



Membership Handbook

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As a Not-For-Profit corporation,
Sanctus Church is required under the
Canadian Not-For-Profit Act ('the Act') to
have members, and through that membership,
to fulfill various obligations
in support of our Not-For-Profit status
as laid out in the Act.

This membership handbook is a summary of
policies, procedures and practices related to
being a member at Sanctus Church.

The members are led by and represented
by the Board of Elders, who also serve as the
Directors of the Corporation under the Act.

MISSION, VISION AND VALUES

Our mission statement is our reason for being. It summarizes what we are about, why we exist, and why we do the things we do.

The mission to which we are called is:

To glorify God by reaching and enabling people of all ages and nations to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ.

Our vision statement embodies our picture of the preferred future we believe God is calling Sanctus Church to embrace.

Our unique vision for Sanctus Church is:

To become a missional church of 10,000 meeting physical, emotional, and spiritual needs in Jesus' name.

While we are required to conduct the business of the church in accordance with the Act, ultimately our focus is on the Kingdom work we believe God has called us to as expressed in the mission and vision of Sanctus Church.

Memberships' primary objective is to conduct the business of the church with integrity to ensure our charitable organization status is maintained, and that the business of the church never becomes a barrier to accomplishing the Kingdom work we believe God is calling Sanctus Church to embrace.

Doctrine and Discipleship



Sanctus Church is a member of the Associated Gospel Churches (AGC), and as such, upholds the AGC doctrinal statement, otherwise known as our Statement of Faith. The Statement of Faith can be found on the [Sanctus website](#).

At Sanctus Church, the mission of “glorifying God by enabling people of all ages to become fully devoted followers of Jesus Christ” is further articulated through the discipleship model, which contains five key dimensions:

1. Celebrate Big
2. Connect Small
3. Share The Work
4. Walk With Jesus
5. Engage In Mission

Traditionally, many from a variety of church backgrounds will identify with membership as a way to show commitment to the mission in the local church. At Sanctus Church, we are blessed with so many committed congregants who give in a multitude of ways through time and resources, sharing their skills and abilities, and only a small fraction of them are members – at Sanctus Church, membership is not about showing commitment. Members, while an essential part of making everything that is Sanctus Church possible, is one of many ways for committed people who call Sanctus Church home to “share the work”. It is no more nor less important that serving in Worship, Hospitality, Children’s Ministries, or any other aspect of Sanctus Church life. It is a way to serve by helping conduct the business of the church and ensuring we meet the requirements of a not-for-profit organization.

Sanctus Church also believes in gift-based service. God has uniquely gifted each of us, according to His sovereign will, with one or more spiritual gifts to be used for the building up of the Kingdom of God. Serving in ways that align with our spiritual gifts is one of the guaranteed places of power where we are able to rely on the power of the Holy Spirit to accomplish great things. While we always welcome any devoted Christians who call Sanctus Church home to be considered for membership, and would not deny someone becoming a member based on spiritual gifting, we strongly encourage anyone considering membership to prayerfully ask God if this is aligned with their spiritual gifting, as the greatest joy from serving in this capacity will come from such alignment.

Membership

RESPONSIBILITIES AND COMMITMENT



Membership at Sanctus Church is a commitment to be part of ensuring the business of the church is conducted and maintained to support the Kingdom work we have been called to embrace and involves responsibilities that all members must agree to uphold.

MEMBERSHIP RESPONSIBILITIES

1. Commit to serve for a two-year term and fulfill the responsibilities outlined below.
2. Uphold and support the governance structure of Sanctus Church as detailed on the following page.
3. Attend a minimum of three out of four membership meetings within the two-year term. There are two meetings per year:
 - a) Ministry Directional Meeting (generally June each year)
 - b) Ministry Accountability Meeting (generally November each year)
4. From time to time, the Elders will host Insight & Feedback meetings to gather input from members and congregants, and are not intended exclusively for members. Members are encouraged to attend, but are not required to do so. These meetings are in addition to the membership meetings and do not contribute to satisfying the three out of four attendance requirement during the membership term.
5. Vote on the following items at membership meetings:
 - a) Approve major financial items of the church
 - b) Approve selection of the financial auditors
 - c) Approve minutes from membership meetings
 - d) Approve special resolutions made at membership meetings
 - e) Vote to approve Pastoral Lead (Pastoral Lead Team)
 - f) Vote to approve Elders (Directors)

Governance Structure



The Sanctus Church governance structure is comprised of three levels of governance detailing the relationships between the membership, the Board, the Pastoral Lead Team (PLT) and the staff/volunteers. The three levels are documented as explained below.

1. Bylaws

As a Not-For-Profit organization, Sanctus Church is required to have bylaws, which is a high-level governing document covering how business is conducted at Sanctus Church. The bylaws are a legal document filed with the government, and define the relationship between the membership and the Board.

2. Board Policy Governance

Developed and maintained by the Board. Defines the operation of the Board, the relationship between the Board and PLT, and the boundaries within which the PLT are empowered to manage the operations of the church (the “why” and “what”).

3. Staff/Volunteer Policies and Procedures

Developed by the PLT, or under the PLT’s directions – define how staff will conduct and manage the operations of the church (the “how”). The Bylaws and Board Policy Governance Manual can be located on the Sanctus Church website.

On behalf of
Sanctus Church
Leadership, *thank*
you for supporting
this *ministry*





Sanctus
CHURCH