



# CONVENING CIRCULAR

Constitution and Canons Committee Report

Section G



**Diocese of Toronto**  
Anglican Church of Canada

## **Report to the 157th Regular Session of Synod from the Constitution and Canons Committee**

The Diocesan Council received the following proposed changes to The Constitution and Canons of the Diocese of Toronto as outlined in this report and recommends them to Synod for approval.

### **The Constitution**

#### **Commentary:**

Changes are being proposed that would give the Secretary of Synod the authority to deal with late registrations.

Insert s. 23(2) “either the Secretary of Synod or” following the words “without permission of”

Blackline:

#### **23 Registration**

- (1) Each Member of Synod, before taking a seat in a Session 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 will receive identity cards on presentation of a written registration card.
- (2) Registration hours for the regular session 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 either the Secretary of Synod or the Court on Contested Seats.
- (3) At a special session of Synod, registration hours shall be set by the Diocesan Council.

### **Canon 10 – Clerical Appointments, Exchanges, Retirements and Terminations**

#### **Commentary:**

Revisions are being proposed to allow the combination of a Churchwarden and Deputy Churchwarden to be members of the Parish Selection Committee.

Revise s. 3(b) to read

The PSC shall consist of:

- i. One of the Churchwarden or Deputy Churchwarden currently holding office having been appointed by the Incumbent;
- ii. One of the Churchwarden or Deputy Churchwarden currently holding office having been elected by the parish Vestry;
- iii. At least one of the individuals set forth in (i) and (ii) must be a Churchwarden.
- iv. The Churchwarden or Churchwardens currently holding office at the parish pursuant to Canon 15(2)1, if there is no Churchwarden or Deputy Churchwarden as described in one of both of sections 3(b)(i) or (ii) above;

- v. In the case of multipoint parishes, one Churchwarden from each congregation; and such other members of the Parish, not fewer than four (4) or more than six (6) to a maximum of eight (8), to be determined by the Churchwardens and to be elected by Vestry.
- vi. The composition of the PSC should attempt to reflect the diverse communities within the parish.

Blackline:

### 3 (b) Composition of PSC

~~The PSC shall consist of: the Churchwardens (and in the case of multi point parishes, one churchwarden from each congregation) and such other members of the parish, not fewer than four (4) or more than six (6) to a maximum of eight (8), to be determined by the Churchwardens and to be elected by Vestry (or in the case of multi point parishes, by the Parish Executive Council). The composition of the PSC should attempt to reflect the diverse communities within the parish.~~

- i. One of the Churchwarden or Deputy Churchwarden currently holding office having been appointed by the Incumbent;
- ii. One of the Churchwarden or Deputy Churchwarden currently holding office having been elected by the parish Vestry;
- iii. At least one of the individuals set forth in (i) and (ii) must be a Churchwarden.
- iv. The Churchwarden or Churchwardens currently holding office at the parish pursuant to Canon 15 (2)1, if there is no Churchwarden or Deputy Churchwarden as described in one of both of section 3(b)(i) or (ii) above;
- v. In the case of multipoint parishes, one Churchwarden from each congregation; and such other members of the parish, not fewer than four (4) or more than six (6) to a maximum of eight (8), to be determined by the Churchwardens and to be elected by Vestry.
- vi. The composition of the PSC should attempt to reflect the diverse communities within the parish.

## Canon 15 - Churchwardens

### **Commentary:**

Revisions are being proposed to this Canon to add flexibility as to when the collecting and counting of the offerings of the congregation are conducted. A two-step process is being proposed where is the Churchwardens confirm the custody of envelopes, loose cash and cheques and then ensures that the formal count is conducted within a specified timeframe. Additionally revisions are being proposed to add a requirement that the Churchwardens forward a copy of the annual budget with the statistical and financial returns.

Revise s. 4(5)a to read

“collect the offerings of the congregation at each service of the church, and shall confirm the safe custody of all envelopes, loose cheques and cash immediately after such service, in the presence of the incumbent or some other witness. Within forty-eight (48) hours thereafter the same persons shall count and enter the amount of such offerings in the book provided for such purpose, in the presence of the incumbent or some other witness;”

