



ALBERTA and NWT DISTRICT
THE PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF CANADA

**NOTICE to all District Credential Holders regarding
Officiating a Marriage Ceremony
in the Province of Alberta
under the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada**

All Senior/Solo Pastors (holding any category of PAOC Ministry Credential) of District churches affiliated with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada **and** all Ordained PAOC Credential Holders in the ABNWT District receive certification (identified through a number) from Alberta Vital Statistics for legally officiating a marriage ceremony in the Province of Alberta. The certification number is used on the Government of Alberta Registration of Marriage form and is received through application to AB Vital Statistics by the ABNWT District on behalf of the pastor and/or minister.

The Registration of Marriage form is a legal document which requires the Officiant's certification to the following statement:

*"I certify that I have performed the marriage ceremony of the couple named above
at the place and on the date stated."*

The ABNWT District has been informed by Alberta Vital Statistics that any practice by one who holds an ABVS certification number to sign the Registration of Marriage form (whether they are present or not present to witness the ceremony), and allowing another person, who does not hold ABVS certification to officiate and perform the marriage ceremony, is considered fraud on a legal document and could result in the marriage not being officially registered and further could result in the revoking of the ABVS certification number.

The District leadership wanted to provide each District Credential Holder with this information to ensure accurate legal and integral practice for all involved in officiating a marriage ceremony.

It should also be noted that the Alberta certification is only valid in the Province of Alberta; it is NOT valid in other parts of the Canada. Requisition to the PAOC District in each province needs to be made a minimum of 8 weeks before the wedding to request a temporary certification in that province for the date of the wedding.

If you have any questions on the above, please do not hesitate to contact our office.