

# **Types of Public Statements Made by The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada**

## **Type Purpose Process a Social Statement**

Approved by Church in Convention, a theological and ethical document provides a foundation for understanding a social issue. A Social Statement focuses on a broad social theme rather than on a very specific social issue. Specific issues should be addressed within the context of the church's Social Statements. Developing a Social Statement involves a period of church wide study and consultation. This process should involve church members, particularly theologians and those with special competence.

Timeline: Normally 2 years

## **ELCIC Convention Position Resolution**

Approved by Church in Convention, a Convention Position Resolution establishes a policy that governs the life of the ELCIC and addresses specific public issues in society. Position Resolutions should be consistent with and informed by the analysis, theological reflection and principles developed in the church's Social Statements as they apply. Resolutions can be submitted as petitions from ELCIC Divisions/Offices and Synods/Conferences.

Timeline: 6 months to 1 year

## **ELCIC Church Council Policy Resolution**

Approved by Boards by National Church Council between Church Conventions, the National Church Council can adopt Policy Resolutions that establish policies and positions for addressing emerging social issues. These Policy Resolutions should be consistent with and informed by Social Statements and Convention Position Resolutions of the ELCIC. Church Council normally develops resolutions in response to actions approved and forwarded from a Division or Office.

Timeline: Less than 6 months

## **ELCIC Study Papers**

Approved by Boards of ELCIC Divisions or Offices Study Papers are documents that have been reviewed and approved for distribution by the Board of an ELCIC Division or Office. Study Papers may raise certain questions and present policy options for consideration by the ELCIC. Study Papers can be commissioned by a Division or Office. They are publicly circulated following approval of a Board of Division or Office.

Timeline: Varies depending on issue