

**Canon III of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario
The Election and Resignation of Bishops**

1. A bishop shall be elected to such office by the Synod of a Diocese pursuant to the Canons and Constitution of such diocese then in force, and written notification thereof shall be transmitted to the Metropolitan within seven days of such election. On receipt of such confirmation, the Metropolitan shall transmit a notice thereof to all other bishops of the Province and such other bishops shall, within seven days of receipt of such notification, file with the Metropolitan any written objection which any such bishop shall have. If the Metropolitan receives no such objection within such seven day period, the election and confirmation of such bishop shall be deemed to be final. If a written objection to such election is received by the Metropolitan within such seven day period, the Metropolitan shall forthwith call a meeting of the Provincial House of Bishops to consider the objection, and a decision of the House of Bishops with respect to the confirmation or nullification of such election shall be final and binding on all concerned.
2. Objection to the election of a bishop may be taken on any of the following grounds: The person so elected:
 - a) not being thirty years of age or more nor a priest in Holy Orders for at least seven years in the Anglican Communion;
 - b) being deficient in training or learning;
 - c) having used simony, collusion, or improper means of election;
 - d) being guilty of a crime or ecclesiastical offence as set out in Canon XVIII of the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada;
 - e) teaching or holding at the time, or within the five previous years, anything contrary to the doctrine and discipline of the Anglican Church of Canada.
3. All bishops in the Province shall hold office until their resignation or until reaching the age of seventy years, whichever first occurs. Any bishop may resign prior to attaining the age of seventy years by written notice to the Metropolitan or, if the office of Metropolitan is then vacant, to the diocesan bishop of the Province senior by election to that office. The Metropolitan, as bishop of a diocese, may resign as such bishop (and, as a result, must resign as Metropolitan) by written notice to the diocesan bishop of the Province senior by election to that office.
4. If the bishop, synod, or executive committee (or similar body) of any diocese in the Province believes that additional episcopal assistance is necessary and desirable in and for the diocese, whether as coadjutor bishop, or suffragan or assistant bishop or bishops, then, in the absence of a procedure set out in the Canons or Constitution of such diocese, a resolution to this effect shall be passed by the diocesan synod, and the diocesan bishop shall set out to the diocesan synod the duties to be assigned to such bishop or bishops. The description of such duties shall be subject to change as need develops or conditions alter, and all changes shall be reported by the diocesan bishop to the diocesan synod. Prior to the election of any such bishop, the diocese shall satisfy the Metropolitan that sufficient financial provision has been, or will be, made with respect to such additional bishop.

5. Where a diocesan bishop determines that additional episcopal assistance in the diocese is necessary but that a formal election of an additional bishop is not, a diocesan bishop may appoint (with the concurrence of the diocesan executive committee or similar body) a retired bishop from the same or another diocese or a presently active bishop from another diocese to be an assistant bishop or an assistant to the diocesan bishop to perform such duties, for such period of time and at such remuneration as may be agreed to. Any fulltime assistant bishop or assistant to the diocesan bishop so appointed may attend Provincial Synod and meetings of the Provincial House of Bishops and shall be entitled to vote thereat.