

## CCMBC Annual General Meeting Minutes

**Date: Thursday, June 13, 2024**

**Location: Zoom**

**Time: 6 pm – 8 pm CDT**

**Minute taker: Victor J. Martens**

Quorum was met with delegates present at the beginning of the meeting at 4:10 pm PDT.

The Meeting was called to order at 4:10 by Tim Doerksen (chair / interim moderator) who welcomed delegates and guests and who offered instructions. Tim provided excerpts from Ps. 118 to encourage delegates to rely on God in uncertain times with thanksgiving. Tim then opened in prayer. Tim summarized the instructions for use of Zoom technology and voting instructions as provided by email. Motions have been moved and seconded by Executive Board members; therefore, motions will move directly to discussion with voting following.

**1. Consent Motion to approve the following individuals to AGM duties: Carried unanimously.**

- 1.1. Parliamentarians: Michelle Knowles, Reg Esau
- 1.2. Ballot team: Jim Bell, Paul Loewen, Carson Graham
- 1.3. Minute review committee: Brad Sumner, Ken Peters.

**2. Consent Motion to approve 2024 agenda and the Oct 28, 2023 National Assembly minutes as presented. Carried**

3. Moderator Report (Tim Doerksen reporting) – Highlights presented: Implementation of the Collaborative Unified Strategic Plan (CUSP) is ongoing after the first flush of enthusiasm. Positive feedback has been encouraging. Tim expressed appreciation for the leadership – nationally, provincially and locally. Tim thanked retiring members Reg Toews and Michael Dick for their service over many years. There were no questions raised.
4. Commissioning of Cam Stuart, CCMBC National Director. Michael Dick, Chair of the Search committee (Reg Esau, Jeff Martens, Paul Loewen, Char Hildebrand) presented the process to select Cam Stuart as National Director. Cam has many years of experience in church leadership and completed his D.Min. while serving his local Church. Colossians 1 was quoted to encourage delegates to pray for Cam that God would give him strength and patience as he serves CCMBC.

**Motion: to ratify Cam Stuart as National Director for the CCMBC. Carried unanimously.** Reg Toews and Michelle Knowles prayed for Cam and his family in his role as National Director. Cam started his role on 1 April 2024.

5. National Director Report (Cam Stuart reporting) – Cam thanked members for their prayer on his behalf. The discernment process was lengthy and prayerful. Both Cam and the search

team were trusting God for His guidance. Cam served the MB denomination for 31 years in different capacities. Cam offered the following statements:

- The vision of CCMBC drew Cam to the position of National Director.
- CCMBC needs to concentrate more on disciple-making.
- There has been a decline in evangelical witness in Canada / North America with a corresponding decrease of people believing in the divinity of Christ.
- Many people are unfamiliar with the term “Great Commission” – we have much work to do.
- We need to learn from our brothers and sisters in developing countries.
- Humbling ourselves and seeking God’s will is core to the Collaborative model (as per Romans 12).
- As we bring our individual and corporate commitment to serve and love each other, we become unified as we work to reach out to our world. Philippians 2 emphasizes putting aside our individual agendas and serve each other. The National Director’s role is to champion disciple-making and working with the various leadership teams in the CCMBC realm.

Cam expressed trepidation as he enters the role but is assured of God’s help. Cam thanked the CCMBC for their confidence in him. There were no questions or comments submitted.

6. National Faith & Life Report (Ken Esau reporting). Ken commented on where the church is moving toward. Ken thanked the members of the National Faith and Life team as they met together recently. Working together with the various CCMBC teams has been encouraging. Among the many initiatives of the NFLT, Ken articulated several resources being made available to pastors and congregations:

- Confession of Faith Resource Revision Project, especially the Revised Explanatory Notes for Articles 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 9; Living the Confession (FAQs) for Articles 6 and 7. Feedback is encouraged for the articles being reviewed.
- A “Loving Well our Trans Neighbours, Friends, and Family” document to assist local churches.

Ken also shared that NFLT will be working on:

- A response to Medical Assistance in Dying (MAiD) legislation to assist pastors and congregations in providing care to individuals in our churches wanting to access MAiD.
- Updating our resource on divorce and how we respond to divorce within our church families including pastors and leaders.

Ken encouraged individuals with issues to contact him directly. He thanked delegates for prayer on his behalf. Question by Otty Justason (Jericho Ridge) asked Ken to provide the list of issues for discussion. They included:

- What is your "spiritual posture" toward Jesus? (worship, doubt/hesitation, or walking away?)
- What is your understanding of the gospel?
- Do you really love the Bride of Christ?
- How do you understand the authority carried by Scripture?

7. Finance & Audit (Michael Dick reporting). Michael thanked CCMBC for the privilege of serving, particularly in the stewardship area. Jason and Jim were thanked for their meticulous work with Legacy. There has been a concerted effort to remove vacant land from CCMBC ownership with active offers on the final land parcels. CCMBC has an outstanding debt of \$674,000 to Legacy (related party) for some years – plans are to have this retired by the end of 2025.

Jim Bell presented the audited non-consolidated financial statements for CCMBC. Highlights include:

- There was a statement from KPMG that the finances are stated fairly.
- Unrestricted net assets have increased by nearly \$100,000 over 2022.
- Church contributions are consistent while grants and donations were down significantly in 2023 due to a reduction of \$996,000 from Legacy.
- There was a \$75,000 excess of revenue over expenditures in 2023.

Questions:

- Rob Thiessen (NLCC) asked for the source of grants and donations. Answer: about \$683,00 for church plants and other donations flow through CCMBC.
- Craig Toews asked why there was a decrease in support by Legacy. Answer: Legacy experienced a large sale of property in 2022 which did not happen in 2023. Funds are used to reduce the obligations of CCMBC to Legacy.

The 2024 operating budget calls for a deficit of \$125,000 which will be the last year of deficit budgets. Expenditures are in line with budget expectations. Thanks are given for the work of Provincial conferences

**a. Motion to approve the 2023 audited CCMBC Non-Consolidated Financial statements as presented: Carried unanimously.**

Jason Krueger (Legacy CEO) provided an update on the CCMBC Pension Fund and the Legacy Financial Statements. Legacy has a decrease of \$4.5 million in mortgages while other investments increased by \$11.8 million. Promissory notes increased by \$1.5 million. Mortgage interest is \$1.2 million higher than 2022 with interest expense of \$8.3 million resulting in an overall consolidation loss of \$699,000 in 2023. No questions.

**b. Motion: to direct the CCMBC Member Representative\* to approve the Consolidated Legacy Audited Statements. Carried unanimously.**

The CCMBC Pension plan is administered by Legacy with 1500 participants. Net assets increased by 10%. There were no unrealized investment losses in 2023. There was a slight decrease in individuals retiring. There was a net return of 11.65% in 2023 with a 10-yr annualized return of about 6%. The new fund manager is Fidelity Investments with

Canada Life serving as record keeper resulting in lower fees and new options for retirees as of Oct 2024. A saving of about \$500,000 per year is expected. No questions.

**c. Motion: to approve the audited CCMBC Pension Plan financial statements.**

**Carried unanimously.**

**d. Motions to approve KPMG as Auditor for 2024:**

- i. Motion: To appoint KPMG as the CCMBC auditor for the fiscal year 2024. Approved unanimously**
- ii. Motion: To appoint KPMG as auditor for the CCMBC Pension plan for the fiscal year 2024. Approved unanimously**
- iii. Motion: to direct the CCMBC representative\* to vote in favor of appointing KPMG as the CCMBC Investments auditor for fiscal year 2024. Approved unanimously.**
- iv. Motion: to direct the CCMBC representative\* to vote in favor of appointing KPMG as the auditor for the CCMBC Legacy Fund Inc. for the 2024 fiscal year. Approved unanimously**

13. Nominations: Elections by ballot – Reg Toews (chair – Nominating committee) presents the slate. There are several vacancies (EB Secretary, Multiply board, etc). The following individuals for election are presented.

**a. Motion: to approve the following nominees for the CCMBC Executive board, MB Seminary board, Multiply board and Nomination Committee. Nominees are affirmed with a minimum of 2/3 vote.**

- Executive Board
  - Tim Doerksen – Moderator (term: 2024 – 2026)
  - Vijay Manuel – Assistant Moderator (term:2024-2026)
  - Cory Regier – FAC Chair/Treasurer (term:2024-2026)
  - Tom Enns – Member at Large (term:2024-2028)
  - Mike Rochon – Member at Large (term:2024-2028)
- MB Seminary Board
  - Ray Harms Wiebe – Member at Large (term: 2024 – 2028)
  - Melody Loewen – Member at Large (term: 2024 – 2028)
  - Linda Spletzer (term: 2024-2028)
- Multiply Board
  - Wendi Thiessen (term: 2024 – 2028)
- Nomination Committee
  - Ewald Unruh – Member at Large (term:2024-2028)

**b. Motion to Affirm the following as Provincial Representatives to the CCMBC Executive board:**

- Sandi Reutlinger – BC
- Fred Weiss – AB
- Johnny Dodsworth – Man.

14. Multiply Bylaws – Vivian Wheeler (Multiply board member) presented the updated Multiply bylaws (2014 was last date of revisions). Changes include: updating wording of board composition, corporate names. No questions. Tim thanked the Multiply board members for their work and leadership for Multiply. Cam added his appreciation.

**a. Motion: that the CCMBC Member Representative vote in favor of approving the Multiply bylaws (Canada) as presented.**

15. Closing remarks by Tim: Thanks to Carson and team for their work on the AGM. Thanks to all delegates from the various churches across Canada for their work in supporting CCMBC and associated organizations. Ken Esau closed in prayer for ceasing of hostilities in Ukraine, Israel, etc. He prayed for us to be witnesses in our community and bless us. Delegates joined in the Lord's prayer. Tim mentioned that there will be a National Council meeting in November 2024 with a town hall meeting likely in early 2025.

**16. Consent Motion: to adjourn the meeting. Carried unanimously.  
Meeting adjourned at 5:52 pm PDT**

**\*Explanation of the CCMBC Member Representative to Legacy and Multiply:**

*The Bylaws of Multiply and Legacy have been written to comply with the Canadian Not-for Profit Corporation Act (CNCA). These bylaws state that a single individual will be selected by the CCMBC Executive Board to be the CCMBC Member Representative who will vote on behalf of the Canadian Conference of MB Churches.*

*The CCMBC Member Representative will vote on three motions at the Legacy Annual General Meeting:*

*To approve the Consolidated Legacy Audited Statements,  
To appoint the CCMBC Investments auditor, and  
To appoint the Legacy auditor.*

*The CCMBC Member Representative will vote on one motion at the Multiply Annual General Meeting:*

*To approve the Multiply bylaws (Canada).*

*The motions presented give the CCMBC Member Representative clear instructions on how to vote on each of the motions. By following this procedure, the CCMBC Executive Board is ensuring that related organizations are being accountable to the MB churches in Canada.*