

Organizational Overview

Mission

The Board of Cooperative Ministries engages and supports congregations and RCCs in their ministries as together we grow faith, love and hope, following Jesus in serving the world.



Purpose & Charge (Book of Order, Sec 9)

The Board of Cooperative Ministries shall provide support to congregations and Regional Conferences of Churches groupings to develop and maintain a high level of health and growth.

The Board of Cooperative Ministries shall:

1. Oversee the development and implementation of specific plans set by the PEC for ministry and direction.
2. Recommend to the PEC staffing needs, including staffing structure, as well as professional staff for call and appointment.
3. Recommend to the PEC special commissions, committees and task forces (including recommendations for appointment).
4. Measure and report to the PEC effectiveness and results of plan implementation and action.
5. Promote, facilitate and assist as needed in the identification and use of gifts of ministry at the congregational level.
6. Maintain a high level of effectiveness of the staff charged with assisting congregations, RCC groups and leaders in general within the province seeking to foster congregation health and growth.

Board Composition (25 members)

- One (1) member appointed by each of the 12 Regional Conference of Churches - RCCs (up to two consecutive 2-year terms*)
- One (1) member appointed by the PEC for each Regional Conference of Churches representative (up to two consecutive 4-year terms*)
- President of the Provincial Elders' Conference, ex officio.

*Following a break from the Board, members may be re-elected and reappointed. With express consent from the representative and at the discretion of the Executive Committee, an RCC representative who is willing to serve more than two consecutive terms may be permitted to do so for one additional term. Every reasonable effort to identify another eligible candidate should be made.

Leadership

The Chair and Vice Chair of the Board shall be elected from among the appointed members. Terms shall be two years, beginning in May of odd years, or anytime if a special election is needed. Secretary will be a two-year term with re-elections permitted. A nominating committee made up of the previous chair, v-chair, and member at-large shall submit names for nomination.

An Executive Committee advises the board chair, plans the work of the board, acts as the board's agent in the case of emergencies, manages personnel issues, and helps the board focus on key policy decisions. The Executive Committee consists of the Chair, Vice-Chair, Secretary, and two at-large members of the Board. Executive Director provides staff support to the Executive Committee, but has no vote. The board carries out its work in ministry working groups with the support of staff. Provincial Support Services Board requires two of its members be appointed from BCM. The Laurel Ridge & Sunnyside Ministries boards each have one BCM representative, as well as the City of Dwellings board of directors.

Meetings

Full board meetings are held on the third Thursday of January, March, May, July, September, and November, with an annual retreat taking the place of one of these meetings. In a typical year, the full board meets approximately 5 times. Working groups are encouraged to meet in the intervening months and/or on an as-needed basis.

Individual Board Member Responsibilities

- Attend at least 75% of all board and working group meetings and functions on an annual basis.
- Take time to understand the BCM/RCC structure and organization. Be informed about the BCM's mission, services, policies, and programs.
- Support, promote and attend BCM programs and events.
- Review agenda and supporting materials prior to board and working group meetings.
- Serve on at least one working group. Be available to serve on additional committees, boards, and task forces.
- Be an ambassador for the BCM and its programs and services in your congregation, the Southern Province, and the world!
- Assist the board in carrying out its fiduciary responsibilities, such as reviewing the organization's annual financial statements, and monitoring and approving budgets.
- *RCC appointees provide periodic updates to BCM on RCC activities and participants, and serve as a conduit for information flow between RCC and BCM. For example, we ask they provide us with a current list of RCC participants and upcoming events on an as-needed basis. We also ask our RCC reps to take information about BCM activities and events back to the RCC.

