**Resolution 2018-3**

Be it resolved that this convention direct the Diocesan Office and Standing Committee to retain the services of a nationally recognized consultant recommended by the Presiding Bishop's offices to conduct preliminary research into the work and function of the diocese and to make recommendations to the convention and to the Standing Committee about the various feasible and workable models the Diocese may choose to use in the selection of its seventh bishop, or for use after the retirement of the current bishop without election of a successor. This research is to be conducted on a diocese-wide basis with at least one point of contact for each congregation in the diocese.

Be it further resolved that the 2019 budget set aside $10,000 from the Bishop Search funds to provide for the retainer and associated fees of this consultant.

Be it further resolved that this consultant shall be instructed to present a final report to the Diocesan Office and to the Standing Committee no later than 1 July 2019.

Narrative: As stated by our Bishop in a recent letter “The topic of Convention is none other than considering the future of the Diocese. This is especially true regarding the nature of the Episcopate." As the diocese was not successful in implementing the resolution from the 2017 Convention to establish a committee to explore options, it would be to our advantage to hire a consultant who can make recommendations to the diocese in order to establish parameters for the upcoming search process, to provide the diocese with a clear picture of its standing prior to this search, and to establish a set of recommended practices that looks at our current situation and the successful practices of other congregations and dioceses that our similar to ours.