



One Lord, One Faith, One Body

Today's Business K

Thirteenth Regular Convention

Winnipeg, Manitoba
June 12-15, 2026

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A MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR

On behalf of the City of Winnipeg, I would like to extend warm greetings to the participants gathered for the 2026 Convention of Lutheran Church–Canada.

Thank you for choosing Winnipeg as your host city for representatives from more than 300 congregations across the country as you come together under the theme “Together One.” Rooted in the words of Ephesians 4:4–6, this theme is a meaningful reminder of the unity, shared purpose, and hope that sustain your ministry and your communities.

I was a pastor for twenty years before I got into municipal politics, so I have a deep appreciation for the role faith-based organizations play in strengthening our city and our country. Churches are often on the front lines of supporting families, welcoming newcomers, caring for those in need, and fostering a sense of belonging and purpose in our communities. In times of challenge and in times of celebration, churches and congregations are steady and compassionate partners.

I wish you a productive and inspiring convention, and I hope you enjoy your time here in Winnipeg. May your time together be marked by wisdom, thoughtful dialogue, and renewed commitment to serving others.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'S. Gillingham', is positioned below the word 'Sincerely,'.

Scott Gillingham
Mayor
The City of Winnipeg

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To Dr. Timothy Teuscher
the President of the Lutheran Church of Canada,
from Oleksandr Yurchenko,
Bishop of the Synod of
Evangelical Lutheran Churches
of Ukraine (SELCU)

Dear Dr. Timothy Teuscher,

Dear brother in Christ, co-pastor of the Church of Christ

With this letter, I want to thank you for the work you diligently performed in your vocation as President of the Lutheran Church of Canada for nine years. I thank you for obeying God's call in October 2017, when the Lord, through His Church, has called you into this ministry. Thank you for accepting this ministry, and remaining faithful and dedicated to it in all circumstances. I daresay this ministry (position) has not always been pleasant and easy for you, as, over the pasted years, you have repeatedly had to deal with many difficult and complex matters. Thank you for your courage and diligence, Timothy. I believe the Lord has been with you and your colleagues throughout this time.

I would especially like to thank you for our ongoing partnership between the LCC and the SELCU. We greatly appreciate the mutual respect and trust that exists between our churches and your personal involvement in maintaining and developing this good relationship. A clear example of this is the multifaceted support that the Lutheran Church of Canada has provided (and continues to provide) to our Synod and our people since the first days of Russia's unjust aggression against Ukraine. Thank you for standing with us and extending a helping hand during the most difficult and tragic years of our Ukrainian church and our Ukrainian people.

As you and your colleagues prepare for the upcoming LCC conference, our synodical office, our clergy team and fellowship of churches pray for God's help and guidance for all of you. During the conference, we wish you to witness the unity described in the conference motto: *"For there is one body and one Spirit, just as you were called in one hope of your calling..." Ephesians 4:4-6*

Please convey our heartfelt greetings, thanks, and best wishes to all brothers and sisters present at the LCC Convention. We pray for you and bless you in the name of Christ.

June 8, 2026

With honor and prayer,

Bishop of the Synod of the Evangelical
Lutheran Churches of Ukraine





To: The Thirteenth Regular Convention of Lutheran Church–Canada

From: Rev. Bun Phanna, Secretary of the Cambodia Lutheran Church

Theme: "Together One" (Ephesians 4:4-6)

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

It is with great joy and brotherly love that I send greetings from the Cambodia Lutheran Church (CLC) to the delegates, guests, and leadership gathered in Winnipeg for your Thirteenth Regular Convention.

The theme you have chosen, "Together One," resonates deeply with us here in Cambodia. As we reflect on the words of the Apostle Paul in Ephesians 4:4-6, we are reminded that despite the thousands of miles and different cultures that separate us, we serve "one Lord, one faith, one baptism." Our partnership with Lutheran Church–Canada is a living testimony to this truth. We are not merely distant organizations; we are one body, sustained by the same Spirit and called to the same hope.

We live in a world that is often divided, yet the Gospel calls us to a unity that transcends borders. As you meet to deliberate, plan, and worship together, please know that your brothers and sisters in Cambodia are praying for you. We pray that the Holy Spirit guides your sessions, strengthens your fellowship, and renews your passion for the mission of the Church.

May this convention be a time of profound encouragement, reminding every parish and delegate that in Christ, we are truly Together One.

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.

In His Service,

Rev. Bun Phanna, CLC Secretary

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MINUTES – Session 2

Call to Order

President Teuscher called the second session to order at 8:16 am (CDT)

Essay – Rev. Dr. Alex Vieira

Dr. Vieira presented an essay in light of our convention theme of “Together One” centred on the use of the Greek word ‘koinonia’ in the New Testament.

Registration Committee Report – Rev. Tom Kruesel, Chairman

Voting Pastor Delegates – 142
Voting Lay Delegates – 148
TOTAL VOTING – 290

Advisory Delegates – 12
Advisory Representatives – 20
Registered Visitors – 18
Invited Guests – 11
TOTAL – 61

Exhibitors – 10
Staff/ Contractors – 28
Spouses – 38
TOTAL – 76

Quorum remains and the Convention continued.

Approval of Minutes

Using pages J.17 through J.19 in the latest issue of “*Today’s Business*”—the minutes of the previous session were presented

C22–04 Motion: That the minutes of the 13th Regular Convention of the Lutheran Church–Canada, June 12, 2026, Session 1 be adopted as presented.

ACTION: Adopted

Report of the President – President Teuscher

President Teuscher shared comments on the theme of “Together One”.

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Elections for President – Commission on Nominations and Elections, Reg Tiegs, Chairman
President Teuscher explained the nomination process for President and vice–president.
Yuval Kamani explained the mechanics of the voting software.

Reg Tiegs informed the convention that Rev. Michael Schutz withdrew his name.
Reg Tiegs presented the slate.
Prior to voting, Rev. Cam Schnarr, Convention Chaplain, led the Convention in prayer.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

First Ballot Results:

Rev. David Haberstock – 125
Rev. Ted Giese – 80
Rev. Joel Kuhl – 70

Since no candidate received a majority, Rev. Joel Kuhl name was dropped from the next ballot and a second ballot was presented to delegates.

Second Ballot Results:

Rev. David Haberstock – 154 (55.2%)
Rev. Ted Giese – 125 (44.8%)

Rev. David Haberstock was declared elected President of Lutheran Church–Canada.

Elections for Vice–President – Commission on Nominations and Elections, Reg Tiegs, Chairman

Reg Tiegs presented the slate.
Prior to voting, Rev. Cam Schnarr, Convention Chaplain, led the Convention in prayer.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

First Ballot Results:

Election Results – Vice–President

Rev. Ted Giese – 140
Rev. Joel Kuhl – 97
Rev. Kurt Lantz – 22

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Rev. David Zakel – 22

Since no candidate received a majority, the names of Rev. Kurt Lantz and Rev. David Zakel were dropped from the next ballot and a second ballot was presented to delegates.

Second Ballot Results:

Rev. Ted Giese – 151 (53.9%)

Rev. Joel Kuhl – 129 946.1%0

Rev. Rev. Ted Giese was declared elected Vice–President of Lutheran Church–Canada.

Nominations/Elections for Regional Pastors

– Commission on Nominations and Elections, Reg Tiegs, Chairman
Reg Tiegs, Chairman (CNE) presented the slate.

Rev. Teuscher asked if there are any nominations from the floor for Central Regional Pastor of Lutheran Church–Canada.

Nominations from the Floor

Rev. Aaron Gust

Rev. Teuscher asked if there are any nominations from the floor for East Regional Pastor of Lutheran Church–Canada.

Nominations from the Floor

None

Rev. Teuscher asked if there are any nominations from the floor for West Regional Pastor of Lutheran Church–Canada.

Nominations from the Floor

None

Reg Tiegs presented the amended slate.

Prior to voting, Rev. Cam Schnarr, Convention Chaplain, led the Convention in prayer.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

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Results – Regional Pastor, Central:

First Ballot Results:

Aaron Gust – 64 (91.4%)

Results – Regional Pastor, East:

First Ballot Results:

Rev. Marvin Bublitz – 65 (69.9%)

Rev. Vishal Paul – 28 (30.1%)

Results – Regional Pastor, West:

First Ballot Results:

Rev. Jan Pastucha – 60 (51.6%)

Rev. Michael Schutz – 57 (48.7%)

President Teuscher declared Rev. Aaron Gust elected Regional Pastor for the Central Region of Lutheran Church–Canada.

President Teuscher declared Rev. Marvin Bublitz elected Regional Pastor for the East Region of Lutheran Church–Canada.

President Teuscher declared Rev. Michael Schutz elected Regional Pastor for the West Region of Lutheran Church–Canada.

Nominations/Elections for Circuit Counsellor – Commission on Nominations and Elections,
– Reg Tiegs, Chairman

Reg Tiegs, Chairman (CNE) presented the slate.

Rev. Tim Teuscher explained the process by which nominations could be made from the floor and asked if there were any nominations for Circuit Counsellor from the Central, East or West Regions of Lutheran Church – Canada.

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Nominations from the Floor for Circuit Counsellor:

Central Region: None

East Region: None

West Region: Jeffrey Koenig (Okanogan Circuit)

Reg Tiegs presented the amended slate.

Prior to voting, Rev. Cam Schnarr, Convention Chaplain, led the Convention in prayer.

President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Results – Circuit Counsellor:

Central Region – Candidates for Election

Assiniboine Circuit

Rev. Barry Wood - 5

President Teuscher declared Rev. Barry Wood elected.

Northland Circuit

Rev. Jakob Valsson – 7

President Teuscher declared Rev. Jakob Valsson elected.

Ontario Circuit

No nominations

Qu'Appelle Circuit

Rev. Brad Julien - 1

Rev. Joshua Kurtenbach – 4

President Teuscher declared Rev. Joshua Kurtenbach elected.

Red River Circuit

Rev. Richard Beinert - 19

President Teuscher declared Rev. Richard Beinert elected.

Saskatoon Circuit

No nominations

Southland Circuit

Rev. Travis Heide - 7

President Teuscher declared Rev. Travis Heide elected.

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Wascana Circuit

No nominations

East Region – Candidates for Election

Hamilton Circuit

Rev. Andrew Cottrill - 3

Rev. David Zakel – 7

President Teuscher declared Rev. David Kazel elected.

Hanover Circuit

Rev. Kenneth Maher 5 nominations

Kitchener Circuit

Rev. James Keller – 17

President Teuscher declared Rev. James Keller elected.

London Circuit

Rev. Dan Abraham -3

Rev. Paul Schallhorn - 4

President Teuscher declared Rev. Paul Schallhorn elected.

Niagara Circuit

No nominations

Ottawa Circuit

Rev. Aaron Astley - 9

Rev. Matthew Habermas - 9

Rev. Milton Lam – 0

The Circuit will meet to elect their Circuit Counsellor and report to the Convention.

Stratford Circuit

No nominations

Toronto Circuit

Rev. Vishal Paul – 13

President Teuscher declared Rev. Vishal Paul elected.

Windsor Circuit

No nominations

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West Region – Candidates for Election

Calgary Circuit

Rev. David Dressler – 14

President Teuscher declared Rev. David Dressler elected.

Cariboo Circuit

Rev. Noel Smith - 5

President Teuscher declared Rev. Noel Smith elected.

Edmonton Circuit

No nominations

Greater Vancouver Circuit

Rev. Lucas Albrecht - 12

President Teuscher declared Rev. Lucas Albrecht elected.

Lethbridge Circuit

Rev. Lee Loverridge – 6

President Teuscher declared Rev. Lee Loverridge elected.

Okanagan Circuit

Rev. Jeffrey Koenig – 12

President Teuscher declared Rev. Jeffrey Koenig elected.

Peace River Circuit

President Teuscher declared Rev. Vishal Paul elected.

Stony Plain Circuit

No nominations

Vancouver Island

Rev. Stephen Chambers – 14

President Teuscher declared Rev. Stephen Chambers elected.

Wetaskiwin Circuit

Rev. Brian Amison – 11

President Teuscher declared Rev. Brian Amison elected.

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President Teuscher informed the convention that for Circuits where there are no nominations, the Regional Pastor shall appoint someone.

Greetings – Lutheran Women’s Missionary League–Canada – Marilyn Witte, President

Greetings from International LLL – Kurt Buchholz – President/CEO

Noon Daily Prayer – Rev. Cam Schnarr, Convention Chaplain

Announcements – Dr. Tasheney Francis, Director of Communications

Recess

President Teuscher declared the second session in recess until 1:30 pm at 12:01 pm (CDT)

MINUTES – Session 3

WBS Stretch Break – Sasha Lipskaia

Call to Order

President Teuscher called the third session to order at 1:37 pm (CDT)

Rev. Cam Schnarr, Convention Chaplain, opened the session with prayer.

Resolutions Committee #3 – Finance and Sundry Matters – Rev. Fraser Coltman, Chairman

RESOLUTION 26.3.14 TO ACKNOWLEDGE RECEIPT OF AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDITORS REPORT THEREON FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JANUARY 31, 2026

(Reference Overture 3.18)

WHEREAS the comparative financial statements for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2026 were prepared by management and audited by KPMG in April 2026; and

WHEREAS the audited financial statements and the accompanying auditor’s report thereon were reviewed and approved by the Board of Directors at its meeting held on May 26, 2026; therefore, be it

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RESOLVED that the members of Lutheran Church–Canada, assembled in convention, hereby acknowledge receipt of the audited financial statements and the auditor’s report thereon for the fiscal year ending January 31, 2026.

Motion C26.04: To adopt Resolution 26.3.14

Action: Adopted

RESOLUTION 26.3.12 TO APPOINT AUDITORS FOR LUTHERAN CHURCH–CANADA

(Reference Overture 3.16)

WHEREAS the statutory Bylaws (Article V – provision 5.01) state the delegates present at Convention appoint an auditor for auditing the financial statements of LCC; therefore be it

RESOLVED that KPMG be appointed auditors of LCC and be retained until the next Convention

Motion C26.05: To adopt Resolution 26.3.12

Action: Adopted

RESOLUTION 26.3.03 TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR THE LEADERSHIP OF REV. DR. TIMOTHY TEUSCHER

(Reference Overture 3.04)

WHEREAS Rev. Dr. Teuscher is joyfully received as a gift bestowed by the exalted Lord on His church for her good (Eph. 4:8, 11); and

WHEREAS our Lord worked in and through Rev. Dr. Teuscher to give exceptional leadership to Lutheran Church–Canada as she has grown in her role in Canadian and worldwide Lutheranism; and

WHEREAS Rev. Dr. Teuscher has given unselfishly of his time and energy in fulfilling his duties; and

WHEREAS in the summer of 2026, Rev. Dr. Teuscher will be retiring from full time service as a pastor, after serving two terms as President of Lutheran Church–Canada; therefore, be it

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RESOLVED the Lutheran Church–Canada give thanks to God for the rich blessings poured out upon this church body through the leadership of Rev. Dr. Teuscher as pastor, First Vice President of the East District and President of Lutheran Church – Canada, and commend Rev. Dr. Teuscher to the Lord’s continued blessing and direction; and be it

RESOLVED that Rev. Dr. Teuscher be granted the title Past President; and be it finally

RESOLVED that at such time as Rev. Dr. Teuscher retires, he receive the official designation President Emeritus.

Motion C26.06: To adopt Resolution 26.3.03

Action: Adopted

RESOLUTION 26.3.13 TO RECEIVE THE LCC QUADRENNIAL WORK PROGRAM
(2027–2030)

(Reference Overture 3.17)

WHEREAS the Chief Administrative Officer and the Board of Directors of Lutheran Church–Canada have prepared a Quadrennial Work Program (QWP) for the years 2027–2030; and

WHEREAS LCC leadership and key stakeholders were given opportunity to provide input into the QWP through participation in an October 2025 Planning Conference and a joint RMMC meeting in January 2026; and

WHEREAS with respect to Domestic Missions, congregations and mission outreach initiatives, including language ministry, were invited to submit applications for financial assistance for consideration within the QWP; and

WHEREAS the QWP advances both ongoing and emerging domestic mission priorities, including provision for a Missionary–at–Large (MAL) to engage with an Indigenous community, alongside the strategic exploration and development of a new urban ministry initiative in a major metropolitan setting; and

WHEREAS the QWP can only be implemented by the cooperation and action of congregations, regions, and by the receipt of necessary funds; therefore, be it

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RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada, assembled in Convention, receive the QWP (2027–2030) for information, study, and action by the Board of Directors.

Motion C26.07: To adopt Resolution 26.3.13

Action: Adopted

RESOLUTION 26.3.15 TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR THE LEADERSHIP OF REV. ROBERT MOHNS

(Reference Overture 3.19)

WHEREAS Rev. Robert Mohns is joyfully received as a gift bestowed by the Lord on His church for her good (Eph. 4:8, 11); and

WHEREAS Rev. Mohns served faithfully congregations in the West Region of Lutheran Church—Canada for 28 years; and

WHEREAS Rev. Mohns has given unselfishly of his time and energy in fulfilling his duties as Regional Pastor of the West Region of Lutheran Church—Canada over these past seven years; and

WHEREAS Rev. Mohns will be retiring from fulltime service in the church at the end of this quadrennium; therefore be it

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church—Canada give thanks to God for the rich blessings poured out upon our church body through the leadership and service of Rev. Robert Mohns, and commend him to the Lord’s continued blessing and direction.

Motion C26.08: To adopt Resolution 26.3.15

Action: Adopted

RESOLUTION 26.3.01 TO ACKNOWLEDGE AND AFFIRM FLEXIBILITY IN COLLECTING CONGREGATIONAL ASSESSMENTS

(Reference Overture 3.02)

WHEREAS Section 2.023 of the Synodical Bylaws of Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) provides that convention assessments, and registration fees are to be determined on the basis of the approved convention budget, without prescribing a specific method of calculation; and

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WHEREAS earlier editions of the Handbook (2011 and 2014) explicitly referenced a per communicant member levy as the basis for such assessments, while the 2017 and 2022 Handbooks no longer include such explicit direction; and

WHEREAS it has been the longstanding practice of LCC to collect assessments on a per communicant member basis in order to fund conventions, and pastor and deacon conferences; and

WHEREAS overture 3.02 has emphasized the importance of fairness, equity, and predictability in the sharing of such costs among member congregations; therefore, be it

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada in Convention acknowledge the historical practice of per communicant member assessments while recognizing that the current Synodical Bylaws do not prescribe a single required method for the collection of such assessments; and be it further

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada in Convention affirm that, within the provisions of the existing Bylaws, assessments will be analyzed by the Board of Directors in a timely manner and may be structured using a combination of approaches, including per communicant member assessments and fixed or base amounts applied to member congregations, as may be deemed equitable; and be it further

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada encourage its delegates and member congregations to remain informed regarding the purpose of such assessments, their historical basis, and considerations that may guide future methodologies; and be it finally

RESOLVED That this resolution be understood as declaratory in nature, affirming existing practice and flexibility under current Bylaws, and not requiring any amendment to the Synodical Bylaws.

Motion C26.09: To adopt Resolution 26.3.01

Action: Adopted

**RESOLUTION 26.3.02a TO ENCOURAGE THE USE OF LCC’S “GUIDELINES FOR
CARING FOR CALLED WORKERS”**

(Reference Overture 3.03)

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- WHEREAS Called church workers are a precious resource, a gift the Lord has given to lead, teach, and nourish the church; and
- WHEREAS the gifts of God that they share and administer, as well as their personal talents, training, and sacrifices are of immense value; and
- WHEREAS the church on earth suffers temptation, sin, and spiritual attack, which may lead to church workers not always being generously nurtured and supported in their vocations, which often leads to burnout and to workers leaving their calls; and
- WHEREAS Lutheran Church–Canada has responded to the need to support church workers by providing its congregations with “Guidelines for Caring for Called Workers” (September 9, 2025) and
- WHEREAS the Regional Ministry and Mission Councils (RMMCs) are to serve as “an important conduit for the sharing of information from LCC and other regions with the congregations, pastors and deacons”, and the use of other LCC resources, which may include the Worker Benefit Services Wellness resources, and be it therefore
- RESOLVED that the RMMCs be encouraged to promote the adoption of the “Guidelines for Caring for Called Workers” among the congregations, and be it further
- RESOLVED that the RMMCs engage in further study of the LCMS Kansas District “Church Worker Care Team Manual to evaluate its local applicability, and be it finally
- RESOLVED that the RMMCs and the Regional Pastors will encourage church workers to seek private confession and absolution on a regular basis.

Motion C26.10: To adopt Resolution 26.3.02a
Action: Adopted

**RESOLUTION 26.3.07 TO GIVE THANKS FOR CONCORDIA LUTHERAN
THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY, ST. CATHARINES, AT HER
50TH ANNIVERSARY**

(Reference Overture 3.10)

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- WHEREAS the Lutheran Church–Missouri Synod at her 1975 convention authorized Concordia Theological Seminary, Fort Wayne, to establish an extension site in Canada; and
- WHEREAS the Ontario District in her 1976 convention selected St. Catharines to be the site of the new seminary; and
- WHEREAS the first classes were held in September 1976 in the basement of Resurrection Lutheran Church; and
- WHEREAS the seminary was incorporated by provincial charter in November 1976, established an Affiliation Agreement with Brock University in 1982, built a fine new building on its campus in 1983, and received the right from the provincial government to give degrees in her own name in 2024; and
- WHEREAS over her fifty years of service CLTS has delivered some 240 graduates, both ordained and lay, into the church’s service; and
- WHEREAS CLTS continues to serve Lutheran Church–Canada and her sister churches around the world through pastoral formation, education of lay leaders, teaching the faithful, supporting mission work, and publishing confessional Lutheran theological writings; therefore be it
- RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada in convention express thanks to God for fifty years of service to the church provided by Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary, St. Catharines, and commend her to the prayers and support of God’s people.

Motion C26.11: To adopt Resolution 26.3.07

Action: Adopted

**RESOLUTION 26.3.10 TO RATIFY AMENDMENTS AND REVISIONS TO
CONGREGATION CONSTITUTIONS**

(Reference Overture 3.14)

- WHEREAS upon review of changes to various congregation constitutions and subsequent recommendation of the President, the Board of Directors has approved the revisions and amendments to these constitutions; and

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WHEREAS such actions by the Board are to be “submitted to the next Convention for ratification” (Synodical Bylaw 1.007.b); therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Convention ratify the actions of the Board pertaining to its approval of amendments and revisions to the constitutions of the following congregations:

Central Region

Faith, Atikokan, ON
Trinity, Churchbridge, SK
Our Saviour/St. Mark, Dryden/Vermilion Bay, ON
Zion Evangelical, Morden, MB
New Beginnings, Regina, SK
Mt. Calvary, Swift Current, SK
Calvary, Thunder Bay, ON
Trinity, Winkler, MB
Peace, Winnipeg, MB
Immanuel, Winnipeg, MB
Saint James, Winnipeg, MB

East Region

St. Matthew's, Cornwall, ON
Faith, Kitchener, ON
St. Paul's, Kitchener, ON
Good Shepherd, London, ON
Grace, Oshawa, ON
Southampton, Southampton, ON
St. Luke, Ottawa, ON
Trinity, Kurtzville, ON

West Region

Shepherd of Peace, Calgary, AB
Grace, Drumheller, AB
Christ, Fort Saskatchewan, AB
St. Matthew's Lutheran, Calgary, AB
Bethlehem, Edmonton, AB
Faith, Grande Prairie, AB
Redeemer, High Prairie, AB
First (The Sanctuary), Kelowna, BC
Our Saviour, Parksville, BC
Trinity, Quesnel, BC
St. Matthew, Stony Plain, AB

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St. John's, Vernon, BC

Motion C26.12: To adopt Resolution 26.3.10

Action: Adopted

**RESOLUTION 26.3.05 TO CLARIFY TERMS FOR DOMESTIC AND
INTERNATIONAL MISSIONS IN THE HANDBOOK**

(Reference Overture 3.07)

Whereas the Handbook of LCC uses the expressions “Canadian Missions” but LCC in her actions and communications regularly uses the expression “Domestic Missions”, and

Whereas the Handbook of LCC uses both the expressions “World Missions” and “International Missions” (as well as the expression “Foreign field”) but LCC in her actions and communications regularly uses the expression “International Missions”, therefore, be it

Resolved that, in order to avoid confusion and promote unity in our speaking and work together, the Handbook of LCC be updated to use the term “Domestic Missions” rather than “Canadian Missions,” “International Missions” rather than “World Missions.”

Motion C26.13: To adopt Resolution 26.3.05

Action: Adopted

**RESOLUTION 26.3.09 TO REVIEW SYNODICAL BYLAW VII. RECONCILIATION,
RESTORATION, AND ADJUDICATION**

(Reference Overture 3.12)

WHEREAS Synodical Bylaw VII has proved to be unwieldy in implementation; therefore be it

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada in convention assign the President to oversee a review of Synodical Bylaw VII in consultation with the PMC, CTCR, and CCMS; and be it finally

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RESOLVED that he bring forward recommendations regarding Synodical Bylaw VII to the 2030 Convention for discussion and implementation.

Motion C26.14: To adopt Resolution 26.3.09

Action: Adopted

Report from Together One Campaign – Dwayne Cleave (LCC CAO), David Friesen (Director of Advancement), Alan Zacharius (LCC Campaign Consultant)

Resolutions Committee #2 – Theology and Church Relations – Rev. Brian Dunlop, Chairman

RESOLUTION 26.2.03 TO RECOGNIZE THAT LUTHERAN CHURCH—CANADA (LCC) IS NO LONGER IN ALTAR AND PULPIT FELLOWSHIP WITH THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND (LCANZ)

(Reference Overture 2.03)

WHEREAS Holy Scripture clearly teaches that only qualified men should be called and ordained into the office of the holy ministry (see 1 Timothy 2-3, 1 Corinthians 14, LCC’s CTCR Report, ‘Theses on the Role of Women in the Church’, that was adopted for guidance and reference at our 1996 Convention and reaffirmed at our 2022 Convention); and

WHEREAS the LCANZ officially approved the ordination of women into the pastoral office at its October 2024 Convention, and is now ordaining women into the pastoral office; and

WHEREAS on March 21, 2025 the Board of Directors of the International Lutheran Council (ILC), of which Lutheran Church–Canada is a full member, removed the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand (LCANZ) from membership in the ILC over its decision to depart from the clear teaching of Scripture and the doctrinal standards of the ILC by approving the ordination of women; and

WHEREAS differences in doctrine and practice exist between the LCC and the LCANZ, not only on this issue of the ordination of women to the pastoral office, but also on

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other matters such as the authority of the scriptures, the scriptural understanding of church fellowship, and the doctrine and practice of close[d] communion; and

WHEREAS LCC understands altar and pulpit fellowship to be a gift of God that exists by His grace on the basis of agreement in doctrine and practice; therefore be it

RESOLVED that with deep sorrow and regret Lutheran Church—Canada declare its recognition that it is no longer in altar and pulpit fellowship with the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand; and be it finally

RESOLVED that LCC commit itself to pursuing further doctrinal discussions with the LCA NZ in the hope that by God’s grace our church bodies might once again attain agreement in doctrine and practice and so enjoy the gift of God-given and God-pleasing altar and pulpit fellowship.

Motion C26.15: To adopt Resolution 26.2.03
Action: Adopted

RESOLUTION 26.2.04 TO RECOGNIZE FELLOWSHIP WITH THE LUTHERAN MISSION – AUSTRALIA

(Reference Overture 2.04)

WHEREAS as a result of the Lutheran Church of Australia and New Zealand (LCA NZ) approval and sanctioning of the ordination of women into the office of the holy ministry at its 2024 Convention, which is clearly contrary to the Scriptures; some pastors, lay members, and congregations have left that church body and established Lutheran Mission – Australia (LM-A); and

WHEREAS Lutheran Church–Canada in a previous adopted resolution sadly recognized that this action on the part of the LCA NZ has severed the bond of fellowship between our two churches; and

WHEREAS discussions have taken place between representatives of Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) and Lutheran Mission – Australia (LM-A); and

WHEREAS these discussions have revealed a clear unity in the doctrine of the Gospel and all its articles and in the right administration of the Sacraments (AC VII); and

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WHEREAS LCC’s Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) has reviewed the report of these discussions and has concurred with this mutual agreement between LCC and LM-A; and

WHEREAS the CTCR views the benefits of fellowship to be a future blessing from the Lord of the Church for both church bodies; therefore be it

RESOLVED that LCC recognize that a state of altar and pulpit fellowship exists between Lutheran Church–Canada and Lutheran Mission – Australia.

Motion C26.16: To adopt Resolution 26.2.04

Action: Adopted

RESOLUTION 26.2.05 TO RECOGNIZE FELLOWSHIP WITH THE LUTHERAN CHURCH IN THE PHILIPPINES (LCP)

(Reference Overture 2.05)

WHEREAS the Lutheran Church in the Philippines (LCP) dates to 1946 when missionaries from The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod (LCMS) arrived in Manila; and

WHEREAS in 1971 the Lutheran Church in the Philippines was received as a partner church with the LCMS; and

WHEREAS the Lutheran Church in the Philippines is a full member of the International Lutheran Council (ILC), along with Lutheran Church–Canada, both churches subscribing to the doctrinal provision of the ILC; and

WHEREAS discussions have taken place between representatives of Lutheran Church–Canada (LCC) and the Lutheran Church in the Philippines (LCP), revealing a clear unity in the doctrine of the Gospel and all its articles and in the right administration of the Sacraments (AC VII); and

WHEREAS the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) of LCC has reviewed the report of these discussions and has concurred with this mutual agreement between LCC and the LCP; and

WHEREAS the CTCR views the benefits of fellowship to be a future blessing from the Lord of the Church for both church bodies – e.g. LCC assisting the LCP in theological

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education at their seminary, and LCP assisting LCC mission outreach to Filipino immigrants in Canada; therefore be it

RESOLVED that LCC recognize that a state of altar and pulpit fellowship exists between Lutheran Church–Canada and the Lutheran Church in the Philippines.

Motion C26.17: To adopt Resolution 26.2.05

Action: Adopted

RESOLUTION 26.2.11 ON MEDICAL ASSISTANCE IN DYING (MAID)

(Reference Overtures 2.07, 2.13, and 2.14)

WHEREAS God has created all human beings in His image, and bestows upon all human life intrinsic sacredness, worth and value regardless of the quality or worth--or lack of it--perceived by the world or by one's self, and,

WHEREAS such sacredness of human life is constantly desecrated and belittled by sin, death and the devil, yet God restores fullness of life to fallen man in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ through the ministry of the Church, and,

WHEREAS the Christian's life of faith consists not only of placing one's whole day-to-day life into God's hands and direction, but also one's death, allowing such to happen at the time and place of God's choosing, and,

WHEREAS it is the sacred role of government, instituted by God as His instrument, to uphold and protect all human life, from conception to natural death, especially that of the frail and vulnerable, and,

WHEREAS through the present policies concerning MAID, the government of Canada has been grossly derelict of its solemn responsibility to protect life and has advocated and put into practice a worldview and philosophical perspective that desecrates life and strips it of intrinsic sanctity and value, and,

WHEREAS since the initial legalization of MAID for restricted purposes intended only for the terminally ill and suffering, there has been a relentless dangerous trend of wider expansion of its eligibility also to those who are mentally ill, depressed, lonely, or merely unhappy with life, and,

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WHEREAS the faithful of the church are suffering from increasing temptation to consider MAID as an option for end of life and increasing pressure not to oppose or speak against its practice; therefore be it

RESOLVED that LCC reaffirm before the church, the governing authorities and the public at large her unwavering commitment to the sacredness of all human life from conception to natural death, and therefore also her firm opposition to the practice of MAID, with its belittling and desecration of the sacredness of life, along with the philosophical perspectives underlying it, and also to encourage all to a blessed end by faith in Jesus Christ, commending their last hour to the time and place of God's choosing, and, be it further

RESOLVED that the Convention would request the CTCR to formulate Pastoral Guidelines for pastors and laity struggling with MAID and its consequences, further

RESOLVED that LCC encourage governing authorities to repeal the legislation of MAID and return to its God-given duty to reverence life, and be it finally

RESOLVED that LCC and her auxiliary agencies, such as Lutherans for Life-Canada, and her pastors encourage a vibrant confession and ministry to respond to the threats of the temptation of MAID by providing relevant Bible studies, literature, and guidance for ministry to the faithful of LCC concerning this topic, and encourage programs and agencies within the church and/or in our communities at large which provides for the lonely, the depressed and the vulnerable, beneficial care and loving alternatives to MAID.

Motion C26.18: To adopt Resolution 26.2.11

Action: Adopted

**RESOLUTION 26.2.06 TO CELEBRATE THE 500TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
PRESENTATION OF THE AUGSBURG CONFESSION**

(Reference Overture 2.06)

WHEREAS the Augsburg Confession is the foremost confession of faith of our Evangelical Lutheran Church; and

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- WHEREAS the Preface to the Book of Concord states: “Our disposition and intention has always been directed toward the goal that no other doctrine be treated and taught in our lands, territories, schools, and churches than that alone which is based on the Holy Scriptures of God and is embodied in the Augsburg Confession . . . so that the pure teaching and confession of the faith may be preserved and perpetuated among our posterity through the help and assistance of the Holy Spirit until the glorious advent of our Redeemer and Saviour Jesus Christ” (p. 12); and
- WHEREAS Article II of our Synodical Constitution states that “every Member of Lutheran Church–Canada accepts without reservation . . . the Unaltered Augsburg Confession . . . as a true and unadulterated statement and exposition of the Word of God” (p. 9); and
- WHEREAS every constitution of an LCC congregation contains a provision along these lines from the ‘Sample Constitution and Bylaws for LCC Congregations’: “Only such hymns, prayers, and liturgies shall be used in the public worship of this congregation and in all ministerial acts as to conform to the confessional standard of Article III. Likewise, in all classes for instruction in Christian doctrine, only such books shall be used as conform to this standard” (p. 3); and
- WHEREAS every pastor and deacon of LCC, at the time of their ordination/consecration/installation into office, confesses the Unaltered Augsburg Confession “to be a true exposition of Holy Scripture and a correct exhibition of the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church;” and promises to “perform the duties of [their] office in accordance with these Confessions“ (*Lutheran Service Book Agenda*, p. 179, 220); and
- WHEREAS in his essay at the 1863 Convention of the LCMS, C. F. W. Walther said: “When we discover how little most of our congregations know about the Symbols (confessional writings), it must humble us deeply, and on the other hand become for us a mighty incentive to familiarize the people with them and urge them to read [and study] them diligently” (C.F.W. Walther, *Essays for the Church*, Vol. I, p. 78); and
- WHEREAS the year 2030 will be the 500th Anniversary of the Presentation of the Augsburg Confession; therefore be it
- RESOLVED that the Synod President, in consultation with the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, strike an anniversary committee to prepare and gather study

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guides, provide worship materials, articles for The Canadian Lutheran periodical, and the like on the Augsburg Confession; and be it further

RESOLVED that pastors, deacons and congregations be encouraged to make use of such materials; and be it further

RESOLVED that circuit forums and convocations, regional gatherings, church workers conferences, youth and young adult gatherings, LWMLC zone rallies, and the like be focused on this anniversary; and be it further

RESOLVED that such materials be made available for dissemination to the pastors, deacons, and congregations of LCC at least two years prior to our 2030 Convention; and be it finally

RESOLVED that the theme of the 2030 Synod Convention be based upon the Presentation of the Augsburg Confession.

Motion C26.19: To adopt Resolution 26.2.06

Action: Adopted

Responsive Prayer 2 – Rev. Vince Moore

Announcements – Tasheney Francis, Director of Communications

Recess

President Teuscher declared the third session in recess until 7:00 pm at 3:56 pm (CDT)

MINUTES – Session 4

Call to Order

President Teuscher called the fourth session to order at 7:00 pm (CDT)

Rev. Schnarr opened the session with a word of prayer.

Registration Committee Report – Rev. Tom Kruesel, Chairman

Voting Pastor Delegates – 143

Voting Lay Delegates – 148

TOTAL VOTING – 291

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Advisory Delegates – 12
Advisory Representatives – 20
Registered Visitors – 18
Invited Guests – 11
TOTAL– 61

Exhibitors – 11
Staff/ Contractors – 28
Spouses – 38
TOTAL – 77

President Teuscher reported that the Ottawa Circuit met to vote for Circuit Counsellor.

First Ballot

Matthew Habermas – 8
Aaron Astley – 7

President Teuscher declared Rev. Matthew Habermas elected.

Elections for Board of Directors – Commission on Nominations and Elections, Rod Johnson,
Co-Chairman

Nominations from the Floor for lay members on the BOD:
None

Rod Johnson presented the slate.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Election Results

First Ballot

James Frey (Central) - 142 (57.3%)
David Patrick (Central) -100 (40.3%)
Lois Griffin (East) – 124 (50%)
Daryll Holland (East) – 122 (49.2%)
Reg Tiegs (East) – 116 (46.8%)
Delton Zehr (East) – 74 (29.8%)

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d’Arcy Gamble (W) – 92 (37.1%)
Doug Petersen (W) – 134 (54%)
Shaun Visser(W) –122 (49.2%)

Pres. Teuscher declared James Frey and Doug Peterson elected to the BOD. Delton Zehr received the lowest number of votes and was dropped from the second ballot.

Rod Johnson presented the slate.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Second Ballot

David Patrick (Central) 123 (49.6%)
Lois Griffin (East) – 132 (53.2%)
Daryll Holland (East) – 121 (48.8%)
Reg Tiegs (East) – 94 (37.9%)
Shaun Visser(W) –123 (49%)
D’Arcy Gamble (W) – 98 (39.5%)

Pres. Teuscher declared Lois Griffin elected to the BOD. Reg Tiegs received the lowest number of votes and was dropped from the third ballot.

Rod Johnson presented the slate.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Third Ballot

David Patrick (Central) – 105 (43.4%)
Daryll Holland (East) – 130 (53.7%)
Shaun Visser(West) – 117 (48.3%)
d’Arcy Gamble (West) – 94 (38.8%)

Pres. Teuscher declared Darryll Holland elected to the BOD. D’arcy Gamble received the lowest number of votes and was dropped from the third ballot.

Rod Johnson presented the slate.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Fourth Ballot

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David Patrick (Central) – 107 (54.5%)
Shaun Visser(West) – 107 (45.5%)

Pres. Teuscher declared Shaun Visser elected to the BOD.

Nominations from the Floor for pastor/clergy members on the BOD:
None

Rev. David Dressler and Rev. Aaron Gust were removed as they were previously elected to other positions.

Reg Tiegs presented the slate.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Election Results

First Ballot

Rev. Alex Klages (Central) – 200 (75.8%)
Rev. Aaron Astley (East) – 184 (69.7%)
Rev. Kurt Lantz (East) – 124 (47.0%)
Rev. Mark Hennig (West) – 137 (51.9%)
Rev. Tom Kruesel (West) -120 (45.5%)

Rev. Alex Klages, Rev. Aaron Astley and Rev. Mark Hennig were elected to the BOD.

Nominations from the Floor for deacon member on the BOD:
None

Reg Tiegs presented the slate.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Election Results

First Ballot

Dcn. Amanda Hastings (Central) – 131 (51.6%)

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Dcn. Lenora Simpson (East) – 123 (48.4%)

Pres. Teuscher declared Amanda Hastings elected to the BOD.

Greetings – Seminary Presidents –

Rev. Jonathan Kraemer, Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton, President

Rev. Dr. Thomas Winger, Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary, St. Catharines, President

Elections for Commission on Nominations and Elections

– Commission on Nominations and Elections, Reg Tiegs, Chairman

Nominations from the Floor for the Commission on Nominations and Elections:

None

Reg Tiegs presented the slate.

President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Election Results

First ballot

Rod Johnson (Central) 176 (70.4%)

Wendy Chant (East) 153 (61.2%)

Rhonda Abando (West) 85 (34.0%)

Josh Bentley (West) 94 (37.6%)

Karen Hildebrandt (West) 86 (43.4%)

Elizabeth Schieman (West) 106 (42.4%)

Pres. Teuscher declared Rod Johnson and Wendy Chant elected to the CNE. Rhonda Abando received the lowest number of votes and was dropped from the second ballot.

Reg Tiegs presented the slate.

President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Second Ballot

Josh Bentley (West) - 74 (29.1%)

Karen Hildebrandt (West) - 78 (30.7%)

Elizabeth Schieman (West) - 102 (40.2%)

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Josh Bentley received the lowest number of votes and was dropped from the second ballot.

Reg Tiegs presented the slate.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Third Ballot

Karen Hildebrandt (West) – 99 (40.1%)
Elizabeth Schieman (West) -148 (59.9%)

Pres. Teuscher declared Elizabeth Schieman elected to the CNE.

Clergy Members for the CNE

Nominations from the Floor for clergy members the Commission on Nominations and Elections:

None

Reg Tiegs presented the slate.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Election Results

First Ballot

Rev. Glenn Worcester (Central) – 184 (71.3%)
Rev. Kurt Lantz (East) – 193 (74.8%)
Rev. Kurt Reinhardt (East) – 192 (74.4%)
Rev. Scott Brayall (West) – 170 (65.9%)
Rev. Phillip Washeim (West) – 208 (80.6%)

Pres. Teuscher declared Rev. Glenn Worcester, Rev. Kurt Lantz, Rev. Kurt Reinhardt, Rev. Phillip Washeim elected to the CNE.

Greetings from Evangelical Fellowship of Canada (EFC) – Rick Hiemstra

Elections for the Commission on Theology and Church Relations

– Commission on Nominations and Elections, Reg Tiegs, Chairman

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Nominations from the Floor for the lay member on the Commission on Theology and Church Relations:

None.

Reg Tiegs presented the slate.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Election Results

First Ballot

Mathew Block (Central) - 226 (87.3%)
Shane Kelly (East) – 46 (17.8%)
Daniel Smilek (East) - 127 (49.0%)
Archie Richardson (West) - 98 (37.8%)

Matthew Block was declared elected to the Commission on Theology and Church. Since no other candidates received a majority, Shane Kelly’s name was dropped from the next ballot and a second ballot was presented to delegates.

Reg Tiegs presented the slate.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Second Ballot

Daniel Smilek (East) – 140 (56.7%)
Archie Richardson (West) - 107 (43.3%)

Daniel Smilek was declared elected to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations.

Nominations from the Floor for clergy member Commission on Theology and Church Relations

None

Reg Tiegs presented the slate.
President Teuscher called for voting on the Ballot.

Election Results

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First Ballot

Rev. Jack Hetzel (East) – 65 (25.8%)
Rev. Joel Kuhl (East) – 188 (74.6%)
Rev. Paul Williams (East) – 56 (22.2%)
Rev. Mike Keith (West) – 176 (69.8%)

Rev. Joel Kuhl and Rev. Mike Keith were declared elected to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations.

Announcements – Dr. Tasheney Francis, Director of Communications

Close of the Day Daily Prayer – Rev. Cam Schnarr

Recess – President Teuscher declared the convention in recess until 8:15 am at 8:43 pm (CDT)