



**Seventeenth Biennial Convention
EASTERN SYNOD of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada**

Eastern Synod Assembly 2018
June 21 - 24, 2018
Delta Hotels by Marriott Toronto Airport & Conference Centre
Toronto, Ontario

Minutes

Session One - Thursday, June 21, 2018, 1:30 p.m.

Opening of Assembly

Assembly 2018 began with a service of Holy Communion with Bishop Michael Pryse presiding, and National Bishop Susan Johnson preaching. At the conclusion of the service, Bishop Pryse declared Assembly 2018 in session.

We acknowledge the Ancestral Traditional Territories of the Ojibway, the Anishnabe, and, in particular, the Mississaugas of the New Credit whose territory we are gathering on. This territory is covered by the Upper Canada Treaties.

Bishop Michael Pryse called to order the Eastern Synod Assembly for 2018.

Registration Report

The registration report was presented by Stephanie Clayton and Irene Fancy. As of 1:30pm:

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|---|------------|
| Total registered rostered delegates | 88 |
| Registered youth delegates | 7 |
| Registered lay officers and lay Synod Council | 10 |
| Registered lay delegates (congregational) | 76 |
| Total registered lay delegates | 93 |
| TOTAL REGISTERED DELEGATES | 181 |
| Required quorum is 1/3 of registered convention delegates (see Bylaws Part V Section 5) | 60 |
| Registered visitors | 13 |
| Registered, other non-delegates | 14 |
| Registered volunteers | 26 |
| | Sub-total |
| | 53 |
| GRAND TOTAL ATTENDEES AT ASSEMBLY | 234 |

Establishment of Quorum

The Secretary of Synod, Rev. Wendell Grahlman, declared that a quorum was present.

The delegates were led in an exercise of clicker orientation to practice for voting.

Introduction of Special Guests

Bishop Pryse introduced the following persons attending as guests at Assembly:

- The Rev. Rosalyn Kantlah^nta' Elm, Parish of Six Nations and Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks, Anglican Church of Canada
- Rev. Dr. Susan C. Johnson, National Bishop, ELCIC
- The Rev. Dr. Karin Achtelstetter, Executive Director, CLWR
- The Rev. Carla Blakley, Community Relations Director, CLWR
- Rev. Conrad Plummer, President, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana
- Ms. Lisa Thiessen, Executive Director, ELCIC Group Services, Inc.
- Mr. John Wolff, President, ELCIC Group Services Inc.
- Mr. Carter Brooks, ELCIC Communications Specialist
- Dr. Mary (Joy) Philip, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary
- Ms. Krista Kuehnbaum, Evangelical Lutheran Foundation of Eastern Canada (ELFEC)

- Ms. Cindy Preece, Wilfrid Laurier University Archives
- The Rev. Dr. Brice Balmer, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary
- Mr. Chattar Ahuja
- Dr. Sarah Shafiq
- Dr. Sarah Chen
- Mr. Rafi Aaron, Interfaith Coalition to Fight Homelessness
- Rev. Dr. Allen Jorgenson, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary

Requests to Grant Privilege of Vote and/or Voice

MSC to grant privilege of voice to the Assembly's special guests.

Notice of Consent Agenda Items

- Report of Synod Council - Items not requiring action
- Report of the Statistician
- Necrology Report
- Report of the Archivist
- Report of the Auditor
- Reports of the Standing Committees
- Adoption of Minutes of 2016 Assembly
- Appointment of Assembly Committees
- Reports of the Ministry Area Deans

Adoption of Agendas

MSC that the Consent Agenda items and the Agenda be adopted.

Report of the Bishop

Vice-Chairperson Laurie Knott assumed the chair for Bishop Pryse to present his report.

Bishop Pryse addressed the Assembly with his report, and outlined three significant challenges and opportunities that the church faces in this day. He concluded his report with thanks for the people he serves with in synodical leadership. Following his presentation, his report was distributed to delegates.

Report of Synod Council

The Secretary of Synod directed delegates to the Bulletin of Reports for:

- Notice of Items Requiring Action, BR Section 6-3
- Notice of Proposed Amendments to the Eastern Synod Constitution and Bylaws, BR Section 6-4

Special Order: Report of the Treasurer

The Treasurer of Synod, Keith Myra, presented his report (cf. Section 8-1 ff) with a slide presentation outlining the financial stewardship of the Synod, as related to the Strategic Plan of the Synod. He also noted a number of resources and financial plans for the Synod and for congregations in anticipation of future ministry opportunities.

- 2016 - 2017 Financial Review
- 2018 - 2021 Budget Overview

Report of Nominating Committee

Secretary Wendell Grahlman presented the report of the Nominating Committee for Synod Council. Further nominations from the floor were invited: there were none.

- Nominations for Synod Council, Section 2-1 to 2-4

The Secretary then outlined the procedure for the election of synodical delegates to the 2019 ELCIC National Convention. Delegates were referred to the nominee names and biographical forms (BR Section 2-9 to 2-67) and to the handouts distributed to the tables.

The election and procedure for the election of a Bishop for the Synod was led and reviewed by National Bishop Susan Johnson (cf BR Section 11-19 and Section 11-21-22).

- First Ballot - Election of Officer - Bishop. The ballot was distributed; Bishop Johnson led in prayer; delegates voted, the ballots were collected, and balloting was declared closed.

Closing Prayer

The Rev. Rosalyn Kantlah[^]nta' Elm, Parish of Six Nations and Her Majesty's Royal Chapel of the Mohawks, Anglican Church of Canada, led the Assembly in prayer on this National Indigenous Peoples Day.

Rev. Jeff Smith, Assembly Manager, gave some announcements and the delegates were adjourned for supper.