

The Ecclesiastical Province of Canada
Diocesan Report

Diocese of Quebec

2008 Provincial Council

Description of the Diocese

The Diocese of Quebec is the second oldest in the Canadian Church. It was founded in 1793. It has a geographic area of 720,000 square kilometers. The endowments and funds managed for parishes and cemeteries and some properties are managed by the Church Society of Quebec – originally a missionary society incorporated in 1844.

Number on Parish rolls-	7,500
Parishes-	24
Congregations-	85
Parish Clergy-	20
Chaplains and Special Ministries-	3
Vocational Deacons-	8
Lay Incumbents-	4
Retired Clergy-	15
Clergy on Leave-	5 (3 LTD)
Lay Readers-	56

The Diocese of Quebec is part of the Council of the North and therefore conforms with the Salary and Benefits scale of the Council for Stipendiary Clergy.

There are five Deaneries and Archdeaconries. One is a non-geographic deanery for Francophone Ministry with an Archdeacon, a Rural Dean and one other Francophone priest.

Diocesan Staff

<u>Name</u>	<u>Position</u>	<u>Contact Information</u>
Most Rev. Bruce Stavert	Archbishop	archbishop@quebec.anglican.ca
Rt. Rev. Dennis Drainville	Coadjutor	coadjutorbishop@quebec.anglican.ca
Mrs. Guylaine Caron	Executive Director	executivedirector@quebec.anglican.ca
Mr. James Sweeny	Registrar / Archivist	registrar@quebec.anglican.ca
Mr. Michael Boden	Treasurer	treasurer@quebec.anglican.ca

Ms. Sherry Knox Administrative Assistant synodoffice@quebec.anglican.ca

Ms. Marie-Sol Gaudreau Bookkeeper bookkeeper@quebec.anglican.ca

Good News Stories / Highlights / Initiatives

1) Election of Coadjutor Bishop

On October 12, 2007, the synod of the diocese elected Dennis Drainville to be the coadjutor Bishop of the Diocese of Quebec until the retirement of the Archbishop on 31, May, 2009. The election of a coadjutor bishop was a firm suggestion made in the strategic planning process the diocese engaged in during 2006-7. In the discussion of governance issues for the diocese it was determined that an executive assistant is really needed for the bishop of Quebec. Since the Archbishop retires this coming spring it was decided that a wise transition strategy would be to elect a coadjutor bishop to fill that role and then be in a position to find an assistant after becoming bishop. The election was quick and decisive and is seen as a positive thing for the diocese.

2) Adoption of Strategic Plan

At the diocesan synod in October of last year the new strategic plan for the diocese was formally adopted. The four focuses of the plan are Mission, Leadership, Stewardship and Human Sexuality. Work has been going ahead to focus parish and deanery activity with the strategic plan in mind. The annual clergy conference was moved from the autumn to April this year in order to provide an in depth workshop on how to move the plan forward. The diocese has had the assistance of a first class facilitator from the secular world who is a non Anglican but practising Christian. We have already begun to accomplish some projects in the leadership area with the episcopal election, some concentrated lay training and staff appointments. We need to continue to move on Leadership issues and the Mission and Stewardship components of the plan.

Challenges / Issues

There are many challenges ahead for the diocese. They are particularly related to both financial stewardship and mission and they need to be worked on both at the diocesan level and at the very local congregational level. There are serious financial pressures because local congregations and parishes are finding it increasingly difficult to support the cost of clergy and even to support the diocese. We have to continue to explore doing ministry in different ways which will require a new sense of mission and the equipping of lay and ordained leadership.

We reached a diocesan compromise last year on how to deal with the sale of Camp Quebec Lodge and still be able to promote camping in the area. However, circumstances so far have been such that this enormous asset of Synod has not yet been sold. The hope is that this will happen soon thus relieving some of the financial burdens and also permitting the development of some new initiatives in camping and youth work.

Opportunities / Suggestions for Sharing with Other Dioceses

- 1) We continue to have an entente with the Montreal Diocesan Theological College who will continue to provide us with important field courses and lay training.
- 2) We continue to have conversations on an informal basis with the Diocese of Montreal about how we might share administrative and other work, as we already do in the administration of a joint Blue Cross extended health insurance plan.
- 3) The diocesan administration has found it useful to have been part of some inter-diocesan conversations about issues of property insurance.
- 4) The Diocese of Quebec is likely to enter a new three way companion Diocese relationship in May of 2009. This will involve the Diocese of Moray, Ross and Caithness in the Scottish Episcopal Church and the Diocese of Bujumbura in Burundi. The Bishops began plans for this during the Lambeth Conference with the blessing in April of the Diocesan Executive Council.