



**DATE:** January 22, 2016  
**TO:** Congregations and Rostered Leaders of the Saskatchewan Synod  
**FROM:** Saskatchewan Synod Council  
**RE:** Changes to the Nomination and Election of Delegates to the National Convention

Please be advised that a change in how delegates are chosen for the ELCIC National Convention is required.

Please see the attached documents explaining the new process and the Nomination Form.

### **Call for Nominations for delegates to attend the 2017 National Convention**

This is the official Call for Nomination of delegates to attend the 2017 National Convention. It is anticipated that the Convention will be held in early July, 2017 in Winnipeg.

Congregations are encouraged to nominate rostered leaders and lay people who they think will represent the Synod well at the National Convention. (Form attached)

Completed Nomination Forms must be received at the Synod Office by **Monday, April 4, 2016**. These forms will be part of the Synod Convention docket that is available to Synod Convention delegates.

Synod Delegates at the 2016 Synod Convention will elect 29 delegates to go from the Saskatchewan Synod to the 2017 National ELCIC Convention.

Full details about the process are on the following pages.

Should you have questions, please contact your Synod Council representative or the Synod Office.

# Nominations and Election of Saskatchewan Synod Delegates to the ELCIC National Convention

## Background

In 2015, the National Church adopted a new governance structure that included provisions to reduce the size of national conventions. Each synod was tasked with the responsibility of determining how it would elect its delegates to the National Convention.

## National / Synodical Convention Cycle

The current system of biennial conventions will be replaced with a triennial, or three year, cycle but not immediately as there will be a transition period. This transition period is to align the schedule of national conventions with the Anglican Church of Canada convention schedule thereby leaving open the possibility of joint gatherings. When the triennial system begins in 2018, the yearly sequence will be synod convention followed by national convention followed by a year in which there is no convention.

## The schedule from 2016 through 2022 will be:

- 2016 SK Synod Convention
- 2017 National Convention
- 2018 SK Synod Convention
- 2019 National Convention (3 year cycle begins for national convention)
- 2020 / 2021 SK Synod Convention (yet to be determined if SK Synod will move to a 3 year cycle)
- 2022 National Convention

## National Convention Size / SK Synod Representation

The total number of synodical delegates attending national conventions will be 150 (ELCIC Administrative By-laws Part VII Section 7). The Saskatchewan Synod share of this total is determined by the following:

- a) A base number of 10
- b) An additional number based on the Saskatchewan Synod's share of ELCIC baptized membership

For the 2017 ELCIC National Convention, Saskatchewan Synod representation must be allocated amongst lay, rostered ministers and youth delegates in the following proportions:

- a) Rostered Ministers: 12 (40%)
  - b) Lay: 15 (53.3%)
  - c) Youth: 2 (6.7%)
- Total 29 delegates**

As it will not be possible for all congregations to send representation to this smaller-sized national convention, this document sets out a process for selecting synod representatives and subsequently an amendment to the Synod Bylaws will come before Synod Convention. As the 2017 national convention will be the first with the reduced format, we will have to elect our delegates to that convention at our Synod convention in June 2016.

**Note:** For the 2016 election, those delegates (lay, rostered, youth) who attended the 2015 national convention are eligible for nomination to attend the 2017 national convention.

Financial costs for National Convention delegates will rest with each Synod. As with the Synod convention cost share, the delegate costs for attendance at National Convention (registration fee, travel and accommodations) will be shared among the congregations by dividing the total delegate costs by the total number of confirmed members in this synod times the number of confirmed members reported by each congregation in their most recent parochial report.

## **POLICY FOR THE NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF SYNOD DELEGATES TO NATIONAL CONVENTION**

### **Section I      Nominations for Delegates**

1. 120 days in advance of a synod convention at which delegates to a national convention will be elected, the secretary of synod council shall call for nominations for lay, youth and rostered delegate positions. Nominations shall close 60 days prior to the opening of the convention at which the elections shall take place. There will be no nominations from the floor during the synod convention.

**For the 2016 convention, the call for nominations will be no later than February 4, 2016, and nominations will close on April 4, 2016.**

2. Eligible nominees shall be:
  - a) rostered ministers, active or retired from ministry of this church, and member of a congregation of this Synod that was not represented at the previous national convention by a rostered delegate;
  - b) lay members who are baptized members in good standing of a congregation of this Synod that was not represented at the previous national convention by a lay delegate; and
  - c) youth who are baptized members in good standing of a congregation of this Synod who will be between the ages of 16 and 25 inclusive on the first full day of the next national convention and who did not serve as a youth delegate to the previous national convention.
3. Nominations will be accepted provided:
  - a) the nominee is endorsed by the Congregational Council of the congregation within which the nominee is a member;
  - b) with the exception of a youth nomination, only one rostered minister and one lay member can be nominated for each congregation; and
  - c) the nomination form is completed in full and includes biographical information.

4. A list of all nominees and their biographies will be posted on the Saskatchewan Synod Convention web-site page no later than 30 days prior to the opening of the convention at which the elections shall take place, and published in the convention Bulletin of Reports.

## **Section II      Order of Elections**

1. Voting will take place in the following order at the 2016 convention: Youth, Rostered, Lay. For subsequent conventions, the order of election shall rotate between Rostered and Lay (i.e. 2018 – Youth, Lay, Rostered).
2. Nominees (Youth, Rostered, Lay) receiving the greatest number of votes on the first ballot shall be declared elected. If necessary, second ballots shall be held to break ties.
3. Synod Convention delegates are encouraged to vote for delegates giving consideration to congregations of all sizes, geographical representation and gender balance.

## **Section III      Replacement of Delegates**

1. If an elected delegate(s) is unable to attend the national convention or becomes ineligible to attend, the Synod Council shall appoint a replacement(s). Whenever possible, the replacement shall be the nominee who received the next greatest number of votes during the balloting process at the relevant synod convention.

**DRAFT**  
**Synod Bylaw Amendment**  
**Being presented at 2016 Synod Convention**

**Part VI**

**Elections of Delegates to the National Church Convention**  
**(Congregation Constitution, Article VI, Sec. 2)**

<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
<p>Section 1.  The synod secretary shall inform each of the conferences of the number of ordained delegates to be elected to the national church convention as determined by the secretary of this church.</p>	<p><b>Section 1.</b>  <b>The synod secretary shall inform the congregations of the number of voting delegates and the apportionment of lay, youth and rostered ministers to be elected to the national church convention as determined by the secretary of this church.</b></p>
<p>Section 2.  Ordained delegates and alternates shall be elected at least seven months before the national church convention after which the synod secretary shall inform those parishes eligible to elect lay delegate(s). Lay delegates and alternates shall be elected at least four months before the convention.</p>	<p><b>Section 2.</b>  <b>Delegates will be elected at the synod convention in the year preceding the national convention. Nominations will be called for a minimum of 120 days prior to the synod convention and will close no later than 60 days prior to the synod convention.</b></p>
<p>Section 3.  Where more than one ordained delegate is elected from a congregation or a multiple-congregational parish, the additional ordained delegate must secure the written consent of the congregation or parish to pay the additional fee or make other arrangements for payment. (ELCIC Bylaws, Part V, Section 5).</p>	<p><b>Section 3.</b>  <b>The delegate costs for attendance at National Convention will be shared among the congregations by dividing the total delegate costs by the total number of confirmed members in this synod times the number of confirmed members reported by each congregational in their most recent parochial report.</b></p>

**For Reference (the Congregation Constitution; ARTICLE VI )**  
**Relationship to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC)**

Section 2. This congregation claims for itself all the rights and privileges and accepts all the duties and obligations connected with being part of the ELCIC. In so doing this congregation recognizes the constitution, bylaws and enactments of this church and of the synod as having governing force in its life.

# SASKATCHEWAN SYNOD BIOGRAPHICAL DATA: Nomination for National Convention Delegate

Please complete the following biographical data form and submit it no later than **April 4, 2016**, for the consideration of delegates electing national convention delegates at the Sask Synod Convention on June 3-5, 2016. **NOTE:** Incomplete forms will not be accepted for nomination. Completed forms will be posted under Synod Convention at [www.sasksynod.ca](http://www.sasksynod.ca)

**PLEASE SEND TO:**  
Saskatchewan Synod  
714 Preston Ave South  
Saskatoon, SK S7H 2V2  
**Email:** [sksynod@elcic.ca](mailto:sksynod@elcic.ca)  
**Phone:** 306-244-2474  
**Fax:** 306-664-8677

**Delegate Type:** Youth  Lay  Rostered

**Were you a delegate at the 2015 National Convention in Edmonton?** Yes  No

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Last name) (First name) (Middle initial)

**Mailing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(Street/ PO Box/RR Site) (Town/City) (Province) (Postal Code)

**Phone: Home:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Mobile:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Work:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Preferred Email:** \_\_\_\_\_

## CONGREGATIONAL MEMBERSHIP

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Location:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Experiences and abilities that will help you to serve as a delegate.** (i.e., church, employment, education, community, etc.)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_

**Why are you interested in serving as a delegate?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**If elected, how will you prepare to serve as a delegate prior to the National Convention?** \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

**If elected, are you willing to provide a written report to SK Synod following the National Convention, and to participate in face-to face or electronic methods (as Synod finances permit) of reporting on the convention to congregations within the Synod?** Yes  No  (if no please explain) \_\_\_\_\_

**Nominee Sign:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_  
(I certify information is correct and agree to terms of this nomination)

**Congregation Council Representative Sign:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Council Position:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_