

From the WDC Policy Manual
Section IV. Ministerial Leadership Policies – April 2026

A. Communication of Ministerial Credential Status

The Ministerial Leadership Commission (MLC) of Western District Conference (WDC) is the body that credentials ministers in WDC by commissioning, licensing, and ordaining candidates for ministry. The MLC also supports the code of ministerial ethics in keeping with *A Shared Understanding of Ministerial Leadership: Polity Manual for Mennonite Church Canada and Mennonite Church USA*. and in keeping with *Prevention and Accountability Resource of Mennonite Church USA - Part 1 Abuse Prevention: Section 2 Code of Conduct and Section 3 Ethical Practice*.

The MLC desires transparency when credentialing changes happen, both in joy and in sorrow. The MLC also desires consistency in making such announcements to the broader WDC community (conference leaders, ministers, congregations, and members) and Mennonite Church USA (MC USA).

Therefore, credentialing communication based on circumstance will happen in the following ways.

When a minister is commissioned, licensed, or ordained for ministry:

- Announced to the WDC community through the weekly newsletter (includes credential status)
- Status change made to WDC ministerial file
- Communicated to MC USA and updated in MennoData, the MC USA ministerial database

When a minister begins or leaves a ministry position, retires, transfers into or out of WDC:

- Announced to the WDC community through the weekly newsletter (includes credential status)
- Status change made to WDC ministerial file
- Communicated to MC USA and updated in MennoData.

When a ministerial misconduct or abuse investigation takes place, announcements will be made according to the MC USA Prevention and Accountability Resource. (See Part 2 - Accountability, Section 6. Abuse/Misconduct Response Process, Steps in the Abuse/Misconduct Process, 2. Investigation, and 3. Charge.)