

CONSTITUTION OF THE SYNOD OF THE DIOCESE OF NOVA SCOTIA AND PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

1. Diocesan Synod of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island

(1) This is the Constitution of the Synod of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, made pursuant to the Anglican Church Act. (as amended in the year 2001)

(2) In this Constitution, “Synod” means the Synod of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, incorporated by the Anglican Church Act. (as amended in the year 2001)

2. Jurisdiction of Synod

(1) Synod may deliberate and decide on all matters affecting the interest of the Church in the Diocese, but shall have no jurisdiction over matters affecting the doctrine or worship of the Church.

(2) In particular, it may legislate in respect to

(a)) the constitution and organization of Synod;

(b) the relationship of Synod to the Provincial Synod of “Canada” and to the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada;

(c) subject to the Canons of the General and Provincial Synods, the division or enlargement of the Diocese;

(d) the election of the Bishop of the Diocese and the election or appointment of other bishops, coadjutor, suffragan or assistant, their duties, remuneration, retirement or resignation; and provision for additional Episcopal supervision;

(e)) the election or appointment of diocesan officers required for the administration of diocesan and parochial affairs;

(f)) the financial affairs of the Diocese, Synod, the Parishes therein and all funds in any way connected with the Diocese or Parishes including assessments and apportionments on the Parishes or the members of the clergy;

(g) the admission of candidates for Holy Orders and the reception into the diocese of clergy, their appointment or election to the Parishes, their

transfer, retirement or resignation, and the instruction and licensing of layreaders;

(h) the operation of a pension fund for members of the clergy and their dependents, and of any other beneficiary funds;

(i) subject to Canons of the General Synod, the discipline of the clergy and the laity, within the diocese, including provisions for a Diocesan Court for the trial of canonical offenses and the definition of the powers and functions of such court;

(j) the compilation of statistics and records relating to the work of the Church;

(k) the promotion of civil legislation where necessary to give effect to enactments of Synod.

3. Membership

Synod consists of

(a) the Bishop of the Diocese;

(b) any coadjutor, suffragan or assistant bishop of the Diocese;

(c) the Chancellor of the Diocese and the Diocesan Solicitor;

(d) the Executive Secretary of Synod;

(e) the Dean of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island;

(f) Clerical representatives determined in accordance with section 4;

(g) lay representatives elected or appointed pursuant to Section 5;

(h) youth representatives elected or appointed pursuant to Section 6;

(i) ~~the President of the Diocesan Lay Readers Association;~~ The President of the Licensed Lay Ministers Association or, in the event the President is unable to attend, the Vice President of the Licensed Lay Ministers Association.

(j) the President of the Nova Scotia Diocesan Board of the Anglican Church Women in the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and the President of the Board of Anglican Church Women in Prince Edward Island;

(k) not more than ten persons appointed by the Diocesan Council on the nomination of the Bishop, to hold office until the next session of Synod;

- (l) Postulants for ordination who have been accepted by the Bishop;
- (m) the Chair of the Synod Arrangements Committee;
- (n) Church Army Officers who hold a license from the Bishop.
- (o) Regional Representatives to Diocesan Council (if not otherwise members of Synod).

4. Clerical Members

(1) In this Section and in Sections 5 and 6,

(a) “Parish” means

- (i) a congregation, served by a member of the clergy licensed by the Bishop to minister only to such congregation in a territory or district allotted by the Bishop for the purpose;
- (ii) two or more congregations that are, for the purpose of ministry, grouped together, served by a member of the clergy licensed by the Bishop in a territory or district allotted by the Bishop for the purpose; or
- (iii) two or more Parish corporations that are, for the purposes of ministry, grouped together, served by a member of the clergy licensed by the Bishop in a territory or district allotted by the Bishop for the purpose.

(b) “Parish Council” includes the Committee of Consultation and Advice of the Cathedral Church of All Saints, Halifax.

(2) Members of the clergy ordinarily resident in the Diocese who hold a license from the Bishop and are not under any charge or inhibited, suspended or deprived and

- (i) who are employed in or appointed to a non-parish ministry in the Diocese (for example: Synod staff; faculty or staff of Atlantic School of Theology; hospital, prison, or institutional chaplains); or
- (ii) who are appointed to a parish as rector or incumbent; and
- (iii) not more than one (1) member of the clergy elected or appointed by the Parish from amidst the number appointed to a Parish in a capacity other than as rector or incumbent are entitled to be members of Synod.

(3) At an electoral Synod, all clergy holding a license, and who are not under any charge or inhibited, suspended or deprived are eligible for membership.

(4) The Executive Secretary under the direction of the Bishop and in consultation with the

Registrar shall compile a list of all members of the clergy entitled, pursuant to this Constitution, to be members of Synod.

5. Lay Representatives

- (1) Number: Each Parish may elect or appoint two lay representatives.
- (2) Qualifications: Each lay representative shall be a communicant of a congregation that forms part of a Parish who attends worship services regularly and is of the full age of 16 years before his or her election or appointment and who is also qualified to vote at meetings of the Parish he or she is to represent.
- (3) Genders and Age Groups: In electing or appointing lay representatives, a Parish should take into account the genders and age groups of the members of the Parish.
- (4) Election or Appointment: The lay representatives shall be elected at a congregational meeting of the Parish called for that purpose. The Parish Council of the Parish (or a coordinating committee of Parish Councils of a Parish consisting of a combination of Parishes) should fill any vacancies that have not been filled at the congregational meeting.
- (5) Alternates: Each Parish may elect or appoint an alternate for each lay representative or youth delegate elected or appointed.
- (6) Credentials: The Chair of the meeting at which Lay Representatives and alternatives are elected or appointed shall as soon as possible after the close of the meeting forward to the Executive Secretary of Synod a certificate stating
 - (a)) the number of communicants in the Parish;
 - (b) the names of the persons elected or appointed as Lay Representatives and alternates and their respective post office addresses; and
 - (c)) that all the Lay Representatives and alternates have the qualifications set out in this Section.
- (7) Term: Lay representatives shall continue in office until their successors are elected or Appointed but may resign at any time by submitting a letter of resignation to the Bishop and will not serve more than two terms consecutively where ever possible. Be it further resolved that this has effect at the next election of Synod delegates at an annual meeting of a Parish.
- (8) Casual vacancy: If any lay representative dies, resigns, declines to serve, secedes from the Church, ceases to be qualified for election as a lay representative under this Section or becomes incapable of carrying out the duties of a lay representative, his or her alternate shall take his or her place as a lay representative but, if there is no alternate or if the alternate also becomes incapable of carrying out the duties of a lay representative, the Parish that elected or appointed the lay representative or the alternate shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired portion of the term of the lay representative and the Chair of the meeting at which the replacement lay representative is elected or appointed shall forward a supplementary certificate to the Executive Secretary of Synod.
- (9) The Executive Secretary, under the direction of the Bishop and in consultation with

the Registrar, shall compile a list of all lay representatives to Synod and alternates.

6. Youth Delegates

(1) Number: Each Parish may elect or appoint one youth delegate.

(2) Qualifications: Each youth delegate shall be a communicant and regular attender who will be at least sixteen years of age upon the opening of Synod and under the age of twenty-five years upon the conclusion of Synod and who is also qualified to vote at meetings of the Parish he or she is to represent.

(3) Election or Appointment: The youth delegate shall be elected at a special meeting of the Parish called for that purpose or appointed by the Parish Council (or a coordinating committee of Parish Councils of a Parish consisting of a combination of Parishes).

(4) Alternate: Each Parish may elect or appoint an alternate youth delegate.

(5) Credentials: The Chair of the meeting at which a youth delegate is elected or appointed shall, as soon as possible after the close of the meeting, forward to the Executive Secretary of the Synod, a certificate stating:

(a) the names of the persons elected or appointed as youth delegate and alternate and their respective post office addresses; and

(b) that the youth delegate and alternate have the qualifications set out in this Section.

(6) Term: A youth delegate continues in office until the youth delegate's successor is elected or appointed, but a youth delegate may resign at any time to the Bishop of the Diocese.

(7) Casual Vacancy: If a youth delegate dies, resigns, declines to serve, secedes from the Church, ceases to be qualified for election as a youth delegate under this section, or otherwise becomes incapable of carrying out the duties of a youth delegate, his or her alternate shall take his or her place as the youth delegate. If there is no alternate, or if the alternate also becomes incapable of carrying out the duties of a youth delegate, the Parish shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term of the youth delegate and the Chair of the meeting at which the replacement youth delegate is elected or appointed shall forward a supplementary certificate to the Executive Secretary of the Synod.

(8) The Executive Secretary, under the Direction of the Bishop and in consultation with the Registrar, shall compile a list of all youth delegates of Synod and alternates.

7. Meetings

(1) Synod shall meet not less than once every two years at such time as may be deemed expedient by the Bishop who shall appoint the place of meeting.

- (2) In the event that meetings of Synod cannot be held in person due to:
- (i) prohibitions imposed by civil authorities based upon public health concerns;
 - (ii) another public emergency, in which case the Bishop shall publish in writing an explanation of the nature of the emergency and why such an emergency justifies delaying Synod

the two-year period referred to in sub-section 7(1) may be extended by the Bishop to a time when meetings may be permitted.

8. Special Meetings

The Bishop or any bishop elected under Canon 1, or in the case of the absence or incapacity of both or a vacancy in the See, the Diocesan Council or a majority thereof at a special meeting of the Council summoned for the purpose, may summon a special meeting of the Synod when he or she or they may deem necessary for the welfare of the Diocese, at such time and place as he or she or they shall appoint, at which meeting only such matters shall be dealt with as are specified in the notice calling such special meeting.

9. Chair

- (1) The Bishop shall preside at all meetings of Synod.
- (2) If the Bishop desires to leave the Chair temporarily he or she may appoint a member of Synod to preside.
- (3) If the Bishop is absent, any bishop elected under Canon 1 shall preside, or, if he or she is absent, the clergy and lay representatives present shall elect a Chair.

10. Credentials Committee

- (1) The Executive Secretary and Assistant Secretary shall be the Credentials Committee whose duty it shall be to examine the certificates of election and qualification of all representatives and report thereon to the Chair before the opening of Synod.
- (2) The Chair shall, immediately after the opening of Synod, lay such report upon the table.
- (3) If any objection be made to such report, the same shall be referred to a special committee on Credentials, consisting of the Credentials Committee and three lay representatives whose right to a seat in Synod is unquestioned.
- (4) No representative whose right to a seat in Synod is questioned shall vote for members of the special committee credentials.

11. Quorum

- (1) To constitute a quorum of Synod for the transaction of business at least one third of the clerical members in the Diocese determined in accordance with section 4 and one-third of the lay representatives determined in accordance with sections 5 and 6 whose election is certified by the Executive Secretary shall be present, but any lesser number

shall have power to adjourn, from time to time, until a quorum can be obtained.

- (2) When once a quorum is declared to be present it shall be considered that such quorum is always present throughout the session of Synod but any member of Synod may at any time before any question is put ask for a count of the clerical members or lay representatives present or determine whether a quorum is actually present.

12. Officers of Synod

- (1) The officers of Synod shall consist of an Executive Secretary, an Assistant Secretary and a Registrar.
- (2) The Executive Secretary shall be appointed by the Bishop, subject to ratification by Synod, for a term of two years and may serve for up to three additional terms.
- (3) The Assistant Secretary, who shall be a member of Synod, shall be appointed by the Bishop three months prior to date of Synod and shall serve until the appointment of his or her successor.
- (4) The Diocesan Council may terminate the appointment of any officer of Synod at any time in its discretion.
- (5) In the case of a vacancy among the officers of Synod from any cause whatsoever, the Bishop shall fill such vacancy until the next meeting of Synod.

13. Executive Secretary – Duties

The Executive Secretary shall

- (a) attend all meetings of Synod and ensure that the minutes of these meetings are recorded and preserved;
- (b) attend all meetings of Diocesan Council, set the agenda in consultation with the Bishop and ensure that the minutes of these meetings are recorded and preserved and prepare the Report of Diocesan Council for Synod;
- (c) attend meetings of other committees as may be designated by Synod or Diocesan Council;
- (d) receive and preserve all papers and other documents of Synod, conduct the correspondence of Synod, attest the Synod acts and deliver to his or her successor in office all records, books and documents under his or her control;
- (e) ensure that the business of Synod is carried out when Synod is not in session;
- (f) ensure that the directives of the Diocesan Council are implemented;
- (g) attend meetings of the Synod Arrangements Committee;
- (h) ensure the preservation of all reports of the Diocesan Council and the vision teams, committees, sub-committees, task forces or other groups that it creates;
- (i) ensure that notice in respect of all meetings of Synod is publicly posted on the website of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and that notice thereof is given to all Parishes;

(j) ensure that the Convening Circular, Synod Minutes and other relevant materials are prepared and distributed and publicly posted on the website of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, and that notice thereof is given to all Parishes;

(k) perform such other duties as are assigned by the Constitution and Canons and by resolution of Synod or Diocesan Council;

(l) solicit support from the Director of Administration to arrange staff support to accomplish his or her duties.

14. Assistant Secretary

The Assistant Secretary shall:

(a) assist the Executive Secretary in the performance of his or her duties;

(b) attend all meetings of Synod;

(c) substitute for the Executive Secretary when required to do so by the Bishop or the Chair of the Diocesan Council;

(d) perform such other duties as are assigned to him or her by the Constitution, or Canons, or by resolution of Synod or by the Diocesan Council.

15. Divine Service

All sittings of Synod shall include either or both of

(a) meditations and daily prayer;

(b) a Eucharist;

as may be determined by the Chair.

Any collection at such services shall be applied as the Bishop may determine.

16. Registration

The Executive Secretary shall arrange for the registration and for the check-in of each member of Synod before the member enters the session of Synod.

17. First Day - Order of Business

On the first day of the session, after prayers

(a) the Chair shall lay on the table the report of the Standing Committee on Credentials;

(b) when necessary, the ratification of the appointment of an Executive Secretary;

- (c)) the ratification of the appointment of an Assistant Secretary;
- (d) the appointment of an Agenda Committee and other Committees.
- (e)) the consideration of the report of the Committee on Nominations.

18. Daily Order of Business

(1) On the first day of the session, after the foregoing proceedings, and on all other days after prayers, the order of business shall be as follows:

- (a)) presenting the report of the Agenda Committee;
- (b) appointing special committees;
- (c)) presenting, reading and referring memorials, petitions and correspondence;
- (d) receiving reports of committees;
- (e) giving notices of motion;
- (f)) taking up unfinished business;
- (g) consideration of motions;
- (h) orders of the day.

(2) On the second day of the session all necessary elections shall be held.

(3) On the last day of the session, the appointment of a committee to approve the minutes of the session.

19. Enactments of Synod

(1) Unless a vote by orders is required, a motion shall be duly passed if a majority of the members voting at one session of Synod vote in favor of it.

(2) If a vote by orders is required, a motion shall be duly passed if a majority of the members of each order present and voting at one session of Synod vote in favor of it.

(3) (a) There shall be a vote by orders if a motion deals with: a matter of discipline; or if the Bishop or if any ten (10) members of Synod request it;

(b) A request for a vote by orders may be made at any time before a motion has been voted on and must be accompanied by a commentary stating the reasons therefore.

(4) (a) A motion which has been duly passed by Synod comes into force immediately unless the Bishop dissents from or reserves the motion and where the Bishop does so before the close of the session of Synod at which the motion was moved, the motion ceases to be in force immediately after the Bishop dissents or reserves. The Bishop may not dissent from or reserve a motion for the election of a Bishop;

(b) If the Bishop dissents from a motion, the motion is lost;

(c) If the Bishop reserves a motion, he or she shall announce his or her decision not later than the next session of Synod.

20. Diocesan Council

(1) The membership and terms of reference of the Diocesan Council are set forth in Canon 11. The Diocesan Council shall be the governing body of the Diocese, acting for Synod between sessions of Synod under the terms and within the restrictions laid down in Canon 11.

(2) The Diocesan Council may also be known as the Council of Diocesan Ministry.

21. Committees and Other Groups of Diocesan Council

(1) Unless otherwise prohibited by the Constitution and Canons, the Diocesan Council may by resolution establish vision teams, committees, sub-committees, task forces or other groups (collectively, 'Groups', and each, a 'Group') for any purpose within the scope of its powers, and define each Group's membership, the terms of office of its members, chair, quorum, and terms of reference, including the functions that it is to fulfill under the canons and policies of the Diocese.

(2) The Diocesan Council shall report all resolutions that it adopts pursuant to subsection (1) in its annual report and in its report to Synod.

(3) The Chair of a Group established by the Diocesan Council for which the Bishop is not an ex-officio member shall send notice of each meeting to the Bishop. The Bishop, or the Bishop's delegate, may attend any meeting of the Group and may participate in its discussions.

(4) A Constitution and Canons Committee shall be appointed by the Bishop, with such terms of reference, roles and responsibilities as may be established by the Bishop from time to time.

(5) An Audit Committee shall be appointed by the Diocesan Council, with such terms of reference, roles and responsibilities as may be established by the Diocesan Council from time to time.

(6) An Archives Committee shall be appointed in accordance with the provisions of Canon 24, to carry out the functions set out in Canon 24.

22. Responsibility for Funds

Not later than the first day of May in each year, Diocesan Council or other Group having charge of any funds of Synod requiring contributions from the Parishes shall furnish to the body responsible for preparing the annual budget the statement of the amount which will be required for its funds for the next ensuing year with full information in respect to the state of such funds.

23. Diocesan Council – Report

The Annual Report of the Diocesan Council of Synod shall be published on the website of the Diocese of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island and made available to all clerical and lay members of Synod in the Diocese at least two weeks before the day appointed for the meeting of Synod; provided however that upon receipt of a written request from a clerical or lay member of Synod, the annual report of the Diocesan Council of Synod shall be printed or produced in CD format and sent by mail to such clerical or lay member of Synod.

24. Regional Deans – Report on Memorials

Regional Deans shall, not later than four months prior to a regular meeting of Synod, provide the Executive Secretary of Synod with the names of all members and former members of Synod who have died since the last annual meeting of Synod with a brief and appropriate notice respecting each.

25. Committees of Synod

(1) The Bishop may appoint such committees of Synod at such times and for such purposes as the Bishop deems advisable, such as a Synod Arrangements Committee, an Agenda Committee and a Resolutions Committee.

(2) The membership and duties of the Committee on Nominations are defined in Canon 17.

26. Special Committees of Synod

(1) Synod may appoint any special committee that it deems necessary or desirable.

(2) The mover of the resolution under which any special committee has been appointed, shall be a member of such committee, unless other provision be made in the resolution appointing the committee.

(3) A special committee, where no other provision in that behalf has been made, shall at its first meeting after each Synod elect a chair.

(4) Such chair shall hold office until a successor is appointed.

(5) Subject to canonical provisions, all special committees may make such rules and regulations as are requisite for the due performance of their duties.

(6) All special committees appointed by Synod shall report at its next session, unless by consent of Synod a longer time to do so be granted.

27. All Committees of Synod - quorum, vacancies, reports, etc.

(1) When no other provision is made, fifty per cent of the members of any Committee of Synod shall be sufficient for the transaction of business.

(2) In the event of any vacancy occurring in any committee of Synod, the Diocesan Council or its designate shall fill the vacancy.

(3) The Chair of a committee of Synod, or some member so delegated by him or her shall explain to Synod any portion of a report, if requested by any member of the Synod.

(4) All reports of committees of Synod making recommendations shall be accompanied by a resolution for action of Synod thereon.

28. Requirements for a Motion

(1) Before a Motion may be considered by Synod, the requirements of this section shall be met.

(2) A motion may be considered if

(a)) it has been left over from the previous session of Synod as unfinished business and it has been printed in the journal of the session,

(b) written notice of it has been sent to the Executive Secretary at least three months before the meeting of Synod and it has been published in the convening circular, or

(c)) a motion of consent is duly passed in accordance with subsection (3).

(3) (a) A motion of consent may not be passed with respect to a motion to amend, repeal or add to the Constitution or Canons of Synod;

(b) For any other motion, a motion of consent shall be duly passed if a majority of the members present and voting vote in favor of it. Until such time as the consent is passed, only the wording of the motion shall be given to Synod and there shall be no debate on the proposed motion and no background information shall be given;

(c)) A motion of consent is only debatable with the approval of the Chair. If approval is given, debate shall be limited to the giving of consent. No debate shall be permitted at this time on the motion of substance to which the consent relates;

(d) A motion of consent need not meet the requirements of subsection (2).

(4) If a motion involves the spending of money not already provided for, a person designated by Diocesan Council or by the Chair of Synod shall report to Synod before the motion may be voted on. The report shall state whether the money proposed to be spent is available and, if not, what steps should be taken to provide the money if the motion is duly passed by Synod.

29. Rules of Order and Debate

- (1) When the Bishop, or other person presiding has taken the chair, no member shall continue standing.
- (2) The business on the agenda paper shall take precedence over all other business.
- (3) When any member is about to speak he or she shall rise and address the Chair.
- (4) An address from the Bishop shall be in order at any time.
- (5) No motion or amendment shall be considered as before Synod (except such as proposed by the Bishop or by a Committee) unless seconded and reduced to writing and in the hands of the Chair.
- (6) Any notice of motion may be taken up by any member present at such meeting, in the same manner as if that member had given the notice.
- (7) No member save the mover of a motion who, as mover, shall have the right of reply shall speak more than once on the same question, without asking and receiving permission from the Chair.
- (8) Except with consent of the House, the mover of a report and the mover of a motion may not speak more than ~~ten~~ **five** minutes and the seconder ~~five~~ **three** minutes; and each speaker thereafter ~~five~~ **three** minutes. The mover may speak for five minutes in closing the debate.
- (9) When a question is under consideration, no other motion shall be received except to adjourn Synod, to move the previous question, to lay it on the table, to postpone it to a certain time, to postpone it indefinitely, to adjourn the debate, to commit it, to consider it clause by clause, to amend it or to divide it; and motions for any of these purposes shall have precedence in the order here named.
- (10) Motions to suspend a rule of order or to adjourn, to lay on the table, or to divide the motion or for the previous question shall be decided without debate.
- (11) No rule of order shall be suspended except upon the vote of two-thirds of the members present.
- (12) After a motion has been read to Synod by the Chair or the Executive Secretary, it shall be deemed to be in the possession of Synod, but it may be withdrawn by the mover at any time before being put or before amendment with the permission of the Synod.
- (13) Any member may require at any period of the debate that the motion under discussion be read for the member's information.
- (14) When a member is speaking, no other member shall interrupt except to raise a point of order, nor pass between the member speaking and the Chair.
- (15) A member called to order while speaking shall sit down unless permitted to explain.

(16) All questions of order shall be decided by the Chair without debate, and the decision of the Chair shall be final.

(17) An amendment to an amendment shall be first put and if defeated, then other amendments to the original amendment may be made severally and each submitted in turn to the House until one is accepted or all defeated; then the amendment to the main motion in amended form, when, if defeated, the main motion shall be put.

(18) No more than one amendment to a proposed amendment to a motion shall be in order; yet a substitute for the whole matter may be proposed and received, provided it deals with the subject at hand.

(19) When any question is about to be put to vote, the members shall stay in their seats, and shall not hold any private discourse; and when a motion is about to be put no member shall leave until such motion is disposed of.

(20) The Chair shall have the right to vote on all questions but no casting vote, and in the event of an equality of votes on any proposition, it shall be declared lost.

(21) A question once determined shall not again be drawn into discussion in the same session without the special sanction of the Chair.

(22) When Synod is about to rise or adjourn, every member shall stand in the member's place until the Bishop or other person presiding has left the hall.

(23) Members of the public may be present at the meetings of Synod on the understanding that they must be subject to the direction of the Chair; and must withdraw if required by the Chair, on the request of any three members of Synod.

30. Evidence

(1) For all purposes, matters and things subject to the control of Synod and concerning which it has power to make Canons, rules and regulations, the printed Journals of Synod for each and every the past sessions thereof, certified by the signature of the Bishop of Nova Scotia and Prince Edward Island, or Executive Secretary or Assistant Secretary of Synod to be the record of the proceedings, acts and Canons of the said Synod shall be taken to be and shall have the force and effect of the original and authentic records of all the proceedings, acts, minutes, Journals and Canons of Synod, to all intents and purposes.

(2) All copies and extracts, written or printed, certified by the signature of the Executive Secretary or Assistant Secretary of Synod for the time being, to be true copies of or extracts from the Journals of Synod, shall be received as proof in matters over which Synod has authority or jurisdiction, without any other evidence being necessary as to the contents thereof and shall be held authentic and correct until the contrary be proved.

31. Transitional Provisions

(1) A standing committee of Synod in existence before a resolution of Diocesan Council is adopted under Section 21 of the Constitution ('Committees and Other Groups') that replaces that standing committee with a Group or Groups created by the Diocesan Council shall continue to fulfill its functions until that resolution is adopted and comes into effect, and then that standing committee and the regulation or regulations of Synod relating to it shall cease to exist. The sections of the Constitution and regulations relating to the standing committees of Synod will be appended to the Constitution for reference until the last of the standing committees has been replaced.

(2) A reference in a canon or policy to a standing committee of Synod that is replaced in accordance with subsection (1) shall be read as a reference to the relevant Group or Groups created by Diocesan Council.

(3) The amendments to the Constitution relating to the re-organization of committees shall come into effect on the adoption of a resolution of Synod approving them, with the exception of the repeal of subsections (1), (3), (4), (5), (6), (7), (8), and (9) of the former section 21, Standing committees of Synod, which repeal shall come into effect by resolution of Diocesan Council.

Resolution:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT where, by an amendment to the Constitution of the Synod or to the Canons, any provision of the Constitution or Canons is renumbered or relettered, any reference in the Constitution or Canons to what was the number or letter of that provision before the amendment comes into force, shall, with respect to any subsequent transaction, matter or thing, be deemed to be a reference to the new number or letter given that provision by the amendment.