

COVENANT RENEWAL



Mennonite Brethren Conference Covenant

1. Do you affirm the Mennonite Brethren Confession of Faith in all its aspects?
2. Do you agree to live according to the BCMB Conference Code of Christian Conduct (see Appendix I below)?
3. Are you willing to be in a relationship of mutual accountability with the BC Mennonite Brethren Conference, and to serve in unity with fellow workers in the Conference?
4. Will you actively seek to participate in (as possible), support and promote the initiatives, mission, programs and ministries of the Mennonite Brethren Conference?
5. Do you have any questions or concerns about the Mennonite Brethren Confession of Faith or the Mennonite Brethren Conference? Are there questions that you wished would have been asked, but were not?

Signature of Applicant

Date

APPENDIX I: Code of Christian Conduct for BCMB Credential Holders

Credential holders working or associated with the British Columbia Conference of the Mennonite Brethren Churches (BCMB) and its associated ministry agencies are spiritual leaders who are expected to live exemplary Christian lives. This code of Christian conduct outlines the relationship between Christian ministry, personal lifestyle and credentialing, and is an integral part of the credentialing process. All BCMB credential holders must make a commitment to live accordingly, and renew this commitment every three (3) years as part of the Mennonite Brethren Covenant renewal process.

BCMB credential holders must be guided by Biblical values concerning personal holiness, respect, responsibility, integrity, and grace as taught and understood by BCMB. These values emerge from our personal and collective commitment to love God with all our being and to love our neighbours as ourselves. The Mennonite Brethren tradition emphasizes a commitment to righteousness, to moral and holy living, to practicing justice, to helping those in need, to forgiving others, to seeking forgiveness, and to balancing personal freedom with a loving regard for others.

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While BCMB credential holders may have a variety of personal views on certain lifestyle issues, it is expected that they will make exemplary ethical and Christian lifestyle choices that are consistent with BCMB teachings about the Bible and theology. This involves a commitment on the part of all credential holders to embody attitudes and to practice actions identified in the Bible as virtues, and to avoid those portrayed as destructive or sinful.

Credential holders within the BCMB community, therefore, commit themselves to living in accordance with the following Biblical teachings and values, by:

- (a) having and maintaining a vibrant and healthy spiritual life that demonstrates a history of, and an ongoing commitment to, cultivating a personal relationship with God;
- (b) maintaining healthy and wholesome relationships with spouse and children (if applicable), and all others with whom one interacts;
- (c) living by God's plan for a healthy human sexuality that places sexual relationships exclusively within the context of a covenantal marriage between a man and a woman;
- (d) abstaining from communication that is destructive to inter-personal relationships, including gossip, slander, vulgar/obscene language, prejudice and abusive or demeaning language;
- (e) abstaining from stealing, misusing or destroying property belonging to others;
- (f) avoiding lying, cheating, financial impropriety, or other forms of dishonesty including plagiarism;
- (g) avoiding drunkenness, addictive behaviours, the use or possession of illegal drugs, and the misuse or abuse of substances including prescribed drugs;
- (h) avoiding the use of materials that are degrading, dehumanizing, exploitive, hateful, or gratuitously violent, including, but not limited to pornography;
- (i) treating all persons with respect and dignity, and upholding their God-given worth from conception to death, including the avoidance of harassment, harmful discrimination and any form of verbal or physical intimidation;
- (j) acting as responsible citizens both locally and globally who respect authorities, submit to the laws of this country when not inconsistent with biblical teaching, and who contribute to the welfare of creation and society;
- (k) demonstrating a love for Jesus by courageously sharing the gospel in word and deed;
- (l) in all other ways, maintaining an active and healthy Christian life, consistent with the Christian teachings of BCMB, as an example to all with whom one meets and interacts.

When credential holders live or behave in contradiction to the Christian standards outlined in this statement, BCMB's first response will ordinarily be to seek a redemptive resolution to the situation. BCMB staff, along with local church leadership, are committed to working with credential holders who voluntarily, and if necessary with the assistance of

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counseling, restore Christian consistency in their lives. This does not mean that BCMB and the local church will not also exercise their discretion to discipline BCMB credential holders in the context of the employer-employee relationship (up to the point of termination of employment when appropriate).

Signature

Date

Please note: Individuals credentialed by the BCMB Conference will be asked to renew their commitment to the Mennonite Brethren Conference Covenant, and the Code of Christian Conduct every three years. Completed forms should be sent by mail or email to the BCMB Conference.

Please help us keep our records up to date by including the following information:

Full name including middle initial: _____

Mailing Address including postal code: _____

Telephone contact number(s) for home and /or cell: _____

Email address: _____

Home Church: _____

Ministry position: _____

We encourage all BCMB pastors to stay current with conference information through our monthly newsletter and event announcements.

Do you consent to receive email newsletters and announcements from BCMB? Yes No