Date: Wed, 13 Jan 2021 00:29:36 +0000

From: Tara Saracuse <tsaracuse@bc.anglican.ca>

Dear clergy, wardens, and treasurers:

Thank you for your thoughtful inquiries and patience regarding your questions about how to hold your AGMs/Vestry Meetings this year.

Canonically, all parishes must hold an AGM within 60 days of the end of the last fiscal year. In order to abide by the Provincial Health Orders and keep one another safe, the AGM must be held in a virtual context (Zoom, Teams, etc.). Luckily, the Province and the Diocesan Council has made provisions for this to happen, as you will read in the attached document.

As you plan your AGMs, please review Canon 6.7 and Regulation 6.7.01 < https://bc.anglican.ca/df_media/W1siZiIsIjlwMjAvMDkvMjUvMTQvNTQvMjgvNjImMmY0YzktZ
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This section outlines the minimum requirements for AGMs, including the order of proceeding, quorum, and voting by proxy. This year, your parish may choose to address only the business required by the Canon (specifically Regulation 6.7.01.b) and save other matters of business for a Special Meeting that could be scheduled when we are safe to gather again. Additionally, please note the minimum quorum required for your parish (Reg 6.7.01.f & g); for most parishes, your quorum will be just 12 people. Lastly, for those who may be unable to participate in a virtual context, take note that our Canons allow for voting by proxy (Reg 6.7.01.e).

The attached document will address questions we have received on the topic of virtual AGMs. We do understand that every parish is unique and some of you may have circumstances that will require some further creativity or support. Please read this document carefully. If you still have questions about utilizing technology to hold your AGM, contact Catherine Pate at cpate@bc.anglican.ca. We want to ensure that every parish is able to successfully hold their AGMs, but it may mean a little extra legwork to help some of our parishioners access computers, etc.

Do remember that in September, we held an electoral synod by Zoom, and one of our challenges was training over 300 synod delegates how to usethe platform. We did this by sending out clear, concise instructions that invited delegates to attend Zoom "practice meetings" where we taught them how to use the platform and they could ask questions. We worked with parishes to identify people who needed support and pair them with family members or friends within their bubble who could sit with them during the training sessions to help. Computers were loaned and wifi zones were identified. It was a bit of work, but in the end, every single delegate was able to fully participate. We know how strong our parish communities

are and we know you can do this, too!

As you plan, please be ever-mindful of the current Health Orders https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/safety/emergency-preparedness-response-recovery/covid-19-provincial-support/restrictions#pho-order.

Resist the urge to meet in small groups, even in private homes; remember that currently, you may only gather with members of your household or, if you live alone, the same one or two people with whom you have chosen to form a bubble. This health order is in effect until February 5, 2021, but we suggest that you make plans with the assumption that it will be extended beyond that date.

As always, the synod staff are here to support you.

Peace,

Tara for the bishop's office

[Diocese of British Columbia esignature] Renewed Hearts, Renewed Spirits, Renewed People in the diocese of islands and inlets

Tara Saracuse executive assistant, bishop's office