

WHAT'S NEXT FOR OUR CHURCH?



CANADIAN
BAPTISTS
of Ontario
and Quebec

What To Do When Your Pastor Resigns

For Church Leadership

STEP 01

Don't panic!
God is still in control.

STEP 02

Take time to
process the news.

STEP 03

Reflect on the challenges and
opportunities this time of
transition offers.

STEP 04

Have an initial conversation with
Marc Potvin, CBOQ's [Pastoral
Leaders Development Associate](#).

STEP 05

Consider calling an interim pastor,
especially if the pastor resigning has
served for more than eight years, if:

- A change in direction from previous
leadership has been identified,
- There has been a crisis and
healing is needed

STEP 06

The Board/Council/Leadership
Team should do a review of the
church's mission and identify the
direction God is calling it to take in
the next season of ministry before
going into a search.

STEP 07

Once the Board/Council/
Leadership Team has a clear
sense of direction, begin the
pastoral search.

STEP 08

Use the [Manual for Search Teams](#).

STEP 09

Using the church's mission (confirmed
by Board/Council/Leadership) as
a foundation along with responses
from surveys found in the [Manual
for Search Teams](#), create pastoral
position descriptions.

STEP 10

Interview candidate(s).



The process of steps 6 to 10 should take between three to six months if the Board/Council/Leadership Team works assiduously, meeting weekly or bi-weekly and the Search Committee does the same. It will take considerably more time if meetings are spread out.