

## CHAPTER 3

### THE DIOCESAN COUNCIL

#### ***Function***

1. There shall be a Diocesan Council which shall, between meetings of the Synod, manage the affairs of the diocese and shall exercise all powers of the Synod as are not required by any Act, constitution, canon or regulation to be exercised by the Synod in regular or special session, including the executive powers of the Synod conferred by *An Act to Provide for the Restructuring of the Anglican Diocese of Newfoundland*.

#### ***Membership***

2. The Diocesan Council shall consist of:
  - (a) Ex-officio members:
    - (i) The Bishop;
    - (ii) The Dean;
    - (iii) The Chancellor/Vice-Chancellor;
    - (iv) The Archdeacons;
    - (v) The Administrative Assistant to the Bishop;
    - (vi) The Regional Deans;
    - (vii) The diocesan representative on the National Executive Council;
    - (viii) The Chair of the Programme Committee;
    - (ix) The diocesan representatives on the Joint Committee;
  - (b) Elected members:
    - (i) One cleric from each Regional Deanery in the diocese, elected by ballot from among their number by the clerics representing the parishes of the Regional Deanery present at each regular session of the Synod;
    - (ii) Two Lay Members from each Regional Deanery in the diocese, elected by ballot from among their number by the Lay Members representing the parishes of the Regional Deanery present at each regular session of the Synod.
  - (c) Appointed members:

Up to four members of the diocese, appointed by the Bishop prior to the first meeting of the Diocesan Council following the regular session of the Synod.

- (d) Non-voting members:
  - (i) The Finance Officer;
  - (ii) The Programme Officers.

***Term of Office***

- 3. (1) The members of the Diocesan Council shall hold office until their successors are elected or appointed, provided that the qualifications by which they were elected or appointed remain in effect.
- (2) (a) That following absence by an elected or appointed member of Diocesan Council from two consecutive Council Meetings, without reasonable cause, membership on Diocesan Council may be terminated by the Bishop as Chairperson.
- (b) That failure to attend at least 50% of any Diocesan Council Meeting shall constitute an absence from that particular meeting.
- (c) Vacancies that occur in the elected membership of the Diocesan Council between regular sessions of the Synod shall be filled by election by the Clerical or Lay members of the appropriate Regional Deanery Council, as the case may be, in the case of those elected representing Regional Deaneries.
- (d) Vacancies that occur in the appointed membership of the Diocesan Council shall be filled by appointment by the Bishop.
- (3) After serving on the Diocesan Council for two consecutive biennial periods, all members other than ex-officio members shall retire from office and shall not be eligible for re-election or re-appointment until after the expiration of the next ensuing biennial period.

***Meetings***

- 4. (1) The Diocesan Council shall meet not less than three times a year on such dates and at such places as the Bishop shall determine.
- (2) Special meetings of the Diocesan Council may be called at any time by the Bishop, or, in the Bishop's absence or inability to act, by the Commissary or the Administrator, as the case may be, or upon the written requisition of any twelve members to the Administrative Assistant to the Bishop; one week's notice of the meeting being given.

***Quorum***

5. A quorum shall be fifty per cent of the members plus one, provided that at least three of the five Regional Deaneries in the Diocese are represented at the meeting. No resolution of the Diocesan Council shall become effective without the concurrence of the Bishop and a majority of the members present and voting.

***Operations***

6.
  - (1) The Diocesan Council may enact by-laws for its own guidance. A copy of such by-laws shall be circulated at the next regular meeting of the Synod and shall be subject to review by the Synod.
  - (2) The Diocesan Council may make Regulations and Policies for the more effectual implementation of any part of the Constitution and Canons and of any Rule of the Synod;
  - (3) The Diocesan Council may appoint sub-committees and delegate to them specific duties and responsibilities. Such sub-committees shall report in writing as directed by the Diocesan Council.

***Reporting***

7. The Diocesan Council shall submit to each regular meeting of the Synod a report in writing of its work and deliberations for the period since the previous regular meeting, together with an audited statement of the funds, investments and securities of the Synod.