



## **Canon 26**

### **Elections of Members to General and Provincial Synods and of Standing Committees of Synod**

#### **CLERICAL MEMBERS**

1. Clerical members of General and Provincial Synods shall be elected by ballot by the Clerical members of Synod. With regard to the election of clerical members to General and Provincial Synods, all members eligible for election shall be nominated and only those who accept the clerical nomination shall have their name placed on the ballots, alphabetically arranged by Deaneries. Those clerical members who wish to stand for election must indicate their intention to stand in writing to the Secretary-Treasurer by February 28th. The clerics whose names appear on the General and Provincial Synod ballot shall be required to provide a one-page biography to the Secretary-Treasurer by February 28th to be included in the Convening Circular.

#### **LAY MEMBERS**

2. Lay members to General and Provincial Synods shall be elected by ballot by the lay members from the lay representatives to Synod. With regard to the election of lay members to General and Provincial Synods, all duly elected lay members to Synod shall be nominated and only those who accept the lay nomination shall have their names placed on the ballots, alphabetically arranged by Deaneries. Those lay representatives who wish to stand for election must indicate their intention to stand in writing to the Secretary-Treasurer by February 28th and shall be required to provide a brief one-page biography to the Secretary-Treasurer by February 28th to be included in the Convening Circular.

#### **LAIC MEMBERS AND YOUTH MEMBERS**

3. LAIC shall be entitled to appoint one (1) member of the First Nations (either clerical or lay) to General Synod. Should LAIC exercise its option to appoint either a clerical or lay representative to General Synod, then in that event the number of clerical or lay elected representatives shall be reduced by one (either a clerical or lay representative) depending on the appointment made by LAIC. Such appointment shall be forwarded to the Secretary-Treasurer by February 28th.
4. In addition, one Youth member shall be selected by members of Youth Synod to be a member of General Synod and one Youth member to be a member of Provincial Synod, who shall be at least 16 years of age at the commencement of General or



Provincial Synod, and who shall be under the age of 26 years upon the termination of the next General or Provincial Synod.

### **METHOD OF ELECTION**

5. In those years when elections are required for General or Provincial Synods, prior to the meeting of Synod, the Secretary-Treasurer shall cause a separate election ballot to be printed for the respective clerical and lay orders upon which shall be shown alphabetically by Deaneries:
  - (a) the names of all clerical candidates in the case of the election of clerical representatives nominated as herein before provided; and
  - (b) the names of all lay candidates in the case of the election of lay representatives nominated as herein before provided.
6. One of the Territorial Archdeacons of the Diocese shall be the Chief Scrutineer in a year in which a General or Provincial Synod is to be held. The Territorial Archdeacon so designated shall be named by the Bishop at the preceding Synod, and shall be chosen in the following rotation: Archdeacon of Brant/Norfolk, Archdeacon of Oxford and Delaware, Essex, Huron/Perth, Kent/Lambton, London, The Saugeens and Waterloo. The name of the Chief Scrutineer shall be published in the convening circular of Synod.
7. In the case of an election using paper ballots:
  - (a) The Chief Scrutineer shall present to the Bishop the names of an equal number of clerics and lay persons to act as scrutineers.
  - (b) The voting for election shall take place at a time or times to be determined by Synod at its organizational session in the year in question. Voting shall be by ballot and each ballot shall specify the number to be elected.
  - (c) The method of election shall be by each member who wishes to vote placing opposite the names of persons for whom they vote on the various ballots, a mark that clearly indicates such intent. Any ballot which indicates votes for more than the specified number to be elected shall be invalid.
  - (d) During balloting, ballot boxes shall always be under the supervision of at least two of the scrutineers, or the Honorary Secretaries of Synod. Members may cast their ballots at Synod during periods determined by Synod.
  - (e) Upon the balloting being declared closed by the Bishop, the scrutineers shall retire for the purpose of counting the ballots, and as soon as the count is concluded, shall report the results to the Bishop, who shall announce to Synod



the names of the members elected. For the purposes of a quorum at Synod, the scrutineers, while engaged in their duties, shall be counted as present.

- (f) Other Anglicans or communicant members of a Church which is in full communion with the Anglican Church of Canada may be appointed to act as scrutineers in place of members of Synod, provided always that the chairperson of the scrutineers supervises the procedure.
8. In the case of an election held by electronic means:
- (a) The Synod Organizational Committee shall determine an electronic means of voting which provides for secure anonymous voting which can be verified by the Honorary Secretaries of Synod.(b) The Synod Organizational Committee shall appoint a member of the committee to provide the technical and administrative support for the election. This person shall consult with the Chief Scrutineer so that the Chief Scrutineer can be satisfied with the integrity of the election process.

#### **ELECTIONS OF MEMBERS OF STANDING COMMITTEES OF SYNOD**

9. Diocesan Council shall elect six clerical and six lay members who shall constitute a Nominating Committee to propose:
- (a) the members of standing committees of Synod; and
  - (b) the nominees for Honorary Secretaries of Synod (one clerical and one lay), who shall serve during the current year at and between sessions of Synod.