

The Diocese of The Arctic

ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA



September 24, 2014

Canon Robert Falby
Chairperson
Commission on the Marriage Canon
80 Hayden Street
Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2

Dear Mr. Falby,

Thank you for your letter of July 7, 2014, and the opportunity to comment on the proposed change to the Marriage Canon.

As a bishop in the church, I am concerned with any group claiming that God the Holy Spirit is requesting that some biblical texts within the authorized Canon of Scripture be discarded. Likewise I am extremely concerned that the Anglican Church of Canada feels that the Holy Spirit may be leading us away from the biblical, traditional, historical and global view of marriage as a union between man and woman.

I am asking the Marriage Commission to consider the voice of God throughout scripture that says marriage between man and woman reflects the relationship we humans are to have with God. God often refers to himself as Husband and the church as his Wife. God warns humans not to have relationship with any other god than Himself and calls that relationship adultery.

If the Anglican Church of Canada were to call any other marriage valid it would be undermining both the Word of God and the Covenant of God. The very Holy Spirit whose direction we seek, is the promised engagement of a future wedding between Jesus Christ and His church.

As Bishop in the Anglican Church of Canada I caution this Marriage Commission to be sober and not bring any motion to the General Synod of Canada asking for a change to the present Marriage Canon.

Yours truly,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David W. Parsons". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the printed name and title.

Rt. Rev. David W. Parsons
Bishop of The Arctic