

## **Local Church Search Committee Policies**

1. All Search Committees shall be informed by the Association Search Consultant of the Ministry Team for Authorized Ministry's requirement that any pastoral candidate's ecclesiastical authorization must be pre-screened by the association before the candidate is presented to the congregation for election. Failure to follow this step may jeopardize the candidate's ability to obtain standing in the Prairie Association should subsequent inquiry reveal previously unknown ethical, moral and/or theological concerns.
2. All Search Committees shall be informed by the Association Search Consultant of the Ministry Team for Authorized Ministry's requirement that all call letters and other contracts must be screened by the Association prior to the time of the election or selection of a candidate to any pastoral office (for example, but not limited to, called pastor, interim pastor, contracted pastor, etc.). Failure to follow this step may result in the refusal of the committee to authorize approval of the terms of the call (or contract), per the provisions of the three-way covenant.

### Resources for Background Checks

1. [www.oxforddoc.com](http://www.oxforddoc.com)