

To: Delegates of the Archdiocese of Canada Assembly

From: The Bylaws Committee of the Archdiocesan Council
(Rod Tkachuk, David Grier, and Fr. Dennis Pihach)

Date: June 22, 2007

Re: Proposed Amendments to the Archdiocese of Canada Bylaws

The following two pages contain changes to the Bylaws of the Archdiocese of Canada recommended by the Bylaws Committee for your consideration. If approved, these changes will:

1. Rectify contradictions between our existing bylaws and the Statute of the Orthodox Church in America, specifically with respect to how we select our representatives to the Metropolitan Council,
2. Allow for changes in the number of deaneries in the Archdiocese of Canada,
3. Add the ex-officio position of Arch-Dean and remove the position of Secretary from the Archdiocesan Council, and
4. Set out more clearly how nomination, election, and overseeing of appointment by the Bishop is conducted.

If approved, these amendments will result in a council consisting of:

- 6 clergy members (5 representing the existing 5 deaneries plus 1 being the clergy representative on the Metropolitan Council)
- 6 lay members (5 representing the existing 5 deaneries plus 1 being the lay representative on the Metropolitan Council)
- 4 ex-officio members (Ruling Bishop, Chancellor, Treasurer, and Arch-Dean)

The committee looks forward discussing these matters with you at the Assembly.

Yours in Christ,

The Bylaws Committee

Bylaw Amendment June 12, 2007

2.2. (the officers) adding/ deleting :

- c.) **deleting** the word Secretary from Secretary/ Treasurer;
- d.) **adding the phrase:** the Arch-Dean (if any) of the Archdiocese;

2.3. The Directors of the Corporation are the members of the Archdiocesan Council (**deleting** “**duly elected by the Archdiocesan Assembly**”);

5.1 deleting the existing definition and replacing with:

5.1 The Directors of the Corporation (also called the **Archdiocesan Council**) are: the Archdiocesan Bishop ex-officio, the Archdiocesan Chancellor ex-officio, **the Arch-Dean ex-officio**, the Archdiocesan Treasurer ex-officio, **the Clergy and Lay representatives to the Metropolitan Council ex-officio**, the **Clergy Directors**, elected (except as otherwise provided herein) for a three-year term and the **Lay Directors**, elected (except as otherwise provided herein) for a three-year term. **Ex-officio members are voting members.**

5.3 deleting the existing definition and replacing with:

5.3 The Clergy Directors shall be six (6) in number. The number of Clergy Directors may be increased, with the approval of the Archdiocesan Bishop, provided however that there shall be a corresponding increase in the number of Lay Directors. The Clergy Representative to the Metropolitan Council, elected by the Archdiocesan Assembly, is one of the six (6) Clergy Directors, ex-officio. The Dean of a Deanery is to be one of the Clergy Directors for the Deanery over which he presides. The Dean is elected by the priests, by, and from amongst, the priests of the deanery and confirmed by the Archdiocesan Bishop for a term of three years provided however that, alternatively the Archdiocesan Bishop may appoint a Dean in a “maturing” Deanery. Any vacancy may be filled, from time to time, by appointment by the Archdiocesan Bishop, whenever possible, to be a priest from a Deanery not represented. The balance of the Clergy Directors, if any, shall be elected by the Archdiocesan Assembly and confirmed by the Archdiocesan Bishop.

5.4 deleting the existing definition and replacing with:

5.4 The Lay Directors shall be six (6) in number. The number of Lay directors may be increased with the approval of the Archdiocesan Bishop provided however that there shall be a corresponding increase in the number of Clergy Directors. The Archdiocesan Assembly shall elect the Lay Directors from the members of the laity, according to the following process, subject to any process that the Archdiocesan Assembly may, from time to time, invoke/adopt, such elected persons subject in all circumstances to confirmation by the Archdiocesan Bishop:

- a). Prior to the meeting of the Archdiocesan Assembly, there shall be a Nomination Committee, consisting of the presiding Bishop, the Chancellor, the Treasurer, and the Arch-Dean (if any) and any alternative or additional members that the Archdiocesan Bishop and the Archdiocesan Council may determine;

- b). Deaneries are encouraged, at Deanery meetings or meetings held for that purpose, to elect laity to present to the Nominating Committee as proposed Lay Directors and clergy and lay representatives to the Metropolitan Council. The Deanery, any person, parish, mission or community may present to the Nomination Committee, names of laity residing in the Deanery to represent that Deanery as Lay Directors and as Lay Directors at large and for the clergy and lay representatives on the Metropolitan Council;
- c). The Nomination Committee shall, additionally, be at liberty to propose names of laity and clergy;
- d). The Nomination Committee shall present the slate of proposed nominees to the Archdiocesan Assembly. Additional nominations shall be accepted from the floor of the Assembly meeting. The nominee's Deanery shall be identified;
- e). The Assembly shall elect, if available, one lay person from each Deanery from the nominees, provided that, alternatively, the Archdiocesan Bishop may appoint a Lay Director in a "maturing" Deanery. The Lay Representative to the Metropolitan Council, elected by the Archdiocesan Assembly, is, ex-officio, one of the six (6) Lay Directors. The balance of the Lay Directors, if any, may be elected without regard to Deanery representation.
- f). For the purpose of determining a person's eligibility to be either a Clergy or Lay Director, but without in any manner affecting the status or function of the clergy or laity as practiced in the Orthodox Faith, Clergy Directors shall be priests and Lay Directors shall include those of the Diaconate and Monastics, but not priests. Directors shall be voting members, according to and as defined by the Statute and the within By-laws. Laity and Clergy, voting at the Assembly and Deanery meetings or presenting names to the Nomination Committee, shall be a voting member, as so defined.
- g). Any vacancy may be filled, from time to time, by appointment by the Archdiocesan Bishop, whenever possible to be a lay person from the Deanery not represented.

5.10: adding this new section (the only present reference to the reps to Metropolitan Council is under 5.3 making them ex-officio members of our Council):

5.10 The Archdiocese shall select representatives to the Metropolitan Council as, and in the manner, set out in the Statute (i.e one priest and one lay person, both of whom shall thereby become, ex-officio, members of the Archdiocesan Council). A process is to be adopted that will select, if possible, the Archdiocese's representatives on a basis that there is a mix of new representatives and continuing representatives.

6.2 (ex-officio members of Archdiocesan Assembly):

- c). **delete Secretary**, leaving Treasurer, rather than Secretary/Treasurer);
- i). **add:** the Arch-Dean (if any);

8.2. delete the existing section and substitute:

8.2 The Diocesan Court shall exist, be formulated, be composed of, and have a process as, and in the manner, set out in the Statute.