

East Central Ontario Regional Council Assembly of Elders

POLICY NAME: East Central Ontario Regional Council Executive	Date Approved: February 25, 2019
Review date:	
Purpose: This policy provides direction to the Assembly of Elders that continues the work of the East Central Ontario Regional Council when the council is not meeting.	

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The executive of the East Central Ontario Region shall be known as the Assembly of Elders and shall provide the spiritual and governance leadership of the Region meeting the function and purpose as defined by the 2019 Manual C.3.1

Membership

The Assembly of Elders shall consist of 12 elected elders

- Elders shall be elected for a three (3) year term
- The East Central Ontario Regional Council shall elect one third (1/3) elders annually

The Executive Minister of the East Central Ontario Regional Council, East Central Ontario Regional Council Staff and East Central Ontario Regional Council Treasurer shall be corresponding members of the Assembly of Elders.

Meetings

The Assembly of Elders shall meet at least six times annually and typically monthly. The Assembly of Elders may meet either ‘in person’ or ‘electronically’.

Role of Elders

Elders shall serve as equals sharing in all responsibilities of governance and spiritual leadership. Each elder shall serve as a voting member of at least one East Central Ontario Regional Council Team as assigned and agreed to by the Assembly of Elders.

As a Team Member the Elder shall:

- Share the responsibility of holding before the Regional Team the overall vision and mandate as given by the East Central Ontario Regional Council and Assembly of Elders;
- Provide a conduit of information to and from the Regional Team;
- Represent the Regional Team, its needs and recommendations, to the Assembly of Elders.

Speaker

The Elders shall elect from their midst a Speaker of the Assembly of Elders to serve for a term of up to six months. The Speaker may serve consecutive terms at the will of the Assembly of Elders. The Elders may also elect an Alternate Speaker to preside and serve in the absence of the Speaker.

The Speaker shall preside at all meetings and preserve order and decorum. The Speaker may participate in all discussion and debate but must avoid any bias or perception of bias.

In the absence of a Speaker, or if the Speaker is unable to fulfill the role of Speaker, the oldest elder present shall serve as chairperson of the Assembly of Elders for the purpose of electing a Speaker or a Speaker pro tem (for the time being).

Leading Elder

Each Triennium, and for the purpose of fulfilling the requirements of the 2019 Manual D.1.1.d the Assembly of Elders shall elect a Leading Elder.

Vacancies

Members of the Assembly of Elders unable to fulfill their term may resign. An Elder failing to fulfill the responsibilities of Elder may be removed from office by a 2/3 majority decision of the remaining Elders of the Assembly of Elders.

The remaining members of the Assembly may elect a member of the East Central Ontario Regional Council to serve as an Elder until the next meeting of the East Central Ontario Regional Council at which time the East Central Ontario Regional Council will elect an Elder to complete the vacant term.