



The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada

# APPLICATION FOR RETAINING CREDENTIALS

## ELIGIBILITY FOR REMARRIAGE AFTER DIVORCE OR ELIGIBILITY FOR MARRIAGE TO A DIVORCED PERSON

Dear Applicant,

Thank you for applying to retain your credentials with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada.

Enclosed, you will find an application which requests various aspects of information. This CONFIDENTIAL information will assist us in understanding your life and ministry journey after divorce and/or remarriage. Our overall purpose for collecting information is to assess your spiritual, emotional and relational qualities for credential leadership following a divorce and/or remarriage.

After all questions have been fully answered, this application should be returned to the **National Credential Review Committee, care of the General Secretary Treasurer, The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada, 2450 Milltower Court, Mississauga, ON L5N 5Z6**. This, and any other application forms must be completed prior to an interview being scheduled with the National Credentials Review Committee, who will make final recommendation on each application to the General Executive.

### FINAL CHECK LIST

- Application form (completed, signed and enclosed)
- Fee of \$75.00 (enclosed) **\*\*Note: \$25 is non-refundable should application be refused\*\***
- Send reference form to each referee (they are to return it to the International Office directly).
- Legal decree(s) of divorce (copy enclosed)
- Verification of former spouse(s) unfaithfulness/remarriage/common law union (copy enclosed) or enclosed affidavit completed, signed and witnessed.

## QUALIFICATION INFORMATION

1. Can you verify that your former spouse(s) has committed *porneia*, which is understood as marital unfaithfulness involving adultery, homosexuality, or incest?  
 Yes    No
  
2. Based on the requirements outlined in the General Constitution & By-Laws 10.2.2, please explain what steps you have taken to obtain verifiable, written evidence (ie: a copy of the spouse's remarriage certificate) that your former spouse(s) and/or your current spouse's former spouse(s) were unfaithful during the marriage and/or have remarried or lived common law prior to your remarriage (*attach additional pages if needed*):

### QUALIFICATIONS FOR CREDENTIAL HOLDERS REGARDING DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE

- 10.2.2** A credential holder who is divorced with a former spouse still living and who wishes to retain credentials may be declared eligible to remarry when the following conditions exist:
- 10.2.2.1** The credential holder did not contribute to a divorce by having committed *porneia*.
  - 10.2.2.2** The former spouse has committed *porneia* as defined in The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada *General Constitution and By-Laws* Article 5.9.1 and determined by one (1) or more of the following means:
    - 10.2.2.2.1** A district hearing committee of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada has found the former credentialed spouse guilty in the process of dealing with charges related to *porneia*.
    - 10.2.2.2.2** A secular court has found the former spouse guilty of a legal offense related to sexual misconduct which may be interpreted by a credential committee of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada as *porneia*.
    - 10.2.2.2.3** A certificate of marriage, or other legal marital status documents, provides evidence that the former spouse has remarried subsequent to the divorce from the credential holder.
    - 10.2.2.2.4** Evidence demonstrates that the former spouse has been a partner in a common law marriage, as defined by provincial or federal legislation, subsequent to the divorce from the credential holder.
    - 10.2.2.2.5** If the previous means of evidence are not available, consideration may be given to an affidavit witnessed by two signatories, or a notary public or commissioner of oaths, affirming that the applicant's former spouse has committed *porneia*.
  - 10.2.2.3** The credential holder has provided acceptable evidence in an application form, personal interview, and through the testimony of references to the National Credentials Review Committee that he/she has clearly demonstrated exemplary Christian character and morality for the prior four (4) year period.
  - 10.2.2.4** A minimum period of four years has elapsed since the former spouse committed *porneia* as determined by one or more of the means listed above in By-Law 10.2.2.2, provided that the time between the divorce and remarriage is not less than one year.
- 10.2.3** Should a credential holder who has never been married or a credential holder who is widowed or a credential holder who is divorced and eligible to remarry wish to marry a divorced person whose former spouse is still living, the conditions in By-Law 10.2.2 shall apply to the divorced person(s).

# APPLICATION FOR RETAINING CREDENTIALS

Please PRINT all responses.

## 1. CREDENTIAL INFORMATION

Date of Application: \_\_\_\_\_ Credential Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Indicate the credential which you currently hold:

Ordained    Licensed Minister    Recognition of Ministry    Ministry Related

District of Applicant: \_\_\_\_\_

## 2. GENERAL INFORMATION

a) Full name (as should appear on certificate): \_\_\_\_\_  
First Initial Last

b) Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Gender:  M  F

c) Street Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: Home ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Work ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

d) Birth date (M/D/Y): \_\_\_\_\_ Citizen (Country): \_\_\_\_\_  
Month Day Year

e) Birthplace: \_\_\_\_\_ Province and Country: \_\_\_\_\_

## 3. APPLICANT'S CURRENT MARITAL STATUS

a) Never married:  If you were previously married, please complete the following information as applicable:

b) Former spouse's name: \_\_\_\_\_

c) Date of former marriage: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

d) Are you widowed?  Yes  No If yes, date of your former spouse's passing: \_\_\_\_\_

e) If you have been widowed more than once, please include additional information here:  
\_\_\_\_\_

If your current marital status is "divorced", please complete the following as verifiable facts:

f) Is your former spouse remarried or living in a common-law relationship?  Yes  No

g) If yes, how long has your former spouse been remarried or living common-law? \_\_\_\_\_

## 4. APPLICANT'S FUTURE SPOUSE - PREVIOUS MARITAL STATUS

a) Never married:  Please have your future spouse complete this portion as it relates to their former marriage(s). If there has been more than one divorce, please copy this form and complete for each former marriage.

b) Full name of former spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

c) Date of former marriage: \_\_\_\_\_ Place of marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

d) Are you widowed?  Yes  No If yes, date of your former spouse's passing: \_\_\_\_\_

e) If you have been widowed more than once, please include additional information here:  
\_\_\_\_\_

f) Is your former spouse remarried or living in a common-law relationship?  Yes  No

g) If yes, how long has your former spouse been remarried or living common-law? \_\_\_\_\_

**5. PREVIOUS MARRIAGE(S) – COMPLETE ONE APPLICATION FOR EACH APPLICABLE PREVIOUS MARRIAGE**

a) How long after the marriage did you separate? \_\_\_\_\_

b) Date(s) of separation:

Date From:	Date To:

c) Reason for separation:

d) In a brief statement, indicate the reasons for the breakup of the marriage.

e) Prior to the termination of your marriage, did you seek counsel or advice?  Yes  No

Who did you meet with for counsel? \_\_\_\_\_ How many times did you meet? \_\_\_\_\_

What counsel did they give you?

f) Who petitioned the court for the divorce?  Yes  Spouse

If you petitioned for the termination of your former marriage, state your reasons.

If your spouse petitioned for the termination of your former marriage, state your understanding of the reasons.

g) Date of petition: (M/D/Y): \_\_\_\_\_ Name of Court: \_\_\_\_\_  
Month Day Year

h) Date of divorce granted (M/D/Y): \_\_\_\_\_ Location of Court: \_\_\_\_\_  
Month Day Year

**Note: Attach a copy of the legal decree of divorce.**

i) As relational and parental responsibilities may affect ministry, define your current relationship with your former spouse and outline what parenting responsibilities you currently fulfill.

j) As financial issues can affect ministry, comment on the outcome of property settlement, alimony, and child support from the divorce proceedings:

**6. CURRENT CHURCH INVOLVEMENT**

What church do you currently attend:

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Is it affiliated with PAOC?       Yes     No      Are you a member?       Yes     No

How long have you been attending? \_\_\_\_\_ How many times a month do you attend? \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's name: \_\_\_\_\_

Pastor's phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Pastor's email: \_\_\_\_\_

Have you discussed this application with your Pastor?       Yes     No

**7. MINISTRY FAITHFULNESS (attach additional sheets, if needed)**

Explain in your own words the only cause for divorce recognized by The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada. Also, give your reasons why you personally qualify for a ministerial credential in light of the teaching of 1 Timothy 3.

**8. REFERENCES (must be mailed to the National Credentials Review Committee)**

It is important that the people listed as references know you well enough, for at least five (5) years, to answer such questions as “How would you describe the applicant’s spiritual maturity?” and “Did the applicant as an unmarried person demonstrate a consistent Christian moral standard?” If you presently serve as Senior / Lead Pastor, choose another Senior / Lead Pastor, with whom you are acquainted, to complete the Senior / Lead Pastor reference. **Note:** Reference forms are to be forwarded by you. Referees are to return completed forms directly to the International office.

<b>Senior / Lead Pastor</b>	<b>Name</b>		
	<b>Street Address</b>		
	<b>City</b>	<b>Province</b>	<b>Postal Code</b>
	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>	

<b>District Superintendent or Designate</b>	<b>Name</b>		
	<b>Street Address</b>		
	<b>City</b>	<b>Province</b>	<b>Postal Code</b>
	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>	

<b>Family Member</b>	<b>Name</b>		
	<b>Street Address</b>		
	<b>City</b>	<b>Province</b>	<b>Postal Code</b>
	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>	

<b>Lay Leader</b>	<b>Name</b>		
	<b>Street Address</b>		
	<b>City</b>	<b>Province</b>	<b>Postal Code</b>
	<b>Phone</b>	<b>Email</b>	

**9. WAIVER**

**APPLICANT’S WAIVER**

Recognizing that the information on the Application to Retain Credentials Reference Forms remains confidential between the referee and the National Credentials Review Committee of PAOC, I, the undersigned, hereby voluntarily waive any right or privilege to inspect or challenge the content expressed by those whose names I provide.

I declare that to the best of my knowledge all of the foregoing information is correct and true, and further agree to abide by the commitments made in this application.

Further, I hereby give my consent to PAOC to use and retain all personal information contained in the credential application, reference letters or forms completed on my behalf, and any other information necessary to obtain credentials.

I agree that, if my application is successful, all personal information provided as part of the credential process will become part of the permanent records of PAOC (It is our practice to destroy incomplete or unsuccessful applications after two years).

I understand and agree that, if my application is successful, I will receive electronic and hard-copy communication from PAOC and my district office.

**Signature of Applicant:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**SPOUSAL WAIVER FOR FUTURE SPOUSE**

I declare that to the best of my knowledge the information provided in this application is correct and true, and further, recognizing that the information on the National Credentials Review Committee Reference Forms remains confidential between the referee and Credentials Committee of PAOC, I, the undersigned, hereby voluntarily waive any right or privilege to inspect or challenge the content expressed by the referees whose names are provided on this Application for Ministerial Credentials.

**Signature of Spouse-to-be:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_



## MINISTERIAL CODE OF ETHICS FOR CREDENTIAL HOLDERS OF THE PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF CANADA

### PERSONAL STANDARD

1. The minister should be ever conscious of their high and sacred calling. (*2 Timothy 4:1-5*)
2. The minister should give diligent attention to the personal practice of biblical disciplines (*1 Timothy 6:11-12*), and to the personal development of the fruit of the Spirit. (*Gal 5:22-23*)
3. The minister should give adequate time to develop and maintain a spiritual readiness for faithfully discharging their ministerial responsibilities. (*2 Timothy 2:15*)
4. The minister should be diligent in prayer and in the reading of the Scriptures, and in personal development that would enhance effectiveness in ministry.
5. The minister should fulfill their ministerial duties using their God-given abilities and skills. (*1 Timothy 4:12-16*)
6. The minister should maintain a high moral standard in both speech and conduct. (*1 Timothy 6:1-10*)
7. The minister should strive to ever be commendable in manners and modest in appearance. (*1 Timothy 3:1-7; 4:12*)
8. The minister should always conduct financial and business transactions in a manner that is above reproach.
9. The minister should strive to give leadership in discipline and conduct in their home and manage their family with consistency. (*1 Timothy 3:8-13*)
10. The minister should adequately care for their own physical, emotional and psychological well-being.

### PARTNERSHIP STANDARD

1. The minister is a representative of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada and should seek to reflect and enhance its good reputation at all times.
2. The minister should respect the offices of the fellowship's district and national leadership and seek to cooperate with district and national initiatives.
3. The minister should seek to enhance, and not disparage, the work of both their predecessors and successors.
4. The minister should seek to enhance, support and not disparage, the work of fellow staff members and colleagues.
5. The minister should endorse principally those global workers and initiatives of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada and, subsequently, agencies and partnerships that have been so approved.
6. The minister should steadfastly keep guard over their congregation and refrain from giving ministry privileges to any questionable persons.
7. The minister should seek to be engaged in community activities that serve to enhance their good testimony and not interfere with other essential ministerial duties. (*Acts 6:1-4*)
8. The minister should refrain from any form of interference in the affairs of another assembly.
9. The minister should actively engage in methods of evangelism and outreach that would honour the Lord and the core values of The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada also respecting the ministry of neighbouring assembly.

### PASTORAL STANDARD

1. The minister should accept their calling as a sacred obligation and faithfully perform those duties.
2. The minister should recognize their responsibility as a spiritual shepherd to all their flock and to those who have no shepherd. (*1 Peter 5:1-4*)
3. The minister should regard service and ministry as primary and remuneration and rewards as secondary.
4. The minister should never violate the confidence of those who seek help, except where disclosure is mandated by law.
5. The minister should seek to guard their church's good reputation in the community and its testimony to unbelievers.
6. The minister should take a leading interest in the local church property, seeing that it is kept in proper repair without creating burdensome financial obligations.
7. The minister should see that true and accurate church records are kept at all times.
8. The minister should be actively involved in mission activities, locally, nationally and internationally. (*Acts 1:8*)

I, hereby, have read, and abide by, the standards outlined in this document:

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





**Applicant's Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Reference Phone:** \_\_\_\_\_

The above applicant is applying for ministerial credentials with The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada **as a person affected by divorce and remarriage**. We understand you are acquainted with the applicant and able to express a trustworthy opinion regarding the applicant's qualifications to fill the sacred trust of a minister of the Gospel. We value your judgment and appreciate your cooperation. **Thank you for taking the time to complete this form as fully as possible. Please return it to the International Office, Attn: General Secretary Treasurer/Clergy Records, 2450 Milltower Court Mississauga ON L5N 5Z6**. The authorization and release signatures of the applicant and spouse are on file at the national office. These guarantee that the applicant will not be aware of your response.

1. a. **How well do you know the applicant?**  Friend  Acquaintance  Pastorally  Professionally

b. **Are you related to the applicant?**  Yes  No

c. **How long have you known the applicant?** \_\_\_\_\_

d. **Date of last meaningful contact:** \_\_\_\_\_

2. **How would you describe the applicant's spiritual maturity?**

	<b>Very</b>					<b>Not Very</b>	<b>Don't know</b>
<b>Maturity</b>	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5		<input type="checkbox"/>

3. **How would you describe the applicant in terms of his/her personal conduct following his/her divorce?**

Please comment:

4. **In your opinion, do you feel the applicant is emotionally prepared to re-marry should he/she decide to do so?**

Yes  No  Don't know

5. **Would you, without hesitation, recommend that the applicant be granted permission to retain credentials and be eligible to remarry?**  Yes  With Reservation  No  Don't know

**Signed:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Dated:** \_\_\_\_\_

*Please feel free to add any further comments here:*

**Please return to:**  
 The Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada  
 Attn: General Secretary Treasurer/Clergy Records  
 2450 Milltower Court  
 Mississauga ON L5N 5Z6

**AFFIDAVIT for Divorced Applicants  
Credential Applicant and/or spouse of applicant**

**NOTE:** It is the applicant's responsibility to provide verifiable written evidence that their former spouse has committed *porneia* by the means outlined in By-Law 10.2.2. Only if this evidence is not available, and you are willing to submit an affidavit, consideration may be given to the affidavit provided below. If you choose to submit the affidavit, you need to understand that if your former spouse were to challenge the accuracy of the statement you are making, you could be found guilty of libel. If applicable, the applicant's current spouse must also meet the criteria outlined in By-Law 10.2.2.

The verifiable written evidence or consideration that may be given to the affidavit must affirm *porneia*, as defined in the *General Constitution and By-Laws* Article 5.9.1, on the part of your former spouse. The former spouse's *porneia* must have occurred prior to your remarriage.

**IN THE MATTER** of my application for ministerial credentials, I, \_\_\_\_\_ of the  
City of \_\_\_\_\_ in the Province of \_\_\_\_\_, Canada  
[name of applicant]

**DO SOLEMNLY DECLARE THAT:**

1. I was married on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)  
to \_\_\_\_\_ [name of former spouse], at the City of \_\_\_\_\_,  
in the Province of \_\_\_\_\_. I was not previously married.
  
2. Pursuant to a Decree Absolute dated the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year)  
and issued from \_\_\_\_\_ [name of Court] on the \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_ (day/month/year) at the City of \_\_\_\_\_, in the Province of \_\_\_\_\_,  
I was divorced from \_\_\_\_\_ [name of former spouse].
  
3. I believe that my former spouse has become involved in a sexual relationship with another person by reason of one or more of the following:  
  
 a. I believe that my former spouse was involved in *porneia* during our marriage, on or around \_\_\_\_\_ (date), which is understood by the Pentecostal Assemblies of Canada to be marital unfaithfulness involving adultery, homosexuality, or incest.  
  
 b. I am aware that my former spouse remarried on or around \_\_\_\_\_ (date).  
  
 c. I am aware that my former spouse is living in a common-law relationship as of \_\_\_\_\_ (date).

AND I make this solemn Declaration conscientiously believing it to be true, and knowing that it is of the same force and effect as if made under oath.

DECLARED at the City of \_\_\_\_\_  
[signature of applicant]

in the Province of \_\_\_\_\_, Canada, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ A.D. 20 \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ [signature]

A Commissioner of Oaths/Notary Public in and for the Province of \_\_\_\_\_, Canada.

**OR, IF** witnessed, not notarized:

\_\_\_\_\_ [signature of first witness]

\_\_\_\_\_ [signature of second witness]

**Summary Checklist for Application to Retain Credentials (eligibility for remarriage after divorce):**

**\$75.00 Fee enclosed**

**References sent out** (minimum 3)

**Information on applicant's divorce (if applicable):**

Name of former spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of first marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of separation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date divorce granted: \_\_\_\_\_

Evidence of porneia (approx. date): \_\_\_\_\_

**Information on applicant's future spouse's divorce (if applicable):**

Name of former spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of first marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of separation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date divorce granted: \_\_\_\_\_

Evidence of porneia (approx. date): \_\_\_\_\_

If more than one former marriage, please include the information for each marriage in order.

Name of former spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of second marriage: \_\_\_\_\_

Date of separation: \_\_\_\_\_

Date divorce granted: \_\_\_\_\_

Evidence of porneia (approx. date): \_\_\_\_\_

**Date of proposed marriage:** \_\_\_\_\_