



Collect for the Council of the North

Almighty God, giver of every perfect gift; We remember before you, our brothers and sisters who live in the parts of our Church served by the Council of the North. Where your Church is poor, enrich and empower it; where there is need for clergy, call them forth; where it is spread thin by geography, bind it with cords of love; where there is conflict, bring reconciliation. Give to us, with all our brothers and sisters, that due sense of fellowship in your Kingdom, that you may be glorified in all your saints, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Amen.



Council of the North prayer cycle

A ministry of the whole church by the whole church



The Council of the North is a grouping of financially assisted dioceses, which are supported through grants by General Synod. There are 9 dioceses, the Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior and the Archdeaconry of Labrador. In these parts of the country, costs, particularly of travel, are high and financial resources are scarce.

The council, comprised of all bishops of the assisted dioceses, administers the General Synod's grants for northern mission. The council meets twice a year to share information about the unique challenges faced by smaller ministries in the north. They are encouraged by emerging creative ministries across the church.

The Council of the North is moving from a mission shaped by structure to a structure shaped by mission.





Who we are

The Council of the North is made up of 9 dioceses, 1 regional grouping of parishes and 1 archdeaconry. The geographic area of the Council covers 85% of Canada and contains 15% of the population.

<i>Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior</i>	Bishop Barbara Andrews
<i>Archdeaconry of Labrador</i>	Bishop Geoffrey Peddle
<i>Diocese of the Arctic</i>	Bishop David Parsons
<i>Diocese of the Arctic</i>	Suffragan Bishop Darren McCartney
<i>Diocese of Athabasca</i>	Bishop Fraser Lawton
<i>Diocese of Brandon</i>	Bishop Jim Njegovan
<i>Diocese of Caledonia</i>	Bishop William Anderson
<i>Indigenous Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweesh</i>	Bishop Lydia Mamakwa, (Vice-Chair)
<i>Diocese of Moosonee</i>	Archbishop Colin Johnson
<i>Diocese of Quebec</i>	Bishop Dennis Drainville
<i>Diocese of Saskatchewan</i>	Bishop Michael Hawkins(Chair)
<i>Diocese of Saskatchewan</i>	Diocesan Indigenous Bishop, Adam Halkett
<i>Diocese of Yukon</i>	Bishop Larry Robertson
<i>General Synod Treasurer</i>	Hanna Goschy



Fall meeting of the Council of the North August

The Bishops, General Synod Treasurer, and some diocesan representatives meet in the fall of each year; usually in late September or early October. At this meeting they discuss compensation for the clergy and lay workers of the Council dioceses, decide upon grant applications for special programs, and work together in planning for presentations and the future direction of the Council. The Council of the North reports to both the Council of General Synod and to the General Synod.

Pray for Bishop Michael Hawkins, Chair of the Council of the North and Bishop Lydia Mamakwa, Vice-Chair and all the members of the Council as they work towards a vision of structures shaped by mission.





Diocese of Saskatchewan

July



The Diocese of Saskatchewan was founded in 1874. It takes up the upper two-thirds of the province of Saskatchewan. There are 68 congregations organized into 32 parishes. More than half of our parishioners are Cree and speak one of three dialects of that language. The diocese has the James Settee College, which trains people for lay and ordained ministry, and a youth ministry camp at Camp Okema, Emma Lake.

Please pray: For our Bishop, Michael Hawkins, our Diocesan Indigenous Bishop, Adam Halkett, for the Synod Executive Committee, Diocesan Indigenous Council and Council of Elders; For our James Settee College for Ministry; For our summer Vacation Bible School programmes; For Stewardship Education and Training; for renewed Lay Leadership.



Message from the chair

On behalf of those who live and work in Council of the North I want to thank you for the ongoing and generous support we receive from the Anglican Church of Canada and congregations like yours.

The dioceses of the Council of the North, face very unique challenges: vast distances, isolation, the continuing effects of poverty, and the legacy of the residential school system. All of these contribute to an increased level of pastoral needs.

Within these dioceses, almost 50% of clergy are non-stipendiary, and the high cost of transportation in the north makes frequent travel within each diocese cost-prohibitive. Providing ministry in the north also requires culturally-sensitive leaders trained and equipped for mission.

Missioning to Canada's north, a priority since the earliest days of the Anglican Church, makes the modern day work of the Council a ministry of the whole church, by the whole church.

The scriptures say "We, who are many, are one body in Christ and individually members one of another" (Romans 12:5). Let us seek to walk together as partners on this journey of Christ's ministry and mission within our church.

With prayers of thanksgiving for your partnership, I remain,

Yours in Christ,

The Rt. Rev. Michael Hawkins
Chair, Council of the North





Indigenous Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweesh September



On June 1, 2014, The Indigenous Spiritual Ministry of Mishamikoweesh was created from the northern portion of the Diocese of Keewatin and will encompass over twenty-five First Nations communities in Northwestern Ontario and Northern Manitoba. Its structures and program are uniquely aboriginal in that it is an expression of Indigenous self-determination within the Anglican Church, committed to upholding the tradition, order, and discipline of the Church, expressing that commitment in a manner that is consistent with the cultural and spiritual heritage of the Indigenous people of the region.

Pray for Bishop Lydia Mamakwa, and for all the leadership of the diocese. Pray also for the Dr. William Winter School of Ministry, the developing diaconal program, and the increasing ministry collaboration with the dioceses of Brandon and Rupert's Land.



Diocese of Yukon June



The Diocese of Yukon was formed in 1891 under the name of Selkirk and was renamed Yukon in 1907. The diocese covers the Yukon Territory and parts of northern British Columbia. It also covers some areas of Alaska when required. There are 15 congregations serving 24 communities. There are a total of 30 clergy and licensed lay workers who minister in the diocese. The diocese serves a multicultural society which includes 15 First Nations with 10 different language groups.

Pray for Bishop Larry Robertson. Pray for the synod office staff, the people and clergy of the diocese and for the Diocesan Executive Committee. Pray that the vision of circle ministry be more deeply established and guide the diocese as they think outside the box as they look for Ministers of Presence to fill the vacant parishes. Remember also the concerted effort to establish youth groups in the diocese.





Diocese of Moosonee

May



The Diocese of Moosonee was founded in 1872 and as their website says, “occupies a special place within the mosaic of the Anglican Church of Canada.” It is the second largest diocese in the country. The diocese is situated in two provinces, northeastern Ontario and northwestern Quebec. More than half of the Anglicans living in the diocese are First Nations people; mainly Cree.

At the 45th session of the Synod of the Diocese in June 2011, the members passed a motion directing the Bishop and their “Vision Quest Task Force” to enter into negotiations with the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario to place the Diocese into “suspension” and ask the Metropolitan to provide administrative and episcopal oversight. This decision was brought about by the alarming decrease in the Diocese’s financial resources. A Transition Plan and time-line was adopted by the Diocese in November 2011 and through the winter months the Bishop Tom Corston visited parishes to explain the process and assure people that local parish ministry will remain the same as always once the change is made. Once the transition is made on Dec 31 2013 (when Bishop Corston retires), the former Diocese will be known as the “Moosonee Mission Area” of the Ecclesiastical Province of Ontario.

Prayers for the successful transition are desired, as well as for the people of the Diocese as they grapple with the change.



Archdeaconry of Labrador

In the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador

October



The Archdeaconry of Labrador is the largest geographical area of the Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador and the most sparsely populated part of the diocese. There are 6 parishes in the archdeaconry and 8 clergy and lay leaders who pastor and minister there. The Diocese of Eastern Newfoundland and Labrador was formed in 1976 when the three diocese formed from the one Diocese of Newfoundland. Within the archdeaconry is a multicultural society with 3 main aboriginal groups: Inuit, Innu and Labrador Metis.

Pray for Bishop Geoffrey Peddle, for Archdeacon Charlene Taylor, for the clergy and people of the archdeaconry. Remember their ministry to those who are very isolated from each other. Pray for the Labrador Planning and Strategy Conference that meets each October and for the annual Camp Awesome a Labrador Anglican Youth Gathering which takes place each Labour Day Weekend.





Diocese of Caledonia

November



The Diocese of Caledonia was founded in 1879 and takes up much of Northwestern British Columbia. There are 19 parishes in the diocese which serves 30 congregations. There are 24 active clergy in the diocese who serve the people of the diocese. The First Nations cultures of the diocese are rich in diversity; including Haida, Nisgaa, Tsimian, and Gitsan.

Pray for Bishop William Anderson, the people and clergy of the diocese as they seek to be faithful in living the Great Commission.



Diocese of the Arctic

April



The Diocese of the Arctic is the largest diocese in the Anglican Church of Canada. It covers an area of some 4 million square kilometers, one third the landmass of Canada. It stretches from the Yukon border on the west through the Northwest Territories, Nunavut Territory, Nunavik (northern Quebec) to the border of Labrador. The Diocese of the Arctic came into being in 1933 after almost a hundred years of missionary work in the north. The first bishop of the Arctic was Bishop Flemming. There are 31 parishes (covering 52 congregations) in the diocese, of these 9 are self-supporting, and in all but 6 the native language is used as the primary language during worship. There are numerous languages spoken within the diocese.

Pray for Bishop David Parsons and his wife Rita, Pray for our Suffragan Bishop Darren McCartney, Pray for the people and clergy of the diocese. Pray for the rebuilding of the Arthur Turner Training School in Pangnirtung, which trains locally raised up people for ordained ministry in the diocese. Pray for the Cathedral parish of St. Jude, Iqaluit and for the Synod office staff in Yellowknife.





Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior March



The Anglican Parishes of the Central Interior includes the parishes and communities that were formerly within the jurisdiction of the Diocese of Cariboo. As a result of the costs of litigation arising from Residential Schools, Cariboo wound up its operations in 2001 and asked the Metropolitan of the Province of British Columbia and Yukon to give pastoral oversight. In 2003, the Assembly of the Central Interior asked the Provincial Synod for permission to elect a Suffragan Bishop to the Metropolitan with responsibility for pastoral care of the clergy and parishes. There are 16 parishes in this regional grouping which take care of 24 congregations. There are 11 full time clergy, 15 part time clergy and 62 Lay Ministers of Word and Sacrament who serve the people of these parishes.

Pray for Bishop Barbara Andrews and the clergy and people of the Central Interior of BC. Pray for the people and clergy as they work together at the process of exploring a different way to be church within the Anglican Church of Canada.



Diocese of Athabasca December



Founded in 1874 the Diocese of Athabasca covered a large, sparsely populated area, comprising the northern third of the land mass of Alberta. This area has moved from one that was initially settled to take advantage of access to a lucrative fur trade, to become one of the most economically diverse areas in Canada. The Diocese of Athabasca has had to adapt from reaching out to small scattered communities, to meeting the spiritual needs of a population involved in the development of huge oil and gas reserves, mixed farming and ranching, the lumber industry and communities experiencing tremendous pressure from boom time expansion and the challenges of economic downturn. To meet these challenges the diocese has 37 congregations served by 16 clergy. Included in this ministry are four congregations that are in shared ministry relationships with our fellow followers of Christ in the United Church and ELCIC traditions.

We give thanks to God for providing for our needs in ministry over the past year, for increasing the sense of “family” and growth in ministry. Please continue to pray for the provision of finances, discernment in staffing and for the diocesan administration as they seek to continue to make the Anglican Presence in Northern Alberta a vibrant and living one in these challenging times: The Rt. Rev’d. Fraser Lawton and The Very Rev’d. Dr. Iain Luke, Diocesan Dean.





Diocese of Brandon

January



The Diocese of Brandon was founded in 1913 and comprises over 250,000 sq. kms of the western side of the Province of Manitoba exercising ministry through 54 congregations served by 20 stipendiary clergy, 13 non-stipendiary and 22 retired clergy. 10 out of the 54 Congregations are First Nations (Cree) parishes in the North all of which are served by First Nations Priests who receive either stipends or honorariums.

The diocese is also home to the Henry Budd College for Ministry which has provided education opportunities and training for both lay and ordained ministries for over 30 years. All of the First Nations Clergy who serve our communities have taken and/or continue to take courses and workshops through the College.

Pray in thanksgiving for the witness and faith of the parishes of the diocese, the clergy and laity as they seek to make Christ and his redemptive love known in the communities in which they serve. Pray for Bishop Jim Njegovan. Pray in thanksgiving for the ongoing educational ministry of the Henry Budd College for Ministry in The Pas and the coordinators Marion Jenkins and Paul Sotke. Pray for the Indigenous parishes of the Diocese as they seek how best to become more self-determining and self-supporting. Continue to pray for more vocations to Holy Orders and the Religious Life within the Diocese and uphold the small Benedictine Community of St. James' and St. John's in thier witness to our Lord.



Diocese of Quebec

February



The Diocese of Quebec was founded in 1793 and makes up most of the geographical province of Quebec. The diocese has 39 parishes which serve 105 congregations. The issue of geography and language can contribute to much of the feeling of isolation that Anglicans in the diocese have to deal with. Many of the largest parishes in the diocese can be found on the Lower North Shore, on the Gaspé Peninsula, and on the Magdalen Islands. There is a large aboriginal parish in Kawawachikamach, which is a Naskapi village near the former mining town of Schefferville. The diocese continues to work on how to engage both the francophone and anglophone populations in a culture which does not take the church as seriously as it used to.

Pray for Bishop Dennis Drainville, his wife Cynthia Patterson and their daughter Aurora Patterson-Drainville, for the people and clergy of the diocese as they continue to work on how to provide pastoral care and support with decreasing resources; Pray for the work of the French speaking deanery of the diocese - ministry with French speaking people and Pierre Voyer, the Archdeacon of St. Laurent, Fr. Michel Royer, the Rural Dean, the Rev. Joanne Brosseau and all the clergy and people of the deanery.

