

Notes from Meeting
February 11, 2012
ABF members' meeting to select a new name

Attendees:

1. Cynthia Ogilvie (Port Williams)
2. Susan Colquhoun (First Amherst)
3. Paul Tingley (Bayside United Baptist)
4. Terry Tingley (Bayside United Baptist)
5. John Churchill (Port Williams)
6. Renee Clarke (First Halifax)
7. Cameron (Port Williams)
8. David Gibson (First Halifax)
9. Roger Prentice (Wolfville Baptist)
10. Ed Colquhoun (First Amherst)
11. John Boyd (First Halifax)
12. Vicki Brown (Bayside United Baptist)
13. Lee Nicholas-Pattillo (First Halifax)

Agenda:

1. Welcome and thanked folks for coming
2. State goal for the day
3. Explain why ABF requires a new name
4. Distribute and review ABF *Memorandum of Association* (i.e. ABF goals)
5. Have Attendees participate in the 4 questions:
 1. *What's the worst possible name we could give ABF?*
 2. *What's the first thing that comes to mind when you hear 'ABF'?*
 3. *What's the best thing about ABF?*
 4. *What words would you use to describe ABF?*
6. State guidelines for today's brain storming session.
7. List suggested names for presentation to Council

Responses to the questions:

1. What's the worst possible name we could give the new ABF?
 - Baptists Lite
 - The Separated Brethren
 - Convention of Baptists
 - Independent Baptists Churches
 - Fundamental Baptist Convention
 - Like Believers Group
 - Fundamentalist Baptist Coalition
 - Atlantic Baptist Convention

- CABC #2
- The Narrow Minded Followers of Believers
- Contrary Baptist Brotherhood
- Association of Baptist Churches that Are Refugees from The Convention of Atlantic Baptist Churches

Common themes in the names listed:

- We not wish to be contrary
- We not wish to be associated with Convention

1. What's the first thing that comes to mind when you hear 'ABF'?

- Open minded; inclusive
- Group of friends
- Local Maritime organization
- Safe
- Progressive
- Progressive
- Fellowship
- Freedom
- Fellowship
- Open, accepting group
- Accepting
- Thinking
- Open minded
- Ecumenical
- Freedom
- Progressive
- Friendly people
- Freedom and openness

2. What's the best thing about ABF?

- Opened and principled
- Focused and independent
- Positive perspectives with knowledge to back it up
- Religious; acceptance; tolerance
- Openly liberal minded
- Support
- Safety
- Acceptance
- Acceptance of differences
- Open discussion
- Fellowship
- Fellowship and freedom

- Ideas of being able to express oneself

3. What words would you use to describe ABF?

- Open association
- Independent like-minded Baptist worshipers
- Wise, inclusive, friendly and academic
- Welcoming
- Religious freedom
- Understanding
- Open
- Supportive
- Engaged and engaging
- Thinking accepting group of believers
- Like minds; warm
- Free
- Thoughtful spirituality
- Welcoming acceptance
- Christian

Names suggested by the team:

Canadian Association of Baptists for Christ (CABC)

Canadian Alliance of Baptists for Christ (CABC)

Alliance of Baptist Friends

Association of Baptist Friends

Alliance Baptist Friends

Association of Baptist Friends

Association of Progressive Baptists

Canadian Association of Progressive Baptists

Canadian Freedom Association

National Baptist Alliance of Canada (NBA)

Canadian Baptist Fellowship

Canadian Baptist Fellowship

International Baptist Fellowship

Centre for Baptist Fellowship

Federation of Baptist Friends

The Union of Baptists Fellowships

Association of Affirming Baptists

Ecumenical Baptists of Atlantic Canada

Canadian Association of Free Baptists

Canadian Alliance of Free Baptists

Canadian Association of Autonomous Baptists

Canadian Alliance for Baptist Freedoms

Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms

Association of Baptists in Canada

Association of Baptist in Canada
Alliance of Canadian Baptists
Canadian Baptist Alliance
Alliance of Canadian Baptists
Canadian Baptist Alliance
Canadian Alliance of Baptists
Canadian Baptist Alliance
Canadian Alliance for Baptist Freedoms
Canadian Association for Baptist Freedoms
Association of Baptist Free Thinkers
Free Associated Fellowship of Progressive Baptist Friends

There were two (2) trains of thought:

1. Any and all names
2. Names that allowed for the retention of acronym: **ABF**

We separated the names so that we could consider retention of **ABF** and all new names. This way, we could provide recommendations retaining **ABF** and new names.

Through discussion, while eliminating names, we determined:

Words that we **will** include in our name:

1. Baptists/s

Words that we **may** include in our name:

1. Canadian or Canada
2. Association/Alliance

First names omitted:

- Association of Baptist Free Thinkers
- Free Associated Fellowship of Progressive Baptist Friends

Next names omitted: names including the word 'Friends':

- Alliance of Baptist Friends
- Association of Baptist Friends
- Alliance Baptist Friends
- Association of Baptist Friends
- Federation of Baptist Friends

Next names omitted: names including the word: **'Progressive'**:

- Canadian Association of Progressive Baptists
- Association of Progressive Baptists

Names including the work **'Freedom'** and **'Fellowship'**:

- Canadian Baptist Fellowship (X2)
- Centre for Baptist Fellowships
- International Baptist Fellowship
- The Union of Baptists Fellowships

Names including the possible abbreviation **CABC**:

- Canadian Association of **B**aptists for **C**hrist (**CABC**)
- Canadian **A**lliance of **B**aptists for **C**hrist (**CABC**)

There was much discussion throughout the time together.

From 36 suggested names to:

The final **8** recommended names for consideration; in random order:

- Canadian **A**ssociation for **B**aptist **F**reedoms (**ABF**)
- Canadian **A**lliance for **B**aptist **F**reedoms (**ABF**)
- Alliance of Canadian Baptists
- Canadian Baptist Alliance
- Association of Baptists in Canada
- Canadian Association of Free Baptists
- Canadian Alliance of Free Baptists
- Canadian Association of Autonomous Baptist s