

Convention 2007 Minutes

**ELEVENTH BIENNIAL CONVENTION
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA
UNIVERSITY OF MANITOBA, WINNIPEG MB
JUNE 21–24, 2007**

Session Six: Saturday, June 23, 2007, 1:30 p.m. - Approved

Report of the Committee of Registration and Credentials

(Chair) reported the following registration figures:

Lay delegates registered	223
Ordained delegates registered	171
Total voting delegates registered	394
Visitors registered	172
Total persons registered	566

The convention reconvened.

National Church Council Report

Move that motion 22 be amended to read:

Accordingly, we encourage synods to develop ways to minister to couples who desire to live in loving, committed, Christian relationships, including the possibility of commending faithfulness in same-sex unions.

The chair ruled that the motion to amend was out of order. Discussion continued.

NC-07-30 MS motion to challenge the ruling of the chair. **Defeated.**

Discussion continued.

The chair ruled that time had elapsed for discussion.

NC-07-31 MS motion to challenge the ruling of the chair. **Defeated.**

Convention Co-Chaplain, Rev. Tanya Ramer led the gathering in prayer.

NC-07-32 MS that motion 22 be adopted as presented.

22. That National Church Council recommends the following motion to the 2007 Convention:

- **That this convention affirms that the diversity within Canada's culture requires responses to a variety of persons in order for this church to be *In Mission for Others*.**
- **We also affirm that the synods have the mandate to devise mission strategies appropriate to their regional settings.**

- Accordingly, we encourage synods to develop ways to best minister to people who live in committed same-sex relationships, including the possibility of blessing such unions.

Results of the vote in favour 181, against 200, 3 spoiled, 3 abstained. The motion was defeated.

Elections Committee

Results of first ballot for National Church Council

POSTION #1	ABT LAY	POSITION #5	EASTERN ORDAINED (POSITION #2)
Carl Sorensen	231		
Donald E. Belke	135	Peter Mikelic	170
		E. Stephen Weber	52
POSITION #2	BC ORDAINED	Peeter Vanker	140
Nolan Gingrich	149	POSITION #6	MNO LAY
Robert Goos	51		
Edward Skutshek	172	Tom Brook	139
		Beverly Wahl	70
POSITON #3	EASTERN LAY	H Georg	107
		Schreckenback	
		Brent Kvern	37
Maaike Froelich	190	POSITION #7	SK LAY
Marquise Sopher	43		
Evelyn Swanson	127	Irene Adams	94
POSITION #4	EASTERN ORDAINED (POSITION #1)	Cindy Lea Hoppe	132
		Daniel Glaeske	132
Lori Pilatzke	109	POSITION #8	SK ORDAINED
Claudine Carlson	118		
Samuel King-Kabu	142	Roger Haugen	186
		Kathleen Schmitke	58
		Daniel Haugen	121

Results of first ballot ELCIC Group Services Inc.

ORDAINED POSITION#1		ORDAINED POSITION #2	
Loretta Jaunzarins	178	Richard M. Smith	222
Greg Kern	84	Glen C. Bergson	114
Martin Olsen	110		
		LAY POSITION #2	

LAY POSITION #1

		Douglas M. Peterson	149
George Bridge	121	Jacqueline Dojack	186
Edna Bjorgan	87		
Dave Wylie	65		
Dale Schmekel	87		

Results of first ballot for ELCIC Court of Adjudication

ORDAINED POSITION #1

Eric Krushel	181
Craig Moeller	26
Stewart Miller	38
Phillip Gagnon	130

ORDAINED POSITION #2

Cameron R. Harder	219
Dennis Aicken	129

LAY POSITION #1

Janet Morck	186
Laureen Wray	49
Frederic Schroeder	134

LAY POSITION #2

Barbea Flath	66
Rochell Shafer	155
Keith Odegard	147

Results of first ballot for the election for National Church Council.

National Church Council members declared elected:

ABT Lay	Carl Sorensen
SK Ordained	Roger Haugen
Eastern Lay	Maaike Froelich

ELCIC Group Services Inc. members declared elected:

Ordained Position 2	Richard Smith
Lay Position 2	Jacqueline Dojack

ELCIC Court of Adjudication members declared elected:

Ordained Position 2	Cameron Harder
Lay Position 1	Janet Morck

Presentation “*What’s enough?*” (seventh segment) by Jeff Pym and Catherine Pate.

Second ballot for National Church Council was distributed, marked, and collected.

Reference and Counsel

NC-07-33 MS that the ELCIC through its National Bishop, and/or National Church Council, write to encourage the Government of Canada to develop and pass binding legislation to hold Canadian corporations accountable to Canadian laws, standards and values for their business conduct in foreign lands. **Carried.**

Petition that this convention reaffirm the NCC’s ruling that the motion passed by the Eastern Synod Convention in 2006 giving its congregations a local option to bless same-sex unions was ‘beyond the Synod’s constitutional authority’.

Reference and Counsel recommended no action. Chair declared motion out of order as the matter has been dealt with.

NC-07-34 MS request NCC refer this petition to the Faith, Order and Doctrine; whether God, through scripture, provides the church with authority as it pertains to the granting of same-sex blessings. **Carried.**

NC-07-35 MS that the NCC explore increased funding to existing Lutheran Campus Ministries across Canada, and begin the process of seeking new opportunities for emerging campus missions across the nation; including potential partnerships with The Anglican Church of Canada, Evangelical Lutheran Women and other allied faith-based corporations. **Carried**

NC-07-36 MS that the ELCIC through the NCC commit itself to make preparations for a global pandemic. Such preparations should include materials dealing with issues such as worship practices, congregations as community resources, both individual and corporate self-care, being good neighbours and by facilitating training of church leaders in the use of such resources.

M/S to amend, by adding, should be in conjunction with local, provincial, and national health agencies. Amendment **Carried.**

NC-07-36 Amended motion to read. That the ELCIC through the National Church Council commit itself to make preparations for a global pandemic. Such preparations should in conjunction with local, provincial, and national health agencies include materials dealing with issues such a worship practices, congregations as community resources, both individual and corporate self-care, being good neighbours, and by facilitating training of church leaders in the use of such resources. Moved as amended. **Carried.**

NC-07-37 MS That the NCC and this convention express our thanks to the ELW for their continued support of the ELCIC.

That the Eleventh Biennial Convention express its gratitude to all who have worked to enable this convention to do its work, to make our stay in Winnipeg memorable, and to be in mission for others:

- the Local Arrangements Committee: Norm Coull, Debbie Beyers, Karen Mattern, Mark Irvine, Rev. Kolleen Karlowsky-Clark, Judy Long, Greg Schwenneker, Ernie Buhr, Rolly Otto, Kelly Speak, Gerda Coull, Gertrude Steciuk; for their planning and tireless work;
- the many volunteers who cheerfully greeted, ushered, “stewarded”, directed and transported us, and counted our offerings;
- the Rev. Mark Harris and Rev. Tanya Ramer, our convention chaplains, and the worship and music leaders, particularly Mark Sedio, our convention musician, for renewing us through worship;
- National Office administrative staff, quietly coming and going: Gloria McNabb, Tanya Watts, Barb Wiebe, Kristen Guy, Rick Natividad, Myra Golebioski, Trina Gallop, and Faye Schultz;
- National Office program staff: Ryan Andersen, Monica Denk, Paul Gehrs, Paul Johnson, Kelvin Krieger;
- University of Manitoba Special Functions Office and Sandy Gibson and staff;
- Convention committees: Minutes, Elections, Registration and Credentials (and, if we may be so bold...Reference and Counsel); and

That the Eleventh Biennial Convention expresses its appreciation for the faithful leadership of:

The members of our National Church Council

- our National Bishop, The Rev. Raymond Schultz (retiring)
- our Vice-President, Roger Kingsley
- our Secretary, Donald Storch
- our Treasurer, Norman Thompson (retiring)

That the Eleventh Biennial Convention expresses its thanks and gratitude to our Triune God in whom we have life and breath and from whom come all our gifts. Blessed be our God! **Carried.**

The remaining petitions presented to Reference and Counsel have expired.

National Church Council Report

NC-07-38 MS that motion #18 be adopted as presented. **Carried.**

18. That Administrative Bylaw, Part IV (Synods) Section 1 be amended as follows:

Part IV Synods (Constitution, Article IX)

Section 1. This church shall be organized into five synods with names and territories as follows:

- b. Name: Alberta Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, also known as the Synod of Alberta and the Territories.
Territory: The Province of Alberta, plus the Yukon, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
- e. Name: Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.
Territory: The Province of Ontario east of 86 degrees longitude and the Provinces of Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador.

NC-07-39 MS that motion #19 be adopted as presented. **Carried.**

19. That Administrative Bylaw, Part V (Conventions) Section 13 be amended as follows:

Part V Conventions (Constitution, Article X)

Section 13. The privilege of the floor shall be granted at all times to all members of the National Church Council and of the Court of Adjudication and to the synod bishops and the president of the Evangelical Lutheran Women of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada Inc. ~~and to the official youth participants.~~

NC-07-40 MS that motion #20 Youth Assembly be adopted as presented. **Carried.**

Amendment to add the words youth shall be baptized members of an ELCIC or ACC congregation on the territory of the synod in which they live. **Defeated**

20. That Administrative Bylaw Part VI (Youth Assembly) Sections 1 & 2 be added to the Bylaws, and Part VI to XVI be renumbered.

Part VI Youth Assembly

Section 1. The Youth Assembly shall consist of four youth from the Eastern Synod, two youth from the Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario Synod, two youth from the Saskatchewan Synod, two youth from the Synod of Alberta and the Territories, and two youth from the British Columbia Synod.

Section 2. Youth shall be baptized members between the ages of 16 and 23 inclusive on the first full day of the convention.

NC-07-41 MS that motion #21 be adopted as presented. **Carried.**

21. That Administrative Bylaw Part VII (National Church Council) Section 2 and Section 5 be amended as follows:

Part VII National Church Council (Constitution, Article XI)

Section 2. The Executive Committee of the council shall consist of the officers of this church. In addition to the officers there shall be sixteen (16) elected members of National Church Council: one ordained minister and one lay person from each of the synods of British Columbia and Manitoba/Northwestern Ontario, one ordained minister and two lay persons from each of the synods of Alberta and Saskatchewan, and three ordained ministers and three lay persons from the Eastern Synod. There shall be one additional member appointed by the Council of General Synod (COGS) of the Anglican Church of Canada for a term to be determined by COGS.

Section 5. The council shall issue letters of call to the rostered salaried officers of this church, to ordained ministers serving full time within the structures and agencies of this church, and to those in special service in accordance with the bylaw provisions (Part III, Section 3 and Part III.I, Section 3.)

NC-07-42 MS concerning petition #4 that this matter be sent to NCC for research, review, and recommendation to the 2009 Convention. **Carried.**

4. That this convention amend the Administrative Bylaws—Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada by adding the following section:

Part II section 7 Except for the provisions of Article VI, Section 9 of the constitution of this church, this church, including any synod of this church, cannot take any action that transfers, encumbers, or establishes any control over any asset (including real property) owned by a congregation, except by the provisions of the Congregation's Constitution

Youth Assembly Reflection

The Youth Delegates gave a view of the voting procedures.

Session adjourned until 7 p.m.