

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
Minutes of the National Church Council Meeting
July 8 & 12, 2015
Chateau Lacombe Hotel, Edmonton, AB**

Officers: National Bishop Susan Johnson
Murray Walter, Secretary
Sheila Hamilton, Vice-President
Ken Day, Treasurer

Council: Vanessa Bergeron
Rev. Chris Bishopp
Jeff Buhse
Marie-Laure Collet
Bruce Cook
Cynthia Haines-Turner (ACC)
Rev. Dr. Cam Harder
Cindy Hoppe
Rev. Dr. Marc Jerry
Allyn Langager
Pat Lovell
Rev. Kathy Martin
Rev. Jeffrey Smith
Rev. Heather Spencer-Stoltz
Jeanie Stann
Brian Wilker-Frey
Judy Wry

Synod Bishops: Bishop Sid Haugen, SK Synod
Bishop Michael Pryse, Eastern Synod
Bishop Larry Kochendorfer, ABT Synod
Bishop Elaine Sauer, MNO Synod

Staff: Trina Gallop-Blank, Director of Communications and Stewardship
Rev. André Lavergne, Assistant to the Bishop, Ecumenical and Interfaith
Rev. Lyle McKenzie, Assistant to the Bishop, Worship
Desiree Mendoza, Meetings and Communications Coordinator

Guests: Jackie Dojack, Chair of the Board, ELCIC Group Services, Inc.
Lisa Thiessen, Executive Director, ELCIC Group Services, Inc.

Regrets: Bishop Greg Mohr, BC Synod
Rev. Paul Gehrs, Assistant to the Bishop, Justice and Leadership
Gloria McNabb, Director of Finance and Administration

WEDNESDAY, JULY 8, 2015, 2:00 P.M.

Opening Worship led by Rev. Brian Wilker-Frey.

Bishop Susan called the meeting to order.

Check-In — Your hope for the ELCIC 2015 National Convention

Approval of Agenda (Tab 2)

M/S That NCC adopt the agenda. **CARRIED.**

Declaration of Conflicts of Interest—No conflicts declared.

Approval of March 5–7, 2015 Minutes (Tab 3)

M/S That NCC approve the March 5–7, 2015 meeting minutes. **CARRIED.**

Approval of NCC E-vote Meeting Minutes (Tab 4)

M/S That NCC approve the E-vote meeting minutes.

CC-2015-34 M/S That NCC record the minutes of March 24, 2015 for e-vote no. 1: “That NCC approve the Draft Agenda for the 2015 National Convention.”

CARRIED.

CC-2015-35 M/S That NCC record the minutes of April 1, 2015 for e-vote nos. 2 & 3 respectively: “That NCC will approve and recommend to the 2015 National Convention repeal of Articles III to XX of the ELCIC Constitution and adoption of the following Articles III to XIX. (Second Reading)” **CARRIED.**

CC-2015-36 M/S “That NCC approve and recommend to the 2015 National Convention repeal of the current ELCIC Administrative Bylaws and adoption of the following Administrative Bylaws.” **CARRIED.**

CC-2015-37 M/S That NCC record the minutes of May 7, 2015 for e-vote nos. 4 & 5 respectively: “That NCC approve the ELCIC 2014 audited financial statements (see attached).” **CARRIED.**

CC-2015-38 That NCC record the minutes of May 15, 2015 for e-vote no. 6: “That NCC approve the following parameters for a study of Diaconal Ministry and Orders Ministry. FOD proposed to study orders of ministry with particular attention to diakonia and diaconal ministry. FOD will...

1. Invite ELCIC scholars (and others) to reflect on orders of ministry (Fall, 2015 – Winter, 2016);
2. Consult with diaconal ministers about orders of ministry (Spring, 2016);
3. Engage the church in theological reflection – what a Reformation Church does – about orders of ministry via a Study Guide (Fall, 2016-Winter, 2017);
4. Provide NCC with a White Paper on Orders of Ministry (Fall, 2017).” **CARRIED.**

CC-2015-39 M/S That NCC record the minutes of June 12, 2015 for e-vote no. 7:
“That NCC approve the revised report of the Nominating Committee, with the addition to the 2017 Nominating Committee of Marlys Moen, BC, Joan Meyer and Stewart Miller, SK, and Larry Ulrich, MNO.” **CARRIED.**

Report of the National Bishop

Bishop Susan shared to NCC the outcome of Justice Tour and closing ceremonies of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission among others.

Review of the Agenda for National Convention (Tab 5)

Bishop Susan proposed the following amendments:

- Reverse the order of Standing Orders in Session 7, Saturday.
- Include “Right Relationships Mapping Tool” at 3:30 p.m., Session 7, Saturday.

M/S That NCC adopt the amendments to the agenda for National Convention. **CARRIED.**

Discussion of NCC role at National Convention

NCC assignments for convention

Various assignments for supporting the reports from National Church Council were agreed upon.

Revised Description for Committee on Conduct of Elections (Tab 7)

Recommendations to NCC:

Amendment in the Governance Manual GS 4.7 Audit Committee Council Relationship Description (Tab 8)

CC-2015-40 That NCC approve the amendment in the Governance Manual GS 4.7 Audit Committee Council Relationships Description... **CARRIED.**

2015 National Convention Committees (Tab 6)

The National Bishop shared the assignments to the 2015 National Convention Committees as done by the Officers for information.

Approval of the Auditors

CC-2015-41 That NCC approve Ernst & Young to be the auditor for the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) for the year 2015. **CARRIED.**

Report of GSI

Jackie Dojack and Lisa Thiessen presented the report of GSI to NCC particularly the proposals for Disability Management and Parental Leave.

CC-2015-42 M/S That the National Church Council supports the proposed revisions to the current disability benefit program included as part of the ELCIC Group Benefits plan referenced in section 1 (b) Part XV of the Administrative Bylaws on the basis outlined to us, and encourages ELCIC Group Services Inc. to implement such revisions. **CARRIED.**

CC-2015-43 M/S That the National Church Council supports in principle the establishment of a program to support the costs of a Subscribing Employer in supplementing the salary of employees on Parental leave, on the terms outlined to us so that such employment benefit will be available to the employees of all Subscribing Employers and encourages ELCIC Group Services Inc. to implement such a program. **CARRIED.**

Other Business— Global Mission Evaluation

A Survey Monkey will be sent out to NCC a few weeks after the National Convention.

Amendments on the proposed constitution and administrative bylaws

Closing worship led by Rev. Brian Wilker-Frey.

Meeting adjourned.

SUNDAY, JULY 12, 2015, 11:30 A.M.

Officers: National Bishop Susan Johnson
Ken Day, Treasurer

Sheila Hamilton, Vice-President

Council: Vanessa Bergeron
Rev. Chris Bishopp
Jeff Buhse
Marie-Laure Collet
Bruce Cook
Cynthia Haines-Turner (ACC)
Rev. Dr. Cam Harder

Rev. Dr. Marc Jerry
Pat Lovell
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Bishops: Bishop Larry Kochendorfer, ABT Synod

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 Rev. André Lavergne, Assistant to the Bishop, Ecumenical and Interfaith
 Rev. Lyle McKenzie, Assistant to the Bishop, Worship
 Desiree Mendoza, Meetings and Communications Coordinator

Regrets: Linda Grainger (*newly elected National Secretary*)
 Rev. Jane Gingrich (*newly elected in NCC*)
 Cole Guenter (*newly elected in NCC*)
 Bishop Greg Mohr, BC Synod
 Les Pearson (*newly elected in NCC*)
 Bishop Elaine Sauer, MNO Synod
 Gloria McNabb, Director of Finance and Administration

Welcome

Debrief on the recently concluded 2015 ELCIC National Convention

National Bishop Susan Johnson encouraged everyone to share what they thought went well compared to what their hopes were.

Next NCC Meetings

November 12–15, 2015 (joint meeting with COGS)

NCC will start a day earlier on Nov. 12th.

- Chaplain—Bishop Michael Pryse
- Bible Study—Cynthia Haines-Turner/Vanessa Bergeron

(2016)

March 3–5

September 8–10

(2017)

March 2–4

September 7–9

Closing prayer

Meeting adjourned