



CREATED & RECREATED IN CHRIST

REGULAR SESSION OF SYNOD
2019

SUPPLEMENTARY CONVENING CIRCULAR

November 8 and 9, 2019

Section AA

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Please report, in writing, any errors or omissions in the Convening Circular to:

Pamela Boisvert, Secretary of Synod

By email: pboisvert@toronto.anglican.ca

By mail: Incorporated Synod of the
Diocese of Toronto
135 Adelaide Street East
Toronto, ON M5C 1L8





REVISED AGENDA

Friday, November 8, 2019

Time	Description			Location
9:00 a.m.	Registration (closes at 10:30 a.m.)			Thornhill Room
10:30 a.m.	Eucharist Bishop's Charge to Synod			Grand York Ballroom
12:00 p.m.	Buffet Lunch			Grand York Foyer and Ballroom
1:00 p.m.	Opening of Synod	Section	Motion	Grand York Ballroom
	Announcements/Housekeeping			
	Approval of Agenda	A	#1	
	Omnibus Motion	A	#2	
	Diocesan Council's Report to Synod	B	#3	
	Missional and Outreach Moment			
	Constitution and Canons	F	#9A-C	
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	Synod Council Nominations and Elections			
	Missional and Outreach Moment			
	Members' Time			
	Guest Speaker – Dr. Sylvia Keesmaat			
	General Synod Report			
	Clergy Remuneration Working Group's Report to the Bishop	H		
4:30 p.m.	Breakout Sessions	AA		
5:15 p.m.	Cocktail Reception/Cash Bar/Networking			Grand York Foyer
6:00 p.m.	Plated Dinner			Grand York Ballroom
8:00 p.m.	Evening Session resumes Guest Speaker – Dr. Sylvia Keesmaat			
	Evening Prayer			
9:00 p.m.	Adjournment			



Saturday, November 9, 2019

Time	Description	Location			
8:30 a.m.	Synod resumes	Grand York Ballroom			
	Remembrance Day Commemoration				
	Morning Prayer				
	A Word to the Bishop				
	Missional and Outreach Moment				
	Business Session			Section	Motion
	Election of Provincial Synod Members			A	
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	Assessment Rate for 2020 and 2021			E	#8
	Missional and Outreach Moment				
	Members' Time				
	Results of Provincial Synod Elections				
	Guest Speaker Reflection Dr. Sylvia Keesmaat				
1:00 p.m.	Wrap-up - The Rt. Rev. Andrew Asbil				

Note: Motions #11, #12 and #13 have been withdrawn. See Supplementary Convening Circular, Section AA for more information.

ELECTIONS FOR PROVINCIAL SYNOD

Please refer to the Convening Circular, Section A, page 13.

Revised Slate of Nominees

PROVINCIAL SYNOD – Four (4) Clerical Members to be elected

- The Rev. Dana Dickson (Trinity Church, Bradford)
- The Rev. Canon Christopher (Kit) Greaves (Christ Memorial Church, Oshawa)
- The Rev. Canon David Harrison (St. Mary Magdalene, Toronto)
- The Rev. Dawn Leger (St. John, West Toronto)*

PROVINCIAL SYNOD – Four (4) Lay Members to be elected

- Bill Bickle, ODT (St. John the Evangelist, Port Hope)
- Sandy Richmond, ODT (St. George, Allandale)
- Mary Walsh, ODT (St. John the Baptist, Oak Ridges)
- Laura Walton, ODT (Holy Trinity, Clearview)

*The nomination for the Rev. Dawn Leger was received prior to the deadline and was inadvertently omitted from the original Convening Circular. We apologize for this error. Nominees for Provincial Synod were asked to submit a few words about their involvement at the diocesan, parish and community level.

Biographical Information

- **The Rev. Dawn Leger** (St. John, West Toronto) – Dawn is the pastor and priest-in-charge of St. John, West Toronto. Dawn has been ordained since 2006 and has served in many parishes; urban, suburban, and rural. In her ministry, she has been particularly active in youth and children's ministry, campus ministry, and human rights. She has also served in Lutheran ministry under our Full Communion relationship with the ELCIC. Her breadth of experience has served the Church well on various bodies, including Diocesan Council and Bishop's Committees.



ELECTIONS FOR SYNOD COUNCIL

Currently, pursuant to Canon 2, elections are held at each Pre-Synod meeting to elect 1 Clerical Member and 2 Lay Members to Diocesan Council. Elections for Diocesan Council proceeded as usual at this year's meetings.

Since Synod is being asked to consider changes to our governance structure, we planned for both outcomes: Synod approving and not approving the Governance Pilot Project.

If Synod approves the Governance Pilot Project:

- The Clerical Member elected will be the Area Clerical Representative on Synod Council.
- One of the two Lay Members elected to Diocesan Council (the decision will be left to the lay members to decide) will be the Area Lay Representative on Synod Council.
- The other Lay Member elected to Diocesan Council will form the initial slate for the 2 members at-large elected at Synod to serve on Synod Council. Further names will be added to the initial slate of nominees at Synod.

If Synod does not approve the Governance Pilot Project:

- The Clerical Member and Lay Members elected will serve on Diocesan Council.



MOTIONS COMING BEFORE SYNOD

Motions from Diocesan Council

The Diocesan Council withdrew the following motion:

Priorities and Plans 2019-2021 and Financial Budget 2020-2021 – Motion #7 (Section D)

It will be MOVED and SECONDED that Synod receive the document entitled *Priorities and Plans 2019-2021* and the *Financial Budget 2020-2021* and approve the priorities and the financial budgets contained therein. It will be further moved that Diocesan Council report back to Synod on this plan.

The Diocesan Council forwards the following motion to the Synod with the recommendation that it be adopted:

Priorities and Plans 2019-2021 – Motion #7A(i) (Section D)

It will be MOVED and SECONDED that Synod:

- a. receive and approve the document *Priorities and Plans 2019-2021* (other than the Pilot Governance Project as described in motion 7(a)(ii)); and
- b. shall receive a report about the *Priorities and Plans 2019-2021* (other than the Pilot Governance Project as described in motion 7(a)(ii)) at the next Regular Session of Synod.


The Diocesan Council forwards the following motion to the Synod with the recommendation that it be adopted:

Governance Pilot – Motion #7A(ii) (Sections D, F, G)

It will be MOVED and SECONDED that Synod:


- a. receive and approve the Pilot Governance Project as set out in the Report of the Governance and Decision-Making Working Group and the powerpoint slides entitled *Pilot Governance Project* as attached to this motion and as presented to Synod in November 2019; and
- b. shall receive a report about the outcome of that Pilot Governance Project at the next Regular Session of Synod.





Recommendations

- Diocesan Council + Executive Board = **Synod Council**
- The size of Synod Council be reduced so that there be a maximum of 25 members
- Six committees be established:
 - Audit, Finance, Property, Human Resources, Programs, Risk and Governance



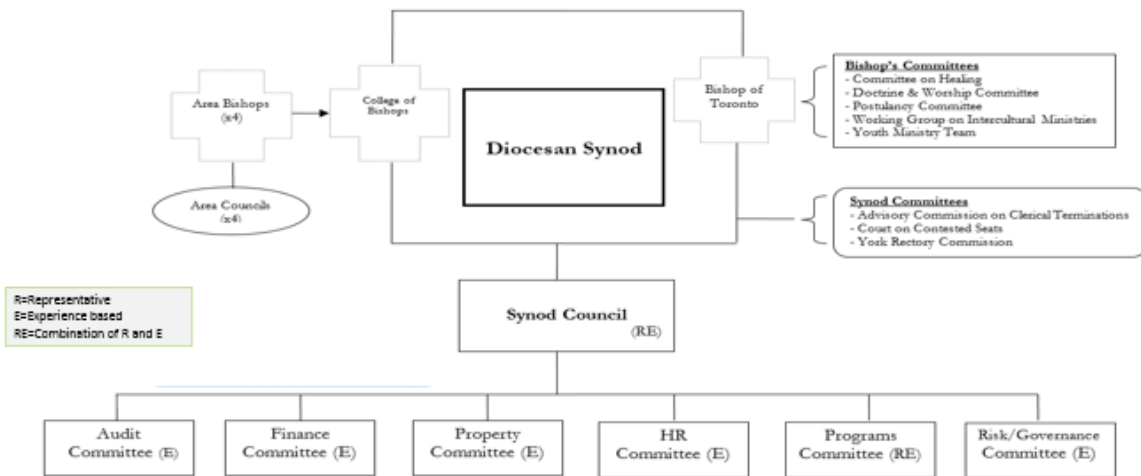
Recommendations

- Existing committees be amalgamated
- Members of the committees would not necessarily be members of Synod e.g. Audit
- The committees will have decision-making authority delegated to them within parameters established by Synod and Synod Council

Synod Council Membership

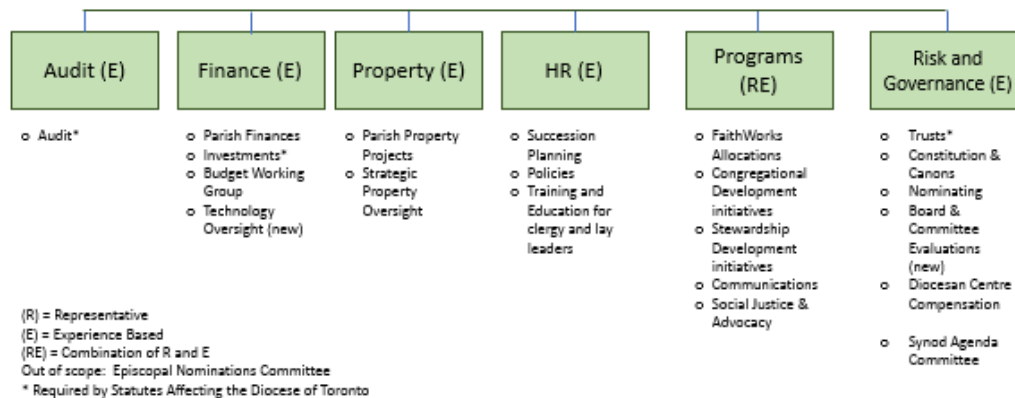
- The Bishop (=1)
 - The Executive Director*
 - The Area Bishops (=4)
 - 1 Clerical and 1 Lay Member from each Area (=8)
 - 2 members at large elected at Synod (=2)
 - The Chairs of: (=5)
 - Finance Committee
 - Property Committee
 - Human Resources Committee
 - Program Committee
 - Risk and Governance Committee
 - Up to 5 members appointed by the Bishop (=5)
- Total members = 25 max.
- * non-voting

Proposed Governance



Committees

(focus areas and possible sub-groups)



The Diocesan Council forwards the following motion to the Synod with the recommendation that it be adopted:

Financial Budget 2020-2021 – Motion #7B

(Section D)

It will be moved and seconded that Synod receive and approve the document Financial Budget 2020-2021 as set out in section D of the Convening Circular.

Motions from Synod Members

The following motion has been withdrawn and is effectively replaced with Motion #14:

Affordable Housing Plan – Motion #11

A Notice of Motion dated September 17, 2019 was received from the Rev. Dr. Jason McKinney and the Rev. Canon David Harrison. Pursuant to Canon 1, the Notice of Motion was placed on the Agenda of the September 26, 2019 meeting of Diocesan Council. The Diocesan Council forwards the following Notice of Motion to Synod with the recommendation that it not be adopted.

MOVED by the Rev. Dr. Jason McKinney and SECONDED by the Rev. Canon David Harrison that this Synod mandate Diocesan Council to develop an Affordable Housing Plan which includes building effective planning, development and operating partnerships to create a minimum of 250 units of affordable housing on diocesan-owned land by the end of 2024.

On October 16, 2019, the Secretary of Synod received a request by the mover and seconder to withdraw this Notice of Motion.

The following motion has been withdrawn and is effectively replaced with Motion #15:

Diocesan Environment Policy - Motion # 12

A Notice of Motion dated September 17, 2019 was received from the Rev. Canon David Harrison and the Rev. Dr. Stephen Drakeford. Pursuant to Canon 1, the Notice of Motion was placed on the Agenda of the September 26, 2019 meeting of Diocesan Council. Diocesan Council postponed expressing an opinion on the following motion until the October meeting pending consultation with the Chancellor.

MOVED by the Rev. Canon David Harrison and SECONDED by the Rev. Dr. Stephen Drakeford that this Diocesan Synod, in accordance with the Environmental Policy Paper received by Diocesan Council on March 21, 2019, mandates Diocesan Council to adopt by March 1, 2020 a Diocesan Environmental Policy that establishes a creation care lens for all decisions taken by the Synod of the Diocese of Toronto, Diocesan Council and the College of Bishops. This policy is to include:

- Developing and implementing environmental criteria for all diocesan and parochial capital spending that ends all spending that increases the diocese's carbon footprint.
- Developing and implementing policies on travel that minimize carbon emissions, including minimizing air travel for international, national, provincial and diocesan business.
- Developing guidelines for land use that maximizes our solidarity with Indigenous peoples and minimizes our destruction of animal habitat and agricultural production.
- Establishing a fund to assist parishes to reduce their carbon emissions and clergy to purchase or lease zero emission cars.
- An end to the use of single-use plastics for all diocesan business by January 1, 2021.
- Developing modules for clergy formation on the connection between creation care and the Gospel, and
- Promoting reduced consumption as part of a Christian Rule of Life.

On October 16, 2019, the Secretary of Synod received a request by the mover and seconder to withdraw this Notice of Motion.



The following motion has been withdrawn:

Policies and Regulations for Marriage – Motion #13

A Notice of Motion dated September 25, 2019 was received from the Rev. Dawn Leger and the Rev. Dan Cranley. Pursuant to Canon 1, the Notice of Motion was placed on the Agenda of the September 26, 2019 meeting of Diocesan Council. Diocesan Council postponed expressing an opinion on the following motion until the October meeting.

MOVED by the Rev. Dawn Leger and SECONDED by the Rev. Dan Cranley that this Synod requests the Bishop to have all policies and regulations for marriage within the Diocese of Toronto apply equally to same-sex and opposite-sex couples by March 31, 2020. Synod recognizes and upholds the discretion of the minister to decline to solemnize any particular marriage.

On October 18, 2019, the Secretary of Synod received a request by the mover and seconder to withdraw this Notice of Motion.

The Diocesan Council forwards the following motion to the Synod with the recommendation that it be adopted:

Affordable Housing Plan – Motion #14

A Notice of Motion dated October 16, 2019 was received from the Rev. Dr. Jason McKinney and the Rev. Canon David Harrison. Pursuant to Canon 1, the Notice of Motion was placed on the Agenda of the October 24, 2019 meeting of Diocesan Council. The Diocesan Council forwards the following Notice of Motion to Synod with the recommendation that it be adopted.

MOVED by the Rev. Dr. Jason McKinney and SECONDED by the Rev. Canon David Harrison that this Synod request Diocesan Council (or its successor) to respond to the affordable housing crisis across the diocese by developing an Affordable Housing Plan. This Plan will

- i. determine the feasibility of building affordable housing on diocesan-owned lands;
- ii. prioritize strategic partnerships with industry experts in the fields of planning, development, and affordable housing provision;
- iii. establish specific achievable targets (e.g. 250 units by 2024)

The Plan should be completed by November 30, 2020 at which time a report to Synod and to the diocese will be made.



The Diocesan Council forwards the following motion to the Synod with the recommendation that it be adopted:

Diocesan Environment Policy - Motion # 15

A Notice of Motion dated October 16, 2019 was received from the Rev. Canon David Harrison and the Rev. Dr. Stephen Drakeford. Pursuant to Canon 1, the Notice of Motion was placed on the Agenda of the October 24, 2019 meeting of Diocesan Council. The Diocesan Council forwards the following Notice of Motion to Synod with the recommendation that it be adopted.

MOVED by the Rev. Canon David Harrison and SECONDED by the Rev. Dr. Stephen Drakeford that Synod requests the Bishop's Committee on Creation Care, working through a creation care lens and in the context of our developing relationship with Indigenous Peoples, to develop and propose environmental policies and resources for all diocesan operations that reflect the need to increase the use of renewable energy services and decrease our carbon footprint. In particular, Synod requests a review of and development of policies pertaining to:

- i. our spending practices;
- ii. our travel policies;
- iii. our land use and development;
- iv. the creation of a fund to assist parishes to reduce their carbon footprint;
- v. the creation of a fund to assist clergy to purchase or lease zero emission vehicles;
- vi. the curtailment of the purchase of single-use plastic products, with the intention of ending their use no later than the beginning of 2023, taking into consideration the accessibility needs of our communities;
- vii. developing modules for clergy and lay formation on the connection between creation care and the Gospel; and
- viii. promoting reduced consumption as part of a Christian Rule of Life.

Synod and the Diocese shall be provided with a report on the work of the Bishop's Committee on Creation Care and the progress made on these issues by June 30, 2020 and every six months thereafter until the next Regular Session of Synod.

Policies and Regulations for Marriage – Motion #16

A Notice of Motion dated October 17, 2019 was received from the Rev. Dr. Alison Kemper and the Rev. Donald Beyers. Pursuant to Canon 1, the Notice of Motion was placed on the Agenda of the October 24, 2019 meeting of Diocesan Council.

MOVED by the Rev. Dr. Alison Kemper and SECONDED by the Rev. Donald Beyers that this Synod urges the Bishop of Toronto to remove the Pastoral Guidelines for Same-Sex Marriages in order to allow for the marriage of any couple who is duly qualified and has been prepared for marriage under the requirements of Canon XXI of the Anglican Church of Canada.



INDEX OF MOTIONS

- Motion #1 Approval of Agenda
- Motion #2 Omnibus Motion

Motions from Diocesan Council

- Motion #3 Diocesan Council's Report to Synod *
- Motion #4 Financial Report for 2018 *
- Motion #5 Audited Financial Statements for 2018 *
- Motion #6 Appointment of Auditors *
- Motion #7 Priorities and Plans 2019-2021 and Financial Budget 2020-2021 * **[withdrawn]**
- Motion #7A(i) Priorities and Plans 2019-2021 *
- Motion #7A(ii) Governance Pilot Project *
- Motion #7B Financial Budget 2020-2021 *
- Motion #8 Assessment Rate for 2020-2021 *
- Motion #9A Constitution and Canons – Governance Changes
- Motion #9B Constitution and Canons – Constitution Changes
- Motion #9C Constitution and Canons – Canon Changes and Suspensions

Motions from Members of Synod

- Motion #10 Single-Use Plastics *
- Motion #11 Affordable Housing Plan ** **[withdrawn see Motion #14]**
- Motion #12 Diocesan Environment Policy **[withdrawn see Motion #15]**
- Motion #13 Policies and Regulations for Marriage **[withdrawn]**
- Motion #14 Affordable Housing Plan *
- Motion #15 Diocesan Environment Policy *
- Motion #16 Pastoral Guidelines

* Diocesan Council forwards these motions to Synod with a recommendation that they be approved.

** Diocesan Council forwards this motion to Synod with a recommendation that they not be approved.



A WORD TO THE BISHOP

On Saturday morning, there will be an opportunity during Synod for members to speak openly and directly to the Bishop about the topic of equal marriage. A full hour has been set aside for this session.

To facilitate our conversations, members are asked to adhere to the norms established at our last Synod that help us listen across our differences with respect. As a reminder, these are:

- We grant that as people of faith we are all sincere our beliefs, including our reverence for Holy Scripture.
- We are neighbours now and we will continue to be neighbours.
- We know that people of diverse sexuality and gender identities are present.
- We value inclusion and will strive for greater understanding of each other.
- We will speak in the first person. We will use “I” statements rather than “they” or “everyone”.
- We will not use language known to be offensive to others.
- We respect the right of people to speak of their own experiences.
- We respect the privacy of others. What others say is their story to tell, not yours.
- We will ask no questions that we are not prepared to answer ourselves.

Members are reminded that the following resources are available:

<https://www.toronto.anglican.ca/about-the-diocese/corporate-information/synod/2018-regular-synod/marriage-canon-dialogue/>

Our Message to the Council of General Synod

- **[What We Heard](#)**
The major themes that emerged from the process of listening and sharing at our Regular Session of Synod in November 2018.
- **[Appendix 1: Outline of the Diocese of Toronto Process](#)**
An overview of the consultation process used in this Diocese.
- **[Appendix 2: Report Back from Synod 2017](#)**
A summary from our 2017 Synod about what would be helpful in preparing for discussion as a Diocese.
- **[Appendix 3: Same-Sex Unions – A Brief Survey of the Conversations](#)**
A history of the dialogues, decisions and key moments in the Church’s discernment process.
- **[Appendix 4: Authority in the Anglican Communion](#)**
An explanation about how the churches of the Anglican Communion try to come to a common mind.
- **[Appendix 5: National and International Views](#)**
A summary of National and International views concerning same-sex marriage.



- [Appendix 6: Annotated Bibliography](#)
An updated bibliography of key resources using the Annotated Bibliography from the Marriage Commission Report.
- [Appendix 7: A Word About Facilitated Dialogue](#)
A resource to help Anglicans have facilitated conversations.
- [Appendix 8: Bishops' Pastoral Statement](#)
A pastoral statement on commitment to diverse theological positions in the Diocese of Toronto by the Bishop of Toronto and endorsed by the College of Bishops.

Other Resources

- [General Synod's Canon XXI](#) (On Marriage in the Church)
- [Amendment to General Synod's Canon XXI](#) (On Marriage in the Church)
- [This Holy Estate: Report of the Commission on the Marriage Canon of the Anglican Church of Canada](#)
Full report from the Commission on the Marriage Canon, which includes: background and terms of reference; input from the broad consultations; details on whether a proposed motion blessing same-sex marriage would contravene the Solemn Declaration of 1893, as well as the question of a conscience clause; biblical and theological rationale for a change in teaching on the nature of Christian marriage, and a conclusion. Appendices consist of a draft resolution for General Synod 2016 and the text of the Solemn Declaration, as well as past resolutions.
- [Summary of the Marriage Commission Report](#)
The summarized version of the Report of the Commission on the Marriage Canon uses a question-and-answer format to clarify the main issues involved, the task of the commission and its conclusions, addressing common concerns and describing the next steps in the process.

<https://gs2019.anglican.ca/cc/information/>

Information Documents

- [This Holy Estate: The Report of the Commission on the Marriage Canon](#)



BREAKOUT SESSIONS AT SYNOD

On Friday afternoon, members will have the opportunity to attend a Breakout Session at Synod. The following Breakout Sessions have been finalized.

Can you give 1% more? Five simple steps parishes can follow that will lead to very positive stewardship outcomes.

Peter Misiaszek

We all have the capacity to be generous stewards. Learn how parishes can increase their offertory and support new mission by introducing or expanding on 5 simple steps done regularly and with enthusiasm. Many of our healthiest parishes are doing these things right now. You can too!!!

Leveraging the Power of Legacy Gifts in your Parish

Michael P. Cassabon

Join our conversation about how legacy giving can secure your parish's future. A legacy gift is a gift deferred – a way of expressing your wishes now about how your resources are to be used later. A legacy gift is a commitment made to protect those you love – and an opportunity to benefit the Church for generations to come. Legacy giving is not separate from Christian Stewardship, but is rather an important part of it. Legacy giving offers ways – over and above our regular support to the Church's on-going work – to share God's gifts with others, and to grow spiritually as we live out our vocations and ministries within the mission of the Church.

Submission to NoA to Disbursement: Understanding the Diocesan Grants Process

Lilian Qian and Arleane Ralph

We will be looking at diocesan grants & funding from three different perspectives:

- First, you'll hear about the grants process from the back end, that is, the "show me the money" stage. Arleane and Lilian will take you on a quick tour of the process from receiving that happy notice of award (NoA) to having the actual money in hand for your ministry project. There will be attention to your responsibilities (and ours) and to the mechanics of navigating this stage smoothly.
- Next, you'll break out into smaller groups and spend a few minutes with colleagues sharing notes on your own diocesan grant experiences. The objective here will be to generate a curated list of successes, challenges, and questions that will inform the third part of the session.
- Finally, Arleane and Lilian will talk about best practices for creating a successful grants proposal, for example, knowing grant-specific terms and conditions; articulating your project narrative; accessing your support system; and keeping track of the timing. (Nothing more discouraging for all of us than an awesome application that's a week late!)

And on top of all that, we're going to make time for a grants 'dot-mocracy' (to identify what grant streams parishes are most involved in or anxious about) as well as a final Q&A session where we try to address any group-work questions that are still outstanding. If time allows, we'd also love to open the floor and give you space to tell us about your ministry project success stories.



Strengthening Relations: Indigenous Ministries and you

Toronto Urban Native Ministry staff

How can my congregation engage in solidarity with Indigenous peoples? What are protocols I need to know about when seeking to collaborate with Indigenous communities and neighbours? What are the 94 Calls to Action and how can my parish become involved in truth and reconciliation? Come meet and greet with Toronto Urban Native Ministries to hear updates from the field and ideas for your community engagement, and reflect together on any questions you might have.

Consultation Workshop on Discipleship

The Very Rev. Stephen Vail

In the months to come, the Bishop's Committee on Discipleship will be formed to enhance, support and deepen our call as a Diocese to intentional discipleship. This workshop, led by the committee Chair, the Very Reverend Stephen Vail, seeks to hear from parish leaders about how it might connect with your needs, what you are seeing, and begin to shape a way forward. Those attending are asked to bring ideas, questions and the challenges you face, which will be pivotal as the Committee looks ahead to this exciting work.

Highlights from the Clergy Remuneration Working Group's Report to the Bishop

The Rt. Rev. Peter Fenty, Suzanne Lawson, ODT, Brian Armstrong

The Working Group on Clergy Remuneration consulted widely, studied models from elsewhere and reflected prayerfully and theologically to come up with multiple recommendations for the Bishop. This workshop will be an opportunity to hear about the concerns that were expressed during the consultations and see the main recommendations that are being put forward. There will be an opportunity to discuss the recommendations together and hear from the Working Group about why they are proposing considerable change. Prepare to learn about the various aspects of clergy remuneration, and how the values of Faith, Compassion, Collaboration, Accountability and definitely Boldness from our strategic plan, *Growing in Christ*, are evidenced in the recommendations. For both clergy and lay leaders.

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Janet Marshall and David Krause

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