

Bow River Alliance Church Local Church By-laws

Approved by District April 2008

Article I – Name

The name of the church shall be Bow River Alliance Church of The Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada.

Article II - Relationship

Bow River Alliance Church, Carseland, Alberta, Canada; shall be governed by the Constitution of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada, hereinafter referred to as the "Constitution." The Bow River Alliance Church shall operate in accordance with the Manual of The Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada, hereinafter referred to as the "Manual," as amended from time to time.

Article III – Membership

1. The following membership categories will be established:
 - a. Active Membership – for those persons who have satisfied the requirements for membership as referred to in Article VI, Section 1 of the Local Church Constitution and has been accepted for membership in accordance with this Article. Only active members are eligible to vote.
 - b. Inactive Membership – for those persons who, over the course of one year cease to attend or fail to demonstrate a commitment to membership as per Constitution; the Elders Board shall after careful consideration and consultation with that member, place the name on the inactive list. Inactive members cannot be sustained beyond one year. The elders shall continue to work toward the restoration of active member.
 - c. Honorary Membership – for persons who have left the local fellowship for other areas of Christian ministry.
2. The membership list will be reviewed annually by the Board of Elders and posted at least three weeks prior to the annual meeting.
3. Applicants for membership shall be interviewed by at least two Elders.
4. Membership may be withdrawn by the Board of Elders if a member has not attended the church for at least one year. For removal from membership, three – quarter majority vote by the Board is necessary. In all cases, the member will be contacted and advised of the appropriate action taken i.e. removal or placement on the Inactive Membership roll.

Article IV – Government

1. The Board of Elders is responsible for setting time, place, and agenda for the annual meeting to be held within the first three months of the calendar year.
2. Notice of all membership meetings shall be printed in the Sunday bulletin at least three weekends prior to the meeting date. This requirement may be bypassed by a written or verbal notice delivered to all active members at least eight days prior to the meeting date.
3. The proposed agenda for all membership meetings shall be posted before all public services on the Sunday prior to the meeting.
4. The quorum for any membership meeting shall consist of those active members present.
5. Special membership meetings may be called by the Board of Elders with due notice given.
6. All discipline will be carried out in accordance with the Manual, specifically the Discipline and Restoration Policy for Members of Local Churches. All actions taken under this policy shall be reported to the District Office.

Article V Board of Elders

1. The Boards of Elders shall include the Senior Pastor and four (4) active members.
2. An Elder shall be elected for a one year term and may serve a maximum of four consecutive terms and may serve again after a one year absence.
3. For an Elder to be elected he must receive a favourable vote by two-thirds of the active members present.

Article VI Property and Records

A member wishing to inspect official church financial records of the church, may upon the approval of the Board of Elders, inspect such records, other than donation records, on the church premise, in the presence of a member of the Board of Elders.

Article VII Nominating Committee

The nominating committee shall consist of the Senior Pastor and four other members with equal representation from the Board of Elders and the active membership.

Article VIII Elections

In preparation for elections at the annual meeting, the nominating committee shall post and present, at least three weekends prior to, if applicable, including the Sunday of, the annual meeting, one name for each office of the board of elders to be filled. Other nominations, if any, shall be made in writing, signed by two members in good standing and filed with the chairman of the nominating committee for posting before the public services on the Sunday prior to the annual meeting.

Article IX Amendments

Any amendment to the Bylaws by the membership must receive two-thirds majority of the votes cast and be filed with the District Superintendent in accordance with Article XV of the Constitution.