



FELLOWSHIP OF CHRISTIAN ASSEMBLIES

Connecting to Advance God's Kingdom

2023 FCA CANADA ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

Delta Hotel by Marriott | Mississauga ON

May 2, 2023 | 2:00 PM EDT

MINUTES

The Annual Business Meeting commenced at 2:05 PM EDT.

Chairman: Glenn Breitzkreuz

BUS 23-01 **Welcome & Prayer:** Glenn Breitzkreuz opened the meeting and acknowledged the following people and their roles in the ABM.

Chair: Glenn Breitzkreuz

Parliamentarian: Robert Parmenter

Recording Secretary: Leslie Pamerter

Grace Mullins opened in prayer. Glenn thanked the volunteers.

BUS 23-02 **Introduction of New Ministers and Church Delegates:** The Chairman explained the voting rules and the requirements of the meetings. He noted that if you leave the meeting, you need to check out and check back in so we maintain an accurate count. There are different requirements for different votes; 80% of votes cast using secret ballot, unanimous vote and simple majority using voter cards. The documents have been circulated by email, discussed at member meetings, copies of special business and QR code for reports and agenda.

The Chairman acknowledged the new members and asked the new members present to stand and asked them to introduce themselves. He encouraged people to connect with each other by finding them on the website.

Glenn acknowledged the members were promoted to glory in the past year, and the membership stood in a minute of honour of silence of thanksgiving to God.

The Chairman gave an update from the Parliamentarian that a quorum was established. At least 25 representatives were in attendance; 76 members were noted as present at the meeting.

BUS 23-03 **Approval of Minutes:** It was Moved and Seconded to approve the May 4, 2022, Annual Business Meeting minutes as circulated in the *Reports & Agenda* booklet.
Moved: Jim Reimer
Seconded: Ron Short
CARRIED

BUS 23-04 **Vision**

The chairman noted that Duane Siemens was not able to attend.

Vision Implementation Pillar 2: Gene shared about some of the initiatives that he and Duane have been working on. He noted that Coaching was originally part of Pillar 1, but they decided Pillar 2 was a better fit for Coaching. If there are questions, please reach out to Duane.

Gene shared slides about the 3 pillars.

He shared about some issues related to leadership development, the 4 groups that need equipping, general equipping needs, and specific equipping needs. He identified existing FCA equipping avenues. He invited people who are interested in helping with this pillar by contributing to teaching.

Gene acknowledged Ralph Kassen's role in the FCA Leadership Training Scholarship fund and how important it was to him. E-mail donation to scholarship fund: fcascholarship@fcaministers.com

Gene shared about some new initiatives;

1. The Timothy Initiative.
2. Resource Centre
3. Equipping Tracks

The chairman asked that everyone be in touch with Gene and Duane if they are interested in joining them in building into these initiatives.

Future Initiatives Regional Hubs - Greg shared about the need to re-envision what is needed in regional leadership. He shared some history of Regional Coordinators and Fellowship Pastor and some of the challenges with the former model. We stopped to reset and work on what was intended to be. To create something where everyone is cared for, but no one cares for too many. Regional HUBS (teams) instead of individuals, consisting of 3 individuals in each region. It's a biblical model if there are 3 x 15 = 45 people. Which is almost 10% of the Fellowship. The regional hubs will not generate new or alternative vision or direction; not forward personal agendas, does not infringe on local church relationships; and does not change the koinonia of the Fellowship.

Greg listed some benefits and goals of the Hub structure. He asked that the membership vote to give approval to begin to build the Hub models to help move the Fellowship forward.

Pastor Glen Forsberg shared that he is encouraged to hear about this model. He recognized that the role of Fellowship Pastor as an individual is not enough to care for all of Canada. He gave his endorsement and prayed.

Approval of Regional Hubs: It was Moved and Seconded that the FCA Elders and/or their delegates are authorized to develop and implement the regional Hub model.

Moved: Ron Short

Seconded: Eli Diolanda

CARRIED

The chairman opened the floor to questions.

- Are the Hubs in lieu of Fellowship Pastor? Yes.
- It was asked that for smaller regions would one person adequately fill the role? There would still be 3 in leadership regardless of the size of the region.
- Is there potential for more than 3? There is no cap, it can evolve, but Hub of 3 includes visionary, administrator, and someone to support.
- Roger was thankful for the initiative and noted that it brings us back into alignment with the vision and to multiply. The chairman commended the coordinators that have continued gathering the people because they understood the heart of the role.
- How are the 3 people selected? The chairman noted that selection is part of the planning process. Approval from the Fellowship to institute the model was the first step, planning for the selection of leaders is the next step.
- Is the plan to have elders/sr leaders in each region or introduce younger leaders? What kind of time commitment is expected for those involved? There will be less time required than for the elders, 45 people helping with the whole country vs 7 elders. The hope is that national elders will emerge from these leadership roles in the regions. We want to cultivate young leaders. This is a great opportunity for other church leaders rather than just sr. pastors. The chairman reminded everyone that we are not just a fellowship of pastors, but a fellowship of churches as well.

We don't have other restraints yet. We need to have these discussions in the Envisioning meeting.

- Pastor Ed from Nova Scotia asked how the east will be handled? They have a very small presence and are geographically isolated from the closest churches. He would like to be kept in mind as a remote part of one region. They want to be involved. George commended those traveling from NS and encouraged them to consider themselves as a beachhead.

The question was called and received a majority vote.

BUS 23-05 Financial Report & 2023 Budget:

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:

- Balance sheet: including assets, liabilities, net assets, wages payable, deferred revenue.
- Statement of revenues and expenditures; Church fees were down, minister fees are close to the same. 2022 was the first year the convention went through FCA books. Heart of the Shepherd first event \$158k which is up from 2021. Payroll was lower.
- Development expenses are related to pillar development, elder retreat, general and administrative; change in how directors insurance is recorded makes it appear higher, details are available upon request
- Deficit was budgeted, but surplus was recorded because we were not able to do everything we wanted to do because of Covid.
- Statement of cash flow Increased

Gene opened the floor to questions and there were none.

Gene presented the **2024 Proposed Budget** as printed in the *Reports & Agenda* booklet. He noted:

- During Covid we were not able to do some of the things we anticipated. We want to invest in our members, so we have a deficit budget because we have money in the account. We are planning to invest in our membership which will show a deficit budget.
- Expecting a slight increase in minister fees based on 2 EM model
- Convention finances go through FCA books
- Expenses; payroll is always highest; extra initiatives require extra administration.
- Developing initiatives; specifically pillar 1 & 2 at this point
- Convention expenses; includes general expenses involved in putting on a convention. This factors in the \$10K subsidy.
- Regional honoraria; reinstated in anticipation of regional Hub
- \$43600 deficit at this time we have the funds, but as time goes on, it can't be sustained long term. Adjustments will be made in the future so no debts will be incurred.

Approval of the 2024 draft budget: It was Moved and Seconded to accept the 2024 Draft Budget as presented.

Moved: Gene Enns

Seconded: Wayne Kent

CARRIED

It was proposed that we start financially supporting Clearwater College again and asked that the elders discuss.

Consensus of Support of Clearwater College: Glenn asked the room for a consensus vote if the members present would like to see some of their membership fees support Clearwater college and it was affirmed that we would look into that.

The question was called and received a majority vote.

BUS 23-06 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 2023 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 2023 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: Bradley Montsion

CARRIED

It was noted that this must be unanimous. It was asked for anyone to show against; none, those were in favour; all.

Glenn thanked Gene for all his work

BUS 23-07 Recognition of Reports: Bryan acknowledged and thanked those who submitted the reports which were included in the *Reports & Agenda* booklet. He expressed thanks to Trevor & Autumn & Leslie for the work, as well as Grace and Heather.

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. He noted that if you are part of FCA Plus, travel insurance is included.

Glenn thanked Jim for pioneering these projects.

BUS 23-08 Business Items:

BUS 23-09 Two Minister Endorsement Model: Gene shared the two minister endorsement model. He explained the current way ministers are endorsed, and noted that we are not eliminating that avenue, but rather adding another avenue. Both parties must be ordained. This topic has been discussed extensively during the monthly meetings, there was a document attached to Reports & Agenda that explains the proposal. This is currently part of the US model. Gene has spoken with them about the challenges but it works well.

There are limitations and qualifications.

The proposal does not include details, but rather the approval for adding this as an avenue for endorsement.

Whereas, the FCA model is that of endorsement of ministers into the Fellowship; and

Whereas, there is a practical need for increased endorsement options;

Therefore, be it

Resolved, That the FCA adopt a Two-Minister Endorsement model that maintains the spirit and intention of historical Fellowship endorsement;

Resolved, That licensing and ordination remain functions of the local church; and

Resolved, That the FCA Elders and/or their delegates are authorized to develop and implement the details of the endorsement model.

Moved: Gene Enns

Seconded: Taryl Peirson

CARRIED

John Lucas Jr suggested to amend the limitations of the 2EM and allow more ministers to be endorsed by each minister. He would like to change the limit of 5 to 10. He noted that he noted how people have been trying to be part of the fellowship but are unable to find a church to endorse them.

Gene noted that this doesn't require an amendment to the motion. This can be part of discussion later. The vote can happen without this change. Glenn noted that the limit of 5 people was put forward because of accountability and support.

The following comments were made:

- More Endorsing Churches are needed and those who have been members for 5 years were encouraged to register and become Endorsing Churches.
- It takes a lot of time to maintain contact with ministers and often pastors and board members don't have time. This is an important addition to help carry the responsibility of endorsement.
- Endorsing is not to get people in, but to have relationships with. It's about relationships, not just a regional thing but a relational thing.
- This model enables us to do a better job of being connected. Not every EC has the same capabilities of endorsing.
- It is important to read the handbook to learn different aspects of endorsement.

Lovelace asked about shifting ministers from the EC model to the 2EM model; can it be done and how? Yes it can be done, and it will be as changing your registration.

The question was called and received a majority vote.

BUS 23-10 Election & Re-election of Elders: The Chairman gave an update that 65 members and 5 observers were currently present at the meeting.

There was a vote on the re-election of three incumbent elders; Bryan Swash, Beverly Fawcett, Duane Siemens. Beverly Fawcett and Bryan Swash shared a few minutes with the members about themselves.

The vote was held by casting of secret ballots.

Tabling of the motion: It was moved and seconded to table the results until the votes are counted.

Moved: Brad Montsion.

Seconder: Greg Fraser

CARRIED

Jim Reimer shared about the 2024 Convention. A promotion video was shared. He noted that the American FCA members of the planning committee suggested that we provide programming and care for children and youth. Jim asked for a show of hands for those who would bring their children and many indicated they would. He shared some topics that would be discussed and that the speaker will be Joseph Mattera.

The Chairman thanked everyone involved in the Convention.

Bev prayed. John Lucas prayed.

Those who needed to leave to attend the Commissioning service were dismissed.

77 member votes were cast.

- **Beverly Fawcett** was re-elected for a 3-year term as Elder (70 YES, 7 NO = 91%)
It was noted that Beverly abstained from this vote.
- **Duane Siemens** was re-elected for a 3-year term as Elder (60 YES, 12 NO = 83%)
It was noted that Duane was absent for this vote.
- **Bryan Swash** was re-elected for a 3-year term as Elder (71 YES, 5 NO = 93%)
It was noted that Bryan abstained from this vote.

Glen prayed over Bev, Bryan and Duane.

BUS 23-13 **Acknowledgement:** Glenn thanked those involved in planning and carrying out both the 2023 Convention and the ABM.

BUS 23-14 **Adjournment:** Patrick Rimple motioned to adjourn.
Motion to adjourn was defeated.

Motion to destroy the ballots: It was moved and seconded to destroy the ballots.

Moved: Richard Ebofin

Seconder: Gordon Ponak

CARRIED

Patrick Rimple motioned to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:07 PM ET.

Minutes submitted by Leslie Pamenter, Recording Secretary.