

Appendix B

Working Document: The Council for Theological Education

The statutes of St. John's College provide for a Faculty of Theology advisory Council. Within that framework we recommend the following expansions and amendments.

Composition:

1. The Council for Theological Education should be a joint body of the Diocese of Rupert's Land and St. John's College. Council members from within the Diocese of Rupert's Land should be nominated by Diocesan Council and the College Council, once the Council for Theological Education is functioning it should also be responsible for Council member nomination.
2. The College Warden and the Bishop of Rupert's Land should be ex-officio members of the Council.
3. The Council should include lay theologians and educators, professional theologians, clergy, and St. John's College Fellows (including at least one Senior Fellow, and one graduate student where possible), and should have no more than twelve members. A minimum of two members must be St. John's College representatives, or Fellows. There should be at least three laity represented on the Council who should be chosen for their experience in theological formation and leadership experience. There should be two professional theologians on the Council. Clergy should also be represented on the Council and should be chosen for their experience in theological and pastoral formation. The nominating body should also ensure that one or more indigenous laity, clergy members, academics, and/or theologians are invited to sit on the Council.
4. There should be special attention paid ensuring a balance of gender representation on the Council. There should never be less than one-third representation of either gender.
5. The Council Chair should be chosen by its membership and the Chair is held for a three-year term. Members should be appointed for a renewable three-year term.

Mandate:

1. The Council for Theological Education is responsible for enlivening theological education across the Diocese of Rupert's Land, as well as for offering leadership in all theological education initiatives and partnerships with other theological education institutions.
2. The Diocese of Rupert's Land is responsible for the immediate creation of a Working Group, representative of different educational and spiritual development institutions and programs, with a mandate to propose a set of formation expectations for priests and deacons to Diocesan Council by December 2015. This working group will also report to the Council for Theological Education and this Council will support the work of the Formation Coordinator/Mentor (a draft job description for this position can be found in Appendix B of the TEC Report) to implement its recommendations. The Council will also liaise with DDGOM and DLCMG¹ to assist with the long-term development and implementation of the Working Group's recommendations.
3. The Council will provide accountability/guidance for the recommended Formation Coordinator/Mentor position (a draft job description for this position can be found in Appendix B of the TEC Report) established in partnership between the Diocese of Rupert's Land and St. John's College.
4. The Council will promote and provide leadership for diocesan clergy and lay theological training opportunities, including providing resources and ideas for clergy days and retreats.
5. The Council is encouraged to partner, when appropriate, with other theological schools and colleges to ensure high-quality courses for clergy, postulants, and lay people are provided. The Council should discern which arrangements best serve the needs of the diocese. However, it is recommended that the Council maintain a flexible and multi-faceted approach, aiming for a combination of educational opportunities ranging from parochial partnerships to possible partnership with local theological degree granting programs.
6. The Council, in consultation with St. John's College governance structures, should consider the possibility of providing attestation for programs developed in partnership with other theological education and training institutions and provide leadership in these initiatives.

¹ These discernment groups are described in the online appendix.

7. That the Council research the formation needs of transitional deacons and newly ordained priests, and propose that a resolution be brought to the 2016 Diocesan Synod, that the terms of the diocesan Ministry Development Fund be revised to include support for parishes in the establishment of stipendiary internships for newly ordained persons
8. The Council, in partnership with St John's College, will oversee the development and administration of an annual or biannual Visiting Resident Fellowship program for clergy and theologians in the diocese.
9. The Council will offer proposals to St. John's College governance regarding resource allocation of bursaries and endowments related to theological education at the College. The purpose of these proposals will be to sustain support for the training of postulants in the Diocese of Rupert's Land and continuing theological education funds for laity and clergy.
10. The Council can convene consultations on matters of doctrine and church practice as requested by the Bishop or his designate and be a resource for synodical decision-making.