



### Greetings MB Churches of Canada,

As we enter 2019, we look forward to the ways God will lead us as we rethink how we work together as a family of churches. Over the coming year, you will have several opportunities to speak into the development of this Collaborative Model.

It is with a great deal of excitement that I inform you that teamwork between provincial conference leaders, MB agencies, and the Canadian Conference of MB Churches (CCMBC) is growing. At present, all these aspects of MB ministry are working together to develop a unified, strategic ministry framework for Mennonite Brethren in Canada. Our goal is to present you with a simplified and effective structure in which all these parts will work to support the mission of the local church.

During the regional meetings across the country in fall 2018, you told us that you want to see us maintain a focus on local and global mission, make a greater investment in developing the next generation of leaders, and clarify our common convictions and theology. We commit ourselves to follow through with what you have asked us to do.

In the Collaborative Model, “we” is no longer CCMBC. This “we” represents the provinces and the national agencies (MB Seminary and Multiply) working together for the health of our churches.

This new way of working is exemplified in all aspects of the Collaborative Model. In the role of discerning direction, provincial and agency leaders form the National

Ministry Team (NMT). Entrusted with theological watch care, the National Faith and Life Team (NFLT) also has representation from each province and agency. At the governance level, the National Assembly will be composed of all members of provincial boards and representatives of Multiply and MB Seminary. The National Assembly Executive will continue to be made up of provincial moderators. All these layers together will form the new “we.”

Our next steps toward the full implementation of the Collaborative Model:

- Presentation at each spring 2019 provincial convention, including a draft of a strategic plan, a draft of a unified budget, and the ministry scope and definitions for each part of the Collaborative Model.
- June 8, 2019 – an informal National Assembly to hear and discuss the National Ministry Team’s draft of a new governance model.
- October 23, 2019 – a proposal for approval of the full implementation of the Collaborative Model at the special AGM.

All of us are working diligently and prayerfully as we continue to develop the Collaborative Model. I ask you to join us in prayer and engagement in this process. Your voice is important as we move forward.

Sincerely,  
Elton DaSilva  
National Director