

The Place Community Church

Policies and Procedures - Membership

Overview:

The Place Community Church (TPCC) is a local congregation of the historic Christian church and it is an inclusive, evolving community of faith. We hold Christ at the centre, guiding us to seek the living presence of love, peace, grace, wisdom, and wonder in all creation.

TPCC Core Values:

- Christ (at the centre) - *Seek Christ throughout.*
- Authenticity - *Be who you truly are.*
- Community - *Commune with all creation.*
- Grace - *Hold space for the struggle.*
- Mystery - *Embrace the unknowable.*

Membership is a publicly acknowledged affiliation with the responsibilities of belonging to a particular congregation of the Christian church. In contemporary Canada, it also includes the responsibilities of being a voting member of a legal entity formed under British Columbia Society Act and federal charitable status with CRA.

Terms of Admission of Members and Their Rights and Obligations:

As outlined the TPCC bylaws:

A. Any person approved by the Board is eligible for membership in the Church. Criteria for membership and application procedures shall be contained in the PPM.

B. Members accept that the Church assents to historic Christian orthodoxy as found in such traditions as the Apostle's and Nicene Creeds as well as those of the Place Community as contained in the PPM.

C. Members are expected to faithfully fulfill their Christian duties, uphold the community's values as contained in the PPM, attend as far as possible the services of the Church, and contribute regularly (including financially) to the support of the Church according to their ability.

D. In considering membership, The Place Community will not discriminate against any applicant on the basis of race, ethnicity, national origin, gender, gender identity and/or expression, sexual orientation, age, marital status, or disability.

In addition, to be considered eligible for membership, an individual must:

A. Be 18 years of age or older;

B. Freely and personally desire to be a member;

C. Accept that the Church assents to historic Christian orthodoxy as found in such traditions as the Apostles' and Nicene Creeds as well as the TPCC core values listed above, keeping in mind that even those ancient creeds were human projects, and that our human understandings will forever be a work-in-progress;

D. Understand the requirement for members to be participants in the community, and contributors of both time and finances toward the ministries and operations of TPCC, according to their ability; and

E. Have attended TPCC for at least 6 months.

Board Approval and Membership Continuation/Cessation:

The Church Board will consider and approve membership applications at the next regular board meeting following receipt of the application. Two or more members of the Board may meet with the applicant for further discussion and/or questions from the applicant.

The Place membership list will be maintained and updated, in accordance with the BC Societies' Act, by the Board Secretary, and membership will automatically renew each calendar year.

The Board will conduct an annual review of the membership list, coinciding with the calendar year. The review will apply TPCC Bylaws Article II Conditions Under Which Membership Ceases, outlined following:

A. Membership in the Church may be withdrawn at the discretion of the Board under the following conditions:

1) constant absence from the regular meetings of the Church without sufficient reason;

2) gross misconduct harmful to the reputation of the Church or well being of other members.

3) unwillingness to assent to the values and practices of the Church community as represented in the PPM.

B. No person may be removed from membership until such time as he or she has been personally contacted and given opportunity to explain and defend his or her conduct and all possible effort has been made to restore him or her to full fellowship in the Church. Just and fair grievance procedures must be included in the PPM.

C. Voluntary withdrawal from the Church shall be by letter of resignation to the Board. Withdrawing members will protect the unity of the Church through the manner in which they withdraw.

D. Members who, for whatever reason, are unable to participate in the Church's regular activities for an extended period of time, may be placed on the 'inactive' members roll, either by written request, or by Board decision

This policy was adopted by the Board on May 13 2026