



WHO IS AN ASSEMBLY DELEGATE?

Assembly delegates (voting delegates) are those individuals identified in the Synod bylaws.

In short, all rostered ministers under call or appointment are delegates, whose assembly fees are covered by their employer (congregations in most cases). In addition, each congregation has at least one lay delegate based upon their baptized membership (whose assembly fees are also covered by the congregation). Each Congregational Council chairperson will have received notice as to how many delegates their congregation is entitled.

To round out the Synod bylaws, delegates also include the members of Synod Council, six youth delegates (who are appointed by Synod Council as recommended by the Youth and Young Adult Committee), and lay members who are serving under appointment in the synod.

- Any rostered minister under call or appointment is a delegate at the Assembly.
- Lay delegates may be elected by members at a congregational annual meeting, or by councillors at a congregational council meeting. Considering that a number of congregations may or may not be holding an annual meeting (in the usual way) during the pandemic, election of the lay delegate by the congregational council is an acceptable and responsible option.
- Since Assembly 2021 is meeting using online technology, it's important that delegates be familiar and comfortable with computer (e.g. desktop, laptop, tablet, phone) hardware, and be able to navigate with the software programs for video access. A reliable internet connection will also be important.
- Training sessions and mock meetings will take place for delegates in the weeks leading up to the Assembly.

- Remember that physical comfort will also be important while connected to the assembly meeting time. A good table and chair, space to stretch legs, coffee, a nearby washroom...
- Congregations are responsible for covering the registration cost of their lay and rostered delegates.
- If you are a Synod Assembly delegate age 30 or under and would like the opportunity to connect with other youth and young adult delegates and visitors, please check the "age box" on the registration form so we can be in touch both before and during the Assembly! Let's connect!

** Please note that "all ordained ministers serving under call" are required to attend the Synod Assembly 2021 unless excused. Requests to be excused should be directed to the Secretary of Synod as soon as possible (*Eastern Synod Constitution, Article VII, Sec 10*). You can contact the Rev Wendell Caron Grahman by email at wgrahman@elcic.ca.