

# *Outcomes of the Bylaw Revision*

1. Protect the rights of the Member Churches within the denomination
2. Implement the structure for the approved Collaborative Model (National Assembly, National Ministry Team, etc.)
3. Enable the new meeting and voting procedures used by the Collaborative Model
4. Make clear the operations of the Conference based on the above changes

*(Note: Recommend the Provincial Conference bylaws be updated to strengthen operations under the Collaborative Model. See checklist.)*

# *Approach to Bylaw Revisions*

1. Renovate the house. (do not build a new house)  
Use bylaw revisions. (not a complete bylaw rewrite)
2. Keep the core bylaw structures and add requirements focused specifically on implementing the Collaborative Model.
3. Use external policy documents to keep the bylaws simple.

So this means:

1. MB Churches remain as members and retain use of annual meetings (needed for amending Confession Of Faith, etc.)
2. Add Member Organizations and National Assembly meetings along with new voting process for Member Churches, etc.

# *What Must Remain and Why*

1. The National Charter (Act of Parliament) created CCMBC thereby forming the basis of the MB Denomination which holds the national MB Confession of Faith.
2. MB Churches are members of the National Denomination by virtue of first being members of their local Provincial Conferences, which creates the authorities and legal structures for churches to effectively operate both in Canada and in their local provinces.
3. The national Executive Board and the Officers of the CCMBC represent the denomination and the member churches as defined in the original Charter. The Charter requires an annual meeting for electing officers.
4. The Annual General Meeting will still be used for approving auditor and financial statements. It may be a smaller virtual meeting.

# *Types of Changes*

## **1. LANGUAGE:**

- A language change is required for adding new terms or when including definitions used by the collaborative model. These are minor changes.

## **2. CLARITY:**

- Additional details or better descriptions may be created for the purpose of clarity. Clarity changes do NOT substantially alter the intent of the original wording.

## **3. STRUCTURAL:**

- Structural changes are major amendments needed to bring the collaborative model into existence. There are very few structural changes, but they are very important.

## **4. OPERATIONAL:**

- Finally, the operational changes bring all parts of the bylaws into alignment. These changes are usually as a result of the structural changes. These are important details to confirm so that the bylaws can be properly executed.

# *LANGUAGE Changes*

1. “National Faith & Life Team” replaces “Board of Faith & Life”
2. “National Director” replaces “Executive Director”
3. “Assembly” replaces “Convention” to simplify terms
4. “General Assembly” describes a meeting where delegates of both Member Churches and Member Organizations vote
5. “National Assembly” describes a meeting where only the National Assembly delegates gathers
6. New Terms: “Collaborative Model”, “Collaborative Unified Strategic Plan”, “Strategic Partnership Agreement”, and “Principal Organization”

# *CLARITY Changes*

1. Identifying when a “General Assembly” is required and when Referenda can be used for decision-making
2. Better define relationship of national and provincial conferences
3. National Director duties are better described
4. Nominating Committee duties are better described
5. Clarifying elections and terms of office
6. Finance and Audit Committees combined into one committee (as it has been one committee for some time)
7. Amending process of Confession and Bylaws better explained
8. Dissolution process details added

# *STRUCTURAL Changes*

## 1. Adding a second Membership Class: MB Organizations

- Member Organizations include 6 provincial conferences, MBS, Multiply, Legacy
- Defining admission, cessation, participation, suspension
- Delegates from Member Organizations form the National Assembly

## 2. Adding a National Assembly

- Defining National Assembly Delegates, quorum and voting
- Defining the role of the National Assembly Delegates

## 3. Adding the National Ministry Team

- Defining the composition of the National Ministry Team
- Defining the role of the National Ministry Team

# *OPERATIONAL Changes*

1. Adding Collaborative Model, Collaborative Unified Strategic Plan, Strategic Partnership Agreements, Principal Organization
2. Allowing Maritime churches to join another provincial conference
3. Allowing use of Referenda to vote at Provincial Conventions in addition to hosting General Assembly
4. Updating the Executive Board non-voting members & guests to include the National Ministry Team
5. Adding an elected Treasurer (Finance & Audit Committee Chair)
6. Updating delegate duties to reflect Collaborative Model
7. Updating National Faith & Life Team composition and duties
8. Adding policy documents external to the bylaws
9. Including Dispute Resolution policy



# *What does it mean to add Member Organizations?*

- CCMBC moves from being just a “conference of churches” to also being a “conference of conferences and organizations”.
- Including Member Organizations that are part of the MB family brings national MB entities into accountability under the Confession of Faith.
- These two membership classes work together to create a solution to unite all levels of MB ministry within the denomination.
- The MB Organizations now have a meeting place for decision making through a common membership under the National Conference.
- The Member Churches remain the primary members and retain majority control at a General Assembly.

# *Member Churches – Part of Two Conferences*

- What makes a church MB is being part of the MB Denomination under the MB Confession of Faith as part of the National Conference.
- A church becomes a member by first joining a Provincial Conference that supports and oversees the churches in their region.
- Churches typically register as a society or corporation in their province. It is beneficial for a church to hold dual membership.
- The provincial-national membership hierarchy gives clear authority to the provincial conferences to define membership requirements.
- When churches gather nationally, they can address denominational activities such as amending the Confession of Faith.
- It is important that national and provincial bylaws are aligned.

# *Document References in the Bylaws*

- Collaborative Unified Strategic Plan
- Strategic Partnership Agreements
- Executive Board Governance Manual
- Digital Voting Policy
- CCMBC Referenda Policy
- General Assembly Policy
- National Assembly Policy
- National Faith and Life Team Policy
- Nominating Committee Policy
- National Ministry Team Policy
- Principal Organization Policy

# *Summary of the Revision Process*

The revision process reflects the Collaborative Model:

- Draft 1 reviewed by the National Ministry Team and Executive Board, (including the Governance Committee and legal counsel)
- Draft 1 reviewed by the National Assembly (10 Member Organizations)
- Draft 1 reviewed by Member Churches using town hall meetings, etc.
- Draft 2 reviewed by the NMT & EB
- Draft 2 reviewed by the National Assembly
- Draft 2 reviewed by Member Churches
- Final draft sent out before 31 December 2020
- Referenda voting at the Provincial Conventions in 2021