

# CONSTITUTION OF THE DIOCESAN SYNOD OF FREDERICTON

## Section 4

### Lay Members of the Synod

- 4(1) Lay delegates to the Synod and their substitutes, if any, shall be voting members of the parish for which they are chosen.
  - 4(1.1) A person who has attended three consecutive regular synods as a lay member or substitute lay member is ineligible to be chosen as a lay delegate or substitute lay delegate to the Synod until after a further regular synod has been held; but if a special or electoral synod is convened after any regular synod at which the lay person might have had the right to vote and before the next regular synod, and if the lay delegate or substitute has not been replaced, that person may attend and vote at that special or electoral synod.
  - 4(1.2) For purposes of calculating the consecutive regular meetings of the Synod referred to in subsection 4(1.1), the synod at which this provision is adopted shall be counted the first such synod. [Note: this term limit becomes operative in 2020.]
- 4(2) The voting members of each parish in the Diocese may elect up to two lay delegates to the Synod but, where at least one of the persons elected is between the ages of sixteen and thirty-five years at the time of election, they may elect up to three lay delegates.
- 4(3) The voting members of each parish in the Diocese may elect up to three substitute lay delegates to the Synod.
- 4(4) The voting members of the Cathedral of Christ Church in the City of Fredericton may elect up to two lay delegates to the Synod but, where at least one of the persons elected is between the ages of sixteen and thirty-five years at the time of election, they may elect up to three lay delegates, and up to three substitutes in accordance with this section.
- 4(5) Lay delegates to the Synod and their substitutes, if any, shall be elected at an annual meeting of voting members of a parish and, provided they continue to hold the qualifications for election, shall continue in office until others are elected in their place.
- 4(6) If a vacancy occurs among the lay delegates to the Synod or their substitutes, if any, by death, resignation, refusal to act or otherwise, the parish corporation of the parish in which the election took place may fill the vacancy.
- 4(7) The chair of a meeting at which lay delegates to the Synod and their substitutes, if any, are elected shall promptly forward to the Secretary of the Synod a certificate of election in such form as the Diocesan Council prescribes, indicating which, if any, delegates and substitutes were, at the time of election, between the ages of sixteen and thirty-five years.
  - 4(7.1) When a worship community is unrepresented in the Synod, the Diocesan Council may invite it to choose up to three lay delegates and substitute delegates to the Synod, subject to age and length of term considerations similar to those for parishes.
- 4(8) When a lay delegate to the Synod is not present at a meeting of the Synod, that delegate's place may be taken by a substitute lay delegate from the same parish, worship community or the Cathedral of Christ Church, as the case may be.
  - 4(8.1) Notwithstanding any other provision in this section, the number of delegates from a parish, worship community or the Cathedral of Christ Church chosen by virtue of this

section who attend the Synod as lay members or substitute lay members is limited to two unless one of the persons so attending was, at the time of election, between the ages of sixteen and thirty-five years.

- 4(9) The right to attend meetings of the Synod as a substitute lay delegate belongs to the substitute lay delegates in the order in which their names appear on the certificate of their election.
- 4(10) A substitute lay member shall sit and vote until the end of the meeting of the Synod, or at any adjournment thereof, at which the place of the lay member of the Synod has been taken.
- 4(11) A lay member of the Synod whose place has been taken by a substitute lay member may not sit or vote at the same meeting of the Synod unless the substitute lay member does not attend at some adjournment thereof.