

COMMITTEE FOR NEW AND RENEWING CHURCHES

Draft December 2016

NAME

1. The name of the Committee shall be COMMITTEE FOR NEW AND RENEWING CHURCHES.

The Committee shall be a committee of the LCA Board for Local Mission (hereafter referred to as "The Board").

OBJECTS

2. In its commitment to growing mission and strengthening local communities in the Church, through the encouragement and support of such ministry in the Districts, congregations, agencies and other ministries, the focus of the work of the Committee shall be to:
 - (a) nurture a growing missional culture in the LCA;
 - (b) support within the Church participation in the Triune God's mission to Australia and New Zealand to bring the good news of Jesus Christ to all people. (John 20:21-23; see also Acts 1:8; Matthew 28:19-20)
 - (c) develop proactive strategies that establish new missional communities in Australia and New Zealand;
 - (d) assist in developing strong mission-oriented leaders to enable effective ministry in new and changing contexts;
 - (e) help communities develop a passionate faith shaped by a growing understanding of God's word;
 - (f) support existing communities to be active in evangelism;
 - (g) support and equip communities to use innovative and collaborative mission-oriented approaches in changed and changing mission contexts; and
 - (h) support new communities to continued development and growth.

RELATIONSHIP TO THE CHURCH

3. All activities and programs of the Committee shall be consistent with, and in conformity to, the overall mission strategy and mission policies of the Board and the Church.

MEMBERSHIP

4. The Committee shall consist of up to seven [7] members appointed by the Board and endorsed by GCC:
 - (a) one [1] pastor currently serving in a local congregation;
 - (b) two [2] members with expertise in diverse models of mission in new and established contexts;
 - (c) three [3] members who are practitioners in local mission in new and/or existing mission fields;
 - (d) one [1] member with experience in strategic planning and/or organisational management.

Committee membership is to be skills based, with reference to gender balance, age and geographical location.

The committee shall appoint a chairperson from its membership.

The Executive Officer – Local Mission is an ‘ex officio’ member of the committee.

The Mission Facilitator is a consultant to the committee.

5. The Committee may appoint consultants as required to assist in carrying out its duties. The terms of reference shall be determined by the Board, in consultation with the GCC.

DUTIES

6. The duties of the Committee shall be to:
 - (a) provide advice to the Board on the strategic directions of ministry with new and renewing churches;
 - (b) work with the Districts to equip and assist every congregation and other ministries and agencies of the Church to carry out its mission to its local community, through articulation of good mission practice based on study of missiology and society and culture;
 - (c) support the work of the Districts and their congregations and other ministries and agencies of the Church as they respond to emerging mission opportunities and challenges;
 - (d) act as a national point of reference for new churches and renewing churches;
 - (e) identify church planting opportunities and other mission possibilities;
 - (f) provide a sounding board and advice to the Department staff in the development and implementation of resources and specific initiatives;
 - (g) promote the work of new and renewing churches and develop effective communication to facilitate sharing of initiatives and mutual support between missional communities;
 - (h) review and monitor the work and wellbeing of the New and Renewing Churches Department, including its financial performance;
 - (i) recommend to the Board policies to guide practice in the context of new and renewing churches;
 - (j) develop and recommend plans and ministry priorities, including proposed budgets, for new and renewing churches that integrate into the Board’s overall strategic plan;
 - (k) develop and maintain connections with other ministry bodies of the Church, particularly the other mission committees of the Board;
 - (l) develop and maintain connections ecumenically on a local and international level;
 - (m) support the Executive Officer - Local Mission to facilitate the recruitment of the Director/Facilitator and recommend a candidate to the Board;
 - (n) support the Executive Officer - Local Mission to undertake regular performance reviews of the Department’s Director/Facilitator;
 - (o) provide strategic leadership in the promotion of new and renewing churches ministry;
 - (p) establish sub-committees and advisory groups to support the work of the committee, on approval of the Board; and
 - (q) carry out other duties assigned or required by the Board.

RESPONSIBILITY

7. The Committee shall be responsible to the Board and shall ensure the provision of a written report to each Board meeting or as requested by the Board.

MEETINGS

8. Regular meetings of the Committee shall be held at least three times a year. Regular communication shall be maintained as required by the Board.