

NCCA Governance Structure

The Company (incorporated on 25 June 2016):

National Council of Churches in Australia Ltd, ACN 000 391 104 is a non-for-profit public company limited by guarantee which is established to be, and to continue as, a charity. Member Churches are the members of the Company for the purposes of the Act.

Forum:

Meets every 3 years. Member churches nominate Representatives to attend. Representation is based on size of the member church. In addition Heads of Churches (HoC) also attend and four representatives “appointed by NATSIEC”.

Purpose:

- Celebrate Christ’s gift of unity
- Respond to current issues in our society;
- Act in solidarity with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.
- Provide direction to the Company for action during the following triennium by proposing action for NCCA Commissions and Networks.

Assembly:

Meets 3 times each year. Each member church has 2 nominated Delegates, one of which is generally HoC. In recent practice Assemblies have been topic-based and open to members sending other people depending/ in line with the theme/topic.

Purpose:

- Celebrate Christ’s gift of unity
- Bring matters from Member Churches
- Take to Member Churches matters from the Council;
- Explore together issues of concern to the Member Churches; (major focus recently)
- Learn in a spirit of receptive ecumenism from the Member Churches; and
- Propose matters for consideration by the Board. (business ideas, projects, proposals or public statements generated)

Annual General Meeting:

Held in November each year. Each member church is represented by a Member Nominee.

Purpose:

- review of the Company's activities;
- review of the Company's finances;
- auditor's report;
- election of Directors; and

- appointment of auditors, if any.

This meeting can also amend the Constitution.

General Meeting:

(There is provision in the Constitution for additional General Meetings. Each member church would have the same Member Nominee as for the AGM.)

The Board is proposing that NCCA add to its Calendar of meetings a General Meeting in the first half of the year, maybe at a similar time to the National Church Leaders in late March.

Purpose:

As per AGM above. The additional proposed meeting would be an opportunity for reporting back to member churches on the 'business' and activities of the Council.

Board:

Members sought through expression of interest process and appointed by the AGM.

Purpose:

All day to day control, management and conduct of the Company is vested in the Board who shall exercise all such powers of the Company as are not by the Act or by this Constitution required to be exercised in any other manner.

For example:

- Oversee the work of the General Secretary
- Approve budgets and work plans and monitor them
- Oversee the risk management of the NCCA
- Appoints Company Secretary and Treasurer
- Make by-laws.

Rob Floyd
NCCA Director

Recommendations for consideration of 10th National Forum (see over).

Proposed Amendments for appointment of President and General Secretary for 2019 AGM**1. General Secretary – refer Definitions 6.1**

Reference to appointment by the Board following the recommendation of the Assembly.

Board proposes that this change to the recommendation of Member Nominees at a General Meeting.

2. The President – Clause 19

- Nominated by Delegates at an Assembly
- Elected by majority vote of the Representatives at a forum for a term of 3 years.
- In the event of a casual vacancy, the President will be appointed by a majority of the Delegates at an Assembly and will hold office until the next Forum
- The President may be re-elected for a maximum of 2 consecutive terms.

Board proposes that the role of Delegates at an Assembly change to President nominated by Member Nominees at a General Meeting.

There is already provision in Clause 9.4 that Member Nominees present [at a General Meeting] may choose one of their number to be chair of the meeting if there is no President or if present, the President is unwilling to act as chair of the meeting.

Liz Stone, Interim General Secretary