

Proposed Changes to The Constitution and Canons re: Synod Composition (Showing Changes)

THE CONSTITUTION

1. Composition of Synod

Whereas by "An act to incorporate the Synod of the Diocese of Toronto, and to unite the Church Society of the Diocese of Toronto therewith" (being 32 Victoria Cap 51; as amended by 62 Victoria Cap. III) it is enacted that:-

The said Synod shall consist of the Bishop of the said Diocese, who shall be the head of the said Synod, and any Suffragan or Coadjutor Bishop thereof, and of such Clergy and Lay **Representatives Members** of Parishes and Missions as possess the qualifications prescribed by the Synod.

The Synod may from time to time prescribe the qualifications of the Clergy and Lay **Representatives Members** of Parishes and Missions necessary to the right to sit and vote in Synod, and may exclude from the Synod those who do not possess or are declared by the Synod not to possess the prescribed qualifications.

It is hereby declared that as hereinafter defined, such of the Clergy on the Clergy List of said Diocese, and all Lay Persons elected as hereinafter provided possess the qualifications necessary to the right to sit and vote in said Synod subject nevertheless to the disqualifications if any under the provisions of sections of this Constitution.

For purposes of The Constitution the following terms shall have the following meanings:

- a. A "Regular Session of Synod" is any Synod at which there is to be no election of either a Diocesan or Suffragan Bishop;
- b. An "Electoral Session of Synod" is any Synod at which there is to be the election of a Diocesan or Suffragan Bishop;
- c. "Synod Forums" are meetings that may be held during the period of time between Regular Sessions of Synod and as more fully described in s. 40 of The Constitution;
- d. "Session of Synod" shall mean either a Regular Session of Synod or an Electoral Session of Synod.

2. Clerical Members of a Session of Synod

Clergy on the Clergy List of the Diocese are those Clergy of the Anglican Church of Canada who are under the jurisdiction of the Bishop of the Diocese of Toronto. **All such** Clergy are entitled to sit, **and** speak, **and** vote in a **Session of Synod** as follows:

a. At a Regular Session of Synod

1. One (1) Cleric from each Parish, Designated Ministry or Diocesan Mission;
2. Up to four (4) Chaplains appointed by the Bishop;
3. Up to four (4) Vocational Deacons, named by the Community of Deacons;
4. One (1) Member representing the Religious Orders (clerical or lay).

Note to Draft:

There was no process recommended by the Working Group on Synod (WGS) for the selection of the Clerical Member of Synod from each Parish, Designated Ministry or Diocesan Mission [s. 2(a)(1)]. No further process is being recommended.

b. At an Electoral Session of Synod

1. All active clergy, canonically resident in the Diocese of Toronto, who hold the Bishop's License who are appointed by the Bishop to a Parish, Designated Ministry or Diocesan Mission;
2. All Chaplains who hold the Bishop's License as Chaplain to Institutions in the Diocese of Toronto;
3. All Vocational Deacons who hold the Bishop's License as a Deacon in the Diocese of Toronto;
4. One (1) Member representing the Religious Orders (lay or clerical).

Those of such Clergy who are entitled to sit and vote in the Synod are those:-

- (1) who are appointed by the Bishop of the Diocese of Toronto to a regular parochial or missionary charge as rector, or incumbent, or missionary, or associate rector or incumbent, or vicar, or assistant cleric, or priest-in-charge, or to an official position under Synod arrangement or control,
- (2) who hold the Bishop's license as Chaplains to Institutions in the Diocese, or
- (3) who hold any of the following offices:-
 - Provost of Trinity College.
 - Principal of Wycliffe College.
 - Professor or Member of the staff of Trinity College, Wycliffe College or the Toronto School of Theology.
 - Head or Chaplain of a Residential School.
 - Member of the Staff of General Synod or its Boards.
 - Member of the Staff of the Canadian Council of Churches.
 - Chaplains in the Armed Forces.
- (4) Clergy on the retired list who regularly attend Synod, until such time as they miss two (2) consecutive meetings of the Synod, without showing cause, or a total of four (4) meetings of the Synod, whatever the cause.

3. Lay Members of the a Session of Synod

(1) Qualifications

A person to qualify as a Lay Member of the a Session of Synod shall:

- (a) be not less than sixteen (16) years of age;
- (b) be a Lay Member of the Vestry of that person's Church or a Lay Member of a Designated Ministry established under Canon 29;
- (c) be a member in full Communion of the Anglican Church of Canada and shall have received the sacrament of Holy Communion at least three (3) times during the previous year; and
- (d) not have been a Lay Member of the a Sessions of Synod for more than the previous three (3) two (2) consecutive Regular Sessions of Synod.

(2) Duties

It shall be the duty of a Lay Member of the a Session of Synod:

- (a) To attend the Sessions of the Synod and Synod Forums.
- (b) To serve on committees to which such member may be elected or to which such member has accepted appointment.
- (c) To communicate the decisions of the a Session of Synod as may be requested by the Incumbent.
- (d) To assist, when requested by the Incumbent, in the discharge of the duties of the Incumbent as set forth in Canon 9, s. 10 and s.11 Sections 11 and 12.

(3) Election

Lay Members shall be elected at the annual meeting of the Vestry or Designated Ministry, or at a special meeting thereof, respectively, called for the purpose as hereinafter provided.

(4) Appointment

In addition to the Lay Members elected in accordance with s. 3(3) and appointed in accordance with s. 3(17) of the Constitution, the Bishop may, after consultation with the Diocesan Council, appoint not

more than twenty (20) Lay Members of ~~the a Session of~~ Synod qualified as required by s. 3(1), save and except that the qualification in s. 3(1)(d) shall not apply.

(5) Term of Office

Except in cases of death, resignation, or removal from the Diocese, the term of office of an elected Lay Member shall commence on that member's election at an annual or special meeting of the Vestry or Designated Ministry and shall continue until that member's successor is elected or until that member has served for three (3) consecutive Regular Sessions ~~of Synod~~, whichever comes first. Membership in any committee of ~~the a Session of~~ Synod shall continue until the next Regular Session of Synod or until the term of office has been completed, whichever period is longer.

(6) Basis of Membership

The number of Lay Members that a ~~Vestry of a Congregation~~ Parish or Designated Ministry is entitled to elect shall be determined by average ~~weekly Sunday~~ attendance in accordance with ~~Section s. 3~~ (7). The following certification to be signed by the Incumbent or Priest-in-Charge shall form part of the statistical return required from the Incumbent by Synod:-

"I hereby certify that in there was an Average ~~Weekly Sunday~~ Attendance of which allows this ~~vestry~~ Parish or Designated Ministry to elect Lay Member(s) of ~~the a Session of~~ Synod."

(7) Number of Lay Members of ~~the a Sessions of~~ Synod

~~The number of Lay Members of the Synod of the Diocese that each Vestry or Designated Ministry is entitled to elect, shall be determined based on the following:-~~

~~Average weekly attendance from one (1) to one hundred (100) – One (1) Member~~

~~Average weekly attendance from one hundred and one (101) to two hundred (200) – Two (2) Members~~

~~Average weekly attendance from two hundred and one (201) to three hundred (300) – Three (3) Members~~

~~Average weekly attendance from three hundred and one (301) to four hundred (400) – Four (4) Members~~

~~Average weekly attendance above four hundred (400) – Five (5) Members~~

~~This would include all church services held during the week, with the exception of weddings and funerals.~~

~~The number of Lay Members of ~~the a Session of~~ Synod that each Parish is entitled to send to the Synod shall be as follows:~~

~~a. Where Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) is from one (1) to two hundred and fifty (250) – One (1) Member.~~

~~b. Where Average Sunday (ASA) attendance is from two hundred and fifty one (251) to five hundred (500) – Two (2) Members.~~

~~c. Where Average Sunday (ASA) is five hundred and one or greater – Three (3) Members.~~

~~Average Sunday Attendance (ASA) is calculated by taking the total Sunday attendance throughout the year, and dividing that total by the number of Sundays in the year, usually 52.~~

~~Synod encourages a~~ All parishes who elect two (2) or more Lay Members of ~~the a Session of Synod~~ ~~are encouraged~~ to elect at least one (1) member who shall not have attained the age of thirty (30) when elected.

(8) Substitute Lay Members of ~~the a Sessions of~~ Synod

(a) Substitute Lay Members may be elected by a Vestry or Designated Ministry, and such substitutes shall, in the order of their election, take the place of regular ~~Lay m~~Members who from any cause are unable to attend ~~the a session of s~~Sessions of ~~the~~ Synod during the period for which they are elected.

- (b) A ~~s~~Substitute Lay Member shall serve only during the Session of ~~the~~ Synod for which such Lay Member is reported to the Synod to act and shall not be eligible for election to any Standing Committee of the ~~Sessions of~~ Synod.
- (c) It shall be the duty of the Incumbent to notify the Secretary of Synod of the appointment of a substitute to act as member not later than the day preceding the first day of the ~~Session of~~ Synod for which such Lay Member is appointed, giving name and address of the substitute and also the name and address of the member in whose place the substitute is acting. The Incumbent shall certify also that such substitute was elected at a meeting of the Vestry or Designated Ministry in the regular way, and fulfills the requirements of a ~~Lay m~~Lay Member.
- (d) Where a sitting ~~Regular Session or Electoral Session of Synod~~ is adjourned to another sitting date more than one (1) week later, the rules respecting ~~s~~Substitute Lay Members shall apply mutatis mutandis to that adjourned sitting to provide for substitution of Lay Members for that adjourned sitting.

(Sections 3[9] to 3[11] removed)

(12) Certificate Necessary

The Chairperson of the meeting shall furnish each Lay Member with a certificate similar to that to be forwarded to the Secretary of Synod. Any person requesting registration as a Lay Member at a Session of ~~the~~ Synod without such certificate may be required, before such registration is permitted, to afford sufficient proof of identity and may be refused a seat at the ~~Session of~~ Synod in the discretion of the Court on Contested Seats.

(Sections 3[13] to 3[15] removed)

(16) Ex Officio

If qualified as required by s. 3(1), except that the qualification in s. 3(1)(d) shall not apply, the following, if otherwise qualified, shall be Lay Members ex-officio:

- (a) the Chancellor, any Vice Chancellor, the Registrar, the Secretary of Synod, ~~any Chancellor Emeritus, and the President of Diocesan Anglican Church Women, and the Mother Superior of the Sisters of St. John the Divine and,~~
- ~~(b) the Provost of Trinity College and the Principal of Wycliffe College if they are not clerical members pursuant to s. 2(2).~~

Note to Draft:

Although one of the recommendations contained in the Working Group on Synod's Report was to remove any "Chancellor Emeritus" from the list of Ex Officio Members of Synod in s. 3(16), the Chancellor and Vice-Chancellors feel strongly that any "Chancellor Emeritus" should remain Ex-Officio. This draft incorporates the recommendation, however, Council is being asked to reconsider.

(17) Youth and Young Adult Members

In addition to the Lay Members elected and appointed in accordance with this section, the Bishop may appoint as a Lay Member of Synod for each Area, nominated by each Area Council, ~~four (4) members. five (5) members between the ages of sixteen (16) and twenty-one (21), and five (5) members between the ages of twenty-two (22) and thirty (30).~~ For the purpose of this section these shall be additional qualifications to those set out in s. 3(1) such members must not have attained the age of 30 years at the time of appointment.

(18) Lay Canons of the Diocese

A lay canon of the Diocese is a member of the laity who has been named a lay canon of the Cathedral Church by the Bishop. All lay canons of the Diocese are entitled to sit and speak ~~in~~ at a Regular Session of the Synod.

(Sections 4 to 22 removed)

23. Registration

- (1) Each Member of Synod, before taking a seat in a Session **of Synod** shall register and receive an identity card. Lay Members shall produce their Certificates of Election which will be exchanged for identity cards by the Scrutineers. **Clergy C-lerical Members** will receive identity cards on presentation of a written registration card.
- (2) Registration hours for **the a Regular sSession** of Synod shall be the first day of Synod - 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., or such other time or times as may be determined by the Diocesan Council. **(1990)** No further registrations may be made after registration has closed without permission of the Court on Contested Seats.
- (3) At **a special an Electoral sSession** of Synod, registration hours shall be set by the Diocesan Council.

24. Time, Place, Etc. of a Sessions of Synod

- ~~(1) A regular session of the Synod ("Regular Session") shall be held every two years at a time or times appointed by the Bishop after consultation with the Diocesan Council. The Bishop shall likewise appoint the place of meeting.~~
- (1) A Regular Session of Synod is any Synod at which there is to be no election of either a Diocesan or Suffragan Bishop. A Regular Session of Synod shall be held every two (2) years at a time or times appointed by the Bishop after consultation with the Diocesan Council. The Bishop shall likewise appoint the place of meeting.**
- ~~(2) A special session may be called by the Bishop, or in the absence of the Bishop by the Commissary, or by the Administrator of the Diocese, at such time and place as the Bishop, or Commissary, or Administrator, after consultation with the Diocesan Council, shall appoint, subject to the provision of Section 9 (1).~~
- (2) An Electoral Session of Synod is any Synod at which there is to be the election of a Diocesan or Suffragan Bishop. An Electoral Session of Synod may be called by the Bishop, or in the absence of the Bishop by the Commissary, or by the Administrator of the Diocese, at such time and place as the Bishop, or Commissary, or Administrator, after consultation with the Diocesan Council, shall appoint, subject to the provision of Section 9 (1).**
- (3) Synod Forums are meetings that may be held during the period of time between Regular Sessions of Synod and as more fully described in s. 40 of The Constitution.**

(Sections 25-27 removed; Sections will be renumbered accordingly from this point forward.)

27. Convening Circular

A Convening Circular issued by the Secretary of Synod shall be made available to all Members of Synod at least twenty-one (21) days prior to the date fixed for a Session of Synod. Members of Synod shall be advised how to access the Convening Circular by electronic or such other means as Diocesan Council and the Bishop shall direct.

(1) Regular Session of Synod

For a Regular Session of Synod, the following information shall be included in the Convening Circular:

- a. Notice of Meeting.**
- b. Agenda.**
- c. List of Officers.**
- d. List of Members of Synod.**
- e. List of Nominees and Biographical Information, if elections are to take place.**
- Notices of Motion.**
- f. Diocesan Council's Report to Synod.**
- g. Other Reports to Synod.**
- h. Audited Financial Statements.**
- i. Priorities and Plans (Budget).**
- j. Constitution and Canons Changes.**
- k. Minutes of the previous Session of Synod.**
- l. Diocesan Apportionment Calculations.**

- m. Incumbent's Annual Statistical Return information, and
- n. such other additional materials as Diocesan Council and the Bishop may direct.

(2) Electoral Session of Synod

For an Electoral Session of Synod, the following information shall be included in the Convening Circular:

- a. Notice of Meeting,
- b. Agenda,
- c. List of Nominees,
- d. Biographical information on each of the Nominees, including age, academic background, date of ordination, all ecclesiastical appointments, and other relevant qualifications and experience,
- e. Procedures for voting,
- f. such other additional materials as Diocesan Council and the Bishop may direct.

(Sections 28 and 29 removed.)

30. Hours of Meeting

The Synod shall meet for business at 9:30 a.m. on each day or at such other times as the Synod may determine a time to be established by Diocesan Council, on the recommendation of the Agenda Committee, no less than sixty (60) days before a Regular Session of the Synod and no less than one (1) week before an Electoral Session of the Synod. In default of the establishment of such a time, the Session of Synod shall commence at 9:30 a.m. and each sitting shall be opened with prayers chosen for the occasion by the Bishop.

(Sections 31 to 39 removed.)

40. Synod Forums

- a. Synod Forums may be called by the Bishop.
- b. When called, Synod Forums shall:
 - i. take place in each Episcopal Area;
 - ii. be chaired by the Bishop or the Bishop's designate;
 - iii. be conducted with rules of order as set out by the presiding Bishop or Bishop's designate;
 - iv. may make non-binding recommendations to the Bishop and Diocesan Council.
- c. Synod Forums shall be open to all clergy of the Diocese (whether active, non-active, or retired) and all the laity who are otherwise qualified to be Lay Members of the a Sessions of Synod.

CANON 18
PARISH EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

1. In each parish consisting of two or more congregations there shall be formed a committee to be known as the Parish Executive Committee, hereinafter called the Committee.
2. **Membership**
It shall be composed of:
 1. The Incumbent;
 2. The Churchwardens; and
 3. Two members of the laity from each congregation, one to be appointed by the Incumbent, and one elected by the vestry of that congregation.
3. **Meetings**
 1. The Chairperson shall be the Incumbent who shall have a vote, but shall not be required to exercise the same;
 2. A Vice-Chairperson shall be elected annually by the Committee;
 3. The Committee shall elect a Secretary and the minutes of each meeting shall be entered in a book to be kept for that purpose; and
 4. The Committee shall hold meetings at least twice during each calendar year.
4. **Duties**
The duties of the Committee shall be:
 1. To advise the Incumbent and Churchwardens in such matters as are of a parochial, deanery, or diocesan nature, but not those solely of an individual congregation;
 2. To consider any such matters referred to it by any of the several vestries;
 3. To receive from the Churchwardens at each regular meeting a written financial statement of each congregation; and
 4. **To establish the procedure for the election of a Lay Member, or Lay Members, to represent the Parish pursuant to The Constitution s.3**

4.5. To prepare from time to time recommendations for the consideration of each congregation of its share of responsibility with respect to:

 - a. Assessable Expenditure;
 - b. Incumbent's remuneration;
 - c. Incumbent's travel expense;
 - d. Rectory maintenance as appropriate; and
 - e. Other matters of parochial concern.