



## NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) board elects new executive committee**

WINNIPEG - The board of Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR) elected a new executive committee at their biannual meeting on Friday, September 23 to Sunday, September 25, 2011.

“Canadian Lutheran World Relief is thankful to have such a skilled and dedicated board of directors,” says Robert Granke, executive director of CLWR. “Their leadership is integral to CLWR as we continue to grow and evolve.”

Rev. Dr. Mark Harris was returned as president of the board, and is now serving his third term on CLWR’s board of directors. Rev. Dr. Harris is an assistant to the bishop of the Eastern Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

Rev. Gerhard Wilch was elected vice-president, and is in his second term on the board of directors. Rev. Wilch is the senior pastor at Faith Evangelical Lutheran Church, a Lutheran Church–Canada congregation in Surrey, British Columbia.

Mr. Eugene Blishen was returned as treasurer of the board, and is currently serving his first term. He manages a credit union in the Fraser Valley and resides in Burnaby, British Columbia. Mr. Blishen is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

Ms. Lisa Janke was elected secretary of the board and is currently serving her first term. She is a community development coordinator at a community health centre in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Ms. Janke is a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada.

The remaining board members are Mr. Marcus Busch, Rev. Dr. James Dimitroff, Ms. Deanna Friesen, Rev. Dr. Faith Rohrbough, and Mr. David Schulze. Rev. Robert Bugbee, president of Lutheran Church–Canada, and Rev. Susan Johnson, national bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada, are advisory members, and Dr. Ishmael Noko of Geneva, Switzerland is the board’s international advisor.

The September 2011 Canadian Lutheran World Relief board meeting was held at the Lutheran Church–Canada offices in Winnipeg, Manitoba.

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#### **About Canadian Lutheran World Relief (CLWR)**

*CLWR, one of Canada's most experienced development and relief agencies, carries out international development programming, emergency relief, and refugee resettlement on behalf of the two major Lutheran church bodies in Canada (the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and Lutheran Church—Canada), and Canadians of goodwill. As a registered not-for-profit agency, funding comes through donations and through agreements with Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA). CLWR is a member of the Lutheran World Federation, Canadian Foodgrains Bank, and ACT Alliance. The agency's head office is located in Winnipeg, with regional offices in Vancouver, Toronto, and Santa Cruz (Bolivia).*