

Christian Reformed Church of St. Albert
Drug and Alcohol Policy
September 4, 2007

History

The Christian Reformed Church of St. Albert's council recently discussed the issue of alcohol consumption at church-sponsored events. It was determined an alcohol and illegal drug use policy would be helpful to both church members and their guests in specific circumstances.

Preamble

Whereas the CRC of St. Albert encourages its members to demonstrate Christ-like behavior in all aspects of their lives, and;
Whereas the CRC of St. Albert encourages its members, if they choose to consume alcohol, to do so with moderation at all times, and;
Whereas the use of illegal drugs is contrary to Canada's laws and violates the Biblical calling to demonstrate Christ-like behavior in all aspects of their lives, and;
Whereas the safety of church members, particularly children under the guidance and protection of adults is of primary concern, and;
Whereas the church already has a policy prohibiting the consumption of alcohol at church-sponsored events held in the church or on its property;

Therefore be it resolved that:

- a) the existing policy of no alcohol consumption at church-sponsored events held in the church or on its property be maintained
- b) no alcohol is to be consumed at any church-sponsored event at which children are supervised by church volunteers (Cadets or Gems campouts, Sunday School excursions, youth group and SERVE events, and so on)
- c) church members and guests, should they chose to consume alcohol at other church-sponsored events such as the church campout, small group gatherings, weddings, and so on, are encouraged to do so with moderation, mindful of their responsibility as children of God to be Christ-like in all parts of their lives.
- d) Church members and guests refrain from using illegal drugs at church-sponsored events, and church members refrain from using illegal drugs.

Consequences:

- a) Should church members become concerned that those involved in ministry leadership are violating this drug and alcohol policy, they are asked to bring those concerns to Council Executive. A first violation of the policy may be grounds for removal from the ministry position. A repeated violation will ordinarily result in the violator being removed from the ministry position.

In all cases where an accusation is made of any violation under the sections of this policy, Council Executive will ensure those accused will have the opportunity for a full, fair, prompt and confidential hearing.

- b) If church members are concerned about the alcohol or drug use of a fellow member, the church encourages the one concerned to follow the direction we are given in Matthew 18: 15-17. As applied to this situation, the concerned person would first approach the brother or sister personally, then, if necessary, do so together with a friend, and finally bring the matter to the attention of the church council.