



# NEWS

FROM **WATERLOO LUTHERAN UNIVERSITY**

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## WLU TO BEGIN FORMAL NEGOTIATIONS THURSDAY

## TO MOVE TO ATTAIN PROVINCIAL STATUS

Dr. Frank C. Peters, president of Waterloo Lutheran University, has announced that formal negotiations will begin next Thursday, January 25, with the aim of achieving provincially assisted status for the university by May 1.

A committee of the Rev. Robert Binhammer of Weston, chairman of the WLU board of governors, John Reble of Burlington, treasurer of the board, and Dr. Peters will begin meetings in Toronto on that day with the Hon. John McNie, minister of Colleges and Universities.

The university, now governed by the Eastern Canada Synod of the Lutheran Church in America, hopes to become a provincially assisted university in order to secure the full operating grants needed to continue operation at the present level.

The university receives only half the operating grants on a pre-student basis that it would receive if it did not have a church relationship.

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The Church synod in June voted approval "in principle" that the university seek a change of status. Church support of the university, the last remaining independent church-related university in Ontario, now accounts for two per cent of the budget.

Dr. Peters explained that the university will continue to maintain its present size and that the increase in operating grant is necessary solely to maintain the programs presently being offered.