Trailview Alliance Church of Swift Current Bylaw Revisions 2026

Members of Trailview Alliance Church will vote on November 29, 2026, at 1 pm on proposed changes to the church's bylaws to align them with the local church's constitution and best practices in church governance. The following pages compare the proposed changes with the existing bylaws and explain the rationale for the changes.

As a member of the Christian & Missionary Alliance in Canada (C&MA), Trailview Alliance Church is governed by the Local Church Constitution (LCC) and C&MA policies; after Scripture, the LCC is our highest governing document (see Figure 1). The LCC is shared by all C&MA churches in Canada, and amendments and changes to it are ratified by a two-thirds majority of member churches at the C&MA's biennial General Assembly. Trailview's bylaws may not conflict with or override anything contained in the LCC. Trailview is also subject to the laws that govern non-profit corporations in Saskatchewan (The Non-profit Corporations Act, 2022) and those governing charities in Canada as defined by the Federal Government and the Canada Revenue Agency.

Changes to Trailview's bylaws require a two-thirds majority of the membership at a duly called meeting of the members. Changes proposed to the membership upon the recommendation of Trailview's Board of Elders after being reviewed by the District Superintendent (District) and approved by the District Executive Committee of the Canadian Midwest District of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada (DEXCOM) (see Figure 2). DEXCOM's review and approval ensure a church's bylaws comply with all applicable legislation.

The numbering used for the bylaws coincides with the numbering used in the LCC as the bylaws are meant to augment for the LCC for each church's unique ministry context. The LCC is available online at https://theallliancecanada.ca/Content/ExternalSite/Resources/Local-Church-Constitution-July-2022-v.2.docx.pdf

Figure 1 - Relationship of Governing Documents

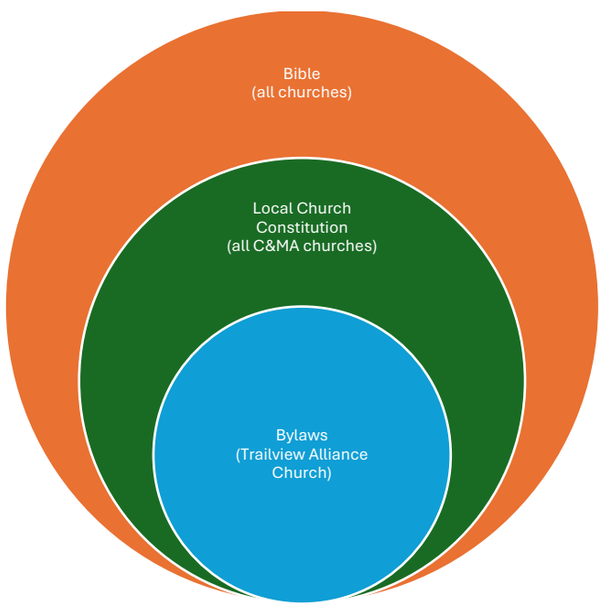
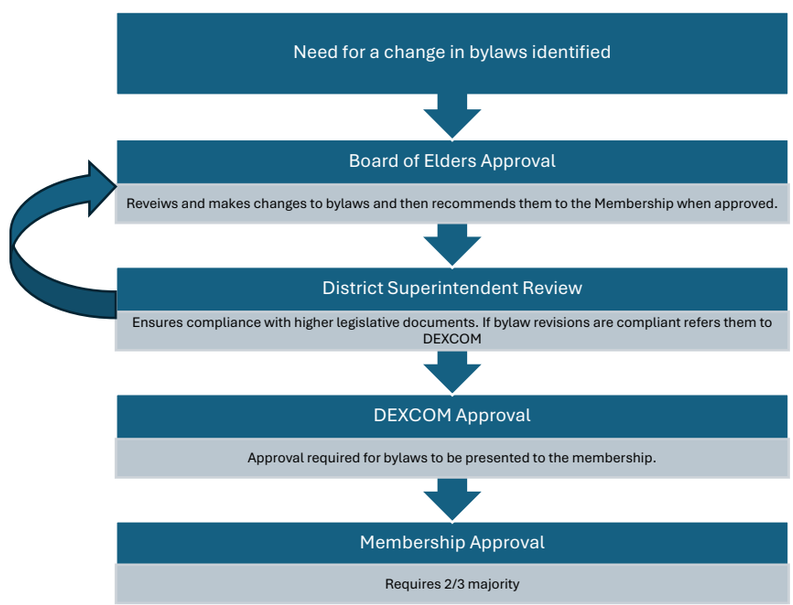


Figure 2 - Process for changing bylaws



Revised Bylaws (2026)	Original Bylaws (2014)	Notes/Comments
Preamble The Local Church Constitution: A Policy of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada is the primary governing document for the Trailview Alliance Church of Swift Current. In accordance with Article 15 of the Local Church Constitution the following bylaws are established.	**Preamble** The Constitution for churches of the Alliance Canada is the primary governing document for the Trailview Alliance Church of Swift Current. In accordance with Article 15 of that Constitution the following bylaws are established.	*Reason for Revision(s):* Updated with the correct name of the document that governs Alliance Churches in Canada. The document is correctly referred to as: The Local Church Constitution: A Policy of the Christian and Missionary Alliance in Canada, or The Local Church Constitution (LCC).
Article 1 – Name This church shall be TRAILVIEW ALLIANCE CHURCH OF SWIFT CURRENT of the Christian and Missionary Alliance of Canada.	**Article 1 – Name** This church shall bear the name of the TRAILVIEW ALLIANCE CHURCH OF SWIFT CURRENT of the Alliance Canada.	*Reason for Revision(s):* The bylaw did not reflect the correct wording specified in the LCC.
Article 2 – Purpose The purpose of the Trailview Alliance Church of Swift Current shall be to co-operate with the Canadian Midwest District of The Christian and Missionary Alliance of Canada as incorporated under the laws of the Province of Saskatchewan, in pursuit of its purposes as laid down in the Local Church Constitution. We declare that the Trailview Alliance Church of Swift Current shall be carried on without purpose of gain for its members, and any profits or other accretions to it shall be used in promoting its purpose. We further declare that the Trailview Alliance Church of Swift Current may provide and establish such other charitable work as the church desires to enter into and is in keeping with the Local Church Constitution.	**Article 2 – Purpose** The purpose of the Trailview Alliance Church of Swift Current shall be to co-operate with the Canadian Midwest District of the Alliance Canada as incorporated under the laws of the Province of Saskatchewan, in pursuit of its purposes as laid down in its manual. To wit: 1. To bear witness to the Christian truths, especially those relating to the deeper Christian life. 2. To promote unity of faith in the Lord Jesus Christ. 3. To preach this gospel of the Kingdom in the entire world for a witness to all nations, and particularly where Christ is not named, thus hastening unto the coming of the Lord. 4. To evangelize the neglected areas at home and abroad. We declare that the Trailview Alliance Church of Swift Current shall be carried on without purpose of gain for its members, and any profits or other accretions to it shall be used in promoting its purpose. We further declare that the Trailview Alliance Church of Swift Current may provide	*Reason for Revision(s):* The purposes identified as 1 through 4 are a restatement of what is in the LCC. Best practices are not to repeat portions of the LCC in a bylaw because, should the LCC ever change, the bylaw would be in conflict with the LCC.

	and establish such other charitable work as the church desires to enter into.	
Article 6 – Membership 6.1 **Qualifications** 6.1.1 Applicants for membership shall receive instruction in the doctrine, history, and practices of the Alliance Canada. 6.1.2 Membership is available to any persons who are at least 18 years of age, have fulfilled the criteria set out in the Local Church Constitution (Article 6) regarding membership, completed the membership training and have been approved by the Board of Elders. 6.1.3 Members wishing to withdraw their membership should state their intentions in writing to the Board of Elders.	**Article 6 – Membership** **6.1 Qualifications** 6.1.1 Applicants for membership shall receive instruction in the doctrine, history, and practices of the Alliance Canada. 6.1.2 Membership is available to any persons who are at least 18 years of age, have fulfilled the criteria set out in the constitution (Article VI) regarding membership, completed the membership class and have been approved by the Board of Elders. 6.1.3 Any person who is a member in good standing of another Alliance Canada Church may submit a request to the Board of Elders to have their membership transferred to Trailview Alliance Church. 6.1.4 Members wishing to withdraw their membership should state their intentions in writing to the Board of Elders. 6.1.5 Membership Roll The membership shall consist of those members who are in good standing that are actively attending and supporting the church to the extent that they are able to do so. Friends of Trailview are non-residents who desire to retain a connection with the church, such as missionaries. Friends of Trailview do not have legal recognition as members of the church. **6.2 Discipline** 6.2.1 The privilege of membership may be revoked by the Board of Elders in keeping with the discipline process outlined in the constitution of the Alliance Canada. Prior to such action being taken, a member or members from the Board of Elders will attempt to meet with the individual(s) concerned. 6.2.2 It is the spiritual responsibility of the Board of Elders to lovingly administer disciplinary action when necessary. Discipline of church members will be followed according to the constitutional	*Reason for Revision(s):* References to “members who are in good standing” and “Friends of Trialview” have been removed for compliance with the LCC and Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) view of membership. According to the CRA members are either voting or non-voting. The category “Friends of Trailview” will be defined in a Board policy which will provide criteria and benefits of this category, but “Friends of Trailview” will not be considered members. The ability to transfer membership from another Alliance Church has been removed as this is no longer a common practice. Anyone seeking membership must participate in the new member class and be interviewed by the board. The bylaws concerning discipline of members has been removed as the LCC specifies the process for church discipline.

	requirements of the Alliance of Canada (Article VI, as well as the "Discipline and Restoration Policy for Members").	
Article 7 – Government 7.1 **Annual Membership Meeting** – The annual meeting of the membership (also known as the Annual General Meeting) shall be held within the timeframe specified by the Saskatchewan Non-Profit Corporation Act and Canada Revenue Agency, on a date selected by the Elders' Board. Public Announcements of this meeting shall be made at least three weeks prior to the date. A quorum shall consist of the members present at the meeting. Annual Reports shall be available to the membership at least three weeks prior to the date of the meeting. 7.2 **Special Business Meeting** - Special business meetings may be called by the Lead Pastor or the Board of Elders, or by petition signed by ten percent of the membership. Public Announcements of this meeting shall be made at least three weeks prior. A quorum shall consist of the members present at the meeting. The agenda for the meeting shall be included in the announcement. 7.3 The Chairman of the Board of Elders shall be given authority to appoint the tellers for any meeting of the church membership. All tellers must be members of the church. An equal number of tellers will be appointed from among the Board of Elders and the membership. 7.4 The fiscal year shall be from January 1st to December 31st.	**Article 7 – Government** **7.1 Annual Congregational Business Meeting -** The annual congregational business meeting shall be held before the 15th of March on a date selected by the Elders' Board. Announcements of this meeting shall be read during the two preceding Sunday morning worship services. In the event that the meeting is held on a Sunday, the Sunday the meeting is announced shall not count as one of the required Sunday morning announcements. A quorum shall consist of one-third of the membership. Annual reports shall be available to the membership at least one Sunday prior to the date of the meeting. **7.2 Special Congregational Business Meeting** - Special congregational business meetings may be called by the Lead Pastor, the Board of Elders, the Trustees or by petition signed by ten percent of the members in good and regular standing of the church. Announcements of this meeting shall be read during the two preceding Sunday morning worship services. In the event that the meeting is held on a Sunday, the Sunday the meeting is announced shall not count as one of the required Sunday morning announcements. A quorum shall consist of one-third of the membership. The agenda for the meeting shall be included in the announcement. 7.3 The Chairman of the Board of Elders shall be given authority to appoint the tellers at any duly constituted meeting of the church membership. All tellers must be members of the church. Two tellers will be appointed from the Board of Elders, and two tellers will be appointed from the church membership. 7.4 The fiscal year shall be from January 1st to December 31st.	*Reason for Revision(s):* The word "congregational" has been removed from the bylaws as it implies a system of church governance contrary to what an Alliance Church practices. The requirements concerning the scheduling and announcing of the Annual Membership Meeting has been adjusted to reflect legislative requirements and greater flexibility in calling the Annual Membership Meeting. The requirements for announcing a Special Business Meeting of the members has been adjusted to reflect legislative requirements. Quorom at both the Annual Membership Meeting and a Special Meeting has been set at the number of members present at a duly called meeting of the members, rather than a percentage of the membership. The specific number of tellers appointed by the chair has been adjusted to allow greater flexibility in meeting the needs of the situation.

Article 8 – Board of Elders **8.1 Composition and Responsibilities** 8.1.1 The Board of Elders shall be composed of the Lead Pastor and up to seven members who shall be elected at the Annual General Meeting of the Trailview Alliance Church of Swift Current. 8.1.2 The Elders shall be elected for a three-year term, with not less than one-third of the Board elected annually. An Elder shall not be eligible for election for a period of one year after having served six consecutive years. 8.1.3 Vacancies that occur on the Board of Elders may be filled by appointment of the Board of Elders with the appointee serving until the next Annual General Meeting. 8.1.4 The office of Elder shall be vacated upon the occurrence of any of the following 1. An Elder is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Board without justifiable cause and the Board declares the position vacant. 2. An Elder has resigned as a member of the church or has been removed from membership based on the policy on Discipline and Restoration for Members of Local Churches of The Christian and Missionary Alliance. 8.1.5 No Elder shall vote on or debate a motion that may potentially benefit them financially in any way. 8.1.6 Any person having a non-arms length relationship with an Elder including, but not limited to, a spouse, child, sibling, or parent, is disqualified from being an Elder. Disclosure must be	**Article 8 – Board of Elders** **8.1 Composition and Responsibilities** 8.1.1 The Board of Elders shall be composed of the Lead Pastor and up to seven members who shall be elected at the Annual Meeting of the membership of the Trailview Alliance Church of Swift Current. 8.1.2 The Elders shall be elected for a three-year term, with not less than one-third of the Board elected annually. An Elder shall not succeed himself for one year after having served six consecutive years. 8.1.3 Vacancies that occur during the time between Annual Meetings may be filled by appointment made by the Board of Elders. 8.1.4 The office of Elder shall be vacated upon the occurrence of any of the following 1. An Elder is absent from three consecutive meetings of the Board without justifiable cause and the Board declares the position vacant. 2. An Elder has resigned as a member of the church or has been removed from membership due to disciplinary action being taken by the Board of Elders. 3. An Elder is found by a court to be of unsound mind. 8.1.5 No Elder shall vote on or debate a motion that may potentially benefit them financially in any way. 8.1.6 Any person having a non-arms length relationship with an Elder including, but not limited to, a spouse, child, sibling, or parent, is disqualified from being an Elder. Disclosure must be made of any	*Reason for Revision(s):* The wording of 8.1.3 has been changed to reflect legislative requirements of appointments lasting only until the next Annual Meeting of the Members. The wording of the second point in 8.1.4 has been revised to refer to the Alliance's policy on discipline which specifies the disciplinary process for Elders. The fourth point in 8.1.4 was removed as the CRA defines criteria in which elders/officers of an organization may be removed if the elder is "of unsound mind" and therefore this bylaw is not needed.

made of any relationship other than the ones already mentioned should a nominee for Elder have a direct familial connection to any other Elder.	relationship other than the ones already mentioned should a nominee for Elder have a direct familial connection to any other Elder. **8.2 – Officers** 8.2.1 The officers shall consist of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. 8.2.2 The Board of Elders will appoint at their first meeting following the Annual Meeting a Finance Committee that must include the Treasurer, who will serve as Chairperson, and at least one other Elder, the Bookkeeper, and lay members as deemed necessary by the Treasurer, to make recommendations and reports as requested by the Board of Elders. **8.3 - Duties** 8.3.1 Chairman - The Chairman shall be acting chairman of the Board of Elders' meetings, congregational meetings and Trustee meetings. 8.3.2 Vice-Chairman - The Vice-Chairman shall act as chairman of the Board of Elders' meetings, congregational meetings and Trustee meetings in the absence of, or at the request of, the Chairman. 8.3.3 Secretary - The Secretary shall record the minutes of all Board meetings and keep them in a secured file in the church office under the care of the Office Administrator. 8.3.4 Treasurer - The Treasurer shall file all necessary papers with the government agencies and supervise recording of all monies received and ensure a yearly receipt is provided to each contributor. **8.4 – Trustees** - The Chairman of the Board of Elders, the Vice-Chairman, the Secretary, and the Treasurer shall be appointed as Trustees and shall be the signing officers of the congregation on all contracts, documents, cheques or any instruments in writing requiring execution by the church.	*Reason for Revision(s):* The sections on Officers (8.2) and Duties (8.3) is a repeat of the LCC and has been removed. The bylaw concerning the appointment, composition and responsibilities of a Finance Committee has become a Board Policy. The section on Trustees (8.4) has been removed as it is not necessary in Saskatchewan and according to the CRA the entire Board of Elders are the officers of the church.
Article 10 – Organizations	**Article 10 – Organizations**	*Reason for Revision(s):* Removed as it is simple a repeat of the LCC.

	The Elders' Board may establish additional committees and sub committees as needs and purposes are identified.	
Article 12 – Property 12.1 Should the church cease to exist as a corporate body or cease to be subject to the Manual, which includes the Statement of Faith of the Christian and Missionary Alliance of Canada, all of its real property, appurtenances, and effects associated with the member church prior to its withdrawal shall inure to the benefit of and remain the property of the district corporation of the Christian and Missionary Alliance of Canada within which this church is located or with which it is affiliated by law. 12.2 Should the church cease to be subject to the Manual, which includes the Statement of Faith of the Christian and Missionary Alliance of Canada, but continue to abide by a similar statement of faith and promote similar purposes, the District Executive Committee of the district within which this church is located or with which it is affiliated by law may allow the church to acquire ownership of some or all of the real property, appurtenances, and effects associated with the member church prior to its withdrawal.	**Article 12 – Property**	*Reason for Revision(s):* Added as per the requirement of the LCC and as a requirement of DEXCOM for a District Loan.
Article 13 – Nominating Committee 13.1 The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Lead Pastor and four members with equal representation from the Board of Elders and the rest of the membership. 13.2 The Nominating Committee will attempt to present one name for each available position on the Board of Elders.	**Article 13 – Nominating Committee** 13.1 The Nominating Committee shall consist of the Lead Pastor and four members with equal representation from the Board of Elders and the rest of the membership. 13.2 The congregational representatives shall be elected at the Annual Meeting.	*Reason for Revision(s):* 13.2 has been removed as it is specified in the LCC. 13.3 has been removed as the CRA recognizes all Elders as officers and the LCC defines how the executive members of the Board are chosen.

	13.3 The Nominating Committee will identify the names of those being nominated to the Board of Elders as officers, stating the office for which they are being nominated. 13.4 The Nominating Committee will attempt to present one name for each available position on the Board of Elders.	
Article 15 – Bylaws	**Article 15 – Bylaws** Bylaws may be adopted, amended, or rescinded by a majority vote at any duly constituted meeting of the membership. Proposed changes in the bylaws must first be passed by a majority vote of the Board of Elders and not in conflict with the constitution for local churches of the Alliance Canada.	*Reason for Revision(s):* Removed as it is simply a repeat of the LCC.