

March 16, 2018

Dear Pastors and Parish Administrators,

Re: New Policies and Resources for Submissions to the College of Consultors

It is my pleasure to announce new policies and resources for parish submissions to the College of Consultors, approved by Archbishop Terrence Prendergast, S.J., to replace the previous 2010 policy as recommended by the members of the College of Consultors at their February 2018 meeting. These tools are now available on our website at the following link: <http://www.catholicottawa.ca/college-of-consultors>

You will note that these new College of Consultors policies align our parish construction guidelines with those of the Assembly of Catholic Bishops of Ontario (ACBO) published in 2016. They have been developed with great care and consideration for our parishes, to provide clear and accurate details, and to support, equip and guide them in their construction, renovation, restoration, and modification projects to church properties.

These policies, numbered one to ten, provide definitions, examples, clarifications, exceptions, important steps before starting a project, and procedures for submitting projects to the Diocesan Administration and College of Consultors and, once approved by the Archbishop, for bringing projects to a successful completion.

Additionally, we have created an application form specific to each of the ten policies to streamline the approval process. These forms are to be used in the future for submitting your requests. Also on our website, you will find reference materials and resources to support your projects, such as: General Rules, applicable to most projects; contact information to reach the regional consultors and diocesan staff; sample contracts for small and large projects; a list of applicable insurances for construction projects; and a short-term rental agreement form.

These policies which come into effect on April 1, 2018 supersede and replace the provisions of existing particular law & customs that may be in conflict with, or inconsistent with the provisions of these 2018 policies.

We trust these policies, forms and resources will be useful tools for all our parishes. Should you have any questions concerning these policies, please feel free to contact your Regional Consultor or our Diocesan staff who work with the College.

Yours in Christ,



Most Rev. Msgr. Christian Riesbeck, CC, V. G.
Auxiliary Bishop of Ottawa