



February 23, 2021

Agenda:

1. Overview of EMCC Document and Publications
2. Presentation by Theology Commission on proposed review of EMCC Articles of Practice
3. Breakout Rooms for discussion
4. Summary reporting from Breakout Rooms
5. Prayer

Governing Documents

Bylaws, Covenants,
Articles of Faith & Practice
(EMCC members)

Polices, Position Papers
(National Board)

Resources & Publications

EMCC Generated:
e.g. Way of Jesus

EMCC Recommended:
e.g. EFC, CCCC, Enrich

Proposed Review and Revision of EMCC Articles of Practice

Theology Commission Members: Graham Gaessler (chair), Conrad Neudorf, Denise Snyder, Andrew Mills

Introduction: The Articles of Faith and The Articles of Practice are key governance documents providing both theological core and boundaries to the Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada.

Proposal: To review, update, revise, and strengthen the Articles of Practice for the EMCC by National Assembly 2023. This includes placing the Articles of Practice in a proper sequence from a governance and theological perspective as flowing out of the Articles of Faith.

Rationale: Our Articles of Practice have not been revised for some time. This is a key document and it is good and necessary to review, update, amend, and strengthen them for our current cultural context.

We are recommending moving the Articles of Practice from the place of by-law to the place of EMCC policy for theological and governance reasons. Practices should follow our beliefs, because what we believe influences and shapes how we live, act, and respond. From a theological standpoint this move allows us to operate with the understanding that all our practices flow from our Articles of Faith and give room to expand\revise our Articles of Practice. From a governance perspective having Articles of Practice as by-law makes responding to the world around difficult and a slow process. Having our core theology in our bylaws and then practices as policy allows our practices to remain binding, but gives EMCC leadership more flexibility to respond out of our Articles of Faith as issues arise.

This in no way weakens the value or role of the Articles of Practice. If done and understood well, this will strengthen the value and use of the Articles of Practice in describing and informing EMCC culture.

Process:

- Approval for project at National Assembly 2021
- Theology Commission (TC) facilitate online forums to receive suggestions, feedback and thoughts for revisions to Articles of Practice from EMCC member – May 2021 – November 2021
- TC bring initial draft to Regional Gatherings 2022 in workshop setting for further feedback
- TC bring revised draft to National Board for review by fall 2022
- Final draft presented to EMCC membership at National Assembly 2023