



## THEY WILL SOAR ON WINGS LIKE EAGLES

GENERAL SYNOD 2025

May 2025

Dear Delegates, Partners, and Guests,

I am pleased to welcome you to the 44<sup>th</sup> General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada which will be held in London, Ontario from June 23<sup>rd</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup> this year under the inspiring theme, “They will soar on wings like eagles” (Isaiah 40.31). This verse offers words of hope and promises of strength and resilience for those who trust in God.

My prayer is that our time together at General Synod, even in a time of immense challenge in the church and in the world, will be a time of spiritual renewal. We will be formed by our common prayer and worship, as well as opportunities for fellowship and the study of God’s word. Praying for one another and all who will lead us, we bring our best selves into the meeting, asking for God’s hand of guidance to cover our discussions and bless all the decisions that are made.

To the delegates I offer a word of thanks for your willingness to be elected for this important gathering of our church, and for your commitment to preparing well so that you may be well informed for General Synod. I urge you to attend the pre-Synod webinars and view the videos which have been prepared as a helpful guide. Meet with your diocesan bishop and fellow delegates to discuss resolutions and ask any questions that need clarification. Study the Convening Circular carefully. At first glance it can seem overwhelming, but being well prepared will make General Synod a rewarding experience for you. Please consider nominating yourself or a colleague for further work in the 2025-2028 triennium on a Standing or Coordinating Committee.

Every General Synod is important, and this one is no different. We are in a time of spiritual discernment as a church as we prepare for the election of the 15<sup>th</sup> Primate of the Anglican Church of Canada. Clergy and Lay members of General Synod will be electing the new primate on Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>. The Order of Bishops presented a slate of nominees to the General Secretary following their spring meeting in Niagara Falls, Ontario. Biographical information for the nominees as well as answers to questions posed on the Primacy and other matters were posted on the General Synod 2025 website ([www.anglican.ca/gs2025](http://www.anglican.ca/gs2025)) in mid-April.

We will be invited to respond to the offering from the Primate’s Commission on ‘Proclaiming the Gospel in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century’ in their thoughtful report entitled, *Creating Pathways*. We will hear from the Strategic Plan Implementation Group as it undertakes the work of implementing the five Transformational Commitments of our church in the triennium. And we will continue the vital work of embracing mutual interdependence with the Indigenous Church.



The Anglican Church of Canada

80 Hayden Street, Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2 | [www.anglican.ca](http://www.anglican.ca) | Tel: (416) 924-9192 | Fax: (416) 968-7983

We will be welcoming several ecumenical guests and faith leaders from around the Anglican Communion including Bishop Susan Johnson, the National Bishop of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada; Bishop Michael Curry from The Episcopal Church; Bishop Marinez Bassotto, Bishop of Amazonia and Primate of Brazil; and Bishop Anthony Poggo, Secretary General of the Anglican Communion. They will preach at celebrations of Holy Eucharist or offer words of greeting during General Synod.

There will be feasting and celebrations too, as we bid farewell to Archbishop Linda Nicholls and welcome a new Primate.

I look forward to welcoming you in person. I am immensely grateful for the hard work of the General Synod Planning Committee and the Local Arrangements Committee in the Diocese of Huron. An enormous amount of work is going into making this a memorable and blessed time. May God bless you in your preparations and grant you travelling mercies.

I remain yours in the joy and hope of Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Anne Germond". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name and title.

The Most Rev. Anne Germond  
Archbishop and Acting Primate



## THEY WILL SOAR ON WINGS LIKE EAGLES

GENERAL SYNOD 2025

May 2025

Dear General Synod Delegate,

Welcome to the 44<sup>th</sup> session of the General Synod!

We look forward to a successful week of seeking and furthering God's mission in the Church and in the world. General Synod will provide us with opportunities to meet new people and old friends, to learn more about our church, and to deepen relationships. We will have times of worship, fellowship, engagement with significant issues, and the legislative business of the General Synod. As you know, a significant item of business will be the election of a new Primate to lead us in the years to come.

You come to General Synod formed by many factors in your life, from your family of origin, where you grew up, your education and faith formation, where you live now, your parish life, and your diocese. As a member of General Synod you are called to bring these experiences with you and also to transcend them to seek the good of the whole Church, to discern what God might be saying in the reports, the resolutions, the debates, and perhaps in the surprising encounters with other faithful Anglicans who bring a different perspective. As we engage together in Bible study, table discussions, debates, and over meals we listen for the voice of the Spirit to guide us as we set the course for the next several years of the life of the General Synod.

All of this we do in a spirit of enquiry, openness, humility, and mutual respect, seeking the best for each other and for our whole Church. I have often said that the General Synod is the Anglican Church of Canada at its best. That's only possible because of the love and care of the people who are the General Synod – people like you.

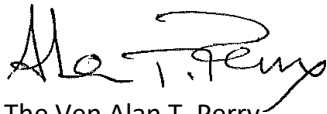
As you prepare for General Synod, please take some time to read through the reports in the Convening Circular, to familiarize yourself with the resolutions and rules of order, and to come rested and expecting to hear the voice of God. Please pray for those nominated for the office of Primate, and for wisdom in choosing our next Primate. Please pray for a successful General Synod. And please do come to London ready to be part of the Anglican Church of Canada at its best. Thank you for your commitment of time and energy in preparing for General Synod, and for your faithful participation when we gather.



The Anglican Church of Canada

I look forward to seeing you in London!

Yours in faith,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alan T. Perry'. The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping 'A' and a distinct 'P'.

The Ven Alan T. Perry  
General Secretary



## THEY WILL SOAR ON WINGS LIKE EAGLES

GENERAL SYNOD 2025

May 2025

Dear Friends:

I would like to extend a warm welcome to the forty-fourth session of General Synod of the Anglican Church of Canada. We will be gathering to do the work of the National Church in the lovely university city of London, Ontario from June 23<sup>rd</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>. We will work, pray, learn, and socialize throughout the week in the Diocese of Huron. The General Synod Planning Committee, working with the Worship Committee and Local Arrangements Committee, are designing our time together to ensure you leave feeling fulfilled with the work we have done and with a trove of wonderful memories.

Our Synod gathering will take place at RBC Place London and St. Paul's Cathedral. Bishop Todd Townshend, his team, and the volunteers from the Diocese of Huron will welcome us warmly. The delegates will be staying at the DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel London Ontario that is linked to RBC Place London and only a 12-minute walk to the newly renovated St. Paul's Cathedral. The cathedral will be our venue for our opening and closing services as well as the Primatial Election where there will be time to enjoy this beautiful building and the grounds.

General Synod is a busy time, and there is a significant amount of information to process before you arrive. You will find details on our website ([www.anglican.ca/g2025](http://www.anglican.ca/g2025)) as well as in the Convening Circular. We are just an email or phone call away if you have any questions.

Amongst the important matters before Synod, we will hear from the Primate's Commission; address governance motions; we will attend a Primatial Election to elect the fifteenth Primate of our church; and we will enjoy special guests, services, and meals. While it will be a busy week, it will also be uplifting as we see our work come to fruition.

The weather in Ontario is rarely dull in June. Temperatures will be on the warm side and can be over 30 degrees. Attire for Synod should be comfortable; the hotel and RBC Place will have air conditioning so bring a sweater along with clothing for warmer days and cooler evenings.

I would ask when you arrive that you offer thanks to the many volunteers and staff that work hard to make this event enjoyable for us. The members of the General Synod Planning Committee, the Worship Committee, the Local Arrangements Committee, and the General Synod staff have been working



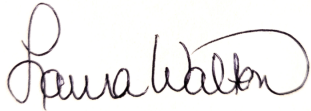
The Anglican Church of Canada

80 Hayden Street, Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2 | [www.anglican.ca](http://www.anglican.ca) | Tel: (416) 924-9192 | Fax: (416) 968-7983

diligently for two years to ensure your time in London is an enriching experience. I am especially grateful for Shannon Cottrell who is making sure everything unfolds as it should. Know that Archbishop Nicholls helped move our early planning forward, then Archbishop Germond continued the positive momentum in an incredibly busy time of transition. Without both leaders, our time together would be less fruitful.

I look forward to seeing you in June and ask for your prayers as we continue to plan for your arrival. Be in touch as needed and we are happy to answer any questions you may have. We pray for your safe travels and are excited to see you soon.

With my prayers and warm wishes,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "Laura Walton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "L" and a stylized "W".

Canon Laura Walton, ODT  
Chair, General Synod Planning Committee

**GENERAL SYNOD 2025**  
**TRAVEL EXPENSE POLICY FOR QUALIFIED PERSONS**

Travel expenses as defined below apply to delegates, seconded staff, and invited partners or guests of General Synod at General Synod 2025 (“*qualified persons*”). General Synod is not responsible for travel expenses of other persons accompanying a qualified person.

General Synod will reimburse reasonable expenses incurred to attend a meeting. Reasonable expenses mean expenses that would not otherwise have been incurred in normal daily activities except for the need to travel to a meeting. As a matter of good stewardship, members are encouraged to minimise expenses where possible.

All **air** and **train** travel must be booked through **Corporate Traveller**. Please contact Amanda Callaghan at [amanda.callaghan@corporatetraveller.ca](mailto:amanda.callaghan@corporatetraveller.ca). If air or train travel is booked independently, qualified persons are responsible for their own costs.

**No matter your mode of transportation, please note the following:**

1. Travel booked with Corporate Traveller will be paid directly by General Synod and is not to be included on the Travel Expense Form.

***For Train Travel:***

- Qualified persons living in the Quebec City – Windsor Corridor will travel by VIA Rail.
- General Synod will pay for one round-trip Economy Plus fare to London, Ontario, which includes 1 carry-on item (up to a medium sized bag). Additional baggage will be at the expense of the delegate and is to be paid for at the time of booking.
- Travel add-ons, such as travel insurance, can be arranged at the expense of the qualified person. Changes to your booking are subject to approval by General Synod. Please email requested changes to [travel@national.anglican.ca](mailto:travel@national.anglican.ca).
- General Synod will not cover any costs for additional passengers travelling with qualified persons. You are welcome to book and pay for their travel through Corporate Traveller at the time of your booking.

***For Air Travel:***

- Qualified persons who do not live in the Quebec City – Windsor Corridor will travel by air to Toronto Pearson International Airport. From there, chartered buses will take qualified persons to and from London.
- General Synod will pay for one round-trip Flex airfare to Toronto, Ontario, which includes 1 checked bag. Additional baggage will be at the expense of the qualified person and is to be paid for at the time of booking.
- Changes to your booking are subject to approval by General Synod. Please email requested changes to [travel@national.anglican.ca](mailto:travel@national.anglican.ca).
- General Synod will not cover any costs for additional passengers travelling with a qualified person. You are welcome to book their travel through Corporate Traveller at the time of your booking.

***For Bus Travel:***

- Travel by bus may be booked independently and is subject to the restrictions below.
- There are some restrictions on bus travel. General Synod will pay the lesser of train, bus, or economy airfare. For example, if the cost of bus fare is higher than economy class train fare, delegates will be reimbursed for the equivalent of economy train fare.
- If travelling by bus, let us know at [travel@national.anglican.ca](mailto:travel@national.anglican.ca).

***For Car Travel:***

- Qualified persons who are driving, see Sections 2, 3, and 4 below.
  - Parking is available at the DoubleTree by Hilton London Ontario for \$5.00 per night and is subject to availability.
  - If travelling by car, let us know at [travel@national.anglican.ca](mailto:travel@national.anglican.ca).
2. Qualified persons within a reasonable driving distance who drive to London, Ontario will be reimbursed a mileage allowance at the rate of .66¢ per km. Mileage allowance is reimbursed only to the driver; meals en route will be reimbursed for the driver and passengers who are qualified persons (also see Section 7). Carpooling is encouraged.

Other qualified persons who prefer to drive will receive the lesser of economy airfare/train fare in the Quebec City-Windsor Corridor (as determined by Corporate Traveller) or the mileage rate of .66¢ per km.

3. Rental cars will not be reimbursed.
4. Charges for airport, train station, or bus parking and travel to and from your home airport, train station, or bus station are valid expenses. For those travelling by air, General Synod will arrange and pay for ground transportation to and from Toronto Pearson International Airport.
5. Qualified persons travelling by air who require hotel accommodations en route because of where they live and where the airport is located, or because of the length of a layover, will have their accommodation covered when booked through Corporate Traveller.
6. The General Synod will pay reasonable travel expenses for one return trip to London, Ontario. It will not normally pay for travel expenses for multiple trips during the meeting, unless pre-arranged/authorized. It will not pay travel expenses for clergy or others traveling to their parishes or homes during General Synod.
7. Amounts indicated here for meals en route to and from General Synod are suggested maximums and **apply only** when extended travel time, or the timing of connecting flights necessitates. (B=\$10.00; L=\$15.00; D=\$20.00). The daily maximum is \$50.00. General Synod will not accept charges for alcohol.
8. Travel health insurance is not reimbursed by General Synod; however, it is recommended that you review your province's policies regarding out-of-province medical coverage.



9. **Itemized receipts must be provided for ALL expenses other than mileage allowance, and are due by July 31, 2025. Receipts from point of sales terminals that do not display purchase details may not be reimbursed.**
10. Reimbursement for qualified travel expenses will occur after General Synod.



THE GENERAL SYNOD OF THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA  
80 Hayden Street, Toronto, ON M4Y 3G2

REQUEST FOR REIMBURSEMENT OF EXPENSES

**Please attach receipts for all expenses**

Name of Committee: **General Synod 2025**

Date of Meeting: **June 23 – 29, 2025**

Make cheque payable to me [ ]

Or

Make cheque payable to the Diocese [ ]

Name (Print)

Address

City:

Province:

Postal Code:

Diocese:

**My expenses to attend the above meeting are:**

		Finance Use Only	
	Total Cost	Federal Rebate	Provincial Rebate
<i>claims will not be accepted for any alcoholic beverages</i>			
Car use @ 66¢ per km #km_____	\$		
Bus/Airport Taxi, etc. - <b>receipts required</b>	\$		
Meals en route (up to \$50 per day) - <b>receipts required</b>	\$		
Other (see attached)	\$		
<b>Total Expenses</b>	\$		

**DONATION:** If you wish to make a donation to the **General Synod** for any or all of your expenses, please attach a personal cheque for the amount of your donation. A donation receipt will be issued for this amount.

I certify that the expenses claimed are allowable and contain no items of a personal nature.

Signature:

Date Submitted:

Approved by:

Date Approved:

**For Office Use Only**

Account #	\$
Account #	\$
Account #	\$
Federal Rebate	\$
Provincial Rebate	\$

**Expenses due by July 31, 2025**

## **General Synod 2025**

### **Interacting with the Media at General Synod**

Members of the media, including the *Anglican Journal*, will be present at General Synod 2025. They will be observing the proceedings and publishing coverage in various formats, including digital, social and print.

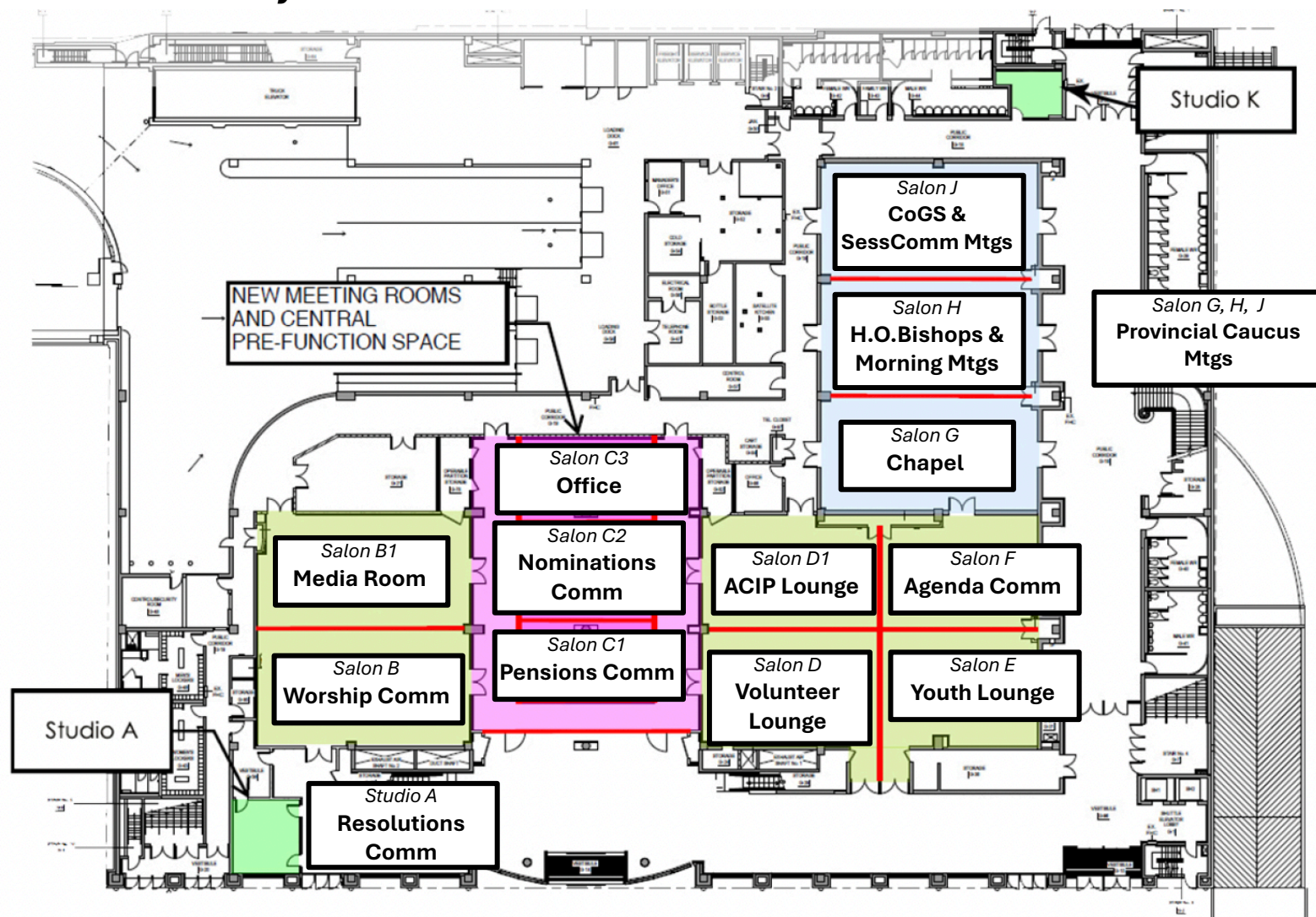
As a member of the General Synod, you may get approached by the media before, during or after the event, either in person or via email or phone. They may ask general questions about issues facing the church or they may be curious about specific resolutions that are being deliberated by General Synod. The following guidelines will help you navigate interactions with the media:

1. You are not obligated to speak to the media and have the right to decline requests for interviews or comment. Feel free instead to refer media inquiries to the Communications Director, Henrieta Paukov, and/or the General Secretary, Alan Perry, both of whom will be present at General Synod. Their contact information is below.
2. If you choose to speak with a reporter, limit your comments to factual matters that are on the record and in the public domain (not subject to confidentiality) and your own personal views, not those of others or the church as a whole. The Anglican Church of Canada has designated spokespeople.
3. "I don't know," and "I don't care to answer that," are perfectly acceptable answers. It's best not to speculate.
4. When speaking with a reporter or when addressing General Synod, ask yourself: Would I want my words published for everyone to see? Am I expressing myself in a way that reflects Christ's example?
5. Assume everything you say to a reporter is "on the record," including informal chats.
6. Reporters/journalists do not allow interview subjects to read and approve their stories before publication.

If you need assistance with a media matter at General Synod, contact Director of Communications Henrieta Paukov ([hpaukov@national.anglican.ca](mailto:hpaukov@national.anglican.ca)) and/or General Secretary Alan T. Perry ([atperry@national.anglican.ca](mailto:atperry@national.anglican.ca)).

## RBC PLACE LONDON - MAIN FLOOR

### *Floorplan for General Synod 2025*



## RBC PLACE LONDON - SECOND FLOOR

### *Floorplan for General Synod 2025*

