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## **ALCOHOL AND DRUG USE POLICY GAMBLING POLICY**

This policy represents the intention of Central United Church (Central) with regard to alcohol and drug use in the church, as well as gambling and funding grants received from gambling proceeds.

### **STATEMENT OF PURPOSE AND BELIEF**

We uphold the ministry of Jesus in which we lay claim to the belief that we are to love one another and to care for the wellbeing of others.

With that core value in mind, a major focus of our ministry at Central involves life recovery from addictions. While some may choose to consume alcohol or marijuana in their private lives, Central, working in close collaboration with those in need of life recovery, will provide an alcohol and drug-free environment for all who cross the threshold of our church.

In the matter of gambling, Central will not engage in gambling activities (e.g., 50/50 draws, raffles) which could be financially beneficial to the church. However, we will accept funding grants from governments and other agencies whose money is issued from gambling proceeds, based on a careful assessment of the beneficial impact such grants may have on our ministry in the heart of downtown Calgary.

### **POLICY**

- (a) Alcohol is not permitted on Central property
- (b) Drugs, other than those prescribed by a doctor, are not permitted on Central property.
- (c) For liability reasons, Central does not sponsor any activities that include the use of alcohol or drugs.
- (d) The use of alcohol or drugs at functions sanctioned by the Board is not permitted. This also includes Central sanctioned functions held outside of the church (e.g., family campouts).
- (e) The use of alcohol or drugs at functions held on Central church property hosted by outside rental groups is not permitted.
- (f) In accordance with the established practice of The United Church of Canada (UCC), wine will not be served for the Sacrament of Holy Communion.



## **GAMBLING**

- (a) Central will not conduct raffles, lotteries, 50/50 draws or any other games that promote gambling in which the church or an individual gains economic advantage from collective gambling practices.
- (b) Central will assess, through its Board, the beneficial impact to the church of receiving government and other funding agency grants which may proceed from gambling revenues.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

This policy is administered by the Property Team, working in collaboration with the Worship Team.

Our Alcohol and Drug Policy will be posted at prominent locations throughout the church building.

This policy document is a living document and can be changed at any time, with the approval of the Board.

The Board must inform the congregation about the policies that have been established by the Board and will seek ratification of each policy change at an Annual Congregational Meeting.

*Final draft approved by the Board of Elders, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 2018  
Approved by Congregation on Sunday, February 9, 2020*

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