

SAMPLE LETTER FOR CALLING RECOGNITION COUNCIL

Date _____

Name and Address of Church to
whom invitation is being sent

Dear Brethren:

As part of the _____ Association (put in name of your FEB Central Association), you are invited to send your pastor and two messengers to sit in council with us for the purpose of considering the recognition of _____ Baptist Church as a duly organized and properly constituted New Testament Church.

The council is called to meet on _____ (date and time) at
_____ (address).

Trusting that we will be favoured with representation from your church.

We are yours in Christian Fellowship,

Church Clerk

Suggested Procedure for Recognition Services

Service to Consider Recognition

- 1) Devotional - hymn, scripture reading and prayer
- 2) Election of temporary moderator and secretary
- 3) Reading of minutes calling the council
- 4) Roll call of messengers and churches
- 5) Seating of visiting brethren on council
- 6) Church's acceptance of council
- 7) Election of moderator and secretary
- 8) Statement of church
 - a. Historical Sketch, with present status in membership, Sunday School enrollment and other organizations
 - b. Statement of finances
 - c. Constitution and doctrinal statement
- 9) Question period by council and decision as to recognition
- 10) Intermission and arrangement for order of service to follow.

Service of Recognition

- 1) Devotional
- 2) Charge to the church
- 3) Inspirational Address (Recognition Sermon)
- 4) Benediction by pastor of church being recognized.

Procedures for the Affiliation of Churches with our Fellowship

1. A nucleus of people organizes themselves into a local Baptist church, deciding on their name, statement of faith and by-laws.
2. The local church calls for a recognition council, inviting other Fellowship Baptist churches within the association to send messengers to this service.
3. After being recognized as a properly constituted evangelical Baptist church, this body votes to apply for affiliation with The FEB CENTRAL Region of The Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada.
4. An application form, provided by the Regional Office (below), is filled out and mailed to the Church Planting Director at 38 Grand Ave. S., Cambridge, Ontario N1S 2L6.
5. This application is presented to the FEB CENTRAL Executive Council. If approved, the Council will recommend this church to the Conference, which will vote on its reception.
6. It is proper for a church that has applied for affiliation to appoint messengers to the next Conference. Forms and information will be sent ahead of time.

Messengers will be seated after the vote at the Conference.

APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP
IN THE FEB CENTRAL REGION
OF THE FELLOWSHIP OF EVANGELICAL BAPTIST CHURCHES IN CANADA

Dear Brethren:

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

Affirming our compliance with the By-Laws of The Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada, and having familiarized ourselves with the past positional resolutions of the Fellowship, and affirming our agreement of the doctrinal statements of the Fellowship, we do hereby make application for membership in The Fellowship of Evangelical Baptist Churches in Canada.

Signed on behalf of the _____ Baptist Church.

Date _____
_____ Church Clerk

NOTE: Please include the following information with application:

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

