



THE EFCC PRESENTS

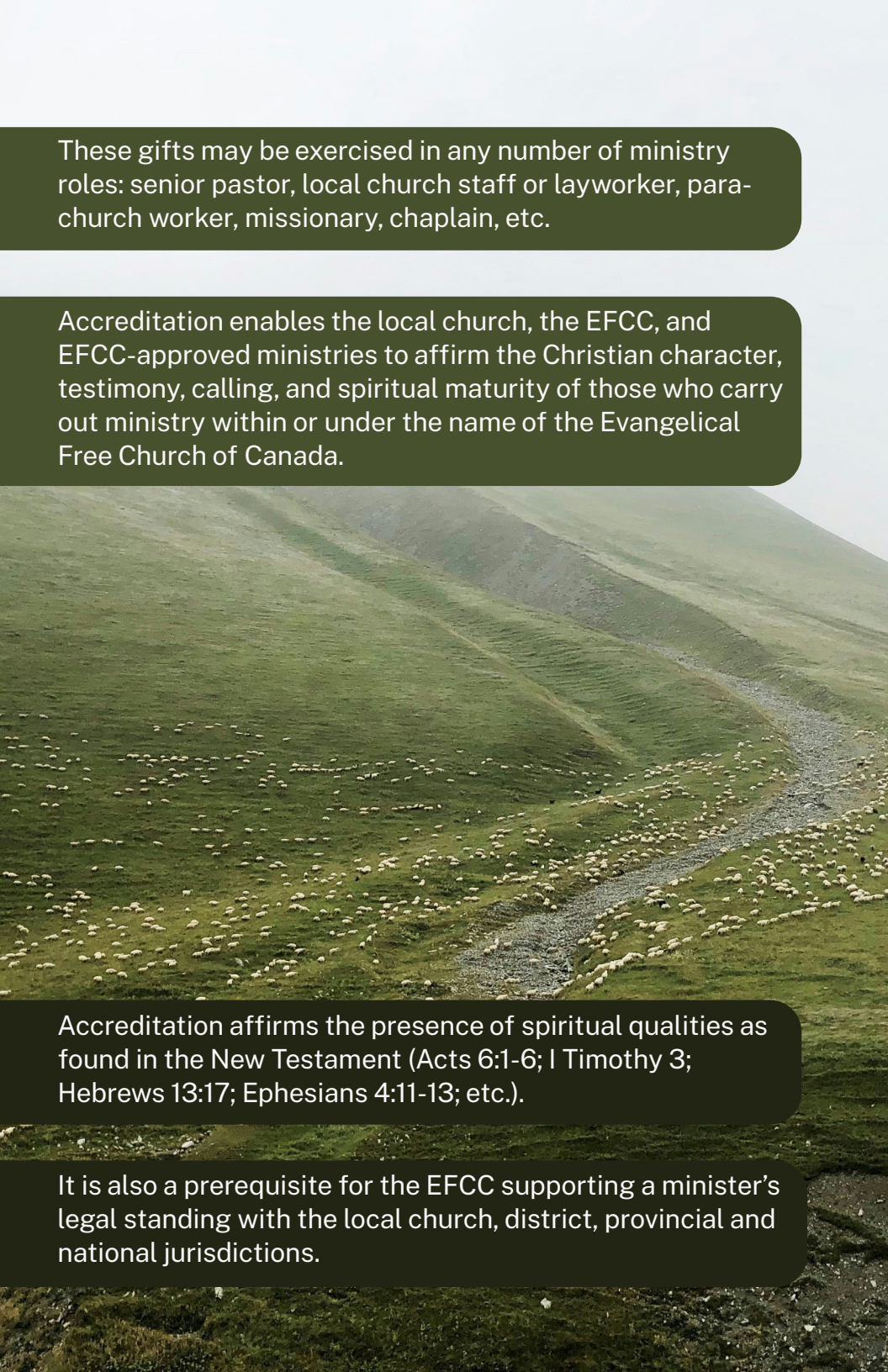
Ministerial Accreditation Quick-Start Guide

A small white lamb is standing in a lush green field, facing right. The field is covered in tall grass and some small plants. In the background, there is a dark, horizontal line that appears to be a fence or a change in the terrain. The overall scene is peaceful and natural.

What is Ministerial Accreditation?

EFCC Ministerial Accreditation:

A partnership between the EFCC and either an EFCC local church, an EFCC arm of mission, or an EFCC-approved ministry, in which the God-given gifts that a believer is exercising are affirmed.

A high-angle photograph of a vast, green, rolling hillside. A large flock of white sheep is scattered across the slope, grazing. A narrow, rocky stream flows down the right side of the hill. The sky is overcast and grey.

These gifts may be exercised in any number of ministry roles: senior pastor, local church staff or layworker, para-church worker, missionary, chaplain, etc.

Accreditation enables the local church, the EFCC, and EFCC-approved ministries to affirm the Christian character, testimony, calling, and spiritual maturity of those who carry out ministry within or under the name of the Evangelical Free Church of Canada.

Accreditation affirms the presence of spiritual qualities as found in the New Testament (Acts 6:1-6; I Timothy 3; Hebrews 13:17; Ephesians 4:11-13; etc.).

It is also a prerequisite for the EFCC supporting a minister's legal standing with the local church, district, provincial and national jurisdictions.

The Ministerial Standing Committee (MSC) of the Evangelical Free Church of Canada (EFCC) serves local churches and other ministries by ensuring that those called to pastor our churches, serve in ministry or mission, engage with various parachurch ministries, or serve as lay leaders are capable of fulfilling these callings.

The flourishing of the churches of the EFCC is dependent on qualified leadership, which includes a deep understanding of the Christian Scriptures and theology, a character and lifestyle that honour God, and requisite skills for particular ministries. Another factor in the flourishing of the EFCC is our understanding that each believer has been gifted by God and is called to serve God in whatever their circumstances and in whatever ways they can.



The MSC serves the EFCC by ensuring candidates, as recommended by their church or ministry supervisors, are qualified for approved ministry based on their calling and their compatibility with our denominational distinctives.

The process of EFCC Ministerial Accreditation is comprehensive and rigorous, and leads to an Accreditation Certificate. Ministerial Accreditation refers to the local church or parachurch organization, district, and national EFCC recognition of one's calling to and gifting for a particular ministry.

An aerial photograph of a city intersection with a large blue text box in the upper half. The intersection features a large 'X' pattern of white diagonal stripes on a dark asphalt road. Numerous pedestrians are walking across the crosswalks, and their long shadows are cast across the pavement. The blue text box is semi-transparent and contains white text.

Ministerial Accreditation assures a local church or other ministry that the candidate has received full recognition for service in the EFCC. Each local church or ministry is free to choose how to recognise any accredited individual, whether that be by ordination, commissioning, or appointment, or in some other way. The MSC awards EFCC Accreditation based on successful completion of the following process.

An aerial photograph of a city intersection with a large blue text box in the lower half. The intersection features a large 'X' pattern of white diagonal stripes on a dark asphalt road. Numerous pedestrians are walking across the crosswalks, and their long shadows are cast across the pavement. The blue text box is semi-transparent and contains white text.

EFCC Ministerial Accreditation is portable. When someone changes ministries within the EFCC they carry it with them; they do not need to repeat the accreditation process within their new EFCC ministry. The MSC renews Accreditation each year after receiving the submission of the Annual Report.

MINISTERIAL ACCREDITATION OVERVIEW

A pastor or ministry worker is called by the church with the involvement of a District Superintendent. That pastor or ministry worker will generally take no more than two years to complete the accreditation process.

STEP 1

- Recommendation from an EFCC Leader
- Recommendation from an EFCC Local Church or Ministry
- Letter of Application to the MSC from the Candidate
- Signed Agreements
- Police Information Check

STEP 2

- Seminar One | Ministry Orientation

STEP 3

- Additional Seminars

STEP 4

- Accreditation Council

STEP 1

Recommendation from an EFCC Leader

The candidate will meet and be interviewed by an EFCC Leader.

The EFCC Leader will submit a short summary of this meeting to the MSC.

Recommendation from an EFCC Local Church or Ministry

The candidate's EFCC local church will verify that the applicant is a member in good standing at the church and will request that they be accepted into the ministerial accreditation process.



Letter of Application to the MSC from the Candidate

The candidate will write a 300-word paper that includes:

- a. Biography (conversion, call to ministry, commitment to the EFCC)
- b. Affirmation of the EFCC Statement of Faith, Our Character and Calling, and Covenant of Personal and Professional Ethics.
- c. A statement of agreement to proceed with the accreditation process, including agreement to work with a coach and with their assigned cohort.

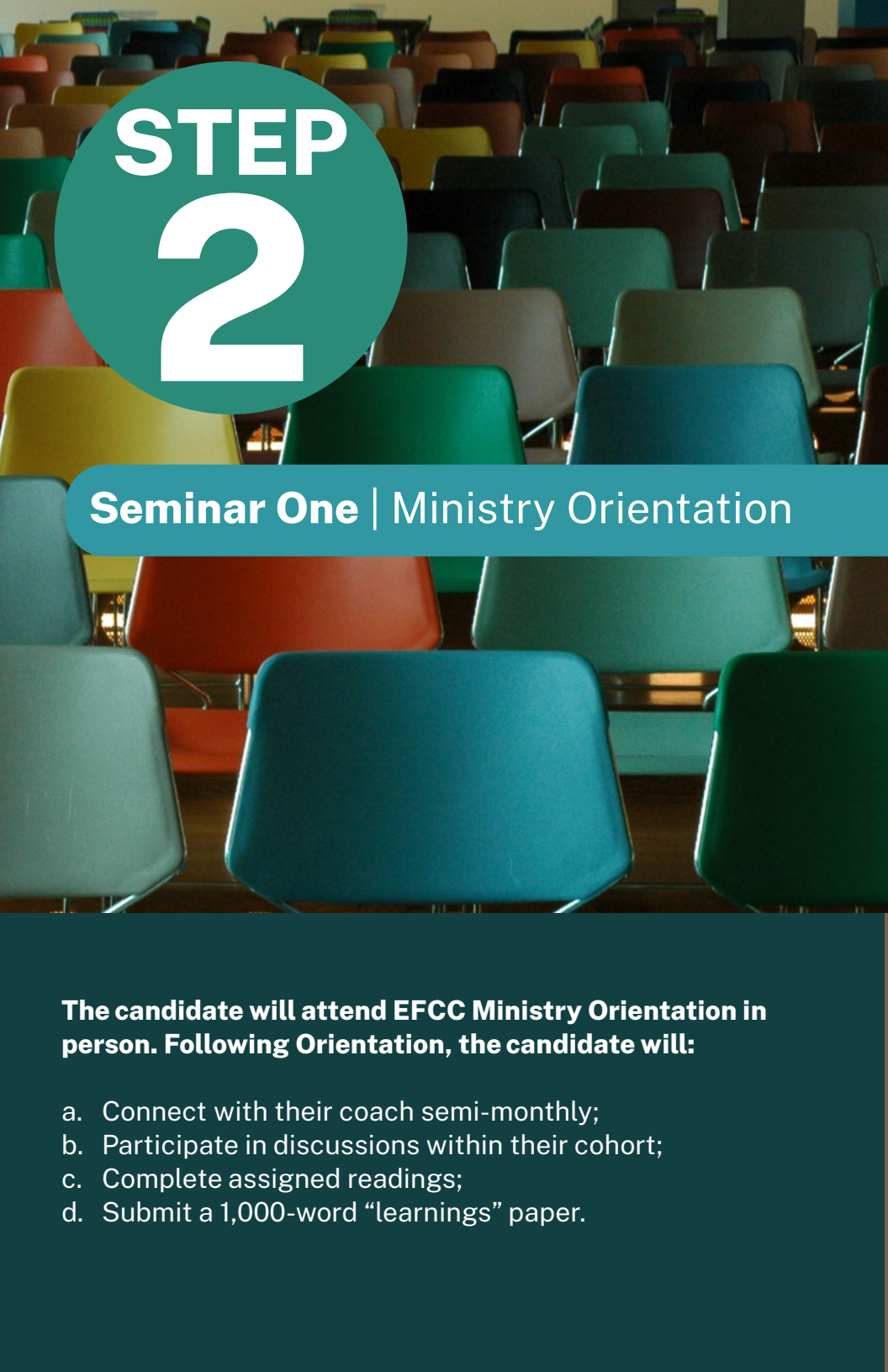
Agreements

The Candidate will sign their agreement with the following documents:

- a. EFCC Statement of Faith
- b. Covenant of Personal and Professional Ethics
- c. Our Character and Calling

Police Information Check

The candidate will obtain a police information (i.e., criminal record) check with vulnerable sector check.



STEP 2

Seminar One | Ministry Orientation

The candidate will attend EFCC Ministry Orientation in person. Following Orientation, the candidate will:

- a. Connect with their coach semi-monthly;
- b. Participate in discussions within their cohort;
- c. Complete assigned readings;
- d. Submit a 1,000-word “learnings” paper.

STEP 3

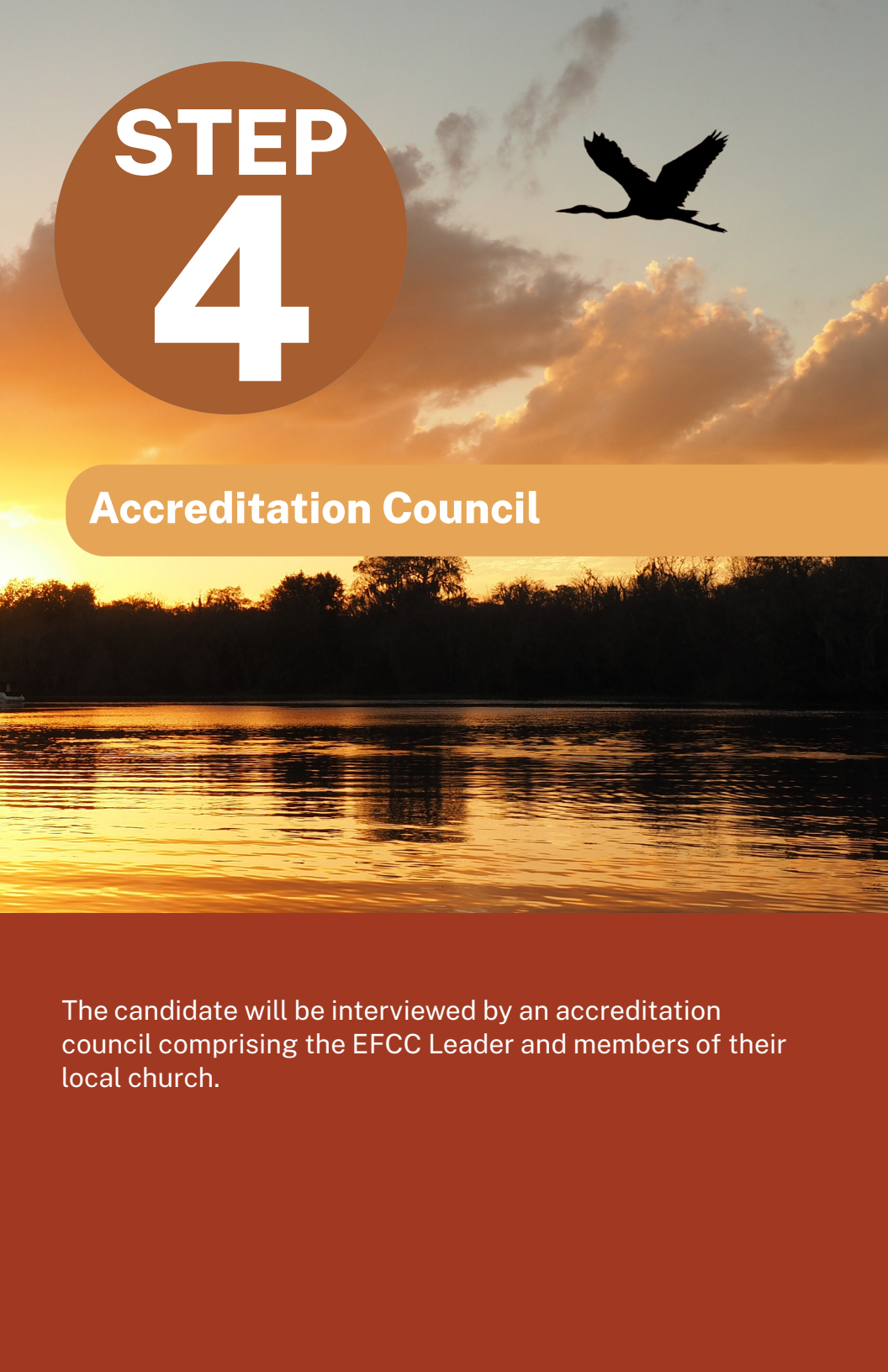
Additional Seminars

The candidate will attend three additional seminars. Following each seminar, the candidate will:

- Connect with their coach semi-monthly;
- Participate in discussions within their cohort;
- Complete assigned readings;
- Submit a 1000-word "learnings" paper.

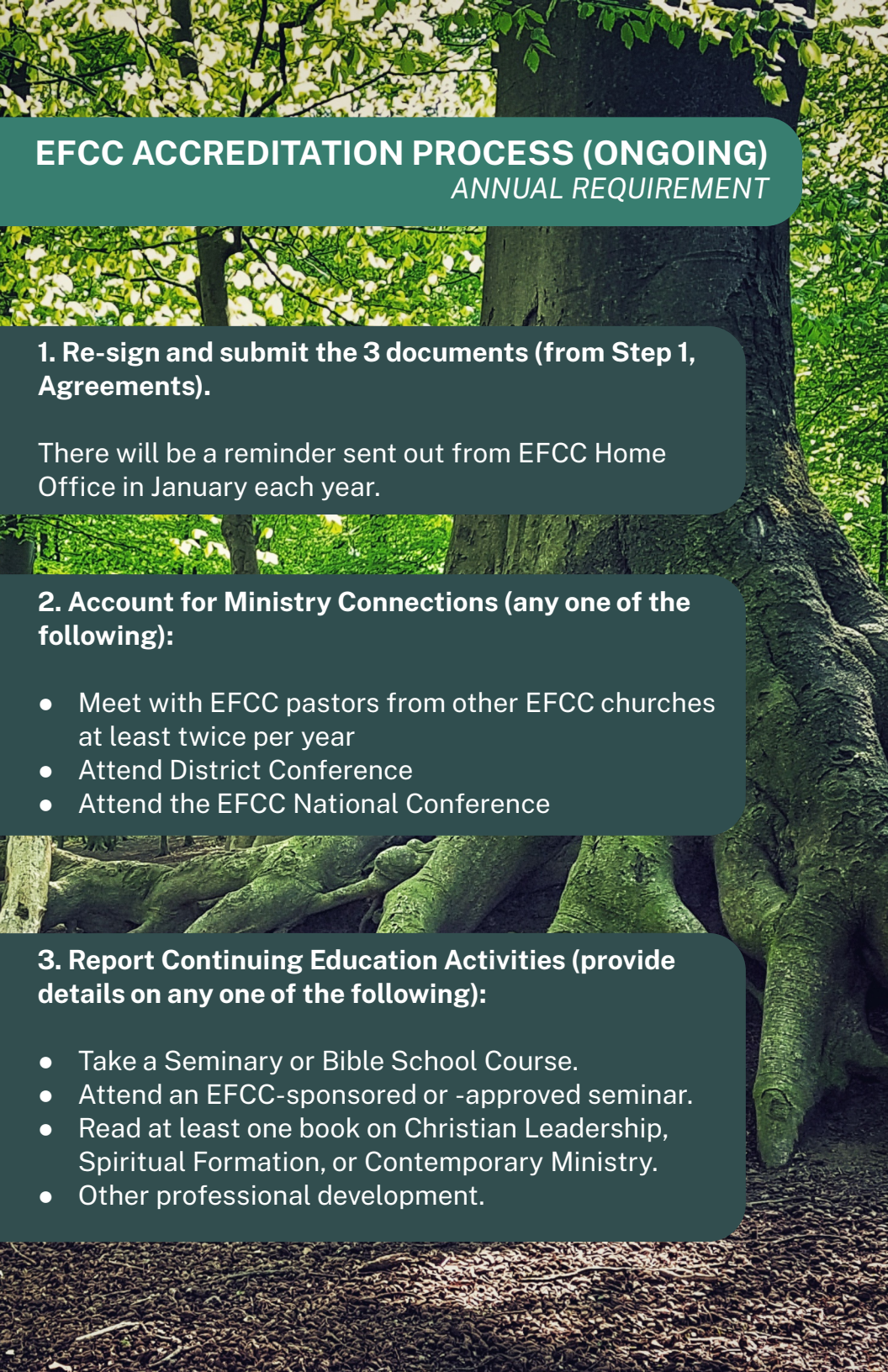


STEP 4



Accreditation Council

The candidate will be interviewed by an accreditation council comprising the EFCC Leader and members of their local church.



EFCC ACCREDITATION PROCESS (ONGOING)

ANNUAL REQUIREMENT

1. Re-sign and submit the 3 documents (from Step 1, Agreements).

There will be a reminder sent out from EFCC Home Office in January each year.

2. Account for Ministry Connections (any one of the following):

- Meet with EFCC pastors from other EFCC churches at least twice per year
- Attend District Conference
- Attend the EFCC National Conference

3. Report Continuing Education Activities (provide details on any one of the following):

- Take a Seminary or Bible School Course.
- Attend an EFCC-sponsored or -approved seminar.
- Read at least one book on Christian Leadership, Spiritual Formation, or Contemporary Ministry.
- Other professional development.

NOTE: The possession of an EFCC accreditation certificate does not guarantee appointment within an EFCC local church. Generally, local churches collaborate with District Superintendents in the process of appointing accredited individuals to any ministry within a church. Nevertheless, each church has the freedom to appoint to any ministry whomever it chooses.



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