
WHY DOES FELLOWSHIP ATLANTIC VALUE ASSOCIATION?

As noted in the Fellowship Atlantic Bylaws, we believe there is a Value and Expectation of Association as local churches. We exist to provide our member churches with sharing encouragement, resources, and opportunities they need to fulfil our cooperative missional objectives. Through ongoing communication, email and phone, local church visits, various meetings, consultations, pastor clusters, and conferences, etc., this Fellowship carries out the biblical mandate.

Association is a relationship with privileges and responsibilities, and it is imperative that churches understand what these are when considering aligning themselves with Fellowship Atlantic.

Among the privileges we see:

- Churches who are working together for the sake of the gospel.
- Churches sharing information and help so each can thrive.
- Churches working together to see new churches established or revitalized.
- Pastors regularly meeting for encouragement and sharpening.
- Pastors and wives gathering for retreats and fellowship.
- Regional Director who is working with your church and others toward the health of our churches and leadership for the glory of God and the good of our provinces.
- Providing information to help churches stay current with organizational policies.

Some of the responsibilities include:

- Giving to the support and costs of Fellowship Atlantic and its Regional Director.
- Contributing time and energy for our combined mission.
- Protecting the vulnerable among us by implementation of plans to protect them, and regularly training staff and volunteers to implement these practices.
- Pastors modeling a spirit of inter-dependency by participating in Regional opportunities such as pastor clusters, conferences, retreats etc.
- Pastors and other church staff whole-heartedly affirming our code of ethics.

Our Code of Ethics is a solemn pledge whereby we place ourselves under an obligation to God and accountability to one another. Anyone who accepts the responsibility as a pastor or staff of a Fellowship Atlantic church should sincerely embrace this covenant:

“Because the church I serve is affiliated with the Fellowship Atlantic Region, I fully agree with and will teach and demonstrate agreement with the Fellowship Affirmation of Faith. I will participate wholeheartedly in the life of the Region and then the National Fellowship. This includes praying for God's blessing on its life, witness, ministry and growth and encouraging my church to participate in the missional objectives of the Fellowship regionally, nationally and internationally.”

Should a church lapse into a state of non-participation, consistently absenting itself from meaningful contact, and failing to support the cooperative missional objectives of Fellowship Atlantic, they should expect significant effort by the Regional Director and Council to reengage the church through contact with its leadership. Should these attempts fail to bring about a satisfactory renewal of the relationship, this shall constitute grounds for removal from Fellowship Atlantic.

2021