
SPRING ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

-Decisions-

Session one Friday, May 23, 2025

Behavior Covenant and Omnibus Motion

2025-05-23-24-001_OMNIBUS MOTION (Eric Hebert-Daly/Brian James) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council move the following:

1. That the agenda as circulated be adopted;
2. That the minutes of the East Central Ontario Regional Council fall general meeting of November 16, 2024 be accepted as circulated - see **Appendix A**;
3. That the *ECORC Governance Handbook May 2025* and the reference document *Updates to the ECORC Governance Handbook May 2025* be received and accepted as circulated - see **Appendices B¹ and B²**
4. That the *ECORC Report Book 2025* be received and accepted as circulate - see **Appendices C**;
5. That the Equity Monitor Support Team for this meeting consist of Nancy Clarke and Karen Wilson, (online) and Rev. Kevin Fitzpatrick, Rev. Nancy Wilson, Rev. Elizabeth Cunningham and Deb Fortin Brown (in person);
6. That the Scrutineers for this meeting be Karen Wilson, (online) and Rev. Darren Liepold (in person);
7. That the Discernmentarian/Parliamentarian for this meeting be Rev. Dr. John Young;
8. That the Chaplains for this meeting be Rev. Sharon Ballantyne (online) and Rev. Wanda Stride (in person)
9. That this meeting includes the behavioral covenant – *Holy Manners* and *Virtual Holy Manners*:

Holy Manners

One Voice: Called together by Christ as a community of broken but hopeful believers, striving to be faithful servants of God in our time and place as we offer our varying gifts,

Many Voices: We commit to keeping God at the center of everything we do;

One Voice: We confess, that we have not always lived up our vision of community, we need the Spirit to reorient us, to live an emerging faith, challenging us to live by grace rather than entitlement,

Many Voices: We commit to be truthful in our communications by: speaking for ourselves; and speaking purposefully;

One Voice: We are called as a diverse community of people celebrating our differences;

Many Voices: And so, we commit to honouring our intercultural vision through welcoming the conflict of ideas; making space for the full and equitable participation of all, enabling especially people who are quiet to speak; being mindful of our body language; listening carefully without interruption and separate people from problems;

One Voice: We are called to be bold disciples,

Many Voices: As we live into our call to discipleship we will hold one another to account when we do not keep to our commitments; We will take a future orientation in our discussions and imagination;

demonstrate appreciation; And honouring the decisions of the body;

One Voice: We are called to lead in hope with purpose and vision as members of a community held and inspired by God, partnering with God in the mending of the world

Many Voices: So, we commit to keeping the discussion at the table and to be faithful stewards of our time.

All: We affirm that we are Called by God, as disciples of Jesus, to offer leadership to The United Church of Canada as it seeks to be a bold, connected, evolving church of diverse, courageous, hope-filled communities united in deep spirituality, inspiring worship, and daring justice. Amen

In the 2023 Manual (see page 192), the expression Holy Manners is translated as rules of conduct based on respect and benevolence.

Virtual Holy Manner

- use the Chat feature of Zoom appropriately:
 - understanding that speaking in Public Chat is equivalent to speaking out loud in a meeting and is disruptive and rude and should be directed to the Chair of the meeting and used for Points of Order and/ or matters of personal privilege;
 - responding in Chat when invited to do so by the Chair;
 - using direct messaging when desiring or needed to engage with another
- use of transcription not for use outside of the meeting/event.

CARRIED

Nominations

- see *ECORC Report Book 2025* as **Appendix C** (Nominations Report is on page 21)

2025-05-23-24-003_MOTION (Wanda Stride/John Young) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council receive and approve the prayerful recommendations of the Nominations Leadership Team to appoint the following people into leadership positions on ECORC Assembly of Elders and leadership teams for three-year terms, from the rise of the spring 2025 meeting until the rise of the spring 2028 meeting:

Council of Elders

Rev. Michelle Brotherton
Patti James
Ted Meyers

*(outgoing members)

Ned Wells
Patricia Long

Ministry through Property & Finance

Rev. Svinda Heinrichs as chair
Paul Binkley
Arthur Smith

Formation Nurture and Justice

Rev. Paul Reed

Covenant Support

Rev. Don Misener
Sharon Goulding
Rev. Brian Nicholson
Kathleen Whyte

Nominations

Rev. Ned Wells as chair
Rev. Kaitlyn Ostrander

CARRIED**Speaker-Elect (2 year-term)**

2025-05-23-24-004 (Svinda Heinrichs/Wanda Stride) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council name Joyce Payne as Speaker-Elect. **CARRIED**

Ted Meyers (Ministry Through Property & Finance) and Bill Sheaves (Covenant Support Team) were thanked for their roles as past-chairs and received gifts on behalf of the regional council.

General Council 45 Commissioners

2025-05-23-24-005_MOTION (Svinda Heinrichs/Wanda Stride) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council follow past precedent from 2021 and vote on a slate of commissioners and an alternate.

2025-05-23-24-006_MOTION (Svinda Heinrichs/Wanda Stride) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council approve the names listed in this slate, which have been chosen based on the criteria of achieving a balance of gender, lay, ordered, and opportunity for first time commissioners, with priority given to Racialized and Indigenous people and those in the LGBTQ+ community, as ECORC's General Council commissioners and an alternate.

Commissioners to General Council 45 (O - Ordered; L - Lay):

- | | |
|--------------------|---|
| 1. Brian Ostrander | L |
| 2. Derek Marsellus | L |

Commissioners to General Council 45 (alternate):

- | | |
|-------------------------|---|
| 1. Phyllis Elvidge-Bell | L |
|-------------------------|---|

CARRIED**Leading Commissioner**

2025-05-23-24-007 (Svinda Heinrichs/Wanda Stride) that the East Central Ontario Regional Council name Rev. David Moore as Leading Commissioner. **CARRIED**

Session two
Saturday, May 24, 2025

*Currently there are not motions being presented on Saturday.

-Appendices-

*All appendices located at:

<https://ecorcuccan.ca/2025-ecorc-spring-annual-meeting-may-23-and-24/>

Appendix A	East Central Ontario Regional Council Fall General Meeting of November 16, 2024
Appendix B ¹	ECORC Governance Handbook May 2025
Appendix B ²	Updates to the EOORC Governance Handbook May 2025
Appendix C	ECORC Report Book 2025