

CITIZEN ACTION GROUP

Intro & Quick Start Guide

A Message from Pastor Craig

Welcome to our Citizen Action Group (CAG) Intro Package. If you're reading this, you've likely already watched the Canada Family Action video in which I explain why we started a CAG in our church. If not, I encourage you to click [HERE](#) to watch the short 7-minute video for background.

The reality is this: without the moral influence of Christians - the salt of the earth - governments increasingly make decisions that are contrary to our biblical views and values. This leads to ungodly laws and policies that weaken families and allow destructive ideologies to prevail.

The CAG model we developed will help any church, large or small, inform, equip, and activate congregations to engage with the social fabric of our nation. It is designed to be run by those in your congregation who are committed to truth, righteousness, and protecting biblical values in society, without placing an unnecessary weight on the pastor. All you need to provide is initial input, ongoing encouragement, and support.

Our setup is simple:

1. Gather a few people who care about current issues and are willing to help
2. Have them research (policies, bills, petitions, elections, political trends, etc)
3. Have them summarize key items and provide simple action steps
4. Have key points that can be briefly shared during Sunday announcements
5. Develop a bimonthly newsletter with additional details on current issues
6. During elections, we create handouts with voting information

This allows your church to stay aware and engaged without overwhelming your time or your pulpit. Thank you for taking the time to seriously consider launching a Citizen Action Group in your church. Together, the Church of Canada can change the nation.

For His Kingdom in Canada,

Pastor Craig Buroker
Southside Victory Church | Calgary, AB

CAG | PURPOSE STATEMENT

Our Purpose Statement is very simple: **Supporting and Activating Informed Canadian Citizens.** This has three primary emphases:

1. A monthly meeting with a guest speaker.
2. A newsletter sent out with current issues of importance.
3. A citizen activation mechanism for responding to relevant issues.

HOW IT WORKS

Our monthly meetings have had Christian politicians, lawyers, moral activists and other guests who share our views and values. Its purpose is to keep people up to date on pertinent issues. Our newsletter is sent bi-monthly to those who have signed up to our CAG email list with hands-on information and steps they can take to act on it. Issues such as federal, provincial, and municipal government actions; local school board decisions; and how we can partner with reputable Canadian activist groups to influence matters that require our moral input. At key times, such as election season, the CAG core team gathers information on candidate and party platforms. It makes it available as handouts at our INFO CENTER so people can view the candidates' and parties' positions. This mechanism, combined with a brief mention during church announcements, has proven highly effective in mobilizing congregations to engage with our nation's political system.



QUICK START GUIDE

BEFORE YOU BEGIN

Every system, outline, and recommendation in this guide is a guideline. Each church is unique. Your CAG should grow and adapt in ways that best fit your congregation, leadership style, and capacity. Start simple. Adjust as needed. Build according to what works for your church.

Launching a CAG is easier than it looks. Start small. Keep it simple. Build as you go.

1. Choose 3 - 5 Volunteers

Look for committed, respectful people who communicate well and can commit to consistent time investment.

2. Pick a Simple Monthly Meeting Time

Choose one night per month to meet. We found Sunday evenings to be a good time.

3. Select a First Topic

Good beginner topics include:

- What is a CAG?
- Why awareness matters
- Overview of provincial or national issues



TRUSTED SOURCES

4. Gather Information From Trusted Sources

Canada Family Action | www.familyaction.ca

4 My Canada | www.4mycanada.com

Christian Impact Network | www.christianimpactnetwork.com

Action For Canada | www.action4canada.com

ARPA Canada | www.arpacanada.ca

EFC | www.evangelicalfellowship.ca

FOR ABORTION SPECIFICALLY

Wilberforce Project (AB) | www.thewilberforceproject.ca

Right Now | www.itstartsrightnow.ca

Campaign Life Coalition | www.campaignlifecoalition.com

Quebec Coalition for Life | www.en.cqv.qc.ca

FOR PARENTAL RIGHTS SPECIFICALLY

PAFE | www.pafe.ca

PEACE | www.peaceontario.com



5. Prepare a Simple Meeting Outline

Use any structure that works for your church. Here is an example of an easy starting point:

1. Welcome and prayer
2. What is a CAG?
3. Overview of the selected topic
4. Q&A (questions only, not long stories)
5. One or two simple action steps
6. Closing prayer

6. Make an Announcement

A Sunday announcement, slide, or website note leading up to your first meeting is all you need. Keep promotion inviting and straightforward.

7. Hold Your First Meeting

Keep it calm, simple, and encouraging. Your CAG team can lead the meeting. They don't need all the answers - just the ability to use the facts they've collected to guide the meeting, and answer what they can.



8. Debrief With Your Volunteers

Meet once between each meeting during your first few months. After the first few debrief meetings, the CAG team can meet without the pastor and report important updates, decisions, or needs afterwards.

Discuss things like:

- What worked
- What needs adjustment
- Future topics
- Who showed interest

This builds team unity, clarity, and culture. Once you have a team, a meeting rhythm, and basic communication, your CAG will begin to communicate effectively with your congregation on issues that require our Christian input.

NEED HELP?

If you would like more information, in-depth guides, or have questions, please reach out to us at: info@svcf.ca