

MISSISSAUGA CHINESE ALLIANCE CHURCH
BYLAWS

02/17

These Bylaws shall be read in conjunction with and subject to the Local Church Constitution of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada.

Church Bylaws, provided they are not in conflict with the provisions of the Constitution, may be adopted or amended by a majority vote in a meeting of the membership. A copy of such Bylaws shall be approved by the District Executive Committee (DEXCOM) and filed with the District Office.

NAME

- 1.01 The official name of this church shall be the Mississauga Chinese Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada (hereafter referred to as “the local Church”).

ORDINANCES

- 2.01 All candidates for baptism shall attend baptismal class and shall be interviewed
- (a) by at least two (2) Elders, or
 - (b) by at least one (1) Elder and one (1) Assistant Pastor, or
 - (c) by at least one (1) Elder and Senior Pastor,
- and be allowed to be baptized only upon their approval.
- 2.02 The Lord’s Supper shall be administered on the first Sunday of each month or on such other date(s) or occasion(s) as the Board of Elders may decide.

MEMBERSHIP

- 3.01 Any person who
- (a) is baptized as a believer and
 - (b) has fulfilled the qualifications as set out in Article 6 of the Constitution of the local Church, and
 - (c) has attended the membership class as defined the Board of Elders,
- may apply to be an active member of the local Church.
The applicant shall be interviewed
- (1) by at least two (2) Elders, or
 - (2) by at least one (1) Elder and one (1) Assistant Pastor, or
 - (3) by at least one (1) Elder and Senior Pastor
- 3.02
- (a) All active members under the legal age of sixteen (16) shall have the same rights and responsibilities as other active members except that they are not eligible to vote or to hold office to eldership or deaconship.
 - (b) Any member who is absent from the local Church worship services for a period of nine (9) months, without justifiable cause(s), shall become inactive with the approval of the board and shall be informed by the board secretary. A member who becomes inactive is not eligible to vote and to hold office of eldership, deaconship, or ministry leadership.
 - (c) The Board of Elders shall have the power to reinstate a member who becomes inactive to become an active member.
- 3.03 Members who act in repudiation against the principles expressed in the Objectives (Preamble), Purpose (Article 2) and Statement of Faith (Article 3) as set out in the Local Church Constitution, or otherwise conduct themselves in a manner that amounts to reproach to Christ and the local Church, if there is no evident response to proper counseling, may be removed from the membership roll by a majority vote by the Board of Elders.
- 3.04 The active membership roll shall be revised by the Board of Elders at least annually and the revised roll shall be posted at least two (2) Sundays preceding the date of the annual meeting.

- 3.05 Members wishing to resign or to be reinstated shall indicate their intention in writing to the Secretary of the Board of Elders.

GOVERNMENT

- 4.01 An annual meeting of the membership shall be held on the date no later than March 31st and at a place determined by the Board of Elders.
- 4.02 Apart from the annual meeting, the Board of Elders may from time to time convene a special meeting of the membership.
- 4.03 Notice specifying the place, the date, the time and the proposed agenda for any meeting of the membership shall be posted in a suitable location in the local church and public announcements at the Sunday services shall be given at least two (2) Sundays preceding the date of the meeting.
- 4.04 The quorum for any meeting of the membership shall consist of at least one third (1/3) of the active members who are at least sixteen years old. If a quorum is not present at a meeting, the chairperson of the meeting shall adjourn the meeting and shall announce at the meeting the date, place and time for the rescheduled meeting which shall be held at least one (1) day after but not later than fourteen (14) days from the day of the adjourned meeting. The active members who are at least sixteen years old present at the adjourned meeting shall be considered as the quorum for the rescheduled meeting. The announcement for the rescheduled meeting shall also be posted to the church website.
- 4.05 The fiscal year of the congregation shall be from January 1st to December 31st.
- 4.06 All standing committees appointed by the Board of Elders shall prepare a written report to be presented at the annual meeting and such reports shall be made available to the members at least one (1) Sunday preceding the date of the annual meeting.
- 4.07 Disposition of the ballots, if any, shall be determined by motion at the meeting of the membership. Where no direction is given, disposition shall be determined by the chairperson of the meeting.
- 4.08 An independent evaluation of the financial records is required for presentation to the membership at each annual meeting. This independent evaluation shall be performed by either a professional accounting firm or by a financial review committee. The decision on whether an auditor will be appointed will be made at each annual meeting.

BOARD OF ELDERS

- 5.01 The Board of Elders shall consist of a minimum of four (4) and a maximum of fifteen (15) elders including the Senior Pastor who shall be an elder ex officio. The number of elders for the next election shall be determined by the Board of Elders.
- 5.02 The elders shall be elected for a two-year term commencing from the date of the annual meeting. Elders shall not be elected for more than two consecutive terms.
- 5.03 The officers shall be elected from among the Board members by the Board. Their appointments are coincidental with their respective term of eldership.
- 5.04 The quorum necessary for the transaction of the business of the Board of Elders shall be a majority of the elders. Every question arising at any meeting shall be decided by a majority of the members present.
- 5.05 If an elder is absent from three (3) consecutive meetings of the Board without justifiable cause(s), the remaining elders may declare the position vacant and may appoint an active church member to fill the vacancy until the next annual meeting.
- 5.06 No remuneration shall be received by an elected elder by virtue of eldership.
- 5.07 No offerings shall be solicited without the approval of the Board of Elders.

DEACONS & DEACONESSES

- 6.01 The Board of Elders shall appoint such number of deacons, deaconesses and/or ministry leaders from active members as assistants to the elders in local church leadership, and according to the biblical standard.
- 6.02 Each deacon, deaconess or ministry leader shall hold office for a term of two (2) years commencing from the date his/her appointment takes effect to the date the appointment of his/her successor takes effect or for such other term as the Board of Elders may at the time of appointment specifically prescribe. Their respective terms may be renewed and must be re-affirmed by the Board of Elders.
- 6.03 The duties of deacons, deaconesses and ministry leaders shall be prescribed by the Board of Elders.
- 6.04 No remuneration shall be received by an appointed deacon, deaconess or ministry leader by virtue of his/her deaconship.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

- 7.01 The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Senior Pastor, and four (4) other members with two (2) from the Board of Elders, and two (2) elected from the active membership who are not currently serving on the Board, as set out in the Local Church Constitution.
- 7.02 Any member on the Nominating Committee may be eligible for consideration as nominee, but cannot self-nominate.
- 7.03 Other nominations, if any, shall be made in writing, signed by two active members in good standing who are not related by blood or marriage, and filed with the Chair of the Nominating Committee for consideration no later than fourteen (14) days prior to the Election Meeting. Other Nominations will be posted, only after approval by the Nominating Committee, on the Sunday prior to the Election Meeting.

(These Bylaws were adopted by the Membership of Mississauga Chinese Alliance Church of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada on the *xx* day of *xxxxx*, 2017.)