

**THE INDIAN PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD**  
**[NORTH AMERICA - EASTERN REGION]**  
**DBA IPC NA – EASTERN REGION**  
**REGION ELECTION GUIDELINES & BYLAW CLARIFICATIONS**

- (1) **Election Commission:** The executive committee shall act as the Election Commission and administer the Region election. One of the pastor members of the commission not seeking reelection or any other executive position shall be the presiding officer. In the absence of such a pastor, the Commission may appoint a qualified pastor as the presiding officer.
- (2) **Church Representation:** The Commission shall have the right to verify the membership and voting strength of churches eligible to vote in the General Body. The voting strength of churches shall be determined in advance and communicated to each member church at least 14 days prior to the election. The Commission shall obtain necessary church information in prescribed form at least 30 days prior to the election to make such determination. The form shall contain among other things, the name of the pastor, number of families and number of baptized Lord's Supper taking members. Member churches shall return the form to the Commission within 15 days from the date of the notice. Churches failing to provide the requested information or refuse to verify such information shall be limited to a minimum representation of two (2). A church representative may propose or second only one nomination for the executive position; and for Council Member positions representing the general seat. Nominations for all executive positions shall be accepted concurrently and contested elections, if any, shall be held simultaneously.
- (3) **Pastor(s):** For the purpose of the Region election, the term "pastor(s)" in the bylaw means the pastor of the member church or a senior pastor, if any, with at least three years' experience as the pastor of a church within the Region. Regardless, no member church shall have more than one pastor in the Region Council and Presbytery including executive position, if any. In the absence of the church pastor, an associate pastor, assistant pastor, evangelist, elder or a deacon may represent the pastor in the General Body but shall not be eligible to hold a position reserved for pastors.
- (4) **Ministerial Experience:** For the purpose of the Region election, the term "ministerial experience" in the bylaw means experience as the pastor of a church and does not include any other ministry experience such as associate pastor, assistant pastor, evangelist, elder, deacon etc.
- (5) **Continuous Membership:** For the purpose of the Region election, the term "continuous membership" in the bylaw means uninterrupted membership in one local church. Pastors subject to term limits and transfers are excluded from continuous membership requirements for holding Council membership representing the local church. In all other instances, membership is deemed interrupted when members switch churches within the Region unless such move is accompanied by a Membership Transfer Certificate from the outgoing church indicating good standing and its consent to the move.

(6) **Council Vacancy:** (i) A council member representing a local church in the Council shall forfeit the council membership immediately upon termination of his church membership regardless of the reason. However, a council member or an executive representing a general seat shall continue in the position provided both the outgoing and incoming church makes no objection and the affected individual submits a Membership Transfer Certificate in support of the move. Otherwise, he shall forfeit his position. (ii) If a Council member submits an application for ordination as a pastor he shall vacate his council membership upon approval of the ordination application. A Council member who seeks ordination elsewhere without the Region's consent shall be removed from the Council immediately. (iii) All vacancies in the Council shall be filled by the Council giving due consideration to the local church represented by the vacating member except vacancies in the executive and general seats in the Council shall be filled by the Council as it deems appropriate.

(7) **General Council Members:** General Council Members shall be elected by the Region Council from among its membership in accordance with the General Council notifications.

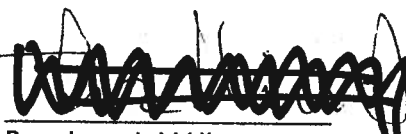
*Adopted and approved by the Region Council on June 22, 2014*



Rev. Philip Philip  
President



Rev. Itty Abraham  
Vice-President



Rev. Joseph Williams  
Secretary



Thomas Varughese  
Jt. Secretary



Sam Thomas  
Treasurer

# THE INDIAN PENTECOSTAL CHURCH OF GOD NORTH AMERICA-EASTERN REGION

INTERNATIONAL HEADQUARTERS: HEBRON, KUMBANAD, KERALA, INDIA 689547



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

From: IPC Eastern Region Election Commission

To: The Pastor and Church Secretary:

Please complete and return this Church Membership Verification Form to IPC Eastern Region Secretary at your earliest convenience, but no later than 15 days from the date indicated above. You may submit the fully executed form electronically to: [ipcregionsecretary@gmail.com](mailto:ipcregionsecretary@gmail.com) if you prefer. This information is necessary to determine your local church representation in the upcoming Region General Body meeting. A copy of the Region Election Guidelines & Bylaw Clarifications is attached herewith. Failure to return this form promptly may affect your church representation and voting rights in the General Body meeting.

## CHURCH

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

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

Church Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Families: \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Lord's Supper Taking Members: \_\_\_\_\_ *(count only baptized individuals on the membership roll who attend the church regularly and take the Lord's Table).*

## PASTOR

Church Pastor: \_\_\_\_\_  
*(Name only one - the Pastor or a senior pastor, if any)*

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email, if any: \_\_\_\_\_

## CERTIFICATION

*By signing below, I/We certify that the information provided above is accurate according to the church records.*

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Pastor Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Secretary Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Pastor Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary Name