



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

The Primate's Office
80 Hayden Street, Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2
Tel: (416) 924-9192 * Fax: (416) 924-0211
Email: primate@national.anglican.ca
www.anglican.ca

15 November 2015

Dear fellow Bishops and Clergy,

As you all know Bishop Peter Coffin who has served faithfully as the Bishop Ordinary to the Canadian Forces since February 2005 will be retiring from that ministry in 2016. The Anglican Military Ordinariate (AMO) is therefore presently seeking nominations for a Bishop to serve as spiritual head and pastor to members of the Anglican Church of Canada serving in our military.

The AMO is composed of all of the Anglicans in the Canadian Armed Forces from across Canada's Bases, Wings and Formations; many of whom are members of parishes within dioceses where they serve as well as members of military chapels. Lay membership in the AMO includes an estimated 20,000 service personnel and their families. The Ordinariate includes our 40 Regular Force and 16 Reserve Force Chaplains, who comprise approximately 22% of all Canadian Armed Forces Chaplains.

Though not a diocese, various General Synod documents describe the AMO as "equivalent to a diocese." Governance of the AMO is described by the *Canonical Prescriptions of the Anglican Military Ordinariate* which support an Archdeacon and Canons (*The Chapter*) from which comes a 'Bishop's Council' of six, including the Archdeacon and Bishop. These are responsible for the day to day conduct of the AMO. The Canons on 'Bishop's Council' are presently allocated duties: Canon Secretary, Canon Treasurer, Canon Recruiter, and Canon Reservist. A Chancellor has also been recently appointed.

The ministry of the Bishop Ordinary includes:

Support of the clergy and families of the AMO. With a particular focus to keep AMO members linked with their home faith community of the Anglican Church of Canada. (Approximately 40% of the Bishop Ordinary's focus)

Recruiting. This includes initial contact endorsement and follow through with new and prospective chaplains (20%)

Governance matters. These include those internal to the AMO; working as a member of the Interfaith Committee on Canadian Military Chaplaincy; membership on the Anglican Church of Canada's House of Bishops and the duties allocated by the Primate; and Communion duties such as Lambeth and keeping in touch with the wider church. (20%)

The Spiritual and liturgical life of the community. These include the Sacraments, such as Confirmations and participating in Episcopal Ordinations; leading devotions; chapel life support; mentoring chaplains. (10%)

Communications. Telling the story of ministry in the military to the Anglican Church of Canada as well as other groups, newsletter and website support. (10%)

Bishop Peter Coffin will also be supplying extensive handover notes including day-to-day details of his experience as the Bishop Ordinary.

It is expected that the position of Bishop Ordinary will be sole employment of the elected nominee. The primary accountability of the Bishop Ordinary is to the Primate. The position presently pays half-time remuneration in addition for provision for normal expenses. The AMO's financial support is outlined in the attached profile.

In 2013 the General Synod, in Joint Assembly with the Evangelical Lutheran Church of Canada, adopted Canon XXIII enabling the election of a Bishop Ordinary. The first election of the Bishop Ordinary will take place on March 5th 2016.

All candidates must be nominated by two members of the house of laity of the AMO and two members from the house of the clergy from the AMO. Nominations for the position are now open. Nominations close 20 Feb 2016, however, it is hoped that prospective nominees will engage the process as soon as reasonably possible, via the AMO Search Committee.

In your discernment and nomination of a candidate I commend the attached documents including the episcopal ministry competencies from Theological Education in the Anglican Communion (TEAC). Please direct all enquiries and nominations to the Chair of the Search Committee, Maj the Rev'd Gordon Mintz who may be contacted at gordon.mintz@forces.gc.ca or 613-415-7720.

It is our hope that the person elected will be:

A prayerful and spiritual leader committed to his or her own spiritual growth.

A theologian grounded in Scripture.

An able communicator and capable administrator.

A person with a passion for the gospel and for ministry within the unique community and ethos of the Canadian Armed Forces.

A person willing to attend meetings primarily in the National Capital Region and travel across the country ministering to the members of the AMO.

Please know that I join you in prayer as the discernment and electoral process moves forward.

“Almighty God, giver of all good gifts, look on your Church with grace, and guide the minds of those who shall choose a Bishop Ordinary that we may receive a faithful servant who will care for your people and support us in our ministries; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.”

(p 676, The Book of Alternative Services)



The Most Rev. Fred J. Hiltz
Primate, The Anglican Church of Canada

Appendices (Attached)

Appendix A – ANGLICAN BISHOP ORDINARY TO THE CANADIAN ARMED FORCES - Profile 2015

Appendix B – THEOLOGICAL EDUCATION FOR THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION