

February 17, 2022

Dear Presiders at Annual Vestry Meetings,

As parishes prepare for their 2021 Annual Vestry Meetings, please be advised of the information below. Although Bishop Bruce is not planning to summon a Synod in 2022, we must still be prepared for the process of electing deanery delegates to our diocesan Synod.

It is imperative that those people who attend the annual vestry meeting sign in by using the standardized form to be supplied to each parish. This will be the only way in which we will be able to send out ballots should the need arise. On the form, each person will need to clearly indicate his or her name, signature, e-mail address (for those who choose to vote by e-mail) or the complete mailing address (for those who choose to vote by a mail-in ballot).

Any person who attended and signed the register and declaration at the last annual parish vestry meeting held before the calling of synod has the right to vote for their deanery/region's delegates – both regular and youth.

The vestry clerk will send to the Synod Office a photocopy of the annual vestry meeting attendance register along with the name and e-mail of each person; or, if they don't have e-mail, the full postal address of those who signed and wish to exercise their right to vote for delegates to diocesan synod.

The names placed on the deanery/region ballots, regular and youth, will be those proposed by parish vestries at their annual meeting and submitted to the Secretary of Synod as part of the annual parish reporting required by our canons. This is filed with Synod Office by the canonical deadline of April 15, 2022.

Who can vote at the Annual Vestry Meeting as per Canon 5? "Electors, being all Parishioners within the Parishes in the region, of full legal age who shall have declared themselves in writing at the parish's annual vestry meeting, to be "members of the Anglican Church of Canada," shall have the right of voting at the election."

In addition, for those parishes who do not have a representative on their deanery council, they should elect one at the annual vestry meeting and send the name and contact information to their respective rural dean. They, then, are able to participate as voting members on their respective deanery council.

Should you have any questions or need clarification, please contact me.

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