

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
Minutes of the 18th National Convention
Online (Faith Lutheran Church, Winnipeg, MB)**

**Business Session #1:
Friday, July 15, 2022, 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.**

Welcome to the Territory
Led by Rev. Chris Bishopp

Opening Prayer and Opening of Convention

The Opening Prayer was led by Rev. Dr. Ali Tote. National Bishop Susan Johnson gave thanks to all the Assistants to the Bishop who are serving as Convention Chaplains: Trina Gallop Blank, Rev. Paul Gehrs, Rev. Lyle McKenzie, Deacon Gretchen Peterson, and Rev. Dr. Ali Tote.

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared the Eighteenth National Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) open.

National Bishop Susan Johnson called Business Session #1 of the 18th National Convention to order. She acknowledged our Parliamentarian, Don Storch.

Registration Report

Secretary Linda Grainger presented the Registration Report.

71 lay delegates

55 rostered delegates

15 NCC members

141 registered voting delegates

Establishment of Quorum

Quorum at the 18th National Convention was established.

Appointment of Committees

Reference and Counsel

Deacon Michelle Collins (MNO) – Chair

Rev. Diana Edis (BC)

Rev. Ralph Carl Wushke (EAST)

Darlene Dahle (ABT)

Frederick Fromm (SK)

Elections

Rev. Lynne Hutchison (MNO) – Chair

Selina Broadshaw (EAST)

Norman Thompson (BC)

David Bragg (SK)

Rev. Prema Samuel (ABT)

Testing of Voting Procedures

Adoption of Agenda

M/S That the agenda for the 18th National Convention including the consent agenda be adopted as presented. **CARRIED.**

Code of Conduct

National Bishop Susan Johnson reminded all participants that the ELCIC has a *Code of Conduct for Participants in Events Organized by the ELCIC* (Appendix 1).

Report of the Committee on Nominations (*Bulletin of Reports pages E-23 and E-24*)

Secretary Linda Grainger presented the report of the Committee on Nominations.

| National Church Council | | | |
|--|-------------|-------------|----------------------------|
| Positions Required: BC, ABT, SK, MNO – 1 Lay and 1 Rostered EAST – 2 Lay and 1 Rostered | | | |
| Synod | Type | Term | NCC Member |
| BC | Lay | 3 years | Stephen Holmes |
| | Lay | 3 years | Jeanie Stann |
| | Rostered | 3 years | Rev. Dorothy Chu |
| | Rostered | 3 years | Rev. Katrina Vigen |
| ABT | Lay | 3 years | Vivian Holtby |
| | Lay | 3 years | Kathleen Jensen (e) |
| | Rostered | 3 years | Rev. Kevin Powell |
| SK | Lay | 3 years | John Nilson (e) |
| | Lay | 3 years | Deb Roberts |
| | Rostered | 3 years | Rev. Sheldon Gattinger |
| | Rostered | 3 years | Rev. Dr. Marc Jerry |
| MNO | Lay | 3 years | Sarah Harrington |
| | Lay | 3 years | Evelyn Roloff |
| | Rostered | 3 years | Rev. Chris Bishopp (e) |
| | Rostered | 3 years | Rev. Theo Robinson |
| EAST | Lay | 3 years | Bruce Cook (e) |
| | Lay | 3 years | Bill Gastmeier |
| | Lay | 3 years | Lynn Slack |
| | Lay | 3 years | Heidi Van Schaik |
| | Rostered | 3 years | Rev. Kimberlynn McNabb (e) |
| | Rostered | 3 years | Rev. Laura Sauder |

| Court of Appeal | | |
|---|-------------|-----------------------|
| Positions Required: 3 Lay and 2 Rostered (any Synod) | | |
| Type | Term | Member |
| Lay | 3 years | Timothy Lach |
| | 3 years | David Schulze (e) |
| Lay | 3 years | K. Jennifer Moroz (e) |
| Lay | 3 years | Tom Brook |
| | 3 years | Brent Latimer |

| | | |
|----------|---------|------------------------|
| Rostered | 3 years | Bishop Cindy Halmarson |
| | 3 years | Rev. Lori James |
| Rostered | 3 years | Rev. Trish Schmermund |
| | | Rev. James Whaley |

(e) = eligible for re-election

There were no further nominations from the floor for any position. **Rev. Kevin Powell**, ABT rostered nominee for NCC, was acclaimed. **K. Jennifer Moroz**, lay nominee for Court of Appeal, was acclaimed.

First Ballot for Vice-Chair

Ecclesiastical ballot for Vice-Chair was conducted. National Bishop Susan Johnson reminded delegates that the individual needs to be a lay member of this church. Bishop Johnson led us in prayer prior to the vote.

National Bishop Susan Johnson turned the chair over to Vice-Chair Sheila Hamilton.

Report of the National Bishop *(Starting on page E-1, Bulletin of Reports)*

National Bishop Susan Johnson presented her report.

Report of National Church Council

This report was deferred until after the break.

(Break from 12:30 p.m. to 12:50 p.m.)

Vice-Chair Sheila Hamilton called on the Rev. Lynne Hutchison, Chair of the Elections Committee.

Nominations for the position of Secretary: NCC has nominated Linda Grainger. No nominations from the floor. **Linda Grainger** was declared elected by acclamation as National Secretary.

Nominations for the position of Treasurer: NCC has nominated Gene Blishen. No nominations from the floor. **Gene Blishen** was declared elected by acclamation as National Treasurer.

Report of National Church Council

A video was shown to highlight the work of National Church Council.

Closing Prayer was led by Convention Chaplain Trina Gallop Blank.

(Break from 1:25 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.)

Business Session #2:
Friday, July 15, 2022, 3:00 p.m.—6:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer was led by Convention Chaplain Deacon Gretchen Peterson.

Report of Committee on Conduct of Elections

Rev. Lynne Hutchison presented the results for the first ballot for Vice-Chair:

64 Ballots cast

8 Spoiled

56 Eligible

Votes needed to elect: 42

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Bruce Cook | 10 |
| Sheila Hamilton | 6 |
| John Nilson | 4 |
| Lynn Slack | 3 |
| Katherine Soule Blaser | 2 |
| Angela Chorney | 2 |
| Greg Lingelbach | 2 |
| Pat Lovell | 2 |
| Cheryl Bauer-Hyde | 1 |
| Kathy Bolstad | 1 |
| Bev Corbet | 1 |
| Rowan Dymund | 1 |
| Lynda Erlandson | 1 |
| Bill Gastmeier | 1 |
| Rosine Gerhardt | 1 |
| Linda Grainger | 1 |
| Stephen Holmes | 1 |
| Heather Howdle | 1 |
| Kathleen Jensen | 1 |
| Murray Jensen | 1 |
| Laurie Kitchen | 1 |
| Tim Lach | 1 |
| Brian Lorch | 1 |
| Tracey Mittleholtz | 1 |
| Sarah Pascoe | 1 |
| Deb Roberts | 1 |
| Curtis Satre | 1 |
| Phillip Sigalet | 1 |
| Russ Skakum | 1 |
| Lori Skriver | 1 |
| Joe Stolee | 1 |
| Don Storch | 1 |
| Heidi Van Schaik | 1 |

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared there was no election.

Second ballot for Vice-Chair took place.

Report of the Treasurer and Budget

Kyle Giesbrecht, Director of Finance and Administration presented the report.

NC-2022-01 That the National Convention approves the revised budgets for 2022. **CARRIED.**
(See *Bulletin of Report* pages E-100 to E-102)

NC-2022-02 That the 2022 National Convention receives the 2021 Audited ELCIC Financial Statements. **CARRIED.**
(See *Appendix 13: 2021 Audited ELCIC Financial Statements*)

Report of Committee on Conduct of Elections

Rev. Lynne Hutchison presented the results for the second ballot for Vice-Chair:

Ballots cast 117

Needed to elect 78

| | |
|------------------------|----|
| Bruce Cook | 31 |
| John Nilson | 12 |
| Pat Lovell | 11 |
| Angela Chorney | 10 |
| Sheila Hamilton | 10 |
| Greg Lingelbach | 8 |
| Katherine Soule Blaser | 5 |
| Cheryl Bauer-Hyde | 4 |
| Bill Gastmeier | 4 |
| Stephen Holmes | 3 |
| Joe Stolee | 3 |
| Kathleen Jensen | 2 |
| Laurie Kitchen | 2 |
| Don Storch | 2 |
| Lynn Slack | 1 |
| Rowan Dymund | 1 |
| Lynda Erlandson | 1 |
| Linda Grainger | 1 |
| Heather Howdle | 1 |
| Tim Lach | 1 |
| Tracey Mittleholtz | 1 |
| Deb Roberts | 1 |
| Lori Skriver | 1 |
| Heidi Van Schaik | 1 |

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared there was no election.

3rd Ballot for Vice Chair took place.

ELCIC Group Services, Inc.

John Wolff, Chair of the Board and Lisa Thiessen, Executive Director provided their report by way of a video presentation.

(See Bulletin of Reports pages G-4 to G-6)

Canadian Lutheran World Relief

Rev. Dr. Karin Achtelstetter, Executive Director presented her report.

(See Bulletin of Reports pages H-1 and H-2)

Administrative Bylaws Amendment

Moved to Unfinished Business.

Closing Prayer was led by Convention Chaplain Rev. Paul Gehrs.

Business Session #3:

Saturday, July 16, 2022, 11:00 a.m.—2:00 p.m.

Opening Prayer was led by Convention Chaplain Rev. Lyle McKenzie.

National Bishop Susan Johnson called Business Session #3 of the 18th National Convention to order.

Report of Committee on Conduct of Elections

Election of National Church Council

BC Synod Lay

Stephen Holmes - 59

Jeanie Stann – 50

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Stephen Holmes** elected.

BC Synod Rostered

Rev. Dorothy Chu - 53

Rev. Katrina Vigen – 58

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Rev. Katrina Vigen** elected.

ABT Synod Lay

Vivian Holtby - 20

Kathleen Jensen (e) – 82

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Kathleen Jensen** re-elected.

Third ballot for Vice-Chair

Rev. Lynne Hutchison presented the results for the third ballot for Vice-Chair:

Ballots cast 114

Needed to elect 58

Bruce Cook 87

John Nilson 8

Angela Chorney 7

Pat Lovell 7

Sheila Hamilton 5

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Bruce Cook** elected as Vice-Chair.

Election of National Church Council resumed.

SK Synod Lay

John Nilson (e) - 63

Deb Roberts – 52

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **John Nilson** re-elected.

SK Synod Rostered

Rev. Sheldon Gattinger - 49

Rev. Dr. Marc Jerry – 63

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Rev. Dr. Marc Jerry** elected.

MNO Synod Lay

Sarah Harrington - 84

Evelyn Roloff – 29

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Sarah Harrington** elected.

MNO Synod Rostered

Rev. Chris Bishopp (e) - 71

Rev. Theo Robinson – 44

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Rev. Chris Bishopp** re-elected.

EAST Synod Lay (1)

Bruce Cook (e) – removed from ballot as Bruce Cook was elected as Vice-Chair

Bill Gastmeier

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Bill Gastmeier** elected by acclamation.

EAST Synod Lay (2)

Lynn Slack - 45

Heidi Van Schaik – 68

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Heidi Van Schaik** elected.

EAST Synod Rostered

Rev. Dr. Kimberlynn McNabb (e) - 72

Rev. Laura Sauder – 45

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Rev. Dr. Kimberlynn McNabb** re-elected.

Election for Court of Appeal

Court of Appeal – Lay 1

Timothy Lach - 59

David Schulze (e) - 57

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Timothy Lach** elected.

Court of Appeal – Lay 3

Tom Brook – 52

Brent Latimer - 64

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Brent Latimer** elected.

Court of Appeal – Rostered 1

Bishop Cindy Halmarson – 64

Rev. Lori James - 52

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Bishop Cindy Halmarson** elected.

Court of Appeal – Rostered 2

Rev. Trish Schmermund - 81

Rev. James Whaley - 35

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared **Rev. Trish Schmermund** elected.

Report of Committee of Reference and Counsel

Deacon Michelle Collins presented the Report of Committee of Reference and Counsel.

The Committee of Reference and Counsel received two submissions.

NC-2022-03 That for all future Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) National Conventions, including any future conventions run jointly with the Anglican Church of Canada (ACC), best efforts be made to select convention dates that will fall over a weekend. **CARRIED.**

NC-2022-04 That the 2022 ELCIC National Convention, “Let there be greening”, based on the biblical reference found in Revelation 22: 1-2, expresses our sincere gratitude to all who have contributed to the work of this convention.

And that we lift up Bishop Susan Johnson’s challenge for us to continue our work in deepening our discipleship by living our faith: to pray, read, worship, and love.

In addition, we wish to express our thanks to the following:

- our sponsors Canadian Lutheran World Relief and TD Wealth;
- the National Convention Planning Team;

- the companies contracted to provide support services to the convention: Cam Friesen and EventLighting.ca, Ken Sawatzky and Ken Sky Inc., and Angela Chorney, Dots & Crosses Event Management;
- Faith Lutheran Church, Winnipeg, for hosting the production site;
- volunteers who have generously offered time and energy;
- our convention chaplains: Ali Tote, Trina Gallop Blank, Gretchen Peterson, Paul Gehrs, and Lyle McKenzie;
- our National Office staff;
- those who have served on Convention committees; and
- those who let their names stand for elections.

And that the 2022 National Convention expresses sincere appreciation for the faithful leadership of:

- the members of our National Church Council;
- our National Bishop, The Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson;
- our Vice-Chair, Sheila Hamilton;
- our Secretary, Linda Grainger; and
- our Treasurer, Gene Blishen.

CARRIED.

(break)

National Bishop Susan Johnson turned the chair over to Vice-Chair Sheila Hamilton.

New Business/Unfinished Business

NC-2022-05 That the 2022 National Convention approves the amendments to the ELCIC Administrative Bylaws, Court of Appeal - PART XVI, Section 1.

PART XVI COURT OF APPEAL *(changes in bold)*

(Constitution, ARTICLE XVII)

Section 1. **Except as otherwise expressly provided herein**, (a) the Court of Appeal shall consist of five (5) members, three (3) lay and two (2) rostered, who shall be elected by the convention for a term of three (3) years; **(b)** no member may hold a position on National Church Council, Synod Council or a synodical committee for theological education and leadership; (c) no member shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms; **and (d) any** vacancy occurring ad interim may be filled by the National Church Council until the next regular convention which shall fill **the remainder of the unexpired** term.

A member shall continue as a member of the Court of Appeal beyond what would otherwise be the expiration of their term (“Term Expiration Date”) for the sole purpose of continuing to hear and adjudicate upon any hearing underway on the Term Expiration Date (“Continuing Hearing”). Any new member of the Court of Appeal elected to take the position of such member shall not hear or adjudicate on the Continuing Hearing but shall do so on hearings commencing on or after the date of their election.

CARRIED (unanimously).

Recognition of Service

Vice-Chair Sheila Hamilton called on National Bishop Susan Johnson to thank members of National Church Council who have come to the end of their term.

Pat Lovell (EAST Synod, lay)

Rev. Dr. James Hendricksen (ABT Synod, rostered)

Rev. Íris Kristjánsdóttir (SK Synod, rostered)

Linda Sander (MNO Synod, lay)

Curt Satre (BC Synod, lay)

Rev. Jane Gingrich (BC Synod, rostered)

Sheila Hamilton, Vice-Chair

Closing Prayer and Closing of Convention

The Closing Prayer was led by Rev. Dr. Ali Tote, Trina Gallop Blank, Deacon Gretchen Peterson, Rev. Paul Gehrs and Rev. Lyle McKenzie.

National Bishop Susan Johnson declared the Eighteenth National Convention of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) adjourned.