

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

Resolution Number A200

Subject: Continuing the Work of Dismantling Racism in the Church

Moved By:

Seconded By:

Be it resolved that this General Synod:

1. Direct the Council of General Synod to establish a permanent National Advisory Council on Dismantling Racism to:
 - a. conduct an initial and ongoing review of church structures, culture, policies, and practices pertaining to racism and anti-racism
 - b. develop and implement a national action plan to move from promoting diversity to living out full inclusion, equity, and belonging at all levels of the church (in both membership and leadership)
2. Direct the Council of General Synod to ensure that the membership for this Advisory Council reflects the communities of the Church most impacted by racism, namely Indigenous persons, Black persons, and persons of colour and those with experience in anti-racism ministry and leadership, while striving for balanced geographic, gender, ethnocultural, lay and clergy representation, to the degree reasonably possible, and delineating appropriate supportive roles for White/Settler allies on the Council.
3. Request the Council of General Synod to explore the creation of a full-time staff position at the national level to animate national and diocesan anti-racism activity.

Source: Dismantling Racism Task Force

Submitted By: Dismantling Racism Task Force

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

Racism, bias, and discrimination continue to be experienced in our churches, institutions, and communities across Canada. The work of dismantling these destructive systems requires ongoing commitment at all levels of the church, including at the level of national structures. As the term of the Dismantling Racism Task Force draws to a close, there is a need for ongoing commitment across the work and ministries of General Synod to continue in our shared calling, as expressed in the Marks of Mission, to “transform the unjust structures of society.”¹

This motion proposes the creation of a permanent body (National Advisory Council on Dismantling Racism) that would provide leadership and expertise to national efforts to dismantle racism in the church and in society. The current Dismantling Racism Task Force proposes this new advisory council be made up of approximately 12 members representing a diverse cross-section of the church to shape this work over the next biennium and beyond. Half of these members would be elected by the Council of General Synod and half would be appointed by the Primate to help ensure the appropriate balance of membership. Anticipated meeting costs for the National Advisory Council on Dismantling Racism are already included in the Public Witness for Social and Ecological Justice budget for 2023.

Additionally, this motion calls for the Council of General Synod, together with the Management Team of General Synod, to undertake serious consideration of creating a continuing staff position focused specifically on dismantling efforts within the church. Other Christian denominations, including the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada and the United Church of Canada, have recently created new positions centred on this area of ministry and the Anglican Church of Canada now has the opportunity to expand ministry in this area as well.

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](#).