

South Abbotsford Church (SAC) Council Member Requirements

Council Member Qualifications

SAC Council members are nominated by the Discernment Committee after a thorough vetting and discerning process before they are eligible for affirmation by the congregation to serve on the Council (1 Timothy 5:22). The Church Council functions as a leadership team, working together with the Lead Pastor to provide strategic direction and overall spiritual leadership for the church (1 Timothy 3:1-8). Council is seeking members that possess the following characteristics and are committed to *Following Jesus and making Him known in all we do*.

- Exhibits Godly character and lives a Christian life that is above reproach
- Leads willingly and feels 'called' to leadership
- Holds a deep passion for Jesus
- Servant leadership - displays personal humility
- Grapples with the future and exhibits a bias towards action
- Committed to unity on the leadership team
- Leads with passion and inspires others to lead

Council Member Prerequisites

- Council members cannot be nominated by self or spouse.
- Council members must have attended SAC for at least **three** years.
- Volunteered in a significant capacity in a ministry for at least **two** years, leading and coaching others.
- Be willing to follow the Church's bylaws and uphold the MB Confession of Faith.
- Have capacity, flexibility and availability to serve in the Council role and participate on subcommittees. The time requirement varies month to month, but the minimum includes monthly meetings, an annual retreat, and committee responsibilities.

Overview of the Role of Council

In partnership with the Lead Pastor, the Council carries the ultimate responsibility and authority to see that the church remains faithful to its God given calling. The Council functions to ensure that the congregation is fully becoming the people God has created them to be and is fully and effectively participating in God's mission in the world.

The primary role of the individual Council member is to provide spiritual leadership and participate in the process of governance. Council members study information and decision-making materials, participate in discussion and debate, and share in the decision-making process. Individual Council members have no authority to act on behalf of South Abbotsford MB Church as individuals except by specific delegation from the Council.

Expectations:

- Attend regular Council meetings and come prepared by reviewing meeting materials in advance.
- Serve on committees as needed.
- Become knowledgeable of the ministries, their impact, and the context in which they operate.
- Think independently, ask questions, and make suggestions.
- Commit to praying together for our Church and its ministries.
- Be an active supporter of South Abbotsford Church (time, talent, and treasure).
- Help orient new board members to their role.
- Adhere to the *Conflict of Interest Policy*, the *Ineligible Individual disclosure*, and the *Code of Personal Conduct*.

Council Values:

- Respect individual opinion, cultivate a sense of group responsibility, and work towards consensus.
- Submit to God and commit to praying for our Church and community.
- Collaboration with the Lead Pastor and management.
- Respect the governance structure of our church and the role that staff play in fulfilling our mission.
- Keep accurate records (minutes) and ensure policies are current.
- Be self-disciplined with respect to governance and fiduciary responsibilities.
- Be accountable to the congregation and to the public.

The main functions of Council are:

- Delegating management authority and responsibility to the Lead Pastor.
- Determine the organization's mission, vision, values and strategic priorities. The basic strategic question for the Council of the Church to answer is, "*What services shall the Church deliver to which people in what places and in what order of priority?*"
- In terms of its fiduciary responsibilities, the Council is responsible for stewarding the Church's financial resources and ensuring that the Church is compliant with all legal and regulatory requirements.
- Council is responsible for measuring strategic results achieved by the ministry and administrative staff and monitoring their performance in accordance with the governance manual.