



Diocese of New Westminster

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA

The Right Reverend Melissa Skelton
Bishop

April 19, 2017

117th Session of Synod

Hold Fast to What is Good

To all Clergy and Lay Delegates to Synod 2017

Dear Friends,

The 117th Session of the Synod of the Diocese of New Westminster will be held on Friday, May 26th and Saturday, May 27th 2017.

The Synod registration will open on Friday May 26th at 8:00 a.m. at the Italian Cultural Centre. The formal Synod will convene at 9:00 a.m. and will continue through the day and will be followed by an evening reception. Synod will then reconvene on Saturday May 27th at 9:00 a.m. at the Italian Cultural Centre and will be in session until approximately 4:30 p.m.

Paperwork!

Several years ago Diocesan Synod passed a motion that directed Synod material be distributed electronically as much as possible. Accordingly, the primary distribution of the Synod Circular and all related materials will be electronic, via e-mail and available for download from the Diocesan website at <http://www.vancouver.anglican.ca/diocesan-ministries/synod> in late April or early May. Wi-Fi access will be available at the Italian Cultural Centre.

Delegates requiring a printed version of the Circular should print one before arriving at Synod, either at home or at their parish. Updates on nominations and resolutions will be provided on paper during Synod.

If you are not able to access this material electronically or have other questions about Synod documentation, please contact Phil Colvin at 604-684-6306 ext. 210 at the Synod Office.

Pre-Synod Information Sessions

There will be two Pre-Synod Info sessions on Saturday, May 6, 2017:

- 10am - 12noon at St. Agnes, North Vancouver
- 1:30pm – 3pm at Church of the Epiphany, Surrey

These sessions are open to everyone however they will be geared towards those clergy and lay delegates attending Synod. They will provide information and an opportunity to discuss proposed changes to the diocesan canons and regulations which will be coming to Synod.



First time delegates

There will be a special meeting for first-time delegates with Executive Archdeacon Douglas Fenton, Mr. Simon Johnson and Ms. Frances Fagan (Co-Chairs of the Synod Planning Committee) on Monday, May 8th 2017 at 7 p.m. at Holy Trinity Cathedral, 514 Carnarvon Street, New Westminster, BC V3L 1C4.

Synod 2017 Location

We will be returning to the Italian Cultural Centre (ICC) which is located at:
3075 Slocan Street (at Grandview Highway)
Vancouver, BC V5M 3E4

The nearest Skytrain station is Renfrew Station on the Millennium Line. There is ample parking on site and the building is wheelchair accessible.

As our event is being held at the end of May, we expect to be using air conditioning in our meeting space. It is always a challenge to find the perfect temperature for a large number of people; you may need a light sweater or wrap if the air conditioning is too cool for you.

Schedule and Agenda

Friday's schedule begins with registration at 8 a.m. with Holy Eucharist commencing at 9 a.m. We will conclude on Friday with a reception (cash bar + canapés) starting at 5:30 p.m. – there will be no formal dinner this year. Late registration will open at 8 a.m. on Saturday morning with Morning Prayer at 9 a.m. Saturday will finish by 4:30 p.m. A basic agenda outline can be found in the Synod Circular and on the diocesan website.

Meals

Lunch will be provided on both days, but please be advised that there will be no food served on either Friday or Saturday morning on arrival. There will be a no-host bar on Friday night and drink tickets will be sold during the lunch break on Friday. While credit card payments are possible, cash is much appreciated as it is much faster to process.

If you have a special dietary need or requirement please contact Rachel Taylor at 604-684-6306 Ext. 220 or by email at rtaylor@vancouver.anglican.ca by May 19th 2017 for special arrangements to be discussed.

Childcare

In order to make Synod easier for parents of young children, we are once again offering on-site childcare for children aged 0-12 years whose parents are delegates to Diocesan Synod. This care will be coordinated by Caitlin Reilley Beck, Diocesan Children and Youth Ministries Coordinator and provided by experienced caregivers. If you will need childcare for Friday or Saturday or both, please send Caitlin an email by Monday, May 8th with the names and ages of your children and when you would require care for them during Synod. Caitlin's email address is cbeck@vancouver.anglican.ca

Events for Young Delegates

The Diocesan Youth Movement (DYM) will once again be organizing special events at Synod for young delegates (aged 15-26) On Friday evening, rather than the usual sleepover, DYM will be having an evening hangout event, location and program to be announced. Young delegates will also be invited to gather with Bishop Melissa for lunch on Saturday. Stay tuned for details about these two events.

Offering

An offering will be received during the Eucharist. It will be directed toward support of diocesan Indigenous Justice ministry.

Resolutions:

As required by Rule 7 of the Synod Rules of Order **all** substantive resolutions, except those concerning changes to the Canons and Constitution or the Regulations or the Rules of Order themselves, must be considered by the Resolutions Committee before they may be put to Synod. Rule 8 requires those latter resolutions are to be considered by the Canons and Constitution Committee. Under Rule 5.3, **resolutions are to be distributed to the delegates in advance of Synod.** Please submit any resolutions you wish to put to Synod as soon as possible. Resolutions will normally be considered in the order of date of receipt.

If your resolution is important to you, please ensure it is submitted as soon as possible. The best way to submit resolutions is by email to tcarrothers@vancouver.anglican.ca. According to their content, resolutions should be marked for the attention of the Chair of the Resolutions Committee or to the attention of the Chair of the Canons and Constitution Committee.

The Resolutions Committee or the Canons and Constitution Committee, as appropriate, will assist proponents of resolutions to craft resolutions that are clearly worded and deal with subject matter which falls within the jurisdiction of Synod. Early submission will give the Committee a better opportunity to assist proponents in preparing resolutions which will meet the objectives of being clear and of avoiding procedural or technical objections when subjected to debate. Where two or more resolutions call for the same general relief, the Committee reviewing the resolutions will encourage the proponents to co-operate in crafting one resolution with mutually acceptable wording.

All resolutions should include the following:

- a) An email address for the mover
- b) An email address for the seconder and
- c) A response to this question: can this resolution be put on the no debate list, and if not, why not?

To the extent possible the Committees will use email rather than telephone calls or meetings to consult with proponents about the content and wording of resolutions.

Nominations

At Synod we will be holding several elections for diocesan positions. Please see the letter from the Nominations Committee for further details.

We look forward to seeing you at these events.
Synod 2017 Planning Committee