

Convention 2007 Minutes

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

Session Three: Friday, June 22, 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	159
Total persons registered	553

Report of the Elections Committee

Results of third ballot for the election for National Bishop

Votes cast	387
Needed to elect	194
Spoiled ballots	0
Ericksson, David	1
Halmarson, Cynthia	79
Haugen, Daniel	1
Hink, Phil	2
Jensen, Gordon	3
Johnsen, Karl	1
Johnson, Glen	7
Johnson, Paul	1
Johnson, Susan	143
Kristenson, Steve	6
Mayan, Ron	9
Mitchler, Edward	1
Preibisch, Gerhard	3
Pryse, Michael	15
Saude, David	1
Sauer, Elaine	1
Skutshek, Edward	112
Tin, David	1

Report of National Bishop

Greetings were received from Dr. Gail Allan, United Church of Canada.

Greetings were received from Kathy Magnus, Coordinator, Regional Office of North America for The Lutheran World Federation.

The five Nominees for National Bishop were each asked to address the convention for five minutes.

Bishop Cindy Halmarson

Rev. Susan Johnson

Bishop Michael Pryse

Rev. Edward Skutshek

Bishop Ron Mayan declined to address the convention.

The Rev. Dr. Canon Alyson Barnett-Cowan announced that The Rt. Rev. Fred Hiltz, Bishop of P.E.I. and Nova Scotia, has been elected Primate of The Anglican Church of Canada.

Greetings were received from Carlos Peña, Vice-President of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America.

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

Fourth ballot for the election for National Bishop was distributed, marked, and collected. Bishop Schultz announced that questions for National Bishop nominees will be received at the registration desk up to the break time this afternoon.

Report of ELCIC Group Services Inc.

A report was received from the chair of the ELCIC Group Services Inc. Board, John Wolff and the Executive Director, Hildy Thiessen.

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

Greetings were received from the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Colombia given by Rev. Dennis Aicken.

Rev. Paul Gehrs, Assistant to the Bishop for Synodical Relations introduced Rev. Dr. Kevin Ogilvie, President, Lutheran Theological Seminary and Rev. Dr. David Pfrimmer, Principal Dean, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary.

Report of the Elections Committee

Results of fourth ballot for the election for National Bishop

Votes cast	384
Needed to elect	192
Spoiled ballots	2
Halmarson, Cynthia	82
Johnson, Susan	123
Ron Mayan	2
Pryse, Michael	32
Skutshek, Edward	143

No election on the fourth ballot.

Ryan Andersen, Assistant to the Bishop for Stewardship in Public Life spoke about the work of GHDA and CLWR and introduced Robert Granke, Executive Director. Robert Granke brought greetings and spoke about the work of CLWR.

Reports

Reference and Counsel—report #1 cont'd

NC-07-13 MS that a 2/3 majority be required for passage of motion 22 of the NCC report. Reference and Council recommends no action. **Carried.**

NC-07-14 MS that no action be taken on petition 22 of the NCC Report, which states a vote be recorded and reported in separate categories of lay delegates and ordained delegates and that passage of this motion require that the same majority be achieved in each category of delegates. **Carried.**

NC-07-15 MS that no action be taken on petition 22 of the NCC Report, which states if approved at this convention, not come into effect until it has been ratified by approval without amendment at the next convention of the ELCIC by the same majority and in the same manner. **Carried.**

Notice was given that the petitions concerning the following subjects will be dealt with after the decision on NCC's petition 22:

- Marriage, homosexuality, and the church;
- Disciplinary action for a pastor performing same-sex blessings or marriage;
- Amicably splitting the church;
- Requesting a theological opinion on same-sex blessings; and
- Requesting the National Convention to reaffirm the NCC's ruling that the Eastern Synod acted "beyond its constitutional authority."

Reference and Council reported that additional petitions without motions attached, were received from St Timothy, Pembroke ON and Grace, Kelowna BC, and no further convention action is required.

Report of the Elections Committee

Structured interviews of three nominees for National Bishop took place with each responding to the following questions:

1. How will you endeavor to heal the divisions in the ELCIC?
2. What is your greatest personal strength, and what is your greatest personal challenge?
3. How do you understand the role of the National Bishop on leading this church *In Mission for Others*?
4. What support and leadership would you see as necessary to engage young people who may not see a need for an organized church?

Deadline for submissions to Reference and Council was declared.

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

Fifth ballot for the election for National Bishop was distributed and collected.

Presentation "*What's enough?*" (fourth segment) by Jeff Pym and Catherine Pate.

Recess.