

CLERGY NOMINEES FOR PROVINCIAL SYNOD 2015

The Reverend Canon Jean Archbell

Present & Past Leadership roles:

- St. James Anglican Church, Dundas, Rector Aug. 2014-present
- St. Elizabeth's Anglican Church, Burlington Rector September 2005-Aug 2014
- St. Christopher's Anglican Church, Burlington, Associate Priest January 2002-August 2005
- Licensed Layworker September 1996-January 2002
- Provincial Synod Delegate October 2012
- Provincial Synod Council Clergy Rep. for Niagara October 2012-2015 (3 year term)
- Diocesan Generous Culture of Stewardship Committee Member 2009-present
- Dean of Trafalgar March 2012 to August 2014
- Trafalgar Region Clergy Representative on Synod Council January 2012-august 2014
- Members of the Governance Committee 2013- present
- General Synod Delegate 2013
- Bishops Chaplain November 2007-December 2012
- Ministry Support Committee Member 2002-2005

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

I attended the last provincial synod and was elected as the clergy representative to Provincial Synod Council in 2012 which meets twice a year to discuss and work together. The meetings are interesting and informative and it takes a good listener-someone willing to ask questions seeking clarification and sometimes challenging the material to further the work of the council. I know I possess those skills and feel my participation on the council has been helpful. I wish to attend the next Provincial Synod because I believe continuity is needed in our representation at that Synod, and I as our present Provincial Synod Council representative would bring that continuity.

Some of the matters that Provincial Synod is likely to deal with are governance, theological education, diocesan boundaries, provincial synod budget, etc. Please share something of your interest in these matters and what other wider church issues are of interest to you.

I am very interested in how the diocese along with other denominations and faith groups can work together to lobby the government on issues important to God's people for example- health care, pastoral counselling, poverty to name but a few. I am also interested in how the diocese in the province can work together to share resources to maintain and grow God's mission and the church. This involves governance and budgets as well as sharing ideas and people skills.

The Reverend Canon Dr. Darcey Lazerte

Present & Past Leadership roles:

- Rector, St. Simon's Oakville
- Financial Advisory Committee member and chairperson
- Children's Ministry Advisory Committee
- Program Department Committee
- Representative to Trinity College Corporation
- Synod Council Member
- Bishop's Task Force on Spending Priorities
- Youth Leadership Training Program Leader

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

With close to twenty years of experience of parish ministry within the diocese of Niagara I think I bring a reasonable understanding of the parish perspective to the Provincial Synod. Within my ministry I have focused

on three things. These are meaningful worship, attentive pastoral care and relevant mission. These three foundations of spirituality, pastoral care and mission are the background of the church be it at the local, provincial, national or international level. I would hope to be a part of a plethora of voices which speaks to that common experience and hope that we share as Anglicans and to be a part of the conversation and to offer wisdom and insight as we set some priorities going forward.

Some of the matters that Provincial Synod is likely to deal with are governance, theological education, diocesan boundaries, provincial synod budget, etc. Please share something of your interest in these matters and what other wider church issues are of interest to you.

I believe that I am well versed in the issues that Provincial Synod deals be it theological, governance or financial. My personal passion is in the area of evangelism, so much so that it was the subject of my doctoral work. I would hope that I could make sure that this subject is a part of our conversation in a way which honours who we are as followers of Christ and which at the same times makes sure our expression of that faith is done in such a way that it honours others with different understandings.

The Reverend Deacon Roderick McDowell

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

- Vocational Deacon, St. Paul's Fort Erie
- Lay Reader
- People's Warden
- Member of Parish Council
- Member of Synod Council

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

I believe that I can bring some unique background and experience as a representative. As a retired lawyer who was a certified specialist in refugee law and a former director of a poverty law clinic, I have been privileged to work with the poor, marginalized and desperate people. As a Deacon I have continued to work with these people and bring understanding of their needs forward. I have had extensive experience in charitable corporate matters, national and diocesan committees, where I have had to be both an advocate and enabler. My 20 years experience as a Small Claims Court Judge has enabled me to develop skills as an assessor and arbitrator of difficult issues. My background and development in the church especially with such organizations as SSJE, the 19 Steps of St. Ignatius and Cursillo have helped me to keep all of this focused on what the Spirit is calling me to do.

Some of the matters that Provincial Synod is likely to deal with are governance, theological education, diocesan boundaries, provincial synod budget, etc. Please share something of your interest in these matters and what other wider church issues are of interest to you.

I am particularly interested in issues involving our relationship with other dioceses, diocesan boundaries, and other similar issues. I have been involved with, for instance, the restructuring of PWRDF, the birth of Kairos, and other organizational changes within the church. I have had similar experience with non governmental agencies. I am vitally concerned with the poor, the refugee, and First Nations peoples and want to ensure that their voices are heard. As financial pressures increase, I believe we need to find new and different ways of sharing diocesan resources and emphasizing that we are indeed simply a larger family. As for theological education, for both priests and deacons, I want to find ways of decreasing costs and utilizing new methods for training and assessment.

The Reverend Dr. Michael Mondloch

Present & Past Leadership Roles

- Rector Grace Anglican Church, St. Catharines (2003-present)
- Assistant Curate, St. John's Elora (2001-2003)

- Spiritual Facilitator, St. Simon's Oakville (1999-2000)
- Natural Church Development Consultant
- Spiritual Advisor, Cursillo Niagara
- Fresh Start Facilitator

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

Anglicanism is a gift from God that must be well cared for as it finds expression in a rapidly changing world. I wish to be a part of its care. As a critical thinker with a compassionate heart I am able to look at complex issues from a variety of perspectives. I communicate easily with people from a wide variety of backgrounds and sometimes opposing views. Having been a member (lay or ordained) of parishes in five of the regions that constitute the Niagara Diocese I am able to represent the breadth of our Diocese.

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I am interested in how we can best enable laity and clergy to exercise effective ministry in a rapidly changing world. Our seminaries must be engaged to train the best candidates and to offer opportunities to current leaders to hone their ministry skills for the 21st century. Currently working to earn a certificate in Missional Leadership and Formation, I am particularly interested in how we bring the best that Anglicanism has to offer to our local contexts. This requires an approach to governance that utilizes the amazing resources presently available to connect people, share information and disseminate best practices.

The Reverend Bill Mous

Present & Past Leadership roles:

- Director, Justice, Community & Global Ministries, Diocese of Niagara
- Member, Synod Council
- Director, St. Matthew's House Board
- Associate Priest, St. James Dundas (2007-2011)
- Member, General Synod Partners in Mission & EcoJustice Committee, two terms
- Member, General Synod 2007
- Member, Provincial Synod 2006

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

I would like to represent the Diocese to continue the tradition of Niagara offering a unique and faithful perspective to the wider church's discernment. Having been a past member, and more recently having served as our diocesan representative to the Provincial Synod Task Force on Communications, I bring experience and knowledge related to the issues facing our Provincial Synod. As someone who has moved or seconded motions has Diocesan, Provincial and General Synods, I offer not only a progressive presence in speaking to the matters at hand, but a record of legislative leadership.

Some of the matters that Provincial Synod is likely to deal with are governance, theological education, diocesan boundaries, provincial synod budget, etc. Please share something of your interest in these matters and what other wider church issues are of interest to you.

Governance and diocesan boundaries are particular interests in so much as I've witnessed ways that creativity and flexibility can be life giving in our pursuit of God's loving purposes. For instance, during the recent provincial election campaign, I was part of a team that created the @ontanglicans account on Twitter to provide a common voice for Ontario Anglicans to call for bold action on poverty. Social justice is but one area for which it makes sense to adopt a spirit of collaboration, and as a delegate to Provincial Synod I would encourage other such opportunities.

The Reverend Canon Marni Nancekivell

Present & Past Leadership roles:

- Secretary of Synod, Director of Safe Church, Volunteer Screening & Management
- Member of Provincial Synod
- Parish Priest for 15 years
- Trained Practitioner in Transitional Ministry

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

As Secretary of Synod, being part of the governance of the wider church at Provincial Synod is a most beneficial part of my job. I have been, for one prior session part of Provincial Synod. I am able to bring the stories and connections from Provincial Synod back to Niagara to share with Synod Council and Clergy and Licensed Lay Worker Days. To this end, I am able to bring my gift for catching the “narrative theme” of what is happening in the wider church, and am positioned to share with the wider church our Diocesan Life and Vision in Niagara.

Some of the matters that Provincial Synod is likely to deal with are governance, theological education, diocesan boundaries, provincial synod budget, etc. Please share something of your interest in these matters and what other wider church issues are of interest to you.

As part of the governance task force in Niagara, I have intrinsic interest in the governance of the wider church. As co-ordinator of Fresh Start, and as a person with a passion for ongoing theological education, I am interested in how we both prepare individuals for ministry, and how we continue to support people in ministry in the process of theological education as they continue in that ministry. I bring a particular interest to Diocesan Boundary conversations at Secretary of Synod. Always mindful of financial resources, I am eager to engage with the Provincial Synod budget.

The Reverend Dr. Patricia Stansfield

Present & Past Leadership Roles

- Rector, Church of the Transfiguration
- Rector, St. Paul's Glanford & Christ Church Woodburn
- Assistant Curate, St. Mark's Orangeville

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

My exposure as a member of both Synod Council and the Financial Advisory Committee has given me insight into some of the important issues in our diocese and inspired my interest in serving at Provincial Synod on behalf of the diocese. The Diocese of Niagara is forward thinking and acting, and Provincial Synod is the place that our diocese has the opportunity to influence how the wider church can share information and resources, and work together effectively going forward.

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The needs of the church are changing and as a result the requirements and delivery of theological education must follow suit. I have recently been involved with theological education in an emergent seminary which trains leaders for a church in the 21st century. I have served in a parish located on the diocesan boundary and understand the nuances regarding this issue and I serve on FAC giving me financial insights into diocesan requirements and resources. My other interests include the ongoing discussion of open table Eucharist and the development of liturgical resources for use in the wider church.

The Very Reverend Peter Wall

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

- Rector, Christ's Church Cathedral
- Dean of Niagara

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

- Member of Provincial Synod 2000, 2003, 2006
- Gift of experience, leadership and extensive involvement in provincial and national issues
- Enjoy Synod meeting process

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- Currently convene Niagara Governance Working Group
- Member, National Faith Worship & Ministry Committee (Theological Education and Formation)
- Member, Council of General Synod
- Chair, General Synod 2016 Planning – Diocesan boundaries, governance, etc.

The Reverend Sue-Ann Ward

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

- Rector, Grace Church Waterdown

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

Participation in the life, worship, and governance of the broader church is the responsibility of each member of the body of Christ. I hope to undertake this responsibility at the 2015 Provincial Synod in a manner that positively contributes to the mission of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario. I seek to follow the teachings of Jesus even when it takes great courage to do so. I have strong pastoral and interpersonal skills and a desire to truly listen to others so that I can understand their point of view. I have the ability to synergize information and ideas and to move towards creative responses to challenges and opportunities. My leadership skills enable me to focus people's energy and efforts on mission and vision, and on making decisions that move towards the realization of the vision.

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Governance is an interest that I have been blessed to explore as rector of parishes, executive director of a charitable organization, and director on the boards of registered charities. I have earned a certificate in Non-Profit Governance from the DeGroot School of Business, McMaster University.

I have a Master of Divinity degree and am committed to promoting and supporting excellence in theological education.

I believe that budgets exist to support the vision for ministry and therefore are important elements of our efforts to create the kingdom of God. God provides us with an abundance of resources; we are called to use them wisely and effectively as we work with Jesus to transform lives.

Community development, social justice, poverty reduction, and helping young people to develop relationships with Jesus and grow into the people God created them to be are passions of mine.

The Reverend Susan Wilson

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

- Rector at All Saints Erin
- Chaplain to Ordinands
- WOW Grant Committee Member

- Bishop's Co Bonspiel Committee
- YLTP Leader
- Synod Council Member
- Liturgy Indaba Participant
- Participation in Wider Church
- Virginia Theological Seminary Collegium for Small Churches
- Member of Network of Biblical Storyteller, Canada
- Presenter at Network of Biblical Storytellers, International
- Currently pursuing a Doctor of Ministry at Toronto School of Theology

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

I strongly believe that one of the significant strengths of the Anglican church is its sense of connectedness with the wider church. I am always an interested and engaged participant for our Diocesan Synod and I value the variety of ministries within our Diocesan family. Just as the Diocesan family gathers, so do does the Provincial family. I would enjoy the opportunity to meet and build relationships with members of our even wider community of faith.

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As a previous member of the Diocesan Synod council, I gained experience in conversing and understanding a variety of governance models and financial concerns. These conversations can be difficult but they are very important to the overall health and wellbeing of our church as a whole. In my 10 years of ordination I have served small churches always on the fringe of the diocese. In some situations I was able to link with colleagues in nearby dioceses and in other situations the diocese border served as a stumbling block to pursuing an opportunity. Again, boundary discussions are challenging and vital to the ongoing health of our church, and to the enabling of our participation in God's mission to the communities around us.

LAY NOMINEES FOR PROVINCIAL SYNOD 2015

Mrs. Sue Carson, St. James Dundas

Present & Past Leadership Roles

- Synod Delegate
- Parish Council
- Green Facilitator
- Altar Guild
- Sunday School Teacher
- Outreach and Community Dinner committees
- Volunteer at fundraiser and social events

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

This is only my second year as a synod delegate but I have the greatest respect for the need for a focused yearly synod. I serve on a number of committees both in my parish and in the community. I'm secretary for the Hamilton KAIROS group; founding member of Greening Niagara Committee and have served as co-chair of GN for the past 3 years. In this capacity I communicate personally and by email to clergy and lay people in diocesan parishes – visiting to make presentations and give talks. I have good organizational skills – Earth Day event this past April was achieved under my leadership. In the 2 parishes that have been my home since arriving in Ontario in 1977 I have helped in many capacities. I am a fast reader and keep up my knowledge of local, national and international issues.

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The things that are of greatest concern to me are environmental and social justice issues. But I recognize that these can't take place in a vacuum and understanding about budgets and how the diocese works is of growing interest to me since I joined Synod. As co-chair of GN I have had the opportunity to meet with representatives from other Ontario Dioceses in a networking capacity. At one of these meetings Bishop Mark Macdonald spoke to us and reawakened my concern about Native issues. I taught at St. Mildred's Lightbourn School for over a decade and tried to involve young people in a Christian lifestyle. The work of other groups, such as KAIROS, GSS, 250.org, etc are achieving good results in areas of the environment, poverty, finances etc. and networking with these organizations helps me to be aware of issues that might also be of interest in the church.

Mrs. Patricia Davis, St. James & St. Brendan, Port Colborne

Present & Past Leadership Roles

- Layreader
- Volunteer Church Office Manager
- Fundraiser Campaign Manager for two (2) separate campaigns
- Envelope Secretary
- Choir Librarian
- Past President Brock Region Council Chair
- Brock Region member to Synod Council

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

Keen interest in all levels of church life, its growth and expand my knowledge of common and diverse issues. Strengths: organizational governance & leadership skills, thought provoking processes, information analysis, effective communicator, logical thinker, active listener, decision-maker.

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Diocesan roles: Cathedral Place Development Task Force, Governance Working Group, Finance Advisory Committee Chair, Synod representative to General Synod.

Retired principal – interest in all education

Ensure a Christian perspective in legislation.

Grow as a totally inclusive church at all levels.

Promote clergy opportunities for professional growth; encourage a system for performance assessment review.

Explore innovative ways for the church's future sustainability/viability.

Mr. Gordon Jackson, All Saints, Hamilton

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

- Reader,
- Prayer Leader
- Writer/Director/Performer of Chancel Dramas
- Parish Council
- Undermount Regional Council
- Chalice Bearer
- Accolyte
- Occasional Contributor to Niagara Anglican
- Synod Delegate

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

I would like to represent the Diocese

a) Because as my home diocese I am vitally interested in everything that affects us

b) To learn more from the wider church that might be adaptable to the parish/diocesan level.

Certainly, I would also like to contribute whatever I have usefully picked up in the near 75 years as I've attended many parishes in the Toronto Diocese, often taking leadership roles in them as well.

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Good Governance is always crucial to any successful enterprise.

Years ago, I spent a year studying with the Church Army (it was not for me), I read very widely from John Spong & Marcus Borg to Tom Wright & Thomas Merton), have attended various workshops and seminars and when in Winnipeg took a "Faith, Film and Popular Culture" course with the Canadian Mennonite University. I also, before going west in 2007, did a year with the Bishop's Diploma Course.

I don't know much about Diocesan boundaries, but I would like to learn more.

The provincial budget must reflect financial realities while also doing its best to achieve its goals.

I am very interested in seeing chancel drama and dance more integral to our services and using film/movies to relate the Christian message to our daily lives!

Ms. Connie Karlsson, St. Paul, Norval

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

- Halton Hills Anglican Cluster Ministry & Mission Council, 2011-2014
- Attended the Funding Ministry in a Changing Culture, presented by Dr. Gary Nicolosi on behalf of the Halton Hills Anglican Church Cluster Ministry & Mission Council with Reverend Barbara Sykes (Mar 2014)

- Coordinate the Halton Hills Anglican Cluster Inuit Outreach Project (since 2010); awarded a WOW grant to further our relationships in the North by visiting the community of Inukjuak, Nunavik (Sept. 11- 18); awarded the Order of Niagara in 2013.

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

I have 18 years corporate HR experience and strong leadership skills. I am creative, resourceful, and research-oriented. I have experience in the areas of instructional design/evaluation, process improvement initiatives and program management. I answered a call to help our neighbours in the far North in 2009. I began the Inuit Outreach Project, now a multi-church, community-wide charity and social justice program and to date have delivered over six tons of life essentials to the Iqaluit, Sanikiluaq, Tasiuaq and Inukjuak communities.

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I am interested in "rethinking church"; relationship/communication approaches and how The Council of the North "fits" into the bigger picture.

Mrs. Beth Kerley, Church of the Transfiguration St. Catharines

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

- Parish Council,
- Lay Delegate to Diocesan Synod,
- Sunday Morning Children's Program

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

The Diocese of Niagara is a very progressive diocese. I have been involved in the diocese all my life. I was baptized, had my confirmation and I was married (Brian Kerley), all in St. Catharines, Ontario.

When I was a teenager I was asked to serve on Parish Council and was elected by my congregation to serve as one of their Lay Delegates to Synod before there were Youth Ministry representatives to Synod

I think that I have some gifts to offer. I am a very strong supporter and advocate of all Child/ Youth Ministry initiatives in our Diocese and beyond. I have been a co-convenor of the Lincoln and Brock Children's Festival for many years. Both of our children, Katherine and William have gone through Youth Leadership Training Program and Niagara Youth Conference. I have been a staff member of Niagara Youth Conference and was a co-leader of Youth Leadership Training Program. I was very fortunate to be one of the leaders to take our group to our partner Diocese of Cuba in 2010. It was a very rewarding experience, one that I will never forget. I was very fortunate and honored to be one of the Diocese of Niagara Lay representatives to General Synod in 2004 and 2007.

Some of the matters that Provincial Synod is likely to deal with are governance, theological education, diocesan boundaries, provincial synod budget, etc. Please share something of your interest in these matters and what other wider church issues are of interest to you.

We are in a time when some of the things we have been doing need to change or be examined. Some of the churches in some areas are struggling with attendance, fewer if any children in Sunday Morning Programming. We have to find ways to share resources with other Christian churches or other denominations. We need to find ways to share our buildings, our gifts, and our talents in our communities. Listening, praying and using ones voice are all part of the journey we are all taking. Finances or money are always going to be an issue. We will need to think or find creative ways to bring money into our church while still being able to help those who are less fortunate than us. Let us take this journey together, to find out what the Holy Spirit is calling each one of us to do, here in our Diocese and the wider church and beyond. Blessings.

Mr. Rob Pawson, St. Christopher's Burlington

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

- Servers Guild Coordinator,
- Parish Council Member,
- Synod Representative and/or Alternate,
- Altar Guild Member,
- Rainbow Committee Chair / Co-Chair,
- Youth Synod Coordinator,
- Niagara Leadership Course,
- Bishop's Chaplain at Diocesan events,
- Diocesan Altar Guild,
- Order of Niagara Recipient

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

I would like to represent the Diocese as I am eager to learn new experiences, but also because I have learned a great deal from the work I have done within our own Diocese. I believe that working with the youth has given me a better understanding on what they are looking for in the church and I hope to help bridge that gap to get them more involved, to bring fresh perspectives but also for the growth and experience as a whole. Being energetic, eager to learn, wanting to be apart of the Anglican church as a whole is also a strength I also bring forward and to hopefully share my experiences with others. I'm also very inquisitive on understanding how the hierarchy of the church works.

To me this is apart of my faith / life journey on being an Anglican. I want to attend these events, get involved, learn, share and teach. To better understand why we agree or disagree on items better. To grow.

Some of the matters that Provincial Synod is likely to deal with are governance, theological education, diocesan boundaries, provincial synod budget, etc. Please share something of your interest in these matters and what other wider church issues are of interest to you.

Being an openly gay man it is important to learn more about "Blessing of same sex marriages". It is also important that people understand where the LGBTQ is coming from, but equally important that we understand where others are coming from and I hope to help bridge that gap especially with us now looking at Commission on the Marriage Canon.

I am also looking forward to working on the area's of "inclusion" and the "accessibility" in all churches for all. Another important area of interest to me is how to attract younger families and youth involvement starting a younger age and how we can get more active roles of laity in our churches across our Diocese.

Thank you for this great opportunity to welcome and invite us to be apart of Provincial Synod 2015. I look forward to the results of the election and the chance to represent our great Diocese.

Mrs. Connie Price, St. Matthew on-the-Plains, Burlington

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

I have been actively involved in St. Christopher's Church and for the past 15 years at St. Matthew's in Burlington, where I was a Warden for 6 years. I have enjoyed further hands-on participation by being Parish Council Chair, organizing 4 Alpha and an Exploring Our Anglican Identity Program, Chairing the Growth Committee, many Fundraisers and presently the Outreach Committee, being a Sanctuary Attendant and on the Personal Prayer Team during Communion, as well as participating in our new Liturgy Planning Committee and developing a Workshop with our Rector for Parishioners wishing to join the Worship Teams who conduct Services at Nursing Homes.

I was also Chair of our 1.4 million dollar Renovation Project, holding weekly site meetings with the Architect and Project Manager, while controlling the flow of the day-to-day finances for the project. This experience I imagine precipitated the Bishop to invite me to be part of the Cathedral Place Development Team. Being the Trafalgar Lay Representative to Synod Council for 2 terms has also afforded me the opportunity to broaden my experiences at the Diocesan level by being part of its Co-ordinating Team and St. Peter's Day Care Board.

I am honoured to have been awarded the Order of Niagara in 2009.

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

I would like to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod as this representation would afford me the opportunity to further my own personal faith knowledge and participation, while providing the learning of new ways to support my Diocese and the broader Anglican Church. As Anglicans, we listen for the guidance of the Holy Spirit as we decide key matters relating to our shared life through the various Synod levels. Therefore, the sharing and discussion of our opinions between delegates is of key importance before we make our decisions. Listening to others' point of view is important, as is putting your own thoughts forward for consideration. I'm told some of my strengths are being an organized and caring person who listens and learns from others, am able to evaluate, then discern material presented and further, report or share the agreed upon information accurately.

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As a career Bookkeeper and being the Volunteer Treasurer for the Board of the Burlington Seniors' Centre, I understand finances and am familiar with the workings of several models of governance, being appointed by the Senate of Ontario to the Halton/Peel District Health Council and chairing numerous community organizations. I have only been able so far to take 2 of the Bishop's Certificate Courses, but have enjoyed learning more about theology of my chosen Anglican Faith.

Canon David Ricketts, St. James Dundas

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

- Current Lay Delegate to Diocese of Niagara for St. James, Dundas
- Past Lay Member of Provincial Synod for the Diocese of Niagara
- Past Lay Member of General Synod for the Diocese of Niagara
- Licensed Lay Reader in the Parish of St. James, Dundas
- Chair of the Property Committee of the Parish of St. James Dundas
- Recipient of Diocesan Order of Niagara, 2003
- Lay Canon of Christ Church Cathedral, 2013
- Member of the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Buildings
- Member of Decennial Inspection Committee

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

I have been a member in the past and I still feel that there is work to be accomplished that was not completed during my time. I do have a wider view of the church from my time as a Provincial and General Synod Member in the past that I feel would be of assistance in this continuing work. The Provincial Synod has set 3 priorities in March of 2013 which are Advocacy: Education and Vocations: Sharing of Resources. The latter two are of very great interest to me in that we need to step up the level of education not only for our clergy but also our laity. The sharing of all our knowledge/resources will assist parishes and dioceses who come across unique circumstances that someone else may have already encountered.

Some of the matters that Provincial Synod is likely to deal with are governance, theological education, diocesan boundaries, provincial synod budget, etc. Please share something of your interest in these matters and what other wider church issues are of interest to you.

Provincial Synod also has an interest in buildings (heritage and otherwise) and cemeteries.

As a member of Niagara's BACCB I have been an advocate of the more knowledge about these issues the better.

Regarding governance, I was for 3 years the Lay Provincial Secretary and so was deeply involved with the governance of the Provincial Synod.

In my opinion, the theological education for both clergy and laity is very important.

Mr. Fred Roach, St. Simon's Oakville

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

- Stewardship Committee
- Warden
- Planned Giving Committee
- Capital Campaign Committee member
- Lay Delegate to Synod
- Parish Council Member
- Latinist
- Order of Niagara Recipient
- Financial Advisory Committee member
- Chair of Investment Committee

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

As someone who has been involved at all levels of the Anglican Church of Canada I look forward to the opportunity to give back at the provincial level. I think my years of experience in the various leadership roles that I have undertaken at a diocesan and parish level have uniquely equipped me to represent Niagara and to look at the greater good of the church as a whole. Most of my contributions within leadership of the church have skewed heavily towards financial management and stewardship which is reflective of a lifelong career in the financial service industry. I believe strongly that the church is about the ministry of the people of God and in order to equip our saints for ministry a sound financial base is essential.

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I am happy to participate with whatever matters Provincial Synod brings to the floor and I would not attend thinking that I would set the agenda. That said I have a passion for evangelism and sharing the faith of the church with the wider community. I personally know the benefit that my faith has brought to myself and the many people I have worked with within the church over the decades. What I think I could do for Niagara is bring a breadth of experience, substance and wisdom and a wider perspective as over the years I have belonged to close to ten diocese in two countries as a result of my mobile banking career.

Mr. David Rogers, St. Matthew's on-the-Plain, Burlington

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

- Synod Rep
- Parish Council Member
- Server
- Stewardship Committee Member

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

I believe that the church needs strong courageous leadership to make our mission manifest in today's world. New ideas and directions need to be discussed; and fresh approaches need be implemented to meet the challenges we face financially, our declining membership, and our mission at large.

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It is right to constantly look at our 'house' and examine the way we have done things as part of a revalidation process. Times change, and approaches to questions sometimes need rethinking and refreshing. Perhaps new questions should be asked to provoke discussion and discernment. I want to be a part of that discussion.

Mr. Allan Sherwin, St. John the Evangelist, Thorold

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

- Pastoral team
- Social Committee
- Income Tax Clinic
- Hall rentals
- Synod Rep
- Vision team
- Community Breakfast program, St. George's
- Licensed Lay Reader
- Former member of the Church of the Transfiguration
 - Warden
 - President, Senior Apartment complex
 - Community garden
 - Building Committee

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

It is important for the Diocese of Niagara to have a strong voice to represent our interests at the provincial level. I have a background in teaching, administration and sales. Although not exactly the best qualified, I bring a new perspective. Most recently I was part of the political team that tried to win a seat at the provincial and I became acutely aware that we are only a small part of the larger picture. Many of the issues that present themselves should be carefully examined with the unity of the whole as the ultimate goal. Bring sober second thought to the round table is the promise of harmony among the various diocese. This is what I hope to present at the provincial synod.

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On the budget issues, I have been involved with several churches working from the bottom up. Stewardship first and spending second. Education was in the fore front in my early career and I am running for the school board position gathering ideas to help solve the local issues with team work. At the federal level I helped redesign the boundaries creating a new seat in the 2015 parliament...again with team work. If there is a weakness, then we consult the parties that are most affected working toward a compromise that will bring peace to all concerned in the matter.

Sandra Thompson, St. James, St Catharines

Present & Past Leadership Roles:

- Server
- Lay Reader
- Sunday School teacher & Superintendent
- Youth Group Leader
- Bazaar Convenor

Why do you want to represent the Diocese at the 2015 Provincial Synod and what gifts or strengths would you bring as a Diocese of Niagara representative?

I have recently "come alive" in my church and am eager to learn more about the wider church. I have a "freshness" to bring with me. I have the ability to listen and speak up when I feel there is something to be said. I am part of Niagara's Futures Committee and feel that I have learned quite a lot about what is happening here in our region.

Some of the matters that Provincial Synod is likely to deal with are governance, theological education, diocesan boundaries, provincial synod budget, etc. Please share something of your interest in these matters and what other wider church issues are of interest to you.

As a member of the church in my early twenties, I thought that churches didn't associate with each other. I was under the impression that we were to keep to ourselves. Lately I have taken a bigger role in all aspects of the church's life and understand that this is not the case. If we work together we are better for it. I think one of the most important things for me is theological education and we need to be able to share this with others, not just in our own church. It is important for everyone to know that we are in this together.
