

Policy name: public statements	Date approved: April 14, 2009 Up-dated: June 9, 2010
Policy type: Executive Governance	Review date: 2012-2013
Purpose of this policy: This policy provides guidelines to members of the Conference Executive and Presbyteries regarding who can speak on behalf of the Conference, Presbyteries and committees.	

Both the Conference and Presbyteries may issue statements to the church and the wider public.

Statements initiated at the Conference level

Statements on emergent issues not previously considered by Toronto Conference or the General Council shall be made by the Executive.

Statements on issues where there has been Toronto Conference or General Council action may be made by the president or the Executive Secretary with such action to be reported to the next meeting of the Conference Executive.

The spokespersons for the Conference shall be (in order of priority):

- Conference president (the president may delegate this authority)
- Executive Secretary (the Executive Secretary may delegate this authority)
- Past-president or president-elect.

Statements initiated at the Presbytery level

If a Presbytery issues a statement, the Conference requests that the initiating Presbytery inform the other Presbyteries and the Conference prior to general distribution of the statement.

If a Presbytery wants the Conference to make a statement on behalf of the entire Conference, then all four Presbyteries and the Conference Executive must be consulted and must agree with it (all Executives to approve).

The spokespersons for Conference-wide Presbytery-initiated statements shall be (in order of priority):

- Chair of the initiating Presbytery (the chair may delegate this authority)
- Chair of Presbytery group which began the process (chair may delegate this authority)
- Conference president (the president may delegate this authority)
- Executive Secretary (the Executive Secretary may delegate this authority).