

**THE ANGLICAN CHURCH OF CANADA
GENERAL SYNOD 2023
RESOLUTION**

Resolution Number A127

Subject: Ecumenical Relations – Anglican-Mennonite Dialogue in Canada

Moved By: The Most Rev. Lynne McNaughton

Seconded By: Finn Keesmaat-Walsh

Be it resolved that this General Synod:

Direct the Faith, Worship and Ministry Committee to work with Mennonite Church Canada to establish a working group to conduct further bilateral dialogue between the Anglican Church of Canada and Mennonite Church Canada at the national level,

- a. Including one member appointed by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and members appointed by the Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples
- b. focusing on questions of ministry and orders as they pertain to the potential for local ecumenical shared ministry at congregational levels, using the methodology of Receptive Ecumenism, and
- c. reporting on learnings and presenting recommendations to the next meeting of the General Synod.

Source: Faith, Worship, and Ministry Coordinating Committee

Submitted By: Faith, Worship, and Ministry Coordinating Committee

Does this motion contain within it any financial implications? Yes No

If yes, has the General Synod Expenditures Committee considered the implications? Yes No

EXPLANATORY NOTE/BACKGROUND

In 2017 the Anglican-Mennonite Dialogue in Canada undertook a 5-year initial phase of ecumenical dialogue using the model of receptive ecumenism. This dialogue has proven very beneficial for strengthening connections and communication between the two churches and has revealed many ways that we can walk together more closely as ecumenical partners. One area where this potential seems particularly evident is cooperation and sharing in local ministry settings. Having invested in the hard work of laying the foundations of a new ecumenical relationship, we do not want to lose the momentum now.

While the ACC and Mennonite Church Canada already engage in ecumenical action through coalitions like Kairos and ecumenical forums such as the Canadian Council of churches, a regular a bilateral (i.e., church-to-church) opportunity for engagement between the two churches has considerable value. This resolution allows that to continue along two related tracks: 1) Greater practical cooperation in national initiatives of justice and peace on matters of shared commitment, and 2) Theological dialogue for the purposes of minimizing barriers to greater local cooperation and sharing in witness and ministry.

PROCEDURE FOR ADOPTION (G)

In the normal course, an ordinary motion must be passed by a majority of the members of General Synod present and voting together.

Six members of General Synod may, prior to the question being put, require a vote by Orders, with a majority of each Order being necessary to pass.

If a question passes on a Vote by Orders, any six members (two from each of three different dioceses) may immediately before the next item of business require a vote to be taken by dioceses. A motion passes if a majority (or a tie) of dioceses vote in favour.

Source: Sections 4 and 5 of the [Declaration of Principles](#) and sections 18, 19 and 20 of the [Rules of Order and Procedure](#).