

OVERTURE 1.19

BE IT RESOLVED that Lutheran Church-Canada adopt the following changes to its Constitution (additions in red and deletions in blue):

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>CONSTITUTION OF LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PREAMBLE</b></p>	<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>SYNODICAL</u> CONSTITUTION OF LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>PREAMBLE</b></p>	
<p><b>Reason for Forming Lutheran Church-Canada</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The example of the apostolic Church. Acts 15:1-31.</li> <li>2. Our Lord's will that the diversities of gifts should be for the common profit. 1 Cor. 12:4-31.</li> <li>3. The conviction that such an organization will facilitate our witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our country and throughout the world.</li> </ol> <p><b>Article I Status and Definitions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This Constitution has been passed pursuant to the Statutory Bylaws enacted pursuant to the Act.</li> <li>2. For the purpose of this Constitution and accompanying Synodical Bylaws, the "Synod" means Lutheran Church-Canada, or where referring to the voluntary ecclesiastical bond between members, means the Synod as defined in the Statutory Bylaws; and "member of the Synod" means a member of Lutheran Church-Canada.</li> <li>3. In this Constitution: "parish" means the association of two or more congregations that has been sanctioned by a district to constitute a parish; "circuit forum", "circuit counsellor", and "colloquy" have the meaning set out in the Synodical Bylaws; and "Act", "circuit", "congregation", "Convention", "deacon", "delegate", "district", "member", "pastor", and "Synod" have the meaning set out in the Statutory Bylaws.</li> </ol> <p><b>Article II Confession</b></p> <p>The Synod, and every member of the Synod, accepts without reservation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament as the written Word of God and the only rule and norm of faith and of practice;</li> <li>2. all the Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as a true and unadulterated statement and exposition of the Word of God, to wit: the three Ecumenical Creeds (the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Athanasian Creed), the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles, the Large Catechism of Luther, the Small Catechism of Luther, and the Formula of Concord.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Reason for Forming Lutheran Church-Canada</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The example of the apostolic Church. Acts 15:1-31.</li> <li>2. Our Lord's will that the diversities of gifts should be for the common profit. 1 Cor. 12:4-31.</li> <li>3. The conviction that such an organization will facilitate our witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our country and throughout the world.</li> </ol> <p><b>Article I Status and Definitions</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. This <u>Synodical</u> Constitution has been passed pursuant to the Statutory Bylaws enacted pursuant to the Act.</li> <li><del>2. For the purpose of this Constitution and accompanying Synodical Bylaws, the "Synod" means Lutheran Church-Canada, or where referring to the voluntary ecclesiastical bond between members, means the Synod as defined in the Statutory Bylaws; and "member of the Synod" means a member of Lutheran Church-Canada.</del></li> <li><del>3.2</del> In this <u>Synodical</u> Constitution <del>÷ words and expressions defined in the Act, in the Statutory Bylaws, and in the Synodical Bylaws have the same meanings when used herein.</del> "parish" means the association of two or more congregations that has been sanctioned by a district to constitute a parish; "circuit forum", "circuit counsellor", and "colloquy" have the meaning set out in the Synodical Bylaws; and "Act", "circuit", "congregation", "Convention", "deacon", "delegate", "district", "member", "pastor", and "Synod" have the meaning set out in the Statutory Bylaws.</li> </ol> <p><b>Article II Confession</b></p> <p><u>Lutheran Church-Canada</u><del>The Synod</del>, and every <u>m</u>Member <del>of</del> must accept without reservation:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. the Scriptures of the Old and the New Testament as the written Word of God and the only rule and norm of faith and of practice;</li> <li>2. all the Symbolical Books of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as a true and unadulterated statement and exposition of the Word of God, to wit: the three Ecumenical Creeds (the Apostles' Creed, the Nicene Creed, the Athanasian Creed), the Unaltered Augsburg Confession, the Apology of the Augsburg Confession, the Smalcald Articles, <u>The Treatise on the Power and Primacy of the Pope</u>, the Large Catechism of Luther, the Small Catechism of Luther, and the Formula of Concord.</li> </ol>	<p>No longer needed.</p> <p>Eliminates the need to refer amendments to definitions to congregations.</p>

<p><b>Article III Objectives</b></p> <p>The Synod, under Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. conserve and promote the unity of the true faith (Eph. 4:3-6; 1 Cor. 1:10), work through its official structure toward fellowship with other Christian church bodies, and provide a united defence against schism, sectarianism (Rom. 16:17), and heresy;</li> <li>2. strengthen congregations and their members in giving bold witness by word and deed to the love and work of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and extend that Gospel witness into all the world;</li> <li>3. recruit and train pastors, deacons, and other professional church workers and provide opportunity for their continuing growth;</li> <li>4. provide opportunities through which its members express their Christian concern, love, and compassion in meeting human needs;</li> <li>5. aid congregations to develop processes of thorough Christian education and nurture and to establish agencies of Christian education such as elementary and secondary schools;</li> <li>6. aid congregations by providing a variety of resources and opportunities for recognizing, promoting, expressing, conserving, and defending their confessional unity in the true faith;</li> <li>7. encourage congregations to strive for uniformity in church practice, but also to develop an appreciation of a variety of responsible practices and customs which are in harmony with our common profession of faith;</li> <li>8. provide evangelical supervision, counsel, and care for pastors, deacons, and other professional church workers in the performance of their official duties;</li> <li>9. provide protection for congregations, pastors, deacons, and other church workers in the performance of their official duties and the maintenance of their rights;</li> <li>10. aid in providing for the welfare of pastors, deacons, and other church workers, and their families, in the event of illness, disability, retirement, special need, or death.</li> </ol> <p><b>Article IV Rights of Conventions</b></p> <p>A Convention shall be the paramount decision-making authority of Lutheran Church-Canada, subject to the provisions set out in the Statutory Bylaws, the Constitution, and the Synodical Bylaws.</p> <p><b>Article V Membership</b></p> <p>Membership in Lutheran Church-Canada is restricted to congregations, pastors and deacons of the Evangelical Lutheran Church who confess and accept the confessional basis of Article II.</p>	<p><b>Article III Objectives</b></p> <p>The Synod, under Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. conserve and promote the unity of the true faith (Eph. 4:3-6; 1 Cor. 1:10), work through its official structure toward fellowship with other Christian church bodies, and provide a united defence against schism, sectarianism (Rom. 16:17), and heresy;</li> <li>2. strengthen congregations and their members in giving bold witness by word and deed to the love and work of God, the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and extend that Gospel witness into all the world;</li> <li>3. recruit and train pastors, deacons, and other professional church workers and provide opportunity for their continuing growth;</li> <li>4. provide opportunities through which its members express their Christian concern, love, and compassion in meeting human needs;</li> <li>5. aid congregations to develop processes of thorough Christian education and nurture and to establish agencies of Christian education such as elementary and secondary schools;</li> <li>6. aid congregations by providing a variety of resources and opportunities for recognizing, promoting, expressing, conserving, and defending their confessional unity in the true faith;</li> <li>7. encourage congregations to strive for uniformity in church practice, but also to develop an appreciation of a variety of responsible practices and customs which are in harmony with our common profession of faith;</li> <li>8. provide evangelical supervision, counsel, and care for pastors, deacons, and other professional church workers in the performance of their official duties;</li> <li>9. provide protection for congregations, pastors, deacons, and other church workers in the performance of their official duties and the maintenance of their rights;</li> <li>10. aid in providing for the welfare of pastors, deacons, and other church workers, and their families, in the event of illness, disability, retirement, special need, or death.</li> </ol> <p><b>Article IV Rights of Conventions</b></p> <p><del>A Convention shall be the paramount decision-making authority of Lutheran Church-Canada, subject to the provisions set out in the Statutory Bylaws, the Constitution, and the Synodical Bylaws.</del></p> <p><b>Article IV Prerequisites to Membership</b></p> <p><del>No community of believers and no individual shall be entitled to Membership in Lutheran Church-Canada unless that community is restricted to congregations; that pastors or and that deacons confesses and accepts of the Evangelical Lutheran Church who confess and accept the confessional basis of the Evangelical Lutheran Church as stated in of Article II.</del></p> <p><del>A community of believers, Congregations, a pastors, a deacons, and a candidates for the office of the ministry or for the position of a deacon must shall normally be received at a eConvention or by the Board in order to become a Member of Lutheran Church-Canada of a district, but may also be received at a Convention.</del></p>	<p>Dealt with in Article VIII.</p> <p>Establishes ecclesiastical prerequisites to the membership provisions in the Statutory Bylaws.</p>
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<p>Congregations, pastors, deacons, and candidates for the office of the ministry or for the position of a deacon shall normally be received at a convention of a district, but may also be received at a Convention.</p> <p>A congregation may be received into membership only after a district convention or a Convention has convinced itself that the constitution of the congregation, which must be submitted for examination, contains nothing contrary to the Scriptures or the Confessions.</p> <p>Pastors and deacons, and candidates for the office of the ministry or for the position of a deacon not coming from recognized orthodox church bodies, must submit to a colloquy before being received into membership.</p> <p>Congregations shall meet as a circuit forum and shall elect an equal number of pastoral and lay voting delegates (and their alternates) to represent them at Conventions, as provided in the Synodical Bylaws.</p> <p><b>Article VI Conditions of Membership</b></p> <p>Conditions for acquiring and holding membership in Lutheran Church-Canada are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Acceptance of the confessional basis of Article II.</li> <li>2. Renunciation of unionism and syncretism of every description, such as:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. serving congregations of mixed confession, as such, by pastors;</li> <li>b. taking part in the services and sacramental rites of heterodox congregations or of congregations of mixed confession;</li> <li>c. participating in heterodox tract and missionary activities.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Regular call of pastors and deacons and regular election of lay delegates by the congregations, as also the blamelessness of the life of such.</li> <li>4. Exclusive use of doctrinally pure agenda, hymn books, and catechisms in church and school.</li> <li>5. Service of congregations by pastors who are members of Lutheran Church-Canada.</li> </ol>	<p><del>A community of believers. A congregation may not be received as a Member Congregation unless a Convention or the Board into membership only after a district convention or a Convention has passed a resolution confirming convinced itself that it is satisfied that the constitution of the community congregation submitted by that community which must be submitted for examination, contains nothing contrary to the Scriptures or the Confessions.</del></p> <p><del>A pPastors, and deacons, or and candidates for the office of the ministry or for the position of a deacon not coming from recognized orthodox church bodies, must submit to a colloquy before being received as an Individual mMembership.</del></p> <p><del>Congregations shall meet as a circuit forum and shall elect an equal number of pastoral and lay voting delegates (and their alternates) to represent them at Conventions, as provided in the Synodical Bylaws.</del></p> <p><b>Article VI Additional Conditions of Membership</b></p> <p><del>Additional Cconditions for acquiring and holding membership in Lutheran Church-Canada includeare:</del></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Acceptance of the confessional basis of Article II.</li> <li>2. Renunciation of unionism and syncretism of every description, such as:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. serving congregations of mixed confession, as such, by pastors;</li> <li>b. taking part in the services and sacramental rites of heterodox congregations or of congregations of mixed confession;</li> <li>c. participating in heterodox tract and missionary activities.</li> </ol> </li> <li>3. Regular call of pastors and deacons and regular election of lay delegates by the congregations, as also the blamelessness of the life of such.</li> <li>4. Exclusive use of doctrinally pure agenda, hymn books, and catechisms in church and school.</li> <li>5. Service of a Member eCongregations by a pastors who is an Individual are mMember,s of Lutheran Church-Canada.</li> </ol> <p><b>Article XIII VI Termination of Membership Expulsion from the Synod</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. <del>The membership of a Members of the Synod</del> who acts contrary to the confession laid down in Article II <del>or and</del> to the conditions of membership <del>laid down</del> set out in Article VI <del>or persists</del> in an offensive conduct, shall, after previous futile admonition, be <del>terminated, expelled from the Synod.</del></li> <li>2. <del>Termination of membership shall come into effect Expulsion shall be executed</del> only after following any procedures <del>as shall be set out forth</del> in the Synodical Bylaws.</li> <li>3. If the member<del>ship</del> of <del>the Synoda</del> Member being terminated <del>expelled</del> is a pastor or deacon serving a congregation which is a mMember <del>Congregation of the Synod</del>, such congregation shall rescind his call and deal with him in accordance with the Word of God, notwithstanding an appeal. If the congregation fails to do so, the <del>respective district president regional pastor</del> shall deal with the congregation. If all negotiations and admonitions of the <del>district president regional pastor</del> fail, such congregation shall <del>cease to be a Member Congregation as provided in the Synodical Bylaws</del> forfeit its membership in the Synod.</li> </ol>	<p>Relocated from Article XIII and restated.</p>
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<p><b>Article VII Relation of the Synod to Congregations</b></p> <p>The Synod is not an ecclesiastical government exercising legislative or coercive powers, and with respect to an individual congregation's right of self-government, the Synod is advisory. Accordingly, no resolution of the Synod imposing anything upon the individual congregation is of binding force if it is not in accordance with the Word of God or if it appears to be inexpedient as far as the condition of a congregation is concerned.<sup>1</sup></p> <p><b>Article VIII Conventions</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">A. TIME AND LEGALITY OF CONVENTIONS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Lutheran Church-Canada convenes every three years for its regular Convention.</li> <li>2. The presence of at least one-fourth of the constitutionally elected voting delegates are necessary to constitute a legal Convention.</li> </ol> <p style="text-align: center;">B. SPECIAL CONVENTIONS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. If two-thirds of the delegates present at a Convention vote to call a special Convention, the Board of Directors shall call a special Convention.</li> <li>2. If two-thirds of the members of the Board of Directors request the calling of a special Convention, the Board of Directors shall call a special Convention.</li> <li>3. In cases of urgent necessity a special Convention may be called by the president with the consent of two-thirds of the district presidents or by the unanimous consent of the district presidents without the consent of the president.</li> </ol> <p>All members of Lutheran Church-Canada must be notified thirty days in advance and told for what purpose this special Convention is being convened.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">C. RESOLUTIONS AT CONVENTIONS</p> <p>All matters of doctrine and of conscience shall be decided only by the Word of God. All other matters shall be decided by a majority vote at a Convention. In case of a tie vote the president may cast the deciding vote.</p>	<p><b>Article VII Relation of the Synod to Congregations</b></p> <p>The Synod is not an ecclesiastical government exercising legislative or coercive powers, and with respect to an individual congregation's right of self-government, the Synod is advisory. Accordingly, no resolution of <del>Lutheran Church-Canada</del> <u>the Synod imposing anything impacting on <del>upon the individual</del> a Member e</u> <del>Congregation other than on the Member Congregation's rights and status as a Member</del> is of binding force if it is not in accordance with the Word of God or if it appears to be inexpedient as far as the condition of a <del>Member C</del> <u>congregation</u> is concerned.<sup>1</sup></p> <p><b>Article VIII Conventions</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;">A. TIME AND LEGALITY OF CONVENTIONS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>1. Lutheran Church-Canada convenes every three years for its regular Convention.</del></li> <li><del>2. The presence of at least one-fourth of the constitutionally elected voting delegates are necessary to constitute a legal Convention.</del></li> </ol> <p style="text-align: center;">B. SPECIAL CONVENTIONS</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>1. If two-thirds of the delegates present at a Convention vote to call a special Convention, the Board of Directors shall call a special Convention.</del></li> <li><del>2. If two-thirds of the members of the Board of Directors request the calling of a special Convention, the Board of Directors shall call a special Convention.</del></li> <li><del>3. In cases of urgent necessity a special Convention may be called by the president with the consent of two-thirds of the district presidents or by the unanimous consent of the district presidents without the consent of the president.</del></li> </ol> <p><del>All members of Lutheran Church-Canada must be notified thirty days in advance and told for what purpose this special Convention is being convened.</del></p> <p><b>Article VIII Rights of Conventions</b></p> <p><u>In addition to the authority vested in a Convention under the Statutory Bylaws, a Convention shall be the paramount decision-making authority of Lutheran Church-Canada in all ecclesiastical matters established under this Synodical Constitution and the Synodical Bylaws, subject to any limitations set out in the Statutory Bylaws, the Synodical Constitution, and the Synodical Bylaws.</u></p> <p style="text-align: center;">C. RESOLUTIONS AT CONVENTIONS</p> <p>All matters of doctrine and of conscience <u>discussed at a Convention</u> shall be decided only by the Word of God.  <del>All other matters shall be decided by a majority vote at a Convention. In case of a tie vote the president may cast the deciding vote.</del></p>	<p>Relocated to Statutory Bylaws.</p> <p>Restatement of Article IV.</p> <p>Relocated to Statutory Bylaws.</p>
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<sup>1</sup>Cf. Synodical Bylaws, 1.21b

<p><b>Article IX Representation</b></p> <p>Conventions are composed of regularly elected delegates and of certain individual persons, as specified in the Synodical Bylaws, to wit:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. delegates representing congregations, entitled to vote;</li> <li>2. non-voting representatives of the advisory members of the Synod, entitled to attend and speak;</li> <li>3. non-voting representatives of boards, commissions, and educational institutions and such as by virtue of their office are required to attend the Conventions, entitled to attend and speak.</li> </ol> <p>Advisory members of the Synod are the following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. pastors whose congregations have not been received as members of Lutheran Church-Canada;</li> <li>2. pastors not in charge of congregations;</li> <li>3. members of Lutheran Church-Canada who are faculty members at an educational institution established by Lutheran Church-Canada;</li> <li>4. deacons;</li> <li>5. candidates for the office of the ministry or for the position of deacon.</li> </ol> <p><b>Article X Officers</b></p> <p>The officers of Lutheran Church-Canada shall exercise the ecclesiastical functions given to those officers in the Constitution and Synodical Bylaws.</p> <p><b>Article XI President</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The president shall have ecclesiastical supervision regarding doctrine expressed by:             <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. all officers of Lutheran Church-Canada;</li> <li>b. all such as are employed by Lutheran Church-Canada;</li> <li>c. the individual districts; and</li> <li>d. all district presidents.</li> </ol> </li> <li>2. It is the president's ecclesiastical responsibility to see to it that all the aforementioned act in accordance with the confession set out in this Constitution, to admonish all who in any way depart from it, and, if such admonition is not heeded, to report such cases to the Convention.</li> <li>3. The president has and always shall have the responsibility to advise, admonish, and reprove. He shall conscientiously use all means at his command to promote and maintain unity of doctrine and practice in all the districts.</li> </ol>	<p><b>Article IX Representation</b></p> <p><del>Conventions are composed of regularly elected delegates and of certain individual persons, as specified in the Synodical Bylaws, to wit:</del></p> <p><del>1. delegates representing congregations, entitled to vote;</del></p> <p><del>2. non-voting representatives of the advisory members of the Synod, entitled to attend and speak;</del></p> <p><del>3. non-voting representatives of boards, commissions, and educational institutions and such as by virtue of their office are required to attend the Conventions, entitled to attend and speak.</del></p> <p><del>Advisory members of the Synod are the following:</del></p> <p><del>1. pastors whose congregations have not been received as members of Lutheran Church-Canada;</del></p> <p><del>2. pastors not in charge of congregations;</del></p> <p><del>3. members of Lutheran Church-Canada who are faculty members at an educational institution established by Lutheran Church-Canada;</del></p> <p><del>4. deacons;</del></p> <p><del>5. candidates for the office of the ministry or for the position of deacon.</del></p> <p><b>Article IX Ecclesiastical Functions of Officers</b></p> <p><del>In addition to the duties and responsibilities of t</del><u>The officers under the Statutory Bylaws, an individual officer, of Lutheran Church-Canada</u> shall exercise the ecclesiastical functions given to those officers in <del>the</del><u>this Synodical</u> Constitution and <del>the</del> Synodical Bylaws.</p> <p><b>Article XI Ecclesiastical Authority of President</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. The president shall have ecclesiastical supervision regarding doctrine expressed by:             <p><u>all officers and employees of Lutheran Church-Canada.</u></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>a. all officers of Lutheran Church-Canada;</del></li> <li><del>b. all such as are employed by Lutheran Church-Canada;</del></li> <li><del>c. the individual districts; and</del></li> <li><del>d. all district presidents.</del></li> </ol> </li> <li>2. It is the president's ecclesiastical responsibility to see to it that all the aforementioned act in accordance with the confession set out in this <u>Synodical</u> Constitution, to admonish all who in any way depart from it, and, if such admonition is not heeded, to report such cases to the Convention.</li> <li>3. The president has and always shall have the responsibility to advise, admonish, and reprove. He shall conscientiously use all means at his command to promote and maintain unity of doctrine and practice in all the districts.</li> <li>4. <u>The president shall:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>a. manage the delivery of the following services:</u> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>(i) providing ecclesiastical supervision</u></li> <li><u>(ii) building community</u></li> <li><u>(iii) caring for Members</u></li> <li><u>(iv) training church workers</u></li> <li><u>(v) engaging in Canadian Missions</u></li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> </ol>	<p>Dealt with in the Statutory Bylaws and in the Synodical Bylaws.</p> <p>Dealt with in the Synodical Bylaws.</p> <p>New</p>
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<p>4. The president shall see to it that the resolutions of a Convention are carried out.</p> <p><b>Article XII Districts and Their Regulation</b></p> <p>1. The Synod is divided into districts, the geographical boundaries of which are determined by a resolution of a Convention and are altered by it according to circumstances.</p> <p>2. This Constitution is also the constitution of each district insofar as it applies to the district; however, each district is at liberty to adopt such bylaws and pass such resolutions as it deems expedient for its conditions, provided that such bylaws and resolutions do not conflict with the Statutory Bylaws, the Constitution or the Synodical Bylaws.</p> <p>3. The officers of the district shall be:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a district president;</li> <li>district vice-presidents as the Synodical Bylaws prescribe;</li> <li>as many circuit counsellors as each district may determine upon;</li> <li>a district secretary;</li> <li>a district treasurer, who may be elected by the district convention or appointed in such a manner as the district may prescribe.</li> </ol> <p>4. Additional officers, boards, and commissions may be elected by the districts as they are required for the execution of the business of the districts.</p> <p>5. The election and time of service of the district officers shall be determined in the manner set out in the Synodical Bylaws.</p> <p>6. All officers of the districts have the same rights and duties as those outlined in the Statutory Bylaws for the officers of the Synod but only insofar as these apply to the district and only within the boundaries of their districts.</p> <p>7. The district presidents shall, moreover, especially exercise ecclesiastical supervision regarding the doctrine, life, and administration of pastors and deacons in their district and acquaint themselves with the religious conditions of the congregations in their district. To this end they shall visit and, according as they deem it necessary, hold investigations in the congregations. Their assistants in this work are the circuit counsellors, who therefore shall regularly make their reports to the district president.</p> <p>8. District presidents are empowered to suspend from membership in the Synod any pastor or deacon for persistently adhering to false doctrine or for having given offense by an ungodly life, in accordance with such procedure as shall be set forth in the Synodical Bylaws.</p>	<p><del>(vi) engaging in World missions</del> <del>(vii) providing social ministry</del></p> <p><del>b. provide pastoral leadership, oversight and support to the regional pastors,</del> <del>c. provide leadership in the strategic planning process of Lutheran Church-Canada and the Synodical Family,</del> <del>d. represent Lutheran Church-Canada at national and international meetings and gatherings of Lutherans and other multi-denominational gatherings,</del> <del>e. represent Lutheran Church-Canada as required at meetings and gatherings of organizations with which Lutheran Church-Canada has signed a Memorandum of Understanding,</del> <del>f. monitor compliance with the Memoranda of Understanding signed with other organizations.</del></p> <p><del>4. The president shall see to it that the resolutions of a Convention are carried out.</del></p> <p><b>Article XII Districts and Their Regulation</b></p> <p><del>1. The Synod is divided into districts, the geographical boundaries of which are determined by a resolution of a Convention and are altered by it according to circumstances.</del> <del>2. This Constitution is also the constitution of each district insofar as it applies to the district; however, each district is at liberty to adopt such bylaws and pass such resolutions as it deems expedient for its conditions, provided that such bylaws and resolutions do not conflict with the Statutory Bylaws, the Constitution or the Synodical Bylaws.</del> <del>3. The officers of the district shall be:</del> <del>a. a district president;</del> <del>b. district vice-presidents as the Synodical Bylaws prescribe;</del> <del>c. as many circuit counsellors as each district may determine upon;</del> <del>d. a district secretary;</del> <del>e. a district treasurer, who may be elected by the district convention or appointed in such a manner as the district may prescribe.</del> <del>4. Additional officers, boards, and commissions may be elected by the districts as they are required for the execution of the business of the districts.</del> <del>5. The election and time of service of the district officers shall be determined in the manner set out in the Synodical Bylaws.</del> <del>6. All officers of the districts have the same rights and duties as those outlined in the Statutory Bylaws for the officers of the Synod but only insofar as these apply to the district and only within the boundaries of their districts.</del> <del>7. The district presidents shall, moreover, especially exercise ecclesiastical supervision regarding the doctrine, life, and administration of pastors and deacons in their district and acquaint themselves with the religious conditions of the congregations in their district. To this end they shall visit and, according as they deem it necessary, hold investigations in the congregations. Their assistants in this work are the circuit counsellors, who therefore shall regularly make their reports to the district president.</del> <del>8. District presidents are empowered to suspend from membership in the Synod any pastor or deacon for persistently adhering to false doctrine or for having given offense by an ungodly life, in accordance with such procedure as shall be set forth in the Synodical Bylaws.</del></p>	<p>Moved to Statutory Bylaws.</p>
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<p>9. Furthermore, the district president shall:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>see to it that all resolutions of the Synod which concern his district are made known to the district and are carried out by it;</li> <li>submit an annual report of his administration to the president and, in general, permit the president to obtain all necessary insight into the discharge of his official activities as a district president;</li> <li>perform, either in person or by proxy, the ecclesiastical ordination of the candidates for the ministry assigned to his district and the installation of such, as well as the installation of the candidates for the office of pastor and the position of deacon called by the congregations in his district;</li> <li>sign all examination papers and certificates of ordination and, in general, all official papers and documents of his district.</li> </ol> <p>10. District conventions shall be comprised of voting representatives of congregations and advisory members to districts. Every congregation is entitled to two voting representatives at district conventions, one to be one of its pastors and the other to be its elected lay delegate, provided however, that if congregations have associated together as a parish, then such voting rights shall be exercised by representatives of the parish.</p> <p>11. Pastors of congregations that are members of the Synod, and lay delegates elected by such congregations shall be entitled to attend and vote at district conventions on behalf of congregations.</p> <p>12. The advisory members of a district convention, entitled to attend and speak at district conventions are:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>pastors whose congregations have not been received into membership in the Synod;</li> <li>pastors not in charge of congregations;</li> <li>members of the Synod who are faculty members at an educational institution established by Lutheran Church-Canada and located in the district;</li> <li>deacons; and</li> <li>candidates for the office of pastoral ministry or for the position of deacon.</li> <li>associate pastors of LCC congregations not elected by their congregations to be a delegate to the district convention.</li> </ol> <p>13. The districts shall be legally incorporated, with a board of directors which shall include the president, the secretary, and the treasurer of the district.</p> <p>14. Upon dissolution of a district, all property and assets to which the district holds title or over which it has control shall be transferred forthwith to Lutheran Church-Canada or to the nominee of Lutheran Church-Canada.</p> <p>15. The districts are independent separate legal entities, it being understood, however, that districts shall, in administering their affairs, always serve the interests of the Synod.</p> <p>16. The regular conventions of the districts shall be held in the year immediately following the triennial Convention of the Synod. Only a Convention of the Synod has the right to make an exception to this rule.</p> <p>17. The presence of at least one-third of the congregations represented by at least one of their voting representatives (pastors or lay delegates) shall be required for a properly constituted district convention.</p>	<p><del>9. Furthermore, the district president shall:</del></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><del>see to it that all resolutions of the Synod which concern his district are made known to the district and are carried out by it;</del></li> <li><del>submit an annual report of his administration to the president and, in general, permit the president to obtain all necessary insight into the discharge of his official activities as a district president;</del></li> <li><del>perform, either in person or by proxy, the ecclesiastical ordination of the candidates for the ministry assigned to his district and the installation of such, as well as the installation of the candidates for the office of pastor and the position of deacon called by the congregations in his district;</del></li> <li><del>sign all examination papers and certificates of ordination and, in general, all official papers and documents of his district.</del></li> </ol> <p><del>10. 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18. In cases of urgent necessity the district president shall be empowered to convene a special convention of his district; he must, however, previously have obtained consent of at least a majority of the congregations of the district after having informed them and the president of the purpose of the intended special convention.

**Article XIII Expulsion from the Synod**

1. Members of the Synod who act contrary to the confession laid down in Article II and to the conditions of membership laid down in Article VI or persist in an offensive conduct, shall, after previous futile admonition, be expelled from the Synod.
2. Expulsion shall be executed only after following such procedure as shall be set forth in the Synodical Bylaws.
3. If the member of the Synod expelled is a pastor or deacon serving a congregation which is a member of the Synod, such congregation shall rescind his call and deal with him in accordance with the Word of God, notwithstanding an appeal. If the congregation fails to do so, the respective district president shall deal with the congregation. If all negotiations and admonitions of the district president fail, such congregation shall forfeit its membership in the Synod.

**Article XIV Amendments to the Constitution**

1. Amendments to the Constitution may be made provided they do not conflict with the provisions laid down in the Act or Statutory Bylaws, or in Article II and in Article VI.
2. All proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to a Convention, and each proposed amendment shall be voted on separately. A two-thirds majority of all votes cast at a Convention shall be necessary for adoption
3. After adoption by the Convention such amendments shall be reported to the congregations in the official periodicals of the Synod.
4. 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.

ADOPTED by a majority of at least two-thirds of the votes cast by delegates at a Convention this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2002.

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~~**Article XIV~~XI~~ Amendments to the Synodical Constitution**~~

1. Amendments to ~~the this~~ Synodical Constitution may be made provided they do not conflict with the provisions laid down in the Act or Statutory Bylaws, or in Article II and in Article VI.
2. All proposed amendments must be submitted in writing to a Convention, and each proposed amendment shall be voted on separately. A two-thirds majority of all votes cast at a Convention shall be necessary for adoption
3. After adoption by the Convention such amendments shall be reported to the Member eCongregations in ~~the an~~ official periodicals of the Synod Lutheran Church-Canada.
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ADOPTED by a majority of at least two-thirds of the votes cast by delegates at a Convention this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June, 2002.

Relocated to Article VI.



<p>APPROVED by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by congregations that are members of the Synod.</p> <p>LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA</p> <p>Per: Rev. Ralph Mayan PRESIDENT</p> <p>Per: Rev. Nolan Astley SECRETARY</p> <p>NOTICE</p> <p>Article XII. 12 f amended by a two thirds majority of votes cast at the 2005 Convention of LCC and approved by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by congregations that are members of the Synod.</p>	<p>APPROVED by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by congregations that are members of the Synod.</p> <p>LUTHERAN CHURCH-CANADA</p> <p>Per: Rev. Ralph Mayan PRESIDENT</p> <p>Per: Rev. Nolan Astley SECRETARY</p> <hr/> <p>NOTICE</p> <p><u>Amendments were approved to this Synodical Constitution at Conventions held in 2005 and 2017. Article XII. 12 f amended</u> by a two-thirds majority of votes cast at <u>those Conventions, which amendments were approved the 2005 Convention of LCC and approved</u> by a two-thirds majority of the votes cast by <u>Member e</u>Congregations <u>within the time specified in Article XI</u> <del>that are members of the Synod.</del></p>	
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