



**SPECIAL MEETING OF THE GENERAL CONFERENCE OF
THE PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF CANADA
Calvary Temple, Winnipeg, Manitoba**

**April 21, 2022
1:00 PM CT Via Livestream
MINUTES**

The Chair, Rev. D. Wells, welcomed participants to the Special Meeting of the General Conference of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM CT.

The Chair noted that this meeting 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) and C. Burton, present to advise, and D. Demchuk, online parliamentarian.

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

The Chair noted that Quorum, as established by the *General Constitution and By-Laws* (in By-Law 2.1) "shall consist of two percent of eligible voting members of the corporation registered at any meeting of the General Conference".

The Chair extended a welcome to all credential holders, lay delegates, and guests joining by livestream for this special meeting. Appreciation was expressed to our former Officers, whom we deeply honour.

Appreciation was expressed to Calvary Temple in Winnipeg for their assistance in hosting and producing the online special meeting.

Rev. D. Murphy, Assistant District Superintendent, was invited to bring greetings to the online conference from the Manitoba & Northwestern Ontario District, and to open in prayer.

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

SMGC 22-02 **CONFERENCE COMMITTEES:** It was MOVED and SECONDED that the conference committees be recognized as presented. CARRIED

The Chair declared the ballot open for the next two procedural items: Approval of Agenda and Acceptance of the Roster Report. The ballots were cast. The ballot for two procedural items was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

The Chair provided an explanation on behalf of the General Executive, as to why this Special Meeting was called.

SMGC 22-03 **AGENDA OF THE SPECIAL MEETING:** It was MOVED and SECONDED that the Agenda be approved as presented. CARRIED

SMGC 22-04 **ROSTER REPORT:** The Chair of the Roster Committee, S. Thomson, read the Roster Report.

VOTING DELEGATES	433
Lay Delegate	15
General Executive, National or District Department Director	9
GRAND TOTAL	457

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

J. Schwab was invited to begin presenting the Resolutions.

The Chair declared the ballot open for Resolutions 1 to 3. The ballots were cast. The ballot for the Resolutions 1 to 3 was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

SMGC 22-05 **RESOLUTION #1** Meetings of the General Conference

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

WHEREAS there is clarity in specifying the method of conducting a regular or special meeting of the General Conference in the General Constitution and By-Laws;

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;

AND WHEREAS these types of meetings have historically occurred in various contexts;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT General Constitution and By-Laws Article 9 MEETINGS be amended as follows:

ARTICLE 9 MEETINGS

9.1 REGULAR MEETINGS

Regular meetings of the General Conference shall be held annually at such time and place as the General Executive shall determine.

During even numbered years the meeting shall be known as the biennial General Conference. Elections shall be conducted and resolutions related to constitutional changes shall be considered at this meeting.

During odd numbered years, the annual meeting shall coincide with the regular spring session of the General Executive with an open invitation to the membership of the General Conference.

9.2 SPECIAL MEETINGS

Special meetings of the General Conference may be ordered by the General Superintendent when requested by a minimum of five percent of the voting membership.

9.3 METHOD OF CONDUCTING MEETINGS

Conducting a regular or special meeting with a voting member present shall be understood to mean:

9.3.1 In person; or

9.3.2 Electronically, that permits participation by registered voting members, subject to any rules regarding participation in an electronic meeting that the General Executive Committee may declare; or

9.3.3 A combination of in-person and electronic means that satisfies the requirements prescribed in By-Law 9.3.2.

CARRIED

SMGC 22-06 **RESOLUTION #2** Members Present and Voting

It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS the General Constitution and By-Laws permits the casting of ballots and voting electronically without an eligible voter being physically present;

AND WHEREAS there are references to individuals required to be “present and voting” that infer the person must be present “in person”;

AND WHEREAS the voting process can be clarified;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT General Constitution and By-Law Article 14 AMENDMENTS be amended as follows:

ARTICLE 14 AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the constitution may be made at any regularly called session of the General Conference, provided that the proposed amendment shall have been submitted 90 days prior thereto, in writing, through the General Secretary Treasurer, to the General Executive. Notice of the public posting of proposed amendments on The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada website shall be sent to each member of the General Conference (Article 7) not later than 60 days prior to the General Conference. A copy will be sent to any member of the General Conference upon request. Amendments to the constitution shall require a two-thirds **majority of ballots cast.** ~~vote of all members present and voting.~~

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 3 ELECTIONS of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

- 3.3.1.4** Should a nominee for General Superintendent withdraw after receiving more than 50 per cent of the votes cast on the pre-conference nomination ballot, a second nomination ballot shall be conducted at General Conference at which time the General Conference shall be advised of all standing nominees who received more than five per cent of the votes cast in the pre-conference ballot. Further nominations from **the conference floor** ~~those present and voting~~ shall be permitted on such a second nomination ballot only. Those who may have withdrawn after the pre-conference ballot shall be considered eligible for nomination. Those receiving three per cent or more of ballots cast shall be reported on the nomination ballot and shall become eligible nominees for election.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 14 LOCAL ASSEMBLIES of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

- 14.25** Where the matter of disaffiliation is to be included on the agenda of a congregational business meeting, a notice of such agenda item shall be delivered to the District Superintendent at least 14 days prior to such duly convened congregational meeting, such notice ensuring that the District Superintendent is provided with the opportunity to attend and present at the meeting the position of the district prior to any call for a vote on the issue of disaffiliation. A two-thirds majority of **ballots cast** ~~members present and voting~~ shall be required in order for disaffiliation to proceed.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT additional references in Article 9 and Article 11 of the Local Church Constitution be amended accordingly.

CARRIED

SMGC 22-07 **RESOLUTION #3** References to Appearing “In-Person”
It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS the General Constitution and By-Laws may require individuals to attend or appear “in-person” before a specified committee;

AND WHEREAS attending or appearing before the specified committee may now occur electronically as well as “in-person”;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Laws 10.6, 10.7, 12.13, 12.15 and 14.10 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

10.6.5 STATEMENT OF CONDUCT

10.6.5.2 The person making the statement, and the spouse, shall be requested to **appear** ~~be in attendance~~, but a failure or refusal to appear shall not prevent the matter from being presented to and acted upon by the district executive or International Missions Operations Committee.

10.6.6 INVESTIGATION OF ALLEGATIONS

Allegations with a description of the violation(s) must be made in writing and be properly signed by one who is willing to appear ~~in person~~ and give testimony at a district hearing.

Alleged violations under By-Law 10.6.2 shall be investigated. The District Superintendent or Executive Director for International Missions, or their appointee, and another credential holder appointed by the District Superintendent or Executive Director for International Missions of the district or region in which the alleged offence is reported to have occurred, shall make an investigation, having in mind that it is their responsibility to safeguard the minister, the church, and the fellowship.

10.7 REINSTATEMENT OF CREDENTIALS

10.7.2 Persons applying for reinstatement may, at the discretion of the Superintendents Committee, be requested to appear and answer questions ~~in person~~.

12.13 CREDENTIALS

12.13.1 All candidates for credentials shall complete the official application form and forward the same to the district office not fewer than 60 days prior to the district conference or an earlier deadline established by the district executive.

They shall submit references as required and shall appear ~~in person~~ before the district’s Credential Committee and shall be prepared to be examined regarding their doctrine, ability and conduct.

12.15 DISCIPLINE OF MINISTERS

The district conference, through its district executive, shall avail itself of the prerogatives conferred upon it in the matter of discipline of members as defined by the General Conference of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

Charges in matters involving a person's right to hold credentials with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, including such things as morality, integrity, or doctrinal soundness must be made to the district executive in writing and be properly signed by one who is willing to appear ~~in person~~ and give testimony concerning the charges.

Charges thus laid against a credential holder shall be dealt with according to the provisions described in By-Law 10.6 of the *General Constitution and By-Laws*.

BY-LAW 14 LOCAL ASSEMBLIES

14.10 Allegations leading to charges in matters involving a credentialed pastor's right to hold credentials with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada as defined in By-Law 10.6.2 must be made to the district executive in writing, and properly signed by one who is willing to appear ~~in person~~ 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.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Laws 2.1.7 and 6.3.11 of the Local Church Constitution be amended accordingly.

CARRIED

M. Cornelius, J. Kelly and V. Ninaber provided background and explanation for Resolutions 4 to 8. The Chair declared the ballot open for Resolutions 4 to 8. The ballots were cast. The ballot for Resolutions 4 to 8 was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

SMGC 22-08 **RESOLUTION #4** International Missions – Name Change
It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada (PAOC) has always had a heart to take the good news to the whole world;

AND WHEREAS our practice has always been to participate as God's people, at God's invitation and command, in His mission to redeem all of creation;

AND WHEREAS our national mission focus adopted the name Mission Canada, and PAOC International Missions uses the term "global worker" to identify those sent at God's invitation and command to serve outside Canada;

AND WHEREAS our PAOC mission initiatives could be paralleled nationally and globally in name;

*BE IT RESOLVED THAT the name of the International Missions department be amended to **Mission Global** as follows in Article 10.1 of the General Constitution and By-Laws;*

10.1 EXECUTIVE OFFICERS COMMITTEE

The Executive Officers of the corporation shall be elected by the membership of the biennial General Conference and shall consist of the General Superintendent, the General Secretary Treasurer and the Executive Director for ~~International Missions~~ **Mission Global** and such officer or officers as may be added from time to time by action of General Conference.

*AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT references to the International Missions Committee be amended to **Mission Global** Committee as follows in By-Law 6.3.1 of the General Constitution and By-Laws:*

6.3.1 INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS MISSION GLOBAL COMMITTEE

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

CARRIED

SMGC 22-09 **RESOLUTION #5** International Missions – Recognition of Integrated Corporations and Charities
It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

*WHEREAS both Mission Global and our International Office include ministries, programs, **corporations**, and **charities** created to increase our capacity and nimbleness to fulfil God’s mission;*

*AND WHEREAS the integration, alignment, collaboration and accountability of these ministries, programs, **corporations**, and **charities** reflect our current practice and remains essential to fulfilling our mission;*

*AND WHEREAS the existence of **corporations** and **charities** can be acknowledged where applicable in the General Constitution and By-Laws;*

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 7 and By-Law 7.1 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

BY-LAW 7 DEPARTMENTS, CORPORATIONS, AND CHARITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL OFFICE

7.1 PURPOSES

The International Office of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada shall include various departments, **corporations, and charities** designed to provide for ministries and services approved by the General Executive. The departments, **corporations, and charities** may provide for, but are not limited to, such ministries and services as **global and international missions**, Canadian missions, fellowship services, development services, and various specialized ministries such as men’s and women’s ministries, and ministries that focus on particular age, interest, or cultural groups.

The purpose of the departments, **corporations, and charities** is to serve the fellowship under the oversight of the Executive Officers Committee and the General Executive, coordinating and facilitating the implementation and fulfillment of the mission statement of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, which is “To glorify God by making disciples everywhere by proclaiming and practising the Gospel of Jesus Christ in the power of the Holy Spirit,” and to coordinate and facilitate the implementation and fulfillment of the mission statement of the International Office of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada which is “To serve the Fellowship of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada by ensuring doctrinal and ministry standards and by facilitating and coordinating ministry in Canada and **all the global** work. ~~of international missions.”~~

Each department, **corporation, and charity** of the International Office shall be approved by the General Executive and shall in all its programs and duties incorporate mission, evangelism and social concerns as the practice of the Gospel in all their functions and responsibilities.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 5.1.3.8 be amended by addition in the General Constitution and By-Laws:

5.1.3.8 The Executive Director for Mission Global shall ensure the integration, collaboration, alignment, and reporting of mission charities established by the General Executive or Mission Global Committee.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the remaining references be renumbered accordingly;

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT the By-Law 5.1.3.13 and 5.1.3.14 be amended as follows:

5.1.3.14 ~~5.1.3.13~~ The Executive Director for **Mission Global** International Missions ~~or their representative~~ shall serve on the board of **all global mission charities established by the General Executive or Mission Global Committee** ~~the specialized, international missions-related ministries.~~

5.1.3.15 ~~5.1.3.14~~ The Executive Director for **Mission Global** International Missions shall **ensure proper reporting on all activities** ~~submit summaries of the activities~~ in the department under his or her direction **as well as reporting from all charities established by the General Executive or Mission Global Committee** as required by the General Superintendent and General Executive. The Executive Director for **Mission Global** International Missions shall work with the regional directors, ~~and~~ departmental **directors and integrated charities** ~~coordinators~~ to establish a vision for the work of international **global** missions **of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada and ensure there is a comprehensive,** strategic plans ~~and goals and objectives~~ to accomplish these **this** visionary plans.

CARRIED

SMGC 22-10 **RESOLUTION #6** Committees of the General Executive
It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS the alignment of Mission Global and Mission Canada and the recognition of mission charities has affected the purpose and membership of related charities;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 6.3 and By-Law 8.2 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

6.3 COMMITTEES OF THE GENERAL EXECUTIVE

6.3.1 INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS GLOBAL COMMITTEE

6.3.1.1 PURPOSE

This committee shall be responsible to represent international **the global** missions to the General Executive and shall work with various **departments, charities,** sub-committees and international **district** missions representatives as would be determined by the General Executive from time to time.

6.3.1.2 ORGANIZATION

6.3.1.2.1 The International Missions **Global** Committee shall include:

- Members of the General Executive
- The **Mission Global** International Missions Executive Lead Team
- One representative of Emergency Relief and Development Overseas (ERDO)
- **Two** Representatives of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland and Labrador (PAONL)

6.3.1.2.2 The General Superintendent and Executive Director for **Mission Global** International Missions shall co-chair.

6.3.1.2.3 This committee shall submit its minutes to and be accountable to the General Executive.

6.3.1.2.4 This committee shall meet at the call of the Chairs.

8.2 ~~INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS~~ GLOBAL SUBCOMMITTEES

8.2.1 ~~DISTRICT MISSIONS REPRESENTATIVES~~ COMMITTEE

8.2.1.1 PURPOSE

This committee shall coordinate:

- The promotion of ~~the~~ missions activities of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada; and
- The itineration, care and support of all Mission Global and Mission Canada ~~global~~ workers.

8.2.1.2 ORGANIZATION

8.2.1.2.1 The District Missions Representatives Committee shall include: Executive Leadership from Mission Global, Mission Canada, and mission charities established by the General Executive or Mission Global Committee, and ~~the Executive Director for International Missions, each of the duly appointed district missions representatives and the coordinators of specialized missions and missions personnel.~~

8.2.1.2.2 The Executive Director for Mission Global or their appointed representative ~~International Missions~~ shall be the Chair.

8.2.1.2.3 This committee shall submit its minutes to and be responsible to the ~~International Missions~~ Global Committee and the Mission Canada Superintendents ~~Superintendents~~ Committee.

8.2.1.2.4 This committee shall meet ~~annually~~ at the call of the Chair.

8.2.2 ~~INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS~~ GLOBAL OPERATIONS COMMITTEE

8.2.2.1 PURPOSE

This committee shall coordinate the global mission programs and activities of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada ~~the international missions department~~ and assist the Executive Director for Mission Global in its integration, collaboration, alignment and implementation of the global mission of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. ~~International Missions in the administration of the international missions department.~~

8.2.2.2 ORGANIZATION

8.2.2.2.1 The ~~International Missions~~ Global Operations Committee shall include the Executive Officers Committee, the director level leadership of Mission Global, ~~and the international missions departmental directors,~~ Regional Directors, representation from The Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland and Labrador, and representation from ~~the Chief Executive Officer of ERDO.~~

8.2.2.2.2 The Executive Director of Mission Global ~~International Missions~~ shall be the Chair.

8.2.2.2.3 This committee shall submit its minutes to and be responsible to the ~~International Missions~~ **Mission Global** Committee.

8.2.2.2.4 This committee shall meet at least quarterly ~~monthly~~ at the call of the Chair.

8.2.3 REGIONAL DIRECTORS COMMITTEE

8.2.3.1 PURPOSE

This committee shall coordinate the global mission programs and activities of **The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada**. ~~the International Missions Department and assist the Executive Director for International Missions in the administration of the International Missions Department.~~

8.2.3.2 ORGANIZATION

8.2.3.2.1 The Regional Directors Committee shall include the Executive Officers Committee, the regional directors, and by invitation, the director level leadership of Mission Global, ~~the international missions department directors~~, representation from The Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland and Labrador, and representation from ~~the Chief Executive Officer of ERDO~~, as well as select invited and national leaders.

8.2.3.2.2 The Executive Director for Mission Global ~~International Missions~~ shall be the Chair.

8.2.3.2.3 This committee shall submit its minutes to and be responsible to the ~~International Missions~~ **Mission Global** Committee.

8.2.3.2.4 This committee shall meet at the call of the Chair.

CARRIED

SMGC 22-11 **RESOLUTION #7** Missions Advisory Committee

It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS the Missions Advisory Committee has not been functional and there are multiple boards and consultants used by International Missions to ensure engagement from our constituency;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 8.4.4 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended by deletion:

~~8.4.4 MISSIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE~~

~~8.4.4.1 PURPOSE~~

~~This committee shall advise the International Missions Committee on matters of current and future global worker practice.~~

~~8.4.4.2 ORGANIZATION~~

~~8.4.4.2.1 The Missions Advisory Committee shall include the Executive Director for International Missions and those individuals appointed to the Missions Advisory Committee by the International Missions Committee.~~

~~8.4.4.2.2 The Executive Director for International Missions shall be the Chair.~~

~~8.4.4.2.3 This committee shall submit its minutes to and be responsible to the International Missions Committee.~~

~~8.4.4.2.4 This committee shall meet at the call of the Chair.~~

CARRIED

SMGC 22-12 **RESOLUTION #8** District Missions Representatives Committee
It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS By-Law 8.4.5 of the General Constitution and By-Laws appears in By-Law 8.2.1 as a duplicate;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 8.4.5 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended by deletion;

~~**8.4.5 DISTRICT MISSIONS REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE**~~

~~**8.4.5.1 PURPOSE**~~

~~This committee shall coordinate:~~

~~**8.4.5.1.1** The promotion of missions; and~~

~~**8.4.5.1.2** The itineration, care and support of global workers.~~

~~**8.4.5.2 ORGANIZATION**~~

~~**8.4.5.2.1** The District Missions Representatives Committee shall include: the Executive Director for International Missions, each of the duly appointed district missions representatives and the directors of specialized missions and missions personnel.~~

~~**8.4.5.2.2** The Executive Director for International Missions shall be the Chair.~~

~~**8.4.5.2.3** This committee shall submit its minutes to and be responsible to the International Missions Committee and the Superintendents Committee.~~

~~**8.4.5.2.4** This committee shall meet annually at the call of the Chair.~~

CARRIED

R. Davis provided background and explanation for Resolutions 9 to 12. The Chair declared the ballot open for Resolutions 9 to 12. The ballots were cast. The ballot for Resolutions 9 to 12 was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

SMGC 22-13 **RESOLUTION #9** District Superintendent Candidates
It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS there may be a need to allow for suitable candidates for the position of District Superintendent to be elected who have not been a member of their district for at least two years immediately prior to nomination;

AND WHEREAS provision may be made for a district to amend its District Constitution accordingly;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 12.9.1 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

12.9.1 QUALIFICATIONS OF CANDIDATES

The **Candidates for** superintendent of a district conference shall be an ordained persons of mature experience, sound judgment, recognized ability, and Christian character, who ~~has~~ **have** been ordained for a period of not fewer than 10 consecutive

years with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, **Candidates for superintendent shall have served** including at least two years as a member of their district immediately prior to nomination **or as determined by the respective district constitution.**

The other officers, executive members and presbyters will meet the qualifications determined by the respective district constitution.

CARRIED

SMGC 22-14 **RESOLUTION #10** General Executive Credentialed Member-at-Large Nominees – Date of Eligibility
It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS clarification on the eligibility of candidates to be nominated for General Executive credentialed members at large is needed to determine when the two-year requirement prior to General Conference begins;

AND WHEREAS the official nomination takes place at the General Conference, so that district candidates need only be eligible at the time of the General Conference;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 3.2.2.1 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

3.2.2 GENERAL EXECUTIVE MEMBERS

3.2.2.1 The five members at large shall be credential holders, **who are eligible to be a member of the General Conference** of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. ~~They~~ and shall be persons of mature experience and ability, **whose life and ministry are above question and** who have been credentialed for a period of not fewer than five (5) consecutive years with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. **This would include being credentialed for** including at least two years immediately prior to the ~~nomination~~ **next General Conference.** ~~and are eligible to be a member of the General Conference, whose life and ministry are above question, and such qualities shall determine their eligibility for office.~~

CARRIED

SMGC 22-15 **RESOLUTION #11** General Executive Credentialed Member-at-Large Nominee Process
It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS the process utilized by Districts in the selection of a General Executive credential holder member-at-large nominee can be reasonably shortened while still permitting a district conference its due process in the selection;

AND WHEREAS the district conference is reasonably served with the presentation of three names from a district executive;

AND WHEREAS it is recommended to drop the nomination ballot as well as the provision of an additional credential holder nominated by eligible district conference voters from the selection process;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 12.9.2.3 be amended as follows:

12.9.2.3 GENERAL EXECUTIVE NOMINEE

Prior to the convening of the biennial General Conference, the district conference shall choose a credential holder to serve as a nominee to the General Conference for election to the General Executive. The process for choosing the nominee shall be as follows: ~~on a nomination ballot~~ the district

executive shall present three names. ~~Additional credential holders receiving over 5% on the nominating ballot shall be eligible to appear on the election ballot. A candidate receiving more than 50 per cent of the votes cast~~ two-thirds majority on the district conference ~~nominating ballot or first election ballot~~ shall be required **in order** to select the district nominee to be presented to the General Conference. If the district nominee is not confirmed on the first election ballot, the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall appear on the second election ballot. A majority vote shall confirm the election of the district nominee for the General Conference nomination slate for General Executive members at large.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that By-Law 3.3.2.1 be amended as follows:

3.3.2.1 Each district conference, prior to the convening of a biennial General Conference, shall receive three nominations from the district executive. ~~Additional nominees, receiving more than five percent on a district conference ballot will be added to the three district executive nominees, in order to~~ **A district conference will** elect a credential holder as provided in By-Law 12.9.2.3 to serve as a nominee to the General Conference, three of whom shall be elected to serve as members of the General Executive. In the event that a person so nominated shall subsequently become ineligible or unavailable for election, the district executive shall be authorized to appoint a nominee on behalf of the district conference.

CARRIED

SMGC 22-16 **RESOLUTION #12** Local Assemblies Ceasing Operations

It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS it is beneficial to define the process in the event that a local assembly ceases operations as a congregation;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 14.6 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended by addition as follows:

14.6 The decision to formally cease operations as a congregation shall require a simple majority vote of the ballots cast at a duly called meeting.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the remaining By-Laws in the General Constitution and By-Laws be renumbered accordingly;

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Article 3.7 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended by addition as follows;

3.7 The decision to formally cease operations as a congregation shall require a simple majority vote of the ballots cast at a duly called meeting.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the remaining items in Article 3 of Local Constitution and By-Laws be renumbered accordingly.

CARRIED

R. Davis provided background and explanation for Resolution 13. The Chair declared the ballot open for Resolution 13. The ballots were cast. The ballot for Resolution 13 was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

SMGC 22-17 **RESOLUTION #13** Licensed Minister Qualifications & Ministry Preparation Requirement
It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS there are ministry leaders that can demonstrate an effective ministry but do not qualify for PAOC credentials leading to ordination under the current academic requirements set by the Credential Standards Committee which assume a formal educational route as per the General Constitution and By-Laws;

AND WHEREAS Prior Learning Assessment Recognition (PLAR) is a concept and process used in the post-secondary educational sector that could be an optional pathway for assessing certain candidates for PAOC ministerial credentials;

AND WHEREAS prior learning for ministry can be acquired informally through church/parachurch work, volunteering, and other life experiences that are relevant to credentialed ministry;

AND WHEREAS the PLAR Working Group, the Credentials Standards Committee, the National Administrators Committee in consultation with the Educational Standards Committee and the Superintendents Committee have recommended to the General Executive Committee that provision be made in the General Constitution and By-Laws to permit prior learning and experience assessments as pathways for evaluating certain candidates for Licensed Minister ministerial credentials with PAOC;

BE IT RESOLVED that By-Law 10.2.8.1.1 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

10.2.8.1 QUALIFICATIONS FOR LICENSED MINISTER

10.2.8.1.1 MINISTRY PREPARATION REQUIREMENT

An applicant must meet the ~~academic requirements~~ **qualifications** as established by the Credential Standards Committee. This may be accomplished through a Bible college, seminary, ~~or a distance education/correspondence program,~~ **prior learning assessment and/or prior experience assessment** recognized by The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that By-Law 9.4 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

9.4 OTHER EDUCATIONAL DISTANCE EDUCATION AND CORRESPONDENCE PROGRAMS

Educational programs which meet the requirements of the Credential Standards Committee may be used to achieve academic eligibility for ministerial credentials.

CARRIED

R. Davis provided background and explanation for Resolutions 14 to 19. The Chair declared the ballot open for Resolutions 14 to 19. The ballots were cast. The ballot for Resolutions 14 to 19 was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

SM GC 22-18 **RESOLUTION #14** Discipline & Restoration Terminology
It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS the General Constitution and By-Laws and Local Church Constitution and By-Laws use the adjective “brotherly” to characterize the words “love and kindness” in the context of restoration as it relates to discipline;

AND WHEREAS the adjective of being “Christian” could more aptly describe this;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.6.16 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

10.6.16 RESTORATION

An effort should be made to lead the offending credential holder through a program of restoration, administered in ~~brotherly~~ **Christian** love and kindness. The following provisions for restoration shall apply:

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 6.3.10 and 6.3.12 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

LCC BY-LAW 6.3.10 DISCIPLINE: A local church member who has been found guilty of violating or who has confessed in writing to having violated any of the principles set forth in the *Local Church Constitution and By-Laws*, shall be subject to disciplinary action by the [leadership]. Said discipline shall be administered in ~~brotherly~~ **Christian** love and kindness. The [leadership] shall weigh decisions on the basis of the offence itself.

LCC BY-LAW 6.3.12 RESTORATION: In the event a local church member who has been found guilty of offence shows repentance and indicates a desire for continued fellowship with the local church, the [leadership] shall determine an appropriate restoration program, which would have in view the completion of a suspension period or the reinstatement of membership as applicable.

The program of restoration shall be administered in ~~brotherly~~ **Christian** love and kindness.

The restoration program may include limitations of ministry involvement during the term of restoration.

CARRIED

SM GC 22-19 **RESOLUTION #15** Non-Renewed Credentials

It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS there is a clearly stated process for all credential holders to renew their credential membership annually;

AND WHEREAS PAOC makes every reasonable effort to contact and notify the credential holder prior to termination of the credential;

AND WHEREAS credential holders who do not renew their credential on an annual basis will have their credential file closed and the credential will be terminated;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.5.8 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

10.5.8 Should a credential holder fail to renew their credential by the annual credential renewal date, the General Secretary Treasurer shall inform the individual by letter that if the credential is not renewed within 60 days, it shall be deemed **terminated** ~~non-renewed~~ as of that date. A copy of the letter shall be sent to the District Superintendent and the Executive Director for International Missions. If the credential is not renewed within 60 days the General Secretary Treasurer shall notify the District Superintendent and the Executive Director for International

Missions, and the credential in question shall be **terminated** ~~non-renewed~~.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.3.7 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

10.3.7 Individuals Applicants whose credentials have been resigned, **terminated** ~~non-renewed~~ or dismissed and who are now applying for reinstatement with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada must make application through the last district with which they were associated or the department of the International Office responsible for international missions. If the credential has been dismissed a new application must be completed. Upon receipt of a completed application from a former credential holder living in another district, if the district executive of the former district or International Missions Operations Committee in the case of a former global worker perceives no reason why the applicant may not be approved, the application may be forwarded to the superintendent of the district in which the applicant resides for processing and interview.

AND FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.5.7.8 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

10.5.7.8 After a period of two years, a credential holder whose name is on the inactive list **is no longer eligible to retain a credential** ~~shall have their credential non-renewed~~ unless the credential holder has had a continuous credentialed ministry of 15 years or more, in which case the person may remain on the inactive list indefinitely. All credential holders whose credentials are inactivated shall fill out the annual renewal questionnaire and submit the annual fee required to stay on the inactive list. ~~Otherwise their credentials shall be non-renewed.~~

CARRIED

SMGC 22-20 **RESOLUTION #16** Administering Discipline - Terminology

It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS the process and timeline in a disciplinary procedure as delineated throughout By-Law 10.6 DISCIPLINE of the General Constitution and By-Laws that must be adhered to, is progressive in nature;

AND WHEREAS there are criteria set out in the General Constitution and By-Laws outlining the causes of disciplinary action (By-Law 10.6.2);

AND WHEREAS the District Superintendent or Executive Director for International Missions may also exercise discretion concerning whether or not to commence an official investigation and shall have the right to determine restriction of ministerial activities (By-Law 10.6.5);

AND WHEREAS alleged violations under the General Constitution and By-Laws, By-Law 10.6.2 shall be investigated (By-Law 10.6.6);

AND WHEREAS it is expected that any actions in a disciplinary procedure be administered with gentleness as referenced in Galatians 6:1;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.6.1 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

10.6.1 THE NATURE AND PURPOSES OF DISCIPLINE

Discipline is an application of scriptural principles that guide conduct and lifestyle. The aims of discipline are that God may be honored, that the purity and welfare of the ministry may be maintained, and that those under discipline may be brought to repentance and restoration.

Discipline is to be administered for the restoration of the minister, while fully providing for the protection and advancement of the spiritual welfare of our local assemblies. It is to be redemptive in nature as well as corrective, and is to be exercised as under a dispensation of both justice and mercy. The following actions shall be **administered with gentleness**. ~~proceeded with only after all other avenues of Christian counsel and admonition have been attempted.~~

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED that By-Law 6.1 in the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws be amended accordingly.

CARRIED

SMGC 22-21 **RESOLUTION #17** Preparation of an Allegation

It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS allegations of a sensitive and/or painful nature may arise where it is not suitable for a complainant to write the allegation himself or herself as stated in By-Law 10.6.4;

AND WHEREAS it may be advisable for the District Superintendent or Executive Director for International Missions to prepare and/or assist in preparing the allegation rather than putting the primary and sole responsibility on the complainant;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.6.4 (last paragraph) of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

10.6.4 REPORTS, RUMOURS, OR COMPLAINTS

Should there be reports, rumours or complaints, written or unwritten, which appear to be persistent and serious concerning the credential holder and/or immediate family which have become publicly known and/or pose a detriment to the ministry of the individual, church, or fellowship, then the District Superintendent or the Executive Director for International Missions and another district executive or International Missions Operations Committee member, shall use their judgment to discuss the matter with the credential holder. The District Superintendent or Executive Director for International Missions shall exercise discretion concerning whether or not to commence an official investigation.

If, after due consideration of reports, rumours or complaints, it is determined that a formal allegation should be made, the said allegation shall be prepared **by, or** as directed by, the District Superintendent or the Executive Director for International Missions.

CARRIED

SMGC 22-23 **RESOLUTION #18** Accused Credential Holder - Terminology

It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS the terminology currently used in a disciplinary procedure described in By-Law 10 of the General Constitution and By-Laws or in By-Law 6 of the Local Church Constitution and By-Laws that refers to an "accused credential holder" or "accused local church member" is better stated as "the respondent" in a complaint;

AND WHEREAS the term "accused" may infer culpability;

AND WHEREAS the respondent credential holder or local church member is considered innocent until proven guilty;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.6.6.3 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

10.6.6.3 The ~~accused~~ **respondent** credential holder(s) shall be given an opportunity to be interviewed to discuss the allegation.

10.6.6.3.1 The credential holder shall receive a copy of the allegation.

10.6.6.3.2 Upon being informed of the allegation, ~~an accused~~ **a respondent** credential holder shall be granted the opportunity to make a statement with regard to the allegation.

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

CARRIED

SMGC 22-24 **RESOLUTION #19** Presumption of Innocence

It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS an investigation that occurs as stated in By-Law 10.6 Discipline is not to determine the guilt or innocence of the credential holder;

AND WHEREAS the principles of natural justice include a presumption of innocence until guilt is established;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.6.6.6 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended as follows:

10.6.6.6 **A respondent credential holder is presumed innocent unless guilt is established. The fact that either formal or informal procedures have been initiated does not create an inference of guilt.** An investigation is not to determine the guilt or innocence of the credential holder. The investigators shall consider the available testimony and determine if there is sufficient evidence to convene a disciplinary hearing. A minimum of two witnesses (individuals or separate sources of evidence) are required to proceed to charges being laid. The investigators shall seek to assemble all relevant facts, evidence and testimony to present to the disciplinary hearing.

CARRIED

R. Davis provided background and explanation for Resolution 20. The Chair declared the ballot open for Resolution 20. The ballots were cast. The ballot for Resolution 20 was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

SMGC 22-25 **RESOLUTION #20** Causes of Disciplinary Action – Abuse of Power or Authority

It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS an assumption of dictatorial authority by a credential holder is a cause of disciplinary action under By-Law 10.6.2.2. of the General Constitution and By-Laws where this cause would be seen as a violation of the principles of servant leadership;

AND WHEREAS an action of dictatorial authority is understood in scripture as an abuse of power and authority;

AND WHEREAS such actions should be considered a violation of a biblical mandate rather than a violation of the principles of servant leadership as a cause for disciplinary action;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.6.2.1.1.3 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended by addition and By-Law 10.6.2.2.1.2 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended by deletion as follows:

10.6.2.1.1.3 Any moral or ethical failure other than sexual misconduct or any conduct unbecoming to a credential holder (including but not limited to **abuse of power or authority**, deception, fraud, theft, assault, and drunkenness).

10.6.2.2.1.2 A contentious or non-cooperative spirit, ~~an assumption of dictatorial authority,~~ or an arbitrary rejection of district (or International Missions Operations Committee in the case of global workers) counsel and direction.

CARRIED

The Chair provided background and explanation for Resolutions 21 to 25. The Chair declared the ballot open for Resolutions 21 to 25. The ballots were cast. The ballot for Resolutions 21 to 25 was declared closed according to the time clock on the livestream feed.

SMGC 22-26 **RESOLUTION #21** Credential Holder Support

It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS a respondent credential holder as stated in By-Law 10.6.11 Disciplinary Hearing may wish to bring both a spouse and another credential holder to the disciplinary hearing for support;

AND WHEREAS the wording of the current By-Law 10.6.11.4 of the General Constitution and By-Laws only allows for one of those persons to be present for support;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.6.11.4 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended by addition as follows:

10.6.11.4 The ~~accused~~ **respondent** credential holder shall have the right to have another credential holder **and/or** spouse present for support, but not as an active participant in the hearing process.
The complainant shall have the right to have another person present for support, but not as an active participant in the hearing process.

CARRIED

SMGC 22-27 **RESOLUTION #22** Communication of Disciplinary Hearing Verdict

It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS By-Law 10.6.11.10 addresses the communication of the verdict in the disciplinary hearing process of a credential holder;

AND WHEREAS the verdict will be one of not guilty or guilty;

AND WHEREAS there is some redundancy in the wording of this By-Law:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.6.11.10 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended and re-ordered as follows:

10.6.11.10 ~~ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE VERDICT~~

10.6.11.10.1 The verdict shall be communicated to the District Superintendent or Executive Director for International Missions and placed in the minutes of the district executive or International Missions Operations Committee noting the charge only by reference to the specific section of the *General*

Constitution and By-Laws of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada
By-Law 10.6.2.

10.6.11.10.2 The District Superintendent or Executive Director for International Missions shall communicate the verdict in writing to the credential holder, including the right and process of appeal, if eligible for an appeal, and to the complainant and to any other appropriate person within 10 days. The written statement to the credential holder must be sent by registered mail.

10.6.11.10.2.1 ~~10.6.11.10.5~~ If the verdict is one of not guilty, then no record of the hearing shall leave the district office or international missions department in the case of a transfer of the credential holder from the district or department.

10.6.11.10.2.2 ~~10.6.11.10.3~~ If the **verdict is one of guilt, the written statement to** ~~accused is found guilty,~~ the credential holder shall **inform them** ~~be informed in writing~~ that credentials are suspended until restoration and reinstatement have been completed. **The written statement shall inform the credential holder of the right and process of appeal,** ~~subject to the appeal process.~~

~~**10.6.11.10.4**~~ ~~If a guilty verdict is reached, the individual shall be informed in writing of the right and process of appeal.~~

~~**10.6.11.10.5**~~ ~~If the verdict is one of not guilty, then no record of the hearing shall leave the district office or international missions department in the case of a transfer of the credential holder from the district or department.~~

10.6.11.10.3 ~~10.6.11.10.6~~ If a credential holder confesses to a wrongdoing or is found guilty by a hearing committee, then the District Superintendent or Executive Director for International Missions should use discretion as to whether a public announcement needs to be made to state the cause of discipline (using the specific words of the *General Constitution and By-Laws*) to the appropriate people. A statement of disciplinary action taken shall be communicated in writing to the local church board or national fellowship partner where applicable.

CARRIED

SMGC 22-28 **RESOLUTION #23** Reinstated Credentials – Removal of Provisional Status
It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS a credential holder who has had ministerial credentials suspended, who has satisfactorily completed a restoration program and who has been approved for reinstatement of credentials by the Superintendents Committee;

AND WHEREAS the Superintendents Committee is recommending the removal of the provisional status of a credential holder who has successfully completed a restoration program and has been granted reinstatement of credentials;

BE IT RESOLVED that By-Law 10.7.4 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended by deletion as follows:

~~10.7.4~~ Reinstatement of credentials, if granted, shall be issued with provisional status for one year and reviewed by the district executive or International Missions Operations Committee after that period, with a report being forwarded to the General Secretary Treasurer.

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.2.12 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended by deletion as follows:

10.2.12 PROVISIONAL CREDENTIALS

A credential holder who qualifies for Ordained Credential, Licensed Minister Credential or Recognition of Ministry Credential, and who is newly transferred into The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada as provided in By-Law 10.4.2.5, ~~or whose credential has been reinstated under By-Law 10.7.4,~~ shall be classified as provisional credential status. Credential holders with provisional status under By-Law 10.4.2.5 ~~and By-Law 10.7.4~~ shall have their credentials reviewed by the district executive or International Missions Operations Committee after one year, prior to issuance of regular credential status. Credential holders with provisional status shall not have the privilege of General Conference or district conference participation, but shall be eligible for all other benefits of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

CARRIED

SMGC 22-29 **RESOLUTION #24** Ineligibility for Reinstatement of Credentials – Relocation of By-Law
It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS the reference to the By-Law related to ineligibility of credential reinstatement currently contained in By-Law 10.6.16.2 of the General Constitution and By-Laws would fit better under By-Law 10.7 REINSTATEMENT OF CREDENTIALS;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.7.5 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended by addition as follows:

10.7.5 **There shall be no reinstatement of credentials for a person who is found guilty of a sexual offence involving a person under the age of 18 as determined by a district executive or International Missions Operations Committee as outlined in By-Law 10.6.2, or found guilty of a sexual offence by a court as defined in the Criminal Code of Canada or the criminal records department in the nation in which they serve.**

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.6.16.2 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended by deletion:

10.6.16.2 BASIS AND PERIOD OF TIME

For those found to have violated any of the principles in By-Law 10.6.2, the district executive or International Missions Operations Committee shall determine the period of restoration.

The restoration period begins upon the approval of an application for restoration.

The period of restoration shall be not less than one year, unless the offence is determined to meet the criteria of 10.6.12.3. When the violation involves *porneia* as defined in Article 5.9.1 and By-Law 10.2, it shall be for a minimum period of two years. The district executive or International Missions Operations Committee shall have authority to extend the restoration period based on the offence in order to ensure satisfactory completion of the restoration program.

The maximum number of restorations that a credential holder may be offered shall be two.

A credential holder may be offered only one restoration for violations requiring a suspension of two years or more.

~~There shall be no reinstatement of credentials for a person who is found guilty of a sexual offence involving a person under the age of 18 as determined by a district executive or International Missions Operations Committee or by a court as defined in the Criminal Code of Canada or the criminal records department in the nation in which they serve.~~

CARRIED

SMGC 22-30 **RESOLUTION #25** Causes of Disciplinary Action – Luring a Child
It was Moved and Seconded that the following amendment be approved:

WHEREAS By-Law 10.6.2 outlines causes of disciplinary action that specifies moral failures of a sexual nature;

AND WHEREAS sexual conduct unbecoming a credential holder can include luring a child which is referenced in the Criminal Code of Canada (section 172.1);

AND WHEREAS PAOC credential holders hold a position of trust by virtue of their ministerial status;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law 10.6.2.1.1.2 of the General Constitution and By-Laws be amended by addition as follows:

10.6.2.1.1.2 Any moral failure of a sexual nature (including but not limited to improper physical contact, sexual exploitation, **luring a child**, or harassment, pornography, and any sexual conduct or advocacy of sexuality unbecoming a credential holder).

CARRIED

The Chair declared the Special Meeting of the General Conference of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada closed. M. Cornelius closed in prayer. The meeting was adjourned at 3:35 PM CT.



David R. Wells
General Superintendent



R. Davis
Interim General Secretary Treasurer