

**Summary of Proposed Amendments to By-Law #1
for the Halifax Region United Baptist Association (HRUBA)
October 25, 2020**

By-Law	Proposed Amendment	Rationale or Comment
1.1 c.	<p>“Special Resolution”: Change from “vote as present in person” to add “or via teleconference.” Change notice from “the previous Meeting of the Association” to “at least thirty (30) days in advance of the Meeting.”</p>	<p>Includes those present via teleconference. Allows Special Resolutions to be brought forward in a more timely manner, and makes it possible to deal with issues that may not have been obvious at the previous Meeting.</p>
7.2.1 c.	<p>Conflict between local Baptist Church wishing to Join Association and any existing Member Church: Replaced “directed by the Mediation Team of the Association or a similar team” to “established by the Association Council for such purpose.”</p>	<p>The HRUBA Mediation Process is being withdrawn in favour of the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada Mediation Process. For occasions where there is a need for reconciliation, the Association Council may establish an Ad Hoc group to facilitate the reconciliation process.</p>
7.2.2	<p>Review of Application for Membership: Added phrase to deal with resolution of any deficiencies.</p>	<p>Present section deals only with the review but not with how to deal with deficiencies.</p>
7.2.3	<p>New section: Dealing with applicant church having a mentor/sponsor church.</p>	<p>If applicant church does not already have a mentor/sponsor church, Association Council will help to find one.</p>
7.2.4	<p>New section: With added detail about agreement between applicant church and mentor/sponsor church.</p>	<p>Confirms detailed arrangements for the mentoring process.</p>
7.2.5	<p>New section: With added detail about applicant church and mentoring church submitting written reports at the end of the mentoring year.</p>	<p>Documents the accomplishments of the mentoring year and that the applicant church is ready to proceed with application for membership.</p>
7.2.6	<p>New section: With added detail about Council reviewing membership application.</p>	<p>Details process for Council to confirm readiness to proceed or identify any additional mentorship or other requirements.</p>
7.2.7	<p>Special Resolution regarding accepting applicant church into membership.</p>	<p>Adds detail about Council decision and process for making Special Resolution regarding membership.</p>

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7.2.8	Minor wording change: Added "Body of Delegates."	Clarifies that the meeting is a meeting of the membership.
7.3	Transferability of Membership.	Added title to this section.
7.5.1 a.	Revocation of Membership: Reference to the HRUBA Mediation Team is deleted.	The HRUBA Mediation Process has been withdrawn in favour of the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada Mediation Process. For occasions where there is a need for reconciliation, the Association Council will establish a reconciliation process.
7.5.2	Revocation of Membership: Special Resolution	Wording changed with respect to timing of the notice of Special Resolution and that the meeting referred to is a Meeting of the Association Body of Delegates.
7.7.1 a.	Disassociation by a Member Church: Reference to the HRUBA Mediation Team is deleted.	The HRUBA Mediation Process has been withdrawn in favour of the Canadian Baptists of Atlantic Canada Mediation Process. For occasions where there is a need for reconciliation, the Association Council will establish a reconciliation process.
8.1.1 c.	Appointment of Delegates: Add "or other method determined by the Member Church	Respects the autonomy of the Member Church to determine the process by which Delegates are appointed.
9.1.2	Annual Meeting: New section added re: attendance via teleconference.	Allows in-person and via-teleconference attendance.
9.2.2	Special Meetings: New section added re: attendance via teleconference.	Allows in-person and via-teleconference attendance.
9.3.1 c.	Notice of Meetings: New section specifying means of delivery of notice.	Can be delivered by Canada Post or by email.
9.4.1	Quorum at Meetings of the Association Body of Delegates: Clarification to counting Members of Association Council.	Quorum still requires minimum of delegates from 15 member churches, and a minimum of five delegates who are members of Association Council, but it is now made clear that the churches from which the Council Members have come may also be counted in the total of Member Churches present.
9.5.1	Voting at Meetings of the Association Body of Delegates: Teleconferencing	Delegates attending the Meeting via teleconference shall have the right to cast a vote.

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10.7 a. and b.	Moderator shall Preside: Remove “all” from before “Meetings”.	Section 10.8 already identifies that when the Moderator is not present, the Vice Moderator or Past Moderator shall assume the role of Moderator.
10.10 d.	Responsibilities of Treasurer: Insert new paragraph: “File the applicable Registered Charity Information Return as required by the Canada Revenue Agency, and application for GST/HST rebates;”	Omitted from present By-Law #1.
11.1 b.	Composition of Association Council: Delete District Representatives	Streamlines the membership of Association Council and eliminates three positions that are hard to recruit and have a very limited role in the modern age when most communication is done electronically and the HRUBA has a Website. Note that section 11.1 f. includes provision for up to two Council “Members at Large”
11.1 c., d. and e.	Composition of Council: Chairs of Standing Committees, Working Groups and Coordinator or Director of Association Ministries: Added “or Coordinator” following “Chair” for c. and d. Method of appointment changed and made consistent with section 11.9. for c., d. and e.	For functions needing only one person instead of a whole committee, Council may appoint a Coordinator instead of a Chair. Instead of having to wait for the next Meeting of the Association Body of Delegates, Association Council may establish a Committee, Working Group or Association Ministry and appoint a Chair, subject to ratification at the next Meeting of the Association Body of Delegates. This enables the Council to be much more responsive to emerging needs.
11.1 f.	Composition of Council: Delete “The President of the HRUBA Women’s Missionary Society.”	The President of the WMS will be listed in the section of the PO&P Manual that lists Representatives Appointed by Other Organizations and relieves this person of the unintended responsibility for helping to manage the HRUBA and attend Council Meetings. They may still attend as a non-voting guest.

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11.1 f.	Add "Up to two Members at Large."	Members at Large do not have a prescribed responsibility for any one Committee, Working Group or Ministry but may be assigned to special projects or emerging needs.
11.9 c.	Add "and appoint up to two Members at Large".	Deals with appointment of Council Members at Large.
11.9 d.	Nominations: After "election" add the phrase, "and fill mid-term vacancies for" (delete "or")	Authorizes Council to fill vacancies in Chairs or Coordinators of Association Committees, Working Groups and Ministries that occur mid-term.
12.2	Signing Officers: Broadened.	Retains the present Signing Officers, but enables Association Council to appoint additional member(s) of Council as it shall deem necessary.
12.9	Auditor/Financial Review: Add to the end of this section, "or may authorize an External Financial Review but is not required to do so."	Gives an option for Financial Review that is much less expensive than an Audit and is commonly used by non-profit organizations.
13.1	District Structure: Major revision	Eliminates the present system of three Districts to which Member Churches are assigned, with a District Representative to serve with each District. District Representatives have been eliminated from section 11.1. b., which identifies the members of Council. Council may still divide Member Churches into several Districts if it determines there is a benefit.
14.1	Statutory Compliance: Delete "or By-Law," as the <i>Societies Act</i> of Nova Scotia governs.	Clarifies this section which relates to our Association acting in compliance with the <i>Societies Act</i> of Nova Scotia.
16.1 and 16.2	Coming into Force: Delete these sections	Historic, with applicability only to 2012 when the Association was first incorporated under the Societies Act.