

## **MOTION THREE: Diocesan Structure Working Group**

**Proposed by: Trevor Freeman; Seconded by: Monty Tuck**

### **BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

- i. Diocesan Synod 2021 instruct Diocesan Council to appoint a Structure Working Group to review existing diocesan structures (including regions, the role of Worshipping Communities, and properties) and to advise the Archbishop and Diocesan Council on proposals for new and revised structures that serve Christ's Mission in our Diocese now and in the generation to come, and**
- ii. a preliminary report be made to Diocesan Council no later than November 2021 with respect to whether the current structures serve our needs and are nimble enough to adjust to shifting ministry needs.**

### **BACKGROUND:**

The Diocese of Kootenay is blessed with rich resources. We have an abundance of property throughout our Diocese, we are in a healthy financial position, and we are rich in faithful people. We, like the world around us, are also faced with particular challenges. The question of how best to meet those challenges with our resources needs careful attention. Even more importantly, the question of how the Spirit is calling us to participate in God's work needs prayerful attention.

The structural framework of the Diocese of Kootenay was set many years ago. The intervening years have seen adjustments and additions to that original framework. The structures we have inherited make certain assumptions about the life of the church and world. Those assumptions may no longer hold true. Given the ongoing change in both the church and the wider world it is timely to do a comprehensive review of our structures to see whether there might be a better way to serve and support our baptismal ministry. The current structures may or may not be up to the task. A review of those structures with an eye to re-structuring for our current and future needs is both timely and necessary.

The role of regional structures and property assets is to serve and support the baptismal ministry of the church. These structures do not exist for their own sake. The structures of the church were made for us, not us for them. We can change them as we need to. In order to do this well, however, we need a careful and thoughtful small group to look at how new ways of being church ought to inform the daily functioning of our organisation.

The priorities for a Diocesan Structure Working Group could include:

- a review of regional boundaries and whether non-geographical or other models of organisation might be beneficial
- a review of diocesan property assets to ensure that the diocese is being a good steward of its resources
- a review of the relationship of Worshipping Communities to the wider diocese