

**The Wellington Council of Christians and Jews
Wellington, New Zealand**

CONSTITUTION

1. **NAME:** The Council shall be called, The Wellington Council of Christians and Jews (Wellington, New Zealand)
 - 1.1. The Wellington Council is a constituent member of the New Zealand Council of Christians and Jews
2. **AIM.** The aim of the Council is to foster understanding, friendship and trust between Christians and Jews
3. **THIS WILL BE ACHIEVED BY:**
 - 3.1. Enabling Christians and Jews in the wider community understand their common heritage and appreciate one another's distinctive beliefs and practices.
 - 3.2. Promoting a more just and tolerant society and combating all forms of discrimination, especially anti-semitism.
 - 3.3. Having concern for wider interfaith dialogue.
 - 3.4. Discussing and where deemed appropriate speaking out on issues of mutual concern. (Decisions for publication to be unanimous.)
4. The council shall not permit itself to be used for proselytism or divisive purposes. Its task is to promote dialogue. The council is not a missionary organisation, neither is it a political organisation.
 - 4.1. The Council recognises that the Land of Israel has a significant bearing on Christian/Jewish relations.
5. The Council will promote:
 - 5.1. meetings and workshops for dialogue
 - 5.2. educational work in schools, youth groups, churches, synagogues, and the wider community
 - 5.3. occasional lectures and conferences
6. **MEMBERSHIP.** The council will seek to draw support from the whole range of Christian and Jewish traditions. Membership shall reflect the range of Christian and Jewish traditions in Wellington

- 6.1. The membership of the Council shall be by invitation of the current members. Members shall be in good standing in their Church or Synagogue. The Council may consult informally with the Wellington Regional Jewish Council and/or the Wellington Council of Churches.
- 6.2. Method of voting in Council: On policy matters unanimity of those present shall prevail. Managerial matters shall be by majority vote, the presiding chairperson having a casting vote.
- 6.3. The Council shall not have more than fifteen members. At particular meetings it shall be permissible to invite additional people with specialist knowledge to share in discussion but not to vote.
- 6.4. Associate Members shall be people who pay a small subscription to be set by the annual meeting of the Council to support the work of the Council. As Associates they do not have voting rights but shall receive a newsletter, and preferential invitations to suitable events staged by the Council.
7. **OFFICERS.** The officers of the Council shall consist of Co-Chairpersons (with one each being drawn from the Jewish and Christian Communities) each acting as chairperson from alternate periods and each other's deputy.
 - 7.1. The Council may elect Patrons.
 - 7.2. A Secretary and a Treasurer. (The roles of secretary and treasurer may be held by one person)
 - 7.3. Officers shall be elected at the annual meeting.
 - 7.4. The Quorum for Council meetings shall be four members of which at least one shall be from the Jewish community and one from the Christian community. (If the Council has its full quota of fifteen members then the quorum shall be six persons with at least two from each community.)
8. **ANNUAL MEETING.** The annual meeting shall be held not later than September 30th each year.
 - 8.1. Notices of motion may be presented to the annual meeting, and shall require a mover and a seconder to sign, and also require 21 days notice to the Secretary, who in turn must give fourteen days notice to the members.
 - 8.2. Managerial resolutions shall be by majority vote of those present and entitled to vote; policy matters as defined in the aims shall follow the unanimity rule.
9. **FINANCE.** The Council may raise funds to support its local work and the work of the New Zealand Council of Christians and Jews and the International Council of Christians and Jews.

- 9.1. The financial year of the Council shall be from 1 July to the 30th June. An audited set of accounts shall be presented to the annual meeting.
- 9.2. The annual meeting shall appoint an honorary auditor.
- 9.3. Bank Account. The signatories for the Council bank account shall be the Chairpersons, the Treasurer and one other member of Council, the signatures of any two shall be sufficient to operate the account.
10. **SUBSCRIPTIONS.** The Council shall set subscription fees at each annual meeting, for both Council members and Associate members.
- 10.1. It shall be proper for the Wellington Council to vote a sum to support the work of the national body.
11. **DISSOLUTION.** If the Wellington Council is dissolved such funds as remain shall be sent to the New Zealand Council to be held for furthering the Council's charitable purposes in Wellington.
12. **ALTERATIONS TO CONSTITUTION.** Any four members may propose an alteration and request a special general meeting unless the annual meeting is to be held within the next thirty days. Written Notice to be signed by at least four members shall be addressed to the secretary who shall call a meeting. Notice of proposed alterations are to be given to all members not less than 21 days before the annual or special meeting.
13. **PRIVATE PECUNIARY ADVANTAGE.**
- 13.1. Any income, benefit, or advantage must be used to advance the charitable purposes of the organisation.
- 13.2. No member of the organisation, or anyone associated with a member is allowed to take part in, or influence any decision made by the organisation in respect of payments, to, or on behalf of the member or associated person of any income, benefit, or advantage.
- 13.3. Any payments made to a member of the organisation, or person associated with a member, must be for goods or services that advance the charitable purpose and must be reasonable and relative to payments that would be made between unrelated persons.