

10 New Directions



With the endorsement by Synod of the plan to live into our new vision, the Diocese is moving forward in converting our 10 Vision Directions into active Commitments. The following is a brief summary of the 10 Directions/Commitments, including a few of the key objectives, and updates on the current [November 2015] status of some key tactics that have been identified as first priorities or opportunities.

Direction #1: Worship Resources

Provide more diverse opportunities and resources for worship, and for personal and family spiritual practice.

- Expand the work of the Liturgical Commission with a proactive.
- Wider and more systematic dissemination of new liturgies.
- More training and opportunities for laity to design and lead worship.
- Greater sharing of worship resources, innovations and experiences.

Status:

- Diocesan Conference held Saturday October 31, 2015
- Liturgical Commission work on-going

Direction #2: Lay Ministry and Leadership Formation

Celebrate and lift up the ministry of all the baptized, and better equip and enable both lay and ordained leaders, so they may exercise their gifts for the benefit of all.

- Empower a Lay Ministry Task Team to review all current practices.
- Provide resources for intensive, intentional, effective and ongoing discernment, training and support programs for all lay roles.
- Create a permanent Diocesan Leadership Formation Team.

Status:

- Foundations of Christian Understanding
- (FOCUS) courses starting in February 2016
- Diaconal conversations on going.

Direction #3: Support for Current and Emerging Ministries

Revitalizing and transforming our existing spiritual communities, inviting others to join us and encouraging and supporting new forms of spiritual community.

- Mission and Ministry Officer, responsible for Congregational Development.
- Enable parishes to apply for "matching funds" grants for innovative congregational development proposals.
- Develop ways to share resources and training to strengthen parish life. Encourage the creation of regional and diocesan centres of excellence.

Status:

- Job description for Ministry and Mission Officer underway
- Ministry and Mission Endowment (formerly New Wine and New Initiatives Fund) to begin funding in early 2016. Process under construction at the moment.
- Post-Ordination training to begin in 2016 under guidance of Venerable Alan Naylor

Direction #4: Youth, Young Adults and Young Families

Make a demonstrable and real commitment to identifying and meeting the needs of younger people within the Anglican Church.

 Engage a qualified expert in Youth and Family Ministries to work closely and collaboratively with those currently involved in them in the diocese.

- Provide funding for short-term programs; undertake an inventory of existing resources and needs assessment and recommend approach for longer term.
- Devote resources to Youth and Family Ministries on an ongoing basis.

Status:

- Chaplaincy Ministry has increase funding in 2015/16
- Mission and Ministry Officer to frame youth ministry and coordinate inventory assessment.

Direction #5: Remote and Shared Ministries

Devote particular attention to the special needs of Remote Parishes and Ecumenical Shared Ministries.

- Mission and Ministry Officer to define and conduct a needs assessment of Remote Parishes and develop with them a well-resourced plan of action.
- Conduct a parallel assessment of current Ecumenical Shared Ministries, and collaborate on next steps to improve existing and future partnerships.

Status:

- Mission and Ministry Officer hiring in process
- Shared ministry conference taking shape for 2016; could be provincial effort
- Assessment and review of shared ministries underway with United Church.

Direction #6:

Engaging God's World Take concrete action to advance economic and social justice, the fair and equitable distribution of resources, and responsible custodianship of the environment.

- Conduct inventory of current programs and partnerships across the diocese.
- This includes, but is not limited to, recently created groups working under the umbrellas of Creation Matters, Justice Matters and Relationship Matters.
- Recalibrate the balance between charity and advocacy, in favour of the latter.

Status:

 Formation of advisory groups— Creation Matters and Justice Matters. Developments will be communicated as part of Communication strategy

Direction #7:

Reconciliation and Beyond Recommit to an ongoing-shared journey

with First Nations and people of all nations, cultures and races, especially those who feel hurt or abandoned by the Church.

- Create a diocesan team to inventory current efforts at reconciliation across the diocese and explore new ways of learning to walk together.
- Consult closely with other institutions and organizations, both religious and secular, especially including First Nations communities.

 Continue supporting, financially and in other ways, efforts to strengthen First Nations identity, e.g. indigenous language programs.

Status:

 Relationships Matter advisory committee established and on going.

Direction #8:

Effective Communication

Communicate more effectively as Anglicans on these Islands, both among ourselves and with the wider world.

- Communications Officer to develop integrated Diocesan Communications Strategy.
- Form a Diocesan Communications Team, with representation from across the diocese, led by the new Communications Officer.
- Redesign the diocesan website and social media presence (and their ongoing maintenance and enhancement), emphasizing easy access to information, improved user experience, timeliness, interactivity and multi-media content.
 Status:
- Position filled effective mid-January 2016

Direction #9: Asset Management

Use existing assets more effectively by sharing them more wisely and creating new community partnerships.

- Empower and support the work of the Diocesan Asset Management Office.
- Embark on an awareness campaign to help parishes understand the potential to develop their properties through the parish precinct model.
- Build on work already begun to determine why, how and whether to expand diocesan involvement in church-based schools and housing projects.

Status:

Community model research report due December 2015

Direction #10:

Financial Resources

Invest a portion of existing funds to launch the implementation of the vision, and embark on a diocese-wide capital campaign to sustain local and shared initiatives for the long term.

- Approve and execute the recommended short-term investment strategy.
- Launch a feasibility study to determine the readiness of the diocese to embark on such an initiative, how best to design and conduct it, and an overall financial target, including proposed sources and distribution of funds.
- Consult widely throughout the diocese to enhance understanding and agreement around our shared priorities, and build a compelling "case for support".

Status:

• Feasibility and Capacity study on going; report due for SYNOD 2016.

For more complete details on each of the 10 Directions/Commitments and the potential activities and tactics that the vision process has identified, please see the report on the website: bc.anglican.ca/sites/bc.anglican.ca/files/synod_package.pdf