

УКРАЇНСЬКА КАТОЛИЦЬКА ЕПАРХІЯ САСКАТУНУ
UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF SASKATOON

EPARCHIAL PASTORAL COUNCIL STATUTES

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PRELIMINARY PERCEPTION

Everyone belongs to the family of God and has a role to play in that family. God, our Father, chose to share His love with us. Christian faithful are those who, since they are incorporated into Christ through baptism, constitute the People of God.¹ All Christians, through their faith commitment to baptism, and strengthened by the Holy Spirit, have become sharers in Christ's priestly, prophetic, and royal office in their own particular condition, and they are called to exercise the mission which God has entrusted to the Church to fulfill in the world.²

By divine institution in virtue of sacred ordination among the Christian faithful, there are in the Church, bishops, priests, and deacons.³ The term "lay persons" is applied to the Christian faithful whose proper and special natural state is secular and living in the world participate in the mission of the Church. Drawn from clerics and lay persons are those of the Christian faithful, who, professing the evangelical counsels, are consecrated to God in their own special way; they belong to the religious state.⁴

By divine institution, to a bishop is entrusted the pastoral care of a portion of the People of God called the "Eparchy".⁵ A parish is a definite community of the Christian faithful established on a stable basis in the Eparchy, whose pastoral care is entrusted to a pastor.⁶ By being members of a parish, the faithful belong to the Church.

MISSION OF THE FAITHFUL

With the understanding of the Church, as the People of God, taught by the Second Vatican Council, the baptized have assumed greater responsibility for the needs of the Church.⁷ They are willing to offer their experience and competence in different areas of human activity and undertake various tasks and offices for the renewal and building up of the Church.

Every task-oriented community needs organization to accomplish its work so that all the persons and resources dedicated to the task can be used to the best advantage.

In the Eparchy, if pastoral circumstances recommend it, a Pastoral Council is to be established whose role it is, under the authority of the Eparchial Bishop, to investigate, ponder and propose practical conclusions about those things which regard pastoral works in the Eparchy.⁸

¹ Can 7

² AA10

³ cfr. Can 325

⁴ Can 399

⁵ Can 177

⁶ Can 279

⁷ cfr. Can 912-916

⁸ Can 272

Chapter I: NATURE OF EPARCHIAL PASTORAL COUNCIL

Article 1: AIMS AND OBJECTIVES

- Section 1:** The Eparchial Pastoral Council brings together clergy, religious and lay people who,⁹ together with their Bishop, work jointly to investigate, ponder, and propose practical conclusions regarding the pastoral activity in the Eparchy.¹⁰
- Section 2:** The extent of this Eparchial Pastoral Council work shall encompass the following:
- 2.1:** To foster the spiritual growth of all parish members, following the Ukrainian Catholic Church Tradition.
 - 2.2:** To become concerned with the needs and pastoral priorities of the Eparchy and also of the Universal Church.
 - 2.3:** To foster and further vocations to the clerical and religious life.
 - 2.4:** To assist in the evangelization and missionary activities of the Eparchy and of the Church.
 - 2.5:** To contribute and/or promote activities and programs that individuals and organizations seek to undertake on the Eparchial level.
 - 2.6:** To prepare and call with Bishop's approval, an Eparchial Sobor every three (3) years.
- Section 3:** The Eparchial Pastoral Council may obtain a mandate from the Bishop to extend its actions in other fields, always in keeping with the existing Church laws and according to a general mandate from specific request of Church Authorities.

Article 2: THE AUTHORITY

- Section 1:** The Eparchial Pastoral Council is consultative body.¹¹
- Section 2:** Under the authority of the Eparchial Bishop, the Eparchial Pastoral Council investigates, ponders, and proposes practical conclusions about those things which regard pastoral works in the Eparchy.¹² And so helps the Bishop in his governance of the Eparchy.
- Section 3:** The Eparchial Pastoral Council is established by the Bishop for a term according to the prescriptions of these statutes.¹³ When the Eparchial See is vacant, the Eparchial Pastoral Council ceases to exist.¹⁴

⁹ Can 273.1

¹⁰ Can 272

¹¹ Can 273.1

¹² Can 272

¹³ Can 274.1

¹⁴ Can 274.2

Chapter II: COMPOSITION

Article 1: MEMBERSHIP

Section 1: The Eparchial Pastoral Council shall be representative of the faithful of the Eparchy in regard to persons, associations and other endeavours that exist within its boundaries.¹⁵

Section 2: The Eparchial Pastoral Council shall consist of clerics, religious or members of societies of common life in the manner of religious, and especially of lay people designated by the Eparchial Bishop.¹⁶

Section 3: Presently there are lay organizations operating within the Eparchy that enjoy autonomy over their internal affairs and membership. These organizations are:

- a) the existing Eparchial organizations, namely, Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood of Canada (UCBC), Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada (UCWLC), and Ukrainian Catholic Youth of Canada (UCYC); and
- b) Councils of the Knights of Columbus with Ukrainian Catholic members.

Their participation in the Eparchial Pastoral Council is necessary in order to maintain all avenues of communication within the Eparchy.

Section 4: Along with these mentioned, if it is suitable, the Eparchial Bishop can invite others to the Eparchial Pastoral Council even if they are of another Church sui iuris.¹⁷

Section 5: The number of Eparchial Pastoral Council members shall be a minimum of twenty-five (25) and a maximum of thirty-five (35). These shall include:

- a) one priest or deacon and eight lay people from each Deanery;
- b) one representative each from the Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood of Canada (UCBC), Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada (UCWLC), and Ukrainian Catholic Youth of Canada (UCYC) and the Knights of Columbus; and
- c) one representative each from the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate (SSMI), the Ukrainian Sisters of St. Joseph of Saskatoon, and the Ukrainian Congregation of the Most Holy Redeemer.

Section 6: No one except Christian faithful of proven faith, good morals and outstanding prudence is to be nominated for the Eparchial Pastoral Council.¹⁸

Section 7: No member shall serve more than two (2) consecutive terms on the Eparchial Pastoral Council except when otherwise stated in the Decree of Appointment.

¹⁵ Can 273.2

¹⁶ Can 273.1

¹⁷ Can 273.3

¹⁸ cfr. Can 15.3

- Section 8:** In the event that a member cannot continue to serve, a letter of resignation indicating the reason and date of termination shall be submitted to the Bishop.
- Section 9:** A vacancy on the Eparchial Pastoral Council may be filled by a new member who has been selected by the group he/she represents. A member so selected will serve on the Eparchial Pastoral Council until the next Sobor.
- Section 10:** The Dean shall compile a list of lay people to assist him by filling positions to represent the Deanery and submit the list to the Bishop for appointment.

Chapter III: SPECIFIC ROLES

Article 1: EXECUTIVE

- Section 1:** The Eparchial Pastoral Council Executive shall consist of the following officers:

The Bishop
Chairperson
Vice-Chairperson
Recording Secretary

- Section 2:** The Chairperson, Vice-Chairperson and Recording Secretary shall be elected by the members of the Eparchial Pastoral Council at the first meeting of each term.

Article 2: HEAD

- Section 1:** The Bishop is the person who calls the Eparchial Pastoral Council together for meetings and he is the person to make public the discussed topics.
- Section 2:** He personally or his appointee, a priest of the Eparchy of Saskatoon, shall be the Spiritual Director of the Eparchial Pastoral Council.
- Section 3:** The Bishop, together with the Chairperson, is responsible for drawing up the agenda, and for calling Eparchial Pastoral Council meetings.

Article 3: CHAIRPERSON

- Section 1:** The Chairperson shall conduct all meetings of the Eparchial Pastoral Council.
- Section 2:** He/she shall consult with the Bishop on all matters relating to the Eparchial Pastoral Council.
- Section 3:** Together with the Bishop, he/she is responsible for drawing up the agenda for meetings.
- Section 4:** He/she shall delegate responsibilities, as they arise, to the members of the Eparchial Pastoral Council or persons appointed by the Bishop.

Section 5: He/she shall sign all documents of the Eparchial Pastoral Council.

Section 6: The Chairperson shall be an ex-officio member of all Eparchial Pastoral Council Committees.

Article 4: VICE-CHAIRPERSON

Section 1: The Vice-Chairperson shall assume the duties of the Chairperson in the latter's absence.

Section 2: The Vice-Chairperson shall carry out such duties as are assigned by the Eparchial Pastoral Council or Chairperson.

Article 5: RECORDING SECRETARY

Section 1: The Recording Secretary shall keep the minutes of all Eparchial Pastoral Council meetings.

Section 2: Together with the Chairperson, the Recording Secretary shall sign the adopted minutes of the Eparchial Pastoral Council.

Section 3: The Recording Secretary shall provide a copy of the minutes to all members of the Eparchial Pastoral Council.

Section 4: The Recording Secretary shall maintain a set of all adopted minutes for reference at Eparchial Pastoral Council meetings.

Section 5: The Recording Secretary shall conduct the necessary correspondence of the Eparchial Pastoral Council.

Chapter IV: MEETINGS

Section 1: The Eparchial Pastoral Council shall be convened at least once a year, preferably twice a year (in spring and fall).

Section 2: Written notice shall be given to each member of the Eparchial Pastoral Council at least one (1) month immediately preceding the meeting as to the place, date, time, and agenda of such meeting.

Section 3: At the meeting, the Eparchial Pastoral Council members present shall constitute a quorum.

Section 4: The Bishop shall call a special meeting when a particular major matter concerning the Eparchy is to be considered or discussed.

Section 5: The Bishop may request that only those matters pertaining to the particular purpose of the meeting be discussed and acted upon at such a special meeting.

Chapter V: THE SOBOR OF THE SASKATOON EPARCHY

- Section 1:** The Bishop, in consultation with the Chairperson, shall call a Sobor every three (3) years, at a place and date designated by the Eparchial Pastoral Council.
- Section 2:** All parishes, missions and organizations that belong to the Saskatoon Eparchy shall be informed in writing of the time, location, and agenda of the Sobor at least three months prior to its date.
- Section 3:** Each parish, mission and organization within the Saskatoon Eparchy shall have the right and obligation to send representatives to the Sobor and shall inform the Eparchial Pastoral Council of its intention to do so at least one month before the Sobor.
- Section 4:** It shall be the duty of each organization, parish, and mission to encourage as many members as possible to attend the Sobor.
- Section 5:** The following shall be present at the Sobor: The Bishop, parish priests, Eparchial Pastoral Council members, and representatives of parishes and organizations.
- Section 6:** The agenda of the Sobor shall be prepared by the Eparchial Pastoral Council and shall be centered on a selected theme. The agenda shall consist of five (5) parts:

I. OPENING SESSION

- a. Registration
- b. Formal Opening
- c. Election of the Chairperson and Secretaries for the Sobor
- d. Chairperson's Remarks
- e. Bishop's Greetings
- f. Presentation of the Agenda
- g. Keynote Speaker

II. GENERAL

This section shall include the major addresses of the participants at the Sobor as well as the social events and special items planned by the Eparchial Pastoral.

III. REPORTS

Eparchial Pastoral Council Chairperson
Financial Report
Auditor's Report
Committee Reports
 Religious Education
 Vocations
 Membership

IV. PROGRAMS AND RESOLUTIONS

- a. Presentation and discussion of proposed programs for the next three years.
- b. Resolutions, Proposals and Priorities.

V. CLOSING REMARKS

Section 7: Within sixty (60) days of the completion of the Sobor, the outgoing Eparchial Pastoral Council Executive shall submit a complete report to the Bishop's Chancery Office.

Chapter VI: COMMITTEES

Article 1: FORMATION OF COMMITTEES

Section 1: The Bishop, with the advice of the Eparchial Pastoral Council, shall create various committees to perform their duties as authorized and directed by the Council.

Section 2: The Role of each committee is to plan and, with approval of the Eparchial Pastoral Council, implement activities or projects within its area of responsibility.

Section 3: The responsibilities of standing committees are outlined in these Statutes. Responsibilities of committees appointed for special projects should be specified at the time of designation of the committee.

Section 4: Each committee shall consist of a least three (3) members from the Eparchial Pastoral Council, one of whom must be the committee Chairperson. The committee Chairperson shall submit the names of prospective committee members to the Eparchial Pastoral Council for approval.

Section 5: A committee Secretary shall be elected by the members of the committee. Records shall be kept of all committee meetings and the committee shall report to the Eparchial Pastoral Council if and when requested to do so.

Section 6: The following committees are hereby created: Religious Education, Vocations, Finance, and Membership.

Article 2: RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COMMITTEE

Section 1: The Religious Education Committee shall carry overall responsibility for the functions listed hereunder. It may delegate specific duties in accordance with the general policy of the Eparchial Pastoral Council which may be determined from time to time.

Section 2: The Religious Education Committee, in conjunction with the Ukrainian Catholic Religious Education Centre (UCREC), shall research and coordinate programs concerning the education of children, youth, and adult members of the Saskatoon Eparchy.

Section 3: The Religious Education Committee may initiate special programs, to be implemented with the Bishop's approval, for the preparation of leaders or teachers who will advance religious education, faith and understanding of our Church tradition.

Section 4: The Religious Education Committee shall prepare and submit a report at the Sobor.

Article 3: VOCATIONS COMMITTEE

Section 1: The Vocations Committee shall carry overall responsibility for the functions listed hereunder. It may delegate specific duties in accordance with the general policy of the Eparchial Pastoral Council which may be determined from time to time.

Section 2: The Vocations Committee shall research and prepare a program on a year-to-year basis, concerning the awareness of, and the need for, vocations to the clerical and religious life and, with the Bishop's approval, implement this program throughout the Eparchy of Saskatoon.

Section 3: In each year of office, the Vocations Committee shall prepare at least one event or workshop on an eparchial or regional level.

Section 4: The Vocations Committee shall prepare and submit a report at the Sobor.

Article 4: FINANCE COMMITTEE

Section 1: The Finance Committee shall carry overall responsibility for the functions listed hereunder. It may delegate specific duties in accordance with the general policy of the Eparchial Pastoral Council which may be determined from time to time.

Section 2: The Finance Committee shall assist the Bishop in financial planning pertaining to the Eparchy.

Section 3: Annually, in consultation with the Bishop, the Finance Committee shall prepare an operating budget for all eparchial activities.

Section 4: The Finance Committee shall establish an eparchial fundraising project on an annual basis. Each parish will be required to contribute time and human resources towards the fundraising project.

Section 5: The Finance Committee shall prepare and submit a report at the Sobor.

Article 5: MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

Section 1: A Membership Committee shall be chosen from the members of the existing Eparchial Pastoral Council.

- Section 2:** The Membership Committee shall consist of the current Chairperson and four (4) other members.
- Section 3:** Twenty (20) days prior to the Sobor, the Membership Committee shall submit for the Bishop’s approval, a slate of candidates consistent with these Statutes, for membership on the Eparchial Pastoral Council.
- Section 4:** The Chairperson of the Membership Committee shall report on the newly selected Eparchial Pastoral Council at the Sobor.

Chapter VII: RULES OF ORDER

Article 1: QUORUM

- Section 1:** At the Sobor, all persons duly present shall constitute a quorum.
- Section 2:** At all meetings of the Eparchial Pastoral Council, the members present shall constitute a quorum.

Article 2: VOTING

- Section 1:** All members of the Eparchial Pastoral Council shall have the right to cast a vote at meetings of the Council.¹⁹
- Section 2:** Where there are two or more candidates for any election, voting shall be by ballot only.²⁰
- Section 3:** Before elections begin, at least two scrutineers shall be appointed from among the members.²¹
- Section 4:** The scrutineers shall collect and count the ballots, and, in the presence of the one who presides at the election, shall examine the ballots, and announce how many each person has received.
- Section 5:** If the number of ballots exceeds the number of electors, the act is null.²²
- Section 6:** A person is considered elected who receives a plurality of the votes.²³
- Section 7:** The ballots are to be destroyed immediately after each voting session.²⁴
- Section 8:** The secretary is to record accurately all the acts of the election.²⁵

¹⁹ Can 949.1

²⁰ Can 954.1

²¹ Can 955.1

²² Can 955.3

²³ Can 956.1

²⁴ Can 955.4

²⁵ Can 955.5

Section 9: Voting at meetings shall be by show of hands, unless the majority of members request that voting be by ballot.²⁶

Article 3: BYLAWS

Section 1: The Eparchial Pastoral Council may make bylaws for the purpose of continuing and improving the affairs of the Eparchial Pastoral Council.

Section 2: Such bylaws must be consistent with Church Canon Law, the Particular Law of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, and these Statutes.

Section 3: A two-thirds (2/3) majority of the members of the Eparchial Pastoral Council is necessary for passing a new bylaw or changing an old bylaw.

Section 4: No bylaw or amendment shall be of any force and effect until it is approved by the Bishop and bears the Seal of the Ukrainian Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Saskatchewan.

Article 4: AMENDMENTS TO THE STATUTES

Section 1: A request for an amendment to the Eparchial Pastoral Council Statutes may be presented to the Eparchial Pastoral Council for its consideration by any member according to the following procedure:

- a) The member shall give written notice of the proposed amendment to the Eparchial Pastoral Council.
- b) The proposed amendment may be considered at any regular meeting of the Eparchial Pastoral Council, or at a special meeting called for the specific purpose of considering the proposed amendment.
- c) The text of the proposed amendment shall be included in written notice of the meeting at which the amendment is to be considered.
- d) Any amendment of the Statutes must be approved by two-thirds (2/3) majority vote of the members of the Eparchial Pastoral Council.

Section 2: No amendment to the Statutes shall be of any force and effect until it is approved by the Bishop and bears the Seal of the Ukrainian Catholic Episcopal Corporation of Saskatchewan. It shall then be incorporated into the official text of the Statutes.

Section 3: These Statutes shall be easily accessible to all faithful in the Saskatoon Eparchy.

²⁶ Can 924.1