

REPORTS OF THE BISHOP'S COMMITTEES

THE BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CHURCH BUILDINGS

Members of the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Buildings (BACCB) are volunteers who dedicate their time and expertise in their related fields of engineering, architecture, construction management and regulated authorities that provide assistance on any capital projects for parishes within the Diocese of Niagara. All parish capital projects within the Diocese of Niagara are governed by Canon 4.6 and its associated regulations. Parishes are encouraged to contact the Secretary to Synod as soon as a project idea takes shape in order to avoid any issues that might impede its success.

In 2025, the BACCB has overseen approximately \$1,300,000 worth of capital projects throughout the diocese, including accessibility upgrades, electrical upgrades, kitchen renovations & roof repairs; this is an amazing amount of work done & the BACCB congratulates all the parishes who completed their projects.

The committee has also conducted reviews of existing infrastructures and made recommendations to the parishes to proceed with moving forward under Canon 4.6 for future considerations.

With hope and faith, our churches continue to offer safe spaces for worship and community support. As visible symbols of Christ's presence and the welcoming face of Anglicanism, they provide comfort to those feeling alone, anxious, or in need. Looking ahead, we remain committed to renovating and enhancing our church properties to ensure they reflect the care and love we share with all who come through our doors.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. André Gravelle, CBCO, CRBO
Chair, Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Buildings

THE BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY RENEWAL

Established in 2019, this committee advises the Bishop of Niagara on matters pertaining to strategic and missional renewal of designated properties. The committee may also be asked to oversee renewal of properties associated with existing parishes in the case of a proposed new church or major modification of an existing church building.

The committee is comprised of volunteers with specific expertise and knowledge in the areas of real estate, municipal planning, appraising, architecture, heritage resource management, law and community engagement.

In the past year, the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Property Renewal continued to meet primarily by Zoom, advancing the evaluation of ongoing initiatives. This includes disestablished sites with current or future development potential, parishes asking for advice on property uses, and strategic assessments of sites with historic or missional value to the diocese.

In the coming year, we will continue to explore new opportunities, and provide recommendations as requested for ongoing property matters.

Respectfully submitted,

Canon Terry Charters
Chair, Bishop's Advisory Committee on Property Renewal

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THE BISHOP'S DECENNIAL INSPECTION COMMITTEE

The mandate of the Bishop's Decennial Inspection Committee (BDIC) is to ensure that all church properties within the Diocese of Niagara are inspected on a rotating ten-year cycle.

To accomplish this task, the committee oversees scheduling, monitoring, support in facilitating, and tracking these inspections for each parish. The physical structures, building fabric, building systems, building components, grounds and cemeteries (if applicable) are all reviewed. The committee also reviews and maintains a list of competent professional inspection firms that are deemed qualified to undertake the required work and meet the requirements of the BDIC *Terms of Reference*.

Recent highlights from the BDIC include:

- Eighteen (18) parishes with decennial inspections due in 2024 were provided extensions to June 2025.
- Fourteen (14) decennial inspections have been completed in 2025 at the time of reporting.
- Thirteen (13) decennial inspections are currently overdue.
 - One (1) overdue parish was granted an extension to 2026.
- Nine (9) decennial inspections are scheduled for 2026.

At the direction of the bishop and executive officer, the Decennial Inspection Committee's mandate will be enfolded into the mandate of the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Buildings (BACCB), beginning in 2026. This change will steward our resources wisely and enhance the ability of parishes and missions to connect the recommendations provided in their reports with the expertise available through the membership of the BACCB.

As I also sit on the BACCB Committee, I will assist in the transition of BDIC activities into the BACCB mandate.

Respectfully submitted,

Mr. Steven Swing, O.N.
Chair, Bishop's Decennial Inspection Committee