

**GRAFTON DIOCESAN GOVERNANCE ORDINANCE 2008
AMENDING (MINISTRY UNITS) ORDINANCE 2013
Ordinance No. 10 of 2013**

An Ordinance to amend the Grafton Diocesan Governance Ordinance 2008 relating to Ministry Units.

PREAMBLE

WHEREAS presently the formation, structure and governance of Ministry Units in the Diocese of Grafton is contained within Chapter 9 of the Grafton Diocesan Governance Ordinance 2008 AND WHEREAS it is desirable to have the Ordinance amended THEREFORE the Bishop, Clergy and Laity of the Diocese of Grafton decree and enact as follows:

AMENDMENT

1. Chapter 9 of the Grafton Diocesan Governance Ordinance is amended by deleting the present Chapter 9 and substituting in place thereof the Schedule to this Ordinance.
2. This Ordinance may be cited as The Grafton Diocesan Governance Ordinance 2008 Amending (Ministry Units) Ordinance 2013
3. This Ordinance shall come into effect upon receiving the assent of the Bishop.

ASSENT


I hereby certify that the Ordinance as printed is in accordance with the Ordinance as passed.


.....
Chairman of Committees

I certify that this Ordinance was passed by Synod on the 17th day of October, 2013.


.....
Registrar (ACTING)

I assent to this Ordinance.


.....
Bishop. Dio. Adm.

**GRAFTON DIOCESAN GOVERNANCE ORDINANCE 2008
AMENDING (MINISTRY UNITS) ORDINANCE 2013**

SCHEDULE

CHAPTER 9 – MINISTRY UNITS

66 *Ministry and Mission*

To provide structures for governance and the licensing of buildings of worship to enable the Members of the Church in the Diocese to undertake ministry and promote the mission of the Church and participate in the corporate life of the Diocese and local Church communities.

67 *Ministry Units*

67.1 Each Ministry Unit will be determined either by its geographical area or by its ministry responsibilities. If appropriate or necessary the latter may be coupled with a precise or general geographical area.

67.2 A Ministry Unit may be known as a Parish, Chaplaincy, Ministering Community or such other designation as Synod or Bishop-in-Council may determine.

67.3 The number and place of Ministry Units and their boundaries or ministry responsibilities shall be determined by Bishop-in-Council and recorded in documents maintained by the Diocesan Registry and available to the Ministry Unit.

67.4 Those Ministry Units with their respective boundaries or responsibilities existing when this Ordinance comes into operation shall constitute the Ministry Units of the Diocese for the time being and subject to the operation of this Ordinance shall continue to exist with their present status and boundaries.

67.5 The official designation of each Parish and other Ministry Unit shall be recommended by the Parish or other Ministry Unit and determined by Synod or Bishop-in-Council and may from time to time be altered but no alteration may be made without the Parish or other Ministry Unit being given the opportunity to be heard on the alteration.

68 *Creation of Ministry Units – Geographically Based*

68.1 Members of the Church who wish to have the geographical area in which they live designated a Ministry Unit may forward a request to

Bishop-in-Council asking for the geographical area to be constituted a Ministry Unit. The request submitted to Bishop-in-Council should contain at least

- (a) the clear request;
- (b) supporting arguments;
- (c) known opposing views; and
- (d) such other material as might assist Bishop-in-Council to make a decision.

68.2 Subject to clause 72 Bishop-in-Council may grant the application for a new geographical Ministry Unit after due consideration of:

- (a) the most appropriate manner in which to provide for the work of the Church in the area;
- (b) the general community of interest of the people in the area; and
- (c) the financial capacity of the members of the Church in the geographical area to support a Ministry Unit and to provide buildings, furnishings or other facilities for a community of faith that contributes to the wider life of the Diocese and Church.

68.3 Upon granting the status of a Ministry Unit to an area, Bishop-in-Council shall determine the title of such, when the new status shall come into effect and any required pro rata contributions to Diocesan funds for the remaining portion of the year.

69 *Creation of Ministry Units – Not Geographically Based (Chaplaincies)*

69.1 Members of the Church forming a non-geographical active community of faith and wishing to have their community of faith designated a Ministry Unit (Chaplaincy) may forward a request to Bishop-in-Council asking for their community of faith to be constituted a Ministry Unit centred upon the communal interest. The request submitted to Bishop-in-Council should contain at least:

- (a) the clear request;
- (b) supporting arguments;
- (c) known opposing views; and

- (d) such other material as might assist Bishop-in-Council to make a decision.

69.2 Bishop-in-Council may grant the application for a new Ministry Unit (Chaplaincy) designated by ministry responsibility after due consideration of:

- (a) the most appropriate manner in which to provide for the work of the Church in this sphere of ministry;
- (b) the general community of interest of the people involved; and
- (c) the financial capacity of the Diocese or Members of the Church in the sphere of ministry to support such a Ministry Unit and to provide facilities for a community of faith that contributes to the wider life of the Diocese and Church.

69.3 Upon granting the status of a Chaplaincy to a group within a sphere of ministry, Bishop-in-Council shall determine the title of such, when the new status shall come into effect and any required pro rata contributions to Diocesan funds for the remaining portion of the year.

70 *Regional Ministry Unit Grouping*

70.1 Regional groups may be established at the discretion of the Bishop and the group may contain such Ministry Units as the Bishop deems appropriate.

70.2 Regional groups shall have as their purpose the co-ordination and facilitation of collaborative ministry across Ministry Units within the group.

70.3 The oversight of a Regional group shall be undertaken by a person appointed to such by the Bishop and such person shall foster the work of the group and act as the Bishop's representative to foster the nurture of the clergy and lay leaders in the region and to facilitate communication between Bishop-in-Council and the region.

70.4 The Bishop may determine the appointment of the person with oversight of a Regional group at will.

70.5 Subject to clause 49.3(c) of this Ordinance the person appointed by the Bishop to have oversight of a Regional group may be an ex-officio member of Bishop-in-Council with full voting and participation rights.

71 School Chaplains

71.1 All Diocesan school or college Councils shall commit to provision of a Chaplain within the school or college community and will be actively involved in the appointment of the Chaplain.

71.2 School or college Chaplains shall foster the Christian faith and Anglican ethos, values and worship among students, staff and parents and others associated with the school or college.

72 Alterations to Ministry Unit Boundaries

72.1 The functions conferred on Bishop-in-Council by this clause are to be exercised in accordance with the objective of making effective provision for the work of the Church and the most efficient use of the resources of the Diocese.

72.2 Bishop-in-Council may alter a Ministry Unit's boundaries or responsibilities in accordance with this clause.

72.3 Bishop-in-Council may not alter the boundaries or responsibilities of a Ministry Unit unless the changes have been agreed to by the Ministry Unit Council or have been approved by Synod.

72.4 A Ministry Unit Council or responsible committee may, by submission, request Bishop-in-Council to alter the boundaries or responsibilities of the Ministry Unit.

72.5 Where a proposed boundary or responsibility alteration would affect the boundaries or responsibilities of another Ministry Unit, Bishop-in-Council may not make the change proposed unless it has received a joint request from both Ministry Units.

72.6 Bishop-in-Council may not make any alteration to the boundaries of a Ministry Unit that would leave any part of the Diocese outside a Ministry Unit.

72.7 Bishop-in-Council may alter a Chaplaincy's sphere of ministry or responsibility either of its own motion or in accordance with a request by the Chaplaincy.

72.8 Where a proposed alteration to a Chaplaincy's sphere of ministry or responsibility would affect the ministry of another Chaplaincy or Ministry Unit, Bishop-in-Council may not make the alteration proposed unless it has received, or requested, a joint request from all affected Chaplaincies

and Ministry Units. If no joint submission is received after a request has been made Bishop-in-Council may proceed to consider and determine the matter.

72.9 Every determination by Bishop-in-Council of the boundaries of any Ministry Unit made in accordance with this Ordinance shall be conclusive. Any copy of or extract of such determination or the maps or plans that accompany the same if certified by the Registrar as being correct shall be prima facie evidence of the matter they contain.

72.10 The alteration of the boundaries or responsibilities of a Ministry Unit shall not be held to absolve the Ministry Unit from any existing obligation to contribute financially or otherwise to the Diocese. Bishop-in-Council shall determine the proportion of any financial or other obligation to be borne by any Ministry Unit affected by any alteration of boundaries.

72.11 Nothing in this clause shall affect the right of the Bishop to make changes to the style and area of Ministry Units to assist in the work of the Church.

72A *Change of Ministry Unit designation*

72A.1 A Ministry Unit that wishes to change its designation may make application to Bishop-in Council to do so. Any application for a change of designation must be accompanied by:

- (a) a resolution passed by the Ministry Unit's governing body
- (b) evidence of consultation with the Members of the Church who are involved in the life of the Ministry Unit
- (c) justification as to why the change in designation will lead to a more effective provision for the Mission of the Church, and
- (d) a report of how it will lead to a more effective use of the resources of the Diocese.

72A.2 Bishop-in-Council may not change a Ministry Unit's designation without prior consultation with the Members of the Church involved with the worshipping community that is the Ministry Unit.

72A.3 Bishop-in-Council may change a Ministry Unit's designation following consultation only if:

(a) such change of the Ministry Unit will lead to a more effective provision for the Mission of the Church; and

(b) it will lead to a more effective use of the resources of the Diocese.

72A.4 If Bishop-in-Council is in agreement with the proposed change in Ministry Unit designation resulting from either a request by the Ministry Unit or an initiative of Bishop-in Council itself, any process prescribed for the implementation of such change either within this Ordinance or by resolution of either Synod or Bishop-in-Council must be followed.

73 *Dissolution of Ministry Units*

73.1 Bishop-in-Council may not abolish or merge Ministry Units without prior consultation with the Members of the Church involved with the worshipping community that is the Ministry Unit.

73.2 Bishop-in-Council may abolish a Ministry Unit following consultation only if:

(a) such dissolution of the Ministry Unit will lead to a more effective provision for the Mission of the Church; and

(b) it will lead to a more effective use of the resources of the Diocese.

73.3 Bishop-in-Council shall manage the appropriate dispersion of all Ministry Unit property, financial or otherwise, and pastoral needs as may be required during the period of dissolution.