



CHAPTER 73.

An Act respecting The Trustee Board of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

[Assented to 18th March, 1943.]

WHEREAS The Trustee Board of The Presbyterian Church in Canada was incorporated by an Act passed by the Parliament of Canada, being chapter 64 of the Statutes of Canada, 1939: Preamble.

And whereas the said The Trustee Board of The Presbyterian Church in Canada and The Presbyterian Church in Canada as defined under section 1 of this Act have prayed that an Act may be passed respecting their property, rights, and powers:

And whereas it is expedient to grant the prayer of the said petition:

Therefore, His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:—

1. This Act may be cited as “The Trustee Board of The Presbyterian Church in Canada Act.” Short title.

2. The words “The Presbyterian Church in Canada” occurring in this Act subsequent to this section mean and include only the congregations, members, and adherents of The Presbyterian Church in Canada who did not on the tenth day of June, 1925, become part of The United Church of Canada, and those persons who have since that date joined or may hereafter join with them as members or adherents, and notwithstanding anything contained in the “United Church of Canada Act,” being chapter 50 of the Statutes of British Columbia, 1924, and amendments thereto, the said congregations, members, adherents, and persons Definition of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.
1924, c. 50.

may use the name "The Presbyterian Church in Canada," but this shall not in any way prejudice or affect the rights or powers of The United Church of Canada, or of any constituent part thereof, or of any corporation, board, committee, or other body created by or under the government or control of or in connection with The United Church of Canada or of any congregation thereof.

Power to acquire
property.

3. The Trustee Board of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, hereinafter called the "Board," incorporated by the Parliament of Canada, shall at all times be entitled to purchase, lease, acquire, have, take, hold, receive, and enjoy all or any property, real and personal, whatsoever in British Columbia.

Property vested
in Board.

4. Save as otherwise provided in this Act, all gifts, devises, deeds, conveyances, transfers, or leases of any real property, or of any interest therein, and all gifts, bequests, assignments, or transfers of any personal property, or of any interest therein, which have been or shall hereafter be made to or intended for The Presbyterian Church in Canada, or any of the trusts in connection with the said Church, or any of the institutions, organizations, schemes, or funds of the said Church, shall vest in the Board as fully and effectually as if any such gift, devise, deed, conveyance, transfer, lease, bequest, or assignment had been made to the Board, and shall be held and administered by the Board for the general benefit of the said Church, unless intended for the specific benefit of any trust, institution, organization, scheme, or fund of the said Church when the same shall be held and administered by the Board for such specific benefit, but nothing in this Act contained shall vest in the Board any real or personal property or any interest therein which the Board shall decide not to accept.

Property vested
in Board subject
to trusts.

5. All property, real and personal, which shall be vested in or held by the Board for any general or special purposes or trusts of or in any way connected with The Presbyterian Church in Canada shall be held for the purposes and trusts, and with, under, and subject to the same powers and provisions as are in force or declared under any deed, instrument, or Statute affecting such property respectively.

Property held by
trustees to be trans-
ferred to Board.

6. Save as otherwise provided in this Act, every person in whom any property, real or personal, or any interest therein, shall have become vested heretofore, or shall become vested from time to time hereafter by Statute, or by order of a commission, or by gift, devise, deed, conveyance, transfer, lease, bequest, or

assignment, or in any other manner, upon trust for The Presbyterian Church in Canada, or any of the trusts in connection with the said Church, or any of the institutions, organizations, schemes, or funds of the said Church, shall upon the request of the Board and at the Board's expense forthwith assign, convey, or otherwise transfer such property or interest therein to the Board, and shall sign and execute all such deeds and instruments and do all such acts as may be necessary for that purpose.

7. When any property, real or personal, or any interest therein, shall have been assigned, conveyed, or otherwise transferred to the Board as aforesaid all rights, powers, and liabilities of the person or persons in whom the same was theretofore vested shall cease and determine, and he or they shall thenceforth be wholly released and discharged from the performance of the trusts and the exercise of the rights, powers, or duties previously imposed upon or exercisable by him or them: Provided that nothing herein shall be deemed to prevent any such person from being called on to account for any moneys received or expended, or for the doing or non-performance of any act, matter, or thing in relation to the trust prior to the assignment, conveyance, or transfer of such property as aforesaid.

Release of former trustees.

8. All contracts of every kind in existence at the date of the incorporation of the Board, and which could be enforced by or against the trustees of any property affected by the operation of this Act, or any committee or other persons or body in whom any such property may have been vested at the date aforesaid, and all rights, remedies, and powers in existence, or which may afterwards exist or arise upon or in respect of any such contract or in relation thereto, shall be exercised and enforced only by or against the Board.

Board to have power to enforce existing contracts.

9. The Board shall at all times on the request of the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, or on the request of the Board of Administration of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, or other board or committee which may from time to time be charged with the management of the trusts, institutions, organizations, schemes, and funds respectively of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, pay the rents, income, or produce of any real property or interests therein, and of any personal property, or interests therein, to the treasurer of The Presbyterian Church in Canada for the benefit of the said trusts, institutions, organizations, schemes, and funds respectively, and shall also at the like request sell and convert into money the real property, or interests therein, and the personal property, or

Income from funds held by Board.

interests therein, subject to the trusts on which the same may be held, and shall pay the proceeds of the said sales to the said treasurer for the benefit of the said trusts, institutions, organizations, schemes, and funds respectively: Provided, and it is hereby expressly declared, that no purchaser from the Board shall be bound to see that the said request shall have been made, or to inquire as to the application of the said purchase-money, or the regularity of the appointment or proceedings of the Board; and the execution of any grant, deed, conveyance, transfer, lease, assignment, release, discharge, or other instrument shall be deemed sufficient and conclusive when executed as hereinafter set forth.

Property conveyed to Board for congregations to be formed.

10. All purchases, gifts, devises, deeds, conveyances, transfers, or leases of land which may be made for or to The Presbyterian Church in Canada as a site for a church, manse, school, or cemetery, for the use of a congregation not then organized, shall vest in the Board in trust to convey the same to the trustees of such congregation when it shall have been organized under the sanction of the presbytery within the bounds of which it is situate, or in default of such organization in trust to sell the same and pay the proceeds of such sale to the treasurer of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, for such trusts, institutions, organizations, schemes, or funds thereof as may be determined from time to time by the General Assembly of the said Church.

Property of congregations ceasing to exist.

11. All lands and premises and personal property and assets which have been or shall hereafter at any time be held by any trustee or trustees for any congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Canada which shall have ceased to exist shall vest in the Board upon trust to sell, get in, and realize the same, and to pay the proceeds to the treasurer of The Presbyterian Church in Canada for such trusts, institutions, organizations, schemes, or funds thereof as may be determined from time to time by the General Assembly of the said Church.

Act not to apply to certain trusts.

12. Except as provided by sections 9 and 10, nothing in this Act contained shall affect or apply to the trustees of, or the trust property under, or the administration of, any trusts upon which any property, real or personal, or any interest therein, is now held for the benefit of or in connection with any congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Canada under any Statute, instrument, will, trust deed, or otherwise, or held by such trustees upon any congregational trusts whatsoever, and nothing in this Act contained shall affect or apply to any gift, devise, deed, conveyance, transfer, or lease of any real property, or any

interest therein, or any gift, bequest, assignment, or transfer of personal property, or any interest therein, which shall hereafter be made to or intended for the benefit of any congregation of The Presbyterian Church in Canada.

13. In addition to and without in any way limiting the powers exercisable by the Board under this Act or under any other law or Statute applicable to it, it is hereby declared that the Board shall possess and may exercise from time to time the following incidental and ancillary powers:—

Incidental powers
of Board.

- (a.) Power to invest and reinvest or lend moneys in or upon any securities, real or personal, in which a life insurance company carrying on business in Canada may from time to time invest or lend moneys, and the Board shall have all such rights and remedies for the collection and enforcement or repayment of an investment or loan as any individual would have: Investments.
- (b.) Power to borrow money for its purposes upon its credit, and to mortgage, hypothecate, or pledge any property, real or personal, vested in or held by it as security for any loan: Borrowing.
- (c.) Power to make, accept, draw, endorse, and execute bills of exchange, promissory notes, orders for the payment of money, and other negotiable instruments: Negotiable
instruments.
- (d.) Power to receive and hold for the benefit of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, or any of the trusts in connection with the said church, or any of the institutions or organizations, schemes, or funds of the said Church, sums of money in consideration of the payment, during the life of the donor or during any other period, of interest thereon at such rate as may from time to time be agreed upon, or in consideration of the payment of an annuity or annuities to any person or persons in respect thereof. But this power shall not authorize the Board to engage in the business of insurance. Annuities.

14. No personal liability shall attach to any of the members of the Board for the failure of any investment or security which may be made or taken by the Board as authorized by this Act. No personal liability
on members of Board.

15. All grants, conveyances, deeds, transfers, leases, assignments, releases, discharges, and other instruments shall be made and executed by the Board under its corporate seal, attested by the signatures of any two members of the Board, and when so made and executed shall be sufficient and conclusive. Execution of docu-
ments under seal.

Vacancies on Board.

16. (1.) If any member of the Board shall die, or resign his office, or refuse or neglect to act, or shall cease to reside in Canada for more than twelve months in succession, or shall become mentally incompetent, he shall be deemed to have vacated his office as a member of the Board.

Filling vacancies on Board.

(2.) In the case of a vacancy or vacancies occurring in the membership of the Board at any time the Board of Administration of The Presbyterian Church in Canada or the Executive Committee thereof may fill any or all of such vacancies, and the person or persons so appointed shall hold office until the next meeting of the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada and until their successors are appointed. At its next meeting the General Assembly of the said Church shall appoint members to fill such vacancies and the members temporarily appointed by the Board of Administration or the Executive Committee thereof shall be eligible for appointment by the said General Assembly.

Power of General Assembly to remove members of Board.

17. The General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada may also at any time, by resolution passed by such Assembly, remove any member of the Board from office, without having or alleging any cause for such removal, and may appoint some person as a member of the Board in his place and stead.

Reports to General Assembly.

18. The Board shall present to the General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada at each meeting thereof a report in which shall be set forth fully the various moneys, securities, and property, real and personal, which shall have come into its hands since its last preceding report, and the moneys, securities, and property still held by it, and in which shall also be set forth fully the disposition made by the Board since its last preceding report of any moneys, securities, and property, and the income thereof.

Power of General Assembly, etc., to make regulations, etc.

19. The General Assembly of The Presbyterian Church in Canada may from time to time make, amend, and repeal by-laws, resolutions, rules, and regulations for the government and control of the Board, and may from time to time delegate to the Board of Administration of The Presbyterian Church in Canada, or to the Executive Committee thereof, or to any specially appointed committee thereof, all or any part of its powers as to, and jurisdiction over, the Board. Until the said General Assembly makes by-laws, resolutions, rules, or regulations for the government and control of the Board, the Board shall be subject to the government and control of the said Board of Administration.

20. All copies of any by-laws, resolutions, rules, or regulations, or any amendments or alterations thereto purporting to be made under the provisions of this Act, purporting to be under the seal of the Board, and to be signed by any two members of the Board, shall be prima facie evidence in all Courts of the contents thereof without proof of the authenticity of such seal or signatures.

Copies of documents
to be evidence.

21. The powers conferred on the Board by this Act to purchase, lease, acquire, have, take, hold, receive, and enjoy all or any property, real and personal, whatsoever in British Columbia shall not be limited or affected by the provisions of any Statute respecting Mortmain in force in British Columbia.

Statutes of Mortmain
not to apply.

22. This Act shall come into force on the day upon which it receives the Royal Assent.

Commencement
of Act.

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