



THE PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF CANADA
Calvary Temple, Winnipeg, Manitoba

55th GENERAL CONFERENCE
May 17-18, 2022
MINUTES

FIRST BUSINESS SESSION
TUESDAY MAY 17, 2022

The Chair, Rev. D. Wells, welcomed participants to the 55th Biennial General Conference. The first business session was called to order at 1:05 PM.

The Chair noted that the conference is ruled by the *General Constitution and By-Laws* of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada and the parliamentary procedures will be ruled by *Robert's Rules of Order*. He introduced the parliamentarians, P. Doroshuk (c), D. Demchuk and C. Burton, present to advise.

Rev. R. Davis was invited to provide the voting instructions throughout the business session. The Chair declared the ballot open for the first procedural item: Establishment of Voting Bar. The ballots were cast. The ballot for the first procedural item was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

GC 22-01 **VOTING BAR:** It was MOVED and SECONDED that the voting bar be designated by those who have received the first ballot at their provided, unique email address. CARRIED

The Chair extended a welcome to all credential holders, lay delegates and guests joining in person and online. Appreciation was expressed to the former Executive Officers attending in person: Rev. K. Parks and Rev. L. Markham, and to those unable to attend in person: Rev. Wm. Morrow, Rev. R. Schmunk, Rev. S. Hunter, Rev. G. Upton and Rev. D. Ball.

A welcome was extended to Mrs. S. Hazzard in honor of her husband, Rev. D. Hazzard, who passed away in May 2021 after serving so diligently and effectively as our General Secretary Treasurer. Two former Officers who recently passed away, Rev. R. Taitinger, who served as General Superintendent with distinction, and Rev. Wm. Griffin, who served as General Secretary and also as the Officer for Church Ministries, were also recognized and honored.

Appreciation was expressed to the Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario District, including Rev. A. Porterfield, District Superintendent. Rev. V. Kratz, Assistant District Superintendent for Fellowship Services, was invited to bring greetings from the Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario District, and to open the conference in prayer.

The Chair welcomed our fraternal guests: Pastors G. and S. Barrett of !Audacious Church, Manchester, UK and National Leader of the Assemblies of God Great Britain, S. Visser of Alpha Canada, and T. Snow, F. Roberts and G. Andrews of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland and Labrador.

Rev. M. Cornelius welcomed our Mission Global Partners, Global Workers, and Mission Canada workers in attendance.

The Chair declared the ballot open for the next four procedural items: Approval of General Conference Minutes, Recognition of Conference Committees, Approval of Agenda, and Approval of Roster Report. The ballots were cast. The ballot for the four procedural items was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

GC 22-02 **MINUTES OF THE 2021 ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND THE 2022 SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE:** It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Minutes of the March 23, 2021 Annual General Meeting and the April 21, 2022 Special Meeting of the General Conference be approved as printed and distributed online. CARRIED

- GC 22-03 **CONFERENCE COMMITTEES:** It was MOVED and SECONDED that the conference committees be approved as presented to the conference. CARRIED
- GC 22-04 **AGENDA OF THE 55th GENERAL CONFERENCE:** It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Agenda be approved as presented to the conference. CARRIED
- GC 22-05 **ROSTER REPORT #1:** The Chair called for a reading of the roster report. The Chair of the Roster Committee, S. Thomson, read the Roster Report.

VOTING	
Ordained	493
Licensed Minister	21
Recognition of Ministry	28
Lay Delegates	37
Global Workers	35
Departmental Directors	7
TOTAL OF REGISTERED VOTERS	621

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Roster Report be accepted as read. CARRIED

- GC 22-06 **REPORT OF THE PRE-CONFERENCE NOMINATION BALLOT FOR THE GENERAL SECRETARY TREASURER:** The pre-conference nomination ballot resulted in 30% of the ballots received in favor of Rev. C. Burton, with the remainder receiving less than the required 5% or being ineligible, resulting in the necessity of a second nomination ballot as per By-Law 3.3 of *the General Constitution & By-Laws*.
- GC 22-07 **SECOND NOMINATION BALLOT FOR THE GENERAL SECRETARY TREASURER:** The Chair declared the ballot for the second nomination for the General Secretary Treasurer open. The ballots were cast. The ballot for the second nomination for the General Secretary Treasurer was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

D. Wells vacated the chair to present the General Superintendent's Report. R. Davis assumed the chair.

- GC 22-08 **REPORT OF THE GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT:** Highlights of the digital report were reviewed, noting the focus on the great command, the great requirement, and the great commission. Appreciation was expressed to Rev. and Mrs. L. Markham for their leadership in our prayer initiatives as we continue to call for spiritual vitality through communications and prayer networks. We heed the call to be rooted in the character and nature of God as we address the current issues in our culture and in the life of the church. Our districts have served with excellence in seeking to strengthen our credential holders, as has our Communications Team in telling the stories of good news of many of our churches and ministries who have had greater community engagement and service within their settings.

The Strategic Vision Committee continues to reach, disciple and develop the leadership of children, youth and young adults. Video highlights of the work of Mission Canada, Multiply Network, and the Racial Unity, Justice, Inclusion and Indigenous Reconciliation (RJII) Working Group were shared.

Words of appreciation were expressed to the Executive Officers, to S. Hazzard and family as we have mourned the passing of our fellow Officer D. Hazzard, to the General Executive, C. Stuckless and the International Office staff, and to his wife, S. Wells.

It was MOVED and SECONDED to receive the report of the General Superintendent. CARRIED

R. Davis vacated the chair. D. Wells resumed the chair.

GC 22-09

RESULTS OF THE SECOND NOMINATION BALLOT FOR THE GENERAL SECRETARY

TREASURER: The results of the second nomination ballot for the General Secretary Treasurer were shared.

Ballots Cast	350
Ballots Required to Elect	233
Rev. C. Burton	229 (65.4%)
Rev. P. Doroshuk	23 (6.5%)
Rev. D. Kingston	12 (3.4%)

As a result of the second nomination ballot, the business session was suspended to allow the General Executive to meet in special session. Following the meeting it was reported that P. Doroshuk and D. Kingston withdrew their names, resulting in the General Executive placing the name of C. Burton as nominee for the General Secretary Treasurer.

GC 22-10

FIRST ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE GENERAL SECRETARY TREASURER: The Chair declared the ballot for the election of the General Secretary Treasurer open. The ballots were cast. The ballot for the election of the General Secretary Treasurer was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

GC 22-11

RESULTS OF THE FIRST ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE GENERAL SECRETARY TREASURER:

The results of the first election ballot for the General Secretary Treasurer were shared.

Ballots Cast	454
Ballots Required to Elect	302
Votes Received	432 (95.2%)

C. Burton was elected as the General Secretary Treasurer. Rev. and Mrs. Burton were invited to the platform and expressed appreciation for this vote of confidence. D. Wells led the conference in prayer for Rev. & Mrs. Burton.

GC 22-12

REPORT OF THE GENERAL SECRETARY TREASURER: R. Davis presented a video report highlighting the various areas of ministry within Fellowship Services.

Fellowship tithes totaled \$1.65M in 2021, representing an increase from the pre-pandemic level of \$1.55M in 2019. Shared funding was \$12M; designated funding experienced a significant increase to \$8.2M. Appreciation was expressed to J. Hearn, who has served as the Director of Finance and Accounting for 18 years and is now looking ahead to retirement.

A total of 30 disciple-making communities have been started or welcomed since 2020, comprised of 15 self-governing new churches, 8 church plants, and 7 satellites or campuses. Credential holders total 3,707.

R. Davis reported on the PAOC Foundation, providing opportunity for individuals in our congregations to make donations to the Foundation which are then directed to missional work in alignment with our partners. He honored the late D. Hazzard and the late Wm. Griffin for their vision for this foundation.

It was MOVED and SECONDED to receive the report of the General Secretary Treasurer. CARRIED

GC 22-13 **REPORT OF THE NOMINATION BALLOT FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR MISSION GLOBAL:** The following pre-conference nomination ballots resulted in a ratification ballot for M. Cornelius for the position of Executive Director for Mission Global.

Ballots Cast	353
Ballots Required to Elect	235
Votes Received	267 (76.0%)

The Chair provided voting instructions. The ballots were cast. The ballot was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

GC 22-14 **RESULTS OF THE RATIFICATION BALLOT FOR THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR MISSION GLOBAL:** The results of the ratification ballot for the Executive Director for Mission Global were shared.

Ballots Cast	443
Ballots Required to Elect	295
Votes Received	422 (95.3%)

M. Cornelius was re-elected as the Executive Director for Mission Global and expressed appreciation to the conference. Rev. J. Feller led the conference in prayer for Rev. & Mrs. Cornelius.

GC 22-15 **FIRST ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE CREDENTIALLED MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The Chair presented the names as nominated by the respective district conferences.

Nominees:

Rev. D. Hamre	British Columbia & Yukon District
Rev. M. Coughlan	Alberta & Northwest Territories District
Rev. M. Wojda	Saskatchewan District
Rev. B. Martin	Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario District
Rev. K. Shepherd	Western Ontario District
K. Hsieh	Eastern Ontario & Nunavut District
Rev. G. Connors	Quebec District
Rev. J. Molloy	Maritime District

The Chair provided voting instructions. The ballots were cast. The ballot was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

GC 22-16 **RESULTS OF THE FIRST ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE CREDENTIALLED MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The results of the first election ballot for the Credentialed Members to the General Executive were shared.

Ballots Cast	459		
Ballots Necessary for Election	229		
Rev. K. Shepherd	254	(55.3%)	ELECTED
K. Hsieh	209	(45.3%)	
Rev. G. Connors	195	(42.5%)	
Rev. D. Hamre	172	(37.5%)	
Rev. J. Molloy	129	(28.1%)	
Rev. M. Wojda	127	(27.7%)	
Rev. B. Martin	123	(26.8%)	
Rev. M. Coughlan	85	(18.5%)	

Rev. K. Shepherd was declared elected.

GC 22-17 **SECOND ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE CREDENTIALLED MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The Chair presented the names eligible for election on the second ballot.

Nominees:

K. Hsieh	Eastern Ontario & Nunavut District
Rev. G. Connors	Quebec District
Rev. D. Hamre	British Columbia & Yukon District
Rev. J. Molloy	Maritime District
Rev. M. Wojda	Saskatchewan District
Rev. B. Martin	Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario District

The Chair provided voting instructions. The ballots were cast. The ballot was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

GC 22-18 **RESULTS OF THE SECOND ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE CREDENTIALLED MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The results of the second election ballot for the Credentialed Members to the General Executive were shared.

Ballots Cast	428
Ballots necessary for election	214

K. Hsieh	238	(55.6%) ELECTED
Rev. G. Connors	205	(47.9%)
Rev. D. Hamre	124	(29.0%)
Rev. J. Molloy	103	(24.1%)
Rev. M. Wojda	84	(19.6%)
Rev. B. Martin	69	(16.1%)

K. Hsieh was declared elected.

GC 22-19 **THIRD ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE CREDENTIALLED MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The Chair presented the names eligible for election on the third ballot.

Nominees:

Rev. G. Connors	Quebec District
Rev. D. Hamre	British Columbia & Yukon District
Rev. J. Molloy	Maritime District
Rev. M. Wojda	Saskatchewan District

The Chair provided voting instructions. The ballots were cast. The ballot was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

GC 22-20 **RESULTS OF THE THIRD ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE CREDENTIALLED MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The results of the third election ballot for the Credentialed Members to the General Executive were shared.

Ballots Cast	428
Ballots necessary for election	214

Rev. G. Connors	206	(48.1%)
Rev. D. Hamre	105	(24.5%)
Rev. J. Molloy	61	(14.2%)
Rev. M. Wojda	55	(12.8%)

No election was declared.

GC 22-21 **FOURTH ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE CREDENTIALLED MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The Chair presented the names eligible for election on the fourth ballot.

Nominees:

Rev. G. Connors	Quebec District
Rev. D. Hamre	British Columbia & Yukon District
Rev. J. Molloy	Maritime District

The Chair provided voting instructions. The ballots were cast. The ballot was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

GC 22-22 **RESULTS OF FOURTH ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE CREDENTIALLED MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The results of the fourth election ballot for the Credentialed Members to the General Executive were shared.

Ballots Cast	428	
Ballots necessary for election	214	
Rev. G. Connors	265	(64.0%) ELECTED
Rev. D. Hamre	94	(22.7%)
Rev. J. Molloy	55	(13.3%)

Rev. G. Connors was declared elected.

Rev. K. Shepherd and Rev. G. Connors expressed appreciation to the conference for the vote of confidence. K. Hsieh was not present to speak.

Rev. E. Brouwer was invited to begin presenting the Resolutions.

GC 22-23 **RESOLUTION #1** LCC Article 1 Legal Church Name
It was MOVED and SECONDED that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws is the governing and legal document utilized when assemblies apply for affiliation with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada (PAOC) and charitable status with the Canada Revenue Agency;

AND WHEREAS some churches may also have a different operating name;

AND WHEREAS the church affiliation certificate issued from PAOC is in the legal name of the church;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT ARTICLE 1 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

ARTICLE 1 - NAME: The legal name of tThis local church shall be **known as** _____.
CARRIED

GC 22-24 **RESOLUTION #2** LCC Article 6 Church Membership List
It was MOVED and SECONDED that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS Article 6 MEMBERSHIP of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws addresses the membership of a local church;

AND WHEREAS the keeping of an official local church membership list is understood but not clearly stated;

AND WHEREAS it is best to leave the inclusion of Junior Membership as a policy decision of a local church;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT ARTICLE 6 MEMBERSHIP of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

ARTICLE 6 MEMBERSHIP

6.1 Persons 18 years of age and over desiring to become members of this local church shall give credible profession of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ as Saviour. They shall give evidence of compliance with the biblical standard of Christian practice and manifest spiritual growth by giving evidence of the fruit of the Spirit: "love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control" (Galatians 5:22,23 NIV).

~~6.2~~ Membership shall consist of the following:

~~6.2.1 Regular Members.~~ Persons 18 years of age and over who fulfil the requirements of Article 6.1 shall be known as regular members.

~~6.2.2 Junior Members.~~ Persons between the ages of 12 and 18 who fulfil the requirements of Article 6.1 may be eligible for junior membership. Such membership does not qualify for voting privileges at congregational business meetings.

6.2 Establishment and maintenance of an official membership list shall be determined by the [leadership] in accordance with the requirements outlined in Article 6.1.

CARRIED

GC 22-25

RESOLUTION #3 Congregational Meeting Minutes

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS clarification is required in the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws regarding minutes in a congregational business meeting;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 7.3 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

7.3 **[LEADERSHIP]:** The [leadership] shall consist of the pastor and not fewer than three (3) [leaders] (if more, the exact number and the resolution authorizing the same must be duly recorded in the church minutes of a congregational business meeting).

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 3.1.2 (Option One – Elected) of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

3.1.2 The nominating committee, after its appointment, shall invite submissions from members of the congregation, until 14 days prior to the annual congregational business meeting, or a longer period as approved by resolution of the membership and recorded in minutes of a the congregational business meeting

CARRIED

GC 22-26

RESOLUTION #4 By-Law 9.3.2.2 and 9.3.3.3 Conducting Business Meetings

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS it is important to clearly state in the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws the method of conducting a business meeting;

AND WHEREAS changes resulting from the COVID-19 global health pandemic have created the necessity for meeting over virtual or electronic means as an alternate to in-person meetings;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT ARTICLE 8 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended by addition as follows:

ARTICLE 8 BUSINESS MEETINGS

8.1 METHOD OF CONDUCTING BUSINESS MEETINGS:

8.1.1 A member present in a business meeting shall be understood to mean:

8.1.1.1 In person; or

8.1.1.2 Electronically, that permits participation by registered voting members, subject to any rules regarding participation in an electronic meeting that the [leadership] may declare; or

8.1.1.3 A combination of in-person and electronic means that satisfies the requirements prescribed in By-Law 8.5.2.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the appropriate sections be renumbered accordingly.
CARRIED

GC 22-27 **MOTION TO EXTEND BUSINESS SESSION:** It was MOVED and SECONDED to extend the Business Session to 5:00 PM. CARRIED

GC 22-28 **RESOLUTION #5** By-Law 10.2 Qualifications for Provisional Initial Credentials
It was MOVED and SECONDED that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS God places a call to ministry upon individuals who also desire to hold ministerial credentials with the PAOC to confirm, validate and support 1) the call, 2) their agreement with the doctrine of the PAOC, and 3) the appointment to a ministry position while having ministry relationship, accountability and covering;

AND WHEREAS initial credential applications are welcomed and encouraged from all individuals desiring ministerial credentials who are in agreement with the doctrine of the PAOC;

AND WHEREAS there are some initial credential applicants who believe and agree with the specific doctrine of Spirit baptism with the sign of speaking in other tongues but have not personally received and experienced Spirit baptism while they are actively seeking to be filled;

AND WHEREAS consideration for such an applicant could be given by approving an initial credential applicant for a ministerial credential, with restrictions, while having ministry relationship, accountability and covering under the PAOC;

AND WHEREAS the granting of a Provisional Ministry Related credential would be limited in that it does not provide a vote at a district or General Conference and would not permit the holder of this credential to be eligible for the position of Senior Pastor at a PAOC church without subsequently receiving Spirit baptism;

AND WHEREAS a Provisional Ministry Related credential would be an exception, to be reviewed by the district annually, specific to the requirement for the personal experience of Spirit baptism with the sign of speaking in other tongues as outlined in By-Law 10.2;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.2 (paragraph 2) of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

10.2 QUALIFICATIONS TO RECEIVE AND RETAIN CREDENTIALS

...

All applicants for credentials shall have a personal experience of salvation and shall have received the **Spirit** baptism in the Holy Spirit with the ~~initial evidence~~ **sign** of speaking in other tongues, and shall personally subscribe to *The Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths* of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. **Consideration may be made for an applicant to be granted a Provisional Ministry Related credential, who is actively seeking, but has not yet received Spirit baptism with the sign of speaking in other tongues.**

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT a new Exemption category be created as follows under 10.2.11 MINISTRY RELATED CREDENTIAL:

10.2.11.3 EXEMPTIONS

10.2.11.3.1 This credential may be granted to a person who is under the ministry and authority of a district approved mentor and who is actively seeking to receive Spirit baptism with the sign of speaking in other tongues. This credential does not permit the holder to be eligible for the position of Senior Pastor until Spirit baptism has been received. The district executive can request an exemption to grant this Provisional Ministry Related credential, which will be reviewed annually by the District Executive.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the appropriate sections be renumbered accordingly.

There was discussion from the floor, which resulted in a Motion to amend Resolution #5.

It was MOVED and SECONDED to amend the Resolution to strike "**This credential does not permit the holder to be eligible for the position of Senior Pastor until Spirit baptism has been received.**"

The Parliamentarians raised a Point of Order, noting that the amendment changes the intent of the original Resolution and is out of order. The Chair upheld the Point of Order. The ruling was not contested.

Discussion reverted to the original Resolution #5.

CARRIED

GC 22-29

MOTION TO RECESS THE BUSINESS SESSION: It was MOVED and SECONDED to recess the Business Session at 4:55 PM.

CARRIED

**SECOND BUSINESS SESSION
WEDNESDAY MAY 18, 2022**

Business Session 2 was called to order on Wednesday, May 18 at 1:35 PM

GC 22-30 **FIRST ELECTION BALLOT FOR LAY MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The Chair presented the names as nominated by the respective district conferences.

Nominees:

C. Hornby Allen	British Columbia & Yukon District
T. deWaal	Alberta & Northwest Territories District
A. Celiz	Saskatchewan District
S. Bambridge	Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario District
A. McCabe	Western Ontario District
S. Shew	Eastern Ontario & Nunavut District
M. Doucet	Quebec District
J. Light	Maritime District

The Chair provided voting instructions. The ballots were cast. The ballot was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

GC 22-31 **REPORT OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR FOR MISSION GLOBAL:** M. Cornelius shared highlights of the work of Mission Global, including an update on the collaborative effort with ERDO during this season of war in Ukraine, which resulted in \$1.7M being raised to assist with the needs represented. Good news stories from a number of our global workers were shared in a video presentation. M. Cornelius expressed appreciation to all of our global workers. Moises de Prada, General Superintendent of the Assemblies of God of Cuba was welcomed and invited to bring greetings.

V. Ninaber reported on the reimagining process that resulted in the change of name from International Missions to Mission Global and explained the reasoning and purpose behind the new brand.

It was MOVED and SECONDED to receive the report of the Executive Director for Mission Global.

CARRIED

The conference expressed appreciation to M. Cornelius for his excellent leadership.

GC 22-32 **RESULTS OF THE FIRST ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE LAY MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The results of the first election ballot for the Lay Members to the General Executive were shared.

Ballots Cast	361		
Ballots necessary for election	180		
C. Hornby Allen	210	(58.2%)	ELECTED
S. Shew	182	(50.4%)	ELECTED
S. Bambridge	106	(29.4%)	
M. Doucet	106	(29.4%)	
A. McCabe	101	(27.9%)	
T. de Waal	99	(27.4%)	
J. Light	97	(26.9%)	
A. Celiz	88	(24.4%)	

C. Hornby Allen and S. Shew were declared elected.

GC 22-33 **SECOND ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE LAY MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The Chair presented the names eligible for election on the second ballot.

Nominees:

S. Bambridge	Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario District
M. Doucet	Quebec District
A. McCabe	Western Ontario District
T. deWaal	Alberta & Northwest Territories District
J. Light	Maritime District

The Chair provided voting instructions. The ballots were cast. The ballot was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

GC 22-34 **RESULTS OF THE SECOND ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE LAY MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The results of the second election ballot for the Lay Members to the General Executive were shared.

Ballots Cast	384	
Ballots necessary for election	192	
S. Bambridge	101	(26.3%)
A. McCabe	86	(22.4%)
M. Doucet	71	(18.5%)
T. deWaal	64	(16.7%)
J. Light	60	(15.6%)

No election was declared.

GC 22-35 **THIRD ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE LAY MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The Chair presented the names eligible for election on the third ballot.

Nominees:

S. Bambridge	Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario District
A. McCabe	Western Ontario District
M. Doucet	Quebec District
T. deWaal	Alberta & Northwest Territories District

The Chair provided voting instructions. The ballots were cast. The ballot was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

GC 22-36 **RESULTS OF THE THIRD ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE LAY MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The results of the third election ballot for the Lay Members to the General Executive were shared.

Ballots Cast	353	
Ballots necessary for election	192	
S. Bambridge	180	(46.8%)
A. McCabe	81	(21.0%)
M. Doucet	66	(17.1%)
T. de Waal	55	(14.3%)

No election was declared.

GC 22-37 **FOURTH ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE LAY MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The Chair presented the names eligible for election on the fourth ballot.

Nominees:

S. Bambridge	Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario District
A. McCabe	Western Ontario District
M. Doucet	Quebec District

The Chair provided voting instructions. The ballots were cast. The ballot was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

GC 22-38 **RESULTS OF THE FOURTH ELECTION BALLOT FOR THE LAY MEMBERS TO THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE:** The results of the fourth election ballot for the Lay Members to the General Executive were shared.

Ballots Cast	426	
Ballots necessary for election	213	
S. Bambridge	289	(67.9%) ELECTED
A. McCabe	72	(17.0%)
M. Doucet	61	(14.3%)

S. Bambridge was declared elected.

Rev. Dr. V. Johnson was invited to the platform to provide the background and purpose of the refresh of the Statement of Essential Truths as stated in Resolution #10.

GC 22-39 **RESOLUTION #10** ARTICLE 5.1 – 5.8 Review and Refresh of the Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths

WHEREAS the General Executive requested the Theological Study Commission to review and refresh the Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths in keeping with the historic practice of periodically refreshing the statement;

AND WHEREAS the Theological Study Commission conducted a seven-year project that included research into both our early tradition and current Pentecostal scholarship, a General Conference presentation of drafts of the Spirit Baptism and Eschatology sections, and a consultation process that included every district and live-streamed Town Halls on every section of the proposed Statement of Essential Truths;

AND WHEREAS each district consultation contributed to changes that appear in the proposed Statement of Essential Truths;

AND WHEREAS a large majority of those polled at district events in 2019 expressed general satisfaction with the draft proposals of the Statement of Essential Truths;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 5.1 – Article 5.8 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be replaced in its entirety with the following amended wording:

ARTICLE 5 STATEMENT OF ESSENTIAL TRUTHS

PREAMBLE

This version of the Statement of Essential Truths represents the result of an extensive collaborative process to rephrase and refresh what is most essential to us. As before, we make no claim that this statement covers all biblical truth, nor that the human phraseology employed here is inspired. We recognize as we did at the outset of our movement that there is some diversity of theological thought among us, but we remain committed as a Pentecostal

community to the historic creeds of the church, to evangelical convictions of faith, and to the Full Gospel that Christ is Saviour, Healer, Spirit-Baptizer, and Soon Coming King.

TRIUNE GOD

There is one God, the creator, who exists eternally in unity as three equal persons: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.¹ The triune God is loving, holy, infinite, just, and worthy of all worship.²

The Father accomplishes his plan of salvation through both redemption and judgement.³ All things will be subject to him, and his kingdom will have no end.⁴

The Father sent the Son, the Lord Jesus Christ, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of Mary when she was a virgin.⁵ Jesus became fully human while remaining fully God.⁶ Anointed by the Spirit, Jesus revealed the Father and the kingdom of God by his sinless life, teaching, and miracles.⁷ After he died for our sin, God raised him from the dead, and he is now at the right hand of the Father.⁸

The Holy Spirit proceeds from the Father through the Son and gives life throughout creation.⁹ The Spirit draws people to repentance and new life in Jesus Christ.¹⁰ Through the Spirit's indwelling, the Father and the Son are present to all believers, making them children of God.¹¹

BIBLE

The Bible, both Old and New Testaments, is the written revelation of God's character and saving purposes for humanity and for all creation.¹² As God's revelation, the entire Bible is true and trustworthy, and is the final and absolute authority for belief and conduct.¹³ The Holy Spirit who inspired the Bible enables its interpretation and application.¹⁴

CREATION

God created and sustains the heavens and the earth,¹⁵ which display God's glory. Formed in the image of God, both male and female, humankind is entrusted with the care of God's creation as faithful stewards.¹⁶ As a result of human rebellion, sin and death entered the world, distorting the image of God and all of God's good creation.¹⁷

Angels were created as supernatural beings to worship and serve God.¹⁸ Along with Satan, some angels chose to rebel and oppose the purposes of God.¹⁹ Christ gives believers victory over Satan and these demons.²⁰

SALVATION

Salvation is available to all people by the loving, redemptive act of the triune God.²¹ Through obedience to the Father,²² Christ gave himself as a ransom²³. Christ, who had no sin, became

1 Matt 28:19; 2Cor 13:14

2 Exod 34:6-7; Psa 99:4-5

3 Exod 6:6; Rom 1:16-18

4 Psa 103:19; Rev 11:15; Eph 1:10

5 Matt 1:18-25

6 John 1:1, 14; Col 1:19; Heb 2:17

7 John 1:32; 14:7-10; Luke 4:18-19

8 Acts 2:32-33; Rom 8:34

9 Psa 104:21-30; Acts 2:33

10 John 16:7-15

11 Rom 8:14-17; 1John 3:24

12 Psa 119; John 20:30-31; Rom 15:4

13 2Tim 3:16-17; Heb 4:12

14 2Pet 1:20-21; John 16:13; 1Cor 2:12-13

15 Gen 1:1; Col 1:15-17

16 Gen 1:26-27

17 Rom 5:12; 8:20-22

18 Heb 1:14; Psa 103:20

19 Rev 12:7-9

20 Acts 10:38; Eph 6:10-13

sin for us offering himself and shedding his blood on the cross so that in him we might become right with God.²⁴ The life, death, resurrection, and ascension of Christ²⁵ provide the way of salvation for those who, by God's grace, repent from their sin and confess faith in Jesus Christ as Lord.²⁶

Salvation means to receive the Spirit, to be forgiven, reconciled with God and others, born again, and liberated from sin and darkness, transferring the believer into God's kingdom.²⁷ Our experience of liberation includes healing — whether spiritual, physical, emotional, or mental — as a foretaste of our future, complete restoration.²⁸ Those who remain in Christ and do not turn away are assured of salvation on judgement day by the indwelling Holy Spirit,²⁹ who sanctifies and empowers believers for Christ-like living and service.³⁰

SPIRIT BAPTISM

On the Day of Pentecost, Jesus poured out the promised Holy Spirit on the church.³¹ As his return draws near, Jesus continues to baptize in the Holy Spirit those who are believers.³² This empowers them to continue his work of proclaiming with speech and action the good news of the arrival and coming of the kingdom of God.³³ This experience is available for everyone, male and female, of every age, status,³⁴ and ethnicity.³⁵

The sign of speaking in tongues indicates that believers have been baptized with the Holy Spirit³⁶ and signifies the nature of Spirit baptism as empowering our communication, to be his witnesses with speech and action as we continue to pray in the Spirit.³⁷

THE CHURCH

Jesus Christ is the head of the church.³⁸ All who are united with Christ are joined by the Spirit to his body.³⁹ Each local church is an expression of the universal church whose role is to participate in the mission of God to restore all things.⁴⁰

Central to the church is the shared experience of the transforming presence of God.⁴¹ The church responds with worship, prayer, proclamation, discipleship, and fellowship,⁴² including the practices of water baptism and the Lord's Supper. Baptism by immersion symbolizes the believer's identification with Christ in his death and resurrection.⁴³ The Lord's Supper symbolizes Christ's body and blood, and our communion as believers. Shared together, it proclaims his death in anticipation of his return.⁴⁴

21 John 3:16; Gal 4:4-7; Titus 2:11-14

22 John 8:28-29; Phil 2:8; Heb 5:8

23 Mark 10:45; 1Tim 2:6

24 2Cor 5:21; 1John 3:16

25 Rom 4:22-25; 5:19; 6:4-5; Heb 7:24-28

26 Rom 10:9; 1John 1:9; Acts 3:19; 4:12

27 Eph 2:13-16; Col 1:13-14, 19-20; 1Pet 1:3

28 Isa 53:4-5; 1Pet 2:24; Psa 147:3; Rom 8:23

29 Eph 1:13-14; 1John 4:13; Heb 6:5-6; Phil 3:12-14

30 1Thess 4:3-4; 1Cor 6:11; Rom 12:1-2; 1Pet 1:2

31 Luke 24:49; Acts 2:33

32 Acts 2:38-39; 8:14-17; 19:1-6

33 Luke 4:18-19, 43; Acts 1:8

34 Joel 2:28-29; Acts 2:17-18, 39

35 Acts 10:45-46

36 Acts 2:4; 10:46; 19:6

37 Acts 1:8; 2:11-43; 4:31; Rom 15:19; 1Cor 14:15

38 Col 1:18; Matt 16:18

39 1Cor 12:12-14

40 Acts 1:8; Matt 28:18-20; Acts 13:1-3; Rev 21:5

41 Acts 2:42-43; 1Cor 12:7; Matt 18:20; 2Cor 3:17-18

42 1Pet 2:9-10; Col 4:2-6; Acts 2:42

43 Rom 6:3-8; Matt 28:19

44 Matt 26:26-29; 1Cor 11:23-26

The Spirit gives all gifts to the church to minister to others in love for the purpose of bearing witness to Christ and for the building up of the church.⁴⁵ The Spirit also empowers leaders, both female and male, to equip the church to fulfil its mission and purposes.⁴⁶

RESTORATION

Our great hope is for the imminent return of Christ in the air to receive his own, both the living who will be transformed, and the dead in Christ who will be resurrected bodily.⁴⁷ Christ will complete at his second coming the restoration begun when he initiated God's kingdom at his first coming.⁴⁸ Christ will liberate creation from the curse, fulfil God's covenant to Israel, and defeat all powers that oppose God.⁴⁹ Every knee will bow and every tongue will confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.⁵⁰

Ultimately, God will judge the living and the dead.⁵¹ Such judgement is God's gracious answer to humanity's cry for justice to prevail throughout the earth and is consistent with God's character as loving, holy, and just.⁵² The unredeemed will go away into eternal punishment, but the redeemed into eternal life.⁵³ The redeemed will enjoy the presence of God where there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain.⁵⁴ Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!⁵⁵

45 Acts 8:5-7; 1Cor 12:4-11; 14:12; Heb 2:3-4

46 Eph 4:11-16; Matt 20:25-28; Acts 2:17-18; 6:2-4; Rom 16:7

47 1Thess 4:14-17; 5:1-2

48 Matt 13:24-41; Rev 11:15-17; Acts 1:6-7; 3:20-21; Rom 11:25-27

49 Rom 8:19-21; 1Cor 15:20-26

50 Phil 2:10-11; Isa 45:23

51 Acts 10:42; 1Pet 4:5

52 Mal 2:17-3:1; Rev 6:9-11

53 Matt 25:46; Dan 12:1-2

54 Isa 25:8-12; Rev 21:3-4

55 Rev 22:20

ARTICLE 5 — STATEMENT OF FUNDAMENTAL AND ESSENTIAL TRUTHS

PREAMBLE

The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada stands firmly in the mainstream of historical Christianity. It takes the Bible as its all-sufficient source of faith and practice, and subscribes to the historic creeds of the universal church. In common with historical, evangelical Christianity, it emphasizes Christ as Saviour and coming King. It also presents Christ as Healer, and it adopts the distinctive position that speaking in tongues is the initial evidence when Christ baptizes in the Holy Spirit. (See Article 5.6.3)

5.1 — HOLY SCRIPTURES

All Scripture is given by inspiration of God⁵⁶ by which we understand the whole Bible to be inspired in the sense that holy men of God were moved by the Holy Spirit to write the very words of Scripture.⁵⁷ Divine inspiration extends equally and fully to all parts of the original writings. The whole Bible in the original is, therefore, without error and, as such, is infallible, absolutely supreme and sufficient in authority in all matters of faith and practice.⁵⁸

The Bible does not simply contain the Word of God, but is, in reality, the complete revelation and very Word of God inspired by the Holy Spirit. Christian believers today receive spiritual illumination to enable them to understand the Scriptures,⁵⁹ but God does not grant new revelations that are contrary or additional to inspired biblical truth.⁶⁰

5.2 — THE GODHEAD

The Godhead exists eternally in three persons: the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit. These three are one God, having the same nature and attributes and are worthy of the same homage, confidence, and obedience.⁶¹

5.2.1 — THE FATHER

The Father exists eternally as the Creator of heaven and earth, the Giver of the Law, to whom all things will be subjected, so that He may be all in all.⁶²

5.2.2 — THE SON

The Lord Jesus Christ, the eternal and only begotten Son of the Father, is true God and true man.⁶³ He was conceived of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,⁶⁴ and by His sinless life, miracles and teaching, gave full revelation of the Father.⁶⁵

He died upon the cross, the Just for the unjust, as a substitution sacrifice.⁶⁶ He rose from the dead.⁶⁷ He is now at the right hand of the Majesty on high as our great High Priest.⁶⁸ He will come again to establish His kingdom in righteousness and peace.⁶⁹

5.2.3 — THE HOLY SPIRIT

The Holy Spirit is also God, performing actions and possessing the attributes of the Deity.⁷⁰ His personality is shown by the fact that He has personal characteristics and that individuals may relate to Him as a person.⁷¹

⁵⁶ 2 Tim. 3: 16, 17

⁵⁷ 2 Pet. 1: 20, 21

⁵⁸ Psa. 119:160; Matt. 5:17,18

⁵⁹ 1 Cor. 2:12-14

⁶⁰ Prov. 30:5,6

⁶¹ Matt. 3:16,17; 28:19; 2 Cor. 13:14

⁶² Gen. 1:1; 1 Cor. 15:28

⁶³ John 1:1,14; 10:30,17; Phil. 2:6,7; Heb. 1:8

⁶⁴ Luke 1:26-35

⁶⁵ John 12:49; Acts 2:22; 2 Cor. 5:21; Heb. 7:26

⁶⁶ Rom. 5:6,8; 1 Cor. 15:3; 1 Pet. 3:18

⁶⁷ Matt. 28:6; 1 Cor. 15:4,20

⁶⁸ Acts 1:9-11; 2:33; Heb. 8:1

⁶⁹ Matt. 25:31

⁷⁰ Acts 5:3,4

⁷¹ John 16:13-14

5.3 ANGELS

5.3.1 CLASSIFICATION

Angels were created as intelligent and powerful beings to do the will of God and worship Him.⁷² However, Satan, the originator of sin, fell through pride and was followed by those angels who rebelled against God. These fallen angels or demons are active in opposing the purposes of God.⁷³

Those who remained faithful continue before the throne of God and serve as ministering spirits.⁷⁴

5.3.2 THE BELIEVER AND DEMONS

Demons attempt to thwart God's purposes; however, in Christ, the believer may have complete liberty from the influence of demons.⁷⁵ The believer cannot be possessed by them because the believer's body is the temple of the Holy Spirit in which Christ dwells as Lord.⁷⁶

5.4 HUMANITY

Humans were originally created in the image and likeness of God.⁷⁷ They fell through sin and, as a consequence, incurred both spiritual and physical death.⁷⁸ Spiritual death and the depravity of human nature have been transmitted to the entire human race⁷⁹ with the exception of the Man Christ Jesus.⁸⁰ Humans can be saved only through the atoning work of the Lord Jesus Christ.⁸¹

5.5 SALVATION

5.5.1 ATONEMENT OF CHRIST

Salvation has been provided for all people through the sacrifice of Christ upon the cross.⁸² It is the only perfect redemption and substitution atonement for all the sins of the world, both original and actual. His atoning work has been proven by His resurrection from the dead.⁸³ Those who repent and believe in Christ are born again of the Holy Spirit and receive eternal life.⁸⁴ Furthermore, in the atonement, divine healing was provided for all believers.⁸⁵

5.5.2 REPENTANCE AND FAITH

A person can be born again only through faith in Christ. Repentance, a vital part of believing, is a complete change of mind wrought by the Holy Spirit,⁸⁶ turning a person to God from sin.

5.5.3 REGENERATION

Regeneration is a creative work of the Holy Spirit by which a person is born again and receives spiritual life.⁸⁷

5.5.4 JUSTIFICATION

⁷² Psa. 103:20; Rev. 5:11,12

⁷³ Isa. 14:12-17, Eze. 28:11-19; Eph. 6:11-12; 1 Tim. 4:1; Jude 6

⁷⁴ Heb. 1:14

⁷⁵ Heb. 2:14; 1 John 3:8; 4:1-4

⁷⁶ Matt. 6:24; 1 Cor. 6:19,20

⁷⁷ Gen. 1:26, 27; 2:7

⁷⁸ Rom. 5:12; James 1:14,15

⁷⁹ Jer. 17:9; Rom. 3:10-19, 23

⁸⁰ Heb. 7:26

⁸¹ John 14:6; Acts 4:12; 1 Tim. 2:5,6

⁸² Isa. 53:3-6; John 12:32,33; 1 Pet. 2:24

⁸³ Acts 2:36; Rom. 4:25; 1 Cor. 15:14,17,20; Heb. 10:12; 1 John 2:2

⁸⁴ Acts 20:21; 1 Pet. 1:23,25

⁸⁵ Isa. 53:4,5; Matt. 8:16b,17

⁸⁶ Isa. 55:7; Acts 17:30; Gal. 3:22,26; Eph. 2:8; 1 John 5:10-13

⁸⁷ John 3:3b,5b,7; 2 Cor. 5:17,18a; 1 Pet. 1:23

~~Justification is a judicial act of God by which the sinner is declared righteous solely on the basis of their acceptance of Christ as Saviour.⁸⁸~~

5.6 — THE CHRISTIAN EXPERIENCE

5.6.1 — ASSURANCE

~~Assurance of salvation is the privilege of all who are born again by the Spirit through faith in Christ,⁸⁹ resulting in love, gratitude and obedience toward God.~~

5.6.2 — SANCTIFICATION

~~Sanctification is dedication to God and separation from evil.⁹⁰ In experience it is both instantaneous⁹¹ and progressive.⁹² It is produced in the life of the believer by the appropriation of the power of Christ's blood and risen life through the person of the Holy Spirit;⁹³ He draws the believer's attention to Christ, teaches them through the Word and produces the character of Christ within them.⁹⁴ Believers who sin must repent and seek forgiveness through faith in the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ.⁹⁵~~

5.6.3 — BAPTISM IN THE HOLY SPIRIT

~~The baptism in the Holy Spirit is an experience in which believers yield control of themselves to the Holy Spirit.⁹⁶ Through this the believer comes to know Christ in a more intimate way⁹⁷ and receives power to witness and grow spiritually.⁹⁸ Believers should earnestly seek the baptism in the Holy Spirit according to the command of our Lord Jesus Christ.⁹⁹ The initial evidence of the baptism in the Holy Spirit is speaking in other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance.¹⁰⁰ This experience is distinct from and subsequent to the experience of the new birth.¹⁰¹~~

5.6.4 — THE GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

~~The gifts of the Spirit are supernatural abilities given by God through the exercising of which believers are enabled to minister effectively and directly in particular situations.¹⁰² They serve the dual function of building up the church and of demonstrating the presence of God within His church.¹⁰³~~

5.6.5 — DIVINE HEALING

~~Divine healing provided in the atonement of Christ¹⁰⁴ is the privilege of all believers. Prayer for the sick and gifts of healing are encouraged and practised.¹⁰⁵~~

5.7 — THE CHURCH

5.7.1 — THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH

~~All who are born again are members of the universal church, which is the Body and Bride of Christ.¹⁰⁶~~

⁸⁸ Rom. 3:24; 4:3-5; 5:1-2

⁸⁹ John 10:27-29; Rom. 8:35-39

⁹⁰ 2 Cor. 6:14; 7:1

⁹¹ John 17:17,19; Heb. 10:10,14

⁹² 1 Thes. 5:23; 2 Tim. 2:19-22; 1 Pet. 1:14-16

⁹³ Rom. 6:11,13,14,18

⁹⁴ 1 Cor. 13; Gal. 5:22, 23; 2 Pet. 1:3-4

⁹⁵ 1 John 1:9; 2:1-2

⁹⁶ Matt. 3:11; Acts 1:5; Eph. 5:18

⁹⁷ John 16:13-15

⁹⁸ Acts 1:8; 2 Cor. 3:18

⁹⁹ Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4, 8

¹⁰⁰ Acts 2:4; 10:46; 19:6

¹⁰¹ Acts 8:12-17; 10:44-46

¹⁰² 1 Cor. 12:4-11

¹⁰³ 1 Cor. 12:7; 14:12, 24-25

¹⁰⁴ Matt. 8:16,17

¹⁰⁵ 1 Cor. 12:28-30; James 5:14

¹⁰⁶ 1 Cor. 12:13; Eph. 5:25b; Col. 1:18; 1 Tim. 3:15

5.7.2 THE LOCAL CHURCH

5.7.2.1 PURPOSE

The local church is a body of believers in Christ who have joined together to function as a part of the universal church.⁴⁰⁷ The local church is ordained by God and provides a context in which believers corporately worship God⁴⁰⁸, observe the ordinances of the church, are instructed in the faith and are equipped for the evangelization of the world.⁴⁰⁹

5.7.2.2 ORDINANCES

5.7.2.2.1 THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Lord's Supper is a symbol, memorial and proclamation of the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ. This ordinance of communion is to be participated in by believers until Christ's return.⁴¹⁰

5.7.2.2.2 WATER BAPTISM

Water baptism signifies the believer's identification with Christ in His death, burial and resurrection and is practised by immersion.⁴¹¹

5.7.2.3 MINISTRY

A divinely called and ordained ministry is the provision of the Lord to give leadership to the church as it fulfils its purposes.⁴¹²

5.8 THE END OF TIME

5.8.1 THE PRESENT STATE OF THE DEAD

At death the souls of believers pass immediately into the presence of Christ,⁴¹³ and these remain in constant bliss until the resurrection of the glorified body.⁴¹⁴ The souls of unbelievers remain after death conscious of condemnation⁴¹⁵ until the final bodily resurrection and judgment of the unjust.⁴¹⁶

5.8.2 THE RAPTURE

The rapture, the blessed hope of the church, is the imminent coming of the Lord in the air to receive to Himself His own, both the living who shall be transformed, and the dead in Christ who shall be resurrected.⁴¹⁷ This event takes place before the wrath of God is poured out during the tribulation. Believers then will appear before the judgment seat of Christ to be judged according to faithfulness in Christian service.⁴¹⁸

5.8.3 THE TRIBULATION

The tribulation will be a time of judgment on the whole earth.⁴¹⁹ During this period the Antichrist will emerge to offer false hope to the nations.⁴²⁰

5.8.4 THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST

⁴⁰⁷ Acts 14:23; 1 Cor. 16:19

⁴⁰⁸ John 4:23; Acts 20:7

⁴⁰⁹ Acts 1:8; 11:19-24; 2 Tim. 2:2; 1 Pet. 5:2

⁴¹⁰ Matt. 26:26-28; 1 Cor. 10:16-17; 11:23-26

⁴¹¹ Matt. 28:19; Mark 16:15-16; Acts 2:38, 41; 8:36-39; Rom. 6:3-5

⁴¹² Acts 6:2b-4c; 13:2-4a; 14:23; Eph. 4:8, 11-13

⁴¹³ 2 Cor. 5:8; Phil. 1:21, 23-24

⁴¹⁴ Rom 8:22-23; 1 Cor. 15:42-44; 2 Cor. 5:1, 4b

⁴¹⁵ Luke 16:22-31; John 3:36

⁴¹⁶ Dan. 12:2; John 5:28-29; 2 Thess. 1:7-10; Rev 20:11-15

⁴¹⁷ 1 Cor. 15:51-57; Phil. 3:20-21; 1 Thess. 4:13-18; Titus 2:13

⁴¹⁸ Rom. 14:10-12; 1 Cor 3:11-15; 2 Cor. 5:9-10

⁴¹⁹ Matt. 24:15, 21-22; 1 Thess. 5:1-3

⁴²⁰ 2 Thess. 2:3-12; Rev. 13:11-18

~~The return of Christ to earth in power and great glory will conclude the great tribulation with the victory at Armageddon,¹²¹ the defeat of Antichrist and the binding of Satan.¹²² Christ will introduce the millennial age,¹²³ restore Israel to her own land, lift the curse which now rests upon the whole creation, and bring the whole world to the knowledge of God.¹²⁴~~

~~5.8.5 THE FINAL JUDGMENT~~

~~There will be a final judgment in which the unbelieving dead will be raised and judged at the great white throne, according to their works.¹²⁵~~

~~The beast and false prophet, the devil and his angels, and whoever is not found in the Book of Life, shall be cast into the lake of fire, not to annihilation but to everlasting punishment, which is the second death.¹²⁶~~

~~5.8.6 THE ETERNAL STATE OF THE RIGHTEOUS~~

~~The righteous will share the glory of God in the new heaven and the new earth for eternity.¹²⁷~~

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT references to the "Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths" in the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended, where appropriate, to: "Statement of Essential Truths and Positions and Practices";

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT references to the "Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths" in the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended, where appropriate, to: "the current version of the Statement of Essential Truths and Positions and Practices, as approved by the General Conference of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada."

CARRIED

The conference expressed appreciation to the Theological Study Commission for their work.

GC 22-40 **RESOLUTION #6** LCC Article 7 and By-Law 2 Pastoral Staff and PAOC Ministerial Credentials
It was MOVED and SECONDED that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS all credentialed pastoral staff are expected to subscribe to the Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths as part of the annual credential renewal;

AND WHEREAS there is value for both the local church and the PAOC to ensure that pastors in local churches are in alignment with the Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths;

AND WHEREAS this can best be facilitated by pastoral staff holding credentials;

AND WHEREAS the PAOC offers ministerial credentials in order to facilitate ministerial appointments;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT ARTICLE 7 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended by addition as follows:

ARTICLE 7 PASTOR, PASTORAL STAFF AND [LEADERSHIP]

7.1 PASTOR

7.1.1 Nominations for pastor shall be submitted to the local church congregation by the [leadership], after consultation with the District Superintendent.

¹²¹ Matt. 24:27, 30; Luke 17:24, 26-30

¹²² Rev. 16:12-16; 17:8, 12-14; 19:11-20

¹²³ Psa. 2:6-12; Dan. 2:44-45; Luke 22:29-30; Rev. 3:21; 20:6

¹²⁴ Isa. 1:24-27; 2:1-4; Zech. 14:3, 4, 9; Rom. 8:19-23; Rev. 22:3

¹²⁵ Dan. 7:9-10; John 12:48; Rom. 2:2, 6, 11, 16; Rev. 14:9-11; 20:11-15

¹²⁶ Matt. 25:41b; Jude 6; Rev. 20:10, 15; 21:8

¹²⁷ Matt. 13:43; John 17:24; 2 Pet. 3:13; Heb. 11:10; Rev. 21:1-2, 10, 22-23

7.1.2 The pastor must ~~be one who~~ holds an active credential **and be** in good standing with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada or one whom the district executive officers of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada approve.

7.2 **PASTORAL STAFF**

7.2.1 A member of the pastoral staff must hold an active credential and be in good standing with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that ARTICLE 7 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be renumbered accordingly.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that By-Law 2 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended by addition of the reference to a ministry agreement and credential holder discipline as follows:

BY-LAW 2 PASTOR, PASTORAL STAFF AND [LEADERSHIP]

2.2 PASTORAL STAFF

- 2.2.1 **APPOINTMENT: Upon acceptance of the appointment, a ministry agreement shall be established.**
- 2.2.2 **DUTIES: The pastoral staff shall fulfill their duties as outlined in their ministry agreement.**
- 2.2.3 **CHARGES INVOLVING CREDENTIALS: Allegations leading to charges in matters involving the right of a credentialed staff member to hold credentials with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada as defined in By-Law 10.6.2 of the *General Constitution and By-Laws* must be made to the district in writing, and properly signed by one who is willing to appear and give testimony concerning the charges. Charges brought against a credential holder shall be dealt with according to provisions made in the *General Constitution and By-Laws* of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.**
- 2.2.4 **CHARGES INVOLVING THE CRIMINAL CODE OF CANADA: In the event that ministry is restricted by the District Superintendent as a result of a credential holder being charged under the *Criminal Code* of Canada, the credential holder shall continue to receive remuneration for a maximum of three (3) months.**

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT appropriate sections be renumbered accordingly.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that By-Law 2.1.7 and 2.1.8 (Pastor) in the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

- 2.1.7 **CHARGES INVOLVING CREDENTIALS:** Allegations leading to charges in matters involving the right of a **the** credentialed **pastor** ~~staff member~~ to hold credentials with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada as defined in By-Law 10.6.2 of the *General Constitution and By-Laws* must be made to the district in writing, and properly signed by one who is willing to appear and give testimony concerning the charges. Charges brought against a **the** credentialed **pastor** ~~holder~~ shall be dealt with according to provisions made in the *General Constitution and By-Laws* of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

2.1.8 CHARGES INVOLVING THE CRIMINAL CODE OF CANADA: In the event that ministry is restricted by the District Superintendent as a result of a the credentialed pastor holder being charged under the *Criminal Code* of Canada, the credentialed pastor holder shall continue to receive remuneration for a maximum of three (3) months.

It was MOVED and SECONDED to refer Resolution #6 back to the General Executive for further discussion and study.

CARRIED

GC 22-41

RESOLUTION #7 Leadership (Board / Pastor's Council) - Voting

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS clarity is required for voting in the OPTION ONE - ELECTED model and OPTION TWO – PASTOR'S COUNCIL model;

AND WHEREAS By-Law 3 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws needs to be corrected in its wording:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 3.2 (OPTION ONE – ELECTED) of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

3.2 VOTING: All candidates for the [leadership] ~~elected officers~~ of this local church, except the pastor, shall be declared elected upon receiving more than 50 percent of all votes cast for the office at the annual congregational business meeting. If the candidate is not elected on the first ballot, voting shall continue until an election is declared. If no election is declared as a result of the second election ballot, the name receiving the lowest number of votes shall be eliminated on each succeeding ballot.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 3.1.2 (OPTION TWO – PASTOR'S COUNCIL) of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

3.1.2 All members of the Pastor's Council will be presented by motion at the annual congregational business meeting for a ratification vote.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 3.4 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

3.4 ORDER OF BUSINESS: The regular order of business for the annual congregational business meeting of this local church shall be determined by the pastor and [leadership] which may include such items as:

- Devotional
- Reading of previous minutes by the secretary
- Report of treasurer
- Report of committees
- Unfinished business
- Selection of ~~officers~~ [leadership]
- New business
- Adjournment

CARRIED

GC 22-42

RESOLUTION #8 LCC BY-LAW 6.3.11 Right of Appeal Request

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS a member of a local church who has been found guilty of violating any of the principles stated in Article 6.1 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws in a disciplinary hearing may appeal the judgement rendered;

AND WHEREAS clarity is needed in stating what is required in the written request for appealing the judgement rendered;

AND WHEREAS By-Law 10.6.14.1 in the General Constitution and By-Laws specifies what must specifically be stated in a request for appealing the judgement rendered in a disciplinary hearing of a credential holder;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 6.3.11 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

6.3.11 RIGHT OF APPEAL: The local church member shall have the right of appeal. A written request must specifically state the nature, purpose and reason for the appeal based on the process leading to ~~The purpose of the appeal is to examine the process and the judgment rendered.~~

CARRIED

GC 22-43

RESOLUTION #9 LCC By-Law 7.5.1 Authorization of Indebtedness
It was MOVED and SECONDED that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS the wording can be clarified regarding authorization from a district executive for the amount of church indebtedness in By-Law 7.5.1 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 7.5.1 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

7.5.1 This local church shall consult with and obtain the approval of the district executive before proceeding with the requirements of By-Law 7.5.2 hereof, and, prior to the making of application for loan from any source or incurring indebtedness on a purchase plan or otherwise when repayment is not to be made in full within 12 months of the date of the intended loan; or where the intended indebtedness, together with all other indebtedness of the said local church, in the aggregate will exceed ten (10) percent of the total amount of the previous year's gross revenues; ~~then the local church shall consult with and obtain the approval of the district executive before proceeding with the requirements of By-Law 7.5.2 hereof.~~

CARRIED

GC 22-44

RESOLUTION #11 Positions and Practices Article
It was MOVED and SECONDED that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS ARTICLE 5, Statement of Fundamental and Essential Truths, is incorporated into the 2018 General Constitution and By-Laws;

AND WHEREAS ARTICLES 5.1 to 5.8 are the essential truths as approved by the General Conference;

AND WHEREAS ARTICLE 5.9 Positions and Practices are distinct from the core theological essential truths and may also be reviewed and amended by the General Conference from time to time;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT ARTICLE 5.9 Positions and Practices be amended to become ARTICLE 6 Positions and Practices.

ARTICLE ~~6~~ 5.9 POSITIONS AND PRACTICES:

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that additional references in the General Constitution and By-Laws and the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended accordingly.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED that the Articles following be renumbered accordingly.

CARRIED

GC 22-45

RESOLUTION #12 Biblical Definition of Gender Article

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS the PAOC holds a Biblical understanding of male and female, as defined in the proposed new Article on CREATION;

AND WHEREAS there has been a statement of affirmation developed and approved by the General Executive related to sexuality and marriage;

AND WHEREAS the definition of gender carries changing meanings in our Canadian and global society;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT a new Article be added to Position and Practice following the Article on Remarriage in the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended by addition as follows:

GENDER

We believe in the biblical teaching of God's original and ongoing design for humanity as two distinct sexes, male and female, determined by genetics. The basis and the intent for this is the conviction that the matter of human sexuality and gender is fundamental to biblical anthropology, not merely biblical morality. Due to human sin and brokenness, our experience of our sex and gender is not always that which God the Creator originally designed. In light of this foundational understanding of creation, fall, and redemption, we will avoid any behaviour or alignment with identity that contradicts the biblical teaching. We do not affirm the resolution of tension between one's biological sex and one's experience of gender by the adoption of an identity contradictory with one's birth sex.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the following Article on Tithing be renumbered accordingly.

CARRIED

GC 22-46

RATIFICATION OF DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS: As per By-Law 10.2 of the General Constitution & By-Laws, it was MOVED and SECONDED to ratify the appointment of the District Superintendents to the General Executive.

CARRIED

GC 22-47

RATIFICATION OF REGIONAL DIRECTORS: As per By-Law 10.2 of the General Constitution & By-Laws, it was MOVED and SECONDED to ratify the appointment of the Regional Directors to the General Executive.

CARRIED

GC 22-48

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR – 2022 FISCAL YEAR: R. Davis presented the General Executive's recommendation for the Auditor for the 2022 fiscal year.

It was MOVED and SECONDED to appoint *Robertson, Lott and Brohman (RLB) Chartered Accountants and Business Advisors* as The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada's Auditors for the 2022 fiscal year.

CARRIED

GC 22-49

RESOLUTION #14 Courtesy Resolution

It was MOVED and SECONDED that the 2022 General Conference of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada express gratitude and appreciation to the following:

1. The Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario District Superintendent Rev. Andrew Porterfield, Assistant Superintendent for Fellowship Services Rev. Vern Kratz, Assistant Superintendent for Mission Rev. Dan Murphy, the District Executive, staff and conference volunteers, and the pastors and congregations of the Manitoba and Northwestern Ontario District churches for their warm hospitality, kindness and assistance with the many varied details of the conference in the city of Winnipeg.
2. Our General Superintendent, Rev. David Wells, for his excellent leadership, our Interim General Secretary Treasurer, Rev. Ron Davis and our Executive Director for Mission Global, Rev. Murray Cornelius, for their faithful service and ministry to the Fellowship.

3. The General Executive and various committees and working groups of the PAOC.
4. Mrs. Natalie Rogge (Communications/Production), Ms. Stacey McKenzie (Communications), Mrs. Colleen Stuckless (Conference Office Manager, Exhibitor & Sponsorship Coordinator), Mrs. Ruth Stagg (Recording Secretary), Mrs. Sharon Thomson, Mrs. Laura Redman, Mr. Rob Narain, and other staff personnel of the International Office who have served in official functions to efficiently facilitate this General Conference.
5. All the conference committees for their contribution in assisting the work of the conference.
6. Our guest plenary speakers Shaila Visser, Glyn & Sophia Barrett, as well as those who participated in the Town Hall sessions.
7. Our French translation team of Mrs. Anne Yank, Ms. Michelle Gaudet and Mr. Gérald Emery.
8. Our Platinum sponsors, D.L. Deeks Insurance Services Inc., Israel Ministry of Tourism; our Gold sponsors, Jarislowsky, Fraser Ltd, Kechnie Health & Wealth Management Inc., Focus on the Family Canada, Kerith Retreats; and our Silver sponsors, Global University, McMaster Divinity College, Emanant Inc., Redeemer University, Tyndale University, TD Merchant Solutions, Plan to Protect, Heart to Heart Family Ministries, RLB LLP, Mawer Investment Management, and Impactus Promise Keepers Canada for their ongoing support.
9. Our host church, Calvary Temple, its pastor Rev. Bruce Martin, and their staff, production and music teams who have served with excellence to make this event possible.
10. Mr. Mateo Acosta and the worship team members
11. Our online conference team, Rev. Paul Fraser, Rev. Jeff Kelly and Rev. Hailey Armoogan.
12. Winnipeg area hotels.
13. And to our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ, whom we love, worship, trust and serve.

CARRIED

The conference expressed appreciation to Rev. E. Brouwer for delivery of the Resolutions.

Rev. P. Miller expressed words of deep appreciation to the General Superintendent and the Executive Officers for their excellence in leadership in this extraordinary conference. The conference joined in expressing appreciation.

The current and future General Executive were invited to the front of the platform. Rev. B. Cantelon led the conference in a commissioning prayer for the General Executive.

GC 22-50 **MOTION OF ADJOURNMENT:** It was MOVED and SECONDED to adjourn the 55th General Conference of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. CARRIED

The Chair declared the meeting closed.



David Wells
General Superintendent



Ron Davis
Interim General Secretary Treasurer