

# G-WIS — your Guide to Worthwhile Initiative Support

By following this guide and providing the information required, we can work together to help support your worthwhile initiative. One thing to bear in mind is that initiatives associated with CBWC denominational activities or programs will necessarily have a higher priority than those not so related. If you need help or further guidance, please feel free to contact the Moderator or anyone on the Deacon's Board for assistance.

## 1. What and why

- Write a few sentences about your initiative and its purpose.
- Is it connected to agencies or programs of our denomination, the Canadian Baptists of Western Canada?
- Include websites of any other agencies or groups that you reference — this is a simple and helpful way to provide background and rationale.

## 2. What, where and when

- Outline the time, events, and activities that you are proposing.  
For example, you may be proposing a children's camp open to all children under the age of 12 from all Whitehorse churches, offering traditional camp activities plus morning study and evening devotional periods, scheduled for the first half of July.
- Include dates, location, facilities, material needs, personnel required and possible challenges.
- For initiatives that do not constitute an event or activity — for instance, acquiring a new piece of equipment for the church — give us an outline of the specific model or features that you are proposing, its availability, source, when it will be needed, and how it is to be accommodated in the church.

## 3. Who

- Tell us who is involved in this initiative, including participants, staff and-or supervisors, Riverdale Baptist Church leaders or contacts, and other community or CBWC contacts.
- For initiatives that don't constitute an event or activity — for instance, acquiring a new piece of equipment for the church — tell us who will be responsible for acquisition, installation, care and maintenance.
- Ensure that the people you identify either by position, name or function are familiar with your proposal, and agree to being a participant and to being identified as such.

## 4. How much

- Provide a budget, listing all costs including honoraria, materials, transportation, fees, food, and facility rentals.
- How do you propose to fund your initiative? Are you requesting an addition to the church budget? Are fees being collected from participants? Is fund-raising involved? Does your initiative require a payment schedule? When will the money need to be in hand?

## 5. Conclusion

This is your opportunity to provide one clear paragraph, if you haven't already done so, that explains to the rest of your church why they need to support your initiative. Perhaps indicate how it fills a gap in our program delivery, or how it meets a need for a group of people in our church or how it links with a denominational priority. This is the heart and soul you bring to your initiative; so don't shy away from the larger picture, the visionary insight or the higher purpose.

What will happen with your completed G-WIS?

There are four steps it must make—and go beyond—before your worthwhile initiative is launched:

1. First to the Deacon's Board, who review your initiative to ensure it is both feasible and complete. If not, the appropriate deacon will work with you to revise. When ready, it will be forwarded to the Elders Board.
2. The Elders Board will review it for appropriateness of program and content.
3. Back to the Deacons to review financial and administrative support. Deacons consider the budget, facility and other resource use, fit and coordination with existing programs.
4. To the congregation for full support and funding approval (unless the membership has pre-authorized the Deacon's Board to approve the expenditure).

When it's all over

Give the church a short report after your initiative has run its course. It is best if you do this as an oral report at a church meeting, but in any case it must also be written so that it forms part of the church record (it's a legal thing...).

This doesn't need to be extensive. Unless the initiative was large and multi-faceted, a half page or so focused on these questions will be fine.

- what did you achieve?
- was it all you hoped it would be?
- how many people/participants did your initiative involve or have impact on?
- what went well and what didn't?
- what, if anything, would you do differently next time?
- what were the total costs?
- what income (if any) did the initiative raise?