Toronto Chinese Evangelical Ministerial Fellowship Constitution (2006 revised version)

1. Name: Toronto Chinese Evangelical Ministerial Fellowship

2. Objective

This Fellowship is a nonprofit organization, formed by the co-workers of the Chinese churches and parachurch organizations of Toronto and surrounding areas, who subscribe to the Statement of Faith of the Fellowship. Through mutual prayer, encouragement and experience sharing, the Fellowship aims to promote gospel ministry within Chinese communities.

3. Statement of Faith

We believe that the Holy Scripture, both Old and New Testaments, is the inspired Word of God, the complete revelation of His will for the salvation of men, and the Divine and final authority for Christian faith and life.

We believe in the one, true and living God, eternally existing in three persons – the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

We believe in God the Son, Jesus Christ, truly God and truly man, conceived of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin, Mary. He died on the cross and shed His blood as an atonement for the sins of men, and was raised bodily from the dead. He ascended into heaven. He will return imminently and personally according to His promise.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Third Person of the Godhead, who is of one substance, equal in power, and co-existent with the Father and the Son. His ministry is to convict men, regenerate the believing sinners, and to indwell and empower the believers for godly living and service.

We believe that man was created in the image and likeness of God, but in Adam all men have fallen into sin, and as sinners, men are in need of God's salvation.

We believe that penitent sinners are regenerated solely by God's grace and justified through faith in Jesus Christ alone.

We believe that there shall be a bodily resurrection of the just into eternal life, and of the unjust to an eternal punishment.

We believe that Christ is the Head of the Church, which is one body, consisting of those regenerated by the Spirit of God, expressing itself in worship, fellowship, evangelism and service.

4. Membership

a. Regular Membership: Any full time pastoral staff, or any full {time} staff of a parachurch organization with a Bible College or Seminary degree including retired workers, who subscribe to the Statement of Faith of the Fellowship, and who is willing to participate regularly in all its meetings (Chinese or English), and who has attended the monthly meetings at least three consecutive times, may apply to be a Regular Member of the Fellowship.

Associate Membership: Any part-time or full time worker of a church or a parachurch organization may apply to be an Associate Member of the fellowship. An associate member does not have rights to vote or to be elected. The name of an Associate Member will be identified as an Associate Member in the membership directory.

- b. Those who apply for Regular or Associate membership must submit a written application, subscribing to the Statement of Faith of the Fellowship and be recommended by two Regular Members. After the evaluation by the executive committee, the application will be subject to acceptance into the Fellowship by members during a regular monthly meeting.
- c. If a member has alledgedly ceased to submit to the Statement of Faith of the Fellowship, and the allegation is found true by the executive committee, the committee will cancel his or her membership upon approval by the members with two-thirds majority during a regular monthly meeting.
- d. Members should regularly participate in the monthly meeting. If a member has ceased to attend for the period of one year, that member will become an Associate Member of the Fellowship without the right to vote or to be elected. After the member has attended the monthly meeting for three consecutive times, membership will be restored automatically.
 - e. All Regular Members of the Fellowship have the right to vote and to be elected.
- 5. Organization: Every November, a Membership Meeting will be called to elect a new Executive Committee for the following year.
- a. The executive committee is composed of one Chairperson, one Vice-Chairperson, one Secretary, one Treasurer, one Member Relations person, and a number of Special Ministry Members, with one coordinator for each.
- b. The term of office for each of the Executive Committee Members is one year, and they will be eligible annually for re-election, except that an Executive Committee Member cannot hold to the same position for over 3 years. After serving for three consecutive years in the committee, an Executive Committee Member has the right to refrain from being elected for one year but after serving for six years consecutively in the committee, the Executive Committee Member must refrain from being elected for a

period of one year. The elected executives will form the Executive Committee to plan and promote gospel ministry within local Chinese Communities.

- c. The term for the executives will start on January 1st each year and terminate on December 31st of the same year.
- 6. Election: The Executive Committee will be elected by the Regular members of the Fellowship in the Annual Membership Meeting.
- a. Prior to the election, the Executive Committee will determine the number of Executives and the number of the Special Ministry Members to be elected.
- b. In October each year, a Nominating Committee will be formed. This committee is composed of five members, of which the convener is the incumbent chairperson of the Executive Committee that year. One member will be appointed from the Executives and three members will be elected from among the Regular Fellowship Members during its monthly meeting.
- c. The membership list will be reviewed by the Executive Committee and will then be to the Nominating Committee. The total number of Nominees should be the number of executive positions available plus not more than 50% of the number of positions available to be filled. In order to maintain the effective continuation of the operation of the Fellowship, there should be at least 5 of the Executive Committee from the present year named in the nomination list for the following year
- d. The position of Chairperson will be elected from among the newly elected Executive Committee on the same election day in November by the Regular Fellowship members. The rest of the positions can be elected afterwards among the executive members themselves. The chairman must be a member of the pastoral staff of a church and have served on the Fellowship Executive Committee for at least two years.
- e. The members of the Special Ministry Members of the Executive Committee are to be nominated by the Executive Committee, to be elected and approved by the Regular members.

7. Meetings

- a. Monthly Meetings.
- b. Annual or Special Membership meetings.
- c. Special Meetings.
- d. The Fellowship in principle does not endorse nor act as partners or sponsors for meetings that are being conducted by other Christian organizations unless approved by two-third of the committee.

8. Finance

- a. The Operating fund is supported by free will donations from members, churches, organizations and individual believers.
- b. All income will be used primarily for the development of gospel ministry and the activities organized by the Ministerial Fellowship.
- c All bank cheques, drafts and statements must be signed by any two of the four following designated executives: the chairperson, vice-chairperson, secretary and the treasurer.

d The annual fiscal year will be from January 1st till December 31st. An audit will be done once a year.

9. Amendment of Constitution

The Statement of Faith of the Fellowship shall not be amended. Any amendment of the Constitution of the Fellowship must be submitted in writing, signed by three Regular Members of the Fellowship to the executive committee for discussion. Upon evaluation, the approval of the amendment must be decided by the members of the Fellowship during its membership meeting with two-third majority vote.

10. Dissolution of the Ministerial Fellowship

The dissolution of the Fellowship must be approved at a Membership Meeting, and any and all assets of the Fellowship will be donated to registered parachurch organizations within Canada.

<u>多倫多華人福音教牧同工團契會章</u> 2006年修訂版

- 一. 名稱:多倫多華人福音教牧同工團契
 TORONTO CHINESE EVANGELICAL MINISTERIAL
 FELLOWSHIP
 (以下簡稱團契)
- 二. 宗旨:本團契由本市及鄰近地區,持守相同信仰立場之華人教會暨福音機構同工組成之不牟利團體,藉彼此代禱,互相勉勵並交換工作經驗,以促進華人福音事工爲目的.

三. 信仰:

我們相信全部新舊約聖經都是神的啓示,將祂救贖人類的計劃完全啓示,也是信仰與生活最高神聖的準則.

我們相信獨一的真活神,即永存的聖父,聖子與聖靈.

我們相信聖子耶穌基督,是真神也是真人,由聖靈感孕童女馬利亞所生,祂死於十字架上流血爲人贖罪,神使祂從死裡復活,升天,並要照祂的應許快要親自再臨.

我們相信聖靈,三一真神的第三位,與聖父,聖子同質,同權,同存,祂 的工作是使人知罪,重生,並住在信徒心中,使他有能力過聖潔的生 活與事奉神服侍人.

我們相信人是照神的形象造的,在亞當裡墮落成爲罪人,都需要神的救恩.

我們相信悔改的罪人,唯賴神的恩典得以重生,並因信耶穌基督得以稱義.

我們相信義人身體復活得永生,不義的人復活受永刑.

我們相信教會的元首是基督.教會是一體的,由聖靈所重生的人組成,並在敬拜,交通,傳福音及事奉上發揮其功用.

四. 會員:

1. 正式會員: 凡全職教牧同工,或持有聖經學院或神學院學位 而在之福音機構全職事奉的同工,包括退休同工,並持守本 團契信仰立場,願意經常參與本團契所安排之各項聚會,並 且連續參加本團契月會(包括中,英文聚會)三次以上,皆可申 請加入爲正式會員.

友誼會員: 凡在教會或機構全時間或部份時間事奉的同工可申請為友誼會員. 友誼會員無選舉或被選權. 友誼會員之名字可被刊登在會員通訊錄上會被列為友誼會員.

- 2. 凡申請加入本團契爲正式會員或友誼會員者,應塡寫申請書一份並表明接納本團契其個人之信仰立場,由兩位正式會員推薦,經職員會通過,並由本團契月會接納即成爲正式會員或友誼會員.
- 3. 如會員不再持守本團契之信仰,經職員會調查屬實,得由會員 月會出席者三分之二票數議決通過停止其會員資格.
- 4. 會員應經常出席月<u>禱</u>會,若無故缺席一年者,作自動放棄會員 資格論 將自動轉爲友誼會員,沒有選舉與被選舉權.當會員 連續三次出席月會後,正式會員之會藉便自動恢復.
- 5. 凡本團契正式會員皆有選舉與被選舉權.
- 万. 組職:每年十一月舉行會員大會推選新年度職員.
 - 1. 職員會設主席一人,副主席一人,書記一人,司庫一人,聯誼一人,另設若干事工小組,每組設組長一人,成爲職員.
 - 2. 各職員之任期爲一年,連選得連任,但同一職位不得連續担任超過三年.在職員會中連續事奉三年者,可免被選爲職員一

年;連續事奉六年者必須暫停被選一年. 由以上各職員組成職員會,共謀福音事工之推展.

3. 職員任期爲每年一月一日至十二月三十一日止.

六. 選舉: 每年在會員大會選出團契職員.

- 1. 在選舉前,由職員會先行規定職員之人數及應設之事工組別.
- 2. 於每年十月設立提名委員會.委員會由五人組成,應屆主席 爲當然成員並任召集人.另由職員會中推選一位職員,又由會 員中選出三位非職員,組成此委員會.
- 3. 由職員會審核當年會員名單後交提名委員會.委員會可提供 候選人名單數目,以職員會名額總數另加不超過百分之五十. 爲確保運作之持續性,當年職員會中最少五位應在明年職員 之提名名單上.
- 4. 職員會主席一職,由當選之職員中,即席選出,其餘職位,由職員互選. 主席必須爲教牧同工並曾在職員會中事奉兩年以上.
- 5. 各事工組之組員,由職員會提名,經會員選出通過接納.

七. 聚會: 1. 月禱會

- 2. 會員年會或特別會員大會.
- 3. 特別聚會
- 4. 若非經職員會三分二之職員通過, 團契原則上不會贊助或與任何機構合辨聚會
- 八. 財政: 1. 經貴由會員,教會,福音機構及信徒自由奉獻.
 - 2. 一切收入主要用作發展福音事工及團契活動之用.
 - 3. 銀行戶口之支票及文件,須由四位職員中任何兩位簽署. 四位職員包括主席,副主席,文書與財政.
 - 4. 財政年度爲每年之一月一日至十二月三十一日,每年核數一次.

九. 修改會章:

本團契會章第三項之信仰內容,不得修訂.會章其餘部份之修訂,得由三位會員聯名書面提出交由職員會商討後,提交會員大會,經出席者三分之二票贊成通過修訂之.

十. 團契解體:

如本團契因故必須解體,須經會員大會出席者三分之二票通過.本團契所有資產全數撥交本國正式註冊之福音機構.