



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

Eastern Synod Assembly 2016
June 23 - 26, 2016
International Plaza Hotel
Toronto, Ontario

Minutes

Session One - Thursday, June 23, 2016, 1:30 p.m.

Opening of Assembly

Assembly 2016 began with a service of Holy Communion and included the rite of Opening of Assembly. Bishop Michael Pryse presided; National Bishop Susan Johnson preached.

Bishop Michael Pryse called to order the Eastern Synod Assembly for 2016.

Report of the Committee on Registration

The Report of the Committee on Registration was presented by Irene Fancy, Chair of the Registration Committee. As of 1:30pm:

Total registered rostered delegates	124
Registered youth delegates	5
Registered lay officers and lay Synod Council	7
Registered lay delegates (congregational)	91
Total registered lay delegates	103
TOTAL REGISTERED DELEGATES	227
Required quorum is 1/3 of registered convention delegates (see bylaws Part V Section 5)	76
Registered visitors	9
Registered, other non-delegates	18
Registered volunteers	30
Sub-total	57
GRAND TOTAL ATTENDEES AT ASSEMBLY	284

Establishment of Quorum

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

Linda Grainger led delegates in an exercise to practice with the clickers for voting.

Introduction of Special Guests

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

- Rev. Dr. Susan Johnson, National Bishop
- Rev. André Lavergne, ELCIC Assistant to the National Bishop, Ecumenical and Interfaith
- Trina Gallop-Blank, ELCIC Assistant to the Bishop, Communications and Resource Generation
- Lisa Thiessen, Executive Director, ELCIC Group Services
- Rev. Dr. Mark Harris, Waterloo Lutheran Seminary Principal Dean
- Rev. Leroy Nicholson, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Guyana President
- Rev. Dr. Munib Younan, Evangelical Lutheran Church in Jordan and the Holy Land Bishop and President of the Lutheran World Federation
- Robert Granke, Canadian Lutheran World Relief Executive Director; Tom Brook, CLWR Director of Community Relations
- Chief Ava Hill, Six Nations of the Grand River; Rev. Canon Norm Casey, Anglican Parish of the Six Nations
- Sheila Hamilton, ELCIC Vice Chairperson

Requests to Grant Privilege of Vote and/or Voice

MSC to grant privilege of voice to the Assembly's special guests as well as Debbie Lou Ludolph and Jeff Pym.

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 2014 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 Linda Grainger assumed the chair for Bishop Pryse to present his report.

Bishop Pryse addressed the Assembly, reminding and challenging this synod of the work of God in our midst, and our participation in meeting this call. His report was distributed to delegates (BR Section 4-1a to 4-5a).

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 Eastern Synod Constitution, 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.

- 2014 - 2015 Financial Review
- 2016 - 2018 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: Anne Drouillard was nominated as a lay member for the term 2016-2021.

- Nominations for Synod Council, Section 2-1 to 2-3

The election and procedure for the election of a new Vice-chairperson for the Synod was reviewed by Bishop Pryse (cf BR Section 11-19 and Section 11-22).

- First Ballot - Election of Officer - Vice Chair. The ballot was distributed, then collected, and balloting was declared closed.

Linda Grainger outlined the procedure for the election of synodical delegates to the 2017 ELCIC National Convention. Delegates were given time to become familiar with the ballots on the screen which were identical to the assistive paper copies.

- First Ballot - Election of Delegates to ELCIC National Convention. Balloting occurred using the screen display and clickers. At the conclusion of the voting, the results will be reviewed by the Elections Committee before being announced to the Assembly.

Closing Prayer

Rev. Jeff Smith, Assembly Manager, gave some announcements. Debbie Lou Ludolph led the Assembly in prayer, and the delegates were adjourned for supper.