

# REPORTS OF THE BISHOP'S COMMITTEES

## THE BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON CHURCH BUILDINGS

### **Preamble.**

Members of the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Buildings (BACCB) are volunteers who dedicate their time and expertise in their related fields of engineering, architecture, construction management and regulated authorities that provide assistance on any capital projects for parishes with-in the Diocese of Niagara.

All parish capital projects within the Diocese of Niagara are governed by Canon 4.6 and its associated regulations.

Parishes are encouraged to contact the Secretary to Synod as soon as a project idea takes shape in order to avoid any issues that might impede its success.

### **2020/2021 Activities**

This past year has been a challenge for all of us due to COVID-19. Churches were not being used for a large part of the last year. Some capital projects were delayed or not even started.

With that said, we did manage to complete approximately \$1,283,000.00 worth of capital improvement projects throughout the diocese eg; barrier-free accessibility upgrades, electrical upgrades, paving of lots, roof repairs and video livestreaming and sound systems with many more items not listed. This is still an amazing amount of work done, and the BACCB congratulates all the parishes who completed their projects.

The BACCB also this past year provided a news story about how to listen to your church when it talks to you, inviting parishes to be in touch with the BACCB for support with ongoing upkeep. I received some positive feedback and hope that we continue to listen and provide the care that our buildings needed.

### **Futures**

With hope and faith we will be able to fully use our churches again soon and continue to provide a safe place to worship and provide community support. With this in mind let's continue to renovate, rebuild, and upgrade our church buildings for the future. They are an ever-present symbol of accessibility to Christ. They are a sign of welcome to persons who feel either stranded, alone, anxious or angry. They are the on-the-street face of Anglicanism for they reflect the care and love they have been given, to all who come near.

Respectfully submitted,

Andre Gravelle CBCO, CRBO  
Chair

# REPORTS OF THE BISHOP'S COMMITTEES

## THE BISHOP'S DECENNIAL INSPECTION COMMITTEE

The BDIC mandate is to ensure that all Anglican Church properties within the Diocese are inspected on a rotating ten (10) year cycle. To accomplish this task we maintain Terms of Reference Inspection Requirements, schedule, monitor, assist to facilitate and track these inspections. All building physical structures, building fabric, building systems, building components grounds and cemeteries (if applicable) are reviewed.

The Committee also reviews and maintains a list of competent Professional Inspection firms that are deemed qualified to undertake the required inspection work to meet our Terms of Reference. The BDIC committee reviews all Inspection Reports and Documents prepared by the inspection firms prior to their issuance to each Parish to ensure they meet the requirements of our Terms of Reference. We remain available to assist Parishes (when requested) to develop their action plans for the completion of critical and longer term items noted on their inspection reports.

Committee members are equipped to perform reviews of existing vacant diocesan buildings related to structural and other building system conditions and can provide advice on other building related items.

In 2021, five (5) Decennial Inspections came due. One (1) was granted permission for 2021 ahead of their normal schedule. Three (3) past-due 2020 inspections were completed in 2021. At the request of the Parish one (1) inspection scheduled for 2021 was rescheduled for 2022. As a direct result of the COVID-19 pandemic, Parishes scheduled for 2021 could postpone their inspections to 2022 if requested. For 2022, one (1) inspection is due plus several approved postponements.

I would like to thank the following members of our committee for their ongoing efforts and service to this important Ministry in the Diocese:

The Reverend Canon Kathy Morgan  
The Reverend Canon Ian Chadwick  
Canon David Ricketts  
Terry Charters  
Brian Culp  
Phil Hartog

Respectfully submitted,

Steven Swing  
Committee Chair

# REPORTS OF THE BISHOP'S COMMITTEES

## THE BISHOP'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON PROPERTY RENEWAL

Established in 2019, this committee advises the Bishop of Niagara on matters pertaining to strategic and missional renewal of designated properties. The committee may also be asked to oversee renewal of properties associated with existing parishes in the case of a proposed new church or major modification of an existing church building.

The committee is comprised of volunteers with specific expertise and knowledge in the areas of real estate, municipal planning, appraising, architecture, heritage resource management, law and community engagement

In the past year, the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Property Renewal continued to meet by Zoom advancing the following initiatives:

- Review of proposals and recommendations for the key priority site;
- Advice regarding ongoing discussions for the disposition of 5 other sites; and
- Ongoing strategic evaluation of 4 additional sites.

In the coming year, we will continue to explore new opportunities, and hopefully provide suitable recommendations for the disposition of some of the more challenging properties.

Respectfully submitted,

Canon Terry Charters  
Committee Chair