

GENERAL SYNOD 2010

RESOLUTION A029A

Governance Working Group - 7 (Revised)

Subject: Changing the basis for determining the number of clerical and lay members of General Synod from each diocese

Moved by Archbishop David Ashdown, Diocese of Keewatin
Seconded by Archbishop Claude Miller, Diocese of Fredericton

Be it resolved that this General Synod:

A. amend section 8(f) of the Constitution to read as follows:

f) Each Diocese shall be entitled to elect clerical and lay members of the General Synod, with the number from each Order being determined by the following formula:

Attendance at Easter Communion services in the Diocese divided by the total in all Dioceses, multiplied by 110.

Provided that:

- (i) the resulting number will be at least 2;*
- (ii) if the resulting number is a fractional number and is greater than 2, it will be rounded down to the nearest whole number if the fraction is 0.5 or less, and rounded up to the nearest whole number if the fraction is greater than 0.5;*

and this part of this resolution shall come into effect upon the latter of:

- (a) General Synod 2013 giving Second Reading to Resolution A019, and

- (b) General Synod 2013 passing a resolution to confirm or amend this revised resolution.
- B. direct Council of General Synod to gather and publish the required statistics for 2010 and subsequent years.

EXPLANATORY NOTE/BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The purpose of this resolution is to change the unit for determining the number of clerical and lay members which a diocese is entitled to send to General Synod. The current method is based on the “number of licensed clergy in the diocese”.

The resolution provides for a minimum of two clergy and two lay representatives from each diocese (in addition to its bishop(s) and youth member). This accounts for 60 of the 110 members of each Order.

The remaining 50 members are allocated proportionately by comparing attendance at Easter communion services in a particular diocese to the total attendance in the 30 dioceses.

This resolution does not change the size of General Synod.

PROCEDURE REQUIRED FOR ADOPTION

Because the existing membership formula is contained in section 3 of the Declaration of Principles (as well as in section 8 of the Constitution), it would normally be necessary to amend the Declaration of Principles. An amendment to the Declaration of Principles must be approved by two-thirds majority in each Order voting at two successive sessions of General Synod, and after First Reading must be referred for consideration to all diocesan and provincial synods: section 11(a)(ii) of the Declaration of Principles.

The effect of Resolution A019 (which was given First Reading earlier in this General Synod) would be to remove the existing membership formula from section 3 of the Declaration of Principles, leaving the formula in section 8 of the Constitution. As a result, if second reading is given to Resolution A019 at the 2013 General Synod, it would only be necessary to amend section 8 of the Constitution, to come into effect at the same time as Second Reading is given to A019.

The revised resolution stipulates that it must be confirmed or amended by

General Synod 2013.

