



# **CONSTITUTION**

**1905 Springfield Road  
Kelowna, BC**

Adopted  
April 4, 2004

# KELOWNA TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH CONSTITUTION

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# KELOWNA TRINITY BAPTIST CHURCH CONSTITUTION

## 1. NAME OF THE SOCIETY

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The name of the Society is "Kelowna Trinity Baptist Church".

## 2. PURPOSE OF THE SOCIETY

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The purpose of the Society is to glorify God and advance the kingdom of Jesus Christ. The Society will publicly worship God, preach the Gospel and evangelize the world, administer the New Testament ordinances of baptism and the Lord's Supper, help people grow to full spiritual maturity in Jesus Christ, develop authentic Christian community, and minister to the needs of people.

## 3. STATEMENT OF FAITH

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As members of Kelowna Trinity Baptist Church, we believe in the following distinctive Christian principles:

- A) **The Bible:** We believe the Bible is the absolutely reliable and inspired Word of God. The Bible has ultimate authority in matters of faith and conduct.
- B) **The Trinity:** We believe there is one living and true God, existing eternally in three equal persons: God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit. These three persons carry out different yet harmonious roles in creation, providence, and redemption.
  - 1) **God the Father:** We believe in God the Father, an infinite personal spirit, perfect in holiness, wisdom, power, and love. He takes a merciful interest in the lives of human beings. He hears and answers prayer. God the Father saves from sin and death everyone who comes to him through Jesus Christ.
  - ii) **God the Son:** We believe in Jesus Christ, God's one and only Son, conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of a virgin. We believe in his sinless life, miracles, and teachings. He died in our place, was raised in his body from the dead and ascended into heaven where he continuously intercedes for his people.
  - iii) **God the Holy Spirit:** We believe in God the Holy Spirit, sent into the world by God the Father and God the Son to convict the world of sin, righteousness, and judgment. Everyone who believes in Jesus Christ for their salvation is regenerated, made holy, and empowered by the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit lives within every believer and is an unwavering helper, teacher, and guide.
- C) **Regeneration:** We believe all people are sinners by nature and choice, dominated by the power of sin. All people are guilty of breaking God's laws and are separated from God. In his mercy and love, God provided a Saviour for mankind. All who repent of their sins and accept by faith Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord are forgiven, regenerated by the Holy Spirit, and made perfect in the

sight of God. Christians are justified by God's grace, not as a result of their good works or merit.

**D) The Church:**

- i) **The Universal Church:** We believe in the universal church, the living spiritual body of Jesus Christ of which Jesus Christ is the head. Everyone who receives Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord is a member of the universal church.
- ii) **The Local Church:** We believe in the local church, a group of believers in Jesus Christ, publicly baptized by immersion following credible personal testimony of faith in Jesus Christ as Saviour and Lord. The local church exists for worship, for advancing the work of the church, for sharing the responsibilities of the church, and for developing genuine Christian community. God has given the local church the primary task of spreading the Gospel of Jesus Christ.

**E) Spiritual Gifts:** We believe God equips his church with all of the spiritual gifts necessary to accomplish the tasks he gives it. We believe every member of the body of Jesus Christ is given a spiritual gift(s). All spiritual gifts are intended to build up the members of the Christian community and not for selfish advantage. It is important that every Christian discovers and exercises their spiritual gift(s) in the service of Jesus Christ.

**F) Christian Conduct:** We believe Christians should live for the glory of God and the well-being of all people. They should lead genuine Christian lives, nurturing their personal spiritual development, becoming more Christ-like in their character. They should worship and pray regularly, study and be obedient to God's Word, develop servants' hearts, be trustworthy in their dealings with others, pursue Christ honoring relationships, and be faithful stewards of all God entrusts to them.

**G) Ordinances:** We believe Jesus Christ has committed two ordinances to the local church:

- i) **Baptism:** Christian baptism is the public immersion of a believer in water in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.
- ii) **The Lord's Supper:** Jesus Christ established the Lord's Supper as a remembrance of his death.

These ordinances should be observed and administered until Jesus Christ returns to Earth.

**H) Religious Liberty:** We believe every human being has direct access to God and is personally responsible to God in matters of faith. Each church must be independent and free from interference by religious or political authorities. The church and state must be kept separate as they have different functions. They must be free to fulfill their duties without the command or sponsorship of the other.

**I) Church Cooperation:** We believe local churches can promote the cause of Jesus Christ by cooperating with one another in associations. These associations exist and function by the will of the participating churches. Cooperation in associations is voluntary and may be changed at any time by a decision of the local church.

- J) **End Times:** We believe in the personal and visible return of Jesus Christ to Earth and in the establishment of his kingdom. We believe in the resurrection of the body, the final judgment, the eternal happiness of the righteous, and the endless suffering of the wicked.

This Provision of the Constitution is alterable.

#### **4. CHURCH COVENANT**

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As members of Kelowna Trinity Baptist Church (hereinafter referred to as the "Church"), saved by grace through Jesus Christ, publicly baptized by immersion as believers and committed to being his devoted followers, we make the following covenant with God and with one another:

We agree to strive to advance the Church in its pursuit of holiness, knowledge and worship of God, and obedience to God's Word including believer's baptism and communion.

We agree to be active participants in the life of the Church, praying for its growth and sharing in its work, discovering and exercising our spiritual gifts, contributing to its ministries with our resources and tithes, supporting its vision and values for the purpose of helping people begin and continue a life-changing relationship with Jesus Christ.

We agree to protect the unity of the Church, promoting its doctrine, supporting its leadership, and acting in love towards one another.

We agree to live in authentic Christian community, extending grace and acceptance to all, caring and praying for one another, especially in times of need.

We agree to lead genuine Christian lives, nurturing our personal spiritual development, worshipping God and praying regularly, studying and being obedient to God's Word, developing servants' hearts, being trustworthy in our dealings with others, pursuing Christ honoring relationships, and being faithful stewards of all God entrusts to us.

We covenant these things with God and with one another, "being confident of this, that he who began a good work in you will carry it on to completion until the day of Christ Jesus." (Philippians 1:6)

This Provision of the Constitution is alterable.

#### **5. WINDING-UP OR DISSOLUTION OF THE SOCIETY**

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In the event of the winding-up or dissolution of the Society, any assets of the Society remaining after satisfaction of its debts and liabilities, shall be given or transferred to an organization, or organizations, as shall be decided by the members of the Society at the time of winding-up or dissolution, provided that any such organization shall be a

charitable organization or trust recognized by Revenue Canada as such, and which has the pre-eminent goal of propagating the Gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ as set forth in the Bible.

This Provision of the Constitution is unalterable.

## Supporting Bible References for Statement of Faith

- A) **The Bible:** John 17:17, Romans 15:4, II Timothy 3:16-17, II Peter 1:19-21
- B) **The Trinity:** Matthew 28:19, John 1:1-4, I Corinthians 8:6, I Corinthians 12:4-6, Ephesians 4:4-6, I Peter 1:2.
- i) **God the Father:** John 3:16-17, John 4:24, John 17:5, Ephesians 1:17-23, I Peter 1:3-5.
- ii) **God the Son:** Isaiah 7:14, Matthew 1:18, Luke 1:30-35, John 1:14, John 3:16-17, Romans 8:34, Philippians 2:5-11, Hebrews 1:2-13, Hebrews 7:25, I John 1:7, Revelations 1:4-6.
- iii) **God the Holy Spirit:** John 14:16-17, John 14:26, John 16:7-15, Romans 8:13-17, I Corinthians 1:6-16, I Corinthians 12:4-11, Ephesians 1:13-14.
- C) **Regeneration:** John 1:12-13, John 3:3-17, Acts 20:21, Romans 3:22-28, Romans 4:5, Romans 5:1-2, Romans 5:6-11, Romans 6:23, Galatians 2:16, Ephesians 2:1-9, Titus 3:4-7.
- D) **The Church:**
- i) **The Universal Church:** Romans 6:3-4, I Corinthians 12:12-13, Ephesians 1:20-23, Ephesians 2:19-23, Ephesians 5:25-27.
- ii) **The Local Church:** Acts 1:8, Acts 2:38-47.
- E) **Spiritual Gifts:** Romans 12:3-8, I Corinthians 12:12-30, Ephesians 4:11-16.
- F) **Christian Conduct:** Joshua 1:8, Proverbs 3:5-6, John 14:21, John 16:24, Romans 12:1, II Corinthians 9:6-8, Philippians 2:14-16, Hebrews 10:24-25.
- G) **Ordinances:**
- i) **Baptism:** Matthew 28:18-20, Mark 16:16, John 4:1-2, Acts 2:41-42, Romans 6:3-5, Colossians 2:11-12.
- ii) **The Lord's Supper:** Matthew 26:26-29, I Corinthians 11:23-32.
- H) **Religious Liberty:** Romans 13
- I) **Church Cooperation:** Acts 15:1-35
- J) **End Times:** Matthew 25:31-46, John 5:28-29, II Corinthians 5:10, Revelation 20:11-15)