

FEB CENTRAL

Church Recognition Procedures and Requirements

Introduction

FEB CENTRAL Church Recognition is the process by which it is determined if a local church fits within the parameters of Baptist church governance, doctrinal beliefs, financial viability and self-propagating ministry that would position the church to be recognized as a church within the Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada and FEB CENTRAL.

Step One: Church Approaches FEB Central.

To begin the recognition process the local church must contact FEB CENTRAL (who would direct them to the association moderator). The association moderator is responsible to inform the church representative of the procedure and requirements of this process and would set a date for a pre-recognition meeting with the association executive.

Step Two: Pre-recognition meeting

The pre-recognition serves the purpose of ensuring that all necessary documents are in order before the full recognition council meets and to set the date for the Recognition Council.

The requirements are:

1. Constitution/bylaws
2. Confirmation that Pastor, Elders and/or Deacons are in place.
3. Agreement with the Affirmation of Faith of the Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada.
4. Agreement with the bylaws of the Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada and FEB CENTRAL.
5. Charitable status with the Canada Revenue and Customs Agency.
6. A signed Covenant of Agreement.
7. Financial statement showing the financial viability of the church.
8. Signed statement evidencing support of FEB Central's Ministry Plan and "Stronger Together" documents, including financial support of the Ministry Centre.

Step Three: Recognition Council

Following the pre-recognition meeting and the approval of the Association executive, the church will send out a letter to the churches in the Association inviting the churches to send representatives to the recognition council.

At the recognition council the church representative will present the required documents both in writing and as a verbal overview. Time will be given for the council to ask questions. When council is satisfied that they clearly understand the position of the church then the representatives of the church will be asked to leave and an in camera session will begin to determine if council is agreed that the church should be recognized as a church in FEB CENTRAL. The Association executive will notify the FEB Central Regional Director of the decision of the recognition council. If the decision is positive, then the Association recommendation will go to the FEB Central Regional Board for final approval and the church will be officially welcomed at the next Regional Conference.

**COVENANT OF AGREEMENT AND
APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN THE FEB CENTRAL REGION
OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF EVANGELICAL BAPTIST CHURCHES IN CANADA**

Dear Friends:

This is to certify that the _____ Church in _____ was recognized as a regularly constituted Baptist Church by a Council composed of _____ Messengers from _____ Fellowship Baptist Churches. These assembled on the _____ day of _____ 20____.

In affirmation of and agreement with the following:

1. With the Affirmation of Faith of the Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada.
2. With the Bylaws of the Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada.
3. With the Bylaws of FEB CENTRAL Region.
4. To financially support FEB Central's General Operating budget in accordance with the fee structure outlined in the Stronger Together document and endeavour to financially support FEB Central's church planting initiatives.
5. To give priority in our missions budget to the support of the Fellowship – National, French, International and others.
6. To participate in our local FEB CENTRAL Association, FEB CENTRAL Region, Fellowship activities and events as we are able.

We _____ Church do hereby make application for membership in The Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada.

Signed on behalf of the _____ Church

Date _____
_____ Church Trustee or Officer

NOTE: Please include the following information with the application:

- (1) Copy of the Minutes of Regional Council where applicable.
- (2) Copy of Minutes of Recognition Council.