



June 12th, 2020

Dear CBAC Member Church,

COVID-19 has caused a major disruption in our lives and in our churches, including its continuing effect on the way we function as the CBAC in 2020. We are writing to you today with an update regarding this year's Oasis Assembly. Earlier this spring, we announced that Oasis was being postponed. We had hoped to have a shortened one-day event later in the fall. At the time, we anticipated that a large in-person gathering would be possible. Based on current information available from provincial governments in Atlantic Canada, we are certain this will not be possible. Unfortunately, the CBAC Bylaw only permits in-person meetings to conduct business at our Annual Meeting of Members. We sought advice from our lawyer on how to proceed in order to hold our Annual Meeting of Members, and subsequently follow the guidelines of the Canada Not for Profit legislation, under which we are federally incorporated.

It has taken some time and creativity to imagine a way forward. The information included in this mailing outlines the steps the CBAC Council is taking to fulfill its mandate. We do not know when our regions will be opened up for large gatherings of people, and as a result the Council felt it was necessary to amend the General Operating Bylaw in order to permit fully electronic Annual Meetings of Members or any Special Meeting of Members. Due to COVID-19, and under the Canada Not-for Profit Corporations Act (CNCA), the CBAC may hold what is called a "hybrid" Meeting of Members—a combination of in person and virtual attendance—to vote on Bylaw amendments to allow for a subsequent virtual Annual Meeting of Members.

With that in mind, the Council is planning two special meetings of members. The first includes proposed Bylaw amendments which will allow for fully virtual Meetings of Members, and (if successful) a follow-up Annual Meeting of Members held later via virtual/electronic format.

To meet our current Bylaw requirements of giving one hundred eighty (180) days' notice of any change in the Bylaw, this mailing includes an official Notice of a Special Meeting of Members for Wednesday, December 9, 2020 at 6:30 pm to consider proposed Bylaw amendments. While this short Special Meeting of Members will be held in a hybrid format, we are requesting some delegates attend in person while maintaining physical distancing at one of four locations in Atlantic Canada. All other delegates will attend virtually/electronically. We are planning for the

annual Meeting of Members to be held virtually on Thursday, January 21, 2021 at 7:00 pm. We anticipate that with a shortened agenda this meeting should be no longer than two (2) hours (or less) in length.

Some of you may be wondering, "Doesn't holding our Annual Meeting of Members in January 2021, fall outside CNCA requirements?" The short answer is yes; however, we have applied to receive an exemption based on consultation with our lawyer and in conjunction with rules from the Not-For-Profit Corporations Act during COVID-19. Given the ongoing pandemic and the resulting inability to have our Annual Meeting of Members in the required time frame of fifteen months, we submitted an application to Corporations Canada seeking an extension of this time period.

Please read carefully through the enclosed information and make plans to attend both meetings. We will provide registration information in due course, as well as clear instructions for how to attend virtually. For those attending the Special Meeting of Members in person, we have provided the location information as well. Churches wishing to send delegates in person to the Special Meeting of Members will be limited to one in-person delegate, and all other church delegates may attend by electronic means. Moreover, the number of delegates attending will be limited for the safety of all in attendance, in accordance with provincial guidelines and the host sites' operational plans. All in-person delegates will be required to register (via some type of ticketing) with the CBAC to prevent exceeding the acceptable limit per building to allow for physical distancing.

It is important to remind everyone that all members of Boards and Committees (CBAC Organizations) formerly appointed remain in their current offices and rolls until the new Nominating Report is voted on in January. In the meantime, please contact myself or the office of the Executive Minister, if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Andrew K. Hopper". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Mr. Andrew Hopper

CBAC President