

Job Description for Delegates to National Convention

Delegates to the National Convention are elected or appointed by Synods as rostered, lay or youth delegates.

Delegates are expected to keep in mind the realities and concerns of their contexts – their congregation, area, synod etc – but at National Convention are delegates of the National Church, having a prime interest in making decisions for the benefit of the whole church.

Delegates are expected to:

1. Register and book travel through the ELCIC appointed travel agency (as applicable) in a timely manner.
2. Read, in advance of convention, the Bulletin of Reports, noting any questions. A certain knowledge of the structure and governance of the church is an asset.
3. Pray for the convention as you prepare to attend.
4. Participate in any synodical delegate preparation sessions.
5. Attend all of the business sessions of the convention, as well as other convention activities including worship.
6. Participate, as appropriate, in the discourse of convention, through active listening to presentations, reports, and debate on the convention floor, through respectful speaking in table groups or at the microphone during debate, through prayerful consideration before votes and elections.
7. Look for opportunities to share your convention experience when you return home.
8. Follow the work of the national church following convention to see how the decisions of convention are being enacted. This may occur through reading Canada Lutheran, signing up for ecommunique, following the ELCIC on facebook, Instagram or twitter.
9. Continue to pray for the national church.

Some further considerations for delegates.

1. The convention planners work with the convention locale to make best possible arrangements for persons with dietary needs and mobility concerns. It is important to identify your needs before you arrive at the convention, recognizing that most conventions will take place on university campuses that usually involve moving some distance.
2. Convention days are long and can be both physically and emotionally exhausting. Delegates need to come rested and prepared for the stamina that three intense days will require.