



EFCC

Organisation Profile

Unity. Charity. Jesus Christ.



What is the EFCC?

The Evangelical Free Church of Canada (EFCC) is an association of self-governing, interdependent churches across Canada. The EFCC includes over 150 churches and church plants who are united around the centrality of the person and gospel of Jesus Christ, our essential doctrinal beliefs, and our shared EFCC ethos:

*In Essentials Unity,
In Non-Essentials Charity,
In All Things Jesus Christ.*

The EFCC is arranged into five districts across Canada. Districts are self-governing in a similar way that our churches are, and show unique traits in focus and culture.

The mission focus of the EFCC is under the umbrella of Serve, and currently we have two branches: ServeCanada and ServeBeyond.

The EFCC's Governance

The EFCC values congregationalism. Our structure is designed to receive input by members, with major decisions often made through voting, and to resist dominance-driven authority.

Conference is the primary decision-making body of the EFCC, and it is convened annually at either the EFCC Conference (even years) or the EFCC Theology Conference (odd years). Every church in good standing is invited to send delegates to form the Conference.

The **Board of Directors** (BOD) is another key decision-making entity. The BOD has its authority delegated by the Conference. It is responsible for the ongoing leadership of the EFCC between Conferences.

The BOD delegates authority to the **EFCC President**, and the President in turn delegates authority to EFCC staff and volunteers.

Additional Committees

In addition to that, the EFCC has several **committees**. Each one is commissioned by, and answerable to the BOD, and each has a unique mandate. Committees perform important tasks on behalf of the EFCC, including research, analysis, organising and personnel concerns.

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What Connects Us?

Ultimately, we are connected through our faith in Jesus Christ.

Specifically, this is expressed in the clarity of our gospel-focused, 10-article **Statement of Faith**.

The EFCC's Statement of Faith is intentionally brief to help keep it inclusive.

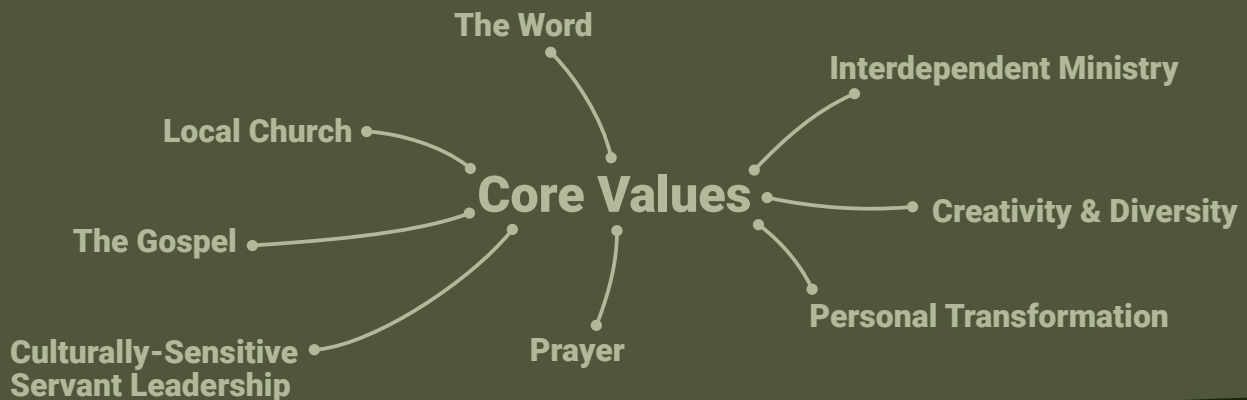
We are also connected through **Our Character and Calling**, affirmed by all EFCC churches, and through the **Covenant of Personal and Professional Ethics**, the moral and ethical standards to which our pastors are required to conform.

We are also united in our commitment to the **Core Values**.

All of these connections are further explained in our **Welcome to the Family** booklets.

These booklets are useful for membership classes, and introducing new people to the EFCC. You can request copies of this by emailing us at:

info@efcc.ca



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Resources

Experience and Training

The EFCC offers training in leadership development, prayer, church planting, spiritual life enrichment, church board health, DISC assessments and ministry coaching.

We also offer access to a National Disciple-Making Team, offering training for EFCC Churches to grow in disciple-making.

We have pastoral and leadership development resources created by seasoned EFCC leaders.

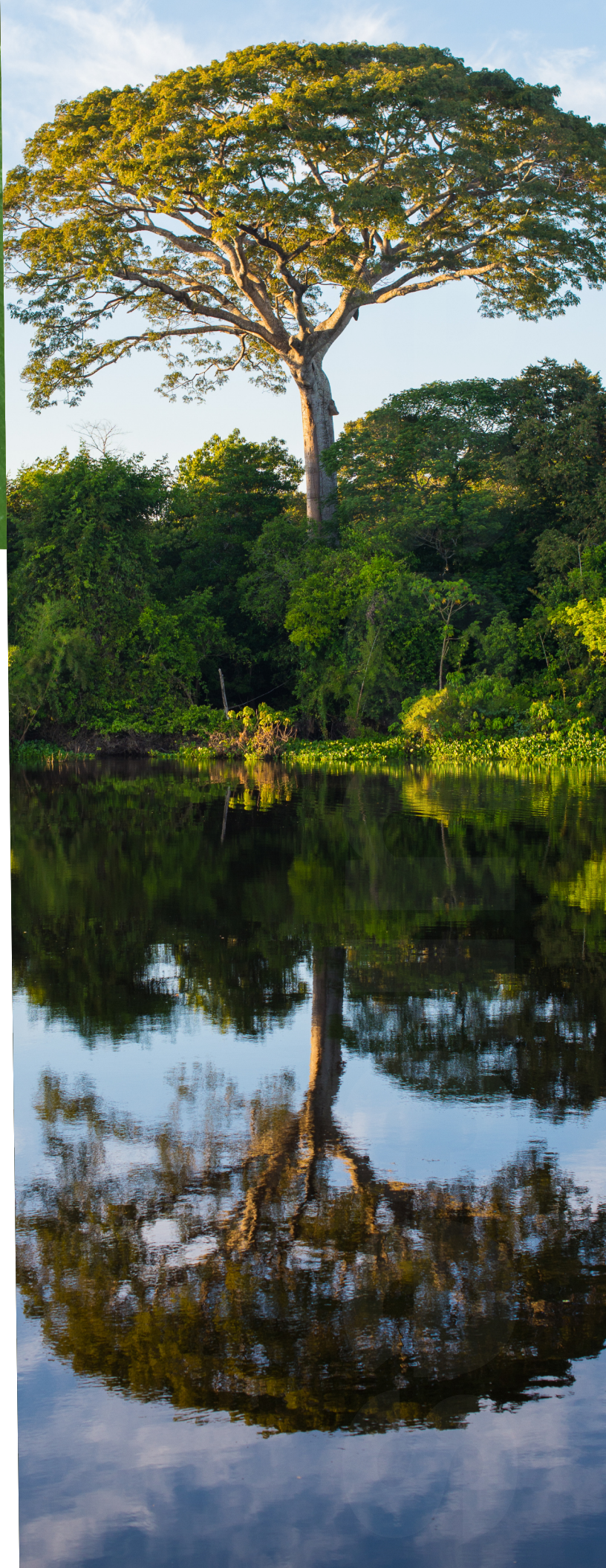
We've compiled specific resources for guiding church search committees through the hiring of new pastors.

You have access to a national network which is able to offer pulpit supply from trusted and like-minded EFCC Pastors and leaders.

We have resources and personnel to help EFCC churches with CRA questions and concerns.

You have access to significant financial resources at exceedingly low interest rates for capital projects through the EFCC ministry relationship with the Church of Christ Development Company.

Though our partnership with Abundance Canada, you have access to resources for your church in guiding people in will and estate planning. They also offer input in a variety of stewardship matters.





Ministry Relationships

The EFCC is part of a robust network of fellow organisations and ministries. Let's just take a moment to highlight a few of them.

We comply with the standards set by the **Canadian Council of Christian Charities** for their Seal of Accountability. This distinguishes charities which demonstrate ongoing compliance with CCCC's standards, and display a strong commitment to integrity.

We have a corporate membership with the **Evangelical Fellowship of Canada** which provides theological and governmental informational resources relevant to evangelicalism in the Canadian context.

We have a valued, long-term relationship with **Trinity Western University (TWU)** which was established by the Evangelical Free Church in 1962. TWU encourages its students: "Be the light."

We are also deepening our relationship with **Trinity Evangelical Divinity School (TEDS)** which offers Masters and Doctoral level programs for training in ministry. TEDS recently moved into the same building as the EFCC Home Office on TWU's campus -- we're neighbours!

Tearfund Canada (formerly World Relief Canada) represents us where there is crisis in the world that needs immediate, hands-on intervention.

We're grateful to be able to work alongside all of these ministries doing important work in Canada and around the world!





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Pastoral Resources

Saving you time and complexity, the EFCC offers your staff access to an excellent employee group benefit plan.

In addition, we offer your staff access to the EFCC's **RBC Group Retirement Savings Plan** and **RBC Group Tax-Free Savings Account Plan**.

The EFCC has ministry cohorts across Canada which focus on developing like-minded leaders in areas such as Preaching, Worship Leading, Leadership, etc.

Through **Project:LEAD**, we offer bursaries at institutions like Prairie College and Steinbach Bible College for students entering ministry education.

We offer an **Apprenticeship/ Internship Manual** to help your church as it trains and launches younger leaders.

The EFCC's cohort-based **Ministry Accreditation** is an important connection point for all leaders and ministry workers throughout the EFCC, enhancing fellowship and accountability.



EFCC Community

- The provision of a national family gives us a sense of being part of something greater than our local context. We have the opportunity to support other churches in need.

- We facilitate the corporate vision for the entire EFCC movement among local, district and national leaders.

- We offer collaboration across the EFCC family, including through our financial support of the EFCC, which enables other churches to share resources and ministries.

- Mission opportunities and partnerships through **ServeBeyond** and **ServeCanada** provide opportunity to serve as missionaries in Canada and around the world.

- We also offer mission opportunities through EFCC partnerships with **Christar**, **SIM**, **Partners International**, the **Evangelical Free Church of the Philippines**, the **Free Evangelical Association of Lebanon**, the **Evangelical Free Church of Rwanda** and others.

- Our partnership in world relief through Tearfund Canada gives opportunity for leveraging our gifts with the Canadian Food Grains Bank and Global Affairs Canada as well as providing practical relief from poverty with local churches throughout the world.

- We also have a long and deep relationship with the **Association of North American Chinese Evangelical Free Churches** (ANACEFC).

- Our **EFCC Leadership Training** is mobile, and is designed to help followers of Jesus in EFCC Churches grow as EFCC leaders for ministry inside and outside the church.

- We offer support and resources for Districts and District Superintendents within the joint **Church Vitality Committee** (CVC).

- The EFCC initiated the **Albert J. Bergsma Legacy Fund** to help grow new and current leaders, including church planters.

- We are connected to **Trinity Evangelical Divinity School** (TEDS), a world class Evangelical Free Seminary providing MDiv, DMin and other graduate level degrees and courses to equip our people for service.

- Our biennial **EFCC Conference** focuses on national unity, partnership, fellowship, worship and prayer.

- We offer **Theology Conferences** to equip our people through focusing on current issues which the evangelical church is facing.

- Our printed material speaks to our EFCC identity – “What does it mean to be Evangelical and Free?”, “What is Congregationalism?” and others can be downloaded directly from our website.

- The **EFCC's Church Policy** guidelines assist in protecting against abuse, and help process any allegations of abuse and misconduct.

- The EFCC's **Ministerial Standing Committee** (MSC) actively works with and oversees ministry workers in the Ministry Accreditation process.



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