

## **MC Sask. Council Covenant**

As members of the Mennonite Church Saskatchewan Council and followers of Jesus, we gather in community to offer prayerful, thoughtful leadership in work of MC Sask.

We covenant to prepare ourselves to the best of our ability to be present with each other whenever we gather from across Saskatchewan.

We covenant to enable and empower each council member to contribute in courageous and creative ways so that we represent with integrity the diverse Mennonite/Anabaptist church and our local community. This commitment is challenging and often uncomfortable.

We covenant to value the gifts each of us brings to this task, to listen to each other carefully, and to challenge each other respectfully so that we can mutually discern the best outcomes to questions that present themselves.

We understand that we speak with one voice as a council. When we are not in session, we agree that we will represent what the council has decided and not our own ideas and opinions. We covenant to represent the shared mission and vision of MC Sask with the broader public.

*Adapted from AMBS Board Covenant*

### **Council Member Commitments to Mennonite Church Saskatchewan**

Members of the Council of Mennonite Church Saskatchewan (MC Sask) serve as stewards of the mission and resources of MC Sask. In doing so, Council members accept responsibility as trustees of the mission and finances, and we covenant to do our work as leaders of MC Sask.

With these responsibilities in mind, as an individual Council member, I will be dedicated to fulfilling the following commitments:

- I will learn to articulate the mission of MC Sask, taking personal responsibility for its mission and programs, and I will accept and perform the duties and responsibilities of a council member as set forth in the by-laws.
- I will serve as an ambassador for MC Sask, actively promoting its work to, and seeking support from, all constituencies with which I have influence.
- I will make MC Sask a priority in my charitable giving. This will include an annual gift, and as financial circumstances allow, will also include additional gifts. I will consider MC Sask in my estate planning.
- I will pray for the entire MC Sask community including the Executive Minister, Council members, and staff.
- The MC Sask Council meets 6 times in person and twice via Zoom and the meeting times are published in advance, so I will plan my schedule and my commitments accordingly. When circumstances dictate that I am unable to attend, I will provide notification as soon as I can.

- I am aware that carrying out Council member responsibilities requires regular attendance at meetings. Should I be absent from three (3) consecutive meetings, I will be expected to step down from my position on Council. If extenuating circumstances are believed to be present, it is expected that the council member will be in communication with the Moderator of MC Sask to discuss the situation in order to determine next steps.
- I will plan my schedule such that I can read the material for each council meeting prior to the meeting, so that I can engage actively in the discussion and decision-making.
- Although I have specific areas of interest and expertise I will endeavour to understand all aspects of the Church that the Council is involved in and be able to provide leadership, as I am able.
- I will provide an active e-mail account that will enable me to read all MC Sask correspondence in a timely manner.
- I will serve on committees as needed and provide leadership when asked. I will support MC Sask and Council leadership in our work together, offering my own gifts and skills to ensure that the Council faithfully fulfills its role in MC Sask's governance structure.
- I agree to maintain the confidentiality of executive sessions of the Council.
- I will take initiative to attend key special events in the life of MC Sask, at least those that are within easy travelling distance of my home.
- I will keep informed about MC Sask so that I can assist in accurately representing it to my community.
- I will provide leadership in identifying prospective donors for MC Sask and share that information with appropriate staff of MC Sask.
- I will annually assess the board's performance of its responsibilities. I will also annually assess my own performance of my responsibilities.

Affirmed: May 11, 2021