

PLAN AND GUIDELINES FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT  
OF THE CANADIAN DIOCESE

The Primate of the Eastern Diocese of the Armenian Church of America and the Diocesan Council, with the ratification of His Holiness Catholicos Vazken I, have decided that a separate Diocese be established in Canada under the spiritual authority of Holy Etchmiadzin.

The following steps will be taken to implement the above decision:

1. There shall be invited to a Consultative Meeting to be presided over by the Primate of the Eastern Diocese or by a Vicar to be appointed by the Primate of the Eastern Diocese, the following representatives of our seven communities in Canada:
  - a) Reverend Clergy
  - b) Present Diocesan Assembly Delegates
  - c) Chairman (only) of Parish Councils
  - d) Those communities which do not have a Diocesan Assembly Delegate will be instructed to elect one individual to represent their community as a Delegate and to become a member of the Committee.

COMMUNITIES OF CANADA

	<u>Chairman</u>	<u>Pastor</u>	<u>Delegate</u>	<u>Delegate to be elected</u>	<u>Total</u>
1. Montreal	1	1	4	0	6
2. Toronto (Holy Trinity)	1	1	4	0	6
3. Toronto (Holy Cross)	1	0	4	0	5
4. St. Catharines	1	1	1	0	3
5. Vancouver	1	0	0	1	2
6. Hamilton	1	0	1	0	2
7. Ottawa	1	0	0	1	2
Totals	<u>7</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>26</u>

2. The members of this Consultative Meeting will act in accordance with the instructions of the Primate of the Eastern Diocese and the Diocesan Council. Any and all undertakings of this body and of such committees as are formed by it, will be subject to the ratification of the Primate of the Eastern Diocese and the Diocesan Council, whose decisions shall be regarded as final.
3. At the Consultative Meeting the Primate of the Eastern Diocese will appoint an Ad Hoc Executive Body which will be comprised of the following individuals:
  - a) A clergyman representing the Primate of the Eastern Diocese as President of the Ad Hoc Executive Body;
  - b) Two priests;
  - c) A representative from each of the seven communities. The representatives of each community will decide which one person will be chosen to represent them as a member of the Ad Hoc Executive Body. The two clergymen will be appointed by the Primate of the Eastern Diocese.
  - d) The Ad Hoc Executive Body will elect the following officials:
    - i) Chairman
    - ii) Vice-Chairman
    - iii) Secretary
    - iv) Treasurer
4. The Eastern Diocesan Council will present to <sup>the</sup> be Consultative Meeting a draft of the Bylaws of Canada, for their review, correction and amendments.
5. At an official session of the Consultative Meeting to be invited with the signatures of the President of the Ad Hoc Executive Body, its Chairman and Secretary, the draft Bylaws for Canada presented by the Primate of the Eastern Diocese and Diocesan Council shall be considered article by article, and after ratification of it by majority vote, it will be returned to the Primate of the Eastern Diocese and Diocesan Council.
6. The Eastern Diocesan Council will review the corrected Bylaws and shall present them with its suggestions to His Holiness the Catholicos of All Armenians for ratification.
7. Each and every Canadian Parish will fulfill any and all financial obligations to the Eastern Diocese.

8. The Primate of the Eastern Diocese and Diocesan Council shall, after receipt of the new Bylaws of the Diocese of Canada signed, sealed and ratified by His Holiness the Catholicos, send to the seven communities of the Diocese of Canada the instruction that a Special Parish Assembly be convened and in accordance with the new Bylaws new delegates for the Canadian Diocesan Assembly and new Parish Council members be elected.
9. The Primate of the Eastern Diocese and Diocesan Council after ratifying the elections of the Special Parish Assemblies, will ascertain the date, place and agenda of the first Canadian Diocesan Assembly to be convened. Invitations will be sent bearing the signature of the Primate of the Eastern Diocese to those individuals having the right to participate in the first Diocesan Assembly of the Diocese of Canada.
10. The first Diocesan Assembly of the Diocese of Canada will elect a Diocesan Council, Diocesan Primate and such other committees as are dictated by the Bylaws and further the first Diocesan assembly of the Canadian Diocese will authorize the Canadian Diocesan Council to incorporate the Diocese of the Armenian Church of Canada with the Canadian authority as a corporation for the purposes set forth in the By-laws of the Diocese of the Armenian Church of Canada.
11. The Primate of the Eastern Diocese shall send the resolutions and election results of the first Diocesan Assembly of the Diocese of Canada to his Holiness the Catholicos.

Subsequent to the approval of His Holiness the Catholicos the Primate of the Eastern Diocese shall officially transfer the office of Primate and Diocesan Council to the new Canadian Primate and Diocesan Council.

12. The Diocese of the Armenian Church of Canada shall be and remain subject to the Supreme Ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Catholicos-Patriarch of All Armenians at Holy Etchmiadzin.

NOTE:

No present parish in Canada is deemed to be released from the Eastern Diocese until each of the following events:

- A. Adoption by the Canadian Assembly of the proposed Canadian Bylaws;
- B. The formal incorporation and authorization by the Canadian Government for the formation of a Canadian Diocese under the authority of His Holiness Vazken I in Etchmiadzin for the purposes set forth in the Bylaws of the Armenian Church of Canada;

C. All assessments and financial obligations of the Canadian parishes has been fulfilled to the Eastern Diocese.

Date \_\_\_\_\_, Toronto, Canada

Agreed and assented to:

1) \_\_\_\_\_  
Duly authorized  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish

2) \_\_\_\_\_  
Duly authorized  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish

3) \_\_\_\_\_  
Duly authorized  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish

4) \_\_\_\_\_  
Duly authorized  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish

5) \_\_\_\_\_  
Duly authorized  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish

6) \_\_\_\_\_  
Duly authorized  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish

7) \_\_\_\_\_  
Duly authorized  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Parish

8) \_\_\_\_\_  
Duly authorized  
\_\_\_\_\_  
President Ad Hoc Committee

9) \_\_\_\_\_  
Duly authorized  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Chairman Eastern Diocese