

# Constitution Template

CONSTITUTION OF:

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Effective date: \_\_\_\_\_

## Preamble

As members of \_\_\_\_\_ we unite ourselves together as a body of Christian believers to more effectively carry out the Great Commission of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ (Matthew 28:19-20). Desiring that all things be done decently and in order as referred to in 1 Corinthians 14:40, we solemnly and sincerely subscribe to the following constitution by which we voluntarily agree to be governed.

## Article I – Name

The name of this church shall be \_\_\_\_\_.

## Article II – Purpose

The purpose of this church shall be:

1. To be witnesses of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and in deed to the people of our church, city, province, country and the world in which we live (Acts 1:8).
2. To worship the Triune God, seeking to respond in obedience to His leadership, according to the Scriptures.
3. To instruct, equip, and train Christians for ministry and service.
4. To fellowship together.
5. To serve each other as members of the same local church as well as to serve the community in which we live.

## Article III - Statement of Faith

The statement of faith for \_\_\_\_\_ shall be the doctrinal statement of “The Baptist Faith and Message” 2000 edition. A copy of this statement is available upon request.

## Article IV – Church Authority and Affiliation

The government of \_\_\_\_\_ is vested in the body of members who comprise it. Persons duly received by the members shall constitute the membership.

This church is subject to the control of no other ecclesiastical body, but recognizes and sustains the obligations of mutual counsel and cooperation, which are common among Southern Baptist Churches. This church shall freely and gladly cooperate with the \_\_\_\_\_ Association, and the Canadian National Baptist Convention.

### **Article V – Organizational Structure**

The structure of \_\_\_\_\_ may include a leadership team comprising of the pastor and the leaders of all ministries within the church as set out in the church bylaws.

### **Article VI – Perpetual Succession and Powers**

\_\_\_\_\_ shall have perpetual succession and has power to acquire by gift, device, bequest, trust agreement, contract or otherwise, real and personal property within and without the province. The church may hold, sell, dispose of, exchange, mortgage, lease, let, improve and develop such property. Without restricting the generality of the foregoing, it may acquire in any way or ways real and personal property for the purpose of funding the purposes of \_\_\_\_\_ and deal with any and all such property as empowered by this section.

### **Article VII – Charitable Status**

\_\_\_\_\_ shall carry out all of the above purposes without purpose of gain for its members or adherents, and any profits or other accretions to the church shall be used in promoting its purposes.

### **Article VIII – Dissolution**

In the event of the dissolution of this church, all its remaining assets, after payment of liabilities, shall be distributed to the Canadian National Baptist Convention.

Dissolution of \_\_\_\_\_ can only be accomplished through a two-thirds majority vote that has been published by all reasonable means to the membership at least six weeks in advance.

### **Article IX – Amendments**

**Section #1:** Changes in the constitution and by-laws may be made at any regular business meeting of \_\_\_\_\_ provided each amendment shall have been published by all reasonable means to the membership at least two weeks in advance.

Amendments to the constitution of \_\_\_\_\_ can only be accomplished through a two-thirds majority vote of members present.

**Section #2:** Articles II, VII, VIII, and IX of the constitution are unalterable.