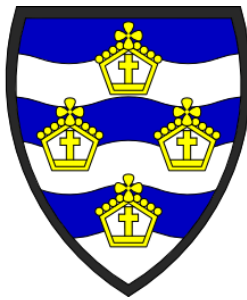


**The Anglican Provincial Synod
of British Columbia**



**Constitution and Canons
with Solemn Declaration
Act of Incorporation,
Rules of Order, etc.**

Revised 2015

**CONSTITUTION AND CANONS
THE ANGLICAN PROVINCIAL SYNOD
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

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PART I

**HISTORICAL RESUME OF THE ACTS LEADING UP TO
THE ECCLESIASTICAL PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

A SOLEMN DECLARATION

The Solemn Declaration of General Synod 1893 was adopted by the first session of the Provincial Synod, February 1914.

In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, Amen.

We, the Bishops, together with the Delegates from the Clergy and Laity of the Church of England in the Dominion of Canada situate in the Province of British Columbia, assembled in the first Provincial Synod, hereby accept the following SOLEMN DECLARATION, as set forth by the General Synod of Canada:

We declare this Church to be, and desire that it shall continue, in full communion with the Church of England throughout the world, as an integral portion of the One Body of Christ composed of Churches which, united under the One Divine Head and in the fellowship of the One Holy Catholic and Apostolic Church, hold the One Faith revealed in Holy Writ, and defined in the Creeds as maintained by the undivided primitive Church in the undisputed Ecumenical Councils; receive the same Canonical Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments, as containing all things necessary to salvation; teach the same Word of God; partake of the same Divinely ordained Sacraments, through the ministry of the same Apostolic Orders, and worship One God and Father through the same Lord Jesus Christ, by the same Holy and Divine Spirit Who is given to them that believe to guide them into all truth.

And we are determined by the help of God to hold and maintain the Doctrine, Sacraments, and Discipline of Christ as the Lord hath commanded in His Holy Word, and as the Church of England hath received and set forth the same in “The Book of Common Prayer and Administration of the Sacraments and other Rites and Ceremonies of the Church, according to the Use of the Church of England; together with the Psalter or Psalms of David, pointed as they are to be sung or said in Churches; and the Form and Manner of Making, Ordaining and Consecrating of Bishops, Priests and Deacons”; and in the Thirty-nine Articles of Religion; and to transmit the same unimpaired to our posterity.

Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the Church in this Province from accepting any alterations in the Formularies of the Church which may be adopted by the General Synod, or from recommending for use in this Province any Prayer or Form of Prayer set forth by the House of Bishops of the said Province.

**B GENERAL SYNOD CANON XVI:
THE ECCLESIASTICAL PROVINCE OF BRITISH COLUMBIA**

The General Synod 1908 gave its approval for the erection of an Ecclesiastical Province in B. C. if the dioceses involved should desire to form a province. This Canon enabling the setting up of the Province was enacted in 1911.

1. Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia

The Dioceses within the civil province of British Columbia, viz.:

British Columbia, New Westminster, Caledonia and Kootenay, and all other Dioceses at any time erected within the province shall constitute a new Ecclesiastical Province co-terminous with the civil province, to be known as the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia.

2. Territory

Should any question arise between the Provincial Synod of British Columbia and the Provincial Synod of Rupert's Land as to territory, such questions shall be decided by the synods of the provinces concerned.

3. Provincial Synod

There shall be a provincial synod to be known as the Provincial Synod of British Columbia to consist of all the Bishops of The Anglican Church of Canada having Sees within the ecclesiastical province, or executing by due authority the episcopate as co-adjutor, suffragan, assistant or missionary bishop therein, and of delegates chosen from the clergy and laity thereof.

4. Constitution of Synod

The draft Constitution embodied in the several memorials presented to the General Synod at its Sixth Session, 1911, and agreed upon as a basis by the four Dioceses, shall form a part of the constitution of the Provincial Synod of British Columbia until at any time amended by the provincial synod.

Provided always that the Constitution of synod shall contain the acceptance by such provincial synod of the Solemn Declaration prefixed to the Constitution of the General Synod of Canada and as set forth and contained in the Handbook of the General Synod.

5. First Session

(1) In pursuance of the draft Constitution, each of the four dioceses and synods shall elect at a regular session four clerical and four lay representatives to the provincial synod in accordance with the basis of representation.

(2) Within six months after receiving a certified list of delegates elected by each of the four dioceses, the senior bishop by consecration in the province shall call the other bishops and these duly elected delegates together at some convenient place within the province for the purpose of completing the organization of the provincial synod and proceeding to transact such business as may be deemed proper, and such bishop shall also act as chairperson of the body thus called together until it be organized and under its own constitution.

6. Transfer of Dioceses

With the consent of the Diocese affected, the Provincial Synod of British Columbia may enter into agreements with the Provincial Synod of Rupert's Land for the transfer to the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia of any territory comprised within the province and such territory shall upon and after the date agreed upon become and constitute part of the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and be subject to the provincial synod thereof.

Note: The Diocese of Yukon transferred from the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land to the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia in 1943

C AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE ANGLICAN PROVINCIAL SYNOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Statutes of British Columbia, 1919, Chapter 97.

WHEREAS, Pursuant to a Canon of the General Synod of the Church of England in Canada, a Provincial Synod, known as "The Provincial Synod of British Columbia," has been formed, consisting of all the Bishops of the Church of England in Canada having Sees within the Province of British Columbia, or executing by due authority the Episcopate as Coadjutor, Suffragan, Assistant or Missionary Bishop therein, and of delegates chosen from the Clergy and Laity thereof:

AND WHEREAS a petition has been presented from the Provincial Synod of British Columbia praying that it may be incorporated, and it is expedient to grant the prayer of the said petition:

THEREFORE, His Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Legislative Assembly of the Province of British Columbia, enacts as follows:

(1) The Provincial Synod of British Columbia shall be and the same is hereby made and constituted a body politic and corporate under the name of "The Anglican Provincial Synod of British Columbia" (hereinafter called "the said Synod").

(2) The said Synod shall consist of all the Bishops of the Church of England in Canada having Sees within the Province of British Columbia, or executing by due authority the Episcopate as Coadjutor, Suffragan, Assistant or Missionary Bishop therein, and their successors, and of delegates chosen from the Clergy and Laity thereof, according to the Constitution and Canons of the said Synod.

(3) The said Synod shall have perpetual succession and a common seal, with power to change and renew the same when and so often as they shall think proper, and the said Synod may, under the said name, contract and be contracted with, sue and be sued, implead and be impleaded with, answer and defend in all Courts and places whatsoever, and the said Synod shall be able and capable in law respectively to purchase, take, hold, give, receive, enjoy, possess, and retain all messuages, lands, tenements, and immovable property, money, goods, chattels, and movable property which have been or hereafter shall be paid, given, granted, appropriated, devised or bequeathed to it, or purchased or acquired by it in any manner or way whatsoever to, for, or in favor of the eleemosynary, ecclesiastical, or educational uses and purposes within the Province of British Columbia of the Church of England in Canada, or otherwise, including thereby the uses and purposes of any church, parish, mission, institution, school, or hospital connected with the Church of England in Canada in British Columbia.

(4) The said Synod shall, in addition to the powers conferred upon it by the next preceding

section of this Act, have power to sell, convey, exchange, alienate, mortgage, lease or demise, or otherwise deal with any real or personal estate or property held by the said Synod, whether simply by way of investment or not; and the said Synod may also from time to time invest all or any funds and personal property which may be vested in or acquired by the said Synod for eleemosynary, ecclesiastical, or educational purposes aforesaid, or otherwise, in and upon any real securities or in the purchase of real estate in British Columbia, or in the public funds of the United Kingdom, or of Canada or any Province thereof, or in municipal bonds or debentures of any municipality within Canada, or in the bonds or debentures of any company, the payment whereof is guaranteed by Government, or in any security for the time being authorized by law for the investment of trust funds, and generally shall for the uses and purposes hereinbefore mentioned have and enjoy the same, and as large, full and ample powers and rights as if it were a private person able and capable in law.

(5) The said Synod shall, in case of land being held by it, be able, notwithstanding any trust affecting the same, to set apart a portion of such land for the purpose of making a road, or to make a free grant of a portion not exceeding one acre in extent, for the purpose of a church building, cemetery, school, hospital, or any public object, freed from any trust affecting the same as aforesaid.

(6) It shall be lawful for the Bishop of any Diocese in British Columbia, whether in his corporate capacity or not, or any Corporation, or any person or persons, to transfer any property, real or personal, held in trust by him or them for the aforesaid eleemosynary, ecclesiastical, or educational uses of the Church of England in Canada to the said Synod, to be held in trust for the same purposes.

(7) The Constitution, Canons and Rules of Order of The Provincial Synod of British Columbia as adopted at the first meeting of the said Synod held at Victoria, British Columbia, on the 18th, 19th and 20th days of February, 1914, and as amended at the second meeting of the said Synod held at Vancouver, British Columbia, on the 3rd day of May, 1917, shall, until the same be altered or amended in accordance with such Constitution and Canons, by the said Synod incorporated under this Act, be the Constitution, Canons and Rules of Order of the said Synod incorporated under this Act.

(8) The said Synod may exercise all its powers by and through such boards, committees or officers as the said Synod may from time to time appoint for the management of all or any of the affairs or property of the said Synod, but in accordance only with the trusts relating to any property to which any special trust is attached, and so that any such board or committee dealing with any such trust properly shall consist of not less than three members of the said Synod.

(9) The terms "the Church of England," or "the Church of England in British Columbia," or "the Anglican Church," in this Act, and in all deeds, instruments, and documents that have been heretofore or that may hereafter be executed, dealing with real or personal property within the Province of British Columbia, shall mean, unless a different construction is gathered from the deeds, instruments or documents, and so far as the same affect any Diocese within the Province of British Columbia or the said Synod, that portion of the Church of England in Canada within the Province of British Columbia.

(10) Any deed or document shall be deemed to be duly executed by the said Synod if the same has affixed thereto the seal of the said Synod, and the signatures of the Metropolitan for the time being of the Anglican Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia or his Commissary duly appointed, and the Secretary for the time being.

(11) The Metropolitan for the time being of the Anglican Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia, duly elected or acknowledged by the said Synod, or otherwise duly appointed and consecrated by lawful authority Metropolitan of the Anglican Ecclesiastical Province of British

Columbia, shall be a corporation sole with perpetual succession, retaining the name of the Metropolitan of the Anglican Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia, with full power to hold and acquire real and personal estate and to sell, convey, lease, mortgage, deal with or dispose of the same or any part thereof.

(12) Any conveyance of real estate or any interest therein vested in the Corporation of the Metropolitan of the Anglican Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia shall hereafter be deemed to be duly executed if the same has affixed thereto the seal of such Corporation, verified by the signature of the Metropolitan for the time being of the said Province, or his Commissary duly appointed, and all deeds and documents whatsoever, if executed in the same way, shall be deemed to be properly and effectually executed.

PART II

THE CONSTITUTION OF THE ANGLICAN PROVINCIAL SYNOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

1. Territory

The territory covered by this Synod is:

- a) The Diocese of British Columbia, New Westminster, Caledonia, Kootenay, Cariboo and Yukon;
- b) All other Dioceses at any time erected within the area covered by such Dioceses;
- c) Any other Diocese in Canada outside the said area which may from time to time be lawfully added thereto; and
- d) Any territory within the civil province of British Columbia or the civil territory of Yukon that is not included within any Diocese, and which this Synod has designated in accordance with Canon 1 to comprise a Designated Territory.

2. Jurisdiction

This Synod shall have the power to deal with all matters affecting general interests of the Church within its territorial jurisdiction other than those already or hereafter delegated to the General Synod. No canon or resolution of a coercive character or involving penalties or disabilities passed by this Synod shall be operative in any Diocese until accepted by the Synod of such Diocese.

3. Membership of Synod

(a) The Synod consists of the Bishops, whether Diocesan, Coadjutor, Suffragan or full-time Assistant; the Chancellor of the Ecclesiastical Province; Clerical and Lay Delegates from each Diocese within the Ecclesiastical Province; two Delegates representing the Anglican Youth Movement in the Ecclesiastical Province; and the Prolocutor, the Registrar, the Treasurer, and the

Secretary of Provincial Synod. There may be two delegates nominated by the Anglican Council of Indigenous People (ACIP).

(b) The Representation of clerical and Lay Delegates shall be as follows: For every Diocese there shall be three (3) Lay Delegates and two (2) Clerical Delegates to be chosen by the Diocesan Synod. Such Delegates shall be canonically resident in the Diocese by which they are chosen. The Delegates representing the Anglican Youth Movement shall be chosen at the Annual Meeting of that Movement last held before the Session of Synod at which they are to be Delegates. Two delegates representing ACIP may be chosen by ACIP from persons who are resident within the Ecclesiastical Province, but not necessarily by Diocese. If no delegates are chosen by ACIP within 30 days of the first day of Synod, the Metropolitan may appoint as delegates one or two indigenous persons resident in the Ecclesiastical Province.

(c) If a Delegate dies, resigns, removes from the Diocese, or is unable to attend the Synod, the Diocesan Synod by its own rules shall provide for the selection of a substitute of the same order who, upon taking his or her seat, shall continue to act as a member of the Synod and of its committees if elected thereto until the next meeting of the Synod. Each Diocese shall certify the selection of its Delegates and a committee of Synod shall attest their credentials. The Anglican Youth Movement shall also be authorized to make provision for substitute Delegates in such manner as it may appoint with the like effect as for Diocesan substitute Delegates. If there be no Delegate or substitute Delegate appointed by the Anglican Youth Movement or an insufficient number of them, the Metropolitan may, after consultation with the Diocesan Bishops, make any necessary appointment or appointments.

4. Officers of Synod

(a) The Metropolitan shall be the President of the Synod and of the House of Bishops.

(b) There shall be a Chancellor of the Ecclesiastical Province who shall be a Judge of a Court of Record, or a barrister of at least ten years' standing at the Bar, and who shall be appointed by the Metropolitan with the concurrence of the Synod and shall hold office during the pleasure of the Metropolitan. The Chancellor shall provide legal advisory services to the Metropolitan and to Executive Council. The Chancellor shall be one of the Assessors of Provincial Synod.

(c) A Prolocutor, a Secretary and a Treasurer, chosen from three different dioceses, shall be elected as follows:

(i) The Prolocutor shall be elected by Synod from among its members of the Order of Clergy or the Order of Laity. The Prolocutor shall be the Vice-President of the Synod.

(ii) The Secretary shall keep regular accounts of all proceedings, preserve memorials or other documents, attest to all Public Acts of the Synod, arrange for the printing of the Journal, and deliver over all records and documents to his or her successor.

(iii) The Treasurer shall receive and disburse all monies of the Synod under the Authority of the Synod or the Executive Council and perform such other duties as may be prescribed by Canon or Resolution of the Synod. The Treasurer shall present to each meeting of the Synod a

budget and a duly audited financial statement

(d) The Synod shall also elect a Registrar, who shall be a Barrister or Solicitor. The Registrar shall keep an authentic record with the official deeds of the consecration or translation of Bishops in the Province; keep a proper book of record and enter therein all Canons and changes in Canons or Amendments to the Constitution; and report to the Synod at each session. The Registrar shall preserve one copy of the Journal of each Synod and of the Minutes of each Council Meeting as adopted by the next Synod or Council (with amendments if any) signed by the Metropolitan and sealed with the Provincial Synod seal as the official copy of the Minutes of that Synod or Council.

(e) The Prolocutor, the Secretary, the Registrar and the Treasurer shall serve not more than two consecutive terms of office beginning with the Synod at which each is respectively elected and concluding with the election of their successor in each instance.

(f) The Synod may elect such other Officers as shall be required. It shall appoint a firm of Chartered Accountants to be Auditors, and two Assessors. The Assessors, who shall be Judges of a Court of Record or Barristers or Solicitors, shall act as legal advisors to the President and Vice-President on the Constitution and Rules of Order, Procedure and Debate of the Synod.

(g) The Corporate Seal of the Synod shall be kept by the Registrar and shall be affixed to all deeds and documents executed on behalf of the Synod. All deeds and documents shall be signed by any two of the Metropolitan, the Prolocutor, and the Registrar.

5. Meetings and Procedures

(a) The Synod shall meet regularly every third year not being the year in which there is a regular meeting of General Synod at a time and place to be decided by the Metropolitan in consultation with the Prolocutor. If a regular meeting falls in a year in which there is to be a regular meeting of General Synod, the Synod shall meet in the next following year. Special meetings may be held at the call of the Metropolitan, or at the request of the Executive Council. Notice of meeting shall be sent one month beforehand together with all pertinent information. Preliminary notice of the time and place of every meeting shall be sent forthwith after the Metropolitan's decision.

(b) The Synod shall consist of three orders: The Order of Bishops, the Order of Clergy, and the Order of Laity, but shall be organized into two houses, the House of Bishops and the House of Delegates, which shall sit and vote together in joint session unless it is requested otherwise by a majority vote of either house.

(c) If there is a vote by Orders, the question shall be put first to the Order of which the mover of the motion is a member. A majority of each Order shall be necessary for an affirmative vote.

(d) A quorum of the Synod and the Council and any committee of Synod shall consist of one-half of the Members.

(e) The Synod may adopt or amend Rules of Order and Procedure, not in conflict with the Constitution of the Synod, at any regular session of the Synod by a two-thirds majority of the members voting in the normal manner. Where no other provision is made, the Procedure and Practice and the Rules of Order and Procedure of General Synod shall apply mutatis mutandis to this Synod.

6. Executive Council

(a) The work of the Synod between sessions shall be carried on by a Council.

(b) That Council shall consist of the Metropolitan, the Chancellor of the Ecclesiastical Province,

the Registrar, and the Treasurer, together with the following:

- (i) The Prolocutor and the Secretary, who shall be representative each of a different Diocese within the Province;
- (ii) A further ten (10) members, not more than two (2) being Bishops, elected by Provincial Synod from among its members so as to insure that those elected under subsections (i) and (ii) consist of one (1) lay and one (1) clerical representative of each Diocese; and
- (iii) Provided that no elected representative is a Bishop, one Bishop appointed by the Metropolitan, in consultation with the House of Bishops;
- (iv) One representative of the BCAYM to be appointed by the BCAYM Council;
- (v) One representative of ACIP to be appointed by ACIP.

If a person elected under part (ii) above to represent a Diocese dies, resigns, moves from the Diocese or is unable to attend Council, the Diocese by its own rules shall provide for the selection of a substitute of the same order.

(c) The Council shall meet annually except in the year in which there is a regular meeting of Synod and also as necessary at the call of the Metropolitan. Special Meetings may be held at the call of the Metropolitan or the Prolocutor.

(d) The Metropolitan shall be Chair Ex Officio of the Council. In his or her absence the Prolocutor shall preside.

(e) The Executive Council, together with the Diocesan Bishops, shall act as the Electoral College of Synod.

(f) Any member of the Council may participate in a meeting of the Council or of a committee of the Council by means of a telephonic, an electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting. A member of the Council so participating in a meeting is deemed for all purposes to be present at that meeting.

(g) A resolution in writing signed by all the members of the Council shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Council duly convened and held. Such resolution may be signed and transmitted in electronic form, and in one or more counterparts, each signed by one or more members of the Council, which together shall be deemed to constitute one instrument.

7. Executive Committee

There shall be an Executive Committee (the "Committee"), the membership of which shall be as follows; the Metropolitan, the Prolocutor, the Chancellor, the Registrar, the Treasurer, and the Secretary. The Metropolitan shall be Chair of the Committee and in his or her absence, the Prolocutor. The Committee shall meet at the call of the Metropolitan. The Committee may fill any vacancy in its membership to hold office until the close of the next regular session of Synod following the appointment. The Committee shall have the following powers and duties:

- (i) to carry on the work of the Synod between sessions of the Executive Council but always subject to the directions of the Synod and the Executive Council;
- (ii) to carry out the Resolutions of the Synod and the Executive Council in unprovided cases;
- (iii) to prepare for submission to the Synod and Executive Council such matters as it may deem

relative to the welfare of the Church;

- (iv) to bring or defend any action necessary to protect the interests of the Synod or the property and investments of the Synod;
- (v) to have the general direction, oversight and supervision of the financial concerns of the Synod between sessions of the Synod;
- (vi) to prepare and present to the Synod for approval an estimate of revenue and expenditure of the Synod for the following year, having first secured from each of the Departments of the Synod an estimate of its financial needs for the same period. In any year that the Synod does not meet, such presentation shall be made to Executive Council for its approval. The Committee shall have the responsibility to levy an acceptable portion of the approved budget on each of the Dioceses of the Province;
- (vii) to consider and make recommendations regarding all Resolutions coming before the Synod or the Executive Council which require the expenditure of funds before such resolutions are given final approval by Synod or the Executive Council;
- (viii) to appoint sub-committees to study or carry out any of the foregoing matters and to report thereon to the Committee;
- (ix) all actions of the Committee shall be presented for approval to Provincial Synod, or between sessions, to the Executive Council.
- (x) Any member of the Executive Committee may participate in a meeting of the Executive Committee or of a committee of the Executive Committee by means of a telephonic, an electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting. A member of the Executive Committee so participating in a meeting is deemed for all purposes to be present at that meeting.
- (xi) A resolution in writing signed by all the members of the Executive Committee shall be as valid and effectual as if it had been passed at a meeting of the Executive Committee duly convened and held. Such resolution may be signed and transmitted in electronic form, and in one or more counterparts, each signed by one or more members of the Executive Committee, which together shall be deemed to constitute one instrument.

8. Committees of Synod

- (a) The Executive Council may by its own motion, or as recommended or directed by Synod, establish such Committees as shall be deemed necessary.
- (b) The Executive Council shall make provision for the membership, terms of reference, co-optation of other members, expenses and duties of each such Committee at the time of its appointment. The Executive Council shall determine when a committee shall be disestablished or discharged.
- (c) Each Committee shall meet as directed by Executive Council.
- (d) Each committee shall keep minutes of its meetings and proceedings, and shall immediately after each meeting send a report thereof to the Provincial Secretary and the Metropolitan.
- (e) Each Committee shall also report to Synod when requested to do so by the Executive Council and in addition the Chair or appointed representative of each Committee shall report

in person to the next meeting of the Executive Committee or the Executive Council held following the meeting of such Committee.

- (f) The estimated operating financial needs of each Committee for the next fiscal year shall be submitted to the Treasurer each year.
- (g) The general mandate of each Committee shall be set by Resolution of the Executive Council from time to time. Executive Council may by Resolution vary, expand upon or add to the mandate of each Committee and the Executive Committee may from time to time by Resolution not inconsistent with such mandate or such Executive Council Resolution also vary, expand or add to the mandate of each Committee.
- (h) Each Committee in consultation with the Metropolitan or his or her representative may appoint sub-committees for particular projects subject to such general or particular guidelines as may from time to time be set by the Executive Committee for sub-committees.
- (i) Any member of a Committee may participate in a meeting of the Committee or of any sub-committee by means of a telephonic, an electronic or other communication facility that permits all participants to communicate adequately with each other during the meeting. A member of the Committee so participating in a meeting is deemed for all purposes to be present at that meeting.

9. Interpretation

Wherever the singular or masculine is used in any enactment of Synod the same shall be construed as meaning the plural or the feminine or body corporate or politic where the context so requires. As the context requires the word "Diocese" and the words "Diocesan Synod" and "Synod of a Diocese" shall be construed as including a Designated Territory or an Anglican Institution as may be designated or established by Canon 1, and "Diocesan Bishop" and "Bishop of a Diocese" shall be construed as including a Bishop elected by an Anglican Institution serving a Designated Territory.

10. Amendments

(a) The Constitution of the Provincial Synod, except for the present Article "Amendments", may be amended by a two-thirds majority of each Order voting at a session of the Provincial Synod.

(b) All Canons dealing with doctrine, worship, or discipline, and all amendments to such Canons or to the present Article "Amendments" of the Constitution, shall require to be passed by a two-thirds majority in each Order voting at two successive sessions of the Provincial Synod, the Canons and amendments proposed having been referred for consideration to Diocesan Synods within the Province, following the first approval by the Provincial Synod.

(c) Canons not covered by the preceding clause may be adopted or amended by a two-thirds majority of each House voting at a session of the Provincial Synod.

PART III

THE CANONS OF THE ANGLICAN PROVINCIAL SYNOD OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

CANON I. The Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and its Dioceses

- (a) The Synod may subdivide any Diocese or alter or rearrange the boundaries between Dioceses

with the consent of the Diocese or Dioceses concerned after seeing that appropriate financial and other arrangements are made.

(b) Upon division of a Diocese the Bishop (if there be a Bishop then in office) thereof shall choose which part of the divided Diocese he or she shall retain and the appointment of a Bishop of a new Diocese howsoever formed shall be according to the Regulations laid down in Canon 3.

(c) In the event a Diocese ceases to function and its territory is not transferred to another diocese, the Synod may designate the territory of the defunct Diocese or any part of the territory of the defunct Diocese as territory in which the Synod, in consultation with parishes and congregations within the territory of the defunct Diocese, will provide for episcopal oversight and will establish an appropriate institution for shared ministry among the parishes and congregations of the defunct Diocese. Territory so designated shall be referred to as Designated Territory and an institution so established shall be referred to as an Anglican Institution.

CANON 2. The Office and Work of the Metropolitan

(a) As President of Provincial Synod, the Metropolitan shall be a member, ex officio, of all its Committees and Chair of Executive Council. The time and place of regular meetings of Provincial Synod and meetings of Executive Council shall be decided by the Metropolitan. Special meetings of Synod and meetings of Executive Council may be held at the call of the Metropolitan. The Metropolitan shall represent and uphold the Province in all his or her metro-political duties and responsibilities and shall have the right to speak on behalf of the Anglican Church of Canada in this Province.

(b) (i) The Metropolitan shall preside at the election of Bishops in the Province except where Diocesan Canons make other provisions and, with the Provincial House of Bishops, shall confirm the election of all Bishops and arrange for their consecration.

(ii) The Metropolitan shall: be the chief consecrator and receive the oaths and subscriptions of new Bishops; provide pastoral care to the Bishops of the Province; preside at meetings of the Provincial House of Bishops subject to the provision of Canon 5, Section (b); and receive the resignations of Bishops within the Province on their retirement. With the Bishops of the Province, the Metropolitan shall receive the resignation of any Bishop resigning before retirement. The Metropolitan's resignation shall be submitted to the Senior Diocesan Bishop and the House of Bishops of the Province.

(c) If the Metropolitan is absent from the Province, incapacitated, or if the office is vacant, the Senior Diocesan Bishop by consecration shall, unless otherwise provided in the Constitution and Canons, take the place of the Metropolitan.

CANON 3. Election of Metropolitan

(a) The Metropolitan shall be elected from among the Diocesan Bishops of the Province by an Electoral College composed of the Members of the Executive Council, together with the Diocesan Bishops and, subject to Cause (f) hereof, the Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada.

(b) On the occurrence of a vacancy in the Office of Metropolitan:

(i) If there is a vacancy in the Diocesan See of a Diocese in the Province, whether that of the

former Metropolitan or any other, such Diocese or Dioceses shall forthwith proceed with or cause to be proceeded with the election of a Bishop, and within sixty (60) days from the assumption of office of such Bishop or Bishops, the Senior Bishop, as defined in Canon 2, shall cause the Electoral College to be summoned to meet at such time within such period and at such place as he or she shall decide; provided that the meeting of the Electoral College shall not be delayed for more than one (1) year notwithstanding any such vacancy to a Diocesan See.

(ii) The Senior Bishop in the Province shall forthwith give notice to writing of every such occurrence to the Primate as Senior Metropolitan of the Anglican Church of Canada and to the Secretary of the Synod.

(c) The Members of the Electoral College shall act and vote together. The election shall be by ballot and a majority of votes shall suffice to elect. In the absence of the Primate, the Prolocutor shall preside and, in the case of equality, shall have a casting vote in addition to his or her vote in the ballot. No election shall take place unless at least three (3) Bishops, and three (3) Clergy Members and three (3) Lay Members of the Executive Council are present and, failing such minimum numbers being present, the Meeting shall stand adjourned until a date not later than fourteen (14) days thereafter, such date to be fixed by such Senior Bishop and all Members of the Electoral College to be forthwith notified thereof.

(d) The Bishop elected as Metropolitan shall continue to reside in his or her Diocese and shall bear the title of Archbishop of the Diocese and Metropolitan of the Province of British Columbia, but after ceasing to be Metropolitan shall not retain the title of Archbishop unless he or she shall then retire.

(e) The Metropolitan shall hold office until:

(i) he or she ceases to be a Diocesan Bishop;

(ii) his or her resignation as Metropolitan is accepted by the House of Bishops of the Ecclesiastical Province;

(iii) he or she reaches the age of seventy (70) years, or

(iv) seven (7) years have passed since his or her election or re-election as Metropolitan,

whichever event first occurs. He or she shall not be eligible for re-election more than once.

(f) Before causing the Electoral College to be summoned, the Senior Bishop of the Province in consultation with the Prolocutor of the Provincial Synod may invite the Primate to attend and preside at the said meeting of the Electoral College or any adjournment thereof. If the Primate accepts the invitation and attends the said meeting, he or she shall preside thereat and at every adjourned meeting which he or she attends as the Senior Bishop present.

CANON 3A. Bishop Suffragan

(a) The Provincial Synod may provide for the election of a Bishop Suffragan to assist the Metropolitan.

(b) A candidate for Bishop Suffragan shall be a Bishop or a Priest of the Anglican Church of Canada or any Church in communion with the same, such candidate being duly licensed in the same.

(c) To elect a Bishop Suffragan, the Metropolitan with the consent of the Provincial

Synod shall cause the Electoral College to be summoned to meet at such time and such place as the Metropolitan shall determine for the sole purpose of electing a Bishop Suffragan.

(d) The members of the Electoral College shall act and vote together. The election shall be by ballot and a majority of votes shall suffice to elect. In the absence of the Metropolitan, the Prolocutor shall preside and in the case of an equality of votes between two candidates, the presiding officer shall have a second or casting vote. No election shall take place unless three Bishops and three clergy members and three lay members of the Executive Council are present and, failing such minimum numbers being present, the meeting and election shall stand adjourned until a date not later than fourteen days thereafter, such date to be fixed by the Metropolitan or Prolocutor and all members of the Electoral College shall be notified of such date.

(e) Any member of the Electoral College may nominate a qualified person to be Bishop Suffragan provided that the written consent of the nominee is obtained and submitted by the nominator. A nomination may be made up to the time of the election. The Metropolitan must consent to the nomination.

(f) Canon 4(a), 4(b) and 4(c) shall apply to the election of any Bishop Suffragan.

(g) The person elected as Bishop Suffragan must receive not less than 50% plus one of the votes cast by the Electoral College. Where more than two persons are nominated for Bishop Suffragan and no candidate receives 50% plus one of the votes cast after two ballots, a third ballot shall be taken with the candidate receiving the least number of votes in the second ballot deleted from the list of candidates. If further ballots are required, each succeeding ballot shall contain one less candidate than the previous ballot, the candidate receiving the least number of votes on the preceding ballot being eliminated from the next ballot until only two candidates remain on the ballot. A candidate may remove his or her name at any time prior to the final ballot.

(h) Before assuming office, the person elected Bishop Suffragan shall make the oaths and subscriptions set out in Canon 7.

(i) The procedures and rules of order established for the Provincial Synod shall pertain to the election of any Bishop Suffragan.

(j) The Bishop Suffragan must submit his or her resignation to the Metropolitan when he or she attains the age of 70 years. The Bishop Suffragan may resign before the age of 70 years by tendering his or her resignation to the Metropolitan and the House of Bishops. Any Bishop Suffragan elected pursuant to this Canon shall serve in that office only during the pleasure of the Metropolitan.

CANON 4. The Election and Resignation of Bishops

(a) Except as provided in Subsections (e) and (f) hereof, a Bishop shall be elected by the Synod of a Diocese under its own Rules of Procedure and confirmation thereof shall be sent to the Metropolitan within seven days. The Metropolitan shall in turn notify the other Bishops of the Province who shall register with him or her then- concurrence or objection.

(b) Objection to the election of a Bishop may be taken on any of the following grounds:

(i) That the person elected is not thirty years of age.

- (ii) That he or she is not a Priest in Holy Orders of the Anglican Church of Canada or of some church in full communion therewith.
- (iii) That he or she is deficient in learning, training or experience.
- (iv) That he or she has either directly or indirectly secured or attempted to secure the Office by an improper means.
- (v) That he or she is guilty of any crime or immorality.
- (vi) That he or she teaches or holds or has within five years previously taught or held anything contrary to the Doctrine or Discipline of the Anglican Church of Canada.

The decision of the House of Bishops shall be final.

(c) Prior to the election of any Bishop the Metropolitan shall be responsible to see that sufficient financial provision is made.

(d) All Bishops shall submit their resignations to the Metropolitan when they attain the age of seventy years. Bishops resigning before the age of seventy years shall do so to the Metropolitan and the House of Bishops. The Metropolitan shall do so to the Senior Bishop and the House of Bishops.

(e) When provision is not otherwise made by the Synod of a Diocese, the election of a Bishop to fill a vacancy in its Bishopric shall be vested in the Executive Council. The Metropolitan having fully satisfied himself that such a vacancy exists and that there is adequate episcopal income secured to the See, shall convene and preside over a meeting duly called for the express purpose of electing a Bishop therefore and shall have the casting vote therein.

(f) In the event the Synod in consultation with parishes and congregations within a Designated Territory, makes provision for a Bishop to provide episcopal oversight within a Designated Territory, a Bishop shall be elected under Rules and Procedures of the Anglican Institution serving the Designated Territory. Canon 4(a) to 4(d) shall apply to any Bishop so elected.”

CANON 5. Of the Primate and Retired Bishops

(a) The Primate ex officio as Senior Metropolitan of the Anglican Church of Canada and every retired Bishop of this Ecclesiastical Province shall be entitled to attend all meetings of the House of Bishops and of this Synod to take part in discussion but not to vote.

(b) The Primate may, from time to time upon invitation of the President, preside temporarily over any sittings of the House of Bishops or this Synod.

(c) The Secretary of the Synod shall send to the Primate and upon request from Retired Bishops the same notices, copies of minutes and other documents as are from time to time sent to members of Synod.

CANON 6. The Licensing of Clergy

(a) The Bishop of a Diocese may issue a license to every ordained person who is assigned to a definite sphere of work in the Diocese,

(b) The Bishop may give permission to Clergy not fully employed by the Church in the Diocese to officiate or to assist in parishes.

(c) If a member of the Clergy desires to leave the active Ministry of the Church, he or she shall request a leave of absence from the Bishop for one year, but renewable by the Bishop at his or her discretion.

CANON 7. Oaths and Subscriptions of the Clergy

Oaths and subscriptions shall be taken at Ordination as Deacon and Priest and Consecration as Bishop and on such other occasions as shall be requested by the Diocese. The following form shall be used:

"I..... do solemnly make the following Declarations:

I..... profess the faith set forth in the Scriptures and in the Catholic Creeds and affirm my allegiance to the Doctrine of the Anglican Church of Canada as set forth in the Book of Common Prayer and no other except so far as shall be ordered by lawful authority;

I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Bishop of and his or her successors in all legal and honest demands; I will abide by the Canons which have been or shall be from time to time passed by the General Synod, the Provincial Synod and the Synod of the Diocese of

Witness: _____ Signature: _____"

providing always that when appropriate, these words shall be used:

“ I will pay true and canonical obedience to the Bishop providing episcopal oversight within (name of Designated Territory) and his or her successors in all legal and honest demands; I will abide by the Canons which have been or shall be from time to time passed by the General Synod and by the Provincial Synod and I will abide by the policies and practices mandated by (name of Anglican Institution serving the Designated Territory).”

CANON 8. The Discipline of Bishops and Clergy

(a) There is hereby established and constituted a Provincial Court of Appeal which shall be responsible for the trial of Bishops, the hearing of appeals from the judgement or decree of a Bishop, and the consideration of matters presented by the House of Bishops, the House of Delegates, or the Bishop or Synod of a Diocese. Membership shall be composed of a majority of the House of Bishops together with three Clerical and three Lay Assessors. All Lay Assessors must have been members of the bar of any province or territory of Canada for at least ten years. The Assessors shall be elected by the Provincial Synod or appointed by the Council. The Court shall elect its own President, and the Rules of Order of the Supreme Court of Appeal of General Synod shall be used mutatis mutandis,

(b) The trial of a Bishop, Priest, or Deacon may take place on the following grounds:

(i) Crime, immorality, or schism.

(ii) Willful violation of the Constitution and Canons of General Synod, Provincial Synod, or Diocesan Synod.

(iii) Neglect of his or her office.

If it is alleged that a Bishop may be guilty of any of the above offences a charge may be laid by three Bishops of the Province, or by at least three Priests and three lay members of Diocesan Synod. all of

the Bishop's own Diocese, or the Bishop in company with two other Bishops may ask for a trial. Before the trial of any Bishop in the Province the Metropolitan shall first investigate the charges. Next, there may be a Board of Inquiry, made up of nine communicant members not members of the Court of Appeal. If warranted, the final step will be the trial itself, under the Rules of Procedure of the Court.

(c) A Priest or Deacon shall be tried in the Bishop's Court of his or her Diocese, with the same procedure to be followed as in the trial of a Bishop, and in accordance with Diocesan Canons and the Canon on Discipline of General Synod. While the Board and the Court are in session the accused person may withdraw from the exercise of his or her office or be inhibited therefrom. If found guilty he or she may be required to take such action or remedial treatment as the Court may decide.

(d) It shall be the duty of a Bishop to give pastoral care to the Clergy of his or her Diocese for the well being of the Church and all the people concerned.

CANON 9. Enactments of the General Synod

This Provincial Synod accepts all the Enactments of the General Synod, with the following special applications to this Ecclesiastical Province:

Canon XII	Continuing Education Plan
Canon XIII	Deaconesses
Canon XIV	The Book of Common Prayer
Canon XVI	The Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia
Canon XVII	Episcopal Jurisdiction Respecting the Clergy
Canon XVIII	Discipline
Canon XIX	Relinquishment or Abandonment of the Ministry
Canon XX	The Supreme Court of Appeal
Canon XXI	On Marriage in the Church

CANON 10. Archives

(a) There shall be an Archivist of the Ecclesiastical Province who shall be appointed by the Metropolitan, and remain in office during the pleasure of the Metropolitan.

(b) The Synod shall provide a secure place of deposit for the archival records of the Province.

(c) The Archivist shall advise on access to archival records, and implement such regulations as may be passed by Executive Council.

(d) The expenses necessary for the purposes of this Canon shall be provided for by a vote of Synod or Executive Council and discharged by the Treasurer.

APPENDIX

A. Mandates of Standing Committees

The 28th session of Provincial Synod (1988) directed that the mandates of the Standing Committees, as approved from time to time by Synod, be attached as an Appendix to the Enactments of Provincial Synod. Except as noted, the following are taken from a draft report (1984), revised in (2000), but may never have been formally adopted by Synod.

1. Committee on Ministry (Revised, Executive Council, November 1996)

The Committee shall monitor concerns and propose policies for the most effective exercise of lay and ordained ministries within the Province to proclaim God's love in Christ to all people. This Committee focuses on the enabling of the ministry of the whole people of God.

The Committee shall arrange consultations, data collection and information sharing between the dioceses, so that the people of the church will be helped to understand the implications of, and to participate more fully in, ministry.

In particular, the concerns of the Committee will include:

- (i) the ministries of bishops, priests and deacons;
- (ii) policies on stipends, housing and pensions;
- (iii) the deployment and mobility of clergy;
- (iv) standards and instructions for non-stipendiary clergy, lay incumbents and lay readers/ministers;
- (v) shared ministries;
- (vi) the processes of sponsorship of postulants for ordination; and
- (vii) long range planning.

The Committee will establish links with the Vancouver School of Theology, the General Synod Committee on Ministry, the Advisory Committee on Postulants for Ordination, Sorrento Centre, the BCYAYM and any other agency concerned with lay and ordained ministries in the province, and/or engaged in lay training for ministry and programme development within the Province.

The task of the Committee shall also be to monitor programme concerns of the Province, and to assist dioceses and the Province in working together on common programme concerns. At various times this will involve:

- (i) sharing programme information and resources;
- (ii) sponsoring programmes for the whole Province; and
- (iii) initiating programmes to meet expressed Provincial needs.

Areas of programme concern may include lay ministry, Christian education, youth training,

stewardship, mission, marriage preparation, marriage encounter, family life, and others.

The Committee will establish links with the national church office and the Sixth Province of the Episcopal Church of the United States in areas of common concern.

2. Committee on Social Justice and Eco-Stewardship

It shall be the objective of the Committee to make recommendations to the Provincial Synod regarding matters which are of social concern provincially.

To this end the Committee will:

- (i) study, collect facts and data, consider, formulate recommendations in matters referred by the Ecclesiastical Province, and in such other matters as are perceived to be of social concern to the church in the Ecclesiastical Province;
- (ii) report to the Province for action by the Executive Committee, the Executive Council, the Provincial Synod, the House of Bishops, and/or the Metropolitan, with all outgoing communication through the Metropolitan;
- (iii) be aware of and co-operate with diocesan and national groups re social issues of concern.

B. General Synod Procedure and Practice

The "Procedure and Practice" is Section 4 of the Constitution of General Synod. By article 5(e) of the Constitution of Provincial Synod, its provisions may apply to Provincial Synod. Reference is made herein (clause 26) to the Declaration of Principles of General Synod; relevant excerpts are presented in Appendix C below.

23. Order of Proceedings

The General Synod shall establish its own Rules of Order and Procedure.

24. Sittings

The General Synod shall hold its sittings in public or in private at its own discretion.

25. Publication of Proceedings of the General Synod

- (a) The General Synod may publish such of its proceedings as it may deem advisable.
- (b) The Journal of Proceedings of the General Synod shall be printed under the supervision of the General Secretary of the General Synod as soon as conveniently may be after each session of the Synod.
- (c) Two copies of the printed Journal, after being carefully compared, shall be certified by the General Secretary, and shall be deposited with the Chancellor who shall certify the same and seal them with the seal of the General Synod. Any subsequent corrections to the minutes of the session of the General Synod shall be certified and sealed in the same manner.
- (d) The certified copies of the Journals of previous sessions of the General Synod now on record with the Chancellor, and printed copies of the Journals of previous sessions not so certified, but subsequently certified and sealed by the Chancellor, shall be deemed to be the authentic and original

copies of the said Journals.

26. Enactments

Subject to the provisions of the Declaration of Principles, all enactments of the General Synod shall come into force and operation as soon as passed.

27. Communications from the House of Bishops

(a) If the House of Bishops desires to communicate with the General Synod on any matter, either before or during a session of the Synod, notice of such intention shall be given in the name of the Primate by the Secretary of the House of Bishops, indicating a desire to submit to the General Synod a statement or memorial, concurred in by the House of Bishops, and consideration of such statement or memorial shall take place at a time fixed by the Organization Committee, or the Sessional Agenda Committee of the General Synod.

(b) If the House of Bishops desires to communicate with the Council of the General Synod on any matter, such communication shall be transmitted in the name of the Primate by the Secretary of the House of Bishops.

C. General Synod Declaration of Principles (Excerpt)

The Declaration of Principles of General Synod includes the Solemn Declaration, the membership of General Synod, voting procedures, and jurisdiction of General and Provincial Synods. The section on Amendments printed here applies also to this Provincial Synod.

11. Amendments

(a) Declaration of Principles.

(i) The Solemn Declaration of the Declaration of Principles, while continuing to be part of the Declaration of Principles, belongs in a particular historical context and therefore cannot be altered or amended.

(ii) A change in the Declaration of Principles (except for Section 1) can be considered when a majority of each Order is present at a session of the General Synod. To take effect it shall require a two-thirds majority in each Order voting at two successive sessions of the General Synod, the change proposed having been referred for consideration to all diocesan and provincial Synods following the first approval by the General Synod.

(iii) No change in Sections 6,7 and 7A of the Declaration of Principles can be effected without the consent of all provincial Synods, except that if a vote on the proposed amendment has not taken place in any provincial Synod prior to the next regular session of the General Synod, such provincial Synod shall be deemed to have approved the amendment.

(iv) Any proposed amendment to the Declaration of Principles which has been defeated by a vote of the General Synod or of a provincial Synod with respect to Sections 6, 7 and 7A, may

be introduced again at any subsequent session of the General Synod.

(b) **Constitution.** The Constitution of the General Synod may be amended by a two-thirds majority of each Order voting at a session of the General Synod, except that any Section of the Constitution which has its origin in the Declaration of Principles must be consistent with the Principle concerned.

(c) **Canons.**

(i) All canons dealing with doctrine, worship, or discipline, and all alterations to such canons, shall require to be passed by a two-thirds majority in each Order voting at two successive sessions of the General Synod, the canons and alterations proposed having been referred for consideration to diocesan and provincial Synods, following the first approval of the General Synod.

(ii) All other canons may be approved or amended by a two-thirds majority of the Order of Bishops, and of the Orders of Clergy and Laity voting together.

(d) **Rules of Order and Procedure.** The Rules of Order and Procedure may be amended at any regular session of the General Synod by a two-thirds majority of the members voting in the normal manner.

D. General Synod Rules of Order and Procedure (Excerpts)

The portions printed here are those not covered by other enactments of this Provincial Synod, and deemed most likely to be applied to this Synod.

I. Meetings of the General Synod

...

2. Registration and Credentials

(i) Before taking a seat in the General Synod, each member shall register on a form provided for this purpose, giving all particulars called for thereon. Registration shall be the responsibility of the Credentials Committee.

(ii) All registration forms shall be referred to the Credentials Committee, which Committee shall report to the General Synod on the standing of all persons who claim membership therein.

(iii) Any appeals arising from the Committee's report shall be heard by the Assessors, who shall report to the General Synod for decision.

3. Courtesies of the General Synod

(i) The President or other presiding officer may invite any person not a member to sit with the General Synod or to address the General Synod, but that person shall have no right to participate in debate or to vote.

(ii) During the consideration of any report submitted by any committee, council, board or commission, the members of such committee, council, board or commission, if not members

of the General Synod, may be permitted the privilege of sitting with the General Synod and participating in its debate, but shall not be entitled to vote.

...

II Sessional Officers and Committees

...

6. Sessional Committees

The following Sessional Committees shall, except where otherwise specified, be appointed from the members of the General Synod by the Council of the General Synod in consultation with the Prolocutor.

...

(f) **Expenditures Committee** — consisting of members appointed by the Primate and Prolocutor in consultation with the Chairperson of the Financial Management and Development Committee. It shall be the responsibility of the Committee to implement Rule of Order 15 with respect to spending motions for which sources of funds have not been identified prior to the General Synod session.

III Motions and Debate

9. Chairperson

The Chairperson shall preserve order and decorum and shall decide all questions of order, subject to an appeal to the General Synod, to be decided without debate; and when called upon to decide a point of order, shall state the rule applicable to the case, without argument or comment. In any unprovided case, resort shall be had to Kerr and King's Procedures for Meetings and Organizations (second edition) for guidance.

10. Order and Decorum

- (a) Any member wishing to speak shall rise and address the Chairperson.
- (b) When two or more members rise at the same time, the Chairperson shall name the person first to speak.
- (c) A member called to order while speaking shall sit down, unless permitted to explain.
- (d) A member may rise to explain, if permitted by the Chairperson.
- (e) A member, if not interrupting a speaker, may require any motion in discussion to be read for his information, at any time during the debate.
- (f) If the attention of the Chairperson is drawn to the fact that a quorum is not present, the sitting shall stand adjourned until a quorum can be secured.
- (g) If a quorum cannot be secured within one hour, the General Synod shall stand adjourned until the next sitting. If the adjournment for lack of a quorum occurs at the final sitting, the President shall declare the General Synod prorogued in accordance with Section 33 of the Constitution.

11. Speeches

(a) No member except the mover of a motion, who as mover is entitled to reply in closing the debate, shall speak more than once on a given motion, unless by permission of the General Synod.

(b) Except with the consent of the General Synod, the mover of a motion may not speak for more than five minutes and the seconder, three minutes; and each speaker thereafter three minutes. The mover may speak three minutes in closing the debate.

12. Reports of Committees

(a) All reports of Standing Committees shall be in writing, signed by the Chairperson, and received in total at the beginning of the General Synod, on recommendation of the Agenda Committee.

(b) Reports of other committees may be made from time to time during the session of the General Synod.

(c) Motions with reference to reports from Standing Committees shall take precedence over other motions on the paper.

13. Notice of Motion

No Canon, or amendment to the Declaration of Principles or to the Constitution or to any existing Canon, shall be proposed or enacted unless notice has been transmitted by the General Secretary of the General Synod to the members of the General Synod at least thirty days before the meeting of the General Synod, or unless it has been left over as unfinished business and printed in the Journal of the previous session.

14. Reference to Committee

Any motion having any relation to the work of any standing, sessional or special committee may, upon its coming before the General Synod, be referred by the General Synod to the appropriate committee for consideration and report.

15. Motions re: Expenditures

(a) Before each session of the General Synod, a report shall be provided to the General Synod by, or through, the Administration and Finance Committee, as to whether any money proposed to be spent as a result of motions to be brought before the General Synod is available, or, if not what steps should be taken to provide such money should such motions be adopted.

(b) Before any motion involving the spending of money not already provided for, is put for a vote, it shall be referred by the Presiding Officer to the Expenditures Committee for a report as to whether the money proposed to be spent is presently available, or if not, what steps should be taken to provide such money should such motion be adopted.

16. Motions and Amendments

(a) No motion or amendment shall be considered as before the General Synod unless seconded and reduced to writing.

(b) No original motion, except procedural motions, shall be received without notice, except by permission of the General Synod.

(c) No motion on any subject shall be received at any meeting of the General Synod after the time fixed by the Agenda Committee for the discussion of such subject and its consideration has been concluded.

(d) When a motion has been read by the Presiding Officer it cannot be withdrawn without the consent of the General Synod.

(e) When a motion has been made and seconded any member may move that the question on the motion now be put, and this procedural motion when seconded, shall be decided without debate.

(f) Subject to Rule 22, when a motion is under consideration, no other motion shall be received except

- (i) to adjourn
- (ii) to lay it on the table
- (iii) to consider it clause by clause
- (iv) to postpone it until a certain time
- (v) to postpone it indefinitely
- (vi) to refer it
- (vii) to amend it; or
- (viii) to divide upon it,

and motions for any of these purposes shall have precedence to the order named, following a motion to put the question.

(g) A motion to adjourn shall always be in order.

(h) Motions to adjourn or to lay on the table or to put the question shall be decided without debate.

(i) Debate on a motion to refer shall be restricted to the questions whether to refer and to whom.

(j) No more than one amendment to a proposed amendment of a motion shall be in order at one time.

17. Putting the Question

(a) When amendments are proposed to any motion, the amendments and the original motion shall be put in the reverse order to that in which they were brought forward.

(b) When a question is finally put by the Presiding Officer, either as an original motion, as an amendment, or as an amended motion, no further debate shall be allowed, the Presiding Officer first declaring that the question is finally put

(c) When the Presiding Officer is putting a question, no member shall rise.

(d) If a mover of a motion is a bishop the question shall be put first to the Order of Bishops, otherwise the question shall be put first to the Order of Clergy and Laity.

18. Voting

(a) When the question is put, every member present, except the Presiding Officer, shall be required to vote on the same, provided that any member who wishes to abstain from voting for reasons of conflict of interest shall be entitled to abstain on notifying the chairperson of his or her intention. Such abstentions and the names of the persons abstaining shall be recorded in the minutes.

(b) Bishops shall vote as one Order, and the Orders of Clergy and Laity shall vote together unless a vote by Orders is called for. In order to be passed the motion shall require majority votes of the Order of Bishops, and of the Orders of Clergy and Laity voting together, and abstentions shall not be counted in determining the majority.

(c) In voting, those who vote in the affirmative shall so signify first, and then those who vote in the negative; and in the case of an equality of votes, except when voting by dioceses, the question shall be declared by the Presiding Officer to have been decided in the negative.

(d) Regardless of the result when the question is first put, it shall be put to all members of the General Synod.

(e) The names of those who vote for or against a motion shall be recorded in the minutes, if required by three members.

19. Voting by Orders

When required by any six members of the General Synod prior to the question being put, the vote upon any motion shall be taken by Orders, voting separately in the sequence of laity, clergy, bishops. The vote shall be taken in all three Orders. A majority of each Order shall be necessary for an affirmative decision. If the motion is defeated there shall be no recourse to voting by dioceses.

20. Voting by Dioceses

(a) Upon any question being carried in the affirmative on a vote by Orders, and before proceeding to the next order of business, any six members (two from each of three different dioceses) may require that a vote on the question be taken by dioceses.

(b) The vote of each diocese shall be determined by the majority of the members of all Orders of that diocese and in case of equality in the votes of the members from any diocese, such diocese shall not be counted.

(c) If a majority of the dioceses vote in the negative, the question shall be declared in the negative.

(d) A tied vote shall be declared to be in the affirmative on the basis of the previous affirmative vote by Orders.

21. Finality of Decision

A question being once determined shall not again be drawn into discussion in the same session,

without the consent of two-thirds of the members present, voting as provided in Rule of Order 18(b).

22. Resolutions not Referrable

No motion to refer a resolution shall be received unless the resolution has either been:

- (a) printed in the Convening Circular, or
- (b) presented for debate.

23. Suspension of Rules

(a) A motion to suspend a Rule of Order or Procedure shall take precedence over all other motions, and shall be decided without debate.

(b) No Rule of Order or Procedure shall be suspended except upon the vote of two-thirds of the members present voting as provided in Rule 18(b).