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**Vancouver Chinese Alliance Church
Leadership Training Institute
(VCAC-LTI)
Lay Leader Certificate Program (LLCP)**

Background

The VCAC-LTI has been developed to equip and train lay-leaders in light of the future development of VCAC, especially the 5-year ministry plan of VCAC (2007-2011). We are strongly committed to building up a team of lay-leaders and liberating them to serve with their spiritual gifts to advance God's Kingdom by means of the Multi-Site Church Model (MSCM). The visions of VCAC-LTI are missions-focused, multiplication of leaders, character building and church mobilization, etc. We truly desire to see how God will train the potential spiritual leaders in serving together as a healthy team to build up a healthy, balanced-growing church, as mentioned in the 5-year ministry plan of VCAC, in the following areas: (i) Church Planting under the MSCM, (ii) Growth in local and foreign missions, (iii) Growth in biblical understanding, (iv) Growth in spiritual maturity.

Purpose

The purpose of the LLCP is to equip lay leaders in the following three aspects:

- Biblical knowledge,
- Christian character building and
- Ministry skills etc.

Not only does the program focus on theological training and spiritual formation, but also sharpening the practical ministry skills of serving in different capacities within the church. The program is designed to provide a balance of biblical studies and competence in the practice of ministry through individual apprenticeship, core courses, and electives. The students will renew their personal life of faith and develop a measure of professional competence in order to polish their gifts for building a healthy church.

Program Structure

1. The student will be required to finish the program within 3 to 5 years (8 courses).
2. The student will be required to finish 8 courses, at least 2 courses from each non-elective category.
3. Each course will consist of three components: Lecture, Reading and Assignment / Practicum.
4. Each course will be offered on two consecutive weekends.
5. The fee of each course for the VCAC congregation is \$100, of which 50% will be reimbursed for 100% attendance and satisfactory final grade.

Course Components

1. **Lecture** - Each course will consist of at least 15 hours of classroom lecture.
2. **Reading** – Reading of the assigned course textbooks or course notes, as required by the instructor. Students taking the course for certificate will be expected to supplement the above assigned readings by an additional 100 pages of relevant readings.
3. **Assignment or Practicum** – Each instructor may have different requirements for this component. In general, they include classroom presentation, book report, research paper and personal reflection paper, etc. Ministry is the outflow of a mature Christian. Many courses are designed to encourage students to apply the studied theory in the three months following the lecture. The students may need to get involved in a particular ministry in the church and do the reports afterwards. In some courses, the instructor and / or the assigned coach / elder may meet the students and provide valuable feedback on his / her assignment and practicum.

Program Recognition

The Lay Leader Certificate Program is recognized by Ambrose Seminary (formerly Canadian Theological Seminary). The certificate may also be endorsed by OnTrack Leadership Institute.