



The General Synod Times

vol. 1 Fall 2006

Greetings!

Welcome to the first issue of *The General Synod Times*, a short newsletter that will keep you informed about plans for General Synod 2007 and will provide you with helpful and timely information. If your email address is on file, you will receive all future issues of *The Times* electronically; if not, they will be mailed to you.

General Synod 2007

The dates - June 19 – 25, 2007
The place - Winnipeg, Manitoba

Our Host



The people of the Diocese of Rupert's Land are eagerly awaiting your arrival as a member of the upcoming meeting of General Synod. We take our ministry of hospitality for this event very seriously. The Diocese of Rupert's Land was instrumental in the formation of our General Synod in 1893, and our diocesan bishop, Robert Machray, was elected as our Church's first Primate.

These are challenging times for our Church, and this meeting of General Synod will require all of us to be open to the leading of God's Spirit – praying for the grace to discern God's will, and the courage to carry it out. At the initial meeting of our Local Arrangements Committee, I asked that we focus our efforts in such a way that every person who comes will feel as though they have gathered in the presence of God and experienced the Risen Christ and the power of the Spirit throughout the time we are together.

THE RT. REV. DONALD D. PHILLIPS

Every Christian community, including the members of this General Synod, need a balance of worship, work and play. As much as it lies with our Local Arrangements Committee, we have attended to all three.

We look forward to the gifts and grace that you will bring to our gathering. Travel safe. See you in June!

Yours in Christ,
Donald Phillips, Bishop of Rupert's Land

General Synod Theme - *Draw the Circle Wide, Draw it Wider Still*

Approved by the Council of General Synod in November 2005, the General Synod theme, *Draw the Circle Wide, Draw it Wider Still*, incorporates concepts of inclusivity: language, race, culture, theology and the dignity of all people. The circle, with Christ as its centre, can be infinitely wide and draws all to Christ. The circle, a symbol of creation and life, is significant to Indigenous people representing healing, sharing and teaching. It represents continuity, movement, wholeness and openness – some hopes for the future of the Anglican Church of Canada.

General Synod Planning Committee

It is my pleasure, on behalf of the General Synod Planning Committee and all of those working so hard in planning our 38th General Synod, to welcome you to *The General Synod Times* and to assure you that a host of people are busy making preparations for this important time together. Our time in Winnipeg will be significant - we have many challenging issues ahead of us. From *The Windsor Report* through *The St. Michael Report* through *Prioritized Operations Plan* through the many exciting and life-giving ministries and partnerships which our church is, through the election of a new Primate, it will be a busy but productive week together. Although we have a full and important agenda we will also have time to spend together informally and to enjoy June in one of our country's most delightful cities. I want to assure you that the General Synod Planning Committee, the Worship Committee, and the Local Arrangements Committee are all hard at work, and are committed to making this Synod both important and enjoyable. We look forward to communicating with you in the months to come and to seeing you in Winnipeg in June!

Peter Wall, Chair, GSPC

General Synod Planning Committee Members:

Archdeacon Donna Ball, Diocese of Rupert's Land, General Synod Worship Committee Chair
Ms Barbara Burrows, Diocese of Edmonton
Dean Bob Osborne and Ms Susan Suppes, Co-Chairs of the Local Arrangements Committee
The Rev. Canon Murray Still, Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples
Archdeacon Michael Pollesel, General Secretary
The Rev. Randy Townsend, Diocese of Nova Scotia and PEI
The Very Rev. Peter Wall, Dean of Niagara, Chair
Mrs. Susan Winn, Deputy Prolocutor
Ms. Margaret Shawyer, Coordinator, General Synod Planning
Ms. Dianne Izzard, Assistant to the Coordinator

How to Contact Us

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