

# INFORMATION ON PROPOSED CANON CHANGES

## **Repeal of Canon 2.8 (5) – Diocesan Budget**

This section of Canon 2.8 mandates the establishment of a Diocesan Assessment Committee. The committee's functions have been largely assumed by the Financial Advisory Committee (FAC), as demonstrated during the last review of the guidelines and formula related to the Diocesan Mission & Ministry assessment. Any appeals are made to the diocesan treasurer; if there are disagreements about interpretation, these are brought to the FAC for consideration. Repealing this section regularizes the present practice without losing any of the canon's original intention.

### **PROPOSED DELETION**

THAT the following section of Canon 2.8 be repealed:

5. There shall be established a Diocesan Assessment Committee which:
  - (a) shall consider concerns and appeals raised and filed by parishes regarding assessments;
  - (b) shall ensure consistent and accurate financial reporting from all parishes of the diocese; and
  - (c) shall, from time to time, review the guidelines and prescribed forms as established pursuant to Section 4 of this Canon.

## **Amendment to Canon 3.2 – Licensed Lay Workers**

This amendment updates the text of Canon 3.2 by removing reference to the Hiring Committee which is not defined elsewhere in the canons. In doing so, the canon is both clearer and nimbler with regards to its application while still maintaining its purpose of permitting the bishop to licensed qualified lay workers and to ensure they are fairly compensated. The amendment also shifts the domain for the establishment of fair employment practices to the Synod, rather than the General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada.

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT**

THAT sections 3 and 4 of Canon 3.2 be amended to read as follows:

- 3) A qualified lay worker, with the approval of the Bishop, shall be duly licensed and commissioned at an appropriate liturgical event. The lay worker shall take oaths of subscription, and shall express willingness to be accountable in life and ministry to duly constituted diocesan and parish authority.
- 4) Employment contracts for licensed lay workers shall conform to the current guidelines for fair employment practices as may be adopted by the Synod.