



The Anglican Church of Canada /
L'Eglise anglicane du Canada

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Dear Colleagues in Ministry,

A major national conference on theological education for the Anglican Church of Canada is being planned for January 5-7, 2010 in Montreal, under the auspices of Faith Worship and Ministry.

We write to let you know of the support of the House of Bishops for the conference. In fact the vision for such a gathering was birthed by a resolution of the House at its April, 2006 meeting. It requested, "...the Council of General Synod to convene a national gathering on theological education in Canada, under the auspices of the Faith, Worship and Ministry Committee, in order to: a) develop a strategic plan for the future needs for ordained ministry in the Anglican Church of Canada; b) make recommendations to the Church about the strategic use of resources to support theological education; c) review the current patterns of preparation for ordained ministry in the Anglican Church of Canada and make recommendations for their effective use; d) develop common standards for theological training including core curricula, evaluation, field training, selection, support and recruitment of candidates, and core standards for spiritual and emotional readiness for ordination; e) such national gathering to be held in consultation with ecumenical partners in Canada, and also in our conversations with the work of Theological Education in the Anglican Communion (TEAC)."

We are very pleased to see this request realized. A Planning Committee is preparing an agenda and background materials. Details to date are attached to this letter.

The bishops of our church are so committed to this event that we have re-scheduled our Spring 2010 meeting to be held in conjunction with the event. All our bishops will be present and participating fully. We do hope you can come and contribute to the conversations of these days.

At ordination a prayer is offered for the new bishop, "through him/her increase your church, and renew its ministry" (The Ordinal, p 639, BAS). We recognize that this ministry is exercised in partnership with so many others engaged in discernment, teaching, formation in the Anglican tradition, mentoring, continuing education, and spiritual direction. We view this conference as a marvellous expression of this partnership. We hope you will come.

Please indicate your intention by October 13, 2009.

In Christ,

We are sincerely yours,

+ Fred

Fred J. Hiltz
Primate

+ John H. Chapman

John Chapman
Chair, Planning Committee