

CANON THREE

ELECTION OF BISHOPS

- 1 When a vacancy occurs in the See of Fredericton, the Commissary of the late Bishop, the Dean, or the Archdeacon senior by appointment, in that order, shall summon a special meeting of the Diocesan Synod for the election of a Bishop to be held not less than thirty nor more than ninety days after the vacancy has occurred, at which meeting no business other than such election shall be proceeded with.
- 2 When
 - (a) at the request of the Bishop the Synod by resolution, or
 - (b) the Synod by resolution carried by three-fourths vote of both the clergy and lay members present, voting by orders,declares it advisable that a Coadjutor Bishop or Suffragan Bishop should be elected, the Synod shall elect such Coadjutor Bishop or Suffragan Bishop at a subsequent regular meeting or at a special meeting called for the purpose.
- 3(1) The Metropolitan shall preside at the election of a Bishop.
- 3(2) In the absence of the Metropolitan or at his or her request, the Chancellor, or in his or her absence, the Vice-Chancellor, shall preside.
- 3(3) If neither the Metropolitan, nor the Chancellor, nor the Vice-Chancellor are present, the Synod shall elect a chair from among the lay members of the Synod.
- 3(4) The Bishop may preside at the election of a Coadjutor Bishop or Suffragan Bishop.
- 3(5) At the request of, or in the absence of, the Bishop, the Chancellor or Vice-Chancellor shall preside.
- 3(6) If neither the Bishop, nor the Chancellor, nor the Vice-Chancellor are present, the Synod shall elect a chair from among the lay members of Synod.
- 4(1) When the date for convening a meeting of the Diocesan Synod for the election of a Bishop, Coadjutor Bishop or Suffragan Bishop ("Electoral Synod") has been selected pursuant to Section 1 or 2, the Secretary of Synod shall send a notice to all delegates of Synod convening the Electoral Synod.
- 4(2) Such notice shall designate the place, time and the date for the Electoral Synod which shall not be earlier than 30 days from the date of the notice.
- 4(3) The notice shall further invite written nominations of eligible persons for the election and shall specify that any nomination must be signed by one clergy and one lay delegate or substitute lay delegate to Synod.

- 4(4) Nominations shall be sent to the Secretary of Synod and shall close forty-eight (48) hours before the time fixed for the Electoral Synod.
- 4(5) At least fourteen (14) days before the date of the Electoral Synod the Secretary of Synod shall send to all Synod delegates a list of the names received in nomination at that time with brief biographical information concerning each nominee, all in a form approved by the Diocesan Council.
- 4(6) The final list of nominees with any necessary biographical information shall be handed out at registration.
- 5(1) When the Electoral Synod convenes, the person presiding shall read, in alphabetical order, the names received in nomination.
- 5(2) Voting on the list of nominees shall take place in accordance with Section 6 and the agenda and procedure adopted by the Electoral Synod.
- 5(3) When a nominee does not receive:
- (a) on any ballot, at least one vote in each order, or
 - (b) on any of the first four ballots, an aggregate in both orders of ten votes, or
 - (c) on the fifth or any subsequent ballot, an aggregate in both orders, of twenty-five votes
- the name of that nominee shall be deleted from the list of nominees and a further ballot shall be taken on the reduced list of nominees.
- 5(4) At any time after the fourth ballot, the Electoral Synod may, by motion carried by a majority of both orders voting together, direct the Chair to call for further nominations. Such nominations shall be made from the floor. Each nomination must be made jointly by one clerical member and one lay member of the Electoral Synod. A nominee whose name has been deleted pursuant to subsection (3) may be re-nominated.
- 5(5) When further nominations are made the Electoral Synod shall recess until brief biographical information concerning each new nominee, in the form approved by the Diocesan Council, has been provided to the members of the Electoral Synod.
- 5(6) A nominee may, at any time, withdraw his or her name from the list of nominees.
- 6(1) The person who is chosen by the votes, taken by ballot, of two-thirds of the clergy present and voting, and two-thirds of the lay members present and voting at any such meeting or adjournment thereof, shall be declared elected to the office of Bishop, Coadjutor Bishop, or Suffragan Bishop, as the case may be.
- 6(2) The Synod may, at any such meeting, by the same majority as is required to elect, request the House of Bishops of the Province of Canada to appoint a Bishop, a Coadjutor Bishop, or a Suffragan Bishop.

- 7 Any priest in Holy Orders of the Anglican Church of Canada or of some Church in full communion therewith who is at least thirty years of age may be elected to episcopal office.
- 8 No election shall be vitiated by the absence of any of the persons summoned to the meeting at which the election takes place or by the failure of any parish to elect lay representatives.
- 9 The Chair of the meeting and the Secretary of Synod shall forthwith notify the Metropolitan of the Province of Canada of every election made under this Canon.
- 10 Any question as to the validity of an election shall be submitted to the Metropolitan prior to the consecration of the person elected, or, if he or she is already consecrated, prior to his undertaking episcopal duties in the Diocese, and the decision of the Metropolitan shall be final.
- 11 Every Bishop, Coadjutor Bishop, or Suffragan Bishop shall before his or her consecration, or, if already consecrated, before exercising any episcopal duties in the Diocese, make and subscribe before the Metropolitan or some other person appointed by him or her the following declaration:

I, N., chosen Bishop of the See of Fredericton (or Bishop Coadjutor, or Bishop Suffragan of the Diocese of Fredericton), promise that I will teach and maintain the doctrine and discipline of the Anglican Church of Canada: and I declare that I consent to be bound by all rules and regulations which have been made or which may be made by the Synod of the Diocese of Fredericton; and I agree immediately to resign the said office together with all the rights and emoluments appertaining thereto if sentence requiring such resignation is at any time passed upon me after due examination and trial had by the Tribunal acknowledged by the Synod of the Diocese for the trial of a Bishop, saving all rights of appeal allowed by Canon.
- 12 Every such declaration, or a certified copy thereof, shall be filed forthwith with the Secretary of the Synod.
- 13 The Coadjutor Bishop or Suffragan Bishop shall perform such diocesan duties and exercise such episcopal functions as the Bishop may assign him or her, and in the case of the mental incapacity of the Bishop, such duties as the Bishop himself or herself might have exercised but for such incapacity.
- 14 Should any difference arise between the Bishop and his or her Coadjutor or Suffragan relative to their respective rights and duties, it shall be referred to and decided by the House of Bishops of the Province of Canada.
- 15 The Coadjutor Bishop when duly consecrated shall have the right to succession to the See of Fredericton, shall succeed to the same immediately it becomes vacant, and shall be installed as Bishop of the See, provided that previous to his or her installation he or she make the declaration required of a Bishop by section 11.