

# 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  
Ken Foo, CBOQ's [Director of  
Church Life and Leadership](#).

### 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.