

# 2025 AGM MINUTES - Draft

Meghan Plett, Board Secretary

## ONTARIO CONFERENCE OF MENNONITE BRETHREN CHURCHES

94<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention (Online AGM)

Hosted: on zoom

Thursday, February 27, 2025

### **Attendance:**

18 of our 22 Member Churches

2 of our 4 Associate Member Churches

67 Convention Members & Voting Representatives (Delegates)

11 Guests registered in attendance

(In total = 78 present)

Zoom 7:00-9:00

### **Welcome:**

Doug – provided instructions regarding naming yourself on Zoom, participating in discussion, and the voting process.

Quorum achieved

Call to Order

**MOTION C25-1 MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED** that Brent Kipfer (MVM), Tracy Lepp (South Point Community Church), AND Ed Korschewitz (Grace MB) be approved as parliamentarians AND THAT Christine Hiebert (Cornerstone) and Renee Serez (WMB Church) be approved as ballot counters.

**MOTION C25-2 MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED** that the agenda be accepted as presented.

**MOTION C25-3 MOVED, SECONDED and CARRIED** that we receive the committee and board reports as distributed electronically in advance in the Convention Book.

**MOTION C25-4 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** that the minutes from Convention 2024, as presented electronically in the Convention Book, be approved.

### **Board Chair Report:**

Found on pages 6-7 of the Convention Booklet.

Thank you to Jeff MacLeod and Richard Martens for their service on the Board.

Thank you to the Board, Committees, and Staff

### **Executive Director Report:**

Trevor is so encouraged by the evidence of God at work across our province. It's also such a joy to work with Kris; Lee and Ryan Jantzi.

We felt an invitation from God to depend on Jesus' strength, not our own (based on John 21), and the core expression of that posture is prayer. We knew God was calling us to pray first and felt God calling us be people devoted to prayer and the ministry of the Word. Nasser's passion for Scripture would help lead us deeper into Scripture at our Acts 6:4 Assembly, and we were led in prayer in different prayer room experiences as well.

4 points - pray first (prayer rooms), move together (joy present in that room and shared among us, churches collaborating in our 6 regions), join in globally (Nasser al'Qahtani), make disciples (baptism testimonies, René Nyland's stories of salvation, Vishal and Rafiqua from Behta Darya)

# 2025 AGM MINUTES - Draft

continued

## **Ministry Director Report:**

Ryan loves hearing from National staff who are so encouraged when they interact with our Ontario pastors and leaders. We're so blessed to have such great leaders in Ontario.

It's been a joy to serve under Trevor's leadership.

If you haven't, please read over the Missional Expressions report. Excited to see Bytown Community Church and Southeast City Church growing. Lots of missional expressions are happening including: Transport for Christ with Power-Serve, a multicultural church plant in the Waterloo region, Kyla Sinclair-Peters in Parkdale, Derek, René and Lisa, and The Jesus Network.

## **Breakout Rooms:**

1. NFLT, CCMBC Legacy, National Report
2. Multiply, Camp Crossroads, MB Seminary
3. Organizational Health, ONMB Finance, PFLT

## **Business Session:**

Doug welcomed everyone back

## **ONMB Nominating Committee Report:**

Terry Shuh - very encouraging year as we discerned 3 new members who offer gifts we believe will complement the Board. We believe diversity of representation across our province strengthens our church family.

**MOTION C25-5 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** that the Board of Directors for the period commencing from Convention 2025 until Convention 2026 be made up of twelve (12) members.

**MOTION C25-6 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** that Michelle Knowles be acclaimed as Chair.

**MOTION C25-7 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** that Doug Valerio be acclaimed as Vice-Chair for a one-year term.

**MOTION C25-8 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** that the following individuals be elected to the ONMB Board as members-at-large: Anita Boles, Brent Easey, Sanjay Kasukurthy, Karen West.

**MOTION C25-9 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** that all candidates (Jordan Duerrstein, Jeff Jantzi, Terry Shuh, Tabitha VandenEnden) for the Nominating Committee 2025 be acclaimed.

## **ONMB Financial Report:**

Anita - see written report

**MOTION C25-10 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** that the financial statements from the review engagement for 2024 be accepted.

**MOTION C25-11 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** that the ONMB membership approve the use of a review engagement instead of an audit for 2025.

**MOTION C25-12 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** that Bridgman and Durksen be appointed to perform the review engagement for 2025.

**MOTION C25-13 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** that the operating budget for 2025 be approved as presented.

# 2025 AGM MINUTES - Draft

continued

## PFLT Report:

Ryan - page 45 in convention booklet tells the story of Grace MB Church and Radiant City Church amalgamating into Belmont Village Church. We're not currently voting for them to become a member church with ONMB, but rather to welcome them into an exploratory phase where we'll discern together if this would be a long-term fit. We want to honour Michelle Knowles and Brent Kipfer for doing a great job of walking through this process with these churches.

Gord Brock, Belmont Village Church - appreciates the mission and vision of ONMB. Looking forward to engaging in this discernment process with a special focus group this year.

Peter Durksen, Grace MB Church - Grace MB has still not been closed due to the slow workings of the government, but the merger should hopefully come to pass in the first half of this year.

**MOTION C25-14 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** to approve Belmont Village Church for Associate Church status with ONMB, for a period of up to five years, beginning upon approval of this motion.

Brent Kipfer - the Valleyview Board has been working to get their governing documents updated so that they can finish the bless and release process with ONMB.

**MOTION C25-15 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** to approve the release of Valleyview Manor from the ONMB Conference, contingent upon the approval by the ONMB Board of the new governing documents of Valleyview Manor.

## Prayers of Anticipation & Gratitude:

Trevor - grateful for Acts 6:4 weekend

Doug - thank you to all our staff, Board, ministry partners, delegates, and guests.

**MOTION C25-16 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** that the ballots be destroyed upon the approval of the minutes by the Board Secretary.

Ryan Jantzi closed in prayer.

**MOTION C25-17 MOVED, SECONDED, and CARRIED** that the Ontario Mennonite Brethren AGM 2025 be adjourned.

Meeting closed at 9:01pm

