



The Office of the Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical
Province of British Columbia and Yukon

Anglican Church of Canada
1410 Nanton Avenue, Vancouver,
British Columbia, V6H 2E2

June 1, 2021

Dear Clergy and People of the Territory of the People,

I write with sad and distressing news regarding Lincoln McKoen.

In 2001 the General Synod of The Anglican Church of Canada adopted *A Call to Human Dignity: A Statement of Principles for the Anglican Church of Canada on Dignity, Inclusion and Fair Treatment*.

In keeping with *A Call to Human Dignity*, the Council of the General Synod of The Anglican Church of Canada expressed a commitment to ensuring that those who hold positions of trust or power in the church do not take advantage of, or abuse, that trust or power. It is with this commitment in mind that I share with you the difficult decision I have made today to inhibit Bishop Lincoln McKoen from his duties as diocesan bishop of the Territory of the People, effective immediately.

You will find attached the Interim Inhibition and an announcement of that inhibition.

I very much regret the timing of this in the midst of the crisis of the discovery of the children at the residential school in Kamloops, the immense raw grief of the Indigenous community, and \ Archbishop Mark MacDonald's call for six days of mourning.

Archbishop Mark MacDonald, The National Indigenous Archbishop knows of my action and will be assisting in providing pastoral care to the Indigenous members of the Territory of the People.

Over the coming days I will work with Senior clergy of the Territory, in accordance with your canons, to appoint an administrator for the territory for the coming months. Bishop Gordon Light has agreed to work with me to provide pastoral care in the next few days until that Administrator is in place. I assure you that the pastoral needs of the community will be a priority. I will be at St. Paul's Cathedral at 11:00 a.m. on Friday June 4 for a time of prayer and conversation, and I invite you to join me for that if you are able.



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If you have questions you may ask them at the gathering on Friday, or email me at bishop@kootenay.info. If you are approached by any of the press regarding this, please direct them to me.

As Primate Linda has said: Our calling is to prepare the way of the Lord by embracing truth, promoting healing and acting in love. I will pray and work with you towards God's truth, healing and love through this difficult time.

Yours in Christ,

+Lynne McNaughton

Archbishop of Kootenay

Metropolitan of the Ecclesiastical Province of British Columbia and Yukon