

**EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN CANADA  
MINUTES OF NATIONAL CHURCH COUNCIL**

**MARCH 15-17, 2007**

**ST BENEDICT'S RETREAT CENTRE, WEST ST PAUL MB**

**PRESENT:**

Officers: National Bishop Raymond Schultz Donald Storch, Secretary  
Roger Kingsley, Vice-President Norm Thompson, Treasurer

Council: Tom Brook Rev Mark Koenker  
Rev. Sonja Free Rev. Dr. Peter Mikelic  
Maaike Froelich Teddy Pope  
Rev. Nolan Gingrich Rev. Doug Reble  
Elizabeth Hachborn Robert Schmidt  
Ken Hartviksen Carl Sorensen  
Rev. Roger Haugen Rev Trish Schmermund  
Heidi Hesselink  
Judy Kochendorfer

ACC REP The Very Rev. Peter Wall

Synod Rev. Cindy Halmarson, SK Synod Rev. Michael Pryse, Eastern Synod  
Bishops: Rev. Ron Mayan, ABT Synod Rev Elaine Sauer, MNO Synod  
Rev. Gerhard Preibisch, BC Synod

Staff: Rev Paul Johnson, Assistant to the Bishop for Ecumenical Relations  
Rev Paul Gehrs, Assistant to the Bishop for Synodical Relations  
Ryan Andersen, Assistant to the Bishop for Stewardship in Public Life  
Gloria McNabb, Director of Finance and Administration  
Trina Gallop, Communications Manager  
Faye Schultz, Executive Assistant to the Office of the Bishop

Absent: Kathy Magnus, LWF NA

**THURSDAY, March 15, 2007**

7:00 pm Opening Worship—led by National Bishop Raymond Schultz, with installation of Assistants to the Bishop Rev Paul Gehrs, Ryan Andersen, and Sr Monica Denk, International Volunteer Coordinator.

8:00 pm Presentation by Jeff Pym and Catherine Pate on Stewardship entitled “What’s Enough?”

**FRIDAY, March 16, 2007**

Opening devotions led by Rev Mark Koenker

**9:10 am** Called to order.

**CC-07-20** MS that NCC approve the amended agenda. **Carried**

Special order items Dennis Brown, AON, Robert Granke, CLWR, and Hildy Thiessen, GSI. Addition of Hildy Thiessen of GSI presenting at 11:30 am.

### **Business Session 1**

Special Orders:

Dennis Brown AON spoke on the ELCIC National insurance program. Regarding liability coverage in the program for sexual abuse

**CC-07-21** MS that NCC move to an in-camera session **Carried**

### **Business Session 2**

**CC-07-22** MS that NCC approve the memo of understanding with CLWR and ELCIC(tab E) **Carried**

**CC-07-23** MS that NCC approve the following Terms of Reference be adopted for the Program Committee for Mission in the World. **Carried.**

The **Program Committee for Mission in the World** shall establish priorities, recommend policies, and develop resources for world mission. By communication and promotion of programs throughout the synods of this church, the Committee shall provide opportunities to the ELCIC to engage in Mission in the World. The Committee shall be appointed by the National Bishop and shall be comprised of one person from each synod nominated by the synod bishop plus an Anglican partner appointed by the Anglican Church of Canada in consultation with the National Bishop.

**CC-07-24** MS that NCC receive the treasurer's report as information. **Carried.**

**CC-07-25** MS that NCC appoints Rev. Greg Mohr and Rev. Larry Ulrich to the CECF Advisory Board. Their terms are concurrent with their functioning as Synodical Canadian Mission consultants. This is the practice identified in the CECF Management Handbook. **Carried.**

**CC-07-26** MS that NCC accepts the CECF Management Handbook, as revised at the CECF Advisory Board meeting of March 1-3, 2007. **Carried.**

**CC-07-27** MS that the leadership capital appeal be deferred at this time.

Ammendment to the motion was carried.

MS that the consideration of a leadership capital appeal be deferred indefinitely and the task force be excused with thanks. **Carried.**

**CC-07-28** MS that NCC approve numbered action style minutes. **Carried**

Carl Sorensen asked that his negative vote be recorded.

**CC-07-29** MS that NCC approve Ken Hanssen and Bill Kuehnbaum be recommended to reappointment to the GSI Board for a four year term 2007-2011. **Carried.**

**CC-07-30** MS that NCC recommend that Ernest and Young be appointed auditors for Group Services Inc. for the year ending December 1, 2007. **Carried.**

**CC-07-31** MS that NCC approve the Committee for Bishop's relationship evaluation with NCC be Rev Roger Haugen, Elizabeth Hackborn, and Carl Sorensen. **Carried.**

Rev Roger Haugen agreed to call the first meeting of the Bishop's relationship evaluation committee.

**CC-07-32** MS that the governance review schedule be moved to the executive committee. **Carried.**

It was agreed that the council executive take the review of the ELCIC Strategic Priorities under consideration.

It was agreed that the NCC Report to the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention, National chair, Roger Kingsley to give report along with another council member, Rev Trish Schmermund.

**CC-07-33** MS that NCC approve the establishment of an ELCIC Global Hunger and Development Appeal Peace and Justice Fund and the related terms of reference. **Carried.**

**CC-07-34** MS that NCC approve the amendment to Section 29 of the ELCIC Corporate Bylaw and be recorded as Corporate Bylaw 2007-01. **Carried** with one opposing.

MS that NCC propose to the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention the revised *Evangelical Declaration* be reaffirmed as a theology of mission for the ELCIC for the next ten years.

**CC-07-35** MS that the motion be postponed until NCC have a written document available to consider. **Carried.**

**CC-07-36** MS that NCC approve the Standing Rules of Order for the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention. **Carried.**

Bob Schmidt opposed vote was recorded

**CC-07-37** MS that NCC recommend the approval of the 2007-2009 ELCIC operating budget. **Carried.**

**CC-07-38** MS that NCC approve the ELCIC amended Nominating Committee Report for positions on NCC, GSI, and Court of Adjudication. **Carried.**

**CC-07-39** MS that NCC recommend Ken Harviksen for the position of National Treasurer, for the next four years. **Carried.**

### **Business Session 3**

**CC-07-40** MS that National Church Council recommends the following resolution to the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention of the ELCIC:

**We affirm that God calls us**, through Word and Sacrament, to be disciples and to make disciples. Our discipleship is defined by the life, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazareth. Our mission is to share the Gospel of Jesus Christ with people in Canada and around the world through the proclamation of the Word, the celebration of the Sacraments, and through service in Christ's name. On the basis of the Scriptures and the Lutheran Confessions:

**We believe, teach and confess** that everything we have is a gift from God entrusted to our nurture and care, and that the Christian life is a life of stewardship.

**We believe, teach and confess** that the Holy Spirit calls and gathers the whole church into the mission of God, which takes seriously both the reality of the world, and the reality of Christ, with equal care.

**Therefore, we, as the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada,** will celebrate and rejoice in the gifts which God has given us to carry out our mission in the world today. Where we see need, we will take action. We will use our gifts deliberately to be the people of God for others. We will be involved in mission by focusing on the following:

**We commit ourselves as church** to answer the call to respect the integrity of God's creation through an environmental stewardship initiative engaging our national, synodical, congregational and individual member expressions. **Carried.**

**CC-07-41** MS that NCC recommends to the 11<sup>th</sup> Biennial Convention the document In Mission for Others an Evangelical Theology of Mission, Evangelical Declaration for the next decade. **Carried.**

Document was approved as distributed.

**CC-07-42** MS that NCC approve the abuse and liability issue be referred to the officers' consultation and a process will be developed for the congregations. **Carried.**

**CC-07-43** MS that NCC recommend that a new Joint Commission be constituted for a six year term (2007-2013) to seek greater fulfillment of the mandate first given to the Commission in 2001. **Carried.**

1. A new Joint Commission be constituted for a six year term to seek greater fulfillment of the mandate first given to us in 2001, specifically, ***“to nurture our growth in communion, to coordinate the implementation of this Declaration, and report to the decision-making bodies of both our churches.”***
2. That our respective churches commit themselves to engaging a more ambitious agenda toward implementation of the Waterloo Declaration.
3. That this report and its suggestions for future work be commended to the next Joint Commission for their consideration and action.

**CC-07-44** MS that NCC approve a NCC standing governance committee with terms of reference to be developed. **Carried.**

**CC-07-45** MS that NCC approve committee members: Roger Haugen, convenor, Roger Kingsley, and Maaïke Froelich. **Carried.**

Evening Prayer led by Rev Mark Koenker

**SATURDAY, March 17, 2007**

Opening devotion led by Carl Sorensen

Chairman Roger Kingsley called the meeting to order

**CC-07-46** MS that the minutes of September 14–16, 2006 be approved as revised. **Carried.**

**CC-07-47** MS that NCC enter an in-camera session. **Carried.**

**CC-07-48** MS that the minutes of January 18–20, 2007 be approved as revised. **Carried.**

**CC-07-49** MS that the editorial changes to the ELCIC Constitution be approved as reviewed and be referred to the 2007 National Convention for first reading. **Carried.**

**CC-07-50** MS that the Article XI, Section 5d. (existing Article X) be approved.

- 5. The voting membership of conventions shall consist of:
  - d. The members of National Church Council

The motion was defeated with four members abstaining.

**CC-07-51** MS that the editorial changes to the ELCIC Administrative Bylaws be approved as reviewed and be referred to the 2007 National Convention. **Carried.**

**CC-07-52** MS that NCC go into Committee as a Whole to discuss National Officers positions and gender balance on the executive. **Carried.**

**CC-07-53** MS that NCC go out of Committee as a Whole. **Carried.**

**CC-07-54** MS that motion CC-06-66 be rescinded. **Carried.**

CC-06-66 MS that NCC instruct the Constitution Committee to propose revisions to the ELCIC Constitution and Administrative Bylaws to have:

- a) the secretary elected from the membership of NCC, and
- b) the position of treasurer be eliminated, and a position of Chair of Audit Committee be elected from the NCC membership, unless no member of NCC has the skills for that position, then NCC can elect another member of this church to fill the position.

**CC-07-55** MS that the revised terms of reference for ELCIC Audit Committee be approved as circulated. **Carried.**

Future NCC Meetings: June 20, 2007 9:00 am, September 27-29, 2007  
March 6-8, 2008, September 11-13, 2008

The closing prayer was lead by Judy Korchendorfer.

The meeting was adjourned.

---

Secretary, Don Storch

Approved: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_