

## NOTES:

- *Following the direction of the Renewal Fellowship board executive in November 2023, the following revised statements were proposed by the RF leadership in December 2023, reviewed by the board executive in January 2024 and discussed in detail by the board of directors in March 2024.*
  - *Items in **bold** were presented to the membership and **approved** at the Annual General Meeting of April 20, 2024*
  - *Words in **red** are proposed changes which were shared with the membership in advance of the 2024 AGM, where there was some discussion on them.*
  - *The list of concerns in the Constitution has been removed because it is a duplication of what is in the Vision, Mission and Passions/Concerns statement. Purpose has been removed from the Vision, Mission and Passions/Concerns statement because it is a duplication of what is in the Constitution.*
  - *The basic rationale for the proposed changes: we are a smaller organization, the PCC landscape is different than when these documents were written and our supporters are no longer only within the PCC.*
  - *The board is inviting comments from the membership. We ask that you respond to [renewalfellowshippcc@gmail.com](mailto:renewalfellowshippcc@gmail.com) by September 30, 2024*
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## Our Constitution

### Preamble

In our love for the **authentic Church in the Reformed tradition** ~~Presbyterian Church in Canada,~~ and in gratitude to God for its contribution to our spiritual growth, we as ~~office-bearers, members and adherents,~~ **believers** desire to be united in common fellowship, In prayer to Jesus Christ, as King and Head of the Church, our Saviour and Lord, ~~that there be kindled in our midst the flame of the Holy Spirit's life in calling us to the urgency of our task and the need of our times,~~

~~Further, reminded of past visitations of that same Spirit,~~ we see the need, first personally and then corporately, for **a rediscovery of theology and practice which adheres to orthodoxy as we seek to submit totally to our Triune God and strive to follow the commands of Christ in Matthew 28:19-20, "Therefore, go and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit. Teach these new disciples to obey all the commands I have given you. And be sure of this: I am with you always, even to the end of the age."** ~~godliness in our lives as gift of~~

the Spirit of holiness, and for evangelistic zeal, as the Lord adds daily to our number such as would be saved,

Therefore we unitedly express the following concerns:

- ~~Fervent intercession for the Lord to renew his Church for authentic witness and consistent obedience~~
- ~~Fresh power and authority for the local congregation through the Breath of God in our structures and organizations~~
- ~~Responsible participation in the courts of the church~~
- ~~A deep hunger for the teaching of the Bible in its authority~~
- ~~A recall to lives of biblical integrity, especially on the part of those entrusted with leadership of the people of God~~
- ~~A zeal for reaching, through the instrumentality of a national church with a rich heritage, those lost without God and without hope in the world~~
- ~~Fellowship for believers to give encouragement to continued witness and ministry within the Presbyterian Church in Canada~~

Accordingly, seeking to bring glory to our sovereign God, we have banded together in common resolve and commitment.

1. ~~The Name of this Fellowship shall be "The Renewal Fellowship" Within The Presbyterian Church in Canada."~~
2. The Objects of the Fellowship shall be as follows:
  - (a) The establishment of means of contact and encouragement for those interested in **evangelical** renewal within **any Reformed expression of Christ's Church, including The Presbyterian Church in Canada.** ~~the Presbyterian Church in Canada affording an opportunity for them to relate to one another and discuss the issues from time to time arising within our denomination, mutually encouraging and strengthening one another.~~
  - (b) The promotion of publications and other materials that would clarify the concerns that we share, providing biblical and theological comment and encouraging practical and specific ideas for their achievement through various media.
  - (c) Encouraging the development of programs, especially in the areas of prayer/intercession, small groups and evangelism. The objective in such endeavours is to be supportive, constructive, and positive.
  - (d) ~~To work through clearly defined and mutually agreed upon goals and objectives and to provide the means by which these can be achieved. Specifically, the organizing of conferences and other seminar-type activities which will facilitate the long-range process of strengthening the reformed and evangelical witness within our denomination.~~
3. Membership. The Membership of this Fellowship shall be composed of individuals:

**(a) who are members or adherents of any Reformed expression of Christ's Church which upholds the trustworthiness of scripture ~~the Presbyterian Church in Canada and~~**

(b) who are in agreement with the objects of this Fellowship, as stated above, and

(c) who are prepared to signify their agreement with the Statement of Faith (Appendix A) and

**(d) who have contributed a membership fee of \$10 to the Fellowship within the past year.**

4. The Board of Directors

(a) The Board shall **be in agreement with Our Doctrinal Basis** ~~subscribe to the system of doctrine in the subordinate standards of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. The Board shall consist of twelve~~ **six elected** representatives, of whom not more than ~~six~~ **three** shall be ordained teaching elders. ~~Two~~ **Four** of their number shall be elected at each annual meeting. The Executive Director shall be a **seventh** non-voting member of the Board.

(b) The Board shall have authority to conduct all business arising in the Fellowship between annual meetings. It shall meet at least three times a year, in person or by electronic means. The Board may fix in advance the day of the month in which such meetings will be held, and, in the absence of a resolution fixing such dates, the meeting shall be held at the call of the chair.

**(c) Notice of all Board meetings shall be given to all members of the Board not less than one week (7 days) 30-days prior to the meeting.**

(d) **Four of the elected members of the board shall be designated as officers in the following roles:** ~~The officers of the Board shall consist of the following: Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer (voting). and The Executive Director (non-voting) is also a member of the board. These five officers shall constitute the Executive Committee of the Fellowship.~~

~~(e) The Executive Committee shall have authority to deal with all matters affecting the Board of the Fellowship arising between meetings of the full Board and which require action before the next meeting.~~

~~(f) The officers of the Board shall constitute the officers of the Fellowship. They shall be elected by the Board following each annual meeting. The officers of the Board shall constitute the officers of the Fellowship. With the exception of the Executive Director, they shall be elected to their officer positions within the Board by the Board following each annual meeting and as required to fill vacancies.~~

(g) Board members will normally be appointed for three years with a possibility of being renewed once for another three-year term. Normally a year's pause would take place before further service on the Board. Provision and management of those serving partial terms will be decided by the Board of Directors.

5. ~~Contributions~~ Purpose of gain.
  - (a) ~~Each individual member shall contribute in each calendar year for the expenses of this Fellowship a minimum sum of ten dollars.~~
  - (b) The organization shall be carried on without purpose of gain for its members and any profits or other accretions to the organization shall be used in promoting its objects.
6. Banking arrangements
  - (a) All monies received by or on behalf of the Fellowship shall be recorded and deposited in a Bank to be named by the Treasurer and approved by the ~~Executive Committee~~ Board.
  - (b) All cheques issued on behalf of the Fellowship shall require just one signature, and that signature to be that of one of the ~~Executive Committee~~ Board members (~~Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson, Secretary, Treasurer, Executive Director~~) or the Administrative Assistant. Any cheques being issued over \$1,000 will require the prior approval of the Executive board.
7. The Head Office shall be in the Province of Ontario.
8. Executive Director
  - (a) There shall be an Executive Director of The Fellowship. He or she shall be hired by the Board.
  - (b) The Executive Director shall have the responsibility of conducting the affairs of the Fellowship in accordance with the objects herein set forth, and shall act in cooperation with, and under the oversight of, the ~~Executive Committee~~ Board.
  - (c) The Executive Director shall receive a compensation salary pro-rated to at least equivalent to the minimum provided to the ministers in his/her denomination. ~~operative in the presbytery of residence for salary, house allowance, and (where applicable) study leave, in addition to pension provision and other requirements of the General Assembly as applicable for professional church workers; and subject to annual review.~~
  - (d) ~~The Executive Director shall be an ex officio member of the Board without vote.~~
9. The Duties of the Officers of the Fellowship
  - (a) The Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Fellowship and of the Board at which he or she may be present, and shall assist the Executive Director as may be required.
  - (b) The Vice-Chairperson shall preside at all meetings of the Fellowship and of the Board in the absence of the Chairperson, and shall assist the Chairperson and the Executive Director as may be required.
  - (c) The Treasurer shall receive all monies paid into the Fellowship, shall bank all monies received, and shall keep continuous record of all receipts and expenditures on behalf of the Fellowship. He or she shall present a financial

statement of the Fellowship at each annual meeting and at each meeting of the Board. He or she shall be responsible for the maintenance of a list of contributions made by the members and supporters.

(d) The Secretary shall be responsible for the recording of the minutes of the annual meetings of the Fellowship, and of all meetings of the Board ~~and of the Executive Committee~~. He or she shall be responsible for conducting necessary correspondence of the Board ~~and/or the Executive Committee~~. He or she shall be responsible for the maintenance of a current list of members and supporters and their addresses.

(e) The Executive Director shall perform the duties outlined in Article 8 (b).

(f) The Officers of the Fellowship shall make the necessary registration agreement with the Canada Revenue Agency to enable the issuance of receipts for contributions valid for Income Tax purposes.

#### 10. Meetings

**(a) The Fellowship shall meet once via online platform every year at a time and place to be named by the ~~Executive Committee~~ Board.**

**(b) Notice of all meetings of the Fellowship shall be provided to all members at least ~~ninety (90)~~ thirty (30) days prior to the date of the said meeting.**

**(c) Voting: Individual members whose membership fee has been received ~~who have joined~~ seven (7) days prior to the meeting shall be entitled to a single vote at each meeting of the Fellowship.**

(d) Nominating procedure: The ~~board~~ Executive shall ~~serve as its own~~ constitute a Nominating Committee to nominate candidates for the Board as provided in section 4(a). Further nominations for candidates for these categories may be made from the floor at any annual meeting.

(e) Meetings shall be conducted in accordance with Robert's Rules of Order.

#### 11. Financial Review: An independent annual financial review shall be arranged by the ~~board~~ Executive Committee.

#### 12. Amendments:

(a) Amendments to this Constitution may be made at any annual meeting of the Fellowship by a two-thirds majority vote of members present.

(b) Notice of any proposed amendment shall be in writing and shall be forwarded to all members of the Fellowship at least (30) days prior to any annual meeting at which the proposed amendment shall be considered.

#### 13. Vacancies: If the office of any officer or member of the Board becomes vacant by reason of death or resignation, the vacancy may be filled by the ~~board~~ Executive Committee until the next election.

# Our Vision, Mission and **Passion** Concerns

Our ~~Vision, Passion, and Hope~~ is to experience God's renewal of our lives, our congregations, our **church** courts, our theological schools and **everywhere** every place where Canadian **presbyterian and reformed believers connect**. ~~Presbyterians gather.~~

Our **Mission** is to **provide leadership in** ~~lead each other and The Presbyterian Church in Canada to~~ authentic Biblical thinking, powerful Spirit-led prayer and effective Gospel witness.

Our **Passion** is to **fervently pray for:**

~~We are fervently praying for:~~

- the Lord to renew his church for authentic witness and consistent obedience.
- fresh power and authority for the local congregation through the breath of God in our structures and organizations.
- responsible participation in the courts of the church.
- a deep hunger for the **authentic** teaching of the Bible and its authority.
- a recall to lives of Biblical purity, especially on the part of those entrusted with leadership of the people of God.
- **a rediscovery of the joy of adhering to lifestyles of Biblical orthodoxy in deliberate contrast to secular culture and values.**
- a zeal for reaching, ~~through the instrumentality of a national church with a rich heritage,~~ those lost without God and without hope in the world.
- **fellowship among believers to encourage a continuing evangelical reformed witness in Canada, including within The Presbyterian Church in Canada.**

~~Our Purpose~~

~~We have four specific objectives:~~

- ~~We will promote publications and other materials that clarify, especially for lay people, the concerns we share, providing biblical and theological comment, and encouraging practical and specific ideas. This originally included [Channels](#), a magazine that was published two or three times a year until 2006 when it became an e-publication with articles [archived](#) on this website.~~
- ~~We will encourage the development of programmes in the areas of prayer, intercession, small groups and evangelism. These programmes will be supportive, constructive, and positive.~~
- ~~We will organize conferences, seminars, and other activities which will facilitate the long-term process of strengthening the reformed and evangelical witness within our denomination.~~

- ~~We see the Renewal Fellowship as a means to contact and encourage those concerned about renewal within the Presbyterian Church in Canada. It gives us an opportunity to relate to each other and discuss the issues from time to time arising within our denomination, mutually encouraging and strengthening one another.~~