



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLIES

.....
Connecting to Advance God's Kingdom

2021 FCA CANADA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Online via Zoom at the 2021 FCA Convention

May 5, 2021 | 3:00 PM MDT

MINUTES

The Annual Business Meeting commenced at 3:00 PM MDT.

Chairman: Glenn Breitreuz

BUS 21-01 Welcome & Prayer:

Glenn Breitreuz opened the meeting by acknowledging the following people and their roles in the ABM.

Chair: Glenn Breitreuz

Parliamentarian: George Bradley

Recording Secretary: Leslie Pamenter

Zoom Facilitator: Autumn Sellen

Beverly Fawcett welcomed the group, gave a word of encouragement and opened in prayer.

BUS 21-02 Introduction of New Ministers and Church Delegates:

The Chairman acknowledged the new members and showed a list of the names of the new ministers, as well as a map of Canada with each of their locations pinned.

The Chairman gave an update from the Parliamentarian that a quorum was established. At least 25 representatives were in attendance. He thanked any non-members present for their interest but reminded them they would not be eligible to vote.

BUS 21-03 Approval of Agenda:

It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Agenda for the May 5, 2021, Annual Business Meeting as circulated in the *Reports & Agenda* booklet.

Moved: Paul Vallee

Seconded: Jim Humphries

CARRIED

BUS 21-04 Approval of Minutes:

It was Moved and Seconded to approve the June 27, 2020, Annual Business Meeting minutes as circulated in the *Reports & Agenda* booklet.

Moved: Patrick Rimple

Seconded: David Reimer

CARRIED

BUS 21-05 Vision Presentation:

Trevor on ***Collaborating in Kingdom Mission***

Trevor said that with staff and an updated structure we have been able to implement new strategies to get things done. Autumn and Leslie shared about Vision from the administrative perspective. Trevor encouraged members to attend our monthly meetings that have replaced our yearly envisioning meetings. He noted this is a good platform to receive consistent feedback. Meetings occur on the 3rd Thursdays of the month and are one hour long. He asked that people read emails and respond accordingly. He asks members to involve the FCA in the local ministry environment and asked that if your church is not part of the FCA that members would join the Fellowship and collaborate with each other.

Gene on ***Equipping Spirit-led Leaders***

Gene shared that Clearwater wants to serve the FCA. Over the past year, they made available free and subsidized online courses. Going forward, Clearwater is looking to give resources to the local churches. The FCA has made *RightNow Media* available to minsters. Gene noted that the FCA has more members over 70 than there are under 50, and we need to look to raise up the next generation of leaders. Gene would love to know who in the FCA has training or gifting so that we can impart the next generation. Please contact Gene to be involved.

Bryan and Duane on ***Cultivating Personal & Relational Well-being***

Duane explained ***Super Soul Care Saturdays*** as an event in which Duane and Bryan would come to local churches and begin to roll out Soul Care. He asked those interested to contact them to make arrangements. Bryan explained that we often invest in personal well-being last and we are offering free opportunities for healing and well-being so that we can bring help before it becomes critical. Bryan asked that members engage in soul care if they need help.

Glenn reiterated that the vision pillars are a distilled version of all the things that the members of the Fellowship have asked for over the years.

BUS 21-06 Financial Report & 2022 Budget:

Glenn noted that the FCA received charity status and thanked Gene Enns on behalf of the Fellowship of Christian Assemblies for carrying us through this process. We made multiple attempts and Gene was able to get it finalized.

Gene Enns presented the **Notice to Reader** submitted by Dart Bryant Chartered Accountants as printed in the *Reports & Agenda* booklet. Key items to note include:

- Assets and liabilities noting that we are in a healthy spot. There is no long term debt, they are all current liabilities.
- Deferred revenue is membership because it is paid in 2020, but considered 2021 income.
- There were some adjustments due to Covid.
- There are some funds set aside to make advancements.
- Surplus from last year was \$38000 though \$5000 was budgeted. Change is due to covid.

Gene Enns presented the **2022 Proposed Budget** as printed in the *Reports & Agenda* booklet. He noted:

- Payroll is higher. In January we started paying Trevor Hoskin. Last year his church paid his salary.
- Virtual convention Line 20 may actual might be lower.
- There was no in-person elders' retreat due to covid.
- There was a lower deficit than projected and maybe even lower based on higher than anticipated registrations for convention.
- An increase of admin support and reduced development initiatives.

It was Moved and Seconded to accept the 2022 Draft Budget as presented.

Moved: Gene Enns

Seconded: Wayne Kent

CARRIED

Glenn noted one of the stipulations of charity status is that monies raised need to be spent as they were intended and not saved. Gene confirmed that it is not the intention to save money but to spend wisely for kingdom purposes.

Jim Reimer affirmed his support for the direction of the Fellowship and the funds should be spent in support of the development of the vision.

Brad Montsion asked if there has been further discussion about putting aside money yearly for Clearwater College. Gene responded that there have been no discussions. Brad suggested that it's a discussion that may need to happen.

BUS 21-07 Item #7: Waiving Requirement of Public Accountant:

Gene Enns presented that according to the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act*, which the FCA is governed by, we are required to appoint a public accountant to conduct a review of our financial statements. Although review engagements are fine and can be helpful, they are more costly than our current preferred method of a compilation (aka Notice to Reader) and at this point

deemed unnecessary by the Board. However, in order to be able to continue using our Notice to Reader reporting method, the organization is required to waive the appointment of a public accountant by unanimous resolution of the members. This resolution must be passed annually and this current one applies only to the 2021 fiscal year. Should this resolution fail to pass unanimously, an alternative resolution appointing the Dart Bryan LLP accounting firm as our public accountant in order to conduct a review engagement for 2021 will immediately be proposed.

It was Moved and Seconded to accept the proposed:

Whereas, the FCA already uses an accountant to prepare annual financial statements; and

Whereas, the *Canada Not-for-profit Corporations Act* allows the FCA to continue using a Notice to Reader; and

Whereas, a resolution passed unanimously waiving the appointment of a public accountant is necessary to continue using a Notice to Reader;

Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the appointment of a public accountant for the FCA is hereby waived until the close of the next annual members meeting or until a public accountant is appointed.

Moved: Gene Enns

Seconded: Wilson Kadavil

CARRIED

BUS 21-08 Item #8: Constitutional Document:

Gene Enns presented that when the handbook was revised, it became evident that we needed to distinguish the policies and procedures (i.e. Handbook) from our constitution and bylaws. Throughout the years, various constitutional elements have been adopted by the Fellowship, yet some of them presently have not found any official landing spot for the Fellowship.

At the Annual Business Meeting in 2020, there was concern expressed about the possible implications of adopting our Statement of Ethics as part of our bylaws. This led to further research regarding elements of faith (such as our Statement of Common Beliefs and our Statement of Ethics) being included in our constituting documents (i.e. official legal documents). After further research, the FCA Elders recommend that the membership adopt the motion that includes these elements as our official constitutional document. This will be added prior to the bylaws to form our Constitution and Bylaws document.

The reasons the Board recommends this is as follows:

- Communication with lawyer Adam Aptowitzer from Drache Aptowitzer LLP and accountant Curtis Towns, CPA, CMA, from the Canadian Centre

for Christian Charities indicated no concerns for organizations that include these elements in their official legal documents.

- Although recognizing it is not *required* to include these elements, Mr. Towns also indicated, “Having the statement of faith in the bylaws not only makes it clear to those desiring to be members what the requirements are, but it also is part of the overall picture of demonstrating the religious nature and beliefs upheld by the organization. This can be important in a legal sense.” Mr. Aptowitzer also mentioned that having these elements in the official documents does provide an underlying spirit of intention that can be an important factor should there be a need for a court to interpret the legal documents.
- To create greater clarity on membership, any membership requirements should be clearly outlined in the constating documents (i.e. official documents of the organization). The Charities Handbook from the CCCC, in Chapter 1, specifically states, “To create more certainty, religious charities should consider including in their bylaws a requirement that members agree and adhere to the organization’s Statement of Faith (which would also be set out in the bylaws).”
- Inclusion of these elements in our constating documents ensures that it is the membership that retains the authority to make any changes.
- There is significant precedent among churches and Christian organizations for the inclusion of documents of faith such as statements of faith in constating documents. The ACOP has theirs in their Articles, the POAC in their constitution, ELCIC in their constitution, Mennonite Brethren in their bylaws (appendix), the Mennonite Church Canada in their bylaws, the C&MA (Pacific District) as well as Canadian Baptists of Ontario and Quebec both require each member church to include it in their constitution, and many individual churches include it in their constating documents as well.

It was Moved and Seconded to accept the proposed:

Whereas, the constitutional elements are foundational statements of the FCA; and

Whereas, all elements other than the *Preamble* have previously been approved by the membership; and

Whereas, it is recommended by various professional resources to include these elements in our constating documents; and

Whereas, an official Constitution ensures the right of the membership to make any alterations;

Therefore, be it

***Resolved*, That the Constitution be added to the constating documents of the Fellowship of Christian Assemblies of Canada immediately preceding the Bylaws; and**

Resolved, That the Statement of Common Beliefs be removed from the Bylaws as a result of its inclusion in the Constitution.

Constitution of the Fellowship of Christian Assemblies of Canada

PREAMBLE

Recognizing the Scriptural charge given to the Church to carry out the Great Commission of Jesus Christ and, recognizing the critical role of cooperative and accountable fellowship among the Church:

- We affirm that we are a fellowship of like-minded, local, self-governing Christian assemblies as well as ministers who endeavour to be united in Spirit as we cooperate in this call.
- We affirm our distinctive identity while also affirming our identification with:
 - The global Fellowship of Christian Assemblies family
 - Our historical roots within the Pentecostal movement
 - The worldwide Evangelical church
- We affirm our call to work in the spirit of love and unity with all true believers in our common ministry within the Kingdom of God.

It is with this foundation that we affirm this constitution and bylaws.

ARTICLE 1 NAME

The name shall be the *Fellowship of Christian Assemblies of Canada*.

ARTICLE 2 PURPOSES

1. To advance religion by conducting public worship and by preaching and advancing the teachings of the Christian faith;
2. To advance religion by establishing, maintaining, and supporting evangelism, missions, and missionaries to propagate the Christian faith;
3. To advance religion by establishing, maintaining, and supporting Christian places of worship;
4. To advance religion by promoting and facilitating fellowship among churches and Christians of like faith;
5. To advance religion by producing, publishing, distributing, and selling Christian literature;
6. To advance religion and education by establishing, maintaining, conducting, and supporting schools and programs of instruction based on Christian teachings;
7. To advance religion and education by providing scholarships based on qualifying criteria to allow candidates to attend post-secondary Christian education;
8. To relieve poverty by providing financial assistance based on qualifying criteria to allow candidates to attend post-secondary Christian education;
9. To relieve poverty by providing for education, skills training, the basic necessities of life, and other humanitarian needs in accordance with the tenets of Christianity; and
10. To assist with the efficiency and/or effectiveness of the carrying out of the charitable purposes and activities of other affiliated Christian charities by facilitating,

administering, advising, or otherwise assisting in charitable and administrative areas.

ARTICLE 3 STATEMENT OF COMMON BELIEFS

We Believe:

- The Bible to be the only inspired, infallible, and authoritative Word of God (*John 16:13; 2 Timothy 3:15–17, 2 Peter 1:21; 1 Thessalonians 2:13*).
- There is one God, eternally existent in three persons: Father, Son and Holy Spirit (*Deuteronomy 6:4; Isaiah 43:10–11; Matthew 28:18; Luke 3:22; John 14:16*).
- In the deity and humanity of our Lord Jesus Christ (*John 1:1, 14; 20:28–29; Philippians 2:6–11; Isaiah 9:6; Colossians 2:9*),
 - His virgin birth (*Matthew 1:18; Luke 1:34–35; Isaiah 7:14*),
 - His sinless life (*2 Corinthians 5:21; Hebrews 4:15; 7:26–27; 1 John 3:5; 1 Peter 2:22*),
 - His miracles (*Matthew 4:23; Luke 6:17–19; John 3:2*),
 - His vicarious and atoning death through his shed blood (*Colossians 1:14, 20; Romans 5:8–9; Ephesians 1:7*),
 - His bodily resurrection (*1 Corinthians 15:3–4; Luke 24:4–7, 36–48; Revelation 1:17–18*),
 - His ascension to the right hand of the Father (*Acts 2:33, 5:30–31; 1 Peter 3:22*),
 - His personal return in power and in glory (*Acts 1:11; Philippians 2:9–11; 1 Thessalonians 1:10; 4:13–18; John 14:1–3*).
- That justification by faith in the atonement of Jesus Christ and regeneration by the Holy Spirit are absolutely essential for the salvation of lost and sinful man (*Romans 3:24–25; John 3:3–7; 1 John 5:11–13; Ephesians 2:1–16; Revelation 5:9; Acts 4:23; 1 Corinthians 6:11*).
- That the prime agency for the work of God's kingdom is the Christian local church functioning under the sovereignty of our Lord Jesus Christ to fulfill the Great Commission of preaching the Gospel to make and baptize disciples of all nations. The church has been entrusted with the ordinances of Believer's Baptism and the Lord's Supper (*Acts 1:6–8; 2:41–47; 16:4–5; Matthew 16:18; 28:18–20; Mark 16:15–16; Luke 24:44–49; John 20:21; Ephesians 1:22–23; 1 Corinthians 11:23–26; 12:1–31*).
- In the present ministry of the Holy Spirit which includes: the baptism in the Holy Spirit as an experience distinct from regeneration; his indwelling by which the Christian is enabled to live a godly life; his supernatural gifting and empowering of the church for its work, life, and worship (*Luke 24:49; Acts 1:4–8; 2:1–4; 10:44–46; 1 Corinthians 12:1–31; 14:1–40*).
- In a lifestyle and practice of ethical conduct and integrity consistent with the character of Jesus Christ and biblical standards (*Romans 12:1–2; 1 Corinthians 6:9–10; Galatians 5:19–21; Ephesians 4:13–32; 1 Timothy 3:1–13; Titus 1:5–11; 2:11–13; 3:9; 1 Peter 1:13–16*).
- In the return of Jesus Christ, to consummate his kingdom in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; those who are saved unto the resurrection of life, and those who are

lost unto the resurrection of damnation (*John 5:28–29; Mark 14:62; 2 Thessalonians 1:2–10; Revelation 1:5–7; 20:4–5, 11–12*).

- In the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ (*John 17:11, 21–23; Romans 12:4–5; Ephesians 4:11–16*).

ARTICLE 4 STATEMENT OF ETHICS

All that exists emanates from the person and character of God. His nature is the unalterable foundation of creation. Each person in every generation of humanity is tasked with discovering, living, preserving and transmitting the true nature and purpose of life. We also celebrate that in Jesus Christ, God has provided completely for the restoration of every distortion from the original intent of God, small or great, to return us to joy and purpose. The following statements offer clear biblical Christian definitions of fundamental God given truths that are under pressure in our current culture. Our stand is not a matter of opinion but our understanding of what God's intention is for life.

- Human life begins at conception. God's plan for life extends from embryogenesis through adulthood. (Psalm 22:9, 10; 71:6; 139:13, 14; Isaiah 44:2, 24; 46:3, 4; 49:1, 5)
- Abortion constitutes an interruption of God's intention and of the human rights of the person in the womb. It violates God's commandment not to kill and assaults the most vulnerable and defenseless people in our society. (Luke 1:15, 41, 44; Judges 13:5, 7; Jeremiah 1:5; Galatians 1:15, 16; Exodus 20:13; 21:22-25)
- Marriage is the God ordained, legal and spiritual union of one man and one woman (defined genetically) to the exclusion of all others. This covenant union honours God's own nature in its complimentary male and female components. (Genesis 1:27; 2:23, 24; Matthew 19:4-6; Ephesians 5:31, 32; II Corinthians 11:2; Revelation 19:7; 21:2.)
- Every human life is sacrosanct, having a God-given purpose and dignity from the moment of conception until natural death. Therefore, both euthanasia and assisted suicide are inappropriate human interruptions of God's intention and a usurping of His role. (Psalm 139:15-18; Ephesians 2:10; II Timothy 1:9)
- The heart of Christ's Church is to show compassion for the poor, broken, vulnerable, defenseless, and helpless from every race, colour and gender. (Psalm 68:5, 6; Isaiah 1:17; James 1:27; John 1:14; Ephesians 4:29-32)

In these essentials, let there be unity. In non-essentials, let there be liberty. And in all things, let there be charity.

ARTICLE 5 VALUES

- The authority of the Scriptures
- The leading and empowerment of the Holy Spirit
- Healthy relationships
- Inter-church cooperation
- Local church self-government

- Intergenerational and multi-ethnic communities

ARTICLE 6 AMENDMENTS

Amendments to the constitution may be made at any regularly called annual business meeting, or duly called special meeting, provided the proposed amendment shall have been submitted 90 days prior thereto, in writing, through the Secretary of the Board, to the Board. Notice to the membership will be provided no later than 30 days prior to the meeting. Amendments are only effective on the confirmation of the membership by an affirmative vote of at least two-thirds (2/3) of the votes cast by the members who voted at a meeting duly called for the purpose of considering the proposed amendment.

Any amendments to the Name or Purpose(s) of the corporation will be treated as amendments to both the Constitution and the Articles of the corporation as registered with Corporations Canada.

Moved: Gene Enns

Seconded: George Bradley

CARRIED

BUS 21-09 Convention Reports:

The Chairman acknowledged and thanked those who submitted the reports which were included in the *Reports & Agenda* booklet.

BUS 21-10 FCA Plus & RRSP:

Jim Reimer gave a brief presentation on the benefits available to FCA ministers and churches. These benefits include the group retirement savings plan and the FCA Plus (health, dental, and insurance). He encouraged members to contact the office for more information.

BUS 21-11 Handbook:

Gene said the Handbook is a living document and there are a number of adjustments that are made. With the monthly Envisioning Meetings along with Trevor's role as the Executive Director, there are some updates that need to be made and a new version will be released in the coming months. He noted that if you're unsure of how things work in terms of FCA related business, please access the Handbook to find out those details. The Handbook is available in the resource section of the website and has a lot of information that is helpful. He also noted that there are some key parts of the Handbook that the Administrative Staff is putting together to help navigate some of the things in the Handbook, particularly in regards to Endorsement. Glenn commended Autumn and Leslie on the work that he has seen that has already been completed and commented on the quality of the documents and the value it will have for the membership and Endorsing Churches.

- BUS 21-12 **2022 Convention in Edmonton:**
Trevor Hoskins announced that the 2022 convention would be held in Edmonton, Alberta and the theme would focus on our first pillar: ***Cultivating Personal & Relational Well-being***. This convention will be led by our young leaders.
- BUS 21-13 **Re-election of Elders:**
One name for re-election was accepted as indicated below. 35 eligible votes were collected:
- Glenn Breitkreuz** was re-elected for a 3-year term as Elder (35 YES, 0 NO = 100 %)
- Glenn publicly noted that he abstained from the vote.
- BUS 21-14 **Honour Elder Emeritus:**
Glen Forsberg and Glenn Breitkreuz presented Paul Reich to the group to be recognized as Elder Emeritus, joining *James Humphries, Brad Montsion, Lovelace St. John, Paul Vallee, Jim Reimer, Roger Armbruster, John Lucas II, Kenton Kennett, Mervin Westad, Cliff Stalwick, Jake Toews, Gordon Setterlund, Wilfred Lawrenson, Arthur Lagore, and George Mackenzie*.
- BUS 21-15 **The STAND:**
Greg Fraser announced a prayer challenge, called "Stand" and indicated that they were asking for 50 churches to join to pray and fast.
- BUS 21-16 **Acknowledgement:**
Glenn thanked those involved in planning and carrying out both the 2021 Convention and ABM.
- BUS 21-17 **Closing Remarks:**
Paul Reich closed the meeting by expressing his appreciation to serve in the past 11 years. Paul closed in prayer.
- BUS 21-18 **Adjournment:**
Glen Forsberg motioned to adjourn. David Reimer seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 4:48 PM MT.

Minutes submitted by Leslie Pamenter, Recording Secretary.