



MC Canada

Annual General Meeting

Information Packet

June 24, 2023

Zoom

LIST OF ACRONYMS COMMONLY USED

ACCC= Anabaptist Collaboration on Climate Change
ACG = Annual Church Gathering
ADS = Annual Delegate Session
AEM = Associate Executive Minister
AGM = Annual General Meeting
AIMM = Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission
AMBS = Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary
BIPOC = Black, Indigenous, People of Colour
CBC = Columbia Bible College
CCAL = Canadian Council of Anabaptist Leaders
CCC = Canadian Council of Churches
CCCC = Canadian Centre for Christian Charities
CGUC = Conrad Grebel University College
CIM = Council of International (Anabaptist) Ministries
CLM = Church Leadership Ministers
CM = Canadian Mennonite
CMPS = Canadian Mennonite Publishing Service
CMU = Canadian Mennonite University
COSL = Community of Spiritual Leadership
CPT = Christian Peacemaker Teams
CSCS = Centre for Sustainable Climate Solutions
CW = CommonWord
EFC = Evangelical Fellowship of Canada
EMU = Eastern Mennonite University
EMG = Executive Ministers Group
FPAC = Finance Policy and Audit Committee
FTE = Full-Time Equivalent
FYE = Financial Year End
GMF = Global Mission Fellowship
ICSC = Intercultural Church Steering Committee
IMPACT = International Mennonite Pastors Coming Together
ISR = Indigenous Settler Relations
JC = Joint Council
JC Exec = Joint Council Executive Committee
MHA = Mennonite Heritage Archives
MC Canada = Mennonite Church Canada
MCA = Mennonite Church Alberta
MCBC = Mennonite Church British Columbia
MCC = Mennonite Central Committee
MCCN = Mennonite Creation Care Network
MCEC = Mennonite Church of Eastern Canada
MCM = Mennonite Church Manitoba
MC Sask = Mennonite Church Saskatchewan
MC USA = Mennonite Church USA
MDS = Mennonite Disaster Service
MEA = Mennonite Education Agency (MC USA)
MHS = Mennonite Historical Society
MIP = Ministry Inquiry Program
MLI = Ministerial Leadership Information form

MMN = Mennonite Mission Network (MC USA)
MWC = Mennonite World Conference
PIN = Palestine/Israel Network
PAC = Pension Advisory Committee
SLG = Sustainability Leadership Group
TiM = Together in Ministry
TMTC = Toronto Mennonite Theological Centre

MC Canada Zoom AGM

June 24, 2023

12:00 – 1:30 CDT

Present:

Proposed Agenda:

1. Welcome/Call to Order
2. Devotional
3. Song
4. Agenda Approval
5. Introduction/Recognition of MC Canada Joint Council Reps (p. 4)
6. Approval of July 30 and Aug 1, 2022, AGM Delegate Session Minutes (p.5)
7. Moderators Report
8. Executive Minister's report
9. Ministry Presentations: Videos and Printed Report (p. 14)
 - a. Associate Executive Minister
 - b. CommonWord
 - c. IR
 - d. Climate Action
 - i. Living Hope
 - e. Comments/Questions
10. Finance
 - a. Approval of Financial Statements FYE 2023 (p.19)
 - b. Approval of MC Canada Budget 2023-24 (p. 38)
 - c. Comments/Questions
 - d. Approval of Auditors – KPMG
11. Approval of Bylaw Changes (p. 42)
 - a. Comments/Questions
12. Reflection/prayer
13. Closing Song
14. Adjournment



Mennonite Church Canada
Joint Council
May 2023



Geraldine Balzer
MC Canada Moderator



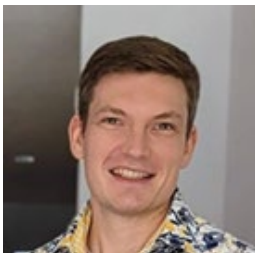
Bruce Baergen
MC Canada Assistant
Moderator



Paul Gilbert
Secretary-Treasurer



Sharon Schultz
Moderator
MC Saskatchewan



Ben Cassels
Moderator
MC Eastern Canada



Yoel Masyawong
Representative
MC Eastern Canada



Brenda Tiessen-Wiens
Moderator
MC Alberta



Margaret Kruger-Harder
Representative
MC Alberta



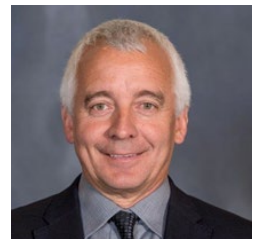
Gerry Grunau
Moderator
MC British Columbia



Jenn Regehr
Representative
MC British Columbia



Cheryl Braun
Moderator
MC Manitoba



David Wiens, JC
Representative
MC Manitoba

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Mennonite Church Canada
Delegate Gathering and Annual General Meeting
Edmonton, AB, July 30th and August 1st, 2022
Minutes

Please note that these minutes will refer to information provided and page numbers in the digital Report

Book found on CommonWord website: <https://www.commonword.ca/ResourceView/82/25677>

The Report Book addendum can be found at: <https://www.commonword.ca>

Abbreviations:

MC Can - Mennonite Church Canada
MCEC - Mennonite Church Eastern Canada
MCM - Mennonite Church Manitoba
MC Sask - Mennonite Church Saskatchewan
MCA - Mennonite Church Alberta
MCBC - Mennonite Church British Columbia
FPAC – Financial Policy and Audit Committee

Present:

From MCBC as delegates: Henry Krause, Mary Barg, Gerry Grunau, Betty Loewen, Darnell Barkman, Veronica Dyck, Ian Funk, Jesse Nickel, Sam Bonner, Jorge Hoajaca, Susan Nickel, Justin Sun, Trevor Renshaw, Allen Harder
From MCA as delegates: Brenda Tiessen-Wiens, Elizabeth Wall, Leng Thang, Wayne Janz, David (Vince) Friesen, Coreen Froese, Don Baergen, Reuben Tut, Mezgebu Tucho, Anna-Lisa Salo, Elijah Koop, Bill Christieson
From MC Sask as delegates: Sharon Schultz, Pauline Steinman, Andrea Enns-Gooding, Gordon Peters, Glenn Sawatzky, Emily Summach, Len Rempel, Rodney Hennessy, Mark Bigland Pritchard, Lisa Martens Bartel, Nancy Epp, Gord Siemens, Joe Heikman
From MCM as delegates: Gerald Gerbrandt, Don Rempel Boschman, Evelyn Rempel Petkau, Andrea Hildebrand, Andrea DeAvila, Timothy Wenger, Jose-Luis Moraga, Lee Hiebert, Kennedy Froese, David Driedger, Andrew Wiens, Julia Thiessen. Nadya Langelotz, Leni Lousier, Colleen Edmunds, Matthew Froese, Marta Bunnet Wiebe
From MCEC as delegates: Ben Cassels, Arli Klassen, Steph Chandler Burns, Diane Lichti, Gladys Bender, John David (JD) Penner, Leah Reesor Keller, Fanosie Legesse, Yoel Masyawong, Joseph Raltong, Alissa Bender, Mesfin Woldearegay, Kendall Jongejan Harder, Hyejung Jessie Yum, Roberson Mbayamvula, Merveille Mwankin, Henry Jonnalagadda, Melanie Jonnalagadda, Gordon Driedger, Anneli Loepp Thiessen, Nicole Pelletier, Marlene Toews Janzen, Mariko Ogasawara, Lorena Diller Harder
Elected Officers: Calvin Quan (Moderator), Allan Hiebert (Secretary/Treasurer), Geraldine Balzer (Assistant Moderator)

MINUTES

1. Calvin Quan (Moderator) **called the meeting to order** at 1:00 pm Mountain Time, July 30th, and declared the sessions open. He thanked Mennonite Church Alberta for hosting the Gathering.
2. In his **opening remarks**, Calvin reviewed and discussed the purpose of delegate Gatherings according to the MC Canada bylaws.
 - a. Our nationwide gathering brings together the five Regional Churches who make up and call us to be together as Mennonite Church Canada. On page 91 of the Report Book, you will find a copy of our signed covenant that represents the hopes & aspirations we share, and commitments we make to each other as Regional Churches.
 - b. In keeping with our bylaws, we gather this weekend, for the formal work of MC Canada:
 - i. To Receive written reports
 - ii. To Act on the slate of nominees for elected positions
 - iii. To Act on another other important business

- 51 c. For example, we will have Table conversations for you to reflect on what is presented. We will also
52 have Table reporting when we invite Delegates to speak and receive written notes of conversations
53 from all Tables—whether you are a delegate or not.
- 54 d. The theme of Gathering 2022 is We Declare – What we have seen and heard. So, whether you are
55 joining in person, or online:
- 56 i. We gather to **share** faith stories that inspire the mission of the church.
 - 57 ii. We gather to **build** the ministry and mission of the church locally, regionally, nationally, and
58 internationally.
 - 59 iii. We gather to **nurture** faith and fellowship.
 - 60 iv. We gather to **strengthen** a nationwide Anabaptist Mennonite identity.
- 61
- 62 3. **Greetings and Introductions:** Calvin invited Doug Klassen, Executive Minister, to introduce guests and
63 partners from the border church to bring us greetings.
- 64 a. **Glenn Guyton, MC USA Executive Minister.** Acknowledged our long history together and
65 partnership in the Joint Exec Committee, Menno Media, Common Read, Ministerial Guidelines and
66 Conduct Policies, AMBS, and North American contingent at MWC. “We are all better together.”
 - 67 b. **Arli Klassen, Mennonite World Conference.** Gerald Hildebrandt is at the MB assembly in the US.
68 Financial gifts from MC Canada are appreciated: Donation for Covid Fund, Assembly Fund, and Fair
69 Share Fees. MC Canada is one of 107 countries with 31 Canadians in Indonesia. Name change
70 proposal to Anabaptist Mennonite World Communion to be processed at the next MWC gathering.
 - 71 c. **Rick Cober Bauman, Mennonite Central Committee Canada** It has been a tough year with hunger,
72 violence, and indigenous injustices highlighted in unmarked graves. We give thanks for generosity
73 through time, finances, prayers, and service.
 - 74 d. **Clara Flores, Mennonite Disaster Services Canada** Partnership shows that most volunteers have a
75 faith background. During Covid, the Spirit of MDS Fund grant assisted churches in their outreach
76 ministries.
 - 77 e. **Other Partners:** Calvin welcomed guests from our partner organizations and networks joining us
78 here in person. Each highlights the reach and scope of MC Canada’s ministry and relationships in
79 ways we cannot achieve on our own. They do this on behalf of congregations and Regional
80 Churches, in ministry and mission across the street and around the world.
 - 81 i. **Don Neufeld, Mennonite Men**
 - 82 ii. **Esther Kern, Community Peacemaker Teams**
 - 83 iii. **Ginny Hostetler, Canadian Mennonite Publishing Service**
 - 84 iv. **Amy Gingerich, Menno Media**
 - 85 v. **Joanne Moyer, Mennonite Creation Care Network**
 - 86 vi. **Byron Rempel Burkholder, Palestine/Israel Network**
 - 87 vii. **Shannon Neufeldt, Kairos Canada**
 - 88 viii. **Pieter Niemeyer, In This Together.**
 - 89 f. **Joint Council:** Calvin introduced the members of Joint Council, MC Canada’s governing board, by
90 name with each standing as their name was called.
 - 91 g. **Executive Ministers Group:** Calvin introduced the Executive Ministers of the Regional Churches that
92 together form MC Canada.
 - 93 h. **MC Canada Staff:** The staff of MC Canada was introduced, with their staff roles given.
- 94
- 95 4. **Quorum and Process**
- 96 a. Calvin reviewed the bylaws items regarding quorum and indicated that 81 of the possible 83 delegates
97 were in attendance. He, therefore, declared that a quorum of delegates was present.
 - 98 b. The total number of delegates, participants, volunteers, and staff in person was 260. 325 people,
99 including those attending online, had signed up for the online sessions.
 - 100 c. The members of the resolutions committee were introduced as appointed by Joint Council: Vince

- 101 Friesen (MCA), Darnell Barkman (MCBC), and Kendall Jongejan Harder (MCEC). The tasks of the
102 Resolution Committee are to (a) Prepare procedure resolutions, (b) Formulate motions (and
103 amendments) when asked by the delegate body or moderator, and (c) receive resolutions form
104 delegates and ensure they are clear and appropriate.
- 105 d. The members of the Listening Committee were introduced: Hyejung Jessie Yum (MCEC), Len Rempel
106 (MC Sask), and Kennedy Froese, (MCM). The Listening Committee is available to record comments and
107 feedback and will be collecting and compiling the table group discussion reports.
- 108 e. The Parliamentarian for Gathering 2022 will be J.D. Penner. Calvin invited J.D. to the front to remind
109 delegates how we work together.
- 110 i. As members of the Body of Christ – we want to conduct ourselves throughout our
111 Gathering. To begin, we engage our times of discernment and interactions in a Spirit of
112 Unity as Christ taught us, relating with one another with respect, patience, compassion,
113 kindness, humility, gentleness, and forbearance; being thankful for the gifts each person
114 brings to this Gathering.
- 115 ii. As a people called to discern what God calls us to, together we do this through prayer,
116 scripture reading, sharing information, silence, thought-provoking presentations, feedback,
117 small and large group discussions, and individual expression and decisions. And in all ways,
118 we seek the guidance of the Holy Spirit.
- 119 iii. To further guide our process, we utilize (a) the Guidelines for Presenting and Processing
120 Resolutions, (b) Operating By-laws, and (c) Roberts Rules.
- 121 iv. When engaged in an open mic forum, we ask that you respect the following:
- 122 1. Speak to the whole delegate body, not to individuals.
- 123 2. Comments should be respectful and gracious.
- 124 3. Keep your comments to a maximum of 2 minutes (allowing others an opportunity)
- 125 4. To enable as many people as possible to speak, we would ask that you pay
126 attention to how often you decide to speak. Roberts Rules specify that if you have
127 spoken on an issue, you may not speak again if others are waiting to speak.
- 128 5. Please refrain from applauding in ways that show preference.
- 129 v. In terms of voting, as per Mennonite Church Canada’s Operating By-Law, the business of a
130 Delegate Gathering may be conducted:
- 131 1. by consensus, without a formal vote.
- 132 2. by a show of hands, at the discretion of the chairperson of the Delegate Gathering
- 133 3. or on the request of a voting delegate; or by ballot vote when directed by the
134 chairperson of the Delegate Gathering, or when a motion to require a ballot vote is
135 passed by a majority of votes cast on such motion.
- 136 f. Calvin highlighted the diversity represented in the delegates chosen. Only delegates have floor
137 privileges to speak to resolutions or to vote.
- 138

139 **5. Minutes of the 2019 Delegate Gathering and AGM in Abbotsford**

- 140 a. Full minutes of the 2019 Delegate Gathering in Abbotsford were included in the Report Book (p.99)
141 distributed to delegates and participants prior to the Gathering.

142
143 **Moved by Joint Council “That we accept the minutes of the Delegate Gathering (AGM) held on June 28 to July**
144 **1, 2019, as circulated.” Carried.**

145
146 **6. Minutes of the 2020 Delegate Gathering and AGM (Report Book Addendum p. 2)**

- 147 a. Full minutes of the 2020 Delegate Gathering, held via Zoom, were distributed to delegates and
148 participants prior to the Gathering.

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Moved by Joint Council “That the Delegate Gathering accept the minutes of the Mennonite Church Canada 2020 Delegate Gathering and AGM as circulated.” Carried.

7. Minutes of the 2021 Delegate Gathering and AGM (Report Book Addendum p. 4)

- a. Full minutes of the 2021 Delegate Gathering and AGM, held via Zoom, was distributed to delegates and participants prior to the Gathering.

Moved by Joint Council “That the Delegate Gathering accept the minutes of the Mennonite Church Canada 2021 Delegate Gathering and Annual General Meeting as circulated.” Carried.

8. Actions of the General Board and Joint Council since Delegate Gathering 2019 (p. 104-108)

a. Questions:

- i. Action on January 25, 2020 “That Joint Council approves the adoption of the policies on Speaking Publicly and Acts of Civil Disobedience.” In current conversations, nationwide priorities (i.e., climate action), actions of leaders, and even references made today by our speaker Cheryl Bear, what is the commentary from leadership on how they see this policy? Response: Following this discussion on this topic at Gathering 2019, a document was drafted by two Joint Council members. The policy is an effort to give space for a staff person to engage in civil disobedience as an individual while being clear that their actions do not represent the church. We are a church that values community discernment regarding attempts to engage in civil disobedience, and one should only speak on behalf of the church after such discernment is complete. The intent of the policy is to guide the staff of MC Canada. The policy does not guide constituents. Staff or leaders, carry a hat that cannot be taken off and represents the church/denomination. If constituents want staff to engage in something it must be decided here at a Gathering. There are times when, as a church, we need to take radical action and we can inspire people. There is room for that. Joint Council asks for grace and prayers as we wrestle with this topic.
- ii. Action: April 9, 2022 “That a podcast, produced and owned by MC Canada, be withdrawn from CommonWord and public circulation at the request of the author, but be kept in the MHA archives under restriction”. Response: An Indigenous leader who spoke on the podcast changed his view and asked for his content to be removed so that it did not appear to the public.

Moved by Joint Council “That the Delegate Gathering approve all actions taken by the Joint Council from June 27, 2019, to June 8, 2022.” Carried.

9. Nominations

- a. Calvin introduced the Nominations Committee with thanks for their hard work on behalf of the church: Gladys Bender (MCEC), Marguerite Jack (MCA), Waldo Neufeld (MCBC), Randy Hildebrand (MCM) – completing the term for Eric Rempel, Terry Stefaniuk (MC Sask) – completing the term for Anna Rehan. Calvin called Marguerite Jack to come forward to present the slate of nominations.
- b. Marguerite reported a full slate for Executive Committee: (p. 110) The Nomination Committee considered age, ethnicity, gender, experience, and suitability when nominating candidates. In keeping with our bylaws 14.2 and 15.1, a request for other nominations was sent prior to our Gathering in the Nominating Committee Report. As no new nominations were as of 9:00 am MDT this morning, nominations are now closed.
- c. MC Canada Executive officers for 2022-2024 are:
 - i. Moderator – Geraldine Balzer (MC Sask)
 - ii. Assistant Moderator – Bruce Baergen (MCA)
 - iii. Secretary-Treasurer – Paul Gilbert (MCEC)

- 199 d. The nominations for the 2022-2024 Nominations Committee are:
200 i. Gladys Bender (MCEC), Incumbent, eligible for renewal
201 ii. Randy Hildebrand (MCM)
202 iii. Allen Harder (MCBC)
203 iv. Joanie Neufeldt (MCA)
204 v. Vacant (MC Sask)
205 e. Calvin reported that, in keeping with our bylaws (28.1), Joint Council has nominated Tony
206 Schellenberg to renew his term to serve on the Financial Policy and Audit Committee.
207 f. Votes to affirm the nominated persons will be held during our Monday Delegate Session.
208 g. Calvin thanked the Nominations Committee for their work.
209

210 **10. Executive Minister Report (Pages 7-8 of the Report Book)** Calvin invited Doug Klassen to give his Executive
211 Minister's Report.

- 212 a. In addition to his report, Doug reflected on what he has learned since beginning in this role just
213 prior to Gathering 2019. He expressed continued joy and enthusiasm in this role and at times
214 questioned its sustainability. Following the transition of 2017, there were significant operational
215 questions around authority and responsibility and the need for revised policies. The Joint Council
216 produced the Operating Agreement which clarifies more direct lines of authority. An organizational
217 chart representing our beautifully complicated structure is forthcoming. Guided by Allan Hiebert,
218 the SRA was also agreed upon by Joint Council and is going to Regional Church boards for approval
219 this fall. Giving nationwide leadership requires preparation well ahead to provide time for visioning
220 and decision-building from the ground up. The work of each staff member was acknowledged.
221 b. Calvin thanked Doug for his report and indicated that some table group discussion time would allow
222 for questions and comments on the report.
223

224 **11. Financial Report**

- 225 a. Calvin invited Allan Hiebert, Secretary/Treasurer of Joint Council, forward to present the Financial
226 Statements for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2022, and other matters.
227 b. Allan asked if there were any questions on the Secretary/Treasurer report, given on page 55 of the
228 Report Book. No questions.
229

230 **12. FYE 2019 Financial Statements**

- 231 a. Allan gave a brief discussion of the Audited Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending January
232 31, 2022, (p. 62-83). For clarity, the actual income and expenditures in the Operating Budget are
233 given on pages 83-86.
234 i. Independent Auditor's Report – KPMG (pages 1-3 of statements) "present fairly, in all
235 material respects, the financial position of the Entity as of January 31, 2022" Not-for-profit
236 Accounting Standards with "fund method" of accounting was used.
237 ii. MC Canada had a surplus on the operating budget for FYE 2022 of \$43,653, as the revenue of
238 two regions was higher than the budget which was offset by one region with reduced
239 contributions. Expenses were slightly higher than budget.
240 iii. In accordance with the Surplus Allocation policy (adopted by Joint Council in Nov. 2020),
241 \$13,421 was added to the General Reserve fund, \$15,116 to the General Capital reserve fund,
242 and \$15,116 was returned to the Regional Churches.
243 iv. Allan reviewed the Fund balances: Bequest (General, Formation, Witness), Missional
244 Initiatives, ISR, Company of 1000, Church Building Fund, and Endowments.
245 b. Questions:
246 i. There is a lot of information and it's easy to get overwhelmed. Is there an easier way to
247 present this information? Response: The formal Financial Statements need to follow the
248 accounting rules and principles for not-for-profit entities. The results for the Operating budget

249 were included after the formal statements, as these show more simply where the money
250 comes from and where it goes.

- 251 ii. On Pg. 86, schedule 7 the Rent and Cams Budget is \$12,000 budget and \$20,527 has been
252 spent year to date. What is the variance in the rent costs? Response: Part of the difference
253 reflects the difference in the maintenance fees we pay to CMU, where the increase was not
254 known at budgeting time. But Allan was not completely sure of all the details.

255
256 **Moved by Joint Council, “That the Financial Statements for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2022, be**
257 **accepted as presented.” Carried.**

258
259 **13. Approval of Bylaw Change to move the fiscal year-end.**

- 260 a. Allan outlined the reasons for moving the fiscal year end from January 31 to March 31 as outlined
261 in Secretary/Treasurers’ report (p. 55).
- 262 b. It was noted that the numbers in the budget seem to have a considerable jump from last year, but
263 remember the presented budget is for 14 months instead of 12 months.

264
265 **Moved by Joint Council: “That the Mennonite Church Canada General Operating By-law be amended by**
266 **changing “PART XI – Operational Matters”, clause 31 “Fiscal Year” to read as follows: 31.1 MC Canada’s fiscal**
267 **year shall end on the 31st day of March in each calendar year.” Carried.**

- 268
269 **14. Appointment of Auditors:** Allan noted that our bylaws require us to appoint auditors for the next fiscal year
270 at our AGM. The Financial Policy and Audit Committee review the work of the auditors after each audit and
271 recommend that we continue with KPMG for the next fiscal year.

272
273 **Moved by Joint Council, “That KPMG LLP be appointed as auditors of Mennonite Church Canada for the fiscal**
274 **year ending in 2023”. Motion approved by a show of hands.**

275
276 **15. Budget Presentation** The budget, developed by staff and recommended by Joint Council, for the FYE 2023
277 (14 months) is given on pages 87-89 of the Report Book

- 278 a. Allan reviewed, in general, the sources of revenue: Regional Church contributions (55%), Relational
279 Witness Donations (18%) Bequests (11%), and Fees/Self-Generated (16%) presented as a pie chart.
- 280 b. Allan reviewed, in general, the areas of expenditures: International Witness (34%,
281 Communication/CM (11%), ISR (6%), Memberships (5%), Leadership Formation/CommonWord (11%),
282 Joint Council/Executive Office (14%), Support Services/Occupancy - including
283 Pension/benefits/accounting (19%)
- 284 c. Questions
 - 285 i. The contributions to MWC went from \$35,000 to \$90,000. Why? Response: MWC anticipated a
286 large revenue shortfall with the Assembly in Indonesia due to ongoing COVID uncertainty. The
287 planners asked for help so they could cover fixed expenses. This was separate from the MWC
288 COVID relief fund from two years ago.
 - 289 ii. Where is the funding for the Climate Action position? Response: This will be a fund budget from
290 the Missional Initiatives Fund which will be presented next.
- 291 d. Allan presented the Restricted Fund Budgets:
 - 292 i. Capital repairs: Plan for \$41,189 from Capital Reserve Fund to Repair the current siding rather
293 than replace and do some grading around the building at 600 Shaftesbury.
 - 294 ii. The YLE (YOUNG LEADERS EXPERIENCE) budget is \$30,693: \$25,000 from Formation Bequest
295 Fund in addition to fees from the Regional Churches and Participants’ Congregations.
 - 296 iii. Climate action budget (\$30,000 at .5 FTE) will come from the Missional Initiatives fund and will
297 be brought into the operations budget if the position continues after 2 years.
- 298 e. The budget vote will occur later in the program.

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16. Table Group Discussion #1

- What thoughts/questions arise for you from the Moderator and Executive Minister reports?
- What thoughts/questions arise for you about the financial arrangements with MC Canada and the regional churches?
- What are your thoughts/questions about the budget?
- Are there particular thoughts/questions you have about any of the program areas?

17. Table Group Reporting #1 (Due to the lack of time, only 2 table groups will report, and all delegate and non-delegate table notes will be collected)

- Table 6:** Observed that there was nothing controversial and that a lot was not said. There is a lot that needs to be heard regarding decisions on staffing that have to do with the budget. Affirmation of Doug’s leading throughout the pandemic and thank you for naming staff who serve in the background.
- Table 8:** The discussion was preoccupied with creation care and restructuring ISR and a question about whether these positions are created proactively or reactively. Are we responding to the latest trend that will change in two years?

18. Program Reporting

- Indigenous-Settler Relations (p. 13) Doug Klassen, Allegra Friesen Epp.** Doug acknowledged that we miss the presence, expertise, and passion of Steve Heinrichs as the ISR Director, and he has heard the laments of many people whom he receives and holds. He summarized the information provided on p. 13 of the ISR Report. We hope this is not a “step back” (as mentioned by Cheryl Bear) but a shift to a position that will coordinate the regions to build relationships in their local regions and also together. Steve’s final project was the book for Neil and Edith. Allegra Friesen Epp sent a short video to report on her 1.5-year joint internship with MC Canada and CPT. She referenced the advocacy work, involvement in regional working groups, and relationships developed. She is currently in Lebanon with CPT and will be returning in late August when her internship will be completed. She expressed the value and potential in other internships happening with MC Canada programs: International Witness, CommonWord, and Communications.
- International Witness Jeanette Hanson.** “What is in your hands?” Jeanette presented the range of International Witness commitments and connections that are reflected on pages 10-12 of the program book. She invited attendees to think about the question: “What is in your hands to serve your community and serve the global body of Christ?” She also highlighted that MC Canada is looking for more congregations to build “sister” relationships through the networks supporting eight ministries in China, Thailand, South Korea, Philippines, Palestine/Israel, Benin, Africa Inter-Mennonite Mission, Ethiopia, and Colombia. A new group is forming to support the ministry in Myanmar.
- CommonWord Bookstore and Resource Centre P. 14-15 Arlyn Friesen.** Arlyn’s PowerPoint report presentation highlighted the several ways to access and purchase or borrow resources from Common Word. Online ordering increased during Covid. Materials are curated that help strengthen our Anabaptist identity and what the church is currently discussing. We find aspirational materials, and resources that encourage and form, challenge, confront and stretch us. Materials are curated for all ages, for personal and congregational use. Arlyn seeks your recommendations! What are you reading? What is working well in your congregation? Where are the challenges, the gaps, and the resource limitations? Please offer us “community-developed” materials that have worked well in your context.

19. The delegate meeting ended on Saturday at 3:00 pm without enough time for Table Group Discussion #2 which was deferred to the beginning of Monday delegate session.

- 349 20. **Closing of first delegate session at 3:05 pm**
350
- 351 21. **The second Delegate Session** was called to order by Calvin at 9:00 am, August 1st.
352
- 353 22. **The Official Attendance was announced by Calvin:**
354 a. 215 in-person registrations,
355 b. 100 virtual registrations,
356 c. 50 local volunteers (coming and going),
357 d. 365 total participants.
358
- 359 23. **Table Group Discussion #2**
360 a. Are there particular thoughts/questions you have about any of the program areas?
361 b. Due to the large volume of information that funnels through regional communication channels, the
362 greatest challenge our program directors face is getting information into congregations. What
363 thoughts/questions do you have as to how this could be solved?
364
- 365 24. **Table Group Reporting #2:** All table group discussions will be collated by the listening committee.
366 a. **Table # 9:** A) felt that program reports did not touch on where the biggest needs are and what was
367 needed from the regional churches. There were questions about the cut to ISR. What was the
368 consultation process? Who was part of the decision? B) Information is sent but people filter. How
369 do we encourage congregations to recognize what is happening nationwide? How do we get
370 delegate reports to all the congregations (over 100 churches in MCEC)? **Doug's response:** The
371 largest challenge we face is access to congregations – CommonWord to get info to people leading
372 worship and education, International Witness to find people for witness support networkers, ISR
373 supporting regional working groups, and networking under the new model. **Allan's response:** With
374 budget processing, the staff creates the budget with regional priorities in mind. FPAC looks at it and
375 decides if it is reasonable and then it goes to JC for final review to evaluate if the budget reflects
376 regional priorities. If budget shifts involve staff, it is hard to discuss in the meeting.
377 b. **Table # 12:** When sending out information, it is important it is accompanied or embedded in stories
378 of how lives are changed by the information being presented.
379 c. **Table #3:** Information comes to churches in a variety of ways. 5-page bulletins are already too big,
380 and it is hard for church staff to balance information. Generational differences require various kinds
381 of communication. Contextualization of information is important. For example, the information
382 received about the reasons for the ISR changes was helpful to provide an understanding of this
383 difficult reality.
384 d. **Table #5:** There is a large flow of information, and it is important to break it down to what is easily
385 shareable. In some congregations, WhatsApp is how information comes out. Short, shareable video
386 clips can be more effective in communicating – making things easily shareable in different
387 mediums.
388 e. **Table #10:** MC Canada should get a Tik Tok channel! Having someone highlighting information for
389 congregations would be great. It could be a guest (EM or regional) or a person who highlights a
390 newsletter from the regional church with MC Canada information. Expressed joy for the positions
391 being created and lamented that Steve is gone but understood the dynamics.
392 f. **Table #7:** A congregation could appoint a point person to handle information from the regional and
393 nationwide offices and provide information back to these offices. There has been a decrease in
394 youth programming which has led to a decrease in pastor options.
- 395 25. **Further questions/comments from the delegate floor:**
396 a. There is BIG questions about question a). Little was said about Formation. Why isn't formation a
397 regional thing and why is ISR under regions? Are we cutting ISR to deal with misconduct? Working
398 groups are currently expressing big holes in the flow of resources from ISR. What is happening with

399 the resources and how is collaboration between regions being facilitated? There is a deep sense of
400 loss with Steve’s departure. There are bigger questions about ISR and there is a deep desire and
401 need for advocacy. It is understood that not everyone wants it but there is a deep need for
402 advocacy. **Response:** When restructuring happened, a large part of the nationwide work was to
403 happen in the regions. The Assembly format where delegates meet to make decisions on behalf of
404 the church was changed to Gathering where we come together to worship and celebrate and do
405 basic delegate work. The answers need to be dealt with in the regions where the budgets are being
406 formed and priorities set. We have budgeted time that way. There is a large desire for more active
407 delegate work at the gathering sessions. This may require another day of meetings.
408 b. It is important to give a big shout-out to CommonWord for all the resources and support they
409 provide to the churches.

410
411 **26. Elections Calvin read the slate as noted in the report book.**

412
413 **Motion: “That we accept the 2022-2023 slate as presented.” Motion carried by show of hands.**

414
415 **27. Budget for FYE 2023**

416
417 **Motion: “That we accept the FYE 2023 Operational budget as distributed and the FYE 2023 Capital budget,**
418 **Formation Bequest Fund Budget, and Missional Initiatives Budget as presented.” Motion carried by show of**
419 **hands. No Discussion. Carried.**

420
421 **28. MC Canada Strategic Planning**

- 422 a. We have had the benefit of many of the regions engaging in a visioning process as noted in pages
423 115 – 120 of the Report Book. Regions needed to know where their own vision processes are so
424 that we can work on nationwide strategic planning.
425 b. Considering the lack of time during these delegate sessions to engage in the strategic planning
426 questions, Doug invited those who are interested in an online evening session to look at regional
427 priorities considering what should be nationwide priorities to build plans in and through the
428 nationwide church.

429
430 **29. Closing Comments for Delegate Business Session**

- 431 a. **Doug thanked Allan and Calvin for their faithful service over the last 6 years.**
432 b. **Joint Council and EMG sang a farewell song worded by Doug and Rose to Calvin and Allan.**
433 c. **Allan and Calvin expressed their thankfulness for serving Mennonite Church Canada.**

434
435 **Abbreviations:**

436 MC Can - Mennonite Church Canada
437 MCEC - Mennonite Church Eastern Canada
438 MCM - Mennonite Church Manitoba
439 MC Sask - Mennonite Church Saskatchewan
440 MCA - Mennonite Church Alberta
441 MCBC - Mennonite Church British Columbia
442 FPAC – Financial Policy and Audit Committee



In mid-November I attended a workshop in Mennonite Church Eastern Canada entitled the “Wheat and Weeds Challenge.” Presenter Robert (Jack) Suderman, former General Secretary of Mennonite Church Canada asked us the question “why?” Why do we go to all this effort to gather as faith communities? Why do we think that any effort on our part is going to change the trajectory of this world?

With the ongoing difficulties of the pandemic, record high inflation, and instability in our health care and education systems, it’s easy to frame church as just another bottomless pit sucking away our time and energy. Also tugging on our heart strings are the ongoing discoveries of unmarked graves found at Indian Residential School sites, the war in Ukraine, climate crisis. It can all get overwhelming.

Indeed, listening only to the news suggests our efforts are not changing the trajectory of the world at all. But despair not! Jesus’ first words in the gospel of Mark are, “The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent and believe the good news.” In other words, “Change your minds, refocus, the reign of God is arriving!”

I want to share with you some of this good news — news you won’t learn from the major networks in their year-end highlight reels of 2022.

Witness workers Werner and Joanne De Jong overcame several hurdles with visa issues to serve Meserete Kristos Seminary in Ethiopia with their teaching gifts. We are again dipping our toes into youth service opportunities, with Sarah Wood helping teach English to children in Thailand under the guidance of Tom and Christine Poovong. Bock Ki Kim (Sook Kyoung Park) facilitated peaceful conflict resolution for 18 middle school classes in a Seoul school. Gerald and Rie Neufeld are in Japan to reconnect and revitalize churches there. Nor will you find news about how the Palestine Israel Network, with representatives from four regional churches, are hosting speakers to challenge beliefs about living in that part of the world.

No radio stations will report that our church regions are embracing the journey of reconciliation with Indigenous

peoples and eco-harm with the help of the newly appointed Jonathan Neufeld (Indigenous Relations Coordinator), and Sandy Plett (Climate Action Coordinator).



Indigenous elder Jerlina (centre) speaks to Dann Nor will they and Joji Pantoja, Witness workers in the Philippines. review Neil and Edith von Gunten’s book of uplifting stories of learning from and with Indigenous peoples in their four-plus decades of ministry with MC Canada (*Walking Together*).

You won’t see news on any major TV networks that CommonWord this year has enriched the lives of thousands with over 25,000 sales, loans, and downloads of resources, equipping more and more people to bring good news.

Our Mennonite Church Canada statement of purpose and identity reminds us of our calling. “God calls, equips and sends the church to engage the world with the reconciling Gospel of Jesus Christ.”

Because of this, all that you will read in the pages following, all that you will read about CommonWord, Indigenous Relations, International Witness, Climate Action and what you will read in the work of your Regional Churches are anchored in these words. What you will see and hear at your regional AGM’s will also reflect these words.

May you be encouraged to imagine your life and the life of your congregation in the future of God’s coming reign.

Doug Klassen
Executive Minister





CommonWord

Bookstore and Resource Centre

CommonWord is your bookstore and resource centre, a nationwide ministry of Mennonite Church Canada and Canadian Mennonite University. We are here for you!

Looking for a small group study, worship resource or an inspirational read? We can help connect you with Anabaptist and related materials – to buy, borrow or access online – that inspire, provoke, equip, and engage.

Here are a few services that help make Anabaptist resources accessible to you:

- A website (www.commonword.ca) with over 14,000 materials, easily searched by keyword or scripture text
- Borrowed items ship free – to your home and back to Winnipeg
- Online resources are free to listen, view, download or read
- Retail products are competitively priced

In the past year we have helped worship leaders, teachers, small group leaders, pastors, treasurers, deacons, musicians, other congregational volunteers, and avid readers of all ages, in addition to our regular and Christmas gift shoppers. As of November 23, 2022, we have processed nearly 700 online retail orders, 5,800 in-store purchases, 2,200 loans, and 18,000 downloads. Thank you for your engagement!

What might you find at CommonWord? This only scratches the surface, but here are several resource lists (based on our search filters):

- [Visual \(Type\) resources](#) – In addition to our Print, Video and Audio materials, we are adding visual resources for personal and congregational use. Perhaps you want to contribute to our [Visio Divina](#) project?
- [Parts of Worship \(Genre\)](#) – This is a large Genre within our collection that includes hundreds of complete worship services and thousands of related materials (calls to worship, prayers, sermons, etc.). We are grateful to partner with Together in Worship in gathering [free Anabaptist digital materials](#). Perhaps you have an original worship resource to contribute?
- [Narrative/Novel/Story \(Expression\)](#) – Another large collection, including biblical retellings, biography, fiction, and other titles.
- [Lent \(Church Season\)](#) – Worship, study, devotional and family resources for the coming Lenten season in the church year.
- [Creation Care \(Topic\)](#) – Includes many resources specific to the critical issue of climate change/ action.
- [CommonWordKids \(Audience\)](#) – Hundreds of illustrated children’s books for the pre- and early-reader.
- [Korean \(Language\)](#) – All resources are filterable by language.

To learn more about how to access our resources and use our filters, please view a [short video tutorial](#) of our website. You may, of course, also contact us directly with any question.

We are grateful for the church and university’s ongoing

ing commitment to Christian formation. Thank you for your continued trust as we bring you resources to strengthen the church. Please remain in touch by calling 1-877-846-1593 or e-mailing info@commonword.ca. Follow us on Facebook and Instagram. Subscribe to our bi-weekly Curator email. Embed our RSS feeds on your congregation's website. Keep reading!

Submitted by Arlyn Friesen Epp
 Director, CommonWord Bookstore and
 Resource Centre
afriesenepp@commonword.ca



International Witness

*He has told you, O mortal, what is good;
 and what does the Lord require of you
 but to do justice, and to love kindness,
 and to walk humbly with your God?
 - Micah 6:8*

Mennonite Church Canada's Witness program is not splashy. We don't often shout about it from the rooftops. In fact, it might be the best kept secret of MC Canada! But in many corners of the world, together with our global family of faith, we are part of a movement that invites people to justice, kindness, and a humble relationship with God. We are witnesses of God's mission in the world, restoring relationships and building peace. As the Peace-Builders Community in Mindanao, Philippines describes it, following Jesus brings harmony.

Building transformative relationships in meaningful ways takes time, takes presence. Witness workers live this daily and consistently: Werner and Joanne De Jong teaching at the Meserete Kristos Sem-

Source: www.Peacebuilderscommunity.org

inary in Ethiopia, Bock Ki Kim and Sook Kyoung Park building peace networks and church planting in South Korea, Dann and Joji Pantoja developing peace and reconciliation teams together with income generation, and Tom and Chris-

tine Poovong (with children Phim and Joseph) supporting a growing network of Jesus followers with leadership training and income generation in Thailand.

Witness workers are only present in 4 out of the 15 countries where we have active partnerships. A new category of resident bridge builders called "Relationship Catalysts" started officially this year as Gerald and Rie Neufeld moved to Japan and began to strengthen the relationship between MC Canada and Tokyo Area Fellowship of Mennonite Churches. We hope to appoint more relationship catalysts in the future to deepen our relationship with the global family of faith.

After some years of hiatus, Witness has resumed calling young people into cross-cultural internships with Sarah Wood spending six months living and learning in rural Thailand. Serving in a small Christian school is providing her with opportunities and challenges that will build cross-cultural skills, leadership capacity and faith formation. Watch for more opportunities in the next year!

Bethlehem Bible College speaking tours brought Palestinian theologians into our schools, congregations, and community in the Winnipeg area. There were also conversations

with Indigenous and Palestinian theologians on issues of land and people. Watch for an opportunity to hear from Palestinian theologians coming to your area in 2023.

Another exchange of college faculty is happening as Conrad Grebel University College and MC Canada signed an agreement

to use some of their faculty resources in international settings. Derek Suderman spent several weeks in Thailand teaching Old Testament courses.

The networks of supporting congregations are important



Sarah Wood

A HOLISTIC UNDERSTANDING OF PEACE
THE PEACE OF THE CREATOR IS CENTRAL TO THE GOOD NEWS
SHALOM--HARMONY IN OUR BASIC RELATIONSHIPS

- **Harmony with The Creator**
(Spiritual Transformation)
- **Harmony with one's Being**
(Psycho-Social Transformation)
- **Harmony with Others**
(Social-Political Transformation)
- **Harmony with the Creation**
(Economic-Ecological Transformation)

PEACEBUILDING=SHALOMLIVING

witnesses to what God is doing in the world. I appreciate the congregations who have committed to these relationships. Several learning tours to Thailand and Philippines this year meant that some of these partners could meet face to face for the first time. Learning from each other, enjoying new experiences and seeing first-hand what God is doing in other places and cultures is an important part of faith formation in our communities. When we see God through the eyes of siblings in faith who are different from us, we get a broader picture of who God is.

Where is God transforming relationships to build harmony in you, in your community, in your world? You and your congregations can get involved with global partners and discover how God will transform you. Contact your Regional Church Engagement staff for more information.

Submitted by Jeanette Hanson
Director, International Witness
jhanson@mennonitechurch.ca



Indigenous Relations

Greetings Church! As a community minister for Seattle Mennonite Church over the past 15 years, I had the regular privilege of welcoming volunteers who engaged with people experiencing injustice. I would often say that they should be ready to be surprised by the welcome and trust that community members would immediately extend. This welcome is rooted in the trust and presence seeded by all the efforts that have gone before them. While they are present, whether it is a day or a year, people are inheriting this trusted memory and adding their own good intentions and actions to strengthen these relationships. We are all just stepping into a stream that has been flowing before we showed up and will continue to flow after we have stepped away.

In that same spirit, I am struck (but not surprised) by the expressions of blessing, gratitude, openness, connection and collaboration I have received – even in just the first few weeks of inhabiting the role of Indigenous Relations Coordinator. It is a testimony to the trusted relationships formed by passionate and gifted people who have represented MC Canada in this way.

I have been focusing on connecting with the Executive Ministers and Regional Indigenous Relations Working Groups of our church in these early days, hearing about common concerns and questions we are facing as we seek to walk the path of reconciliation with Indigenous neighbours. The

coming weeks will be spent introducing and connecting with national and ecumenical partners who are aligned with Indigenous priorities for action and change. I am excited to offer myself in this role, adding to the story of respectful engagement with Indigenous communities that co-conspirators now and in coming generations can pick up and continue to embody.

Submitted by Jonathan Neufeld
Indigenous Relations Coordinator
jneufeld@mennonitechurch.ca



Climate Action

The journey to this work as Climate Action Coordinator has been an interesting one! I grew up loving the outdoors, being a thrifty shopper and a gardener. In recent years, my passion for the church and growing concern about climate change led me to explore my personal role in the struggle for climate justice. I began looking for ways that I could lend my gifts and skills to the work.

Through the ecumenical initiative called [For the Love of Creation](#), I started leading Faithful Climate Conversations locally. These guided discussions help participants move through anxieties and experiences of climate crisis and consider ways that they might take action. This work led me to get involved with the Mennonite Church Manitoba Climate Action Working Group in 2021, and now and as Climate Action Coordinator for Mennonite Church Canada.

I hope to facilitate connections between the regions of MC Canada around the important and diverse work of addressing the climate crisis. Across the country, groups within our church families are working at this in different ways. I'm excited to lift the themes and threads of this work into the light, and share them with all of you.

I'm eager to learn what shape climate action is taking in your church, and in your region. What a gift to be able to support and encourage the hands and feet of Christ in this way!

Submitted by Sandy Plett
Climate Action Coordinator
splett@mennonitechurch.ca



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Financial Statements of

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023

DRAFT

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Audited Financial Statements
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Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023

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INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

To the Members of Mennonite Church Canada

Opinion

We have audited the financial statements of Mennonite Church Canada (the "Entity"), which comprise the statement of financial position as at March 31, 2023, the statements of operations and changes in fund balances and cash flows for the fourteen months then ended, and notes to the financial statements, including a summary of significant accounting policies (hereinafter referred to as the "financial statements").

In our opinion, the accompanying financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the Entity as at March 31, 2023, and its results of operations and its cash flows for the fourteen months then ended in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations.

Basis for Opinion

We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Our responsibilities under those standards are further described in the "***Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements***" section of our auditor's report.

We are independent of the Entity in accordance with the ethical requirements that are relevant to our audit of the financial statements in Canada and we have fulfilled our other ethical responsibilities in accordance with these requirements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

Responsibilities of Management and Those Charged with Governance for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

In preparing the financial statements, management is responsible for assessing the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern, disclosing as applicable, matters related to going concern and using the going concern basis of accounting unless management either intends to liquidate the Entity or to cease operations, or has no realistic alternative but to do so.

Those charged with governance are responsible for overseeing the Entity's financial reporting process.

Auditor's Responsibilities for the Audit of the Financial Statements

Our objectives are to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements as a whole are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error, and to issue an auditor's report that includes our opinion.

Reasonable assurance is a high level of assurance, but is not a guarantee that an audit conducted in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards will always detect a material misstatement when it exists.

Misstatements can arise from fraud or error and are considered material if, individually or in the aggregate, they could reasonably be expected to influence the economic decisions of users taken on the basis of the financial statements.

As part of an audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards, we exercise professional judgment and maintain professional skepticism throughout the audit.

We also:

- Identify and assess the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error, design and perform audit procedures responsive to those risks, and obtain audit evidence that is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our opinion.

The risk of not detecting a material misstatement resulting from fraud is higher than for one resulting from error, as fraud may involve collusion, forgery, intentional omissions, misrepresentations, or the override of internal control.

- Obtain an understanding of internal control relevant to the audit in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the Entity's internal control.
- Evaluate the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates and related disclosures made by management.
- Conclude on the appropriateness of management's use of the going concern basis of accounting and, based on the audit evidence obtained, whether a material uncertainty exists related to events or conditions that may cast significant doubt on the Entity's ability to continue as a going concern. If we conclude that a material uncertainty exists, we are required to draw attention in our auditor's report to the related disclosures in the financial statements or, if such disclosures are inadequate, to modify our opinion. Our conclusions are based on the audit evidence obtained up to the date of our auditor's report. However, future events or conditions may cause the Entity to cease to continue as a going concern.
- Evaluate the overall presentation, structure and content of the financial statements, including the disclosures, and whether the financial statements represent the underlying transactions and events in a manner that achieves fair presentation.

- Communicate with those charged with governance regarding, among other matters, the planned scope and timing of the audit and significant audit findings, including any significant deficiencies in internal control that we identify during our audit.

Chartered Professional Accountants

Winnipeg, Canada

June 10, 2023

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MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Statement of Financial Position

March 31, 2023, with comparative information for January 31, 2022

	General Fund				2023	2022
	Unrestricted	Internally restricted	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	Total	Total
Assets						
Current assets:						
Cash	\$ 842,866	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 842,866	\$ 518,259
Accounts receivable	65,150	-	-	-	65,150	38,447
Prepaid expenses	23,579	-	-	-	23,579	99,656
Due from other funds	172,838	1,417,786	12,039	9	1,602,672	767,473
	1,104,433	1,417,786	12,039	9	2,534,267	1,423,835
Investments (note 3)	63,306	1,024,326	1,837,103	120,689	3,045,424	3,031,601
Investment in joint venture	47,435	-	-	-	47,435	47,435
Capital assets (note 4)	-	-	171,221	-	171,221	185,315
	\$ 1,215,174	\$ 2,442,112	\$ 2,020,363	\$ 120,698	\$ 5,798,347	\$ 4,688,186
Liabilities and Fund Balances						
Current liabilities:						
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 164,360	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 164,360	\$ 149,146
Deferred contributions (note 5)	106,361	-	-	-	106,361	285,818
Due to other funds	939,964	20,174	642,534	-	1,602,672	767,473
	1,210,685	20,174	642,534	-	1,873,393	1,202,437
Other loans payable	7,745	-	-	-	7,745	8,825
Fund balances:						
Unrestricted	(3,256)	-	-	-	(3,256)	43,653
Internally restricted	-	2,421,938	-	-	2,421,938	1,569,687
Externally restricted	-	-	1,377,829	-	1,377,829	1,742,886
Endowment (note 7)	-	-	-	120,698	120,698	120,698
	(3,256)	2,421,938	1,377,829	120,698	3,917,209	3,476,924
	\$ 1,215,174	\$ 2,442,112	\$ 2,020,363	\$ 120,698	\$ 5,798,347	\$ 4,688,186

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

On behalf of the Board:

_____ Director

_____ Director

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balances

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023, with comparative information for the year ended January 31, 2022

	General Fund	Restricted Fund	Endowment Fund	2023	2022
Revenue:					
Donations, bequests and other revenue	\$ 3,484,089	\$ 15,460	\$ –	\$ 3,499,549	\$ 2,331,755
Investment income	25,823	13,534	–	39,357	117,955
	3,509,912	28,994	–	3,538,906	2,449,710
Expenses:					
MC Canada operations (schedule)	2,559,420	–	–	2,559,420	2,032,322
Partner ministries (note 10)	425,935	–	–	425,935	324,406
Designated funds:					
Disbursements	591	–	–	591	48,498
Grants	20,116	78,465	–	98,581	132,291
Amortization	–	14,094	–	14,094	14,094
	3,006,062	92,559	–	3,098,621	2,551,611
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	503,850	(63,565)	–	440,285	(101,901)
Fund balance, beginning of period	1,613,340	1,742,886	120,698	3,476,924	3,578,825
Inter-fund transfers (note 6)	301,492	(301,492)	–	–	–
Balance, end of period	\$ 2,418,682	\$ 1,377,829	\$ 120,698	\$ 3,917,209	\$ 3,476,924

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

General Fund - Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balance

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023, with comparative information for the year ended January 31, 2022

									2023	2022
	Internally restricted									
	Unrestricted	ISR Internally Restricted Fund	General Bequest Fund	General Reserve Fund	Missional Initiatives Fund	Capital Reserve Fund	Creation Care Fund	Other Internally Restricted Funds	Total	Total
Revenue:										
Donations, bequests and other revenue	\$ 2,589,535	\$ –	\$ 882,926	\$ –	\$ –	\$ 9,020	\$ 2,608	\$ –	\$ 3,484,089	\$ 2,282,759
Investment income	11,994	347	1,633	2,443	7,130	2,276	–	–	25,823	29,779
	2,601,529	347	884,559	2,443	7,130	11,296	2,608	–	3,509,912	2,312,538
Expenses:										
MC Canada operations (schedule)	2,559,420	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	2,559,420	2,032,322
Partner ministries (note 10)	425,935	–	–	–	–	–	–	–	425,935	324,406
Designated funds:										
Disbursements	–	–	–	–	–	591	–	–	591	48,498
Grants	–	–	–	15,116	–	–	–	5,000	20,116	68,893
	2,985,355	–	–	15,116	–	591	–	5,000	3,006,062	2,474,119
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(383,826)	347	884,559	(12,673)	7,130	10,705	2,608	(5,000)	503,850	(161,581)
Fund balance, beginning of period	43,653	26,504	549,474	372,335	425,106	183,174	–	13,094	1,613,340	1,661,080
Inter-fund transfers (note 6)	418,473	–	–	36,378	–	30,716	4,142	–	489,709	113,841
Inter-fund transfers (note 6)	(81,556)	(26,786)	(64,105)	–	(15,770)	–	–	–	(188,217)	–
Fund balance, end of period	\$ (3,256)	\$ 65	\$ 1,369,928	\$ 396,040	\$ 416,466	\$ 224,595	\$ 6,750	\$ 8,094	\$ 2,418,682	\$ 1,613,340

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Restricted Funds - Statement of Operations and Changes in Fund Balance

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023, with comparative information for the year ended January 31, 2022

							2023	2022
	Witness Bequest Fund	Formation Bequest Fund	Church Building Fund	Company of 1000 Fund	Capital Fund	Endowment Fund	Total	Total
Revenue:								
Donations, bequest and other revenue	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,460	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,460	\$ 48,996
Investment income	6,156	625	1,588	5,165	-	-	13,534	88,176
	6,156	625	1,588	20,625	-	-	28,994	137,172
Expenses:								
Designated funds:								
Grants	51,600	-	-	26,865	-	-	78,465	63,398
Amortization	-	-	-	-	14,094	-	14,094	14,094
	51,600	-	-	26,865	14,094	-	92,559	77,492
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	(45,444)	625	1,588	(6,240)	(14,094)	-	(63,565)	59,680
Fund balance, beginning of period	1,068,718	136,305	244,049	290,668	3,146	120,698	1,863,584	1,917,745
Inter-fund transfers (note 6)	(299,684)	(15,902)	-	-	14,094	-	(301,492)	(113,841)
Fund balance, end of period	\$ 723,590	\$ 121,028	\$ 245,637	\$ 284,428	\$ 3,146	\$ 120,698	\$ 1,498,527	\$ 1,863,584

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Statement of Cash Flows

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023, with comparative information for the year ended January 31, 2022

	2023	2022
Cash provided by:		
Operations:		
Excess (deficiency) of revenue over expenses	\$ 440,285	\$ (101,901)
Items not involving cash:		
Amortization of capital assets	14,094	14,094
Change in non-cash operating working capital:		
Accounts receivable	(26,703)	47,415
Prepaid expenses	76,077	(63,201)
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	15,214	40,592
Change in deferred contributions relating to General Fund	(179,457)	66,849
	339,510	3,848
Financing:		
Decrease in other loans payable	(1,080)	(2,137)
Investing:		
Decrease (increase) in investments, net	(13,823)	10,416
Increase in cash	324,607	12,127
Cash, beginning of period	518,259	506,132
Cash, end of period	\$ 842,866	\$ 518,259

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Notes to Financial Statements

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023

1. General:

Mennonite Church Canada (MC Canada) is a Canada-wide Christian denomination within the Anabaptist-Mennonite tradition. Its mission includes the promotion of biblical faithfulness in worship, evangelism, service, peacemaking and stewardship of God's creation.

On October 14, 2017, at a Special Delegate Assembly, MC Canada voted to change its bylaws, to take effect immediately. MC Canada is now a covenanted partnership of provincial/regional Mennonite Church conferences that works in the mission and ministry of the church of Jesus Christ. It provides, facilitates and coordinates national and other programs that support the ministry of its partner regional church conferences. MC Canada works closely with other national Mennonite conferences, particularly Mennonite Church USA, cooperates with various inter-Mennonite and other Christian agencies, and represents national and international programs and concerns to its constituency.

MC Canada is a corporation without share capital incorporated under the laws of Canada and is registered with Canada Revenue Agency as a charitable organization with registration number 10696-7086-RR0001. MC Canada is exempt from income tax under Section 149 of the *Income Tax Act*.

During the year, MC Canada changed its year-end from January 31 to March 31.

2. Significant accounting policies:

The financial statements have been prepared by management in accordance with Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations and include the following significant accounting policies:

(a) Fund accounting:

MC Canada follows the restricted fund method of accounting for contributions.

The General Fund consists of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenditures related to MC Canada's program delivery and administrative activities. The General Fund also consists of funds internally restricted by the Joint Council. These internally restricted amounts are not available for any other purposes without the approval of the respective Joint Council.

The Restricted Funds, excluding the Capital Fund and Endowment Fund, include those assets, liabilities, revenue and expenditures which have been restricted as to the use of either capital and/or interest therefrom by the donor to support a particular ministry of MC Canada. The Capital Fund includes assets, liabilities, revenue and expenditures related to MC Canada's capital assets. The Endowment Fund consists of assets, liabilities and revenue related to contributions designated by donors to remain in perpetuity.

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023

2. Significant accounting policies (continued):

The investment income earned by these funds is either restricted by the donor for specific use, or for the general use of MC Canada.

(b) Revenue recognition:

Restricted contributions related to general operations are recognized as revenue of the General Fund, depending on the nature of the contribution, in the year in which the related expenses are incurred. All other restricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the appropriate restricted fund in the year received or receivable if the amount can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Unrestricted contributions are recognized as revenue of the General Fund in the year received or receivable if the amount to be received can be reasonably estimated and collection is reasonably assured.

Endowment contributions are recognized as revenue when received in the Endowment Fund. Investment income earned on endowment contributions is recognized as revenue of the General Fund.

Investment income on unrestricted assets is recognized as revenue when earned. Investment income earned on deferred contributions is recognized as revenue in the same period as the related expenses of the deferred contribution are recognized. Investment income earned on unspent restricted contributions is recognized as revenue in the Restricted Funds.

Sales, services and fees are recognized as revenue when earned.

(c) Joint venture:

The investment in CommonWord which is jointly owned and controlled is accounted for using the equity method. In accordance with the equity method, the carrying value of MC Canada's investment in CommonWord is adjusted by MC Canada's share of the excess of revenue over expenses of CommonWord.

(d) Capital assets:

Purchased capital assets are recorded in the Capital Fund at cost. Contributed capital assets are recorded in the Capital Fund at fair value at the date of contribution. Amortization is provided on a straight-line basis over the asset's estimated useful life, which for buildings and leasehold improvements is 20 years and for vehicles, equipment and furnishings is 5 years. Amortization expense is reported in the Capital Fund.

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023

2. Significant accounting policies (continued):

(e) Employee future benefits:

MC Canada has a defined contribution plan providing pension and post-employment benefits for its salaried employees. The cost of the defined contribution plan is recognized based on contributions required to be made during each period. During the period ended March 31, 2023, MC Canada made employer contributions for its employees to the plan in the amount of \$46,756 (year ended January 31, 2022 - \$41,279).

MC Canada is also a member of a health cost sharing plan incorporated in the United States, covering certain employees working overseas. Contributions to the plan are expensed as incurred.

(f) Foreign currency:

Monetary items denominated in foreign currency are translated to Canadian dollars at exchange rates in effect at the year end date and non-monetary items are translated at rates of exchange in effect when the assets were acquired or obligations incurred. Revenues and expenses are translated at rates in effect at the time of the transactions. Foreign exchange gains and losses are included in income.

(g) Financial instruments:

Financial instruments are recorded at fair value on initial recognition. Freestanding derivative instruments that are not in a qualifying hedging relationship and equity instruments that are quoted in an active market are subsequently measured at fair value. All other financial instruments are subsequently recorded at cost or amortized cost, unless management has elected to carry the instruments at fair value. MC Canada has not elected to carry any such financial instruments at fair value.

Investments in pooled funds are carried at fair value. The change in fair value of investments for the year is recognized in investment income in the statement of operations.

Transaction costs incurred on the acquisition of financial instruments measured subsequently at fair value are expensed as incurred. All other financial instruments are adjusted by transaction costs incurred on acquisition and financing costs, which are amortized using the straight-line method.

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023

2. Significant accounting policies (continued):

Financial assets are assessed for impairment on an annual basis at the end of the fiscal year if there are indicators of impairment. If there is an indicator of impairment, MC Canada determines if there is a significant adverse change in the expected amount or timing of future cash flows from the financial asset. If there is a significant adverse change in the expected cash flows, the carrying value of the financial asset is reduced to the highest of the present value of the expected cash flows, the amount that could be realized from selling the financial asset or the amount MC Canada expects to realize by exercising its right to any collateral. If events and circumstances reverse in a future period, an impairment loss will be reversed to the extent of the improvement, not exceeding the initial carrying value.

(h) Use of estimates:

The preparation of the financial statements requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and the disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the period. Significant items subject to such estimates and assumptions include the carrying amount of capital assets and the fair value of investments. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

3. Investments:

	March 31, 2023	January 31, 2022
Abundance Canada	\$ 2,989,862	\$ 2,985,325
Industrial Alliance Financial Group - Mutual Funds	55,562	46,276
	<u>\$ 3,045,424</u>	<u>\$ 3,031,601</u>

The investments held at Abundance Canada may be withdrawn at any time, with due notice. Investment earnings are paid by Abundance Canada based on its pooled rate, less a fixed percentage for administration fees.

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023

4. Capital assets:

			March 31, 2023	January 31, 2022
	Cost	Accumulated amortization	Net book value	Net book value
Buildings:				
Conference administration	\$ 829,070	\$ 801,849	\$ 27,221	\$ 29,315
Leasehold improvements	240,000	96,000	144,000	156,000
	1,069,070	897,849	171,221	185,315
Vehicles, equipment and furnishings	660,124	660,124	–	–
	\$ 1,729,194	\$ 1,557,973	\$ 171,221	\$ 185,315

5. Deferred contributions:

General Fund:

Deferred contributions reported in the General Fund relate to externally restricted operating contributions which have not yet been disbursed for their intended purpose. Investment income if any, relating to these amounts are included as deferred contributions. Investment income is allocated from the General Fund based on internal policy, and in the fourteen months ended March 31, 2023 and the year ended January 31, 2022, no such income was earned based on the policy.

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023

5. Deferred contributions (continued):

Changes in the deferred contributions balance reported in the General Fund are as follows:

	January 31, 2022	Received and not disbursed	Recognized as revenue	March 31, 2023
MC Canada programs:				
Christian Witness:				
Myanmar	\$ 6,713	\$ 15,685	\$ 17,910	\$ 4,488
Partner programs & related organizations:				
Partner Projects	18,741	—	—	18,741
North American Vietnamese Mennonite	16,051	3,658	3,256	16,453
IM short-term assignments	28,104	—	11,788	16,316
Bethlehem Bible College	840	2,618	2,638	820
African Inter-Mennonite Mission – Burkina Faso	12,325	—	12,325	—
Mennonite Men – Mennonite Church USA	2,309	—	1,779	530
Meseretes Kristos College	57,132	46,791	63,768	40,155
Learning tour	20,005	123,919	139,617	4,307
Mennonite Mission Network	16,319	1,351	16,319	1,351
Menno Media	105,334	—	105,334	—
Anabaptist Mennonite Biblical Seminary	1,945	—	1,945	—
Together in Worship	—	3,200	—	3,200
	279,105	181,537	358,769	101,873
	\$ 285,818	\$ 197,222	\$ 376,679	\$ 106,361

6. Inter-fund transfers:

During the fourteen months ended March 31, 2023, the Joint Council authorized the following transfers:

- (i) \$106,661 (year ended January 31, 2022 - \$93,858) from the General Fund's internally restricted funds to the General Fund's unrestricted funds to cover program expenses for the year.
- (ii) \$23,809 (year ended January 31, 2022 - \$20,000) from the General Fund's unrestricted funds to the General Fund's internally restricted funds to cover future program expenses.
- (iii) \$43,653 (year ended January 31, 2022 - \$144,357) from the General Fund's unrestricted funds to the General Fund's internally restricted funds to cover future program expenses. This transfer represents the allocation of the prior year-end General Fund unrestricted balance.
- (iv) \$315,586 (year ended January 31, 2022 - \$127,935) from the Restricted Fund's fund balances to the General Fund's unrestricted funds to cover restricted program expenses for the year.

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023

6. Inter-fund transfers (continued):

- (v) \$14,094 (year ended January 31, 2022 - \$14,094) from the General Fund's unrestricted funds to the Capital Fund's restricted funds to fund previous years capital asset additions.

7. Endowment fund:

Contributions held for perpetuity within the Endowment Fund are as follows:

	March 31, 2023	January 31, 2022
Christian Witness Endowments:		
Native Ministries:		
Education endowment	\$ 16,753	\$ 16,753
General	2,000	2,000
Summer service	1,945	1,945
	20,698	20,698
Joint Council Endowment:		
Conference administration building	100,000	100,000
	\$ 120,698	\$ 120,698

The investment income earned by these funds is either restricted by the donor for specific use, or for the general use of MC Canada. Investment income earned on the endowment funds is recognized as revenue of the General Fund. A portion of the investment income is redirected to rebuild the principal balance where an investment loss had occurred in the previous year.

8. Related party transactions:

- (a) Canadian Mennonite University:

The Canadian Mennonite Bible College (CMBC), which was previously owned and operated by MC Canada, entered into a formal arrangement in 1998 with two other Mennonite Colleges to form the Canadian Mennonite University (CMU). CMU was formed in order to increase the effectiveness, both in serving the Mennonite constituency and in witnessing to the larger society, by providing university level training consistent with a Christian perspective rooted in the Anabaptist-Mennonite tradition.

The members of CMU are CMBC, Concord College and Menno Simons College.

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023

8. Related party transactions (continued):

MC Canada leases its offices from CMU under a 99 year capital lease. MC Canada does not pay rent on this lease but is responsible for all utility and maintenance costs associated with these properties. During the year ended January 31, 2018, MC Canada agreed to transfer the assets of the Heritage Centre and the responsibility for the operations of the archives and gallery projects to CMU for nil consideration. The disposition was recorded at book value. Under the agreed terms for the transfer, MC Canada has an ongoing commitment of approximately \$55,000 annually to the archive operating costs, for an initial three-year period. After this period, the funding commitments will be reviewed by the parties to the arrangement.

MC Canada paid \$66,200 (year ended January 31, 2022 - \$55,000) during the fourteen months ended March 31, 2023 to the Heritage Centre as operating grants.

MC Canada incurred \$152,571 (year ended January 31, 2022 - \$131,759) in operational and payroll costs during the fourteen months ended March 31, 2023 which has been contributed to CommonWord.

(b) Menno Media:

Menno Media, previously known as Mennonite Publishing Network, is an organization incorporated in the state of Pennsylvania as a not-for-profit corporation. Its purpose is to serve the publishing ministry needs of MC Canada and Mennonite Church USA. MC Canada is able to appoint 3 of a maximum of 8 members on Menno Media's board of directors. During the fourteen months ended March 31, 2023, MC Canada contributed \$85,000 to Menno Media (year ended January 31, 2022 - \$117,843).

- (c) MC Canada sponsors a defined contribution pension plan for its employees and its member churches and related organizations. The plan is registered under the Pension Benefits Act of Manitoba, registration number 0228650. The pension plan is administered by Industrial Alliance. During the fourteen months ended March 31, 2023, MC Canada was paid \$67,386 (year ended January 31, 2022 - \$98,995) by Industrial Alliance for services provided by MC Canada in relation to administering the plan.

9. Financial risks and concentration of credit risk:

(a) Currency risk:

MC Canada is exposed to financial risks as a result of exchange rate fluctuations and the volatility of these rates. In the normal course of business, MC Canada incurs international expenditures denominated in various foreign currencies. MC Canada does not currently enter into forward contracts to mitigate this risk. There has been no change to the risk exposure from 2022.

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Notes to Financial Statements (continued)

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023

(b) Liquidity risk:

Liquidity risk is the risk that MC Canada will be unable to fulfill its obligations on a timely basis or at a reasonable cost. MC Canada manages its liquidity risk by monitoring its operating requirements. MC Canada prepares budget and cash forecasts to ensure it has sufficient funds to fulfill its obligations. There has been no change to the risk exposure from 2022.

(c) Credit risk:

Credit risk refers to the risk that a counterparty may default on its contractual obligations resulting in a financial loss. MC Canada is exposed to credit risk with respect to the accounts receivable. MC Canada assesses, on a continuous basis, accounts receivable and provides for any amounts that are not collectible in the allowance for doubtful accounts. There has been no change to the risk exposure from 2022.

(d) Interest rate risk:

MC Canada is exposed to interest rate risk on its fixed interest rate investments that are held in pooled funds (note 3).

10. Partner ministries:

	March 31, 2023	January 31, 2022
CommonWord	\$ 152,571	\$ 133,389
Canadian Mennonite University	98,890	83,689
Mennonite Heritage Centre Archives	66,200	55,000
Mennonite World Conference	90,834	35,000
Canadian Council of Churches	11,440	11,328
Evangelical Fellowship of Canada	6,000	6,000
	\$ 425,935	\$ 324,406

MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA

Schedule - MC Canada Operations

Fourteen months ended March 31, 2023, with comparative information for the year ended January 31, 2022

	Executive	Christian Formation	Christian Witness Office	Christian Witness Program	Indigenous Settler Relations	Climate Action	Communications Operations and Occupancy	Partner Projects	2023	2022
Expenses:										
Staff salary and payroll	\$ 219,535	\$ 2,440	\$ 119,955	\$ 365,570	\$ 112,060	\$ 12,563	\$ 283,085	\$ -	\$ 1,115,208	\$ 907,352
Staff travel	25,501	-	52,658	53,273	1,291	-	1,731	-	134,454	67,751
Staff professional development	2,219	-	-	-	211	-	399	-	2,829	3,184
Joint Council and executive staff group	38,456	-	-	-	-	1,103	-	-	39,559	15,884
Resourcing	-	2,961	5,891	86,738	281	-	34,624	47,513	178,008	124,172
Program	29,647	37,003	165	223,532	22,062	1,949	232,654	426,320	973,332	817,595
Facility	-	-	-	-	-	-	88,507	-	88,507	66,400
Legal and audit	-	-	-	-	-	-	27,523	-	27,523	29,984
	\$ 315,358	\$ 42,404	\$ 178,669	\$ 729,113	\$ 135,905	\$ 15,615	\$ 668,523	\$ 473,833	\$ 2,559,420	\$ 2,032,322

See accompanying notes to financial statements.

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MENNONITE CHURCH CANADA
OPERATING FUND REVENUE AND EXPENDITURES

	BUDGET 2023-24	ACTUAL 2022-23 14 month	BUDGET 2022-23 14 month	BUDGET 2021-22 12 month
REVENUE				
Revenue - MCEC Contributions	507,057.00	\$593,732	583,783.40	500,410.00
Revenue - MCM Contributions	269,271.00	\$360,296	333,731.00	231,250.00
Revenue - MCSASK Contributions	98,951.00	\$129,417	128,333.33	110,000.00
Revenue - MCA Contributions	81,900.00	\$86,281	84,000.00	72,000.00
Revenue - MCBC Contributions	61,800.00	\$67,653	47,833.33	41,000.00
Revenue - Individual Contributions	20,000.00	\$113,486	23,333.33	20,000.00
Revenue - Relational Witness Funding	320,000.00	\$349,561	385,000.00	399,000.00
Revenue - General Bequest Fund Amortizatic	136,993.00	\$64,105	64,105.35	85,359.00
Revenue - Interest Income	4,000.00	\$9,852	1,500.00	1,500.00
TOTAL OPERATING FUND REVENUE	1,499,972.00	\$1,774,382	1,651,619.74	1,460,520.00
EXPENDITURES				
Partner Ministries				
Mennonite World Conference	35,000.00	\$90,833	90,833.33	35,000.00
CommonWord	130,000.00	\$151,340	151,666.67	130,000.00
Mennonite Archives and Gallery	55,000.00	\$66,200	64,166.67	55,000.00
Canadian Mennonite Magazine	85,526.00	\$98,890	99,913.33	83,143.00
Canadian Council of Churches - CCC	11,750.00	\$11,440	11,172.00	11,176.00
Evangelical Fellowship of Canada - EFC	6,000.00	\$6,000	6,000.00	6,422.00
Other (see notes on the right)	1,750.00	\$0	2,550.00	
Total Partner Ministries	325,026.00	\$424,704	426,302.00	320,741.00
Operating Fund				
Executive Office (Schedule 1)	285,850.00	\$374,428	279,441.79	216,860.00
Leadership Formation (Schedule 2)	82,360.00	\$19,304	66,305.43	11,585.00
International Witness (Schedule 3)	591,430.00	\$558,631	606,582.89	594,127.00
Indigenous/Settler Relations (Schedule 4)	49,036.00	\$92,580	86,316.14	109,517.00
Climate Action (Schedule 5)	0.00	\$1	0.00	0.00
Communications (Schedule 6)	71,096.00	\$73,221	79,827.33	45,376.00
Support Services (Schedule 7)	135,202.00	\$146,354	138,235.76	116,036.00
Occupancy (Schedule 8)	79,148.00	\$93,064	62,578.01	72,535.00
Total Operating Fund Expenditures	1,294,122	1,357,582	1,319,287	1,166,036
Net Surplus/(Deficit) from Operations	-119,176	-7904	-93,970	-26,258
Net Surplus/(Deficit) from Partner Projects		\$0	0.00	0.00
MC Canada General Reserve Fund Draw	-119176	0	93970	0.00
Net Operating Fund revenue (expenditures)	0.00	(\$7,904)	0.00	(26,258.00)

	BUDGET 2023-24	ACTUAL 2022-23 14 month	BUDGET 2022-23 14 month	BUDGET 2021-22
Executive Office (Schedule 1)				
Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoverie	0.00	(\$9,245)	(25,000.00)	0.00
Revenue - Gathering Registrations	0.00	(\$137,206)	(152,875.00)	0.00
Revenue - Recognized Deferred Contribution	0.00	(\$5,000)	(5,000.00)	0.00
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	212,150.00	\$215,354	198,941.79	162,610.00
Staff Travel and Expenses	23,075.00	\$26,099	16,000.00	7,500.00
Staff Training and Development	3,500.00	\$2,219	3,500.00	2,250.00
Joint Council & Executive Staff Group Travel	36,825.00	\$39,305	51,800.00	25,000.00
Gathering Expenses	7,200.00	\$213,255	153,475.00	5,000.00
Program Expenses	3,100.00	29647	38,600.00	14,500.00
	285,850.00	\$374,428	279,441.79	216,860.00
Leadership Formation (Schedule 2)				
Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoverie	(2,800.00)	(\$7,257)	(5,000.00)	(3,000.00)
Deferred Contribution Amortization - Formatic	(12,103.00)	(\$15,902)	(15,902.24)	(14,415.00)
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	42,663.00	\$2,440	41,807.67	0.00
Staff Travel and Expenses	1,300.00	\$58	2,500.00	0.00
Staff Professional Development	2,000.00	\$0	500.00	0.00
Education & Training	48,300.00	\$37,003	39,400.00	26,000.00
Dues & Subscriptions	3,000.00	\$2,961	3,000.00	3,000.00
	82,360.00	\$19,304	66,305.43	11,585.00
International Witness (Schedule 3)				
Donations		(\$4,323)		
Co-Ministry Fees	(35,000.00)	(\$28,289)	(24,321.61)	(29,260.00)
Self-Generated Revenue & Cost Recovery	(6,000.00)	(\$6,181)	(2,000.00)	(6,000.00)
Deferred Contribution Amortization	(66,119.00)	(\$312,009)	(124,683.99)	(113,520.00)
Philippines Capital Donations	(236,100.00)			
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	104,852.00	\$119,955	111,213.93	94,175.00
Staff Travel and Expenses	29,450.00	\$54,484	21,500.00	12,000.00
Staff Professional Development	0.00	\$0	500.00	0.00
Itineration Expenses	10,000.00	\$0	2,500.00	0.00
Publicity and Promotions	2,000.00	\$1,350	5,000.00	2,500.00
Membership Fees	5,000.00	\$5,891	4,000.00	3,000.00
Program Expenses	0.00	\$165	7,000.00	20,000.00
Witness Programs				
Benin	15,000.00	\$10,300	15,000.00	15,000.00
Burkina Faso	4,000.00	\$4,000	15,000.00	17,000.00
Congo	34,000.00	\$34,000	34,000.00	34,000.00
Ethiopia	16,782.00	\$71,504	23,244.65	0.00
China	69,138.00	\$73,693	68,865.48	158,716.00
Phillipines	157,783.00	\$216,312	178,313.25	156,117.00
Phillipines Capital Project	236,100.00			
South Korea	101,734.00	\$119,927	105,249.82	97,085.00
Thailand	108,141.00	\$144,568	131,201.36	113,315.00
Japan	16,069.00	\$16,832	15,000.00	0.00
Colombia	20,000.00	\$36,451	20,000.00	20,000.00
Vietnam	4,600.00			

591,430.00	\$558,631	606,582.89	594,127.00
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	BUDGET 2023-24	ACTUAL 2022-23 14 month	BUDGET 2022-23 14 month	BUDGET 2021-22 12 Month
Indigenous/Settler Relations (Schedule 4)				
Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoverie	0.00	(\$500)	0.00	0.00
Reserve Account Transfer	0.00	(\$27,153)	(26,754.00)	(8,832.00)
Self-Generated Revenue	0.00	(\$15,672)	(9,000.00)	(12,000.00)
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	37,436.00	\$112,060	107,970.14	84,649.00
Staff Travel and Expenses	3,100.00	\$1,291	500.00	4,250.00
Staff Professional Development	2,000.00	\$211	0.00	0.00
Indigenous Training & Leadership Developme	2,500.00	\$0	2,500.00	2,500.00
Publicity & Promotion	1,000.00	\$281	1,000.00	1,000.00
Postage & Shipping	0.00	\$0	0.00	3,000.00
Cost of Sales	0.00			0.00
Program Expenses	3,000.00	\$22,062	10,100.00	34,950.00
	49,036.00	\$92,580	86,316.14	109,517.00

Climate Action (Schedule 5)

Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoveries			0.00	
MI Reserve Fund Transfer	(75,050.00)	(\$15,770)		
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	43,675.00	\$12,563	0.00	
Staff Travel	3,575.00	\$1,103	0.00	
Program Expenses	27,800.00	\$2,105		
	0.00	\$1	0.00	

Communications (Schedule 6)

Revenue - Dues, Fees, Donations, Recoverie	0.00	\$0	0.00	(4,000.00)
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	39,971.00	\$43,937	42,287.08	34,876.00
Staff Travel and Expenses	1,000.00	\$774	2,000.00	1,500.00
Staff Professional Development	500.00	\$309	500.00	500.00
Program Costs	29,125.00	\$26,928	29,540.25	7,000.00
Publicity & Promotion	500.00	\$1,272	5,500.00	5,500.00
	71,096.00	\$73,221	79,827.33	45,376.00

Support Services (Schedule 7)

Self-Generated Revenue & Cost Recovery	(155,148.00)	(\$156,028)	(189,846.17)	(148,086.00)
Staff Salary & Payroll Expenses	212,150.00	\$239,148	241,865.27	180,372.00
Staff Travel and Expenses	1,000.00	\$956	2,000.00	2,000.00
Staff Professional Development	0.00	\$90	1,250.00	1,250.00
Office and Admin Expenses	54,200.00	\$33,177	54,466.66	55,000.00
Legal & Audit Expenses	23,000.00	\$27,523	27,500.00	22,500.00
Program Expenses	0.00	\$1,486	1,000.00	3,000.00
	135,202.00	\$146,354	138,235.76	116,036.00

Occupancy Costs (Schedule 8)

Rental Revenue	(26,746.00)	(\$31,204)	(31,203.67)	(26,746.00)
Utilities and Taxes	16,500.00	\$21,075	23,948.35	12,000.00
Office & Building Maintenance	31,000.00	\$40,773	30,000.00	20,000.00
Insurance	26,000.00	\$21,667	19,833.33	20,000.00
Major Capital Repairs	0.00			0.00
Allocation to Capital Reserve	18,300.00	\$26,659	20,000.00	20,000.00
Depreciation Transfer	14,094.00	\$14,094	0.00	27,281.00
	79,148.00	\$93,064	62,578.01	72,535.00

The Joint Council is proposing a resolution to amend the MC Canada General Operating Bylaws with some of the changes that have been discussed by the Joint Council and the Joint Council Executive.

The primary amendments in the following red-line version of the MC Canada Bylaws are:

- noted under section 14 - Nominating Committee
- the addition of the definition of “Delegate”
- the removal of redundant words to make the document easier to read without changing the meaning.
- The removal of the word “Operating” from the title so as not to confuse this document with the MC Canada Operating Agreement.

As stated in 35.1 of the Bylaws, proposed amendments to the Bylaws must be sent to the Regional Churches at least two (2) months in advance of the delegate session. This notice with a copy of red-lined amended MC Canada Bylaws was sent to regional moderators on April 18, 2023, by e-mail.

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Mennonite Church Canada

General ~~Operating~~ By-law

Last Updated August 1, 2022

PART I – DEFINITIONS

1. Definition of Terms

1.1. In this By-law, unless the context otherwise requires:

- a. **“Act”** means *The Act of Incorporation of the Conference of Mennonites in Canada*, as amended by *An Act to amend the Act of Incorporation of the Conference of Mennonites in Canada*, and including any statute or regulations that may be substituted, as amended from time to time;
- b. **“Bylaw”** means any By-law of MC Canada ~~from time to time~~ in force and effect, including this General ~~Operating~~ By-law;
- c. **“Congregation”** 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;
- d. **“Congregation Member”** means a person who is a member of a Congregation of a Regional Church;
- e. **“Covenant”** means the Covenant that is accepted and entered into by each Regional Church that becomes a member of MC Canada;
- e.f. **“Delegate”** is a congregation member appointed to represent a Regional Church at a meeting who can vote on recommendations presented at the meeting for decision;
- f.g. **“Delegate Gathering”** means a regular meeting or a special meeting of the delegates appointed by each Regional Church, and such other persons as may be entitled or invited to attend ~~at such Delegate Gathering in accordance with this By-law;~~
- g.h. **“Executive Minister”** means the Executive Minister of MC Canada;
- h.i. **“Joint Council”** means that which is set out in Section 18 below;
- i.j. **“MC Canada”** means Mennonite Church Canada;
- j.k. **“MC USA”** means Mennonite Church USA;
- k.l. **“Membership”** means the collective Membership of MC Canada;
- l.m. **“Moderator”** means the person ~~whom~~ who possesses the leadership role in MC Canada or in a particular Regional Church, as the case may be;
- m.n. **“Officer”** means an officer of MC Canada as described in Section 22 below;
- n.o. **“Policy Statements”** mean the Policy Statements of MC Canada adopted under MC Canada’s constitution; ~~from time to time concerning practical applications of biblical principles and Christian conduct;~~
- o.p. **“Provisional Membership”** means that which is set out in Section 6 below.
- p.q. **“Regional Church”** means a body of Congregations 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 with the other Regional Churches in the spirit of partnership and for the betterment of the collective Membership of MC Canada and further by having accepted and entered into the Covenant among the Regional Churches.

2. Beliefs and Commitments

2.1. As a community of believers, we affirm that Jesus Christ is the Head of the Church and the foundation upon which we build. (1 Corinthians 3:11)

2.2. The following statements identify ~~who~~ whom God calls us to be, which guides our work and life together:

2.3. Vision: Healing and Hope, 1995:

God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace, so that God's healing and hope flow through us to the world.

2.4. Statement of Identity and Purpose, 2005

God calls, equips and sends the church to engage the world with the reconciling Gospel of Jesus Christ. We are a community of disciples of Jesus, A part of the Body of Christ, covenanted together as congregations, ~~area-regional~~ churches*, and a national church body. Gratefully responding to God's initiatives and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves and our resources to calling, equipping and sending the church to engage the world with the reconciling Gospel of Jesus Christ.

2.5. Mennonite World Conference Shared Convictions - Adopted by MWC in 2006

By the grace of God, we seek to live and proclaim the good news of reconciliation in Jesus Christ. As part of the one body of Christ at all times and places, we hold the following to be central to our belief and practice:

- 1 God is known to us as Father, Son and Holy Spirit, the Creator who seeks to restore fallen humanity by calling a people to be faithful in fellowship, worship, service and witness.
- 2 Jesus is the Son of God. Through his life and teachings, his cross and resurrection, he showed us how to be faithful disciples, redeemed the world, and offers eternal life.
- 3 As a church, we are a community of those whom God's Spirit calls to turn from sin, acknowledge Jesus Christ as Lord, receive baptism upon confession of faith, and follow Christ in life.
- 4 As a faith community, we accept the Bible as our authority for faith and life, interpreting it together under Holy Spirit guidance, in the light of Jesus Christ to discern God's will for our obedience.
- 5 The Spirit of Jesus empowers us to trust God in all areas of life so we become peacemakers who renounce violence, love our enemies, seek justice, and share our possessions with those in need.
- 6 We gather regularly to worship, to celebrate the Lord's Supper, and to hear the Word of God in a spirit of mutual accountability.
- 7 As a ~~world-wide~~worldwide community of faith and life we transcend boundaries of nationality, race, class, gender and language. We seek to live in the world without conforming to the powers of evil, witnessing to God's grace by serving others, caring for creation, and inviting all people to know Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord.

2.6. In these convictions we draw inspiration from Anabaptist forebears of the 16th century, who ~~modelled~~modeled radical discipleship to Jesus Christ. We seek to walk in his name by the power of the Holy Spirit, as we confidently await Christ's return and the final fulfillment of God's kingdom.

PART II – MEMBERSHIP

3. Eligibility for Membership

- 3.1. A Regional Church in Canada which is guided in their faith and life by the Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective, supports the Vision Statement and the Identity and Purpose Statement of MC Canada and accepts this By-law is eligible to become a member of MC Canada.
- 3.2. Any Regional Church that wishes to become a member of MC Canada is invited to submit a request in writing to the Executive Minister, who will then submit such request to the Joint Council which will, in turn, present the request and a recommendation at a Delegate Gathering for consideration and approval, ~~as the case may be.~~

4. Rights and Privileges of Members

- 4.1. Membership in MC Canada entitles Regional Churches to:
 - a. appoint and send delegates to a Delegate Gathering, with ~~such delegates having~~ the right to vote ~~thereat~~;
 - b. representation on the Joint Council ~~in the manner as~~ prescribed in this By-law; and
 - c. participate in the programs of and receive services from MC Canada.

5. Expectations of Members

- 5.1. Regional Churches are expected to:
 - a. give faithful attention to the Scriptures;
 - b. Listen to and be attentive to member congregations, giving opportunity for congregations to speak into Nationwide Church issues and priorities and for leaders to communicate what is heard into the Nationwide Church dialogue;
 - c. tend to the health of their member congregations;
 - d. encourage and guide MC Canada in the process of Biblical interpretation and spiritual discernment;
 - e. be guided in their faith and life by the Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective;
 - f. uphold statements of Christian faith and life made by MC Canada ~~from time to time~~;
 - g. enter into and adhere to the Covenant;
 - h. support the Vision Statement and the Identity and Purpose Statement of MC Canada and accept this By-law;
 - i. respond to the invitation to become engaged in mission and service;
 - j. support the programs of MC Canada and contribute to the spiritual life and growth of MC Canada by participating in MC Canada's life and work;
 - k. participate in the church's life and mission through generous contributions of time and personal resources, all in commitment to Jesus Christ in response to the grace of God and in loving service to the church in which the Holy Spirit lives and works;
 - l. support the Vision Statement of MC Canada, which expresses that God calls us to be followers of Jesus Christ and, by the power of the Holy Spirit, to grow as communities of grace, joy and peace so God's healing and hope flow through us to the world; and
 - m. assume all duties as defined in this By-law.

6. Provisional Membership

- 6.1. Provisional Membership in MC Canada is open to any Regional Church which:

- a. meets the eligibility requirements contained in this By-law; and
- b. is not ready for full Membership in MC Canada but which wishes to evaluate the meaning of full Membership for itself.

6.2. Provisional Membership:

- a. may be requested in writing to the Executive Minister, who will submit such request to the Joint Council which will, in turn, present the request and a recommendation at a Delegate Gathering for consideration and approval ~~as the case may be;~~
- b. is restricted to a maximum of five (5) years;
- c. carries with it the expectations listed in Section 5 of this By-law;
- d. provides all ~~of~~ the rights and privileges of Membership listed in Section 4 of this By-law, except that:
 - i. delegates of provisional members are not entitled to vote at a Delegate Gathering;
 - ii. Congregation Members of Regional Churches that are provisional members may be appointed to a ministry, committee and/or other advisory body of MC Canada, but they may not serve on the Joint Council; and
 - iii. participation in programs and services of MC Canada, and the costs associated with such programs and services, will be negotiated on a case-by-case basis.

7. Removal of Members

7.1. A Regional Church may be removed from Membership in MC Canada only on the recommendation of the Joint Council, ~~and such recommendation may only be made after the Joint Council has followed following~~ the procedures ~~that may be~~ defined in ~~any~~ documents, guidelines and/or policies adopted by MC Canada ~~from time to time~~ to guide it in times of disagreement, ~~in order to try and~~ Every attempt shall be made to resolve matters with the Regional Church, ~~doing so in a way that would to~~ avert the need for a recommendation of removal of the Regional Church from Membership in MC Canada.

~~7.2.~~ Any such action to remove a Regional Church from Membership in MC Canada shall be done in the spirit of the Covenant and ~~any the~~ Operating Agreement, ~~that may be entered into by the Regional Churches.~~

PART III - DELEGATE GATHERINGS

8. Representation at Delegate Gatherings

8.1. Each Regional Church ~~shall be entitled to can~~ have the following delegates attend at a Delegate Gathering on its behalf:

- a. two (2) delegates, as appointed by each Regional Church.

8.2. Notwithstanding Section 8.1 above or anything else contained in this By-law, in every second year, each Regional Church ~~shall be entitled to can~~ have the following delegates attend at a Delegate Gathering on its behalf:

- a. six (6) members of the board of directors of each Regional Church;
- b. five (5) delegates, as appointed by each Regional Church; and
- c. ~~such~~ additional Regional Church delegates ~~as may be~~ appointed by each Regional Church ~~on the basis of~~ based on one (1) delegate per one thousand (1000) Congregation Members,

rounded upward to the next one thousand. For example, if a Regional Church has 2100 Congregation Members, it ~~shall be entitled to~~ can appoint three (3) additional delegates. If a Congregation does not maintain a formal membership list of its Congregation Members, then the number of regular attendees ~~(as such may be defined by the Congregation) of the Congregation shall be~~ can be used ~~relied upon~~ in place of the number of Congregation Members. ~~for the purposes of this section.~~ The congregation can define who is a “regular” attendee.

8.3. Delegates must be Congregation Members. There are no other restrictions on who may be a delegate.

9. Duties and Powers of Voting Delegates

9.1. The delegates entitled to vote and be present at a Delegate Gathering shall:

- a. have the authority to act on behalf of MC Canada;
- b. discern MC Canada’s participation in God’s work as reflected in MC Canada’s Vision Statement and in its Identity and Purpose Statement;
- c. debate issues facing the church and, ~~from time to time,~~ may issue statements, including, but not limited to statements ~~pertaining to~~ about faith and life, position statements, and statements to governments;
- d. discuss and approve Policy Statements ~~on such matters as are deemed necessary from time to time~~ recommended by the Joint Council;
- e. review the work and ministry of MC Canada;
- f. approve the budgets of MC Canada;
- g. receive the Joint Council’s recommendation on the appointment of an auditor to hold office until the close of the next regular Delegate Gathering, and accept or reject such recommendation;
- h. consider and accept or reject the financial statements of MC Canada and the auditor’s report;
- i. receive the Joint Council’s recommendation and accept, reject or remove Regional Churches as members or as provisional members of MC Canada;
- j. elect MC Canada’s Officers and members of the Nominating Committee;
- k. make By-laws of MC Canada, amend By-laws as deemed appropriate and monitor adherence to those By-laws; and
- l. review and ratify the work performed by the Joint Council between Delegate Gatherings. ~~and ratify the same.~~

10. Delegate Gatherings

10.1. Regular Delegate Gatherings shall be held:

- a. annually, though the Joint Council may ~~from time to time~~ call additional Delegate Gatherings as ~~it deems~~ necessary; and
- b. at such place as may be determined by the Joint Council. ~~from time to time.~~

10.2. The purpose of regular Delegate Gatherings shall be to:

- a. receive written reports from the Joint Council as well as any committees, ministries and/or other advisory bodies of MC Canada with respect to their yearly activities, plans and relevant financial statements for consideration by the delegates;

- b. act upon the slate of nominees for elected positions, as presented by the Nominating Committee of MC Canada and to hold such elections, except where the Joint Council determines it is necessary to hold such elections at a special Delegate Gathering; and
- c. transact any other necessary business.

10.3. A special Delegate Gathering may be called ~~from time to time~~ by the Joint Council, at such time and at such place as ~~may be~~ determined by the Joint Council. Notwithstanding Section 8.1 above or anything else contained in this By-law, representation at a Special Delegate Gathering ~~shall be as is~~ described in section 8.2.

10.4. ~~In the event that~~if the Moderator of MC Canada and the Assistant Moderator of MC Canada are absent from a Delegate Gathering, then the delegates who are present and entitled to vote at such Delegate Gathering shall choose one of their number to chair the meeting.

10.5. ~~In the event that~~if the Joint Council calls a Regular or Special Delegate Gathering, the Joint Council may determine that such Delegate Gathering shall be held entirely by means of telephonic, electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during such Delegate Gathering.

10.6. ~~In the event that~~if MC Canada chooses to make available telephonic, electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other 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. A person participating in a Delegate Gathering by such means is deemed to be present at the Delegate Gathering. Notwithstanding any other provision of this By-law, 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 MC Canada has made available for that purpose.

11. Notice of Delegate Gatherings

11.1. The date and place of the next regular Delegate Gathering shall be announced at the conclusion of each regular Delegate Gathering.

11.2. Notice of a special Delegate Gathering shall be given to Regional Churches not less than twenty-one (21) days in advance.

12. Voting at Delegate Gatherings

12.1. The quorum for a Delegate Gathering shall be at least fifty percent (50%) of all appointed delegates ~~entitled to be at such Delegate Gathering, who are~~ present in person. If a quorum is present at the opening of a Delegate Gathering, then the delegates present may proceed with the business of such Delegate Gathering even if a quorum is not present throughout the said Delegate Gathering.

12.2. The business of a Delegate Gathering may be conducted:

- a. by consensus, without a formal vote;
- b. by a show of hands, at the discretion of the chairperson of the Delegate Gathering, or on the request of a voting delegate; or

- c. by ballot vote when directed by the chairperson of the Delegate Gathering, or when a motion to require a ballot vote is passed by a majority of votes cast on such motion.
- 12.3. Unless otherwise provided for in this By-law, or if a motion to require a larger number is passed by a majority of votes cast on such motion, a simple majority of the votes cast is sufficient to carry a resolution.
- 12.4. In the event of a ballot vote, the votes shall be counted by tellers who have been appointed in advance.

PART IV – NOMINATIONS, ELECTIONS, TERMS OF OFFICE & VACANCIES

13. Qualifications for Elected Positions

- 13.1. Each person nominated for an elected position must be a Congregation Member.
- 13.2. ~~In the event that~~if an elected person ceases to be a Congregation Member, that person's term ~~shall be deemed to have~~will expired immediately at that point.
- 13.3. No person may hold more than one elected position at the same time. Where a person who holds an elected position is elected to another elected position, that person is deemed to have resigned from his or her previously held elected position.
- 13.4. Staff of MC Canada are not eligible for election to an elected position in MC Canada.
- 13.5. Moderators and staff of each Regional Church are not eligible for election to an elected position in MC Canada.
- 13.6. Any question of eligibility for election shall be resolved by the Joint Council.

14. Nominating Committee

14.1. For each regular Delegate Gathering, each Regional Church shall nominate one (1) person to the Nominating Committee.

~~14.1.~~14.2. ~~The Nominating Committee shall 'stay in operation' until the following Delegate Gathering's Nominating Committee has been established.~~

~~14.2.~~14.3. The Nominating Committee shall:

- a. in advance of a Delegate Gathering where elections are to be held, use its best efforts to prepare a slate of nominees consisting of one (1) nominee for each elected position that needs to be filled;
- b. recommend, upon the request of a committee, ministry and/or other advisory body of MC Canada, ~~as the case may be,~~ persons to serve on such committee, ministry and/or other advisory body of MC Canada;~~as the case may be; and~~
- ~~c.~~on request, suggest to the Executive Minister names of candidates for~~vacant MC Canada staff positions.~~ vacant positions on external partner boards where the Joint Council is responsible for appointing or recommending a representative.

15. Election Procedures

- 15.1. The Nominating Committee will receive further nominations at a Delegate Gathering if:
 - a. such nomination is endorsed by five (5) voting delegates;
 - b. the nominee has agreed to stand for the elected position; and
 - c. such nomination is presented to the Nominating Committee at least twenty-four (24) hours before the Delegate Gathering at which the election is scheduled to take place.
- 15.2. At least twenty-four (24) hours before the Delegate Gathering at which any elections are scheduled to take place, the Nominating Committee shall present its slate of nominees, including those nominated in accordance with Section 15(1) above, to the delegates.
- 15.3. Where only one (1) person has been nominated for a given elected position, that nominee shall be declared elected by acclamation.
- 15.4. Where multiple nominations have been received for any elected position, there shall be a ballot vote.

16. Terms of Office

- 16.1. Each member of the Joint Council appointed by a Regional Church in accordance with this By-law shall serve for such term as may be decided by his/her respective Regional Church.
- 16.2. Officers shall serve for two (2) year terms and shall be eligible to serve for up to three (3) consecutive terms.
- 16.3. A person's term begins at the end of the Delegate Gathering at which he or she is elected.

17. Vacancies

- 17.1. Where a vacancy occurs in any elected Officer position between regular Delegate Gatherings, such vacancy may be filled by the Joint Council, at its discretion, until the next regular Delegate Gathering.
- 17.2. Where a person has been appointed to fill a vacancy, the time spent completing that vacant term of office shall not be considered as a portion of any succeeding term.

PART V - JOINT COUNCIL

18. Composition of the Joint Council

- 18.1. The Joint Council shall consist of:
 - a. the respective Moderators of each Regional Church;
 - b. one (1) additional member appointed by each Regional Church. For greater certainty, such appointee shall not be a member of their respective Regional Church board; and
 - c. three (3) Officers elected by the delegates at a Delegate Gathering;

19. Meetings of the Joint Council

- 19.1. The Joint Council shall meet at least four (4) times per year.

- 19.2. If ~~all of~~ the members of the Joint Council consent, then a member or members of the Joint Council may participate in a meeting of the Joint Council by telephonic, electronic or other communications facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during such meeting. A member of the Joint Council participating by such means is deemed to be present at that meeting.

20. Duties and Powers of the Joint Council

20.1. The Joint Council shall:

- a. act on behalf of MC Canada between Delegate Gatherings;
- b. act as the legal representative of MC Canada, authorize ~~such of~~ its Officers to sign contracts, cheques and other documents on behalf of MC Canada ~~as the Joint Council may consider advisable~~, and prescribe the limits, if any, of such authority;
- c. report to, and be accountable to its members at Delegate Gatherings;
- d. between Delegate Gatherings, continue the process of discerning MC Canada's participation in God's work as reflected in the Vision Statement and the Identity and Purpose Statement of MC Canada;
- e. ~~f~~ facilitate the development of MC Canada's identity and vision by its members.
- f. create forums for interaction among the leaders of the Regional Churches;
- g. direct and coordinate the work of the ministries, committees and/or other advisory bodies of MC Canada;
- h. review financial statements and direct the preparation of budgets;
- i. make recommendations at regular Delegate Gatherings on the appointment of auditors for MC Canada;
- j. appoint, evaluate, and if necessary terminate the Executive Minister;
- k. at its discretion, fill vacancies in elected positions that occur between regular Delegate Gatherings
- l. process issues of Membership in MC Canada and make recommendations thereon at regular or special Delegate Gatherings;
- m. foster relationships with national and international bodies, including appointments as appropriate to:
 - i. MC USA;
 - ii. Mennonite World Conference;
 - iii. Mennonite Central Committee;
 - iv. other Mennonite church bodies;
 - v. Canadian Council of Churches; and
 - vi. Evangelical Fellowship of Canada.
- n. review periodically the policies and procedures of MC Canada and ensure each of MC Canada's ministries, committees and/or other advisory bodies is aware of applicable policies and ensure that new policies are added as they are created;
- o. set long range goals and strategies to achieve those goals;
- p. plan, organize and call regular or special Delegate Gatherings;
- q. appoint other ministries, committees and/or advisory bodies of MC Canada at any time and delegate to such entities any powers and authority in the management of the conduct and affairs of MC Canada, provided that the task of any such entity does not interfere with or

be inconsistent with the delegated authority of the ministries, committees or other advisory bodies established by this By-law;

- r. Oversee the administration and operations of MC Canada and oversee expenditure of MC Canada funds in general in accordance with the approved annual budget; and
- s. do any other thing which is likely to support and promote the mission of MC Canada.

20.2. No member of the Joint Council shall place himself or herself in a position where there is a conflict of interest between his or her duties as a member of the Joint Council and his or her other interests. A member of the Joint Council who is in any way directly or indirectly interested in a contract or transaction, or proposed contract or transaction with MC Canada, or who in any way finds himself or herself in a position where there is a conflict of interest or a potential conflict of interest shall declare such conflict of interest fully at a meeting of the Joint Council and withdraw from any discussion or vote thereon.

21. Joint Council Governance

21.1. The Joint Council shall formulate and adopt rules of procedure and governance under which it shall operate.

PART VI – OFFICERS

22. Officers

22.1. The Officers of MC Canada shall be as follows:

- a. Moderator;
- b. Assistant Moderator;
- c. Secretary/Treasurer; and
- d. Other, as applicable.

22.2. The Officers shall be elected by the delegates at a regular Delegate Gathering.

23. Duties of the Officers

23.1. The Moderator of MC Canada shall:

- a. preside at all Delegate Gatherings, whether regular or special;
- b. chair all meetings of the Joint Council and of the Executive Committee;
- c. act as the official representative of and spokesperson for MC Canada; and
- d. exercise such other powers and duties as may be assigned to the Moderator of MC Canada by the Joint Council.~~from time to time.~~

23.2. The Assistant Moderator shall assume the duties of the Moderator of MC Canada:

- a. in the absence or incapacity of the Moderator of MC Canada; or
- b. at the request of the Moderator of MC Canada or of the Executive Committee.

23.3. The Secretary/Treasurer shall:

- a. be responsible for recording all minutes of Delegate Gatherings as well as meetings of the Joint Council and of the Executive Committee;
- b. conduct any necessary official correspondence, if and as instructed by the Joint Council; and

- c. oversee the Financial Policy and Audit Committee established by the Joint Council, and shall also perform such other duties as the Joint Council may specify.
- 23.4. The powers and duties of all other Officers, ~~as applicable,~~ shall be such as the terms of their engagement call for or the Joint Council requires. The Joint Council may, ~~from time to time, and~~ subject to the Act, vary, add to or limit the powers and duties of any Officer.
- 23.5. The Officers shall be entitled to vote at a Delegate Gathering, provided that the Moderator shall only be permitted to exercise his or her vote ~~in the event of an equality of votes~~ if the vote is equal.

PART VII – EXECUTIVE MINISTER

24. Appointment

- 24.1. The Executive Minister shall be appointed by the Joint Council.

25. Duties of the Executive Minister (in relationship to MC Canada Governance. See Operating Agreement for more comprehensive duties).

- 25.1. The Executive Minister shall:
- a. lead and oversee the total program(s) of MC Canada;
 - b. hire and supervise the staff of MC Canada;
 - c. participate, without a vote, in meetings of the Executive Committee and the Joint Council;
 - d. receive and record the credentials of all voting delegates prior to each Delegate Gathering;
 - e. publish the proceedings of each Delegate Gathering; and
 - f. perform such other duties as the Joint Council may specify from time to time.

PART VIII - EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

26. Composition of the Executive Committee

- 26.1. The Executive Committee shall consist of:
- a. the Officers; and
 - b. one (1) member of the Joint Council, to be appointed by the Joint Council from among its members, whose term shall be for one (1) year, and who shall be eligible to serve for up to six (6) terms.

27. Duties and Powers of the Executive Committee

- 27.1. The Executive Committee shall:
- a. act on behalf of the Joint Council with respect to emergency matters between meetings of the Joint Council;
 - b. provide counsel to the Executive Minister on matters that he or she may present;
 - c. deal with confidential matters in connection with MC Canada; and
 - d. report its activities to the Joint Council.

PART IX – FINANCIAL POLICY AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

28. Composition of the Financial Policy and Audit Committee

- 28.1. The Financial Policy and Audit Committee shall consist of three (3) persons, ~~namely~~:
- a. the Secretary/Treasurer of MC Canada, who shall act as chairperson of the Financial Policy and Audit Committee; and
 - b. two (2) other persons selected by the Joint Council, and elected by the Delegate Gathering, whose term shall be for three (3) years, and who shall be eligible to serve for up to three (3) consecutive terms. For greater certainty, these persons need not be delegates to the Delegate Gathering.

29. Duties of the Financial Policy and Audit Committee

- 29.1. The Financial Policy and Audit Committee shall meet in person at least once annually and otherwise by teleconferencing as required to:
- a. review the financial statements (YTD) prepared by the staff of MC Canada and report to the Joint Council;
 - b. recommend financial policies and procedures as needed;
 - c. ensure that MC Canada has implemented appropriate systems to identify, monitor and mitigate significant business risks;
 - d. monitor the review of senior management's expense claims;
 - e. provide initial recommendations regarding the budgeting process for the upcoming year and review proposed budgets before submission to the Joint Council;
 - f. act as an audit committee with the following responsibilities:
 - i. review and recommend the appointment of the external auditor;
 - ii. review annually the audit plan and fees presented by the external auditor;
 - iii. review the annual audited financial statements prior to submission to the Joint Council for their approval;
 - iv. *in camera* (privately held) meeting with the auditor;
 - v. review and report to the Joint Council the results of the external auditor's annual audit, including the management letter and significant issues encountered during the audit and how they were resolved; and
 - vi. review with management and the external auditors MC Canada's systems of internal control to ensure compliance with legal, ethical, regulatory and financial reporting requirements and report to the Joint Council as required.
 - g. administer the MC Canada Pension Plan as part of the Pension Advisory Committee

PART X – OTHER COMMITTEES

30. Other Committees

- 30.1. The Joint Council may from time to time appoint any committee, ~~ministry~~ministry, or advisory body it deems necessary or appropriate for such purposes and with such powers as the Joint Council sees fit. Any such committee, ministry or advisory body may formulate its own rules of procedure, subject to such regulations or directions as the Joint Council may ~~from time to time~~ make. Any member of any committee, ministry or other advisory body may be removed at the discretion of the Joint Council.

30.2. No member of any committee, ministry or other advisory body of MC Canada shall place himself or herself in a position where there is a conflict of interest between his or her duties as a member of such committee, ~~ministry~~ministry, or other advisory body and his or her other interests. A member of any committee, ministry or other advisory body of MC Canada who is in any way directly or indirectly interested in a contract or transaction, or proposed contract or transaction with MC Canada, or who in any way finds himself or herself in a position where there is a conflict of interest or a potential conflict of interest shall declare such conflict of interest fully at a meeting of his or her committee, ministry or advisory body and withdraw from any discussion or vote thereon.

PART XI – OPERATIONAL MATTERS

31. Fiscal Year

31.1. MC Canada’s fiscal year shall end on the 31st day of March in each calendar year.

32. Corporate Seal

32.1. The Corporate seal shall:

- a. have inscribed thereon Mennonite Church Canada; and
- b. be affixed to such signed documents as the Joint Council considers necessary or advisable.

33. Non-Profit

33.1. The organization will operate without purpose of gain for its members, and that any profit or other assets of the organization will be used solely to promote its objectives.

34. Indemnities

34.1. Every Officer, member of the Joint Council and/or member of a committee, ministry or other advisory body of MC Canada as well as their respective heirs, executors and administrators ~~shall~~ at all times shall always be indemnified and saved harmless, out of the funds of MC Canada, from and against:

- a. all costs, charges and expenses whatsoever which such Officer or member sustains or incurs as a result of any claim, demand or proceedings made or brought against him or her for anything done, or omitted or permitted to be done, in the course of carrying out his or her responsibilities as an Officer or member, except for any costs, charges and expenses sustained or incurred by the Officer or member because of the wilful neglect of such Officer or member; and
- b. all reasonable costs, charges and expenses incurred by such Officer or member ~~in the course of~~while carrying out his or her responsibilities as an Officer or member.

PART XII – AMENDMENTS OF BYLAWS

35. Amendments to the bylaws

- 35.1. Notwithstanding Section 8.1 above or anything else contained in this By-law, this By-law may be amended at any regular or special Delegate Gathering where the representation of the members is as set out in Section 8.2; provided that the proposed amendments have been sent to the Regional Churches at least two (2) months in advance.
- 35.2. ~~In order to~~To pass, By-law amendments require a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the votes cast by the delegates at a Delegate Gathering.

36. Coming into force

- 36.1. This By-law comes into force at the conclusion of the Delegate Gathering at which it is adopted.
- 36.2. Any subsequent amendments to this By-law come into force at the conclusion of the Delegate Gathering at which they are adopted.

Approved: July 14, 2001
Amended: July 6, 2002
Amended: July 9, 2005
Amended: July 6, 2007
Amended: July 2, 2010
Amended: July 9, 2011
Amended: April 14, 2012
Amended: July 12, 2012
Amended: October 14, 2017
Amended: August 1, 2022

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