

**STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS**  
for the Nominating Committee  
of the Ontario Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches

It is important to understand our Conference's expectation that the personal and spiritual maturity characteristics required of members of the Nominating Committee, while being somewhat different than those required for members of the Board of Directors, should be similar to those required of Elders and Deacons, which are described in 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:5-9 . The spiritual gifts of discernment and wisdom considered to be the most important, and have therefore been defined below:

**i) Discernment**

The divine enablement to distinguish between truth and error, to discern the spirits, differentiating between good and evil, right and wrong. People with this gift distinguish truth from error; right from wrong; pure motives from impure; identify deception in others with accuracy and appropriateness; determine whether a word attributed to God is authentic; recognize inconsistencies in a teaching, prophetic message, or interpretation; and are able to sense the presence of evil.

**ii) Wisdom**

The divine enablement to apply spiritual truth effectively to meet a need in a specific situation. People with this gift focus on the unseen consequences in determining the next steps to take; receive an understanding of what is necessary to meet the needs of the body; provide divinely given solutions in the midst of conflict and confusion; hear the Spirit provide direction for God's best in a given situation; and apply spiritual truth in specific and practical ways.

A person (i.e. nominee) may be considered as a candidate for election to the Nominating Committee based on the following legal, functional, and biblical qualifications:

**(1) Legal Qualifications**

As prescribed in subsection 6.6 of the General Operating Bylaw (GOB), Nominating Committee members shall be at the date of election, or become within ten (10) days after election and thereafter remain throughout the term of office, an active member in good standing of a local church congregation holding full membership in the Ontario Conference of Mennonite Brethren (MB) Churches.

**(2) Functional Qualifications**

Members of the Nominating Committee shall:

- a) be gifted in discernment and/or wisdom (*see definitions on page 1*);
- b) support the mission, vision, and values of both the Ontario Conference of MB Churches and the Canadian MB Conference, and be willing and able to represent the broader interests of these two organizations;

- c) be in agreement with the Canadian MB “Confession of Faith”, and be living in adherence with its teachings;
- d) demonstrate the spiritual maturity and characteristics outlined by the apostle Paul in 1 Timothy 3:1-13 and Titus 1:5-9 (as further outlined below), and not evidence conduct or behaviour that is unbecoming of a Christian;
- e) have knowledge of the Ontario Conference of MB Churches, gained through a time of active and practical involvement and service within the Conference and/or one of its churches;
- f) either be, or be willing to become, familiar with and to understand the unique function of a governance board and its General Operating Bylaw, within the context of an organizational structure;
- g) have a demonstrated ability to make decisions and work constructively as a member of a unified, collaborative team;
- h) be willing and able to give the time and energy needed to fulfill the responsibilities and functions of the Committee;
- i) demonstrate an attitude of humility and servant leadership;
- j) be passionate for Christ’s church and its wide variety of creative ministry expressions through missions, outreach, discipleship and church planting.

### **(3) Biblical Qualifications**

Scripture outlines the characteristics of leaders in the church, and most of these are considered to be equally applicable to members of the Nominating Committee, as they have been given responsibility to discern candidates for the Board of Directors who serve as the leaders of our Conference. In addition to the underlying expectation that church leaders will have a foundational dynamic relationship with Christ and will live in the power of the Holy Spirit, scripture also prescribes these applicable qualifications:

#### **I. Relation to God**

Holding firmly to scriptural truths	1 Tim. 3:9; Tit. 1:9
Upright and holy	Tit. 1:8
Above reproach	1 Tim. 3:2,9; Tit. 1:6
Not a new convert	1 Tim. 3:6
Loving what is good	Tit. 1:8
Tested	1 Tim. 3:10
Devout	1 Ch. 28:9; Acts 10:2

#### **II. Relation to Others**

Sincere	1 Tim. 3:8
Respectable	1 Tim. 2:9; 3:2,8
Hospitable, gentle, gracious	1 Tim. 3:2; Tit. 1:8
Not quarrelsome	1Tim. 3:3
Not violent but gentle	1 Tim. 3:3; Tit. 1:7
Not overbearing, forbearing	Tit. 1:7,8
Not a pursuer of dishonest gain	1 Tim. 3:8; Tit. 1:7
Just	1 John 3:7

### **III. Relation to Self**

Disciplined, prudent	Tit. 1:8
Temperate	1 Tim. 3:2,8; Tit. 1:7
Not a lover of money	1 Tim. 3:3
Self-controlled, not pugnacious	1 Tim. 3:2; Tit. 1:8
Not quick-tempered	Tit. 1:7
Not overbearing	1 Tim. 3:3,8; Tit. 1:7
Not be bound by addictions	1 Tim. 3:3; Tit. 1:7

### **IV. Relation to Family**

Faithful in marriage	1 Tim. 3:2,12
Managing family well	1 Tim. 3:4,12; Tit. 1:6

### **V. Responsibilities**

Coordinate/oversee ministries	1 Pet. 5:1-10
Accountable to Jesus Christ	Acts 20-28; Heb. 13:17; 1 Pet. 5:1-5