

Victory Churches of Canada International

Local Church By-Laws

1. Objectives & Purpose

- 1.1. To preach and advance the teachings of the Christian faith and the religious tenets, doctrines, observances, and culture associated with that faith;
- 1.2. To establish, maintain, and support a house of worship with services conducted in accordance with the tenets and doctrines of the Christian faith;
- 1.3. To support and maintain missions and missionaries in order to propagate the Christian faith;
- 1.4. To establish and maintain a religious school of instruction for children, youths, and adults;
- 1.5. To undertake Activities ancillary and incidental to the attainment of the aforementioned purposes.
- 1.6. The organization shall be carried on without the purpose of gain for its members, and any profits or other gains to the organization shall be used in promoting its objectives.

2. Affiliation

- 2.1. This church shall be exclusively affiliated with Victory Churches of Canada International and shall at all times and in every way, conduct its affairs in accordance with the terms set forth in the VCOCI Affiliation Agreement, a duly signed copy of which is attached.

3. Membership

- 3.1. Any person may become a member by favorable vote passed by a majority of the Board of Directors and shall consist of those persons who, as in John 3:3-15 have been born again, baptized in water by immersion, and have received the baptism in the Holy Spirit according to Acts 2:4, or who believe in it and adhere to the Statement of Faith of the Church, and have attended regularly the services of the Church for at least three (3) months.
- 3.2. A member may at any time resign from membership of the Church by providing the secretary with written notice.
- 3.3. Any member who is willfully absent from regular Church services for a period of three (3) consecutive months, or radically departs from the tenets of faith held by the Church shall be temporarily suspended, pending investigation by the Board. Any member so dealt with shall have the right to a prompt full hearing before the Board prior to any final determination of his membership.
- 3.4. Any member disregarding the obligations assumed by membership will be automatically suspended without having any cause or action whatsoever against the Church or any officer thereof.

4. Board of Directors (herein referred to as "Board")

- 4.1. The Board shall consist of the pastor and not less than two (2) and not more than six (6) members of the Church in good standing, which shall be nominated by the pastor and approved by secret ballot by a majority vote at the annual general meeting. Directors shall be appointed for a two-year term, renewable without limit and implemented on a staggered basis.
- 4.2. The Board shall call meetings of the Church, keep proper books of account thereof and deposit all monies of the Church received in a reputable financial institution and perform all those functions normally performed by the Board of a Corporation. The property and business of the

Church shall be managed by the Board, the remuneration of all officers, deacons, elders, pastors, agents and employees of the Church shall be set and reviewed by the Board annually.

- 4.3. The Board shall be under the chairmanship of the pastor or an appointee of the pastor. The pastor has the reserve right to veto any resolution placed before the Board and a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Board shall have the right to veto any independent decision made by the pastor.
- 4.4. The Board of Directors shall annually appoint a Treasurer and a Secretary. The Secretary shall in the absence of the Chairman perform the duties and exercise the powers of the Chairman. It shall be the duty of the Secretary to attend all meetings of the Church and of the Board and to keep accurate minutes of the same. The Secretary shall also keep a record of all members of the Church and their addresses, send all notices of various meetings as required, and shall have charge of the correspondence of the Church and be under the direction of the Chairman and the Board. The Treasurer shall be responsible for the custody of the funds and securities of the Church, and shall keep full and accurate accounts of all assets, liabilities, receipts and disbursements of the Church and shall make all deposits as the Board directs. The Treasurer shall render to the Board when required, account of transactions and a statement of the financial position of the Church.
- 4.5. Meetings of the Directors, of whom a simple majority shall constitute a quorum, may be called by the pastor or upon the written request from two (2) or more Directors. Members of the Board shall be given at least seven (7) days clear notice of any meeting. There shall be at least one (1) meeting per year of the Board. No error or omission of giving notice of any meeting shall invalidate such meeting or make void any proceedings taken thereat, provided a quorum has been present and ratifies, approves and confirms such proceedings.

5. Pastor

- 5.1. The pastor of the Church shall be chosen by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the Board following which the selection of the Board must be ratified by a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the general membership at a special meeting called for this purpose and for which one (1) months' notice has been given the membership.
- 5.2. The Pastor's tenure may cease by voluntary resignation or by resolution of a two-thirds (2/3) majority of the membership, the motion thereof being endorsed with the signatures of at least five (5) members in good standing and approved by the Board at least one (1) month prior to such meeting of the membership.
- 5.3. The pastor shall, in addition to normal ministerial duties, chair the Board, be responsible for staffing, and appointment of any departmental leaders.

6. Meetings

- 6.1. Meetings of the Church shall be held as decided by the Board or shall be called upon receipt by the Board of a special written request on the part of not less than ten (10%) percent of the membership.
- 6.2. There shall be at least one (1) annual general meeting of the Church.
- 6.3. Notice of meetings shall be given the membership at the Church's Sunday services on the two (2) Sundays immediately preceding the date of any meetings. Such notice to be in writing and by general announcement from the pulpit in the assembly.

- 6.4. One-third (1/3) of the members of the Church being personally present shall be a quorum of any meeting of the Church and no business of the Church shall be transacted unless a quorum be present.
- 6.5. Each member of the Church present at a meeting shall have the right to a single vote, and voting may be by show of hands or secret ballot upon resolution.
- 6.6. Every resolution made shall be either accepted or rejected by majority vote, save for special resolutions which must be passed by at least three-quarters (3/4) of the votes cast.
7. **Execution of Documents and Seal**
 - 7.1. The seal, an impression whereof is made in the margin hereof, shall be the seal of the Church and shall be kept in the custody of the chairman, used only with the consent of the Board.
 - 7.2. Contracts, documents, or instruments in writing requiring the signature of the Church shall be signed by any two (2) officers.
8. **Borrowing Power**
 - 8.1. The Church shall have the right to pledge its credit or borrow money only for such purposes and on such terms and conditions as may be approved by majority vote of the Board.
9. **Real Property**
 - 9.1. All property owned by the Church shall be registered in the Church's name.
10. **Audit**
 - 10.1. The Board shall appoint annually two (2) members of the Church who are not members of the Board to examine all books of account, vouchers, balance sheets and other financial documents and report thereon to the members of the Church at the annual general meeting. The members may upon resolution appoint a chartered accountant to audit the accounts and such appointed auditor shall not be a member of the Board.
11. **Financial Year**
 - 11.1. Unless otherwise decided by the Board, the fiscal year end of the Church shall be December 31st.
12. **Amendment of By-Laws**
 - 12.1. Amendments to these by-laws or any subsequent by-laws must be approved in writing by the VCOCI Executive Board before being presented to the church Membership for ratification.
13. **Rules and Regulations**
 - 13.1. The Board may prescribe such rules and regulations not inconsistent with these by-laws, provided that such will only have force and effect until the next meeting of the members of the Corporation when they must be ratified.
14. **Winding Up**
 - 14.1. In the event of dissolution or winding up of the Church, all of its remaining assets after payment of its liabilities shall be given to Victory Churches of Canada International; or in the event VCOCI is no longer a qualified donee, to other qualified Canadian donees.
15. **Interpretation**
 - 15.1. These by-laws shall be read with all changes in number and gender as required by the context.