

## **VOLUNTEER JOB DESCRIPTION FOR MEMBERS OF GENERAL SYNOD**

**Nature of the Position:** To participate in the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada which is held on a triennial basis, and which takes place in various parts of Canada. Issues that come before General Synod may include: governance reform, doctrinal and liturgical principles, justice issues, global partnerships, ecumenical and interfaith relationships, finances of the national church.

### **Outline of Responsibilities:**

- To represent the Diocese of Niagara, along with other clergy and lay people, at General Synod.
- Some General Synod delegates with specific areas of expertise serve on the Council of General Synod and its committees between synods.
- Attending advance meetings organized by the Diocese.

### **Skills and Experience:**

- Delegates will be able to bring their knowledge of issues currently before the church, to reflect prayerfully and to participate actively in issues before the Synod.
- An understanding of the range of diocesan culture and values.
- An ability to absorb written and oral material and make decisions based on that material

### **Support, Supervision and Training:**

- Most support is peer based. There is some preparation and orientation by the Diocesan Bishop and Secretary of Synod prior to the Synod.

### **Participation Group:**

- A small number of clergy and lay people who are also delegates to General Synod from the Diocese of Niagara. Other dioceses send a similar group of diocesan representatives.

### **Volunteer Screening Requirements:**

- Signed declaration of agreement, screening through parish clergy

### **Length of Term:**

- Nominations are sought for every General Synod. There is a limitation of term based on participation in three successive General Synods.

### **Benefits to the Volunteer:**

- This is an opportunity to learn about and participate actively in issues before the wider church, beyond Niagara, and influence the future direction.

### **Risk Assessment Review**

<b>Risk</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Rating</b>
Participant and Others	Other Adults	Medium
Setting	Hotel, Conference Center, Churches	Low
Activity	Participation in Business Meeting, Conference Activities	Low
Supervision	Peer	Low
Nature of Relationship	Limited term, non intensive	Low
Degree of Authority	Some authority	Medium
Physical Safety	Minimal Physical Risks	Low
Financial	No personal financial involvement or costs	Low
Privileged Information	Some possession of privileged information	Medium
Damaged Reputation	Some potential risk of damaged reputation	Low - Medium

**Risk Assessment: Low**

*The risk for this ministry is primarily low, with some medium elements contextual to the nature of the ministry.*