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Description of the General Qualifications and Requirements for the Position of Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and Qualities Desirable in the Person Who Will Fill this Position

Prepared by the Episcopal Search Committee in January 2008.

Approved by Diocesan Council on February 21, 2008.

Reason for and Purpose of the Electoral Synod

An Electoral Synod has been called for Friday, May 23rd, to elect a suffragan bishop, at the request of the diocesan bishop and with the consent of the diocesan synod that met at Halifax, September 20th, 2007.

Diocesan Vision

To undertake a journey of renewal, fulfilling our call to be a Christ-centred, mission-minded, ministering community of faith by building on the four visioning initiatives:
Developing Healthy Congregations,
Supporting Anglican Christian Formation,
Embracing Youth,
and Providing Organizational Efficiency and Effectiveness.

The Functions of a Suffragan Bishop

A suffragan bishop

- preaches the Word, presides at the sacraments, and administers discipline in such a way as to be a representative pastoral minister of oversight, continuity and unity in the Church
- shares with the diocesan bishop pastoral oversight of a diocese
- serves the apostolicity and unity of the Church's teaching, worship and sacramental life
- shares with the diocesan bishop responsibility for leadership in the Church's mission
- relates the Christian community of the diocese to the wider Church, and the universal Church to the community of the diocese
- in communion with the whole diocesan community and its deacons and priests, shares with the diocesan responsibility for the orderly transfer of ministerial authority in the Church
(Agreement on Ministry, paragraph 29, p. 26, *Baptism, Eucharist and Ministry*, Faith and Order Paper No. 111, World Council of Churches, 1982)
- compliments the ministry of the diocesan bishop

Canonical Requirements for a Bishop (Diocesan Canon 1)

A person is eligible for election as a bishop if that person

- (1) is thirty years or older and less than seventy years of age
- (2) is a priest or bishop in good standing, in Holy Orders of the Anglican Church of Canada, or of a church in full communion with the Anglican Church of Canada

Availability Requirement

The person elected suffragan bishop should be available for consecration by the end of June (so that he or she might attend the Lambeth Conference in of July 2008) to begin service no later than September 1st, 2008

Qualifications of a suffragan bishop

We seek one who

- is faithful to Christian Scripture and tradition
- is faithful in the worship, doctrines and discipline of the Anglican Church of Canada as determined and defined by its official formularies, traditions and typical practice
- respects the diversity of Anglican tradition in the Diocese and the wider Church

- employs worship books or texts authorized in the Anglican Church of Canada with sensitivity to the traditions of local parishes
- will continue to help cultivate our relationship of communion with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada
- respects other Christian traditions and other faith traditions
- has a care for and love of Church and world
- fosters unity in Church and world
- appreciates and encourages both rural and urban ways of being church
- considers, understands and advocates for social justice
- has recognized gifts in many of the apostolic activities of the church: liturgy, proclamation, service, teaching, fellowship, witness, theology, and encouragement in faith
- is a generous and responsible steward of resources entrusted to the Church
- finds joy and delight in ministry
- practices ministry in collegiality with all the baptized and the ordained
- encourages and supports all baptized people in their gifts and ministries, nourishes them from the riches of God's grace, prays for them without ceasing, and celebrates with them the sacraments of our redemption (BAS, p. 637)
- holds up the weak, heals the sick, binds up the broken, brings again the outcasts, and seeks the lost (BCP, p. 666)
- encourages the faithful, restores the lost, and builds up the Body of Christ (BAS, p. 640)
- is gentle and merciful for Christ's sake to the poor and needy, the stranger and the destitute (BCP, p. 664)
- has or is willing to acquire the ability to be conversant in computer communications

Qualities of a Suffragan Bishop

We seek one who

- is a person of prayer and spiritual depth
- is a wise and faithful servant (BCP, p. 665)
- is a wholesome example (BCP, p. 667)
- is personally committed to stewardship (BCP,p.555)
- has those qualities and abilities of leadership, experience and learning that will enable that person to fulfill the duties of a pastor in the Church of God
- is a pastor, learner and teacher
- is hospitable, consistently collegial and able to work as a team member
- is able to manage conflict and its outcomes with comfort and skill
- is willing to learn about and be sensitive about current transitions in models of ministry and organizational structures in the diocese.
- welcomes periodic performance review to assist in reflection on ministry and priorities

Expectations of a Suffragan Bishop

We seek one who appreciates and is prepared to work in a covenant relationship with the diocesan bishop in current and evolving initiatives in the Diocese, including

- a regular pattern of Episcopal visits to parishes and regions
- the Diocesan Vision
- clergy wellness initiatives
- the Companions on the Way stewardship initiative
- the 2010 Celebrations and the meeting of General Synod in Halifax in 2010
- a new round of visioning beyond 2010
- an ability to build and rebuild community in parishes , in regions and in the diocese.

N.B. The deadline for nominations is **Thursday, March 27th, 2008, by 5:00 pm.** Proposed names should be sent to: The Secretary of the Episcopal Search Committee, Anglican Diocesan Centre, 5732 College Street, Halifax, Nova Scotia B3H 1X3.

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N. B. This completed form will be due at the Synod office by Thursday, April 10th, 2008. If you wish this Information form to be sent to you electronically, please mail your request to David Garrett at : davidcamerongarrett@gmail.com

**Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island
Information Form
for use by
those proposed for Nomination for the Position of Suffragan Bishop**

Name:
Address:
Diocese:
Phone number(s):
Fax number:
Email:

Education: *Post secondary and beyond. Supply the following information for each degree*
Degree
Field of Study
Institution
Date awarded

Other Special training or continuing education: *Describe training and give dates of training*

Ordinations:
Deacon: Date, Diocese, and Ordaining Bishop
Priest: Date, Diocese, and Ordaining Bishop
Bishop: Date, Diocese, and Consecrating Bishops

Parish Service (or other ministries): *Give current and previous positions. For each position, describe position, and give beginning and ending dates.*

Other previous significant employment: *For each position, describe position and give beginning and ending dates.*

Service on Committees, Church and community: *Describe your service on committees and give dates. Note if you were chair of the committee. List committees in the following order: Community, Regional, Diocesan, National, and International.*

Briefly describe your gifts for episcopal ministry: *Suggested length, 250 words or less*

Briefly describe how you understand the role of a bishop. *Suggested length, 250 words or less*

In light of the document, 'Description of the General Qualifications and Requirements for the Position of Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and Qualities in the Person Who Will Fill this Position', prepared by the Episcopal Search Committee and approved by Diocesan Council, discuss how you see yourself fulfilling the role of Suffragan Bishop as described. *Suggested length, 500 words or less*

Should you wish, you may supply additional information relevant to your nomination.

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Attestations and Consents:

I am a priest or bishop of the Anglican Church of Canada or of a church in full communion with that Church.

I meet the canonical requirements for age according to Diocesan Canon 1 (thirty years or older, but less than seventy years of age).

I give my consent to be considered for nomination for the position of Suffragan Bishop of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island.

I give my consent for this completed Information Form to be given to and reviewed by members of the Episcopal Search Committee to determine eligibility and suitability for nomination.

If nominated, I give my consent for this completed Information Form to be circulated to members of the Electoral Synod, posted on the Diocesan Website, and published in the Diocesan Times.

Should I be elected Suffragan Bishop, I shall be available to commence duties on September 1st, 2008

Signature:

Date: