



THE CANADIAN FOURSQUARE CHURCH

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CHECK US OUT!



Our Story in Short Form

The Foursquare Gospel Church was established in 1918 by Aimee Semple McPherson. She set up her base in Los Angeles, California, where in 1923, the 5300 seat Angelus temple was dedicated *"to the cause of interdenominational world-wide evangelism"*. This became the center of her revival, healing and benevolent ministries. She was the first woman to own and operate a Christian radio station. Her sermons were the first to incorporate the contemporary communications of that day into her preaching of the Gospel. She summarized her message into four major points known as "The Foursquare Gospel," and founded a denomination called The Foursquare Church.

Aimee's charismatic personality was a God-given gift used to draw people to hear her message. Her sermons were not the usual "fire and brimstone" messages given by contemporary evangelists, but ones which showed the face of a loving God, with continual outstretched arms. It was a message about heaven as a place you wanted to be, and serving Jesus as the only life that offered true fulfilment. With God, all are called and all are welcomed. With God, there are no colour, ethnic, or status separation lines. God is no respecter of persons and neither was Aimee.

Aimee was a woman in a man's world, and single at a time when women her age were supposed to be married. But she was willing to go, when God called, and was not limited by what she saw, but believed in the God who called her to fulfill the greatest call of all – the winning of souls.

Aimee once wrote:

"You don't need to be an orator. What God wants is plain people with the Good News in their hearts who are willing to go and tell it to others. The love of winning souls for Jesus Christ sets a fire burning in one's bones. Soul winning is the most important thing in the world. All I have is on the altar for the Lord, and while I have my life and strength, I will put my whole being into the carrying out of this Great Commission."

From its beginning at Angelus Temple, The Foursquare Church has now grown to include more than 57,000 churches worldwide. There are currently more than 8 million members in 144 countries around the globe.

Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada

A graduate of L.I.F.E. Bible College in Los Angeles, Anna D. Britton moved to Vancouver, B.C. in 1927, established L.I.F.E. Bible College of Canada in 1928 and grew a small group of believers into a congregation (Kingsway Foursquare Church) of nearly 1,000. Her vision prompted her to extend the Foursquare Gospel to the three western provinces of Canada over which she served as Supervisor for many years. The first graduating class in 1930 numbered five aspiring preachers, all of whom entered active pioneering ministry.

Other Supervisors of the Western Canada District have been, B.A. McKeown, Clarence Hall, Warren Johnson, Guy Duffield, Charles Baldwin, Harold Wood, Roy Hicks Sr., and John Holland.

Victor Gardner became Supervisor of the Western Canada District in 1974. Eventually, in order to comply with Canadian law, The Western Canada District needed to register all properties in the name of a Canadian Corporation and gain total control of all finances as well. Victor Gardner led the development of the Constitution and Bylaws, the Administrative Manual and oversaw the transfer of all the legal documents so on March 5, 1981, the Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada (FGCC) came into being. Vic and Dorothy Gardner retired in 1992.

Since then, Tim Peterson was President from 1992 – 2007. His wife, Laurene, also worked in the National Office of FGCC and together, they oversaw the establishment of a healthy corporate structure and developed National Teams.

Barry Buzza, who planted the largest Foursquare Church in Canada, Northside Church, a two-campus church in the Tri-Cities of B.C. was elected as President on July 1, 2007 and currently serves as Lead Pastor of Northside and President of the Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada.

Pacific Life Bible College

The L.I.F.E. (Lighthouse of International Foursquare Evangelism) Bible College of Canada founded by Anna D. Britton in 1928, continued to operate largely out of Kingsway Foursquare Church which moved from Vancouver to Burnaby, BC until 1997. That year, it joined forces with Pacific Bible College in Surrey, BC. To get the full story, visit their website at www.pacificlife.edu

Foursquare Missions

We support Foursquare missionaries throughout 144 countries through a Joint Venture agreement with Foursquare Missions International. The Canadian Foursquare Church has also taken on the direct support of some missionaries. In 2008 there was an outstanding 53% increase in salvations with nearly 2.5 million people globally making a decision to follow Jesus Christ as their Saviour.



MISSION and NAME

MISSION: The Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada exists to glorify God and advance His kingdom. Jesus Christ's command is to preach the gospel and make disciples of all nations (Mark 16:15; Matthew 28:19). We are the Canadian part of the International Church of the Foursquare Gospel (www.foursquare.org) "dedicated unto the cause of inter-denominational and worldwide evangelism." Quoting from the dedication statement on the cornerstone of Angelus Temple, the first Foursquare church started January 1, 1923.

Our call is to preach about Jesus Christ, God's Son, who is the Saviour, Baptizer with the Holy Spirit, Healer and Coming King. Our assignment is to serve Jesus through planting and sustaining healthy national churches in Canada and partner with the global efforts as well.

NAME: four-square [fawr-skwaɪr] - adjective

1. Firm; steady; unswerving
 2. Forthright; frank; blunt;
- adverb
3. Without equivocation; frankly; forthrightly

The logo represents our unswerving presentation of Jesus Christ, God's Son, to every person in every culture and nation as:

1. **The Saviour:** The red colour reminds us of His bloodshed for our salvation and the cross symbolizes the pathway of His redemption of us. We all come to Jesus through receiving His love, by grace we are saved.
2. **The Healer:** The blue colour reminds us of the life-giving water that nourishes our soul, cleans us up from the mess of life and heals our hurts and the cup symbolizes our life that holds His healing. We are all hurt, physically, emotionally or spiritually in life and Jesus came to earth to heal every part of us.
3. **The Baptizer in the Holy Spirit:** The yellow/gold colour reminds us of the worth and dignity He restores to us as we receive the precious Holy Spirit in these fragile lives of ours and the bird (dove) symbolizes His coming from heaven to us. He gives us a valuable purpose and a job to do and we are given everything we need for life and godliness in the gift of the Holy Spirit.

4. **The Soon Coming King:** The royal purple colour reminds us of the kingdom of God that is to be spread throughout the earth. The crown symbolizes Jesus is the King of Kings and Lord of Lords and one day every knee will bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord to the glory of God.



VISION

We see Jesus transforming people across Canada one life at a time, impacting communities through Holy Spirit empowered local churches, led by servant leadership teams. A 100-page National Strategy was published in October 2008 and we'd be happy to share it with you on request. In this strategy, twenty two pictures of our envisioned future over the next seven years. They are:

1. A *strong Foursquare Church in Canada*: different in color and fragrance than the one of 2007, but with the *same identifying values* as we've always had.
2. A church with *vision and hope for the future*. Denomination leaders, pastors and churches with a clear, positive outlook for a bright and prolific next season.
3. A church who is *not afraid to plan its course*, knows where it is going and how to get there – yet remains open to the voice of the Holy Spirit for its day-to-day steps.
4. A church who *gives generously* to its community, nation and world. Not with its head focused on Christians in a holy building, but with eyes turned outward to the world around us.
5. A church that *cares about the poor* – both materially and spiritually. Enough to give without holding back, with love and compassion, but also with expectation of wholeness and reproduction to be the result.
6. A church who *cares equally for the rich*; who inspires and challenges the rich to invest liberally in Kingdom Enterprise; expecting a multi-return for its investment.
7. A church that is *multi-colored and ethnically diverse*, whose diversity will be expressed in the flavor of its worship, teaching and ministry. Its borders will not be limited locally or nationally, but will reach out with arms open to the world around us.
8. Organizationally, a church that *understands and practices the principles that Jesus taught and modeled of delegated authority*, "I give you authority..." National leaders and pastors who choose qualified delegates, train them well and release them to do the work of the ministry.

9. *An educational arm that challenges, trains and releases qualified church pastors who can lead others to do the same; that keeps our local pastors vitalized, unified and equipped to do the work they've been appointed to do.*
10. *A strong church who gives courage and support to entrepreneurial pastors, teachers, apostles, evangelists and prophets, who will train and release others to do the same.*
11. *A proliferation of new churches birthed from healthy mother churches; then as the nurturing process continues, those young churches continue to mature into reproducing mothers themselves.*
12. *A gathering in of "independent" churches, who want and need to be covered by a loving, nurturing and releasing family. Where order, unity, expanded vision and reproduction can be released and applauded.*
13. *Healthy pastors who know they have been called, ordained and strengthened by God to do a supernatural work in the Kingdom within the parameters and influence of Canada. Who practice disciplines of worship, study, delegation, Sabbath, submission and order.*
14. *A focused national missionary plan which includes church birthing, pastoral nurture, organizational and financial health in specific, God determined nations.*
15. *Local church initiatives that would send 20% of young adults and adults on short-term missions team outreaches, using their unique gifts and talents in 3rd world nations. This would live their missions understanding, enlarge their prayer and giving disciplines.*
16. *A new curriculum for children 0-18 that would ensure our next generation has been thoroughly exposed to and educated in all of the major areas of wholesome, Christian, Kingdom life.*
17. *An upgrade of Web communications across the National Church and local church spectrum that will enhance credibility and attractiveness to the Foursquare Name. As Paul wrote to Titus "to adorn the Gospel," so that the unchurched are drawn to the church.*
18. *A multi-faceted in-family communication system that helps our wide-spread, ethnically diverse church hear one another, mourn with those who mourn and rejoice with those who celebrate.*
19. *An eldership of spiritual fathers and mothers who model righteousness and order; who cover the church in prayer and who give love, care and wisdom to the younger leaders.*

20. Our name, the *Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada* be known, respected and understood; through local churches, national media (magazine articles, newspapers, books, radio and television) and personal relationships.
21. An *atmosphere* among the leaders and members of the FGCC of *trust, love and respect*; where we feel mutually inspired with *great vision, challenged by the impossible, encouraged to move into the supernatural and fulfilled* as we do our assigned work.
22. A *church who knows who we are*, who Jesus is and why we are here. Who believes and practices living and expanding the Foursquare Gospel:
- Jesus as Savior of the whole person
 - Jesus baptizer with the Holy Spirit
 - Jesus who heals us spirit, soul and body
 - Jesus is the soon returning King of kings



National Strategy 2008 – VALUES

1. ***We value a Jesus-centered gospel***

The Foursquare Gospel is about Jesus: Saviour, Baptizer in the Holy Spirit, Healer and Coming King. Our motto verse is “Jesus Christ the same yesterday, and today and forever.” Hebrews 13:8

Colossians 1:28 We proclaim him by instructing and teaching all people with all wisdom so that we may present every person mature in Christ.

2. ***We value the kingdom of God***

We make the kingdom of God top priority in our values, relationships, economics and lifestyles.

Matthew 6:33 But above all pursue his kingdom and righteousness, and all these things will be given to you as well.

3. ***We value Bible-based doctrine***

The Bible is the inerrant Word of God and is the final authority for our lives.

2 Timothy 3:16 Every scripture is inspired by God and useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness,

4. ***We value church health***

We see the church as a living organism, not an organization. It is primarily about people rather than buildings, systems and programs, and healthy organisms are reproductive.

3 John 2 Dear friend, I pray that all may go well with you and that you may be in good health, just as it is well with your soul.

5. ***We value Spirit-empowered discipleship***

We acknowledge the distinct and ongoing gift-giving ministry of the Spirit and instruct how to live in the flow of His influence and minister in His power, to honour and glorify Jesus.

Galatians 5:16 But I say, live by the Spirit and you will not carry out the desires of the sinful nature.

6. We value cooperation in the body of Christ

The true church of Jesus Christ spans denominational boundaries. Foursquare leaders and members serve as bridge-builders within the community of Christ. *“In essentials unity, in non-essentials liberty, and in all things charity.”*

***Ephesians 4:4-6** There is one body and one Spirit, just as you too were called to the one hope of your calling, one Lord, one faith, one baptism, one God and Father of all, who is over all and through all and in all.*

7. We value balance in our worship

Our two-fold emphasis has consistently been on the Word and the Spirit. We maintain openness to the supernatural gifts of the Holy Spirit, within orderly and biblically based expressions of worship.

***1 Corinthians 14:39,40** So then, brothers and sisters, be eager to prophesy, and do not forbid anyone from speaking in tongues. And do everything in a decent and orderly way.*

8. We value servant-hearted leadership

We are a leader-led church, but the leader is to lead with the heart of a servant.

***Mark 9:35** After he sat down, he called the twelve and said to them, “If anyone wants to be first, he must be last of all and servant of all.”*

9. We value every person as a minister of the Gospel

We believe that every believer is called as a minister of the Gospel regardless of gender, age or culture.

***Galatians 3:28** There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female – for all of you are one in Christ Jesus.*

***Ephesians 4:16** From him the whole body grows, fitted and held together through every supporting ligament. As each one does its part, the body grows in love.*

10. We value loving relationships

We encourage an atmosphere of love, acceptance and forgiveness, which promotes internal transformation rather than mere external conformity.

***Romans 12:9,10** Love must be without hypocrisy. Abhor what is evil, cling to what is good. Be devoted to one another with mutual love, showing eagerness in honouring one another.*

11. We value family relationships

We see healthy family relationships as a model for all relationships.

Genesis 18:19 *I have chosen him so that he may command his children and his household after him to keep the way of the LORD by doing what is right and just. Then the LORD will give to Abraham what he promised him.*

Psalm 68:5,6a *He is a father to the fatherless and an advocate for widows. God rules from his holy palace. God settles those who have been deserted in their own homes.*

12. We value the local church

Local Foursquare churches have a high level of freedom to follow their God-given mission, while embracing the care, oversight and national vision of the Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada.

Ephesians 3:10,11 *The purpose of this enlightenment is that through the church the multifaceted wisdom of God should now be disclosed to the rulers and the authorities in the heavenly realms. This was according to the eternal purpose that he accomplished in Christ Jesus our Lord,*

13. We value world-wide Evangelism

As a global family, our missions strategy involves proclaiming the good news by sending out missionaries, evangelizing, discipling national leaders and planting reproducing churches.

Matthew 28:19-20 *Therefore, go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to obey everything I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."*

14. We value social responsibility

The Gospel of salvation is for all and includes love, compassion, justice and human aid for the poor and needy.

Matthew 25:44,45 Then they too will answer, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not give you whatever you needed?' Then he will answer them, 'I tell you the truth, just as you did not do it for one of the least of these, you did not do it for me.'



STRUCTURE

The Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada is comprised of many members and leaders including:

- the officers and directors of the corporation (National Board)
- Licensed and ordained ministers (pastors and staff pastors) holding current FGCC credentials
- Members in good standing of chartered Foursquare churches [*see FGCC Bylaws, ARTICLE V*]
- The Corporate leadership and administration of FGCC is provided for in the Constitution and Bylaws and outlined in the Administration Manual

The NATIONAL BOARD is empowered to:

- Administer the affairs of the Corporation
- Make or authorize such financial arrangements as necessary
- Acquire and/or dispose of real and personal property in accordance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the Corporation
- [*see FGCC Bylaws ARTICLE IX, SECTION D*]
- The Board appoints officers, establishes committees and hires the President

The **PRESIDENT** – Chief Executive Officer (Barry Buzza)

- The Spiritual leader, CEO and chairman of the Board of FGCC
- Responsible for General Supervision and direction of the corporation, given powers of appointment, subject to the Bylaws and approval of the Board
- Responsible for recommending to the Board appointment of personnel to fill executive offices as needed for approval by Board

- Performs duties and powers prescribed by the National Board
- Calls necessary meetings of the Board and presides at meetings, AGMS or designates another director to preside in his place
- Length of term = five years (renewable)

The NATIONAL OFFICE created by the National Board to execute Board policy and administer the operating of the Corporation including:

- Maintenance of books, records, files consistent with the operation of a charitable organization
- Compile and submit reports and documents to the Government of Canada, keeping the corporation in good standing
- Compile and distribute relevant reports and documents to the constituency of the Corporation
- General oversight of the operation of the corporation
- The NATIONAL OFFICE currently consists of:
 - Director of Operations (Rebecca Friesen) hired by the President
 - Finance Officer (Rhonda Berkhiem) hired by the Dir. of Operations
 - Administrative Assistant (Chelsey Alexander) hired by the Dir. of Operations
 - Financial Assistant (Dana Bi) hired by the Finance Officer

The EXECUTIVE COUNCIL is appointed by the President:

- To counsel the President and advise him on the affairs of the Corporation
- The current Executive Council also holds National Coordinator roles and also serve on the Licensing and Ordination Committee

The NATIONAL COORDINATORS are:

- Appointed by the President with the approval of the National Board, to serve in specific areas of ministry for the resourcing of local churches.
- appointed for a two year (renewable) term.

- The current areas of ministry are:
 - Leadership Enrichment and Development (LEAD) (Rob Buzza)
 - New Foursquare Church Development (NFCD) (Tom Gardner)
 - Missions (TBD)
 - CARE (Steve Witmer)
 - Youth (Corey Klassen)

The UNIT SUPERVISORS are:

- Appointed by the President with the approval of the National Board to serve as overseers of the churches and ministers in a specific geographical region or with a designated affinity group of people.
- They are appointed for a two year (renewable) term.
- The current Unit Supervisors are:
 - Coastlands – (Scott Gaglardi)
 - BC Lower Mainland North/Interior – (Doug Friesen)
 - BC Lower Mainland South – (Mike André)
 - Rocky Mountain Prairie – (Barry Marsten)
 - North Country - (Cheryl and Randy Barnetson)
 - Saskatchewan/Manitoba – (Johanne Spencer)
 - Southwestern Ontario – (Marion Raymond)
 - GTA Ontario – (Ron Morin)
 - Atlantic – (Reid Stairs)

The NATIONAL TEAM consists of the President, Director of Operations, Financial Officer, Leadership and Church Developer, National Coordinators and Unit Supervisors

- National Team members meet for the purpose of planning, reporting and evaluating their work in the growth and development of the corporation



Steps for Licensing:

Step 1: Initial Meeting – Prospective Minister’s Application

Applicant is given the Prospective Minister’s Application. Prospective Minister’s Application is completed and the applicant is reviewed by the Unit Supervisor if applying for Lead Pastor or by the Lead Pastor if applying for a Staff License. If everything is in order move to Step 2.

Step 2: Give Licensing Process Manual – prepare for Discussion.

Applicant is given the Licensing Process Manual and the Discussion Guide is introduced. Applicant needs to go through the Discussion guide to prepare for the Interview.

Step 3: Interview

Applicant is interviewed by the Unit Supervisor if applying for Lead Pastor or by the Lead pastor if applying for a Staff License. If everything is in order move to Step 4. If not, go through reasons why with the applicant. If everything is approved, an appointment may be made at this point but the applicant is a candidate only until the licensing process is complete. Appointment of a Lead Pastor (Candidate) is done by the Unit Supervisor in consultation with the President. Appointment of a Staff Pastor (Candidate) is done by the Lead Pastor in consultation with the Council and Unit Supervisor. Appointment of a Missionary (Candidate) is done by the Missions Coordinator in consultation with the President and Unit Supervisor. Appointment of an associate Missionary (Candidate) is done by the Lead Pastor in consultation with the council and Unit Supervisor.

Step 4: Application for License

Licensing Application form, written assignments, academic records, criminal record search and recommendations are submitted to the President or Director of Operations.

Step 5: Academic Evaluation

Academic experience is reviewed by the LEAD Coordinator or his designate and recommendations for further training is given to the President or Director of Operations.

Step 6: Licensing Committee

The licensing committee reviews the license application and papers and makes recommendations. Follow up with applicant.

Step 7: Job Description and Employment Contract

The Administration Manual is given to the candidate. A meeting is held with the candidate to sign the employment contract and salary and benefits as outlined and approved by the church council in cooperation with the Unit Supervisor. *A Covenant of Understanding between the National Office and the local Church Council outlining the terms and conditions needs to be in place prior to the employment contract being signed. Responsibility of the Church Council for care for a FGCC Pastor is reviewed by the Unit Supervisor or National Office Administration, whether there is remuneration or not.*

Step 8: Approval and Ordination

If everything is in order a certificate is given to the Lead Pastor (Staff License) or Unit Supervisor (National License) for presentation to the candidate and laying on of hands takes place for ordination.

Step 9: Annual Renewal and Interview

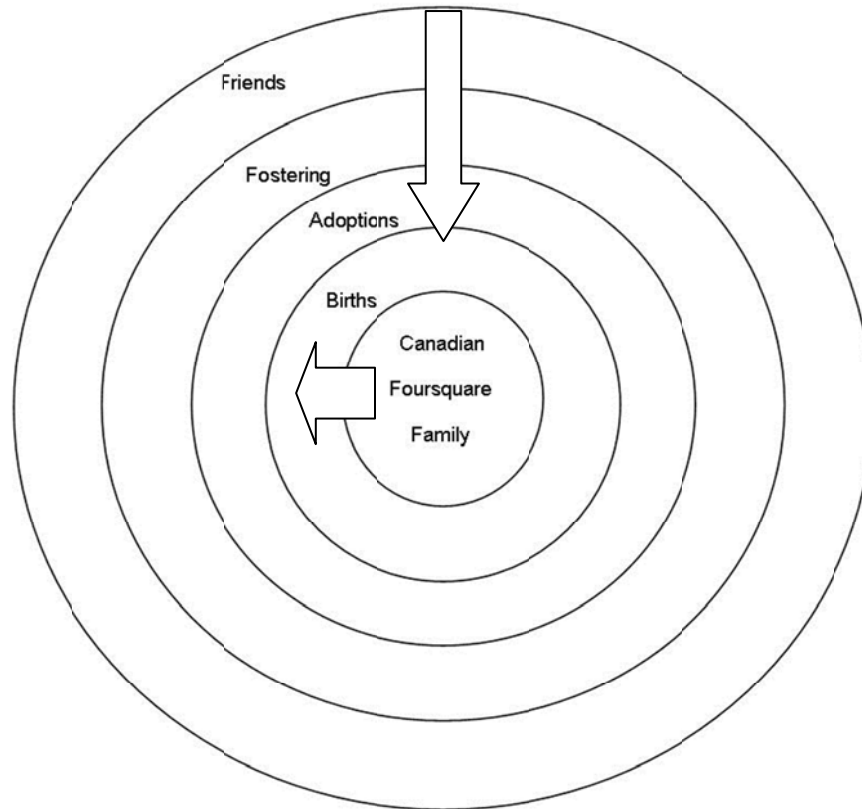
An annual interview is conducted by the Unit Supervisor for Lead Pastors and by the Lead Pastor for Staff Pastors. The Pastor's Code of Ethics must be re-signed before licenses are renewed each year. Training requirements are reviewed. Position Description, Salary and benefits are reviewed by the church council. If changes are made, notice must be given to the National Office.

CHECKLIST FOR THE APPLICANT

The applicant is responsible for:

- completing the Prospective Minister's Application
- completing the Ministerial License Application
- completing the Discussion Guide
- scheduling the required interview with lead pastor (staff appointment) or with Unit Supervisor (lead pastor appointment). Interview form is included in packet & will also be mailed to lead pastor or Unit Supervisor as the application requires.
- arranging for required recommendations as per application
- contacting appropriate schools for transcripts (not just certificate) as per application
- supplying photo (preferably black and white passport size) as per application
- completing required written papers as per application
- providing a current criminal record check

ADOPTION PROCESS



BIRTHS:

The arrow from the Canadian Foursquare Family out to Births indicates that births of new churches take place from the internal energy or initiative of the local Foursquare church becoming a mother church to a brand new local church. The process of birthing new churches in the Canadian Foursquare Family is articulated in the Roadmap to Church Planting.

ADOPTIONS:

As you see from the diagram above, Adoption takes place when an existing church already registered as a charity with Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) wishes to become a Canadian Foursquare church. This only happens after relationship is built through Friendship and possible Fostering relationship where some support and joint meetings have already taken place between the Lead Pastor of the church wishing to be adopted and a Canadian Foursquare Leader. The Leader then introduces the Lead Pastor of the church seeking adoption to the Unit Supervisor and the President of the Canadian Foursquare Church (FGCC) who will oversee the adoption process. The arrow going in shows the initiative can come from the friends through relationship.

BENEFITS OF BECOMING PART OF THE CANADIAN FOURSQUARE FAMILY:

- a. Strong, denominational covering with adequate local church autonomy. Help is there when you need it but not interfering when it's not in the church's best interest.
- b. We can accomplish more together than each church could do independently as we partner together in geographical units for church birthing, kids and youth camping programs and local church development or training opportunities.
- c. Accountability for local church leadership.
- d. a CARE system for local church leadership.
- e. participation in the Foursquare Benefit Plan and Group Insurance Plan for all qualifying paid personnel after the appropriate waiting period.
- f. Training leaders through Pacific Life Bible College and its Distance Education program.
- g. One Constitution and Bylaws under which all Canadian Foursquare churches operate, making systems simpler and unified.
- h. the National organization provides a national vision and partnerships across Canada.
- i. Partnering together in the global Foursquare church in approximately 150 countries.
- j. Welcome participation in the Annual Convention and Pastors' Conferences.
- k. Properties held by the National Church gives protection for the local church and solid equity when applying for mortgages or loans.

RESPONSIBILITIES OF BEING PART OF THE CANADIAN FOURSQUARE FAMILY:

- a. As a corporate family of churches, we hold all church assets (properties) in common across Canada.
- b. We abide by and operate under the Constitution and Bylaws of FGCC and the current Administration Manual.
- c. Each church tithes 10% of their monthly tithable income to FGCC.
- d. Each church's leaders must qualify to be licensed and ordained under the FGCC.
- e. Each church is asked to participate in the training of future leaders through 1-2% monthly tithe to Pacific Life Bible College of Canada.
- f. Each church is encouraged to participate in Foursquare Canada Missions support on a monthly basis.
- g. Each church is given supportive leadership training opportunities through Pacific Life Bible College of Canada.
- h. Participation in the Unit gatherings and National Conventions/ Conferences for training, encouragement and relationship building is a privilege and a responsibility.
- i. Participating interdenominationally for the growth of the kingdom of Jesus Christ around the world is encouraged.

STAGES OF THE ADOPTION PROCESS:

Stage One: From Friendship to Adoption

Some friendships will not move into a Fostering relationship nor an Adoption relationship. The first stage is when a church pastor in relationship with a Canadian Foursquare leader decides they wish to connect with the Canadian Foursquare Church because of mutual values, goals and beliefs and a perceived value in forming a more covenantal relationship.

- a. The Foursquare leader begins by bringing the interaction to the attention of the Canadian Foursquare President who will oversee the process of moving into adoption. The Director of Operations and Unit Supervisor for the region will be brought into the process as well.
- b. The adoptive church's lead pastor will hold meetings with the staff, council or board, elders, membership and a public meeting where church members will be informed of the possible adoption and have an opportunity to ask questions about Foursquare Canada (FGCC). The Church seeking adoption relates to FGCC primarily through its lead pastor.
- c. A decision is made by all parties at this point to pursue adoption or not. A resolution by the board of the church expressing their decision to proceed with adoption is helpful here and at least a letter of request to the FGCC President and National Board is required.

Fostering option?

Perhaps the church seeking adoption is really needing a temporary connection for the sake of financial or relational support. In this case, adoption is not pursued as the FGCC considers how to assist the church through a temporary crisis. If a more permanent connection is valued on both sides, we proceed.

Stage Two: Assessment

- a. Conversations around Issues of beliefs (doctrine), church government (systems), Financial Management and specific financial data, traditions, and Leadership style (values), continue through stage one and stage two and should conversations reveal at any time that there is incompatibility, the adoption process may be ceased. Continuance in the process presumes congruence. The Lead Pastor of the church seeking adoption is given two applications, ***The Prospective Minister's Application*** and ***The Church Adoption Application***. The first application is completed by all those who wish to be staff in the church after it becomes a Foursquare Church. The second is completed under the oversight of the Lead Pastor of the church seeking adoption. Applications are submitted to FGCC. Administration manual is given.
- b. FGCC will review the church seeking adoption's financial records.
- c. A recommendation by the Unit Supervisor is required. FGCC's Board of Directors will render a decision based on the financial review and Unit Supervisor's recommendation.
- d. A decision is made by all parties at this point to continue to pursue adoption or not.

Stage Three: Legal Stuff

- a. At this stage, the church being adopted will work through the wind up of its tax registration number and apply for a new number from Canada Revenue Agency. This includes a letter from FGCC to CRA advising the agency that the church is now under the auspices of FGCC. The letter needs to include a copy of the Resolution from the church requesting adoption by FGCC and other required forms. When the new number is received from CRA, FGCC will present the church with its charter. This includes the transfer of legal titles and assets into the name of the Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada. Legal expenses incurred at this stage are paid by FGCC. Should a church choose to keep their registration number for future use, they must do so only with the full knowledge and consent of FGCC. The issuing of tax receipts are to be carried out through the new charity number as an internal division of FGCC.
- b. All staff will apply for licenses through FGCC and upon licensing will need to cancel or surrender existing registration to perform marriages and register under FGCC.
- c. Missions funding agreements may need to be set up for relationships between the adoptive church and overseas projects.

Stage Four: Celebration

- a. Celebration! A time for public ordination of the staff through laying on of hands before the congregation will be arranged by the Unit Supervisor. This may or may not be at the time of the charter being presented to the local church.
 - b. Ensure enrolment with FGCC's national office in the Foursquare Benefit Plan and Group Insurance Plan for all qualifying paid personnel.
 - c. Full participation in all the benefits and responsibilities as listed above is encouraged.
- Welcome to the Family!

Questions?

Director of Operations: Rebecca Friesen
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**THE CANADIAN
FOURSQUARE CHURCH**

CHURCH ADOPTION APPLICATION

GENERAL INFORMATION:

Today's Date: _____

Name of Church: _____

Address: _____

_____ Postal Code: _____

Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Website: _____ Email: _____

Lead Pastor: _____

BACKGROUND:

Why do you wish to join the Foursquare Gospel Church of Canada (FGCC)? (Use separate sheet if necessary).

Detail your expectations regarding your association with FGCC. (Use separate sheet if necessary).

What concerns do you have about joining the FGCC. (Use separate sheet if necessary).

Has the Lord spoken to you personally and specifically about joining the FGCC? Yes ___ No ___
If yes, please explain how and when:

Which of the materials given to you after you expressed a desire to adopt into the FGCC have you read?

Some common forms of church government are Congregational, Episcopal and Presbyterian. Please explain what you understand the FGCC government to be. What does this mean in terms of local church autonomy? What does it mean in terms of the authority of the President of FGCC, the National Board, or the Unit Supervisor?

How do you envision your future relationship with the FGCC leadership?

What has to happen for your church to make the necessary changes for adoption? (Use separate sheet, if necessary).

What steps have you taken in the process?

What is your preferable time frame for adoption?

If adopted into the FGCC, what will you name your church? How will you formalize the legal change?

Are you aware of any opposition in your *church* to your adoption into the FGCC? Yes ___ No ___
Give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary).

Are you aware of any opposition among your *leaders* to your adoption into the FGCC?
Give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary). Yes ___ No ___

Are you aware of any opposition in any current association or denomination of which your church is a part? Give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary). Yes ___ No ___

CHURCH HISTORY:

Give name, address, telephone numbers and education of all staff:

Are you the planting pastor of this church? Yes ___ No ___

Was your church *sponsored* or otherwise helped at its startup by any other group, association or denomination? If yes, detail the other group's involvement. Yes ___ No___

When did your church start? _____

Has this church experienced any splits? Give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary):

What was the outcome?

Any church mergers? _____ Date: _____

With what group(s)? _____

Has your church been related to any denomination or association in the past? Yes ___ No___

What was the nature of the relationship? _____

Are there any unresolved issues with respect to any denomination or association? (Use separate sheet, if necessary)

Do your church by-laws require your congregation to approve of the adoption by the FGCC?
Yes ___ No ___

Result of congregational vote? For _____ Against _____

Has the church or any of its leaders pursued affiliation with any other association, denomination or grouping? Yes ___ No ___

If yes, give the reasons for non-association with such body. (Use separate sheet, if necessary).

What is the church's vision statement? (Use separate sheet, if necessary).

How is the church currently involved in ministry to the poor?

What commitments do you currently have for missionary support?

Please submit a copy of your church statement of faith.

LEGAL AND FINANCIAL:

Are you a legally registered charitable organization in Canada? Yes ___ No ___

If yes, what is your CRA registration #? _____

Please submit a copy of your Articles of Incorporation, constitution and bylaws with this application.

Has the church deviated from the articles and by-laws in recent history? Yes ___ No ___

If yes, send a copy of the corporate minutes for the last three years. Please submit current income statements and a current balance sheet and going back three years if available.

Has there been any church discipline against any members exercised in the last three years?

If yes, give details of circumstances. (Use separate sheet, if necessary) Yes ___ No ___

Does the church own real property? Yes ___ No ___

If yes, in whose name is the real property held? _____

In whose name is any mortgage held? _____

Mortgage amount outstanding? _____

If the church rents property, what is the monthly rent? _____

Where are financial and legal records kept for the church? _____

Who has control and access to such records? _____

Give a general description of the facility where your church meets:

What are the insurance limits for your church? _____

What are the liability coverage amounts for the church? _____

Are all federal, provincial and local tax deposit obligations current? Yes ___ No ___

If not, give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary):

Has the church complied with all federal, provincial and local payroll reporting requirements?

If no, please explain: Yes ___ No ___

Are there any accounts payable, notes payable or other financial obligations delinquent for more than thirty (30) days? Yes ___ No ___

If yes, give details:

Give schedule of all long-term debt including note holder, name, address, original amount, current balance, and payment amounts:

Has the church been involved in any lawsuits? Yes ___ No ___

Give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary)

Has there been or are there now, any threats of lawsuits? Yes ___ No ___
Give details (Use separate sheet, if necessary)

What is the compensation history for the Lead Pastor for the last three years?

For other leaders in the past three years?

Who was involved in the decision-making to determine the salary for the Lead Pastor? Give names, and telephone numbers. (Use separate sheet, if necessary)

Who was involved in the decision-making to determine the salary for other staff members? Give names, and telephone numbers if different than above. (Use separate sheet, if necessary)

CHURCH DEMOGRAPHICS:

Average weekly attendance at main service:

Past month: _____

Six months ago: _____

One year ago: _____

Three years ago: _____

List all ministries currently active in the church:

List all social, political action involvements in the community:

COMMITMENTS:

What do you understand regarding the financial commitments required of you by the FGCC?

What commitments do you think you will need to make as part of your commitment to help the FGCC achieve its God-given mission?

What commitments do you understand the FGCC is making to you when you become a FGCC pastor or church?
