fifteen members, who shall be elected by the said Canadian Conference at its annual meeting in each year, and who shall hold office during the pleasure of the said Canadian Conference.

(2) The first Official Board of the Corporation shall consist of the persons now in office as the Official Board of the said Canadian Conference, and shall hold office during the pleasure of the said Canadian Conference.

(3) All vacancies occurring by death, removal, resignation or otherwise shall be filled by the said Canadian Conference.

Incidental powers.

5. The Corporation may do all such lawful acts and things as are incidental or as may be conducive to the attainment of its objects.

Committees.

6. The Corporation may exercise all its powers by and through such committees as it may from time to time by by-law appoint.

Rules, regulations and by-laws.

7. The Corporation may make such rules, regulations and by-laws as it may deem necessary for the exercise of the powers conferred or which may hereafter be conferred on it by or under this or any other Act relating to it and which are not contrary to law nor inconsistent with this Act, including rules, regulations and by-laws for:

- (a) the administration, management and control of the property, affairs and business of the Corporation;
- (b) the appointment of committees and the designation of their duties;

- (c) the appointment, functions, duties and remuneration of all officers, agents and servants of the Corporation;
- (d) the calling of meetings, regular or special, of the Official Board of the Corporation or of committees;
- (e) the fixing of the necessary quorum and procedure in all things at such meetings; and
- (f) generally for the carrying out of the objects and purposes of the Corporation.

Capacity to acquire and hold property

8. (1) The Corporation may purchase, take, have, hold, receive, possess, retain and enjoy property, real and personal, corporeal or incorporeal, whatsoever, and for any or every estate or interest whatsoever given, granted, devised or bequeathed to it or appropriated, purchased or acquired by it in any manner of way whatsoever to, for or in favour of the ecclesiastic and eleemosynary uses and purposes of the Corporation or to, for or in favour of any religious, educational, eleemosynary or other institution established or intended to be established by, under the management of, or in connection with the uses, purposes or work of the Corporation.

(2) The Corporation may also hold for the uses and purposes aforesaid such real property or estate therein as is *bona fide* mortgaged to it by way of security or conveyed to it in satisfaction of debts or judgements recovered.

Various powers.

9. Subject always to the terms of any trust relating thereto, the Corporation may also sell, convey, exchange, alienate, mortgage, lease or demise any real property held by the Corporation, whether by way of investment for the uses and purposes of the Corporation or not, and may also from time to time, invest all or any of its funds or moneys and all or any funds or moneys vested in or acquired by it for the use and purposes aforesaid, in and upon any security by way of mortgage, hypothec or charge upon real property in any part of Canada; and for the purposes of such investment may take, receive and accept mortgages or assignments thereof, whether made and executed directly to the Corporation or to any corporation, body, company or person in trust for it; and may sell, grant, assign and transfer such mortgages or assignments either wholly or partly.

Power to invest.

10. The Corporation may also invest and reinvest any of its funds and moneys,

(a) in any bonds or debentures of any municipality or public school corporation or district in Canada, in bonds, stock and debentures or other securities of Canada or of any province thereof or in any security the payment of which is guaranteed by Canada or any province thereof; or

(b) in first mortgages of freehold property in Canada and for the purposes of the same may take the mortgages or assignments thereof whether such mortgages or assignments be made directly to the Corporation in its own corporate name or to some company or person in trust for it, and may sell and assign the same; or

(c) in any securities in which life insurance companies are authorized by Parliament to invest funds.

Power to make gifts and loans of property.

11. The Corporation may make a gift of or loan any of its property, whether real or personal, for or to assist in the erection or maintenance of any building or buildings deemed necessary for any church, college, manse, school or hospital or for any other religious, charitable, educational, congregational or social purpose upon such terms and upon such conditions it may deem expedient.

Power to borrow, etc.

12. (1) The Official Board of the Corporation may from time to time for the purposes of the Corporation:

(a) borrow money upon the credit of the Corporations;

(b) limit or increase the amount to be borrowed;

(c) make, draw, accept, endorse or become party to promissory notes and bills of exchange, and it shall not be necessary to have the seal of the Corporation affixed to any such note or bill;

(d) issue bonds, debentures or other securities of the Corporation;

(e) pledge or sell such bonds, debentures or other securities for such sums and at such prices as may be deemed expedient; and

(f) mortgage, hypothecate, charge or pledge all or any of the real and personal property, undertaking and rights of the Corporation to secure any such bonds, debentures or other securities or any money borrowed or any other liability of the Corporation.

(2) Nothing in this section shall be constructed to authorize the Corporation to issue any note or bill payable to bearer thereof, or any promissory note intended to be circulated as money or as the note or bill of a bank, or to engage in the business of banking or insurance.

Duration of holding of unrequired land disposal thereof.

13. (1) No parcel of land or interest therein at any time acquired by the Corporation and not required for its actual use and occupation and not held by way of security, shall be held by the Corporation, or by any trustee on its behalf, for a longer period than ten years after acquisition thereof, or for a longer period than ten years after it shall have ceased to be required for actual use and occupation by the Corporation, as the case may be, but shall, at or before the expiration of such period, be absolutely sold or disposed of, so that the Corporation shall no longer retain any interest or estate therein, except by way of security.

Extension.

(2) The Secretary of State may direct that the time for the sale or disposal of any such parcel of land, or any estate or interest therein, shall be extended for a further period or periods not to exceed five years.

Limitation.

(3) The whole period during which the Corporation may hold any such parcel of land, or any estate or interest therein, under the foregoing provision of this section, shall not exceed fifteen years after the date of the acquisition thereof, or after it shall have ceased to be required for actual use or occupation by the Corporation.

Forfeiture.

(4) Any such parcel of land, or any estate or interest therein, not within the exceptions hereinbefore mentioned, which has been held by the Corporation for a longer period than authorized by the foregoing provisions of this section without being disposed of, shall be forfeited to His Majesty for the use of Canada.

Statement to Secretary of State.

(5) The Corporation shall give the Secretary of State, when required, a full and correct statement of all lands, at the date of such statement, held by the Corporation, or in trust for it, and subject to the provisions of this section.

Application.

(6) This section shall apply only to lands and estate or interests therein which, by reason of the situation of such lands or otherwise, are subject to the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada.

Mortmain.

14. In regard to any real property which, by reason of its situation or otherwise, is subject to the legislative authority of the Parliament of Canada, a license in mortmain shall not be necessary for the exercise of the powers granted by this Act; but otherwise, the exercise of the said powers shall in any province of Canada be subject to the laws of such province as to the acquisition and holding of lands by religious corporations, in so far as such laws apply to the Corporation.

Transfers to the Corporation.

15. In so far as authorization by the Parliament of Canada is necessary, any person or corporation in whose name any property, real or personal, is held in trust or otherwise, for the use and purposes aforesaid, or any such person or corporation to whom any such property devolves, may subject always to the terms and conditions of any trust relating to such property, transfer such property, or any part thereof, to the Corporation.

Execution of deeds, etc.

16. Any deed or other instrument relating to real property or any interest therein shall be deemed to be duly executed if there be affixed thereto the seal of the Corporation and the signature of any officer of the Corporation duly authorized for such purpose or his lawful attorney.

Extra territorial powers.

17. The Corporation may exercise its functions throughout Canada or elsewhere, and meetings of the Official Board of the Corporation and of any committees of the Official Board may be held at any place within Canada other than the head office of the Corporation.