

CANON 20

PARISH AND VESTRY MEETINGS

1. (a) At all meetings of parishioners, every member of the Church who is a recognized attendant at the public worship of that parish and who is of the full age of 16 years and has signed the Declaration of Church Membership, shall be entitled to act as a parishioner and shall be eligible to be elected as a member of the vestry.

(b) To be eligible to be appointed or elected as a churchwarden, a person must have signed the Declaration of Church Membership and must be of the full age of 18 years.

2. The Declaration of Church Membership shall be in the following form:

“I hereby declare that:

- 1) I have been baptized with water in the name of The Father and of The Son and of The Holy Spirit.
- 2) I am of the full age of 16 years.
- 3) I am a recognized attendant at the public worship of the Anglican Church of Canada, Parish (or Mission) of _____, within the Diocese of Rupert’s Land.

Dated _____
(Day) (Month) (Year)

(Signed)”

3. At a meeting of parishioners, only votes of those who have signed the Declaration of Church Membership shall be recorded, and their decision shall bind those who are absent.

4. In every parish an annual meeting of parishioners shall be held in each year between the first day of January and the fifteenth day of February next ensuing.

The business of such meeting shall be:

(a) To receive notification as to the appointment of the churchwarden selected by the incumbent.

(b) To elect a churchwarden, the members of the vestry, and lay delegates and substitute lay delegates to Synod.

(c) To receive and approve the accounts of the parish for the preceding calendar year.

(d) To appoint auditors, and

(e) To transact any other business as may properly be brought before the meeting.

5. A parish that conducts its affairs on a program year basis and not on a calendar year basis may hold in each year, in addition to the annual meeting referred to in section 4, a general meeting of parishioners at such time as may be determined by the parish.

The business of the meeting shall be:

(a) To receive and consider reports from parish officers and committees;

(b) To elect the members of the vestry;

(c) To transact any other business as may properly be brought before the meeting.

6. The business of the meeting referred to in section 5 shall not include the appointment and/or election of churchwardens, the election of lay delegates or substitute lay delegates to Synod, or the receiving or approval of the accounts of the parish for the preceding calendar year.

7. The convener of all meetings of parishioners and of the vestry shall be:

(a) The incumbent, and if the incumbent is not available;

(b) A churchwarden, and if the churchwardens are not available;

(c) A parishioner delegated by the incumbent for that purpose, if there be such.