

VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION FOR MEMBERS OF PROVINCIAL SYNOD

June 14-15, 2024

Nature of the Position: To participate in the Synod of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada held, normally, on a triennial basis as an online event. The Province of Canada includes the Dioceses of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, Quebec, Fredericton, Montreal, Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador, Central Newfoundland, and Western Newfoundland.

The Provincial Synod provides an occasion for fellowship and of a forum for the consideration of topics of particular concern within the Province, including: faith, witness, ministry and liturgical worship; the political, economic, educational and social dimensions of the Ecclesiastical Province; both those common to the whole and those of a more local nature; 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 fulfill the above functions, Provincial Synod shall call upon speakers and scholars to inform them in seminar and worship on these matters. It has particular jurisdiction over the election of the Metropolitan and the regulation of the ordination and ministry of clergy.

According to The Constitution of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada (Constitution), each diocese may elect two (2) clerical and two (2) lay members and one lay member being between the ages of 16 and 25. In this Diocese, these delegates are elected at the regular Synod held before the next Provincial Synod.

Outline of Responsibilities

- To represent this Diocese, along with other clergy and lay delegates, at Provincial Synod.
- Some lay delegates may be elected to serve on the Provincial Council and various committees between synods.

Skills and Experience

- Delegates will be able to bring their knowledge of issues currently before the church and our society, to reflect prayerfully, and to participate actively in issues before the Synod.
- An understanding of the range of diocesan culture and values.
- An ability to absorb written and oral material and make decisions based on that material.
- Access to, and ability to use, online means of communication (web browser, email, and meeting software such as Zoom).

Support, Supervision and Training

- Most support is peer-based.
- Being a regular recipient of Diocesan correspondence assures current knowledge and understanding of ongoing concerns (NetNews, *Diocesan Times*).

Participation Group

- A small number of clergy and lay people who are also delegates to Diocesan Synod from the Region and Parish. Other Regions and Parishes send a similar group of elected representatives.

Volunteer Screening Requirements

- Delegates must complete a Safe Church Quiz prior to participating in Provincial Synod

Length of Term

- Nominations are sought for each Provincial Synod. A delegate remains in office until their successor is elected or appointed. There is a limitation of term for Lay Representatives based on participation in two successive Diocesan Synods, wherever possible (Constitution, 5(7)).

Benefits to the Volunteer

- This is an opportunity to learn about and participate actively in issues before the wider church beyond the Diocese and to influence the future direction of the Anglican Church.
- This is an opportunity to learn about the context of ministry in a broad variety of Canadian situations and to build relationships with clergy and lay leaders outside the diocese.