

KITCHENER-WATERLOO CONFERENCE BYLAWS

1. Regular Meetings

The Conference shall ordinarily meet twice annually: for a business meeting in the spring; and a programme meeting in the fall.

The business meeting shall ordinarily be held on the first Saturday in May each year. The Conference may schedule additional regular business meetings.

The Conference Council may call a Special business meeting by giving 30 days notice to each of its congregations.

The Conference Council shall call a Special business meeting on receipt by the Conference Secretary of a written petition signed by at least 24 members from at least 3 congregations.

2. Quorum

Those in attendance at a duly constituted meeting shall be considered a quorum.

3. Council Elections, Terms, Eligibility

The Conference Council shall be elected at the spring meeting of the Conference. All terms shall be for two years. No member shall be eligible to serve for more than three consecutive terms. Only those persons present at the election meeting, or who have clearly indicated their willingness to serve, shall be eligible for election.

4. Council Positions

The Conference Council shall consist of the Dean, the Secretary-Treasurer, and 6 other members. Apart from the Dean, who must be an ordained minister,* the Council must include at least 2 lay persons, and at least 1 ordained minister.

*Note: "The dean ... shall be an ordained minister" (Eastern Synod Constitution, Article IX, Section 6).

5 a. Council Election Procedures

Nomination and election of the Dean shall be by ecclesiastical ballot. For the other positions, there shall be a call for nominations from the floor, after which election shall be by plurality.

Note: *Ecclesiastical Ballot*: a nominating ballot in which all rostered clergy residing in the relevant area (here: the specific conference) constitute the pool of

eligible nominees. In the Administrative Bylaws of the ELCIC, Part VI Nominations and Elections, Section 3 (convention election rules), Part D, there are rules stating how many candidates shall remain on the ballot and what vote shall be required for election at each round of balloting. These rules are commonly understood as "ecclesiastical balloting" throughout the ELCIC. A Nominating Ballot is an initial write-in ballot giving each voting member the opportunity to write in the name of one eligible person as that (anonymous) voter's nominee.

There shall always be at least one person elected to Conference Council from outside the municipal boundaries of Kitchener and Waterloo.

b. Vice-Dean

At the Conference Council's first meeting following the Spring meeting, the Conference Council will ordinarily appoint an ordained Council member to serve as vice-dean.

6. Resource Persons

The Congregational Life Resource Persons of the Conference shall be advisory members of the Conference Council, and are expected to attend the meetings as requested, make reports on their ministries and proposals for ministry, etc., to both Conference and Conference Council meetings.

7. Council Advisory Member

The Conference ELW President shall be an advisory member of the Conference Council and may share a report at both the Conference and Conference Council meetings.

8. Amendments

Amendments to these bylaws may be proposed by:

- a. The Synod Council,
- b. The Conference Council,
- c. Six delegates, representing at least three congregations.

Adoption of an amendment shall require passage by a two-thirds vote of the delegates present and voting at two successive duly called meetings of the Conference. Such amendments shall be effective upon ratification by the Synod Council.

Revised and accepted, May 3, 2003