PROJECT 2045

TERMS OF REFERENCE FOR A TASK FORCE
THAT WILL PREPARE A REPORT WITH RECOMMENDATIONS REGARDING
A NEW FUTURE FOR CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL AND MEMORIAL HALL
January 19, 2019

OVERVIEW AND PURPOSE

Bishop and Chapter of Christ Church Cathedral, on behalf of the congregation, is the owner of three properties: Christ Church Cathedral (in shared ownership with the Bishop of Fredericton), Memorial Hall and the former deanery, now called Odell House. In December the Chapter decided to sell Odell House, and that process has begun.

With the approval of Bishop David Edwards, the Chapter is now beginning a process that will lead to important and far-reaching decisions respecting the role and importance of the Cathedral and Memorial Hall in relation to future congregational ministries, and the congregation’s spiritual and operational needs. Project 2045 is being created to symbolically set our hearts and our minds solidly on the future. Bishop John Medley began construction of the Cathedral in 1845. As we look ahead to 2045 and the 200th anniversary of the date the cornerstone was laid, we are now asking “What can we do now to be sure that those who follow us will have the best opportunity to continue to proclaim the Gospel?” and “What will the Cathedral structure and congregational ministry look like, what worship services and other events will be held there and what other needs will it meet in the year 2045?”

To help us answer these questions a special task force is being formed to prepare a report that will recommend to Bishop and Chapter the changes that need to be made to our facilities and properties so that in 2045 (a.) we will be a sustainably healthy, vibrant, growing and mission-focused congregation and (b.) the Cathedral itself is structurally sound and continues to serve as the ‘Mother Church’ of the diocese and as an iconic resource to our community. The task force’s report and recommendations will focus on what needs to be done and why. The primary focus will be on future uses of the Cathedral and our hall in relation to our need for worship, church ministries, fellowship and operational/administrative space. A secondary, but nevertheless important, focus will be on community use of our facilities.

METHODOLOGY

The Task Force is empowered to and will be expected to:

- choose its own chairperson(s) and meeting schedule
- review previous committee work and reports related to our properties
- meet with the Executive Committee of Bishop and Chapter at the outset of its work to ask questions and be updated on related matters
- examine various trends within the Cathedral congregational and make educated projections as to future probabilities (eg those related to financial giving, membership, demographics, congregational ministries, facility and space usage, building maintenance, etc.)
- look into innovative ways other church congregations are meeting their property-related needs, and determine their applicability to our situation
- engage the congregation and allow all members an opportunity to express their suggestions, ideas, comments and opinions
- have discussions with City of Fredericton officials regarding how the Cathedral and its adjacent properties relate to the city’s plans to 2045
- involve and/or have discussions with other individuals and groups who have knowledge of, or interest in, these two buildings (eg architects and engineers, property managers and property developers, the heritage community, east-end neighbours who live near the Cathedral, etc.)
- keep Bishop David Edwards informed if he is unable to attend all meetings
- report to Bishop and Chapter at its request or as would be helpful for the committee
- finish and submit its report by October 31, 2020 so that it can be reviewed by Bishop and Chapter, and eventually discussed at the annual meeting in February 2020 and/or at a special congregational meeting

**MEMBERSHIP**

Task Force members will be Bishop David Edwards, Dean Geoffrey Hall, Melissa Dawe, Kaye Small, Tom Christie, Mark Gunter and Bill Jones.

The Task Force is encouraged and empowered to add or involve additional ex-officio members as they see the need – either people from within the congregation or external to it. For example, the Task Force may wish to consult people who have experience and knowledge in church property-related matters. These kinds of individuals could provide useful information, and even save the task force considerable time, if they were to join the group for part or all of its deliberations.

*Approved by motion of Bishop and Chapter on January 21, 2019.*