
Nominations for Assembly Council membership and profiles of candidates for election

Association of Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT

The Constitution of the Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT describes how affiliated local Baptist churches and affiliated groups work together to fulfil the objects of the Association. Management and control of ministries of the Association is vested with Assembly, which appoints the Assembly Council.

The Assembly Council is the council appointed under section 10 of the Constitution as the Executive Committee under the Incorporation Act and it is empowered to implement Assembly decisions and to conduct the Association's affairs between Assemblies.

The 12-member Assembly Council comprises:

- 9 persons elected by Assembly
- the Chair of Morling College Council/Morling College Ltd
- 2 persons co-opted by Assembly Council at its discretion.

The Director of Ministries, Principal of Morling College, Honorary Legal Adviser Commercial and Property and the Secretary to the Assembly Council attend meetings of the council, but are not entitled to vote.

There are two (2) vacancies to be filled at the 31 October 2020 Assembly for Assembly Council, as one member has completed their 3-year term and there is one vacancy.

The Assembly Council member who is retiring are:

- Andrew Hall

Of the one (1) member retiring, one is eligible for, and has consented to renomination - Andrew Hall. There is one vacancy on the Assembly Council and Jonny Lam has been nominated to fill this position.

There are no further nominees.

Section 10 of the Constitution describes the role, membership, power and duties of the Assembly Council (refer Baptist website).

Clause P of Schedule A of the Guidelines for Conduct of Assembly Meetings in the Constitution requires that the election of Assembly Council members is to take place by ballot at the Assembly meeting.

As two (2) candidates have nominated and the number of positions to be filled is two (2), a 2/3 majority is required for a nominee in order for a nominee to be elected. (Section 5.4(v) of the Constitution).

Given the responsibilities of the Assembly Council with respect to the objects, powers, duties and obligations of the Baptist Union Incorporation Act, churches should prayerfully consider their voting selection after reviewing the following profiles. Asterisks below denote those nominees who have been endorsed by the Nominations Committee as suitable persons to serve on the Assembly Council.

Council membership should desirably be a blend of pastoral and lay people who will work together drawing on strengths and experience in governance, financial understanding and management capacity, as well as a working knowledge of Baptist ministries.

NOMINATIONS FOR ASSEMBLY COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

(2 persons to be elected by Assembly, from 2 nominees)

Person	Church	Profile
Andrew Hall*	Epping Baptist Church	p. 6
Jonny Lam*	Eastwood Community Baptist Church	p. 7

* Endorsed by Nominations Committee (marked with asterisk).

The following pages provide background information for those nominated (alphabetical order). Profiles as prepared by nominees.



NOMINEE:

Rev Andrew Hall

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

Epping Baptist Church

PROFILE:

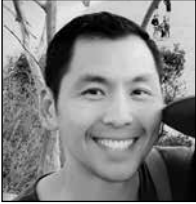
Rev Andrew Hall has been a member of Epping Baptist Church since 2010 and prior to commencing in pastoral ministry 20+ years ago, worked in catering and in a national bank. Andrew has a Bachelor of Divinity and a Diploma in Pastoral Studies as well as a Diploma in Clinical and Pastoral Counselling.

Andrew pastored in South Northwood Baptist Church in London, Abingdon Baptist Church, Thatcham Baptist Church and has been serving as the Senior Pastor at Epping Baptist Church for the last ten years with over 500+ attendees.

Andrew has been a member of the Assembly Council and the Nominations Committee since 2017. Prior to this, he has been part of an Accreditation interviewing committee, a member of the Association's Constitution Review group, a member of the Director of Ministries' Advisory group and on the CAP (now CMD) Panel. In the UK he was Moderator of Southern Counties Baptist Association (175 Churches) for the Steering and Strategy group (The Trustees), and for three years was the Pastoral Moderator of the Southern Counties Baptist Association overseeing Ministerial Recognition for those seeking accreditation as Baptist Union Ministers In Training in the region. He was also a Member of the Ministerial Recognition Committee for six years.

Andrew is married to Roslyn, a full time Primary Teacher, and they have 3 daughters aged 13, 15 and 18. In his spare time, Andrew enjoys walking, gardening, cooking and reading, especially historical novels. He claims he is useless at DIY – saying he's more 'Destroy It Yourself'.

Andrew was asked if he was willing to renominate onto the Assembly Council due to the valuable contribution he makes to the Association. Andrew believes that his previous experience may be of service to the community of Baptists, and he is pleased to offer this knowledge. His experience of practices abroad may bring a different dimension, whilst his varying ministerial experience in large and smaller churches gives him a depth of understanding for both churches, ministers and individuals.



NOMINEE:

Rev Jonny Lam

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

Eastwood Community Baptist

PROFILE:

Jonny Lam is a member of Eastwood Community Baptist Church and is married to Joyce with two young children, aged 6 and 2. Jonny migrated to Australia from Hong Kong in 1990, is an Accredited Baptist Pastor and is qualified with a B.Th. Grad. Cert. Min. He is currently serving as a Pastor of the new church plant at Eastwood Community Baptist, having moved from Pennant Hills Baptist Church where he served as an Associate Pastor.

Jonny has been in pastoral ministry since 2014, beginning in a youth and children's role. He has recently completed his Church Consultancy training.

Jonny has seen the impact and importance of good governance and is excited by the opportunity to contribute to the Association's Assembly Council. He believes he can bring wisdom around governance, biblical literacy and knowledge around the life and ministry of small and medium sized Baptist churches.

Nominations for Morling College Council membership and profiles of candidates for election

Association of Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT

The Morling College Council is the governing body responsible for decision-making in relation to the conduct of Morling College, as the theological college of the Baptist Association.

The 12-member Morling College Council comprises:

- 10 persons elected by Assembly
- the Chair of Morling College Academic Board
- a person with academic expertise co-opted by the Morling College Council at its discretion.

The Council is responsible for offering training as determined by the Association; the training of persons accepted by the Association for training for Baptist ministry; the training of cross-cultural ministry workers and other spheres of Christian service; the promotion of the Christian faith consistent with the basic doctrines, statement of belief and values of the Association and offering courses accredited by relevant government authorities and supportive of national goals for higher education.

The Principal of the College, the Director of Ministries and Morling College General Manager attend meetings of the council, but are not entitled to vote.

There are three (3) vacancies to be filled at the 31 October 2020 Assembly for Morling College Council. The members retiring are eligible for re-nomination, subject to their consent.

The three (3) Morling College Council members retiring who have served their 3-year term are:

- Peter Adcock
- Hashini Panditharantne
- Ric Sindel.

Of the three (3) members retiring, two (2) are eligible for, and have consented to re-nomination (Hashini Panditharantne and Ric Sindel) and there is a further nominee, Helen Blanch who is being nominated onto the Morling College Council for the first time.

Clause P of Schedule A of the Guidelines for Conduct of Assembly Meetings in the current Constitution requires that the election of Morling College Council members is to take place by ballot at the Assembly meeting.

As three (3) candidates have nominated and the number of positions to be appointed is three (3), a simple majority is required in order to be elected.

NOMINATIONS FOR MORLING COLLEGE COUNCIL MEMBERSHIP

(N.B. 3 persons to be elected by Assembly, from 3 nominees)

Person	Church	Profile
Helen Blanch	Riverstone Baptist Church	p. 12
Ric Sindel*	Rouse Hill Baptist Church	p. 13
Hashini Panditharatne*	Burwood Baptist Church	p. 14

*Previous Morling College Council member (marked with an asterisk)

The following pages provide background information for those nominated (alphabetical order). Profiles as prepared by nominees.



NOMINEE:

Helen Blanch

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

Riverstone Baptist Church

PROFILE:

Helen Blanch is married to Kevin and has a daughter, Katie and son-in-law, Shane with four grandsons. Helen a member and Elder at Riverstone Baptist Church and enjoys reading in her spare time.

Helen currently serves as the Senior Consultant for The Excellence Centre (the Professional Learning Ministry of Pacific Hills Christian School) and is the Director of Education and Leadership for New Hope International. Qualified with a Master of Education, Helen's experience has been first in public education and then in Christian education since 1987. Helen has also served as a School Principal and a leader in various capacities within Christian schools and has previously had eight years' experience in the registration and accreditation of NSW Christian schools.

Currently, Helen serves on the Advisory Committee of Morling Education and is a member of the Norwest Christian College Board.

Helen believes her calling is to equip Christian teachers to be effective teachers and leaders in the context of their Christ-centred learning communities both in Australia and developing countries. She is passionate about inspiring and equipping teachers to be deeply immersed in the biblical story so they may embrace and practice a Gospel-shaped education that meaningfully engages with young people in their cultural context and reaches out into their communities. Helen has also had experience working with schools to fulfil compliance around the policies and curriculum of NESA (NSW Education Standards Authority) which involves compliance around governance and risk assessment.

Helen has accepted her nomination onto the Morling College Council as she is passionate about biblical theological education centred in Christ that engages with the world of human experience and equips God's people to bring God's mission to all areas of life both in Australia and globally.



NOMINEE:

Ric Sindel

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

Rouse Hill Baptist Church

PROFILE:

Ric is married to Jane and has three children.

He has been a member of Rouse Hill Baptist Church for thirteen years, and previously been involved at Eastwood, Ramsgate and Parramatta Baptist Churches.

Ric initially practiced as a civil engineer. He served as a deacon and youth and young adults leader at Eastwood Baptist Church, along with involvement in outside ministries. Ric has sought throughout his life to exercise a range of practical, caring, analytical and communication skills, with the aim of bringing people to a living and growing faith in Christ.

Ric graduated from Morling with a Bachelor of Theology, Diploma of Ministry and Master of Arts in Theology. He pastored Ramsgate Baptist Church, was team leader at Parramatta Baptist Church for seventeen years, and now the pastor at Rouse Hill Baptist Church.

Ric has involved himself in various civic and community responsibilities, he has been a retreat group facilitator, has led mission teams to Thailand, discovery trips to Israel and has served on the Association's Standards Committee. He loves sport, travel, movies and occasionally reading biographies and history.

Ric has served as a College Council member and director for a number of terms. He is committed to using his pastoral skills to help the College continue to grow as a dynamic centre of training where students from all walks of life are encouraged to learn, be challenged, to grow as disciples and be equipped for witness and holistic ministry. Ric is keen to see the public face and engagement of Morling continue to be developed, especially in the areas of academic research, events, publishing and development of new delivery forms of teaching. Ric is particularly concerned that faculty and staff are well resourced and supported, and that students undertaking study for pastoral ministry are thoroughly equipped and encouraged.



NOMINEE:

Hashini Panditharatne

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

Burwood Baptist Church

PROFILE:

Hashini Panditharatne is a member of Burwood Baptist Community Church.

Hashini is involved in ministry in the Lakemba area, which involves connecting with those in the local community who are new to Australia.

Professionally, she was a commercial lawyer for about five years and is now committed to using her legal skills to advocate and promote the human rights of those in society who are particularly vulnerable and disadvantaged.

Hashini has been a member on the Morling College Council over the last three years and in this time, has gained extensive knowledge about the operations of Morling College and gained a practical understanding of their vision.

Hashini strongly identifies with the mission of Morling College as they continue to provide biblically grounded, quality education and training. She appreciates the diversity the College offers, represented at all levels and believes she can make a valuable contribution to the work of Morling College through her membership on the council.

Nominations for Baptist Churches of New South Wales Property Trust and profile of candidates for election

Association of Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT

The Baptist Churches of New South Wales Property Trust is an incorporated body created by the Baptist Churches of New South Wales Property Trust Act 1984.

Seven members are elected by the Baptist Assembly for three year terms on a rotational basis.

The members of the Property Trust are required to obey the directions of the local congregation, provided those directions do not contravene the Act or the general law of the land.

The Act requires that a member of the Property Trust will be a member of a Baptist Church affiliated with the Association. At a personal level members of the trust are involved in the ministry of a local Baptist church and have a firsthand understanding of congregational life. They know that church property matters are often complex and that local leaders sometimes require help to properly process transactions. As servants of our churches they will adhere to the Basic Doctrines, Statement of Beliefs and Objects and Values of the Association.

In order to fulfil its role the Property Trust should ideally comprise members who have various business disciplines, including accounting, legal, real estate, banking, management, etc. In the past its members have included a Minister. A member of the Trust cannot be a person who is or becomes an employee of the Trust, the Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT or of any committee, council or agency of the Association of Baptist Churches of NSW & ACT.

The Property Trust meets six times a year in Sydney. In addition 2-3 members meet most weeks to sign documents submitted by churches for their property transactions. Country members are paid travelling expenses to attend, or may attend meetings by teleconference.

At each Annual Assembly, an election of members of the Trust shall be held to fill the offices of the members of the Trust, which will become vacant at the end of that Assembly.

The two (2) Trust members, Cameron Phipps and Mike Williams, who will retire by rotation and are eligible for renomination.

There are therefore two (2) vacancies to be filled at this Assembly for the Baptist Churches of New South Wales Property Trust.

Mike Williams has renominated after filling a casual vacancy and there is a further nominee, Ross Low who is being nominated onto the Baptist Churches of NSW Property Trust.

As two (2) candidates have nominated and the number of positions to be appointed is two (2), a 2/3 majority is required for a nominee in order for that nominee to be elected.

NOMINATIONS FOR BAPTIST CHURCHES OF NSW PROPERTY TRUST

(N.B. 2 persons to be elected by Assembly, from 2 nominees)

Person	Church	Profile
Ross Low	Epping Baptist Church	p. 18
Mike Williams*	Northside Baptist Church	p. 19

*Previous Property Trust member (marked with an asterisk)

The following pages provide background information for the nominated parties. Profiles are prepared by nominees.



NOMINEE:

Ross Low

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

Epping Baptist Church

PROFILE:

Ross Low is a current member of Epping Baptist Church and currently serves as the Assistant Treasurer. Prior to his time at Epping Baptist Church, he served as a Deacon at Carlingford Baptist Church. Ross has also served as a member on the Morling College Council and more recently has been the CEO of BaptistCare.

Ross has a Bachelor of Commerce (NSW) and a Graduate Diploma in Finance (UTS); CPA; ACG. Over the years, Ross has been involved in the assessment of many large, capital expenditure proposals of up to \$200 million, covering land, buildings and plant, as well as significant acquisitions and disposals. He has previously been employed by Unilever, Schering Plough and BaptistCare.

Having just retired from the role of CEO at BaptistCare after 10 years, Ross is keen to seek God's guidance for his future in retirement. Ross has had a broad range of experience and believes he can make a valuable and positive contribution to the Property Trust.

Ross is married to Anne and they have five adult children and nine grandchildren. Ross is a very passionate rugby union supporter!



NOMINEE:

Mike Williams

CHURCH MEMBERSHIP:

Northside Baptist Church

PROFILE:

Mike Williams is a current member of Northside Baptist Church and has been attending the church for over 12 years. Mike's primary involvement at Northside is serving on the worship team and is a current member of the churches advisory property group.

Mike is married to Kristen and together they have a two year old son and have just welcomed a baby daughter into the family.

Mike has a Bachelor of Town Planning (Honours 1) and a Graduate Diploma in Appliance Finance. After completing his Bachelor, Mike has spent his professional career working in large scale residential development. This has included 11 years working for Landcom, the NSW State Government owned development corporation, working on a range of major urban renewal projects across Sydney. Currently, Mike is working as Head of Strategy & Acquisitions for a privately owned residential development company, Legacy Property and has been with this company for the last 5 years.

Mike has comprehensive end to end experience in the development process, including detailed knowledge of legal and financial structuring for property acquisition and development.

Mike was initially appointed to the Property Trust to fill a casual vacancy but having enjoyed his time on the Trust, he believes he can make a useful contribution and his involvement allows him to use his professional experience in a ministry setting.