



2450 Milltower Court Mississauga, ON L5N 5Z6

2012 General Conference Amendments to the *Local Church Constitution*

June 2012

Following each General Conference a summary of resolutions affecting the *Local Church Constitution and By-Laws* is provided to assist local assemblies in updating their local constitution. At the 2012 General Conference in Ottawa, Ontario, the Local Church Constitution was revised, both in terms of its content and format with the following Resolutions being Moved, Seconded and CARRIED.

RESOLUTION #18 LCC – BY-LAW 2.1.6 CHARGES INVOLVING CREDENTIALS

WHEREAS a credential holder may also be a member of a local church;

AND WHEREAS the constitution and by-laws may vary from church to church;

AND WHEREAS there may be differences in policy between the *General Constitution and By-Laws* or *Local Church Constitution* and the constitution of a local church;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT LCC By-Law 2.1.6 be amended as follows:

- 2.1.6 CHARGES INVOLVING CREDENTIALS:** Allegations leading to charges in matters involving the pastor's right to hold credentials with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada as defined in By-Law 10.6.2, ~~their morality, integrity or doctrinal soundness~~ 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 ~~thus preferred~~ 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 the second paragraph of By-Law 2.1.6 be amended by adding By-Law 2.1.7 and rewording it as follows:

~~In the event of a credential holder being charged under the Criminal Code and ministry is restricted, they shall continue to receive remuneration for a maximum of three (3) months.~~

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

RESOLUTION #19 LCC BY-LAW 2.2.3 FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS

WHEREAS affiliated assemblies may choose to deposit church funds other than with a chartered bank;
and

WHEREAS affiliated assemblies may choose to borrow money from a variety of sources not limited to
banks;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT *Local Church Constitution By-Law 2.2.3* be amended as follows:

- 2.2.3 DUTIES – TREASURER:** The treasurer shall be the custodian of the general funds of the local church and shall deposit the same in a chartered bank or credit union in the name of the local church, and shall disperse such funds as authorized by the [leadership]. The treasurer shall ensure that an accurate record of accounts is kept, and shall present a financial statement at the annual congregational meeting and at any other time when requested to do so by the [leadership] or the local church congregation. The books shall be reviewed before the annual congregational meeting by financially qualified individuals appointed by the [leadership].

AND FURTHER, BE IT RESOLVED THAT Local Church Constitution Article 3.5 be amended as follows:

ARTICLE 3.5 This local church shall have the right to borrow any sum or sums of money from a ~~bank~~ lender upon the credit of the local church either by way of overdraft, discount, loan, line of credit or otherwise, and upon such terms as they may think proper and as security for any money so borrowed or as security for any advances, reliabilities heretofore made or incurred or that may hereafter be made or incurred, to hypothecate, mortgage, pledge and give to the ~~bank~~ lender all or any stock, bonds, debentures, negotiable instruments, in action or other real property of the local church or other assets of the local church as they may see fit, or as may be required by or on behalf of the ~~bank~~ lender, and it is expressly declared that any security given pursuant to this article may be by way of chattel mortgage or in such other form as the ~~bank~~ lender may require, or as this local church sees fit.

RESOLUTION #20 LCC BY-LAW 2.1.1 RESOLUTION #17 FOLLOW UP

WHEREAS there is value in affirming that a ministry agreement defines the relationship of a pastor and a local church,

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Local Church Constitution By-Law 2.1.1 be amended as follows:

- 2.1.1 APPOINTMENT AND CALL:** A call shall be extended to a pastor when the pastor receives a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the ballots cast at a meeting duly convened for that purpose. Upon acceptance of the call or confirmation of the appointment, a ministry agreement shall be established.

In order to take effect locally, each *self-governing assembly*, at a regularly convened congregational meeting is required to adopt amendments individually, OR adopt the *Local Church Constitution* (as approved at the 2012 General Conference) in one single motion. However, we ask that you please point out to the members the potential changes.

For this Local Church Constitution to be adopted locally, a two-thirds majority of members present and voting at a duly convened congregational meeting is required.

As provincial legislation may vary from District to District, you are encouraged to review your final version with your District Office.

If your church is incorporated, you may wish to review proposed amendments with your legal counsel.

The new Local Church Constitution can be viewed and downloaded from www.paoc.org -> Fellowship Services -> Forms and Documents -> Constitutions -> Local Church Constitution. Should you desire to receive a hard copy of these documents, please contact Kara Dzikowski at 905-542-7400 ext. 3251.

Further, if you have any questions, please feel free to contact your District Office.

Sincerely,



David Hazzard
Assistant Superintendent for Fellowship Services