

CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS OF THE  
MENNONITE BRETHERN HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF CANADA

Article I - Name

The name of this organization shall be "The Mennonite Brethren Historical Society of Canada".

Article II - Purposes

- a) To stimulate and cultivate interest in the heritage of the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches among its constituency, and all other interested groups and individuals.
- b) To assist the Mennonite Brethren Historical Committee and the Center for Mennonite Brethren Studies in Canada, in the collection and preservation of all documents, and in the promotion and research of historical writing, related to the history of the Mennonite Brethren Churches of Canada.
- c) To conduct meetings, lectures, seminars, conferences, tours, and engage in other activities promoting interest and understanding of the history and settlement of Mennonite Brethren in Canada.
- d) To promote the interchange of ideas, cultural activities, educational and historical material, between the Society and other similar societies and institutions within and without Canada.
- e) To assist the Mennonite Brethren Historical Committee of Canada to raise funds for promoting research and historical writing.
- f) All the foregoing to be carried on under the direction of the Historical Committee of the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, a subcommittee of the Board of Higher Education.

Article III - Affiliations

The Society shall operate as an integral arm of the Historical Committee of the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches, a subcommittee of the Board of Higher Education, for whom it shall function by assisting the Historical Committee in fulfilling its mandate.

Article IV - Membership

- a) Any person, institution or church who can comply with the purposes of this Society may become a member of the Society upon application.
- b) The membership fees of the Society shall be fixed by the Board of Directors, from time to time.

Article V - Officers

The officers of the Society shall be a Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary-Treasurer.

Article VI - Executive Committee

The Executive Committee shall be composed of the officers of the Society and two members at large. One member of the Executive shall be from the Historical Committee of the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches and one member from the Advisory Committee of the Center for Mennonite Brethren Studies in Canada.

Article VII - Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of the Executive Committee and in addition one representative from each province where the Mennonite Brethren Church has congregations.

BY-LAWS

Article I

Board of Directors

Section 1. It shall be the duty of the Board of Directors to provide leadership to the Society, to supervise the various projects undertaken by the Society, to call annual meetings and to be responsible for administering all funds of the Society.

Section 2. The Board of Directors shall serve as the nominating committee for the Executive Committee of this Society. Elections shall take place at the annual meeting of the Society at the time of the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches.

Section 3. Members of the Board of Directors shall serve in co-ordinating and promoting the activities of the Society in their respective provinces.

Section 4. Members of the Board of Directors shall be elected for two-year terms, not all concluding in the same year.

Section 5. Vacancies occurring in the term of any member of the Board of Directors may be filled until the next annual meeting of the Society by a majority vote of the Executive Committee.

## Article II

### Executive Committee

Section 1. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for continuity and co-ordination of the activities of the Society.

Section 2. The Executive Committee shall be authorized to act on behalf of the Board of Directors, between sessions of the Board, within the defined policies of the Board and the Constitution of the Society.

Section 3. The Executive Committee shall be responsible for the implementation of all administrative details of the Society.

## Article III

### Officers

Section 1. The Chairman shall be the chief executive officer of the Society and shall perform the duties generally pertaining to his office. He shall preside at all meetings of the Society and of the Executive Committee. He shall fix the time and place for holding the meetings of the Executive Committee. He shall be an ex-officio member of all committees of the Society.

Section 2. The other officers shall perform such duties as normally pertain to their respective offices, plus such special

duties which may, from time to time, be allocated to them by the Executive Committee or the Board of Directors.

Section 3. All officers of the Society as provided in Article V of the Constitution, shall be elected from among the members by a majority vote of the members present at the annual meeting of the Society. They shall serve for a two year term in such a way that their terms do not all conclude in the same year.

#### Article IV

##### Meetings

Section 1. Meetings of the Executive Committee shall be held as needed during each fiscal year.

Section 2. Three members of the Executive Committee shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

Section 3. Meetings of the Board of Directors shall be held at least once a year with the regular annual meeting taking place during the annual meeting of the Canadian Conference on Mennonite Brethren Churches.

Section 4. Six members of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

Section 5. The annual meeting of the Society shall be held in conjunction with the annual Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches.

Section 6. Only members of the Society shall be eligible to vote at any of the aforementioned meetings. Where a major issue requires the decision of a broader spectrum of membership, mail-in ballots will be provided.

Section 7. Twenty percent of the members of the Society shall constitute a quorum to transact business.

Article V

Fiscal Year

Section 1. The fiscal year of the Society shall be in accordance with the fiscal year of the Canadian Conference of Mennonite Brethren Churches.

Section 2. At the conclusion of the fiscal year the secretary shall present an annual financial statement of the Society to the membership.

Article VI

Amendments

Section 1. This Constitution and By-Laws may be amended by a two-thirds vote at any annual meeting, notice of such amendment having been given in writing to the Chairman at least sixty days in advance of the annual meeting.

Article VII

Procedure

Section 1. In all cases of determining procedures to follow at meetings, Roberts Rules of Order shall be the final authority.