

## **Serving as a Member of Diocesan Council**

**“Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received.” (1 Peter 4:10)**

**“I am calling this Synod to embrace a mandate that calls us to think of our church in a new way.” (Bishop John Chapman’s 2012 Charge)**

The central responsibility of Diocesan Council members is to act on behalf of the Diocese as a whole between Synod meetings in order to fulfill its mandate which is derived from the diocesan vision “to be a vibrant body of faithful Christians working to fulfill the mission God has given us” and the mission of its parishes and ministries “to enable people to know Jesus Christ, to live and share the good news, to grow in faith and to serve God’s world.”

Working as a collegial body, members of Diocesan Council help fulfill its mandate to

- provide leadership and oversight;
- set the strategic direction for the Diocese and align resources accordingly;
- set and approve policies and practices to support the achievement of our mission;
- assist with the engagement of parishes and parishioners and members of the broader community; and
- with the Bishop, oversee the implementation of strategic plans, the stewardship of resources, and the management of governance.

Members have a responsibility to assist with the work of Council by attending 4–6 meetings a year, reading Council documents in advance, engaging in collaborative deliberation and constructive debate at its meetings, serving as members of Synod, and acting as partners with the Council Chair. Meetings take place either on Wednesday evenings or Saturdays.

Along with their work on Diocesan Council, Council members are also required to serve on one of the following Council Committees: Community Ministry, Parish Ministry, Governance, Property and Finance or Outreach. Descriptions of the mandates and terms of reference for these committees can be found on the diocesan website at [www.ottawa.anglican.ca/About\\_Us](http://www.ottawa.anglican.ca/About_Us).

The typical time requirement for Diocesan Council and committee work is approximately 10 hours a month.

### **Nominations Process**

1. Any baptized member in good standing of the Diocese may be nominated.
2. The Nominations Subcommittee deliberates and discerns a slate of appropriate nominees based on the requirements of Council.
3. This slate, as reviewed by the Governance Committee, is submitted to Diocesan Council in June for review and endorsement and is published prior to Great Chapter meetings for review and feedback.
4. The Nominations Subcommittee makes revisions, as required, and presents the slate to Synod for final confirmation by majority vote at its annual meeting.