



January, 2012

PROTOCOL FOR THE CALLING AND INSTALLATION OF PASTORS IN THE NWMC

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1. The local church will consult and be familiar with the bylaws of the NWMC.
2. The local church will consult and be familiar with the Pastoral Search Committee Process document.
3. The local church will be familiar with the job description of the Conference Pastor and the Benefits of a Conference document.
4. The local church will establish a Pastoral Search Team.
5. The local church will search out a potential pastoral candidate, informing the Conference Pastor and the Conference Board of the process, and providing the resume of a potential pastor to the Conference Pastor. It is the Conference which provides the ministerial credentials for our pastors and hence the Conference Board must approve the pastoral choice of the congregation before a pastor can be installed in one of our churches.
6. Upon the completion of a pastoral call by the local congregation, they will contact the Conference Board, usually through the Conference Pastor, requesting approval to install this pastor. The request is discussed at the Conference Board level, usually approved, and a date is set for a service of Installation.
7. The installation of any pastor in the NWMC is upon the three fold recognition: the call of God upon a person's life for pastoral ministry, the call of the congregation of this person as their shepherd, and the confirmation of the Conference Board.
8. The Service of Installation will normally be conducted by the Conference Pastor.
9. At the Service of Installation the Conference provides a Ministry License Certificate stamped with the Seal of the Conference. The Conference Pastor then registers the newly installed pastor with Vital Statistics in Edmonton. The Ministry License from the NWMC is valid as long as the installed pastor continues to be the approved pastor of the congregation and remains in good standing with the Conference.
10. It is the right and prerogative of the Conference to remove the pastoral position and title should a pastor prove unsuitable in lifestyle, theology or practice from accepted pastoral standards of the NWMC. We expect all our pastors to affirm the Confession of Faith in a Mennonite Perspective.