

Motion 1 - Numbering of Canons

Moved by: Alan T Perry
Seconded by: Charles Ferris

That the Canons of the Province of Canada be renumbered, replacing Roman numerals with Arabic Numerals in the Canon numbers.

Background:

Using Roman numerals (I, II, III...) for Canon numbers may be confusing for some people, and impairs the readability of the Canons and references to them. Replacing these with Arabic numerals (1, 2, 3...) will eliminate this source of potential confusion. Subsections of canons may still use Roman numerals (by convention in lower case).

Motion 2 - Canon 2 - The Election, Office and Work of the Metropolitan Bishop

Moved by: Alan T Perry
Seconded by: Charles Ferris

That Canon II, be amended by:

(a) adding “or her” after “his” in section 6(1); and

(b) adding a new section 6(3) reading:

6(3) The title of the Metropolitan shall continue to be “Archbishop” after he or she ceases to hold office.

Background:

The change to paragraph 6(1), in italics, makes the canon gender-inclusive. It will now read:

6(1) The office of Metropolitan is vacated when the Metropolitan ceases to be a diocesan bishop or his *or her* resignation as Metropolitan is accepted.

The new section 6(3) codifies the current custom of the Province in a manner similar to the General Synod Canon on the Primacy, Canon III, section 7(e).

Motion 3 - Canon 4 - The Licensing of Clergy

Moved by: Alan T Perry
Seconded by: Charles Ferris

That section 3(3) of Canon IV be amended by:

- (a) adding “and the Metropolitan at his or her installation,” after “requires it”;
- (b) renumbering subsection (d) as (d)(i) and adding “(to be declared by all but the Metropolitan) at the beginning of the subsection; and
- (c) adding a new subsection (d)(ii) reading:
 - (ii) (to be declared by the Metropolitan) I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Canons which have been or are from time to time passed by the General Synod and the Provincial Synod.

Background:

The changes, indicated in italics below, are to add oaths to be declared by the Metropolitan at his or her installation. The Metropolitan will have previously taken the oaths at ordination to the diaconate, priesthood and episcopate, and is not released from them by being elected as Metropolitan. However, the addition of oaths for the Metropolitan clarifies that he or she remains subject to the same norms of doctrine, liturgy and canons as other clergy in the Province. The Metropolitan is not subject to Ordinary jurisdiction, but does have a special responsibility to the Provincial Synod.

The section will now read:

- 3(3) Deacons and Priests at their ordinations and Bishops at their consecrations, and on such other occasions as the diocese requires it, *and the Metropolitan at his or her installation*, shall take and subscribe the following declaration:

I, N, do solemnly declare that

- (a) I profess the faith set forth in the Scriptures and in the Catholic Creeds and affirm my allegiance to the doctrine of the Anglican Church of Canada as set forth by the Book of Common Prayer and in the Ordinal;
- (b) in public prayer and in the administration of the Sacraments I will use the form of the Book of Common Prayer and none other except so far as shall be ordered by lawful authority;
- (c) (i) (to be declared by priests, deacons and suffragan, coadjutor and assistant bishops) I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Bishop of _____ and to his/her

successors in all legal and honest demands;

(ii) (to be declared by diocesan bishops) I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Metropolitan of Canada and to his/her successors in all legal and honest demands;

(d) (i) *(to be declared by all but the Metropolitan)* I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Canons which have been or are from time to time passed by the General Synod, the Provincial Synod and the Synod of the Diocese of _____;

(ii) *(to be declared by the Metropolitan)* I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Canons which have been or are from time to time passed by the General Synod and the Provincial Synod.

Motion 4 - Constitution - Membership

Moved by: Alan T Perry

Seconded by: James Pratt

That section 1(b) of the Constitution be amended to read:

1(b) Three clerical and three lay members from each diocese elected by the diocesan synods according to such rules as they adopt;

Background:

This motion reduces the size of the Synod by reducing the number of members for each diocese from four clergy and four laity to three of each. This will reduce the Synod by fourteen members, or approximately 18%. The primary purpose of this proposed reduction is to reduce the cost of Synod meetings. By far the biggest expense for holding a Synod meeting is the travel and accommodation of the delegates, and the cost of holding a Synod every three years is the largest expense of the Province. If adopted, this change will take effect for Synod 2012.

Motion 5 - Constitution - The Constitution of the Provincial Synod of Canada

Moved by: Charles Ferris

Seconded by:

That the title of the Constitution be changed from “The Constitution of the Provincial Synod of Canada’ to “The Constitution of the Synod of the Province of Canada”.

That sections 1, 2, 3 and 4 of the Constitution be renumbered as section 3, 4, 5 and 6 and that the following new sections 1 and 2 be inserted as follows:

Purpose

1. The rights, responsibilities and prerogatives of the Synod of the Province of Canada shall include the following, namely:

- A. The providing of occasions for fellowship and of a forum for the consideration of topics of particular concern within the Province, including:
 - (i) faith, witness, ministry and liturgical worship;
 - (ii) the political, economic, educational and social dimensions of the Ecclesiastical Province; both those common to the whole and those of a more local nature;
 - (iii) the relationship of the Church to governments in all matters affecting the quality of life and of community within the Ecclesiastical Province.

In order better to fulfil the above functions, Provincial Synod shall call upon speakers and scholars to inform them in seminar and worship on these matters.

- B. The planning and promotion of teamwork among bishops, clergy and laity within the Province.
- C. The exercise of canonical and legislative authority and jurisdiction in all matters affecting the general interests and well-being of the Church within the Province in the following matters:
 - (i) the election of the Metropolitan and the definition of the duties, responsibilities and authority of the Metropolitan;
 - (ii) the constitution and organization of the Synod, including the regulation of the time and place of its meetings, the order and conduct of its proceedings, and the appointment, functions and duties of its officers, Provincial Council and committees for the proper conduct of its affairs;

- (iii) matters referred to it by the General Synod, the diocesan synods in the province and the House of Bishops of the province;
- (iv) the ordering and directing of matters liturgical, and in particular, the authorization of special forms of prayers, services and ceremonies for which no provision has been made under the authority of the General Synod or the House of Bishops of the Anglican Church of Canada;
- (v) with the consent of the General Synod and of any diocese affected, the adjustment of the boundaries of the province;
- (vi) with the consent of the General Synod and of the dioceses affected, the division of the province into dioceses, the establishment of missionary dioceses within the province, the division of existing dioceses and the adjustment or rearrangement of diocesan boundaries;
- (vii) the Constitution of the Provincial Court of Appeal, with original and appellate jurisdiction, including the procedure therein and enforcement of its decrees and judgments;
- (viii) the ecclesiastical discipline and trial of bishops;
- (ix) the regulation of the ministrations of the clergy and others; including the oaths and subscriptions of clergy;
- (x) the administration of any fund or trust established in respect of the province or the Synod;
- (xi) the confirmation of the election, consecration, and resignation of bishops;
- (xii) the relations of the church to the civil authorities and to public education within the Province;
- (xiii) the formation and constitution of provincial branches of organizations and societies established by the General Synod for the promotion of the work of General Synod;
- (xiv) the consideration, promotion and advancement of any object or matter for the general advantage of the Church in Canada or in the province, referred to the Synod by the General Synod.

D. The supervision of the programme of the Advisory Council for Postulants for Ordination within the province.

2. In order to effect the rights, responsibilities and prerogatives of the Synod of the Province of Canada as hereinbefore set forth it is provided as follows.

Background:

This proposed amendment will incorporate the Provincial constitutional instrument entitle “The Purpose of the Synod” into the Constitution. This amendment, which provides no new jurisdiction or functions for the Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada, would obtain a more rounded constitution, and one that has some purpose incorporated into its provisions. The amended document would be of strong guidance to those who will be interpreting and applying it in the days and years to come. To have only a dry bones recitation of officers and meetings in a constitution abrogates one of the fundamental purposes of such a document: telling those who are applying it what are the intentions behind the mechanics of the operation of the body to which it applies.

There is recent precedence for such a course of action in the Constitution of the Mothers Union of Canada.