

SAINT TIKHON ARCHDIOCESAN STEWARDS



"ORTHODOX PEOPLE!..
YOU MUST DEVOTE
YOURSELVES TO THE
ORTHODOX FAITH NOT IN
WORD OR TONGUE ONLY,
BUT IN DEED AND IN
TRUTH." 1903

BACKGROUND

At our Archdiocesan Council meeting held at Sts. Peter and Paul Cathedral in Montreal November 3-4, 2006, the Standing Focus Group presented a preliminary report on the survey process they had undertaken under the blessing of His Eminence, our beloved Archbishop SERAPHIM.

*In the God-directed conversations around the Council table, the perennial need of the Archdiocese for stable funding to sustain our ministry of the Gospel of Jesus Christ was highlighted. The Standing Focus Group was given a task, along with its ongoing mandate to develop **“an administrative vision for the Archdiocese, that ministers to the present and future needs of the church in Canada.”** The task was to establish a funding strategy that would effectively support this vision.*

Emerging from the meetings in Montreal, members of the Standing Focus Group, in conversations with His Eminence, and the Chancellor, developed a plan which we are calling the **“Saint Tikhon Archdiocesan Stewards”** (STAS) program. We believe that this program will enable committed persons across the Church in Canada to give to the Archdiocese in a straightforward, intentional, and meaningful way. This type of giving is above-and-beyond our regular parish stewardship, and is a sacrificial investment in the mission of the Orthodox Church in Canada. Based upon well-established benchmarks such as the U.S.’s **“Fellowship of Orthodox Stewards”** (FOS) program, and the Antiochian Archdiocese’s **“Order of St. Ignatius,”** the plan received the wholehearted endorsement of the Archdiocesan Council at their Spring meeting at Holy Resurrection Church in Saskatoon, April 20-22, 2007. It is hoped that the program will benefit from your enthusiastic encouragement and fervent prayers as well.

Please take some time to familiarize yourself with the Saint Tikhon Archdiocesan Stewards program. Prayerfully consider what you have been given, and what you can give for the work of the Kingdom of God. May we, who follow in the footsteps of the Saints, continue to be faithful stewards of the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

ST. TIKHON, PRAY TO GOD FOR US!