

**GCE 13 Mandate and Nominating Process for GC 43 Executive and Transition**  
**Origin: Executive of the General Council**

The Executive of the General Council proposes:

That the recalled 42nd General Council on September 30, 2017 approve that:

1. The Nominating Committee of the 42nd General Council Executive be authorized and empowered to serve as the Nominating Committee for the 43rd General Council, to bring to the General Council recommendations for 15 members to serve along with the Moderator and the General Secretary, as the Executive of the General Council from January 1, 2019, until the next Executive is installed by the 44th General Council.
2. In doing this work, the Nominating Committee will:
  - a. Request that a representative be chosen by the Aboriginal Ministries Council;
  - b. Request that each Conference recommend 3–5 people for consideration; and
  - c. Take into account the need to reflect diversity of lay/ministry personnel, geography, age, culture, and language, as well as the need to ensure that competencies in theology, governance, finance, and vision are present within the group of those recommended.
3. Except for the Moderator, who will be replaced by the Moderator elected by the 43rd General Council, and who would in turn replace the past Moderator in that role on the Executive, the Executive of the 42nd General Council be extended to serve until December 31, 2018, to enable appropriate transitional arrangements to be put in place.

**Background:**

In 2015, the Comprehensive Review Task Group chair, the Rev. Cathy Hamilton, stated: “Our current organizational structure is simply not sustainable from the point of view of either our volunteers or our finances.” This theme from the work of the Comprehensive Review was picked up in the approval by General Council of a streamlined Executive structure for the denomination.

The study guide for remit 1 echoes that theme. “The intent of this reorganization is to create a sustainable and workable church structure in the face of a declining volunteer base and financial resources...it is intended to provide a church structure through which God’s mission can be more effectively lived and expressed in diverse, faith-filled, and hopeful communities of faith.”

Remit 1 has now been passed by the majority of all presbyteries and pastoral charges. This decision is not final until passed by the 43rd General Council, but in order to be ready for a new Executive to be approved by the 43rd General Council if the remits are passed, there needs to be a Nominating Committee report ready to present to GC43.

Remit 1 outlines an Executive that would be much smaller than the current body—between 12 and 18 members in total. It would reflect the principle that all the voices of our diverse church must be heard but all will not necessarily be contained within the Executive. Executive members

would be chosen based on needed competencies, with a stated goal of diversity in the body's makeup, and the obligation to ensure that broader voices are heard as part of the decision making. Committees, including standing ones, would be much smaller in number and membership than current committees. All members of the Executive would serve on a standing or other committee, with some members of the standing committees drawn from outside the Executive, based on their expertise in relevant areas. The chair of each committee, other than the audit committee, would be a member of the Executive to ensure there is a link of accountability to the Executive.

The term of the Executive of the 42nd General Council (except for the Moderator) will be extended to December 31, 2018, to enable an appropriate transition to take place. After that date, the new smaller Executive will take over. They would be approved at the General Council meeting in July 2018 and would have some time that fall to prepare to implement the new structure before assuming office on January 1, 2019.

In the structure approved at GC42, regions would put forward names of qualified people to the Nominating Committee, and the Nominating Committee would use that pool of nominees to put together a diverse group that encompasses a variety of important competencies. Since the new regional structure would not come into force until January 2019, the Nominating Committee would turn to Conferences for recommendations for this first Executive under the new structure.

As with all work of the General Council, the principles and obligations flowing from the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples are to be taken into account.