

REGIONAL PASTOR
LUTHERAN CHURCH–CANADA (LCC)

Position Title: Regional Pastor for Lutheran Church–Canada

Purpose

The Regional Pastor serves as the ecclesiastical supervisor of the pastors, deacons and congregations (“the Members”) who reside and serve in his Region. As of January 1, 2019, LCC will have three regions (the number and configuration of regions is subject to revision over time) consisting of:

- the West Region;
- the Central Region; and
- the East Region.

Responsibility

The Regional Pastor is the spiritual leader of the pastors, deacons and other professional church workers in his region. In his responsibility for **Ecclesiastical Oversight, Building Community, and Care for Members**, he will nurture brotherly support and dialogue to encourage unity of doctrine, practice, mission and ministry in his region.

The Regional Pastor will emphasize God’s greatest gifts to mankind (1) the saving work of His Son as expressed in the Gospel and (2) God’s constant provision. The Regional Pastor will, therefore, support congregations in identifying and acting upon opportunities for outreach to advance the Gospel and bring lost souls to Christ. The Regional Pastor will also emphasize Christian stewardship of time, talent and treasures to encourage congregations to appreciate God’s gifts and return to God a portion of His blessings. To do this, he will show dedication in visiting with Pastors and congregations in his region on a regular basis.

The Regional Pastor is responsible for coaching, mentoring, and advising Pastors within his region in their Divine Calls to serve, lead and guide their respective congregations and parishes. The Regional Pastor will establish relationships with Pastors in his Region with, and through, the network of Circuit Counsellors. The Regional Pastor will support the work of the circuit counsellors in the region and appoint a circuit counsellor in the event of a vacancy, in accordance with the Synodical Bylaws. The Regional Pastor will also perform such duties as may be assigned to him from time to time by the Synodical President.

Accountability

The Regional Pastor is elected and Called by delegates at a Regional meeting convened under the auspices of national LCC Conventions. The Regional Pastor is accountable to the Synodical President. He will be a member of the **President’s Ministry Council**. He will report frequently to the Synodical President on the spiritual health of his region and identify and discuss issues of ministry effectiveness. His reports to the Synodical President will include assessments of potential opportunity and challenge within each Region.

The Regional Pastor will submit monthly expense reports to the Synodical President for his approval and processing by Synod staff, in accordance with LCC Administrative Policies. These reports will detail expenses incurred in his capacity as Regional Pastor (e.g. travel, rentals, business and office expenses).

Consults

The Regional Pastor attends all meetings of the **President's Ministry Council** and works collaboratively with the President, the **Regional Mission and Ministry Council**, circuit counsellors and "the Members" in that region.

The Regional Pastor will dedicate time and energy to encouraging Pastors in preaching and teaching the Word, identifying needs and opportunities in the region he serves for, engaging in Canadian missions and providing social ministry, advising and conferring with the **Canadian (Domestic) Mission Executive**.

The **Regional Mission and Ministry Council** is the primary support structure for the Regional Pastor in his responsibility to deliver the services of LCC to the congregations, pastors, and deacons in the region. The Regional Mission and Ministry Council of a region is composed of the circuit counsellors of that region and one layperson elected from each circuit of the region. The Regional Pastor calls for at least one meeting of the Regional Mission and Ministry Council per year. Decisions of the Regional Mission and Ministry Council shall be by consensus. The Regional Pastor convenes meetings of the Council and may chair the meetings or delegate the responsibilities of chair to others. The Regional Pastor may appoint a secretary from within the Council or a person who is not a member of the Council.

The Regional Pastor participates in the **Strategic Planning process of LCC** and leads the annual process of developing a work plan and budget for his Region. The Regional Mission and Ministry Council participates in that planning process. The Regional Pastor supports the Council in that responsibility and ensures that the Council fulfills that responsibility.

Informs

The expectations of a Regional Pastor include visiting each Member congregation of LCC in his region in addition to specific invitations he may receive from Member Congregations and Individual Members (i.e. rostered workers) in that region. He will lead the Regional Mission and Ministry Council of the region, ensuring news and information is regularly conveyed to the members of the region. The Regional Pastor will convene regional convocations as necessary to inform and update Member congregations of important news.

Location

The Regional Pastor will be located in an area with a strong communication infrastructure (internet and telephone). A physical office will be established for the Regional Pastor in a community with efficient access to air travel and car rental facilities. This allows for easier access to congregations and workers for visits, and provides support for the Regional Pastor, in the close fellowship of other local pastors.

The Regional Pastor will be supported administratively by staff at LCC in Winnipeg. This will be accomplished, using the technologies available (computer equipment and networks, cellular/smart telephone, etc.).

Qualifications

The Regional Pastor is an Individual Member (a rostered pastor) in good standing of Lutheran Church-Canada and is elected by delegates of Member Congregations in a region. The Regional Pastor demonstrates spiritual and pastoral leadership. The Regional Pastor is well organized and has a basic understanding of financial management.