

# Constitution and Canons

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## CANON 1 DEFINITIONS AND INTERPRETATION

### DEFINITIONS

In this Constitution and Canons, unless the context otherwise requires, the following terms shall mean:

- A. **"DIOCESE OF QUEBEC"**: Act 6 Victoria, Chapter 32, Section 19 notwithstanding, the eastern portion of the Province of Quebec commonly held to comprise the Diocese.
- B. **"CLERIC"**: A person ordained in the Diocese according to the Rites of the Anglican Church of Canada or who has had Episcopal Consecration or Ordination and has been transferred to the Diocese under the provisions of the Canons of General Synod.
- C. **"THE BISHOP" or "DIOCESAN BISHOP"**: The Cleric of the Episcopal Order entrusted with the administration of the Diocese of Quebec according to the Canons of the Diocese. In the case of the Diocese having more than one bishop, then the Diocesan Bishop shall have jurisdiction and pre-eminence in the Diocese.
- D. **"COADJUTOR BISHOP"**: A bishop elected to assist a diocesan bishop with right of succession on the death or resignation of the diocesan bishop.
- E. **"SUFFRAGAN BISHOP"**: A bishop elected to assist the diocesan bishop with no right of succession.
- F. **"ASSISTANT BISHOP"**: An individual who has already been consecrated bishop and who is appointed to assist the diocesan bishop with no right of succession.
- G. **"METROPOLITAN"**: The Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of Canada.
- H. **"ELECTORAL SYNOD"**: A meeting of the diocesan Synod called to elect a diocesan bishop, a coadjutor bishop or a suffragan bishop.
- I. **"ADMINISTRATOR"**: If there be no coadjutor bishop, the Executive Archdeacon shall be the administrator of the See should it become vacant. If there be no Executive Archdeacon, or if the Executive Archdeacon be unable to act, the Archdeacon senior by appointment as an Archdeacon shall act as administrator. The administrator shall be the convening authority authorized to call an electoral Synod.

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#### Diocese of Quebec

Constitution: Approved 1st reading Synod 1997, Adopted Synod 1999  
Canons: Amended by Synod 2009

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- J. **"INCUMBENT"**: The cleric appointed and licensed by the Bishop to have pastoral responsibility for a congregation, or congregations, or parishes.
- K. **"PARISH"**: A sub-division of the Diocese canonically defined as a separate entity for the purposes of the Anglican religion and the benefit of the Parishioners of one or more congregations, whether or not it is associated with one or more buildings, or no building, or with lands, tenements or territory.
- L. **"PARISHIONER"**: A person of full legal age professing to be an Anglican, who belongs to a Parish and is not an Incumbent of that Parish.
- M. **"VESTRY"**: A body constituted of those Parishioners who declare themselves to be regular attendants in the Services of the Church in the Congregation amongst whom they claim the right to vote.
- N. **"COMMUNICANT"**: A baptized member of the Anglican Church of Canada who "partakes of the Holy Communion frequently and in particular on the greater Holy Days of which Easter is the chief" (*The Book of Common Prayer 1959, Canada.*)
- O. **"SYNOD FUNDS"**: those funds received and disbursed under the authority of Synod or the Diocesan Executive Council.
- P. **"FULL LEGAL AGE"**: the minimum age a person must be, as defined in canon law, to hold an office in the church or to vote at meetings. In the Diocese of Quebec, unless otherwise specified in the canons, that age is 16 years.
- Q. **"COMMISSARY"**: In ecclesiastical matters one who acts for a bishop for special purposes.
- R. **"FAIR SHARE"**: That percentage of a congregation's income that is to be contributed to meet the Diocesan Budget as adopted by Synod or the Diocesan Executive Council.
- S. **"CONGREGATION"**: An assembly of Anglicans who meet for worship and are recognised by the Bishop.
- T. **"LAY DELEGATE"**: A member of the Anglican Church of Canada, of at least sixteen years of age, elected to represent a congregation at Synod according to Statute Law as amended, and set out in the Constitution and Canons.
- U. **"MEMBER OF SYNOD"**: A cleric or lay delegate who has taken his or her seat at Synod. The member retains this status until the summoning of the next Ordinary or Electoral Synod.

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- V. **"SPHERE OF WORK"**: This term refers to the role of a cleric who holds the Bishop's license to work in a specific parish, mission, or congregation as incumbent, assistant, or curate, or to work in an administrative role within the Diocese. It does not include those who hold licences to officiate at occasional services.
  
- W. **"AUDIT"**: As used in the following Canons denotes a financial review conducted by qualified persons, hereafter referred to as the auditors, who are not related to the treasurer of the congregation and do not manage any of the congregation's financial transactions.
  
- X. **"LAY INCUMBENT"**: The lay person appointed and licensed by the Bishop to have pastoral responsibility for a congregation, or congregations, or parishes and who sits on the congregational corporation(s) as incumbent."

### **INTERPRETATION**

In the case of ambiguity or conflict, the Constitution shall take precedence over the Canons.