

OVERTURE 1.01 TO GRANT AUXILIARY STATUS TO THE LUTHERAN LAYMEN'S LEAGUE OF CANADA

WHEREAS the International Lutheran Laymen's League is an official auxiliary of LCC but the Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada is not; and
WHEREAS it is only fitting that the Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada be granted the same status in LCC; and
WHEREAS the Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada has petitioned the Board of Directors of LCC for auxiliary status in LCC;

Therefore be it

RESOLVED that Synod in convention grant the Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada auxiliary status in LCC; and be it finally
RESOLVED that LCC give thanks to God for the ongoing work of the Lutheran Laymen's League of Canada.

Lutheran Church—Canada
Board of Directors
Arnold Drung, Chairman

Overture 1.02 TO STUDY OUR PRESENT CALL PROCEDURE

WHEREAS God has granted gifts and talents to His people and His congregations; and
WHEREAS God desires His people and His congregations to use those gifts and talents in His service through wise and faithful stewardship; and
WHEREAS the current Lutheran Church—Canada (LCC) call process allows professional church workers (incl. pastors, deacons, etc...) to assess their gifts and talents in collaboration with those of a calling congregation *after* a call has been placed, through the call documents, discussions, and interviews; and
WHEREAS the current LCC call process may be hampered because congregations, who do seek to follow the Spirit's guidance, even as they seek to most effectively match gifts and abilities of a candidate with the needs of the congregation, often find that information provided to them is out of date, incomplete, or subject to misinterpretation; and
WHEREAS this can, and has, led to situations whereby there has been poor matching of the gifts/talents that God gives professional church workers with the gifts/talents that God gives congregations, resulting in ministry efforts needing to be spent on resolving these differences, resulting in ministry resources not being maximized on sharing and caring in Christ, which is poor stewardship of the gifts and talents God has granted to His people and His congregations;

Therefore be it

RESOLVED that LCC initiate actions to review the call process, to seek improvements that would enable better matching of gifts/talents before professional church worker calls are placed, to the glory of God and the best stewardship of the resources, gifts, and talents that He grants.

Foothills Lutheran Church
Calgary, AB
Brian Chandler, president
Darlene Gaber, secretary

1 Tim Roth, Elder

2 **OVERTURE 1.03 TO REQUEST A CHANGE IN CONCORDIA PUBLISHING**
3 **HOUSE COPYRIGHT POLICY**

4
5 WHEREAS St John's Lutheran congregation in Vernon, BC, as well as other congregations in Canada have
6 bought copies of the *LUTHERAN WORSHIP* hymnal (Copyright 1982 by Concordia Publishing
7 House) for use in worship by the whole congregation; and
8

9 WHEREAS St John's Lutheran congregation, along with many other congregations, continues to use
10 LUTHERAN WORSHIP liturgies and hymns in worship;

11
12 WHEREAS St John's, along with other congregations, currently uses computers, projectors and screens to
13 facilitate worship; and
14

15 WHEREAS Concordia Publishing House (CPH) does not allow any copyrighted parts of *LUTHERAN*
16 *WORSHIP* to be reproduced in any manner whatsoever without written permission from the
17 publisher or the copyright holders, CPH does not make a copyright license available to
18 congregations to randomly reproduce copyrighted parts as needed and at their convenience;
19

20 Therefore be it

21
22 RESOLVED that Lutheran Church Canada request that Concordia Publishing House change its policy and
23 practice to allow all congregations that have bought *LUTHERAN WORSHIP* to be able to freely
24 reproduce and use any part of *LUTHERAN WORSHIP* that is copyrighted by CPH.
25

26 St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
27 Vernon, BC
28 Barry Schick, Chairman
29
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31 **OVERTURE 1.04 TO REQUEST A RESPONSE TO WORLD PRIDE 2014**

32
33 WHEREAS Toronto, Canada is hosting World Pride in 2014; and
34

35 WHEREAS John the Baptist came preaching, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew 3:2)
36 and Jesus the Christ preached, saying "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand" (Matthew
37 4:17); and
38

39 WHEREAS the Toronto event will occur before an Overture/Resolution could be presented to and acted upon
40 by the East District Convention in 2015;

41
42 Therefore be it
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44 RESOLVED that Lutheran Church Canada prepare a response.
45

46
47 Hanover Circuit Forum, East District
48 John Hogg, Secretary/Treasurer, Steve Otterman, Chair
49
50

51 **OVERTURE 2.01 TO UPDATE PROVISIONS ON CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY**
52 **COLLEGE OF ALBERTA (CUCA) IN THE SYNODICAL**
53 **BYLAWS, SECTION VI**
54

- 1 WHEREAS Concordia University College of Alberta (CUCA) is public post-secondary institution , established
 2 by Lutheran Church-Canada and incorporated in the Province of Alberta under the “CUCA Act,
 3 1978 as a public post-secondary institution being designated by law as an “Independent Academic
 4 Institution,” and
 5
- 6 WHEREAS the CUCA Act authorizes the Board of Concordia University College to determine its composition
 7 and appoint its members, and
- 8 WHEREAS the current Handbook of Lutheran Church Canada does not reflect the current governance
 9 structure of CUCA,
 10 Therefore be it
- 11 RESOLVED Synodical Bylaw 6.01. b and d be removed from the Synodical Bylaws, and be it further
 12 RESOLVED that Chapter VI of the Handbook be divided into 2 sections, Section 1 to deal with the seminaries
 13 established by Lutheran Church-Canada and to include all the current content of chapter VI,
 14 except 6.01 b and d; Section 2 with CUCA, be it finally
- 15 RESOLVED that the following be placed into the Handbook as Section 2 of Chapter VI:
 16
 17

18 **Concordia University College of Alberta**

- 19
- 20 a. CUCA is public post-secondary institution , established by Lutheran Church – Canada and incorporated in
 21 the Province of Alberta under the “Concordia University College of Alberta Act” (CUCA Act) as a public
 22 post-secondary institution being designated by law as an “Independent Academic Institution.”
 23 b. The CUCA Act authorizes the Board of Concordia University College to determine its composition and
 24 appoint its members.
 25 c. The CUCA Act empowers the board to approve, amend or repeal its corporate bylaws
 26

27 **6.103 Board of Governors**

28 The Board of Governors of CUCA shall consist of the following voting members:
 29

- 30 a. Chair of the Board
 31 b. Chancellor
 32 c. President & Vice Chancellor
 33 d. 2 CUCA Alumni nominated by the Concordia Alumni Association
 34 e. 1 Academic Staff Member who is a member of and nominated by the Faculty Association
 35 f. President of the Concordia Students’ Association and one additional student nominated by the
 36 Concordia Students’ Association
 37 g. President of the Graduate Students’ Association of CUCA
 38 h. One member of the non-academic staff nominated by the non-academic staff
 39 i. The President of the Alberta-British Columbia District of the Synod of LCC
 40 j. Not more than nine members representative of the general public, in addition to the chair, appointed by
 41 the Board, with due consideration given to the appointment of individuals who will uphold CUCA’s
 42 ecclesiastical bond with the Synod.
 43

44 **6.105 Role of the Board of Governors**

45 The Board of Governors has the following responsibilities
 46

- 47 a. To exercise all powers necessary to meet the statutory objects of the institution, to fulfill its
 48 obligations to the people of Alberta, and to identify and comply with all legal, financial and
 49 governance obligations required of the Board of a publicly funded university college of the
 50 Independent Academic Institution sector of Alberta Post-Secondary Education.

- b. Uphold CUCA’s ecclesiastical bond with Lutheran Church-Canada and with other entities which have accepted the principles, doctrines and religious standards of the Synod as set out in its Constitution and Synodical Bylaws.
- c. Ensure the institution’s long-term independence, success, viability and welfare.
- d. Appoint, support and access the performance of the President
- e. Ensure fiscal integrity, preserve institutional assets, provide fiduciary oversight, monitor performance, borrow money, ensure adequate financial controls and reporting engage with auditors, review audit results, approve financial statements and identify and manage institutional risks.
- f. Establish and maintain a principled culture and Chrsitian standards of ethics and conduct

Lutheran Church–Canada
Board of Directors
Arnold Drung, Chairman

OVERTURE 2.02 TO GIVE THANKS TO GOD FOR THE FACULTY AND STAFF OF CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF ALBERTA

WHEREAS the faculty and staff of Concordia University College of Alberta (CUCA) have been consistently serving CUCA, the church, Alberta, Canada and their students with the highest standards of excellence in education, spiritual care, research, and service to the community over the years; and

WHEREAS surveys have consistently indicated that CUCA’s graduates continue to have high levels of satisfaction and would be willing to recommend CUCA to anyone; and

WHEREAS nationally, both the *Maclean’s University Survey* and the *Globe and Mail University Report* have ranked CUCA among the top small universities in Canada; and

WHEREAS CUCA has been gaining increasing international recognition and respect as represented by partnerships with universities in Argentina, Barbados, Brazil, Chile, China, France, Germany, Mexico, Portugal and Russia; and

WHEREAS all these achievements and more would not be possible without the continued blessing of God and the faithful service and dedication of CUCA’s faculty and staff, all of which are well known to CUCA’s Board of Governors and to a growing number of people in the church and international community;

Therefore, be it

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada thank God for His many blessings given to CUCA and to the church; and be it finally

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada express its thanks to the faculty and staff of CUCA for their dedication to the University College’s mission and the high-quality contributions they are making in keeping with that mission.

Board of Governors
Concordia University College of Alberta

OVERTURE 2.03 TO INCLUDE PAT PROGRAM IN THE HANDBOOK

WHEREAS Lutheran Church–Canada in convention has ratified the program of Pastors with Alternate Training (PAT); and

1 WHEREAS the program has already been implemented; and
 2 WHEREAS the program has not been included in the *Handbook*; therefore be it
 3 RESOLVED that Chapter V of the *Handbook* be amended as follows:

4 *G. ADMISSION TO THE PASTORAL MINISTRY THROUGH PASTORS WITH ALTERNATE*
 5 *TRAINING (PAT) Program*

6 **5.131 Pastors with Alternate Training (PAT) Committee**

7 *The Pastors with Alternate Training (PAT) program is under the responsibility and administration*
 8 *of the Council of Presidents (COP) of the Synod. The PAT Committee is composed of four*
 9 *members who serve two year terms: the PAT Coordinator, a member appointed by the COP, and*
 10 *one member appointed by each seminary. The chairman of the COP serves in an advisory*
 11 *capacity.*

12 **5.133 Functions**

13 *The PAT Committee shall:*

- 14 *a. Review and update the curriculum and the course outlines;*
- 15 *b. Supervise the academic program for each PAT student approved by the COP;*
- 16 *c. Appoint mentors and instructors for each student;*
- 17 *d. Supervise and provide academic evaluation of each student;*
- 18 *e. Provide regular progress reports to the COP and seminaries about a student's progress;*
- 19 *f. Plan and organize intensive educational sessions;*
- 20 *g. Archive documentation of the entire program;*
- 21 *h. Arrange interviews of the student with the seminaries and the student's respective district*
 22 *president;*
- 23 *i. Upon successful completion of all requirements recommend students to the COP for*
 24 *acceptance into the pastoral ministry of the Synod for service in his site specific pastoral*
 25 *ministry.*

26 **5.135 Application and Eligibility for Admission**

- 27 *a. Application for admission to be a PAT site shall be directed to the president of the district*
 28 *where the application originates.*
- 29 *b. The district president on receipt of application shall arrange to meet with the congregational*
 30 *leadership who are requesting to be a PAT site.*
- 31 *c. Upon completing the interview, the district president will make a recommendation to the COP*
 32 *that the congregation/community of faith be granted PAT site status.*
- 33 *d. Upon ratification by the COP, the congregation/community of faith presents a candidate for*
 34 *the PAT program. The district president will process and evaluate the proposed candidate.*
 35 *The application shall be accompanied by the following documents:*
 - 36 *1. An autobiographical statement by the candidate, setting forth clearly his background and*
 37 *his reason for wishing to qualify for the pastoral ministry in the Synod;*
 - 38 *2. Transcripts of the candidate's secondary and post-secondary training and a description*
 39 *of non-credit academic work done by the candidate; and*
 - 40 *3. Testimonials as to Christian character and life, personality, ability and service in his*
 41 *congregation/community of faith from no fewer than three competent references who*
 42 *have known and observed the applicant for at least two recent years.*
- 43 *e. The district president will submit his evaluation and the accompanying documentation of the*
 44 *candidate to the COP for acceptance into the program.*

45
 46 **5.137 Program of Instruction**

- a. *The PAT Committee shall determine the course of study for each candidate based on his needs and his ecclesiastical background. In general, the course of study will follow the current curriculum which includes classes in the major areas of theology with a focus on personal and spiritual formation and capacity for pastoral leadership.*
- b. *The program includes onsite training under the tutelage of a local mentoring pastor. Regular interviews will be conducted with the PAT student by district presidents, seminary representatives, and the supervisor of the program.*
- c. *The program is normally four years in duration consisting of four stages of progression: Catechist, Lector, Deacon, and Vicar.*
- d. *In consultation with the PAT Committee, the supervisor shall administer the appropriate qualifying program and, when all requirements have been met, the PAT Committee will recommend the student to the COP for certification.*

5.139 Certificate of Eligibility

Candidates who have satisfactorily completed all requirements and have been ratified by the COP shall be given a certificate of eligibility and theological diploma.

5.141 Placement

Every candidate whom the COP declares qualified for pastoral ministry shall be assigned his first site-specific placement by the COP acting as the Board of Assignments.

(and current subsection G be re-lettered)

G. H. OFFICIAL CONFERENCES OF PASTORS AND DEACONS

Lutheran Church–Canada
Board of Directors
Arnold Drung, Chairman

OVERTURE 2.04 TO CLOSE OUR LCC SEMINARIES

WHEREAS our seminaries in Canada are maintained at great expense to the church; and

WHEREAS the seminaries have few students;

Therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the seminaries in Edmonton and St. Catharines be closed; and be it further

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church-Canada pay Canadian students’ travel expenses and tuition to one of the Concordia seminaries in the U.S. – (at St. Louis, MO and Ft. Wayne, IN) beginning in September of 2015; and be it finally

RESOLVED that the Canadian students upon graduation receive a call to a Lutheran Church-Canada congregation.

Holy Trinity Lutheran
Inglis, MB
Ken Eichenlaub, pastor

1 Hope Lutheran
2 Grandview, MB
3 Richard Halwar, Treasurer
4
5

6 **OVERTURE 2.05** **TO AMEND VARIOUS PROVISIONS OF SYNODICAL**
7 **BYLAWS, SECTION VI (COLLEGES AND SEMINARIES)**
8

9 WHEREAS Chapter VI of the Synodical Bylaws contains a number of provisions that have become outdated
10 and

11
12 WHEREAS certain other provisions of Chapter VI are no longer necessary,

13
14 Therefore be it

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16 RESOLVED that Chapter VI of the Synodical Bylaws be amended as follows:
17

18 **VI. COLLEGES AND SEMINARIES**

19
20 **A. BOARDS OF REGENTS**
21

22 **6.01 Membership**
23

24 Each college and seminary established by Lutheran Church–Canada shall be separately incorporated and governed,
25 subject to the Synodical Bylaws, by a board of regents.

26 a. The theological seminary Boards of Regents shall consist of the following board members:

- 27 1. Concordia Lutheran Seminary, Edmonton: six members elected by the Convention in such a way that one is
28 from the East District, two are from the Central District, and three are from the Alberta-British Columbia
29 District; three are to be pastors and three are to be deacons or laypersons; the president or his designate; the
30 president of the Alberta-British Columbia District;
- 31 2. Concordia Lutheran Theological Seminary, St. Catharines: six board members elected by the Convention in
32 such a way that one is from the Alberta-British Columbia District, two are from the Central District, and
33 three are from the East District; three are to be pastors and three are to deacons or laypersons; the president or
34 his designate; the president of the East District.

35 b. The Board of Regents of Concordia University College of Alberta, Edmonton shall consist of the following
36 board members:

- 37 1. three pastors, and three laypersons elected by the Convention;
- 38 2. one deacon or layperson, and two laypersons from the Alberta-British Columbia District elected by the
39 district;
- 40 3. one layperson from the Central District elected by the district;
- 41 4. the president, or a vice-president as his standing representative, of the Alberta-British Columbia and of the
42 Central Districts.

43 In addition, subject to the approval of the Board of Directors, the Board of Regents is authorized to expand its
44 composition by:

- 45 5. appointing as voting members three persons who are communicant members of congregations that are
46 members of Lutheran Church-Canada to serve for terms of three years;
- 47 6. appointing as a voting member a member of the faculty nominated by the faculty who is an active member of
48 a Christian congregation to serve for a term of one year. This faculty member shall not serve on any
49 executive position of the board.
- 50 7. appointing a student nominated by the student body to serve as an advisory member for a term of one year.
51 The student advisor shall be entitled to attend open sessions of board meetings and to provide advice to the
52 board during such meetings.

53 c. All members of a Board of Regents must hold membership in a member congregation of the Synod, and not
54 more than two of the elected members shall be members of the same congregation. There shall be at least one
55 representative from each district. Members of a Board of Regents shall not be on the salaried staff of an

1 educational institution established by Lutheran Church-Canada or enter into any gainful business, contracts, or
2 transactions with the institution.

- 3 d. Bylaw 2.56 and 6.01c shall not apply to a member of the faculty appointed to the Board of Regents of Concordia
4 University College of Alberta, Edmonton.

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10 **6.03 Functions**

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12 In exercising its commitment to the Synod as set forth elsewhere in these Bylaws, the Board of Regents of each
13 institution shall:

- 14 a. make certain that the work of the institution is carried on effectively and to that end require reports from the
15 president as its executive officer and through him from other officers and staff members;
- 16 b. be responsible for the educational programs of the institution;
- 17 c. be responsible for the general welfare of the instructional staff members and other employees, adopt regulations
18 governing off-campus activities, develop policies regarding salary and wage scales, promotion, vacations, health
19 examinations, leaves, dismissal, retirement, pension, and other employee welfare benefit provisions;
- 20 d. be responsible for the general welfare of the students, their housing and board facilities, health services,
21 appropriateness of co-curricular and off-campus activities, and employment;
- 22 e. exercise its responsibility for the efficient business management of its institution through a business officer
23 appointed by it on recommendation of the president of the institution and responsible to him; ~~under its~~
24 ~~supervision the business officer shall keep accurate accounts of all moneys and other assets, regularly deposit all~~
25 ~~moneys in banks designated by the board, submit his books for inspection and audit, and, at the Synod's~~
26 ~~expense, furnish appropriate bond for the faithful performance of his duties.~~
- 27 f. be responsible for the physical property, grounds, buildings, and equipment and keep them in good repair;
- 28 g. supervise the collection and disbursements of all funds raised by the students for student activities;
- 29 h. operate and manage the institution as required by law. All matters which according to synodical regulation
30 require the attention of any board, agency, or officer of the Synod shall be submitted to the Board of Directors
31 for referral to the appropriate recipient;
- 32 i. be the governing body corporate of the institution and be vested with all powers which its members may exercise
33 in law either as directors, trustees, or members of the body corporate, unless in conflict with the laws of the
34 domicile of the institution or its articles of incorporation; in such event the Board of Regents shall have power to
35 perform such acts as may be required by law to effect the corporate existence of the institution.
- 36 j. receive all gifts either by deed or will or otherwise made to the institution ~~and deliver same promptly to the~~
37 ~~treasurer of the Synod or such other person as may be designated by the Board of Directors. If delivery is~~
38 ~~precluded by law or the terms of the gift, the Board of Regents shall hold and administer the same, in accordance~~
39 ~~with the terms of the instrument creating such gift and in accordance with the policies of the Board of Directors;~~
- 40 k. acquire, maintain, and sell property under policies established in consultation with the Board of Directors and
41 with the approval of the Board of Directors;
- 42 l. determine that the charter, articles of incorporation, constitution, and bylaws of each institution conform to and
43 are consistent with those of the Synod; changes therein shall receive the prior consent of the Board of Directors,
44 and where applicable in property and financial matters, of the Board of Directors;
- 45 m. have no power to close its institution or to sell all or any part of the property which constitutes the main campus;
- 46 n. ~~recognize that the responsibility of the Board of Regents resides in the Board as a whole.~~ The Board shall
47 delegate the application of its policies and execution of its resolutions to the president of the institution as its
48 executive officer;
- 49 o. designate a faculty member of the institution as acting president in case of the president's absence, his temporary
50 incapacity, or a vacancy in the office.

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53 **B. PRESIDENTS**

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55 **6.11 Election**
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- 1 a. The Board of Regents having first consulted with the Board of Directors shall issue in the official periodical of
2 the Synod a call for the nomination of candidates for the presidency of the institution. The call for nominations
3 shall describe the office and qualifications desired to fill it.
- 4 b. Candidates may be nominated by member congregations of the Synod, the Board of Directors, the Board of
5 Regents, and the faculty of the institution.
- 6 c. All nominations must be filed with the secretary of the Board of Regents within 90 days of the date of its
7 published request unless the request sets a later date. The secretary of the Board of Regents shall thereupon
8 publish the names of the nominees in an official periodical of the Synod, stating also the date on which the
9 election is to be held, which shall be not less than six weeks after the date of the publication of the names of the
10 nominees. Copies of the submitted notice shall at the same time be sent to the president of the Synod and the
11 Board of Directors.
- 12 d. All recommendations, statements of qualifications of any nominees, or objections to any nominee with reasons
13 therefore, must be filed with the Board of Regents before the time fixed for the election. If a charge of false
14 doctrine or offensive life is registered, the electors shall investigate and reach a decision on such charge before
15 proceeding with the election.
- 16 e. A search committee composed of up to three faculty members elected by the faculty and of two members of the
17 Board of Regents elected by the Board of Regents shall make a careful analysis of the needs of the institution,
18 the requirements of the Synod, and the academic and personal qualifications of the nominees. To this end the
19 secretary of the Board of Regents shall make available to this committee all information, recommendations, and
20 objections which he shall receive. On the basis of these studies this committee shall submit to the elector's
21 evaluations and pertinent recommendations regarding the candidates who have been proposed.
- 22 f. At a meeting of the Board of Regents held to elect a president, there shall be present and voting as electors: the
23 members of the Board of Regents as a group with one vote (the district president not voting with the Board); the
24 district president or his designate with one vote; the president or his designate with one vote; and the chairman of
25 the Board of Directors or his designate with one vote.
- 26 g. The election shall be held on the day designated in the notice published in the official periodical of the Synod or
27 as soon thereafter as feasible. The electors shall give due consideration to the recommendations and statements
28 of qualifications and objections submitted on behalf of all nominees. A majority of the electors, with the
29 members of the Board of Regents now voting as individuals, may add names to any preferred list supplied by the
30 search committee after consultation with the search committee. If the electors are unable to complete the
31 election, they may postpone the election and request the Board of Regents to issue a new call for nominations.
- 32 h. The Board of Regents shall extend the formal call promptly after the election and submit its action to an official
33 periodical of the Synod for publication.
- 34 i. Whenever a call is declined, the chairman shall promptly call another meeting of the electors, at which meeting
35 the call may be reissued or another person be elected from among the remaining candidates, or the Board of
36 Regents may be requested to issue a new call for candidates.

37 38 **6.13 Functions**

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40 The president of the institution shall be the executive officer of the Board of Regents and as such serve as the
41 spiritual, academic, and administrative head thereof. He shall--

- 42 a. represent the institution in its relations to the Synod and its officers and boards;
- 43 b. supervise, direct, and administer the affairs of the institution and all its departments, pursuant to the resolutions
44 of the Convention, and the policies of the Board of Regents;
- 45 c. bring to the attention of the Board of Regents matters which require consideration or decision and make pertinent
46 recommendations;
- 47 d. be the academic head of the faculty, preside at its meetings, and be an ex-officio member of all standing
48 committees of the faculty and its departments with the exception of the standing hearings committee or of
49 another standing committee to which the functions of such a committee have been assigned;
- 50 e. periodically visit or cause to be visited the classes of professors and instructors, and in general secure conformity
51 in teaching efficiency and subject matter to the standards and policies prescribed by the Board of Regents and
52 recommendations of the Convention through the Board of Directors;
- 53 f. advise and admonish in a fraternal spirit any member of the faculty found dilatory, neglectful, or exhibiting
54 problems in his teaching. Should this action prove ineffective, he shall request selected members of the faculty
55 privately to engage their colleague in further fraternal discussion. If this results in failure to correct or improve
56 the situation, the president shall report the matter to the Board of Regents with his recommendations for action;

- 1 g. delegate or reassign one or more of his functions to a member of the faculty or staff, although standing
- 2 administrative assignments shall be made by the Board of Regents on his recommendation;
- 3 h. be responsible for the provision of spiritual care and nurture for every student;
- 4 i. carefully watch over the spiritual welfare, personal life, conduct, educational progress, and physical condition of
- 5 the students and in general exercise such Christian discipline, instruction, and supervision as may be expected at
- 6 a Christian educational institution;
- 7 j. be responsible for the employment, direction, and supervision of all employees of the institution;
- 8 k. be responsible for the business management of the school and for the proper operation and maintenance of
- 9 grounds, buildings, and equipment;
- 10 l. make periodic and special financial reports to the Board of Regents.

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12
13 C. FACULTIES

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15 **6.21 Members of Faculty**

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- 17 a. The faculty of each synodical institution shall consist of its president, its administrative officers holding
- 18 instructional rank, and its regular instructional staff members.
- 19 b. Special lecturers and substitute teachers shall hold advisory membership on the faculty.
- 20 c. Administrative positions may be created, modified, abolished, or have functions assigned to them by the Board
- 21 of Regents on recommendation by the president of the institution. Such offices are to be those made necessary by
- 22 the functions assigned to the institution and appropriate to its size and internal organization. Appointments to
- 23 these offices are to be for renewable terms. Ordinarily administrative officers are also to carry a partial teaching
- 24 load.
- 25 d. Administrative appointments shall be made by the Board of Regents on recommendation by the president of the
- 26 institution. The Board of Directors shall periodically review the internal administrative organization of the
- 27 Synod's institutions.

28
29 **6.23 Appointment of Members of Faculty**

- 30
- 31 a. The Board of Regents on recommendation of the president of the institution shall appoint the members of the
- 32 faculty.
- 33 b. Initial appointments to a theological seminary shall require the prior approval of the majority of its electors.
- 34 Appointments shall ordinarily be for terms of one to four years.
- 35 c. The Board of Directors at its discretion may offer a report prior to the Board of Regents' action in any contract
- 36 renewal. The final decision on the renewal of appointment shall be the sole prerogative of the Board of Regents.
- 37 d. The terms and conditions of every appointment shall be stated in writing and be in the possession of both the
- 38 institution and the prospective faculty member before the appointment is consummated. Limitations of academic
- 39 freedom because of the religious and confessional nature and aims of the institution shall be stated in writing at
- 40 the time of the appointment and conveyed to the person being appointed.
- 41 e. The Advisory Council shall review and recommend to the Board of Directors policy statements on academic,
- 42 professional, theological, ministerial, and other criteria for the appointment and advancement of faculty
- 43 members. (Note: The Advisory Council consists of the three educational institutional presidents plus one
- 44 member appointed by and from the Board of Directors.)

45
46 **6.27 Ranking of Members of Faculty**

- 47
- 48 a. The Board of Regents shall determine the assignment and rank of members of the faculty and of the
- 49 administrative officers.
- 50 b. The approved nomenclature for the ranks of faculty members is: instructor, assistant professor, associate
- 51 professor, professor.
- 52 c. The descriptive prefixes "visiting" or "guest" may be used, when appropriate, with the designation of any rank.
- 53 The descriptive suffix "emeritus" may be used, when appropriate, with the designation for any rank, by special
- 54 resolution of the Board of Regents in the case of each person to be so designated.
- 55 d. Persons appointed with designation "graduate assistant" shall not be voting members of the faculty but may be
- 56 granted other faculty privileges and benefits as determined by the Board of Regents.

6.29 Salary Ranges

The salary ranges of all institutional faculty shall be established by the Board of Regents in consultation with the Advisory Council.

6.31 Faculty Organization and Meetings

- a. Instructional staff size or special synodical responsibilities may lead to the organization of a faculty senate.
- b. Faculty and faculty senate meetings shall be held at regular intervals.
- c. Special meetings of the faculty or of the faculty senate may be called by the president.
- d. In the president's absence the designated acting president shall preside at regular and special meetings.
- e. The faculty shall elect a secretary and provide for the election of committees, consisting of faculty members or of faculty members and other persons, who shall study, evaluate, and report to the faculty on policy matters affecting the activity of the institution, the activity and welfare of the members of the faculty, and the life and welfare of the students.
- f. The faculty shall elect a standing hearings committee or assign the functions of such a committee to another standing committee.

6.35 Institutional Educational Policies

- a. Each faculty shall adopt rules and regulations for the admission, transfer, dismissal, or withdrawal of students, fix the standards of scholarship to be maintained by the students, determine criteria for their promotion, graduation, or failure, act on recommendations in the matter of granting certificates, diplomas, and such academic or honorary degrees as may lawfully be conferred by the institution.
- b. Each faculty shall develop and construct curricula implementing the recognized and established purposes of the institution and designed to attain the synodically approved objectives of training for professional church workers. Each faculty shall pursue the improvement of teaching and learning and the evaluation of their effectiveness in every segment of the institution and its curriculum.
- c. Each faculty shall develop policies, standards, and programs for the out-of-class life and activity of its students so that the co-curricular and off-campus activities of the student contribute to the attainment of the educational objectives of the institution. The faculty shall draw up such standards, criteria, and regulations as will be conducive to the cultivation of a Christian deportment on the part of all students, will stimulate the creation of a cultured and academically challenging atmosphere on and about the whole campus, and will make a spiritually wholesome community life possible.
- d. Each faculty shall develop policies, standards, and regulations that will contribute to the maintenance of wholesome conditions of instructional staff service and welfare.
- e. The faculty of each institution which trains professional workers directly for service in the Synod shall conform its placement policies to the synodical provisions for the distribution of candidates and workers through the Board of Assignments.

6.37 Institutional Policy Formation

- a. The regulations, standards, criteria, policies, programs, and curricula developed and adopted by each synodical faculty shall be submitted for approval to the respective Board of Regents.
- b. After approval, these regulations, standards, criteria, policies, programs, and curricula shall be administered and applied by the administrative officers of the institution.
- ~~c. The Board of Directors shall periodically review the institutional policies, programs, and curricula to determine whether they are consistent with the stated objectives of the Synod's educational system and its institutions.~~

6.39 Evangelical Discipline and the Right of Appeal

- a. Each faculty shall develop policies worthy of the Christian faith for personal conduct and community life applicable to student, faculty, and staff members, and other employees while on the campus.

- b. Each Board of Regents, on recommendation of the faculty, shall adopt a comprehensive policy statement committing the school to the principles of Christian discipline, evangelical dealing, and good order governing the students individually and collectively.
- c. Each student shall be informed regarding the disciplinary policy and procedure and under what conditions and to whom an appeal from a disciplinary decision may be made. There shall be no right of appeal under the provisions of bylaw 8.01ff.

6.41 Controversies Among Faculty Members

~~Controversies and disagreements among members of the faculty (other than those set forth in bylaw 6.43) shall be submitted to the president of the institution for mediation. If this proves unsuccessful, he shall report the matter to the Board of Regents for arbitration. After hearing the parties the Board will render its decision, which shall be final, without the right of appeal under the provisions of bylaw 8.01ff. A record of the proceedings shall be filed with the Board of Directors.~~

6.43 Removal from Office

- a. The Board of Regents may decline to renew the appointment of a faculty member in accordance with the terms and conditions of the appointment.
- b. No member of the faculty at times other than the expiration of the term of his appointment shall be removed from the faculty either by ecclesiastical authority or by the Board of Regents except for causes hereinafter enumerated and by procedures of the employing institution.
- c. The only causes for which members of a faculty may be removed from office (within the definitions of "a" and "b" above) ~~other than honourable retirement or reduction in force are:~~
 - 1. incapacity;
 - 2. incompetence;
 - 3. neglect of duty;
 - 4. ~~failure to develop to meet job requirements; dereliction of duty~~
 - 5. blatant disregard of Christian practice;
 - 6. adherence to false doctrine (Constitution, Article II) or failure to honour and uphold the doctrinal position of the Synod as defined further in bylaw 1.03c.

6.45 Board Supervision

- a. Subject to the appeals procedures of the Synod, the Board of Regents shall have the sole prerogative to make ultimate decisions regarding any non-renewal of faculty appointments due to incapacity, incompetence, neglect of duty and failure to develop to meet job requirements.
- b. Through procedures hereinafter set forth and subject to the appeals procedures of the Synod, the Board of Regents shall also have the ultimate responsibility for decisions regarding charges of blatant disregard of Christian practice and adherence to false doctrine (Constitution Article II), or failure to honour and uphold the doctrinal position of the Synod.

6.47 Procedures for Exercising Board Supervision

- a. When the Board of Regents or the president of an educational institution of the Synod receives a charge against any member of that institution's faculty, in the spirit of Christian love the complainant shall be advised to communicate directly with the person against whom he has a complaint and attempt to find a peaceful and amicable resolution to the matter.
If subsequently the complainant desires to pursue the matter, he shall so notify the Board of Regents and present the charge in writing, formulated with reasonable definiteness, and the evidence. The Board of Regents shall then direct the president of the institution to attempt to deal with it to the satisfaction of all concerned. Charges against the president of the institution shall be dealt with by the chairman of the Board of Regents.
- b. If in such a given case the Board decides that the charge is serious enough and of a nature that it is deemed to be in the best interest of the institution that he not continue to perform his duties as a member of the faculty, the

1 Board may suspend the faculty member from his teaching and/or administrative duties; contractual obligations of
2 the institution, however, shall continue until the charge is resolved.

3 If the complainant does not notify the Board of Regents that such initial efforts have failed and does not resubmit
4 the charge in writing together with substantive evidence within 60 days from the initial receipt of the charge by
5 the Board of Regents, the Board of Regents may rule that the matter has been resolved to the complainant's
6 satisfaction.

- 7 c. If the Board fails to initiate further action within 60 days, and if the complainant is dissatisfied and the charge
8 involves conduct unbecoming a Christian or advocacy of false doctrine (Constitution, Article II), the
9 complainant may take his complaint to the district president. If he finds the action of the district president
10 unacceptable, he may take his complaint to the president under the pertinent provisions of bylaw 6.49.
- 11 d. If the Board should decide to proceed, and if the charge is of a theological nature, the Board may submit the
12 theological question at issue to the Commission on Theology and Church Relations for an advisory theological
13 opinion.
- 14 e. Furthermore, if the Board of Regents has decided to proceed, it shall also direct an ad hoc hearings committee to
15 hold a hearing with respect to the validity of the charge that has been made. The hearing committee shall consist
16 of three faculty members selected by the faculty and two other persons selected by the Board of Regents. Where
17 necessary, current adjunct professors who have served a minimum of two years shall be eligible to serve on this
18 committee. The committee shall hold its first hearing no later than eight weeks after the Board of Regents has
19 served notice that the committee is to be constituted. The goal shall be that a decision shall be rendered within
20 three months of the time that the Board of Regents has determined that there shall be a hearings committee.
21 The notification of the hearing, approved and issued by the Board through the president of the institution at least
22 four weeks in advance and sent to the chairman of the committee, to the complainant, and to the accused, shall
23 contain (1) a statement of the charge or charges, (2) a summary of the evidence on which the charges are based,
24 (3) a statement that the hearings committee will conduct a hearing and that the time and the place thereof shall be
25 determined by the hearings committee, (4) a formal invitation to the complainant and the accused to attend the
26 hearing, (5) a statement to the complainant and the accused that they are entitled to counsel, and (6) the opinion
27 of the Commission of Theology and Church Relations if a theological issue is involved.
- 28 f. No less than two weeks prior to a suitable date set for the hearing, the accused shall submit to the president, the
29 hearings committee, and the complainant his written answer to the charge, or he shall state that he desires no
30 hearing to be held.
- 31 g. If the accused fails to answer the statement of charges or declares that he desires no hearing to be held, the
32 hearings committee shall consider whether the grounds stated constitute adequate cause for removal from office
33 and, in its discretion, may independently investigate the truth of the charge.
- 34 h. If a hearing is held, each party shall have the right to select not more than two advisers (bylaw 8.51i). The
35 hearing shall be private. However, the president or his representative and the complainant, the accused, and their
36 advisers, shall have the right to be present at the hearing at all times. Opportunity for cross-examination and for
37 presenting testimony by competent witnesses shall be afforded.
- 38 i. The hearings committee shall forward its findings to the complainant, the accused, the president, and the Board
39 of Regents.
- 40 j. After the findings of the hearings committee have been conveyed to the Board of Regents, the Board, after
41 hearing whatever additional witnesses it may desire to hear and considering all pertinent evidence, including, if it
42 is a theological issue, the opinion of the Commission on Theology and Church Relations, shall render a decision.
43 The decision shall in no case be rendered without having given the complainant and the accused an opportunity
44 to appear before the Board of Regents.
- 45 k. If the decision of the Board of Regents is that the accused is to be removed from the faculty, the Board of
46 Regents shall notify the accused in writing that his appointment to the faculty is being terminated and shall
47 specify the effective date of the termination.
- 48 l. If the charge sustained against an individual is of such a nature that it could disqualify him from further
49 membership in the Synod under Article XIII, the district president of the accused shall be so notified and a tran-
50 script of the proceeding shall be forwarded to the district president. The district president shall then proceed in
51 the manner prescribed in the Constitution and these Bylaws.
- 52 m. If the faculty member has lost his membership in the Synod through the ecclesiastical route (bylaw 6.49), he
53 shall automatically forfeit his membership on the faculty after the appeals procedure has been applied, or after he
54 has failed to file an intent to appeal within 30 days and the appeal itself within a second 30 day period. During
55 the period allowed for appeal and during the appeals procedure, if an appeal is made, the Board of Regents shall
56 suspend him from teaching activity, but shall continue to meet its contractual obligations.

1 n. Bylaw 8.51 shall apply also to these procedures.
2

3 **6.49 Ecclesiastical Supervision** 4

5 A faculty member who is on a roster of the Synod is under the ecclesiastical supervision of the Synod. In cases in
6 which such a faculty member is charged with false doctrine or conduct unbecoming a Christian, and in which the
7 complainant finds unacceptable the decision of the Board of Regents not to pursue the charge, he may be dealt with
8 by the district president or the president and be removed from the membership of the Synod and therefore from the
9 office in harmony with the provision of the Constitution and Bylaws of the Synod (e.g., Constitution, Article III 8-9;
10 VI; XI, B; XII, 6-9; XIII; Bylaws 1.17, 1.21, 2.101, 3.73, 3.77, 6.47c, and chapter VIII). The written decisions of the
11 Commission on Adjudication required under bylaw 8.67, including the finding of fact, the conclusions, and the
12 reasons for such conclusions, shall be conveyed in writing to the Board of Regents of the faculty member involved.
13

14 **6.51 Review** 15

16 A party may apply to the Commission on Adjudication for a review of any decision with respect to cases under
17 bylaws 6.43, 6.45, 6.47, and 6.49. These reviews shall be treated as requests to rehear the case and shall be governed
18 by the rules and procedures specified or adopted under bylaws 8.51(n) and 8.69.
19

20 ~~**6.55 Grants for Advanced Study**~~ 21

22 ~~The Board of Regents of the Synod's institutions shall recommend subsidies for advanced study by instructional and~~
23 ~~administrative personnel when such additional study is made mandatory or desirable by local circumstances beyond~~
24 ~~the control of the personnel involved (e.g., addition of courses, request to assist in library administration, guidance~~
25 ~~work, requirements of achieving or maintaining accreditation, modifications which the Synod requires the school to~~
26 ~~make in its program, etc.). Such recommendations are to become effective on review and approval of the Board of~~
27 ~~Directors.~~
28

29 **6.57 Sabbatical Leave and Leave of Absence** 30

- 31 a. A Board of Regents may grant any member on the instructional staff who has served seven years at synodical
32 institutions a sabbatical leave for one-half year with pay, or for an entire year with half pay, to pursue advanced
33 studies in his special field of work or in any other acceptable program of experience or research, or to gain
34 additional parish experience.
35 b. A Board of Regents may grant any member of the instructional staff a leave of absence for a fixed period of time
36 to pursue advanced studies in his special field of work, or to render particular service to the Synod or to its
37 agencies. Time so spent on a special leave shall ordinarily not be charged against a subsequent sabbatical leave.
38 Budgetary provisions shall be arranged in advance by the Board and agencies involved.
39

40 **D. FINANCES** 41

42 **6.61 Uniform Accounting Methods** 43

44 ~~The Board of Directors shall establish and prescribe uniform stands for accounting procedures, financial and internal~~
45 ~~controls, budgetary classifications, and allocations for operating income and expenses and for capital investments of~~
46 ~~each of the educational institutions established by Lutheran Church–Canada ensure that the accounting methods of~~
47 ~~educational institutions. These standards shall comply with generally accepted accounting principles and education~~
48 ~~practice and be structured in comparative formats for all of the educational institutions.~~
49

50 **6.63 Budget Adjustments** 51

- 52 a. The Board of Directors shall determine the level of subsidy provided to the educational institutions established
53 by Lutheran Church–Canada.
54 b. The Board of Regents may, on recommendation of the president of the school, make necessary internal transfers
55 of current budget funds from one classification or account to another within the institution's budget. ~~Notification~~
56 ~~of this internal transfer of current funds is to be conveyed to the Board of Directors for review and comment.~~

~~6.65 Budget for Capital Improvements~~

~~On a regular basis, the schedule to be determined by the Board of Directors, the Board of Regents shall submit to the Board of Directors proposals for major repairs, capital improvements, and purchase of equipment for review and comment.~~

~~6.67 Objections to or Changes in Budget~~

~~The Board of Directors shall may advise the respective Board of Regents of any objection to, or of a proposed change in, the budget (either operating or capital-investment) submitted by such board and shall, upon request, give a hearing to such board with reference to such advice.~~

~~6.69 Contracts for Capital Improvements~~

~~Each Board of Regents shall make all contracts for major repairs, capital improvements, and expansion of the physical plant and equipment of its institution on the authority of the Board of Directors of the Synod, and shall supervise and control the execution thereof on behalf of and by order of the Board of Directors.~~

~~6.71 Business Management~~

- ~~a. The Board of Regents, on recommendation of the president, shall appoint an executive officer whose duties may include advising the president in the area of financial and administrative services, proper management of the financial resources of the educational institution, supervision and maintenance of the accounting records in compliance with the standards established by the Board of Directors, audit, tax and legal matters, insurance and risk management programs, banking relations, preparing strategic long range financial plans, integrity of the computerized records, preparation of annual budgets, and such other duties as may be assigned by the president.~~
- ~~b. The Board of Regents is responsible for the supervision and management of student affairs, of the finances and budgets of student organizations, ventures, and services, and of properties used or acquired by student enterprises and organizations. The policies governing each student organization and its enterprises are to be submitted to the Board of Regents for its review and approval.~~
- ~~c. All surplus institutional funds above an adequate working capital shall be forwarded to Lutheran Church—Canada in trust for investment by the treasurer.~~

~~E. SPECIAL REGULATIONS~~

~~6.81 Special Academic Programs~~

- ~~a. The educational institutions of the synod may be authorized by the Board of Directors to conduct summer schools under the direction of the respective Board of Regents and faculty for regular and special students for the in service education of pastors and deacons.~~
- ~~b. The terminal institutions of the Synod may be authorized by the Board of Directors to conduct schools for graduate studies or correspondence schools under the direction of the respective Boards of Regents and faculties for regular and special students and for the in service education of pastors and deacons.~~

~~6.83 The Transfer Student~~

~~A qualified student applying for admission to an educational institution of the Synod after previous attendance at another synodical institution or that of a partner church shall be admitted only after the admitting institution has received proper credentials, cumulative records, and a recommendation from the president of the synodical institution of the partner church where the student last attended.~~

~~6.85 Eligibility and Placement of Church Workers in the Synod~~

- 1 a. Every regular student, special supply student, vicar, or graduate of an authorized synodical institution or
- 2 approved synodical training program declared qualified for placement shall be assigned his first permanent
- 3 placement in church service by the Council of Presidents, acting as the Board of Assignments.
- 4 b. Students who have not completed their program of studies at the Synod's educational institutions or those of
- 5 partner churches shall not be eligible for temporary or permanent engagement by congregations or other agencies
- 6 within the Synod without the consent and approval of the respective faculty and district president. The faculties
- 7 of the Synod's terminal schools shall consider applications for temporary supply work by their students only
- 8 when such applications have received prior approval of the respective district president.
- 9 c. A year of supervised fieldwork is required of all theological students before graduation. Ordinarily this
- 10 experience is to be gained in the second year before graduation.
- 11 d. Candidates eligible for calls are students who have completed the prescribed courses of studies, have received
- 12 their diplomas from their respective institutions, and have in every respect been declared qualified by the facul-
- 13 ties for their specific type of service in the church.
- 14 e. Graduates of the deacon's colleges of affiliated church bodies or persons who have given satisfactory evidence
- 15 of having met the minimum requirements of the Synod are eligible for teaching positions in the schools of the
- 16 church and shall receive their teaching placement through the Board of Assignments.
- 17 f. A graduate of one of the Synod's terminal schools who desires to continue his or her professional studies after he
- 18 or she has completed the prescribed under-graduate curriculum or who for any other valid reason is not ready for
- 19 first placement in the church shall continue to be eligible for unqualified recommendation for placement as long
- 20 as he or she can be recommended by the faculty of the institution from which he or she has graduated. The
- 21 respective faculty shall annually ascertain through personal interviews with the candidate or through satisfactory
- 22 testimonials that each candidate so classified is still qualified for recommendation for regular placement in the
- 23 church.

24
 25 Lutheran Church—Canada
 26 Board of Directors
 27 Arnold Drung, Chairman
 28
 29
 30

31 **OVERTURE 2.06** **TO SUPPORT THE DIACONAL CHURCH WORK PROGRAMS**

- 32
- 33 WHEREAS Lutheran Church-Canada exists, in part, to provide for the training and support of our synod's
 - 34 church workers (pastors and deacons) and
 - 35
 - 36 WHEREAS God continues to call and raise up men and women of faith to serve in the church in full-time
 - 37 ministry and
 - 38
 - 39 WHEREAS recent financial challenges at Concordia University College of Alberta (CUCA) have resulted in
 - 40 significant cutbacks to the church work program; and
 - 41
 - 42 WHEREAS in view of these cutbacks, Concordia University College of Alberta has graciously provided
 - 43 temporary, short-term support staffing and temporary, short-term financial support for the current
 - 44 church work students at CUCA and
 - 45
 - 46 WHEREAS the provision of temporary staffing and financial support is only a stop-gap measure;
 - 47
 - 48 Therefore be it
 - 49
 - 50 RESOLVED that the Convention direct the Synod's Board of Directors to clarify a vision and direction for the
 - 51 church work program, including program leadership, program requirements and program location,
 - 52 and, be it finally
 - 53
 - 54 RESOLVED that the Convention direct the Synod's Board of Directors to identify and/or designate leadership
 - 55 and funds for recruitment, support, maintenance and expansion of the church work program
 - 56

1
2 Bethel Lutheran Church
3 Sherwood Park, Alberta
4 Rev. Marvin Ziprick, Pastor
5 Rev. Matt Ziprick, Pastor
6 Rev. James Avery, Pastor

7
8 *Identical Resolutions submitted by:*
9

10 St. Peter’s Evangelical Lutheran
11 Simcoe, ON
12 Rev. Dan Abraham, Pastor
13
14 Edmonton Circuit
15 Rev. Dr. Forrest N. Stroup
16 Circuit Counsellor
17

18
19 **OVERTURE 2.07** **TO SUPPORT CHURCH WORK PROGRAMS AND**
20 **CHAPLAINCY AT CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY COLLEGE OF**
21 **ALBERTA**

22
23 WHEREAS Concordia University College of Alberta (CUCA) over the years has prepared many men and
24 women for the diaconal ministry of our Church, as well as offering training in youth ministry and
25 church music; and
26

27 WHEREAS CUCA has prepared many young men for entrance into seminary and continues to do so; and
28

29 WHEREAS the chaplaincy program at CUCA has impacted many lives, both Christian and non-Christian in a
30 positive way; and
31

32 WHEREAS the men and women prepared, or impacted by these ministries have been a blessing to many in the
33 church and world; and
34

35 WHEREAS CUCA continues to innovate and create new programs of benefit to the church as evidenced by
36 their Master of Arts (MA) in Biblical and Christian Studies; and
37

38 WHEREAS CUCA is active in recruiting young men for our seminaries with its pre-seminary program; and
39

40 WHEREAS CUCA continues to serve the church faithfully in preparing candidates for our Lutheran diaconal
41 ministry namely Directors of Parish Services (DPS) and Lutheran school teachers, as well as
42 offering a Youth Ministry Certificate, and a Church Music Certificate; and
43

44 WHEREAS budget constraints have led to CUCA being able to hire only a part-time "Coordinator of Applied
45 Religion" (the Director for the church work programs) leading to fears that the programs may not
46 be sustainable; and
47

48 WHEREAS this has led to difficulty in recruiting new students for the various programs, including the pre-
49 seminary program; and
50

51 WHEREAS budget constraints have also negatively affected the chaplaincy program at CUCA; and
52

53 WHEREAS Lutheran Church–Canada has repeatedly stated its support for the higher education programs of
54 our Church (our two seminaries and CUCA) which prepare men and women for full-time church
55 work;

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Therefore be it

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada express its support for the church work programs and the chaplaincy at CUCA; and be it further

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada encourage its congregations and individual members to support the church work programs and chaplaincy at CUCA with their prayers and dollars; and be it finally

RESOLVED that Lutheran Church–Canada direct its Board of Directors to allocate 1/3 of its higher education budget to the chaplaincy and church work programs at CUCA.

Board of Governors
Concordia University of Alberta

OVERTURE 3.01 TO PERMIT OFFICIAL NOTICES TO BE PUBLICIZED IN ELECTRONIC AND PRINT EDITIONS OF *THE CANADIAN LUTHERAN*

WHEREAS Many Synodical Bylaws require the publication of official notices in the official periodical of the Synod; and

WHEREAS Synodical Bylaw 11.21.a (2011 *Handbook* p.86) designates *The Canadian Lutheran* as the official periodical of the Synod; and

WHEREAS it has become standard practice to disseminate information to and throughout the Synod via the electronic edition of *The Canadian Lutheran*, accessible through LCC’s website, as well as in print;

Therefore be it

RESOLVED that official notices will henceforth be distributed via both the print and the electronic editions of *The Canadian Lutheran*, and be it further

RESOLVED that both editions of *The Canadian Lutheran* be designated “*official periodicals;*” and be it finally

RESOLVED that the LCC constitution and bylaws reflect this change in the following areas:
Article XIV.3. After adoption by the Convention such amendments shall be reported to the congregations in ~~the two subsequent issues~~ *the official periodicals of the Synod.*

Article XIV.4. (2011 *Handbook* p.14)

Proposed amendments to the Constitution adopted by a Convention shall be submitted directly to each congregation that is a member of the Synod on an official ballot, and the congregations shall by official action express their affirmative or negative vote and indicate the same to the secretary of Lutheran Church-Canada on this official ballot. The proposed amendment shall become effective at the expiration of six months from the date on which the amendment was adopted by a Convention, provided a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by congregations within that period shall have favored the amendment. At the end of the six-month period the secretary of Lutheran Church-Canada shall announce the outcome of the voting by districts in *the official periodicals* of the Synod.

Bylaw 1.03.c.6 (2011 *Handbook* p. 15)

1 ratified and operative if a two-thirds majority of the members which are
2 congregations which respond within six months registers an affirmative vote on
3 a ballot supplied by the synodical secretary for that purpose. Failure to ratify
4 makes the statement inoperative, and this fact shall be reported by the secretary
5 to the members through an announcement in ~~an~~ *the official periodicals of the*
6 *Synod.*

7
8 Bylaw 2.19.f (2011 Handbook p. 21)

9 All reports and overtures accepted by the president in accordance with the
10 foregoing paragraphs shall be referred by him to convention committees
11 appointed by him in the name of the Convention from among the voting
12 delegates (bylaw 2.03), advisory delegates (bylaw 2.09), and advisory
13 representatives (bylaw 2.13). Pastors, deacons (to the extent possible), and
14 laymen shall be represented on all committees. The president shall notify
15 committee members of their appointment and of the time and place of their first
16 meeting no later than 12 weeks before the start of the Convention. The
17 committee rosters shall be published *in the official periodicals of the Synod, at*
18 *least one of which must appear no less than 10 weeks before the convention.*

19
20 Bylaw 2.401.c. (2011 Handbook p. 32)

21 When an executive staff position is to be filled, a list of nominees shall be
22 gathered through placing an announcement *in the official periodicals of the*
23 *Synod* and through other methods. The president of the Synod shall select at
24 least two persons as preferred nominees. The president and two members
25 designated by the Board of Directors shall act as a screening committee, which
26 shall interview such preferred nominees and make appropriate recommendations
27 to the Board of Directors. The Board of Directors, with the approval of the
28 president, shall make the selection and extend the appointment. The Board or
29 commission may ask for additional nominees from the screening committee or
30 for additional names from the field for the regular procedure outlined above.

31
32 Bylaw 2.527.e. (2011 Handbook p. 36)

33 At least five months prior to the Convention, the Committee shall determine its
34 complete list of candidates and alternates, obtain the consent of the persons it
35 proposes to nominate, and transmit its final report to the secretary of the Synod
36 in ample time to provide for its publication *in the official periodicals of the*
37 *Synod before the convention* and also in the official convention book of reports
38 and overtures (*convention workbook*). This report shall contain pertinent
39 information concerning each candidate, such as age, occupation or profession,
40 district affiliation, residence, specific experience and qualifications for the office
41 in question.

42
43 Bylaw 5.53 (2011 Handbook p. 36)

44 All applications for reinstatement to the clergy or diaconal roster of the Synod
45 shall be addressed to the president of the district in which the applicant last held
46 membership. The president of the district shall review the matter and report it to
47 the Council of Presidents, with or without recommendation. The Council of
48 Presidents shall decide the issue by means of a written ballot. If the applicant is
49 reinstated, the district president shall announce this fact *in the official*
50 *periodicals of the Synod.*

51
52 Bylaw 5.79 (2011 Handbook p. 54)

53 After the district president has furnished the Colloquy Committee with the
54 required documents and the committee has assured itself that the applicant
55 qualifies for the colloquy program, the committee shall publish the request of
56 the applicant *in the official periodicals of the Synod.* If no valid objection is

1 filed within four weeks after the notice of the application has been published *in*
2 *the print edition*, the committee shall proceed with the colloquy program.

3
4 Bylaw 5.109 (2011 Handbook p. 56)

5 After the Diaconal Colloquy Committee has received an application as provided
6 in bylaw 5.107, the Committee shall publish notice of the application *in the*
7 *official periodicals* of the Synod. If no valid objection to the application is
8 received by the Diaconal Colloquy Committee within four weeks after the
9 publication of such notice *in the print edition*, the applicant shall be accepted
10 into the program. The Committee, in its sole discretion, shall decide whether an
11 objection is valid. Its decision shall not be subject to any appeal.

12
13 Bylaw 5.113 (2011 Handbook p. 57)

14 The Diaconal Colloquy Committee shall publish *in the official periodicals* of the
15 Synod the names of those declared eligible for the diaconal ministry.

16
17 Bylaw 6.11.a (2011 Handbook p. 60)

18 The Board of Regents having first consulted with the Board of Directors, shall
19 issue *in the official periodicals* of the Synod a call for the nomination of
20 candidates for the presidency of the institution. The call for nominations shall
21 describe the office and qualifications desired to fill it.

22
23 Bylaw 6.11.c (2011 Handbook p. 60)

24 All nominations must be filed with the secretary of the Board of Regents within
25 90 days of the date of its published request unless the request sets a later date.
26 The secretary of the Board of Regents shall thereupon publish the names of the
27 nominees *in the official periodicals* of the Synod, stating also the date on which
28 the election is to be held, which shall be not less than six weeks after the date of
29 the publication of the names of the nominees. Copies of the submitted notice
30 shall at the same time be sent to the president of the Synod and the Board of
31 Directors.

32
33 Bylaw 6.11.g (2011 Handbook p. 60)

34 The election shall be held on the day designated in the notice published *in the*
35 *official periodicals* of the Synod or as soon thereafter as feasible. The electors
36 shall give due consideration to the recommendations and statements of
37 qualifications and objections submitted on behalf of all nominees. A majority of
38 the electors, with the members of the Board of Regents now voting as
39 individuals, may add names to any preferred list supplied by the search
40 committee after consultation with the search committee. If the electors are
41 unable to complete the election, they may postpone the election and request the
42 Board of Regents to issue a new call for nominations.

43
44 Bylaw 6.11.h (2011 Handbook p. 60)

45 The Board of Regents shall extend the formal call promptly after the election
46 and submit its action to *the official periodicals* of the Synod for publication.

47
48 Bylaw 8.47.c (2011 Handbook p. 78)

49 The secretary of LCC shall distribute the Rules of Procedure, and any revisions
50 to the Rules of Procedure, without delay to the president, all district presidents,
51 and all reconciliation committees. Notice of their availability shall be published
52 *in the official periodicals of the Synod*.

53
54 Bylaw 8.55.g.i (2011 Handbook p. 81)

55 Resignation from LCC within 15 Days

1 The suspended member may resign from membership in LCC at any time within
2 the 15-day period which began on the effective date of his suspension, in which
3 case the district president shall inform the president and shall notify the Synod
4 through *the official periodicals of the Synod* and the matter shall be ended.
5

6 Bylaw 11.21.a. (2011 Handbook p. 86)

7 Both the print and the electronic editions of *The Canadian Lutheran* shall be the
8 official periodicals of the Synod.
9

10 Commission on Constitutional Matters & Structure
11 Rev. John Trembulak III, Chairman
12

13
14 **OVERTURE 3.02 TO PROVIDE FOR ALTERNATE MEANS OF TRANSMITTING**
15 **NOMINATION BALLOTS**
16

17 WHEREAS The secretary of Synod is limited by Synodical Bylaws 2.501b and 2.511b (2011 Handbook
18 p.33,34) to providing nominating ballots for president and vice presidents via postal mail only;
19 and
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21 WHEREAS sending ballots via electronic means would speed up the process and save the synod money at the
22 same time;
23

24 Therefore be it
25

26 RESOLVED that Synodical Bylaws 2.501.b and 2.511.b be amended to read:
27 b. the secretary of the Synod shall mail *via post or electronic means* to each voting congregation
28 of the Synod ballots for nominating these candidates.
29

30 Commission on Constitutional Matters & Structure
31 Rev. John Trembulak III, Chairman
32

33
34 **OVERTURE 3.03 TO AMEND BYLAW PROVISIONS FOR THE SYNODICAL**
35 **PLANNING COUNCIL**
36

37 WHEREAS Synodical Bylaw 2.303 (2011 *Handbook* p.32) requires the convening of a Planning Council every
38 three years and prescribes who should attend; and
39

40 WHEREAS for financial and other reasons these gatherings have been held less frequently; and
41

42 WHEREAS the Planning Council has typically been unable to implement all of its goals in a single triennium;
43 and
44

45 WHEREAS adopting a 6-year cycle and granting the President of Synod the discretion to decide who should
46 participate would reduce the cost of the Planning Council;
47

48 Therefore be it
49

50 RESOLVED that Synodical Bylaw 2.303 be amended to read:
51 “The members of the Board of Directors and of the Council of Presidents shall serve as the
52 Planning Council of the Synod under the chairmanship of the president. All principal staff persons
53 shall function in an advisory capacity.
54 The Planning Council shall:

- a) recommend planning, programming, and budgeting systems encompassing short-, mid-, and long-range plans;
- b) convene at least every six years a planning conference of the members of the Planning Council and other participants invited at the discretion of the president;
- c) recommend short-, mid-, and long-range plans at the national church body program level based on proposals and analysis made by the administrative officer through the office of the president; and report such to the Convention. “

Commission on Constitutional Matters & Structure
Rev. John Trembulak III, Chairman

OVERTURE 3.04 TO STREAMLINE THE COLLOQUY PROCESS

WHEREAS the colloquy procedures outlined in the LCC *Handbook* largely reflect what was inherited from The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod and have required adaptation to the circumstances of LCC over the past decades; and

WHEREAS the *Handbook* section relating to pastoral and diaconal colloquy prescribes a process which has become difficult for applicants to comply with, to the point of making entrance into Lutheran Church-Canada via colloquy virtually impossible in many cases; and

WHEREAS specific circumstances regularly arise in the colloquy process which were never envisioned by the current *Handbook* provisions;

Therefore be it

RESOLVED that the Convention approve the changes recommended below to the LCC *Handbook*.

E. ADMISSION TO THE PASTORAL MINISTRY BY COLLOQUY

5.71 Pastoral Colloquy Committee

The Pastoral Colloquy Committee (the Committee) shall consist of a vice-president of the Synod, appointed by the president, and the presidents of the theological seminaries at Edmonton and St. Catharines. The vice-president shall be chairman of the Committee.

5.73 Functions

The Committee shall—

- a. direct the synodical activity in matters of colloquy according to regulations adopted by the Synod;
- b. render a full report on its activities to each convention of the Synod.
- c. establish and monitor academic and theological standards for admission to and completion of the colloquy program for the pastoral ministry;
- d. approve for admission to the colloquy program those applicants whom it recommends and to which no valid objection is made and shall communicate its decision to the applicant, the applicant’s ecclesiastical supervisor, and the president of the district in which the applicant resides; and
- e. certify applicants for the pastoral ministry of the Synod, commending them to the Council of Presidents as eligible for a call.

5.75 Eligibility

Only such applicants shall be considered eligible for admission to the pastoral colloquy program as are:

- a. ministers, or candidates for the ministry, who are in good standing in other Christian church bodies and are graduates of established theological seminaries; or

- b. men who have completed an undergraduate degree whose names appear on the roster of the Synod as deacon, and who have had at least 10 years of successful experience as a deacon and are in good standing in a congregation of the Synod; or
- c. members in good standing of synodical congregations who are graduates of an established non-synodical seminary; or
- d. members in good standing of a synodical congregation who belong to a special ethnic or linguistic group, who have a college-level education, and who have had considerable experience in church work.

5.77 Application for Admission

- a. Applications for admission to the pastoral colloquy program shall be directed to the president of the district where the application originates.
- b. The district president shall assure the Committee of his sponsorship of the applicant before the Committee can act favourably on the application.

5.79 Publication of Application

After the district president has furnished the Committee with the required documents the Committee shall publish the request of the applicant in the official periodical(s) of the Synod. The Committee shall either accept or deny the application based on the information it receives in the application process. Its decision shall not be subject to any appeal.

5.81 Program of Instruction

- a. The Committee shall determine the course of study and length of supervised ministry for each candidate on the basis of his needs and ecclesiastical background.
- b. The criteria by which the Committee shall judge an applicant's progress are as follows:
 - 1. The applicant shall demonstrate readiness for admission to the office according to standards established by the Committee.
 - 2. He shall give evidence that he fully understands and accepts the doctrinal standards of the Synod, is acquainted with its practices, and has the ability and intention to teach, preach, and practice in conformity with these standards.

5.83 Applicants from Affiliated Church Bodies

Applications from pastors, candidates of theology, who are members of an affiliated church body and have previously given satisfactory evidence of their qualifications may be received without examination of the applicant.

5.85 Certificate of Eligibility

Applicants who have satisfactorily passed their examination shall be given a certificate of eligibility by the Colloquy Committee. The Committee shall publish the names of certified candidates in the official periodical(s) of the Synod.

5.87 Placement

Every applicant whom the Committee declares qualified for the pastoral ministry shall be eligible to be placed on call lists by District presidents, congregations or schools of Synod. When a call is received, the candidate shall be placed by the Council of Presidents acting as the Board of Assignments.

F. ADMISSION TO THE DIACONATE BY COLLOQUY

5.101 Diaconal Colloquy Committee

1 The Diaconal Colloquy Committee (the Committee) shall consist of a vice-president of the Synod, appointed by the
2 president, the presidents of the theological seminaries at Edmonton and St. Catharines, and the president of
3 Concordia University College of Alberta or his designate. The vice-president shall be chairman of the committee.
4

5 **5.103 Functions**

6
7 The Committee shall—

- 8 a. direct the synodical activity in matters of colloquy according to regulations adopted by the Synod;
- 9 b. render a full report on its activities to each convention of the Synod;
- 10 c. establish and monitor academic and theological standards for admission to and completion of the
11 colloquy program for the diaconate;
- 12 d. approve for admission to the colloquy program those applicants whom it recommends and to which no
13 valid objection is made and shall communicate its decision to the applicant, the applicant's
14 ecclesiastical supervisor, and the president of the district in which the applicant resides; and
- 15 e. certify applicants for the diaconate of the Synod, commending them to the
16 Council of Presidents as eligible for a call.

17 18 **5.105 Eligibility for Admission**

19
20 Applicants for admission to the diaconate by colloquy shall be expected to have completed post-secondary education
21 at an accredited institution culminating in a bachelor's degree. Teacher applicants must hold teacher certification in
22 one of the Canadian provinces.
23

24 **5.107 Application for Admission**

- 25
26 a. Applications for admission to the diaconal colloquy program shall be directed to the president of the
27 district where the application originates.
- 28 b. The district president shall assure the Colloquy Committee of his sponsorship of the applicant before
29 the committee can act favourably on the application.
30

31 **5.109 Publication of Notice**

32
33 After the district president has furnished the Committee with the required documents the committee shall publish the
34 request of the applicant in the official periodical(s) of the Synod. The Committee shall either accept or deny the
35 application based on the information it receives in the application process. Its decision shall not be subject to any
36 appeal.
37

38 **5.111 Program of Instruction**

39 The Committee shall determine the course of study for each candidate on the basis of his or her needs and
40 ecclesiastical background.
41

42 **5.113 Applicants from Affiliated Church Bodies**

43
44 Applications from deacons who are members of an affiliated church body and have previously given satisfactory
45 evidence of their qualifications may be received without examination of the applicant.
46

47 **5.115 Certificate of Eligibility**

48
49 Applicants who have satisfactorily passed their examination shall be given a certificate of eligibility by the Colloquy
50 Committee. The Committee shall publish the names of certified candidates in the official periodical(s) of the Synod.
51

52 **5.117 Placement**

53
54 Every applicant whom the Committee declares qualified for the diaconate shall be eligible to be placed on call lists
55 by District presidents, congregations or schools of synod. When a call is received, the candidate shall be placed by
56 the Council of Presidents acting as the Board of Assignments.

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2 Lutheran Church–Canada
3 Board of Directors
4 Arnold Drung, Chairman
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6
7

8 **OVERTURE 3.05** **TO AMEND THE LCC CONSTITUTION REGARDING VOTING**
9 **RIGHTS FOR PARISHES**

10
11 WHEREAS the LCC constitution in Article XII.10 states: “Every congregation is entitled to two voting
12 representatives at district conventions, one to be one of its pastors and the other to be its elected
13 lay delegate, provided however, that if congregations have associated together as a parish, then
14 such voting rights shall be exercised by representatives of the parish”, 2011 *Handbook* p. 13, and
15

16 WHEREAS the effect of this article is that congregations which for financial reasons decide to share a pastor
17 are no longer entitled to their own delegate, but must share a delegate, and
18

19 WHEREAS more congregations are moving to share pastors but in doing so are losing their individual voting
20 rights, and
21

22 WHEREAS congregations which are vacant and are not calling a pastor (non-calling congregations) do not
23 lose their voting rights, and
24

25 WHEREAS it is desirable to allow all congregations to be full voting members of the District;
26

27 Therefore be it
28

29 RESOLVED that Synod amend its constitution in Article XII.10 by removing the words, “provided however,
30 that if congregations have associated together as a parish, then such voting rights shall be
31 exercised by representatives of the parish.”
32

33 LCC, East District Board of Directors
34 Lois Griffin, Secretary
35
36

37 **OVERTURE 3.06** **TO EXPAND THE ELIGIBILITY OF PASTORS EMERITI FOR**
38 **SERVICE IN SYNODICAL BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS**

39
40 WHEREAS It is the desire of the East District that the eligibility of pastors emeriti for service in Synodical
41 boards and commissions be expanded, and
42

43 WHEREAS the 2012 East District convention, observing the requirement for advance notice (Statutory
44 Bylaw, Article XXI, Section 21.01) approved submission of this overture to make changes to the
45 Statutory and Synodical Bylaws of LCC to provide for this eligibility; and
46

47 WHEREAS LCC is blessed with many retired pastors who have served faithfully in the church for years; and
48

49 WHEREAS these men have amassed a valuable wealth of experience in life and ministry; and
50

51 WHEREAS LCC will be experiencing an increase in retirements over the next three decades; and
52

53 WHEREAS LCC *Handbook*, Statutory By-Laws, Article XI (Board of Directors) 11.02 states, “ Directors shall
54 be elected at Conventions in accordance with the Synodical Bylaws, and shall include twelve (12)

1 members, namely:
2 – the president
3 – the three (3) vice-presidents;
4 – six (6) individuals, two (2) from the confirmed members of congregations in each district,
5 provided that such individuals are not pastors and further provided that not more than one (1)
6 of such individuals may be a deacon; and
7 – two (2) pastors serving congregation(s) elected-at-large; and
8

9 WHEREAS the requirement of the Constitution and Bylaws of Synod that pastors elected to these positions
10 must be currently serving in a called position in a congregation eliminates the possibility of
11 tapping into this wealth of experience in these critical positions of leadership; and
12

13 WHEREAS Article XXI of the aforementioned LCC Statutory By-laws requires that written notice of any
14 repeal or change in bylaws must “be given to all members of Lutheran Church–Canada not less
15 than thirty (30) days before the Convention enclosing the bylaw or a summary specifying the
16 nature of such bylaw”;

17
18 Therefore be it
19

20 RESOLVED that we thank God for the work and ministry of our pastors emeriti and their willingness to
21 continue to serve Him and His church; and be it further
22

23 RESOLVED that the Statutory Bylaws of LCC be changed in Article XI, section 11.02 to read, “. . . two
24 pastors serving congregation(s) or pastors emeriti.” (2011 *Handbook*, page 5); and be it finally
25

26 RESOLVED that the Synodical Bylaws of LCC be changed in Article II, section 2.105a to read, “. . . two
27 pastors serving congregations or pastors emeriti,” etc. (2011 *Handbook*, page 28)
28
29

30 Board of Directors
31 East District
32 Rev. Paul Zabel, President
33
34

35 **OVERTURE 3.07 TO PERMIT ROSTERED WORKERS TO NOMINATE CIRCUIT**
36 **COUNSELLORS**
37

38 WHEREAS Synodical Bylaw 4.11 (2011 *Handbook* p.43) reserves for congregations the right to nominate
39 candidates for the office of circuit counsellor; and
40

41 WHEREAS the election of other synodical leaders is typically accomplished by processes that include both lay
42 and clergy representation;
43

44 Therefore be it
45

46 RESOLVED that the first sentence of Synodical Bylaw 4.11 be amended to read: "Every voting congregation of
47 each circuit shall nominate *and every rostered worker* of each circuit may nominate as
48 candidates...
49

50 Commission on Constitutional Matters & Structure
51 Rev. John Trembulak III, Chairman
52
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54 **OVERTURE 3.08 TO AMEND BYLAW PROVISIONS GOVERNING FREQUENCY**
55 **OF CIRCUIT FORUMS**

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WHEREAS Synodical Bylaw 4.31(2011 *Handbook* p.45) requires circuit forums to meet at least twice a year; and

WHEREAS anecdotal evidence suggests that circuit forum attendance has been decreasing over time; and

WHEREAS the business that circuit forums deal with is often confined to issues related to conventions such as electing delegates and submitting overtures; and

WHEREAS a recent survey of circuit counsellors by members of the Commission on Constitutional Matters and Structure suggests that many circuit forums are convened only to fulfill these particular requirements of Synodical Bylaw 4.31;

Therefore be it

RESOLVED that Synodical Bylaw 4.31 be amended to read: “The circuit forum will meet ~~at least twice a year~~ *triennially or more frequently at the discretion of the circuit counsellor.*”

Commission on Constitutional Matters & Structure
Rev. John Trembulak III, Chairman

OVERTURE 3.09 TO USE MORE CONSISTENT TERMINOLOGY RELATING TO ROSTERED WORKERS

WHEREAS Synodical Bylaw 5.41 (2011 *Handbook* p.50) defines the process by which pastors and deacons are placed on the clergy and diaconal rosters, respectively, of the Synod; and

WHEREAS other Synodical Bylaws, including 2.231 (2011 *Handbook* p.31) employ the term “rostered workers” to refer to those pastors and deacons who, being listed on their respective rosters, are members of the Synod;

Therefore be it

RESOLVED that Synodical Bylaw 2.521 (2011 *Handbook* p.35) be amended to reflect this preferred terminology, as follows:

“Each district shall elect through its regular election procedures at the district convention one ~~professional church worker who is a member of the Synod~~ *rostered worker* and one lay person to the Committee for Convention Nominations plus ~~alternatives~~ *alternates*”;

Therefore be it

RESOLVED that consistent efforts be employed throughout the Synod to refer to pastors and deacons together, wherever this can appropriately be done, as “rostered workers.”

Commission on Constitutional Matters & Structure
Rev. John Trembulak III, Chairman

OVERTURE 3.10 TO CLARIFY THE CIRCUIT COUNSELLOR’S RELATIONSHIP TO DEACONS IN HIS CIRCUIT

WHEREAS Synodical Bylaws 4.11 through 4.25 (2011 *Handbook* pages 43-44) describe the circuit counsellor’s duties and relationships to various parties; and

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WHEREAS Synodical Bylaw 4.23 is the only section within this description that mentions deacons within the context of the circuit counsellor’s work; and

WHEREAS Synodical Bylaw 4.23 focuses exclusively on the circuit counsellor’s caring relationship with “the teachers, principals, and schools in his circuit”;

Therefore be it

RESOLVED that Synodical Bylaw 4.23 be amended to recognize that many deacons do not serve in schools, but rather congregations, as follows:

“The circuit counsellor shall officially visit *the deacons* in his circuit.

a. In the case of deacons serving congregations, he shall give his attention especially to their teaching, visiting, and administration.

b. In the case of deacons serving schools, he shall give his attention especially to... [the points presently enumerated as “a” through “f” would change to 1-6].

Commission on Constitutional Matters & Structure
Rev. John Trembulak III, Chairman

OVERTURE 3.11 TO AMEND BYLAW PROVISIONS FOR DIACONAL TRAINING

WHEREAS Synodical Bylaws 5.25.a.1 and 5.25.b (2011 *Handbook* p. 48-49) state that Concordia University College of Alberta is the only institution from which prospective diaconal candidates can receive an appropriate credential; and

WHEREAS it may be desirable, for various reasons, to allow for more flexibility in diaconal education;

Therefore be it

RESOLVED that these Bylaws be amended as follows:

5.25.a: “A candidate for the position of deacon in Lutheran Church—Canada may be consecrated when the following prerequisites have been met:

1. *The candidate* ~~he~~ shall have completed the prescribed courses of study and have received a diploma from ~~Concordia University College of Alberta~~, *a synodically approved institution of higher education...*”

2. *The candidate* ~~he~~ shall have received endorsement...

3. *The candidate* ~~he~~ shall have indicated complete dedication to the diaconal ministry and the readiness to accept a call extended to him/*her* ...

4. *The candidate* ~~he~~ shall have received and accepted a call...

5. *The candidate* ~~he~~ shall have received and accepted a call...

6. *The candidate* shall have made application for membership in Synod...

5.25.b: “~~Graduates of Concordia University College of Alberta~~ *a synodically approved institution of higher education* who have fulfilled the prerequisites stated in a.1-4 and also wish to continue their professional studies shall be assigned and consecrated upon their request under the following conditions...”

Commission on Constitutional Matters & Structure
Rev. John Trembulak III, Chairman

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2
3 **OVERTURE 3.12** **TO RECOGNIZE DIACONAL SERVICE IN SCHOOLS AS WELL**
4 **AS PARISHES**

5
6 WHEREAS Synodical Bylaw 5.43 (2011 *Handbook* p.50) properly recognizes that many deacons are “called
7 to serve a parish”; and

8
9 WHEREAS this recognition, appropriate as it is for many deacons, does not recognize the service that other
10 deacons render as rostered workers in synodical schools, not in LCC parishes *per se*;

11
12 Therefore be it

13
14 RESOLVED that Synodical Bylaw 5.43 be amended as follows:

15
16 “To be retained on the active roster, a pastor or deacon, as the case may be, must be performing
17 the duties of one of the following offices... (b) a deacon called to serve a parish *or school*.

18
19 Commission on Constitutional Matters & Structure
20 Rev. John Tremulak III, Chairman

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22
23 **OVERTURE 3.13** **TO PROVIDE FOR DIACONAL SERVICE ON SYNOD BOARDS,**
24 **COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES**

25
26 WHEREAS Within the structure of LCC, it is clear that deacons are not laypeople, and

27
28 WHEREAS conversely, deacons are members of Synod, along with pastors and congregations Statutory Bylaw
29 7.02 (2011 *Handbook* p.2); and

30
31 WHEREAS deacons, along with pastors, are rostered workers of the Synod according to Synodical Bylaw 5.41
32 (2011 *Handbook* p.50); and

33
34 WHEREAS deacons, despite being members of Synod, are not presently eligible to serve on many Synod
35 boards, commissions, and committees; and

36
37 WHEREAS LCC is consequently deprived of the service that could be rendered by deacons; and

38
39 WHEREAS deacons are similarly deprived of the joy and benefit of serving the wider church in this way;

40
41 Therefore be it

42
43 RESOLVED that deacons become eligible for service on Synodical boards, commissions, and committees; and
44 be it finally

45
46 RESOLVED that the following Synodical bylaws be changed to reflect this principle:
47 2.101 (Commission on Constitutional Matters and Structure, 2011 *Handbook* p.27): “The Board
48 of Directors shall appoint ~~two pastors~~ *two rostered workers, at least one of whom must be a*
49 *pastor*, and two laypersons, for six-year terms, renewable once.”

50
51 2.105 (Commission on Theology and Church Relations, 2011 *Handbook* p.28): “The Convention
52 shall elect ~~two pastors~~ *two rostered workers* serving congregations, *at least one of whom must be a*
53 *pastor*, and two laypersons.”
54

1 8.37.a (Commission on Adjudication, 2011 *Handbook* p.77): “Of those elected at the Convention,
2 two people, ~~one a pastor and one a layperson or a deacon~~... *one a rostered worker* and one a
3 layperson, shall be elected from the communicant members of congregations in each district.”
4

5 Commission on Constitutional Matters & Structure
6 Rev. John Trembulak III, Chairman
7

8
9 **OVERTURE 3.14 TO PROVIDE FOR DIACONAL VOTING AT SYNOD**
10 **CONVENTIONS**

11
12 WHEREAS Deacons are members of Synod, along with pastors and congregations Statutory Bylaw 7.02,
13 (2011 *Handbook* p.50); and
14

15 WHEREAS deacons, along with pastors, are rostered workers of the Synod Synodical Bylaw 5.41, (2011
16 *Handbook* p.50); and
17

18 WHEREAS there is currently no mechanism to allow deacons to vote at Synodical conventions;
19

20 Therefore be it
21

22 RESOLVED that the first sentence of Synodical Bylaw 2.03 be amended to read:
23 “Those circuits which exceed 1500 communicant members shall elect an additional ~~pastor~~
24 *rostered worker* and layperson for every additional 1300 communicant members or fraction
25 thereof.”
26

27 Commission on Constitutional Matters & Structure
28 Rev. John Trembulak III, Chairman
29

30
31 **OVERTURE 3.15 TO PROVIDE FOR DIACONAL VOTING AT DISTRICT**
32 **CONVENTIONS**

33
34 WHEREAS Deacons are members of Synod, along with pastors and congregations in Statutory Bylaw 7.02,
35 (2011 *Handbook* p.2); and
36

37 WHEREAS Deacons, along with pastors, are rostered workers of the Synod according to Synodical Bylaw
38 5.41, (2011 *Handbook* p.50); and
39

40 WHEREAS there is currently no mechanism to allow deacons to vote at District conventions;
41

42 Therefore be it
43

44 RESOLVED that LCC Constitution Article XII (2011 *Handbook* p. 13) be amended as follows:
45 Article XII.10 - “Every congregation is entitled to two voting representatives at district
46 conventions, one to be one of its pastors and the other to be its elected lay delegate, provided
47 however that if congregations have associated together as a parish, then such voting rights shall be
48 exercised by representatives of the parish. *A congregation that is served by one or more deacon(s)*
49 *as well as a pastor is entitled to elect one additional diaconal representative and one additional*
50 *voting lay delegate.*”
51

52 Article XII.11 - “Pastors *and deacons* of congregations that are members of the Synod, and lay
53 delegates elected by such congregations shall be entitled to attend and vote at district conventions
54 on behalf of congregations.”
55

1 Article XII.12.– “The advisory members of a district convention, entitled to attend and speak at
2 district conventions are:... d. deacons *not elected to vote pursuant to Article XII.10 and Article*
3 *XII.11*;

4
5 Article XII.17 – “The presence of at least one-third of the congregations represented by at least
6 one of their voting representatives (pastors, *deacons*, or lay delegates) shall be required for a
7 properly constituted district convention.”
8

9 Commission on Constitutional Matters & Structure
10 Rev. John Trembulak III, Chairman
11

12
13 **OVERTURE 3.16** **TO DEVELOP WAYS OTHER THAN AN ASSESSMENT FOR**
14 **IMPLEMENTING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE VICARAGE**
15 **TASK FORCE REPORT**
16

17 WHEREAS LCC Resolution 11.2.03 (“*To Implement the Recommendations of the Vicarage Task Force*
18 *Report*”), in addition to acknowledging the merits of the task force report, also approved “...the
19 development and implementation of a synodical system of subsidizing vicarages whereby
20 congregations, by a yearly assessment, contribute to a ‘Vicarage Placement Fund.’” And
21

22 WHEREAS the estimated cost to implement the task force recommendations was \$160,000 a year; and
23

24 WHEREAS members of LCC congregations give their mission offerings which are passed on from the
25 congregations to the District to fund the work in our Districts (home missions, ecclesiastical
26 supervision, parish and school services, administration, care of church workers, etc.). A portion of
27 the district income is further passed on to the Synod to fund the work we do together as a national
28 church (foreign missions, theological education, church relations, etc.); and
29

30 WHEREAS while we do, in fact, assess congregations for the cost of church worker conferences, as well as
31 Synod and District conventions, it should be noted that these are actually mandated in the
32 *Handbook* to which all members of Synod literally “sign on” when they become members of LCC;
33 and
34

35 WHEREAS there are presently congregations which cannot pay the current assessments for conferences or
36 conventions; thus other congregations are faced with higher overall assessments to fund the
37 required conferences and conventions. This situation can be expected with an additional vicarage
38 program assessment; and
39

40 WHEREAS in times of decreasing income, it is tempting to look at other means of funding the work of District
41 and Synod. In such situations the Synod (and perhaps also its Districts) may be tempted to
42 consider assessments to fund other Synodical services. Consequently, a spirit of compulsion
43 rather than of joyous mission giving would prevail. As a result, there would probably be far less
44 funding and support available for the work of Synod than we have now;
45

46 Therefore be it
47

48 RESOLVED that LCC refrain from using an assessment approach to funding Synod or District programmes and
49 services; and be it further
50

51 RESOLVED that Synod develop and promote materials which encourage congregations to support the work of
52 District and Synod through ongoing support of missions; and be it finally
53

54 RESOLVED that these materials promote Christian stewardship at the individual and congregational level as
55 the free and joyous response of faith which trusts in the work of our Saviour Jesus Christ, Who has
56 redeemed us to be His new creation.

- 1
- 2 Board of Directors
- 3 Alberta-British Columbia District
- 4 Rhonda Buck, Secretary
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