

**P6 PRESBYTERY STANDING COMMITTEE****AUTHORITY**

P6.1 The Presbytery will appoint a Standing Committee as required by Regulation 3.7.2(a)(i).

**MEMBERSHIP**

P6.2 The membership of the Standing Committee consists of:

- (a) the officers of the Presbytery for the time being, namely, the Chairperson of the Presbytery, the immediate past Chairperson (to be replaced by the Chairperson-elect when appointed), the Secretary and the Treasurer;
- (b) the Chairperson for the time being of each of the following Presbytery Committees, namely, the Commission for Education for Discipleship and Leadership, the Pastoral Relations Committee, and the Thrive Mission Committee;
- (c) the Moderator for the time being of the Synod;
- (d) four (4) members of Presbytery elected by the Presbytery; and
- (e) up to two other persons co-opted by the Standing Committee to help balance the membership or to provide the Standing Committee with knowledge, skills or experience not otherwise available to the Standing Committee.

P6.3 All members of the Standing Committee must be members of the Presbytery.

P6.4 As far as possible, the Standing Committee membership shall include:

- (a) at least one-third women and one-third men,
- (b) a balance of lay and ordained, and
- (c) people experienced in rural ministry, multicultural ministry and intergenerational ministry.

P6.5 Elected and co-opted members shall be appointed for a period of two years with at least half the elected members being appointed each year.

P6.6 If there is a vacancy for any reason in any one of the Presbytery-elected members (P3.1.2 (d)), such vacancy may only be filled by election at a Presbytery meeting and only for the remaining balance of the term of the member being replaced.

**MEETINGS**

P6.7 The Standing Committee will meet not less than once every three months.

P6.8 The meetings of the Standing Committee will be conducted in accordance with the principles and procedures of the Manual for Meetings.

**QUORUM**

P6.9 The quorum for the meetings of the Standing Committee shall be the whole number next above one-half of the current members.

**THE ROLE OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

- P6.10 The Standing Committee's role is to:
- (a) act for the Presbytery between meetings of the Presbytery on matters urgent or emergent that require a decision before the next Presbytery meeting or when authorised by the Presbytery to do so;
  - (b) initiate or coordinate the development of policy, goals, strategy and programs for the Presbytery;
  - (c) coordinate the processes and activities of the various Presbytery Committees and Bodies;
  - (d) provide support, advice and direction to the various Presbytery Committees and Bodies when requested or deemed to be desirable;
  - (e) act on any direction or reference from the Presbytery; and
  - (f) report to every meeting of the Presbytery.

**POWERS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

- P6.11 The Standing Committee shall have the full powers of the Presbytery (as prescribed in Regulation 3.1.3) between meetings of the Presbytery, except in relation to the following matters:
- (a) election of a Presbytery Chairperson;
  - (b) appointment of members the Standing Committee;
  - (c) determination of applications for recognition for the specified ministries (Regs 2.4.5-7);
  - (d) election of members of Synod and Assembly;
  - (e) determination of extensions of placement beyond ten years; and
  - (f) approval of the Presbytery's annual budget.
- P6.12 The Standing Committee shall report its decisions under its power in Rule P3.1.11 to the next meeting of the Presbytery, which may review and vary any such decision.
- P6.13 The Standing Committee may:
- (a) require reports from, and enquire into the work and activities of, any Committee or other body within the Presbytery and any staff of the Presbytery; and
  - (b) initiate and coordinate the review of existing Presbytery policies and programs and the investigation and development of new Presbytery policies and programs, and may, for this purpose, appoint working groups and consultants to assist the Standing Committee.