

Part One—The Story of Arrowsmith Baptist Church.

Arrowsmith has been a Baptist church in Port Alberni since 1965. It has been located on its Glenside Road property since 1969. The current Christian Education (CE) building served as the meeting place until 1981, when the current larger building was completed, and has been our meeting place for 40 years now. Arrowsmith is affiliated with the Baptist Conference of British Columbia and the Baptist General Conference of Canada. There have been roughly 6 full time pastors during Arrowsmith's lifespan, most recently the Reverend Doctor Leland Botzet, who led us from 2007-2020. Our mission statement is that "we seek to passionately proclaim the glory of God in Christ for the joy of all people". At ABC we value God Himself, His word, and worshipping him together in a variety of ways. Arrowsmith has been involved in two church plants, Hammond Bay Baptist in Nanaimo, and Friendship Baptist in Saanich. Our vision for our church is to see God glorified, the good news of the gospel shared to a community that desperately needs it, and see God's Kingdom grow here in Port Alberni. We also desire to have God's people grow deeper in their obedience and mature in their walk with him. We would like to be more effective in community outreach.

Part Two—Lead Pastor Position at ABC

The position of Lead Pastor at ABC entails leadership of the staff and congregation, as well as church life in general. The Lead Pastor is the chief elder, or "first among equals". Preaching and teaching are critically important, as they facilitate training for ministry work, and discipleship of the body at ABC. The Lead pastor will steer the church in vision, mission and direction. Regular pastoral care of Arrowsmith's church family in various ways is vital.

In terms of day-to-day duties, prayer is foremost. Also, office time will foster increased connection with staff, as well as clear management of the week's activities. Study for sermon preparation will be necessary. The lead pastor will have time for planning the short term and long-term vision of the church. There will be various meetings, with leaders and the congregation. At some points there will also be evening, or after-hours connections and meetings. On the weekend, the Lead Pastor will give leadership and overall direction to worship services. Prayer before the service, and availability after the service will be important. In terms of training and leading volunteer teams, the lead pastor will be expected to participate in varying degrees in all facets of Arrowsmith ministries.

Part Three—Qualifications

The successful candidate must have at least a Bachelor's level of education, or the equivalent of combined courses of study. A Master's level of education is preferred, but there may also be an opportunity to pursue this while employed in the role of Lead pastor. The candidate's education should be in a theological discipline, or divinity or Biblical studies. The education must be from a reputable institution that is approved by the BCBC, and/or ABC.

Previous ministry experience may be informal or formal in nature, as well as vocational or non-vocational. The successful candidate will have at least 5 years of relevant experience in relevant areas. The candidate will have varied experience (not solely related to church life) in leading staff and volunteers. The candidate will also need communication skills in the areas of teaching and inter-personal relations. The new lead pastor of ABC will also possess a high comfort level in operating online and with technological aspects of communication and multi-media.

Four critical areas of strength are biblical preaching, a relational approach to evangelism and discipleship, leadership in vision/planning/implementation, and finally, possessing a solid 1 Timothy 3 character in all facets of life.

Part 4—The Community of the Alberni Valley

Port Alberni, the gateway to the west coast, and the “salmon capital of the world”, is located in the Alberni Valley on Vancouver Island on the west coast of British Columbia Canada. It has a mild, temperate, and sometimes very wet rainforest climate. It is considered mid-island, or even inland, or west coast on Vancouver Island. As such, it is located relatively equally between the larger centres of the Comox Valley, up-island, and Nanaimo down-island. Within 1-2 hours of driving, you can be in the Comox Valley, or Nanaimo, or the beautiful west coast, including Tofino and Ucluelet. Port Alberni is located at the head of the Alberni Inlet, the only deep-water port on the west side of Vancouver Island. The population of the city is approximately 18,000, while the greater region has roughly 31,000 people. The Alberni Valley has a diverse population, including about 15% of the population being Indigenous.

Compared to Vancouver Island as a whole, Port Alberni has affordable housing as well as a wide range of amenities. West Coast General Hospital is located in town. There is fishing, hiking, and many other outdoor activities, including gorgeous Sproat Lake and Great Central Lake. Mount Washington for skiing, mountain biking and other activities is only 1.5 hours driving away. There is a large sporting community in Port Alberni with many excellent facilities, including the hockey arena, home to a Junior A, and Junior B hockey team. Additionally, there is a swimming pool, Gymnastics academy, Athletic Hall, and Bob Dailey Stadium (track and field). Historically, Port Alberni was a logging and fishing town, but it is rapidly diversifying into small business and tourism. There are two very large development projects on the horizon, one being a gentrification of the former industrial waterfront, and a proposed 1-billion-dollar housing project with projected 3000 units of mixed variety, creating 4000 jobs over ten years.

Port Alberni is located in School District 70, Pacific Rim, and has an excellent system of elementary schools which lead into Alberni District Secondary, a state-of-the-art high school that has been operating since 2012, and which boasts a huge range of educational and extra-curricular activities. There is also a strong network of homeschoolers, and the private school John Paul II (k-8 school). In addition, North Island College has two campuses in Port Alberni.

Salary and Benefits package will contain medical, dental, pension and sabbatical funds.

Salary will reflect qualifications and experience.

Note: Send contact information and one page resume to:

searchcommittee@arrowsmithchurch.com

Following receipt of resume you will be sent a pastoral profile to complete for the Search committee's consideration and review.