

# CANON XVI

## The Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia

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### 1. Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia

The dioceses within the civil Province of British Columbia, viz.; Columbia, New Westminster, Caledonia and Kootenay, and all other dioceses at any time erected within the province shall constitute a new Ecclesiastical Province, co-terminous with the civil province, to be known as the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia.

### 2. Territory

Should any question arise between the Provincial Synod of British Columbia and the Provincial Synod of Rupert's Land as to territory, such questions shall be decided by the synods of the provinces concerned.

### 3. Provincial Synod

There shall be a provincial synod to be known as the Provincial Synod of British Columbia to consist of all the bishops of The Anglican Church of Canada having Sees within the ecclesiastical province, or executing by due authority the episcopate as coadjutor, suffragan, assistant or missionary bishop therein, and of delegates chosen from the members of the clergy and laity thereof.

### 4. Constitution of Synod

The draft Constitution embodied in the several memorials presented to the General Synod at its Sixth Session, 1911, and agreed upon as a basis by the four dioceses, shall form a part of the constitution of the Provincial Synod of British Columbia until at any time amended by the provincial synod.

Provided always that the Constitution of the synod shall contain the acceptance by such provincial synod of the Solemn Declaration prefixed to the Constitution of the General Synod of Canada and as set forth and contained in the Handbook of the General Synod.

### 5. First Session

In pursuance of the draft Constitution, each of the four dioceses and synods shall elect at a regular session four clerical and four lay representatives to the provincial synod in accordance with the basis of representation.

Within six months after receiving a certified list of delegates elected by each of the four dioceses, the senior bishop by consecration in the province shall call the other bishops and these duly elected delegates together at some convenient place within the province for the purpose of completing the organization of the provincial synod and proceeding to transact such business as may be deemed proper, and such bishop shall also act as chairperson of the body thus called together until it be organized and under its own constitution.

## **6. Transfer of Dioceses**

With the consent of the diocese affected, the Provincial Synod of British Columbia may enter into agreements with the Provincial Synod of Rupert's Land for the transfer to the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia of any territory comprised within the province and such territory shall upon and after the date agreed upon become and constitute part of the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and be subject to the provincial synod thereof.

**Note: The Diocese of Yukon transferred from the Ecclesiastical Province of Rupert's Land to the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia in 1943.**