

CONSTITUTION
OF THE KINGSTON CHRISTIAN SCHOOL SOCIETY

PREAMBLE

"Christ is the visible likeness of the invisible God. He is the first-born Son, superior to all created things. For by Him, God created everything in heaven and on earth, the seen and the unseen things, including spiritual powers, lords, rulers and authorities. God created the whole universe through Him and for Him. He existed before all things and in union with Him all things have their proper place. He is the head of His body, the church; He is the source of the body's life; He is the first-born Son who was raised from death in order that He alone might have the first place in all things. For it was by God's own decision that the Son has in Himself the full nature of God. Through the Son, then, God decided to bring the whole universe back to Himself. God made peace through His Son's death on the cross and so brought back to Himself all things, both on earth and in heaven" (Col. 1:15-Today's English version).

ARTICLE I

Name

This organization shall be known as the "Kingston Christian School Society"; hereafter referred to as "the Society".

ARTICLE II

Purpose

The purpose of the Society is:

1. To establish, operate and maintain elementary and secondary schools having the following characteristics:
 - a. they shall be "Christian" in accordance with the preamble and Article III (basis)
 - b. they shall be operated in accordance with the laws of Ontario and the requirements of the Ontario Ministry of Education and Training, provided these requirements are not contrary to Article III (basis)
 - c. their standards and curricula shall be at least equivalent to other similar educational institutions.

2. To establish a set of Bylaws, Policies and Procedures based on this Constitution which shall be used to govern School operations.
3. To promote the cause of Christian education particularly in the Kingston area.

ARTICLE III

Basis

In the belief that all aspects of human life are informed by a person's religious outlook, and being totally committed to the Lordship of Jesus Christ as revealed in Scripture, the Society and the educational system it provides shall be based on that Biblical revelation.

The Society and the schools it operates shall not be associated with any church denomination or be subject to any ecclesiastical body.

Society membership shall be open to all persons irrespective of race and ethnic or national background.

School enrollment shall be public in that it shall be open to all children, whether or not the parents are members of the Society, and irrespective of race, ethnic or national background, and creed. In the schools, no particular Christian doctrine or denomination shall be favoured.

ARTICLE IV

Educational Principles

Believing that God, by graciously giving us the Scriptures, has revealed ordering principles which are intensely relevant to the education of our children, we confess:

1. CREATION

That in their education, children should be taught that the world, and their calling in the world, can rightly be understood only in their relationship to the triune God, Who through His

creation and providence directs all things to the coming of His Kingdom and the glorification of His Name.

2. HUMANITY

That people are created in God's image to enjoy fellowship with their creator and to reflect in their persons and lives the excellence of their Maker; that humans are instructed to be stewards of creation in strict and loving obedience to God and to interpret all reality in accordance with God's design and law.

3. SIN

That sin is disobedience to God. In sinning, we deny God's calling and thus estrange ourselves from God and our neighbours. As a result of disobedience, we have become corrupt in heart and blind to the true meaning of life.

4. CHRIST

That Jesus Christ, our living Lord, is God's provision for reconciliation and restoration; that through Him there is renewal of our lives and our educational enterprise; that through Him and the work of His Spirit we are guided in the truth and re-committed to our original calling.

5. BIBLE

That the Bible as the Written Word of God is the truth by which the Holy Spirit enlightens our understanding of God, of ourselves and the world; that it is the infallible authority by which He directs our lives and actions, including the education of our children.

6. PARENTS

That the primary responsibility for education rests with the parents to whom the children are entrusted by God; that, while recognizing that government and society at large have an important stake in schools and education, the Christian School is principally an extension of the home and a function of the Christian community; that, therefore, parents and other supporters are responsible for the operation of the Christian school and determine the educational philosophy of the school as it is reflected in its curriculum and methodology.

7. THE CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

That the school must take into account the variety of abilities; needs, and responsibilities of all its pupils; that in determining its pedagogical goals and educational aims; the school will deal with the whole child in the realization that every child is an image-bearer of God; the Christian teachers, in obedience to God and in cooperation with the parents, have a unique pedagogical responsibility in their dealing with every child in the school.

ARTICLE V

Membership

Membership shall be open to anyone who:

1. Indicates, in writing, agreement with the Constitution of the Kingston Christian School Society,
2. Is 18 years of age or older,
3. Pays tuition or contributes the annual membership fee,
4. Has received a written recommendation from the pastor of the church where he or she regularly attends.
5. Membership shall be recommended by the Membership Committee and approved by the Board.

ARTICLE VI

Voting Rights

At all general Society meetings each member shall be entitled to cast one vote or ballot either in person or by proxy on any question properly before the meeting.

ARTICLE VII

Board of Directors

The Board of Directors shall consist of nine members of the Society who are appointed, elected and re-elected as outlined in the bylaws. All persons employed by the Board on a regular basis and their spouses, as well as immediate relatives and spouses of Directors shall not be eligible for positions on the Board.

At the first Board meeting following the Annual Meeting, the Directors shall elect from among themselves a chair, a vice-chair, a secretary and a treasurer.

ARTICLE VIII

Standing Committees

The committees which must actively serve the Board and which cannot be resolved are: Membership Committee, Finance Committee, Human Resources Committee, Program Committee, Public Relations Committee, Building & Grounds Committee, and Revenue Generation Committee.

ARTICLE IX

Meetings

The Society shall hold at least two general business meetings each year, one to be designated as the Annual Meeting, at a time and place decided by the Board. The Board of Directors shall meet at least once a month.

ARTICLE X

Amendments

Amendments or deletion of the Preamble of this constitution, Articles II (Purpose), III, (Basis) and X (Amendments), shall require the approval of at least two thirds of the Society membership. If enough members are not present either in person or by proxy at a duly constituted meeting to carry such an amendment or deletion, the approval of at least two thirds of those present at the following meeting is sufficient, provided that at least two weeks' prior notice stating the desired change has been sent to each member.

Other changes in the constitution require the approval of two thirds of the members present at a duly constituted meeting provided that at least two weeks prior notice stating the desired change has been sent to each member.

ARTICLE XI

Dissolution

Dissolution of the Society shall require the approval of two thirds of the Society membership. If enough members are not present in person or by proxy at a duly constituted meeting in order carry the motion of dissolution, the approval of two thirds of those present at the following meeting shall decide the motion, provided that at least two weeks' prior notice of the motion has been sent to each member.

Should the Society be dissolved, its remaining assets shall be donated to such Christian educational organizations in Canada as the Society may determine.