

Ecclesiastical Province of Canada
Metropolitan Election 2017
Request for profile Information Form

The names of all Diocesan Bishops of the Province of Canada will be on the ballot. Each Bishop is asked to provide the following **profile information and a photo** to be distributed to all eligible synod delegates.

1. Basic Information

- a. Full Name **John Edwin Watton**
- b. Diocese **Central Newfoundland**

2. Ordinations:

- a. Date of ordination as a Priest **October 9 1990**
- b. Date of ordination as a Bishop **June 29 2016**

3. A short statement (about 100 words) their understanding of episcopal ministry.

I have just completed a Master's program centered on Episcopal ministry. The study included present and historical overviews as it relates to the Anglican Communion, National Church of Canada, and our local contexts. In addition, the study focused on the nature of Episcopacy in the midst of shifting theological, cultural, legal, financial, scientific, and understandings of authority. A Bishop is one who bears the responsibility of calling the Church and individuals within it, to brave discernment of Vocation, presence and purpose in our time. A Bishop bears the responsibility protecting unity through the authority, of the office, while enabling the people of God with their own authority to practice ministry. A Bishop must ensure that the Church is clear and motivated in relation to both sustainability, and missional thinking.

4. A short statement (about 100 words) outlining their view on the mission and vision for the Province of Canada.

There has been a time when we as an Ecclesiastical province have wondered about our focus. We have taken steps to streamline our processes, gatherings and focus. As a province we have experienced the impact of cultural shifts, financial changes, and a growing apathy toward the many of the traditional strengths of being Anglican, and our structure.

During the Covid 19 Pandemic, the bishops of the Provincial house have met regularly. We have shared much in relation to our own contexts, and comparisons to the varied contexts of other diocese in the National Church. We are relearning, that as a province we have much in common, that we care and respect one another, and see a need to re-vision our purpose and call as a Province. We are remembering that the people of our province need to be an active part of that fellowship, and of building a new vision. Our new Archbishop will need to help us facilitate a prayerful renewal in the Province.

5. Photo

