



Coptic Orthodox Patriarchate
St. Maurice and St. Verena
Coptic Orthodox Church

A Ministry of Love, Integration, and Outreach

Church Board Nominations Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)

What is the church board and what are its responsibilities?

The church board governs administrative matters of the church while the clergy handles spiritual and pastoral matters. Board activity includes fiscal oversight, governance (regulatory requirements, bylaws, etc.), building matters, and operationalizing the church vision and mission. Discussions held during board meetings are confidential.

What is the time commitment to serve on the church board?

The church board has regular monthly meetings as well as occasional meetings that could be held on short notice for more urgent discussions. Board meetings are held in the church board room or by teleconference. Certain roles require more time commitment. It is a 4-year term.

How many board members will be nominated?

The SMSV church board will consist of 9 board members. As per the Coptic Orthodox Church by-laws, H.H. Pope Tawadros II can appoint 30% of the board. There will be three (3) appointed board members and the remaining six (6) will be nominated.

What is the nomination process?

- **March 5, 2017:** Information session and start of endorsement process in the church. Nomination package will be available by Friday March 3, 2017. You may fill out the form and drop it off the same day until the deadline. The form may also be emailed to Boardnominations@smsv.ca
- **March 12, 2017:** Deadline to drop off/email the nomination form to the following Nominations Committee members – Fr. Pishoy Salama, Deacon Paul Sidhom or Mina Shenouda. List of potential nominees will be available shortly after.
- **April 2, 2017:** Deadline to submit any objections/challenges to one of the Nominations Committee members in a sealed envelope with your name and contact information.
- **April 23, 2017:** Announcement of final list of nominees. Please note that any nominee may be excluded, under the guidance of H.G. Bishop Makar, without any further explanation.
- **Early May (TBD):** An honourable Bishop will be among us to receive the congregation nominations. There will be no announcement of the final board members until H.H. Pope Tawadros II approves and blesses the nominees and announces the final board members.



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Who is eligible to nominate for the church board?

Eligible voters must be at least 18 years old and members of SMSV for a minimum of one year on the day of election.

Can I nominate someone if I will be away on nomination day?

Yes. A proxy form is available online and could be downloaded from the church website www.smsv.ca prior to the nomination day, signed and emailed to the Committee at Boardnominations@smsv.ca, or dropped off at the church office.

Who can be nominated to serve on the church board?

There is a list of criteria for nominees set by the Nominations Committee guided by the Coptic Orthodox Church by-laws. Nominees must include young adults, women and cultural diversity.

How do I nominate someone to serve on the church board?

First, pray, then review the criteria for nominees to ensure that the person meets all the criteria. Then, you should speak with the nominee to get his/her consent to be nominated for the church board. After those steps are completed, refer to the nomination package to fill out certain forms including the support for the nomination by 7 church members. Once the nominee accepts nomination, the nominee will need to fill out further forms, which include the Endorsement of Confession Father and a Vision Statement.

When will the results be announced?

The results will be announced as soon as H.H. Pope Tawadros II approves the nominated list.

Can I nominate myself?

No. The nominee needs to be chosen and supported by 7 other members of the congregation who see that she/he fits well in this ministry.

If I have other specific questions related to the nomination process, how can I ask them?

You may submit your questions directly to the Nominations Committee at Boardnominations@smsv.ca. Your questions will remain confidential.