

PROVINCE OF CANADA

ACPO C/O Rev. Marian Conrad

Parish of St. Thomas' Church at Fall River

3534 Highway # 2

Fall River, N.S. B2T

September 15, 2010

The Right Reverend Claude Miller, Metropolitan

Province of Canada

C/O Diocese of Fredericton

Greetings and blessings:

The following is my annual report as your ACPO Secretary, Stipendiary Ministry.

October, 2009 – Church House, Meeting of Provincial Secretaries. There was discussion regarding psychological assessments. Can Assessors reasonably assume that diocesan vocational discernment includes a psychological assessment? There was some discussion regarding Bishops' –pre-screening of candidates to ACPO. Can Assessors reasonably assume that a candidate sponsored by a Bishop has been assessed by their own Bishop or Vocations Committee and is recommended to ACPO? We also discussed file retention and the need for revisions to the Handbook. We discussed Spouses' Programs at ACPO and noted the diversity within the provincial ACPO's.

May, 2010 – Assessor Training – Special thanks to Tanya Moxley for drafting a Power Point Presentation –Presentation needs further work in 2011 to refine training document.

May 20th and onward - ACPO Weekend, The Atlantic School of Theology, Halifax, N.S. – Should Metropolitan nominate the ACPO Secretary for 2012 so that s/he can shadow ACPO Secretary for 2011. Is the Diocese of Fredericton the next venue?

Special thanks for the privilege of providing leadership for the Province of Canada for ACPO. I have led ACPO as Secretary, 2006, 2007, 2009, and 2010. 2011 would normally be the end of a three year appointment.

As an ACPO Secretary, I sit on our Diocesan Discernment and Formation. Other ACPO Secretaries have found it helpful to have a face to face meeting with the Provincial House of Bishops at Provincial Synods

in order to strengthen the communication and input between the House of Bishops and ACPO Secretaries. Perhaps some further discussion could take place on this possibility.

Special thanks to the following people for their gifts:

-The Rev. Lynn Uzans in her role as chaplain

-The Right Rev. Ron Cutler as presider at Holy Eucharist for candidates and assessors

And speaker on behalf of the House of Bishops on the "Needs of the Wider Church"

-Jan Connors for technology support and Rev. Irving Letto for transportation support

WEEKEND – May 20th onward - We hosted 15 candidates (Halifax – 2 – 1 recommended; Fredericton -7 – all recommended; Central Newfoundland -1 recommended; Western Newfoundland -1 recommended; Eastern Newfoundland -1 recommended; Montreal -2 recommended; Quebec -1 recommended; and 15 assessors.

I continue to find that some of the documents arrive late from the Bishops' offices however will build in a few hours for assessors to read the documents on the first day of training in the spring of 2011. We used a new process for Assessors and Candidates to get to know one another on the Friday. Rather than using the drawing of the tree, we used a sheet on Character Qualities and asked each person in small groups to reflect on a character of strength for themselves and a character that needed strengthening. One candidate asked for a fourth interview as she wished to restate her sense of call and the caucus as a whole asked one candidate for a fourth interview to clarify his call.

QUESTIONS FOR THE PROVINCIAL HOUSE OF BISHOPS

Is the Bishop of the Diocese hosting ACPO the new Provincial Episcopal Chairperson and will s/he be attending the fall National Coordinating Committee meeting? Is that Bishop my contact person in case I have questions of procedure or any challenges?

Are dioceses within our Province designing processes for the assessment of candidates for the non-stipendiary ministry?

Blessings in your discernment of this report. If you discern a way that I can strengthen the ACPO process, please provide me with guidance.

Yours in Christ

The Rev. Marian Conrad

P.S. The ACPO weekend for 2011 has been booked at The Atlantic School of Theology from May 19 for Assessors and from May 20 for Candidates. Please ensure that all candidate material is delivered to me by April 1 as well as a list of names for potential assessors. Once you have identified your candidates for ACPO 2011, would you kindly request three names for references and provide the referee with the ACPO form. The references can be included with the candidate material.