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# *National Constitution* of

## THE FELLOWSHIP OF PROFESSIONAL WOMEN IN THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

(Amended at the Biennial Meeting, Whitby, 1953)

NAME: The name shall be:

"The Fellowship of Professional Women in the United Church of Canada."

PURPOSE: The purpose of the Organization shall be:

1. To provide a bond of fellowship for the professional women workers of The United Church of Canada.
2. To study the whole field of women's work in the Church with a view to making it more effective.
3. (a) To interest young women in professional work within the Church.  
(b) To interpret the place of the professional woman worker in the life and work of the Church.
4. To contribute to the development of Church policy and practice through The Committee on the Deaconess Order and Women Workers.

FULL MEMBERSHIP: The following women shall be eligible for full membership:

1. Graduates of Theological Colleges, United Church Training School, or other approved Training Schools, who are employed in a professional capacity in full-time work in The United Church of Canada.
2. Women in the active service of the Woman's Missionary Society who have been commissioned by the Church.
3. Members of the Deaconess Order who are engaged in the active work of the United Church, or in positions approved by The Committee on the Deaconess Order and Women Workers.
4. Deans of Women and Women Principals of United Church Schools and Colleges.
5. Women members of the United Church employed in executive positions by the Church or by Co-operating Boards, including organizational units within the Canadian Council of Churches.
6. Such other women employed by the United Church who because of position, training and experience, are approved by the Executive Committee of the National Fellowship of Professional Women in The United Church of Canada.

ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP: There shall be an Associate Membership without voting privileges which shall consist of:

1. Women who would otherwise qualify for full membership, but who are not at present employed by the United Church of Canada.
2. Women who would at any time have qualified for full membership in the National Fellowship of Professional Women of The United Church of Canada, but who do not now qualify for full membership.
3. Associate workers who are looking forward to completing the professional training which would make them eligible under 1 and 2 (Full Membership).
4. Church Secretaries who carry professional responsibility within the United Church, in addition to their clerical duties, and are approved for membership by the Executive Committee of the National Fellowship of Professional Women in The United Church of Canada.

#### ORGANIZATION:

The Fellowship of Professional Women shall be organized in local centres where there are sufficient workers to warrant such organization. All Full and Associate members of Local Units are Full or Associate members of National Fellowship of Professional Women in The United Church of Canada.

Membership of Women Workers residing in areas where no local Unit exists is with the National Fellowship of Professional Women in The United Church of Canada.

#### BIENNIAL MEETING:

There shall be a Biennial Meeting of the Fellowship of Professional Women in The United Church of Canada which shall elect the National Officers and shall receive reports of the operations of the Executive Committee.

#### EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

There shall be an Executive Committee which shall have responsibility for:

- Forwarding the purpose of the Fellowship.
- Dealing with matters of policy between biennial meetings.
- Administering Kaufman House.
- Raising and administering funds.
- Arranging for Biennial meetings.

The Executive Committee shall consist of:

Officers, Past President of the National Deaconess Association, Presidents of Local Units, member of Staff of United Church Training School, not more than 6 and not less than 4 members at large.

#### OFFICERS: THE OFFICERS SHALL BE:

Past President, President, 2 Vice-Presidents, Treasurer, Recording Secretary, Executive Secretary (Secretary of The Committee on the Deaconess Order and Women Workers). These shall act as a sub-executive, 4 officers constituting a quorum.

ALL OFFICERS (with the exception of Past President) must hold full membership in the Fellowship of Professional Women in The United Church of Canada.

All members of the Fellowship of Professional Women in The United Church of Canada shall have the right to submit nominations for any of the offices, such nominations to be in the hands of the Executive Secretary by the opening day of the Biennial Meeting.

FEES: Fees shall be \$2.00 per year for full and associate members, with the exception of:

- (1) Overseas Missionaries, who shall pay a fee of \$2.00 while on furlough;
- (2) Retired Deaconesses and Missionaries, who shall pay a fee of ~~50c~~ per year.

Members of Local Units of the Fellowship of Professional Women in The United Church of Canada (except deaconesses) remit fees through their local treasurers.

All deaconesses remit fees through the National Deaconess Treasurer. All other members remit fees directly to the National Treasurer of the Fellowship of Professional Women.

#### AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION:

The Constitution may be amended by a majority vote at a Biennial Meeting.