
Second Session, Forty-second Parliament
70 Elizabeth II, 2021
Legislative Assembly of British Columbia

BILL Pr 401

**UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA
AMENDMENT ACT, 2021**

Ms. Kelli Paddon

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WHEREAS The United Church of Canada was incorporated by *The United Church of Canada Act*, S.C. 1924, c. 100;

AND WHEREAS the *United Church of Canada Act*, S.B.C. 1924, c. 50, as amended by the *United Church of Canada Act Amendment Act, 1927*, S.B.C. 1926-27, c. 74, governs the property, rights and powers of The United Church of Canada in British Columbia;

AND WHEREAS The United Church of Canada’s 42nd General Council adopted a motion on August 14, 2015 to restructure the governance of The United Church of Canada and undertook a remit process, the results of which were confirmed on July 22, 2018 by The United Church of Canada’s 43rd General Council;

AND WHEREAS *The United Church of Canada Act*, S.C. 1924, c. 100, was amended by *An Act to amend The United Church of Canada Act*, S.C. 2019, c. 31, to reflect the changes to the governance structure of The United Church of Canada;

AND WHEREAS The United Church of Canada has by its petition requested that it be enacted as follows, and it is expedient to grant the request in the petition;

HER MAJESTY, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:

1 Section 2 of the United Church of Canada Act, S.B.C. 1924, c. 50, is amended by repealing the definitions of “The Basis of Union” and “The Act of incorporation” and substituting the following:

“Basis of Union”

- (b) “Basis of Union” means the Basis of Union set out in Schedule A to the Act of incorporation, as amended from time to time under section 28 (b) of that Act by The United Church of Canada:

“Act of incorporation”

- (i) “Act of incorporation” means *The United Church of Canada Act*, S.C. 1924, c. 100: .

2 *The following section is added:*

Interpretation

2.1 In this Act, if the context requires,

- (a) a reference to “Conference” or “Presbytery” is also a reference to
 - (i) a Regional Council of The United Church, or
 - (ii) a successor of a Regional Council, established in accordance with the process set out in the Basis of Union,
- (b) a reference to “Congregation” is also a reference to
 - (i) a community of faith, or
 - (ii) a successor of a congregation or community of faith, established in accordance with the process set out in the Basis of Union, and
- (c) a reference to the “General Council”, the “General Council of The United Church” or the “General Council of The United Church of Canada” is also a reference to
 - (i) the Denominational Council of The United Church, or
 - (ii) a successor of that Denominational Council, established in accordance with the process set out in the Basis of Union.

3 *Item 3 of Schedule A is amended in column two by striking out “the Presbytery and Conference respectively” and substituting “the Regional Council” and by striking out “the General Council” and substituting “the Denominational Council”.*

4 *Item 6 of Schedule A is amended in column one by striking out “the Presbytery” and substituting “the Regional Council”.*

5 *Item 6 of Schedule A is amended in column two*

- (a) by striking out “consent in writing of the Presbytery” and substituting “consent in writing of the Regional Council”,***
- (b) by striking out “for the benefit of The United Church of Canada as the Conference” and substituting “for the benefit of The United Church of Canada as the Regional Council”,***
- (c) by striking out “and regulations of the General Council.” and substituting “and regulations of the Denominational Council of The United Church of Canada.”,***

- (d) *by striking out* “for the consent of a Presbytery” *and substituting* “for the consent of a Regional Council”,
 - (e) *by striking out* “Any decision of a Presbytery” *and substituting* “Any decision of a Regional Council”,
 - (f) *by striking out* “subject to appeal to the Conference within the bounds of which the said lands are situate,” *and substituting* “subject to appeal to the Denominational Council”,
 - (g) *by striking out* “where the consent of such Presbytery or Conference” *and substituting* “where the consent of such Regional Council or the Denominational Council”, *and*
 - (h) *by striking out* “A certificate of the secretary or clerk of any Presbytery or Conference” *and substituting* “A certificate of the secretary or clerk of any Regional Council or the Denominational Council”.
- 6 *Item 9 of Schedule A is amended in column one by striking out* “by the Presbytery” *and substituting* “by the Regional Council” *and by striking out* “by the Conference” *and substituting* “by the Regional Council”.
- 7 *Item 9 of Schedule A is amended in column two*
- (a) *by striking out* “clerk of the Presbytery” *and substituting* “clerk of the Regional Council”,
 - (b) *by striking out* “at any time thereafter the Presbytery” *and substituting* “at any time thereafter the Regional Council”,
 - (c) *by striking out* “lawful for the said Presbytery” *and substituting* “lawful for the said Regional Council”,
 - (d) *by striking out* “minutes of the Presbytery” *and substituting* “minutes of the Regional Council”,
 - (e) *by striking out* “lawful at any time or times for the said Presbytery” *and substituting* “lawful at any time or times for the said Regional Council”,
 - (f) *by striking out* “as the Conference” *and substituting* “as the Regional Council”, *and*
 - (g) *by striking out* “regulations of the General Council” *and substituting* “regulations of the Denominational Council”.
- 8 *Item 11 of Schedule A is amended in column two by striking out* “opinion of the Presbytery” *and substituting* “opinion of the Regional Council”.

Commencement

9 This Act comes into force on the date of Royal Assent.