



Evangelical Missionary Church  
of Canada HIS MISSION - OUR MISSION

**Becoming a Full Member EMCC Church**  
[Policy Statement revised January 22, 2013]

“His Mission - Our Mission.”

The Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada is a Great Commission Movement committed to the multiplication of healthy, growing disciples, groups and churches. We recognize that in God’s great Kingdom there are many “tribes and family groupings” who contribute to the great task of “making Him known.” God calls local churches into being and often directs them to link arms with churches of like faith and mission. The Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada is a family of churches with a distinctive history and mission that intends to be all that God has called it to be in the larger community of Spirit-born movements. We welcome all who want to make common cause with us. We recognize various stages of development for new ministries which grow out of existing churches. These “Mission Stations” could be “Church Plants”, “House Churches”, cells, outreach ministries, or satellites which, as they grow to strength and viability, may desire official EMCC congregational status of their own. We also recognize that, from time to time, pre-existent congregations find common cause with the EMCC movement, and want to join us. The following outlines the process of “Becoming an EMCC Church.”

**Stage 1 – Recognition as an Associate Church – The Path to Full Membership**

An Associate Church is a church that is on the path to Full Member Status as an EMCC congregation. It is an interim stage of Full Membership.

***Declaration of Intent***

A letter of intent from a duly recognized and authorized representative or constituent body indicating the desire of the applying church to become a full member EMCC church.

The letter is to contain the following wording:

*“We, as duly authorized representatives of (name of local church) in the municipality of (name of municipality), are applying on behalf of said church to become an associate member congregation. By this we understand this to be our resolve to becoming a full member EMCC congregation.*

*At a duly called meeting of the voting membership on (date) and at (place),, the membership resolved by a majority vote of no less than two-thirds, to apply for recognition as a member of the Conference of churches known as the Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada.*

*It is our intent to participate in the life of this family of churches and to promote its values, advance its purpose and support its projects to the best of our ability. We declare our commitment to maintain fellowship and aid other EMCC churches by making common cause in fulfilling the Great Commission, the Lord being Our Helper. We affirm the Articles of Faith and Practice of the Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada and pledge to conduct the affairs of our local church in accord with the Bylaw, the Articles of Governance and the National Policy of the EMCC. We affirm our commitment to being a healthy, growing, Great Commission church that multiplies disciples, groups and churches. We understand that this statement constitutes a good faith entry into a covenant agreement.”*

*At the date of this application, as given below, our church fellowship is not a member of any other religious denomination.*

*We also state our intent to complete the other requirements necessary for full member status.”*

*Signed and Dated by two or more authorized signatories.*

Send it to: EMCC, 214 Highland Road E., Kitchener, Ontario N2M 3W2, Attention of the President.

***Approval for Associate Status***

The letter of intent supported by the President shall be sufficient for the EMCC Board of Directors to grant a church Associate Status.

**Stage 2: Moving from Associate Status to Full Membership**

The following items are intended to assure that the local church is duly organized to be self-governing at a local level and is also sufficiently understanding of the family commitments as a full member of the EMCC. If any help, clarification or counsel is needed in satisfying the application, do not hesitate to contact the EMCC National Office in Kitchener, Ontario.

**The Application Checklist**

The applicant shall attach the necessary documentation for the checklist AND the good faith declarations as each item might require.

- A local constitution/bylaws satisfactory for good self-government and compatible with EMCC governing documents. Attach your bylaws.
- Specific inclusion in the local constitution/bylaws of the following statement:

**Membership with EMCC**

The Local Fellowship is a member church (or, shall apply to become a member church) with the Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada (“EMCC”) and shall adhere to the requirements, duties, rights, obligations and privileges of member congregations and shall conduct its affairs in the spirit of unity and co-operation with the EMCC and fraternally with other members thereof.

As such this Local Fellowship shall maintain its operations and practices and its By-laws consistent with the By-laws of the EMCC, Articles of Faith and Practice and Articles of Governance, as they may be amended from time to time.

As a member congregation located at or near (INSERT CITY, PROVINCE), the Local Fellowship is also a member of the EMC, (Insert EAST or WEST) District corporation.

- Specific inclusion in the local constitution/bylaws of the following statement:

**Dissolution and Disposition of Assets**

- In the event of dissolution or winding-up of the Society, all its remaining assets, after payment of its liabilities, shall be distributed to the Evangelical Missionary Church, Canada (choose one: East or West) District, or its successors or assigns, if it is still then a registered charitable corporation or a recognized charitable organization in Canada. If the Evangelical Missionary Church, Canada (choose one: East or West) District, is not existing as a charitable organization, then the distribution shall be to the Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada, and failing that, to one or more recognized charitable organization in Canada having cognate or similar objects to those of the Society or to one or more registered charitable corporations in Canada as designated by the Members at a meeting called for that purpose.

- The ownership of church property shall be in accordance with the policy of the EMCC.
- Canada Revenue Agency Charitable Registration. Attach the number and date of issue. [If you have not registered, here is the relevant information: 1) Registering a Charity for Income Tax Purposes T4063(E) Rev. 01 <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/E/pub/tg/t4063/README.html> ; 2)Application to Register A Charity Under the Income Tax Act t2060 E (01) <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/E/pbg/tf/t2050/t2050-01e.pdf>.
- A duly constituted membership with clear bylaw provisions describing standards of membership. Fifteen or more adult members. Attach current membership list.

*Becoming a Full Member EMCC Church, cont'd.*

- A leadership board (by whatever name) to provide mature, capable leadership. Please provide a list of your leaders and the offices held (including phone numbers, addresses, e-mail).
- Evidence of the ability to discharge local church obligations including financial. Attach the annual report for the last two years.
- A pastor holding EMCC credentials.
- A statement that the governing documents of the EMCC have been reviewed and accepted as the documents governing the common and reciprocal relationships of EMCC churches.
- Adoption of EMCC salary and benefit guidelines in the setting of annual material support for the pastor.
- Commitment to make reasonable provision for the pastor and leaders to attend Regional Gatherings and General Assembly and consent to the pastor's participation in EMCC ministry.
- Good faith commitment to receive representations from EMCC ministries and agencies (e.g., Emmanuel Bible College, Rocky Mountain College, EMCC World Partners Canada Missionaries)
- Good faith commitment to participate in the life of the EMCC conference and family association and to promote its values, advance its purpose, support its projects and contribute to the national operating budget to the best of her ability. The voluntary guideline of 5% is a "good faith" target for each congregation. This GF Target is based on total congregational revenue minus capital fund contributions (such as building fund and other capital expenditure funding).
- Good faith commitment to consider support of EMCC WP missionaries and projects.
- Agreement to maintain satisfactory standards and practices as an organized church including functional local bylaws, responsible leadership, due process in discipline, and fiscal integrity.

**Full Member Recognition**

The completed application will be reviewed, and presented to the EMCC Board of Directors for approval. Applying churches that have not completed the checklist will continue in Associate status. Approved churches will receive formal notification from the Board of Directors, and will then be entitled to all privileges and responsibilities of EMCC Churches. The voting delegates shall be seated as duly recognized members of the General Assembly, and have participatory function at all General Assemblies, Special Assemblies, and Ordinary Meetings. Formal recognition will take place at the next General Assembly.

A full member church has met all the organizational standards as an EMCC congregation and has been duly recognized by the EMCC Board of Directors.

**Privileges of EMCC Churches**

- EMCC History – adopting and becoming part of the rich history of the EMCC – “Making History”
- EMCC Mission – making common cause in an impact Great Commission Movement – “Making a Difference Together”
- EMCC Credentialed Ministers – Trained, Screened, Supported and Supervised
- EMCC Organization – Cooperation, Guidance, Stability, Accountability and Support
- EMCC – Camps and Youth Ministries
- EMCC resources – CE videos, books and other resources; consultations and resources, legal counsel, treasurer advice.
- EMCC President's Office – counsel, visits, encouragement, vision and first response on wide variety of issues pertinent to pastors, boards, etc.
- Grants and loans – churches may make application to the appropriate District Corporation for a grant or loan.
- EMCC periodicals – e-Newslink, EMCC NewsLink, Leaders'Link, Website
- EMCC World Partners – extending the reach of the Great Commission internationally and cross-culturally
- Participation in Regional and National gatherings

*Becoming a Full Member EMCC Church, cont'd.*

- Full Member Delegate Participation – EMCC ordained and licensed ministers and duly elected congregational delegates are voting members at General Assembly, Special Assembly, and Ordinary Meetings.
- Associate Church Delegate Participation – EMCC ordained and licensed ministers are voting members at General Assembly, Special Assembly, and Ordinary Meetings; one advisory delegate with voice but no vote at General Assembly.
- Membership in either the EMC, West District Corporation or East District Corporation

For more information contact your EMCC Regional Minister.

The Evangelical Missionary Church of Canada  
214 Highland Road E, Kitchener, ON N2M 3W2  
Phone: 1-877-375-7600, Fax: (519) 894-0941  
info@emcc.ca

**Terminology**

Affiliate Church – A congregation has an EMCC pastor and has entered into a written agreement with the EMCC but is not a full member church and has not clearly indicated that it is tracking to full membership. The status of an Affiliate Church will be reviewed every two years.

Associate Church -- in process of becoming a Full Member EMCC congregation.

Full Member Church -- completed all the necessary steps to membership in the EMCC and is so recognized.

Self-governing church – has responsible church government, including a functional constitution and charitable registration number. Note: The terms “assembly,” “congregation,” are used interchangeably with the term “church” in the sense of “local church.”

EMCC Governing Documents: EMCC Bylaw, the Articles of Faith and Practice, the Articles of Governance.

**Other Notes:**

1. If the pastor is not presently credentialled by the EMCC, the steps necessary to fulfill credentialling shall be taken.