



Greening Niagara Committee Mandate

In the words of the Global Anglican Congress on the Stewardship of Creation:

Our planetary crisis is environmental, but it is more than that. It is a crisis of the Spirit and the Body, which runs to the core of all that we hold sacred.... As people of faith, Christ draws us together to share responsibility for this crisis with all humanity.

In our diocese, our churches and our people have long expressed a concern for creation that is consistent with the fifth mark of mission of the Anglican Communion: "to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and renew the earth."

The Greening Niagara committee seeks to enable our diocese to live out this mark of mission as part of its commitment to God's mission and ministry in our world by providing leadership in the following areas:

Best practices – to develop and implement diocesan policies for all aspects of our mission and ministry that minimize our negative impact on creation through sustainable practices.

Greening our Church Buildings – to implement, in partnership with the Bishop's Advisory Committee on Church Buildings, a process by which parishes and diocesan ministries are encouraged to undertake initiatives which reduce their impact on the environment.

Animating Parishes – to equip and inspire local parish advocates and green teams by developing resources, initiating a green parish accreditation program and disseminating information about external resources such as funding grants and related programs.

Educational Initiatives – to reflect theologically about issues pertaining to creation, and to compile resources to educate the people and parishes of our diocese about environmental issues and sustainable practices from a faith perspective.

The Greening Niagara committee is a stand-alone committee of Synod Council created in response to a motion by diocesan synod in 2007. The Bishop, in consultation with Synod Council, will appoint two co-chairs to provide leadership for the committee and liaise with a diocesan staff person. The committee will report to Synod Council when requested by the Secretary of Synod. The committee will be comprised of members appointed by the co-chairs with an appreciation of diverse voices and experiences. It is expected that there will be at least one representative on the committee from each region in the diocese. Members will serve a term of two years which may be renewed.