

## Web Conferencing

The Communications Committee [under the auspices of the Strategic Plan Implementation Team—SPIT] has investigated various platforms for web conferencing and video conferencing. At the moment, the Committee is recommending the Diocese partner with Contact North to provide online educational opportunities using web conferencing.

**What is Web Conferencing?** Using a computer with high speed Internet to participate in online learning

**Samples?** People in the Diocese [and outside!] with expertise in any area conduct online learning sessions to anyone interested in the topic. Such as...

- Bible Study
- Liturgy for children
- Submitting statistics to the Diocese
- New music for small churches
- Pastoral visiting
- Standing, sitting, kneeling during worship?
- Reports from Tarime team
- Funeral service planning
- The meaning of Advent, Lent....
- Becoming a Eucharistic Assistant
- Developing Layreader skills
- Connections with our sister Diocese
- Models of prayer
- ...the possibilities are endless

**Length and times?** Sessions can be unlimited in length; however, one or two hours may be common. Web Conferences may involve only one session, or multiple sessions.

**Cost?** Contact North is very generously sharing their web conferencing platform for free as long as the content of the sessions is educational.

**Savings?** Participate with others throughout the Diocese. Save travel time.

**Advantages?** Be connected with others within the Diocese. Receive training from a person you wouldn't normally be able to access with ease. Continue to learn, grow, study...

**Locations?** The Contact North web conferencing is available through any number of venues and any number of combinations of these venues. Anyone with high speed Internet may participate from home. Or, groups of people may want to gather in a local church. Or, some people may prefer to visit their local [Contact North Centre](#)—such Centres are located throughout the North, and many Public Libraries have connections with Contact North.

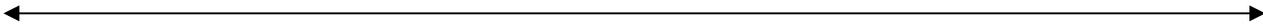
**Training?** The web conferencing software is very easy to use from either a MAC or PC. Until we build up a cadre of people who are quite familiar with the technology, most web conferences would have one “pre-quel” session so that everyone has an opportunity to logon, activate any required software, test speakers and microphones and/or webcams, get to know the basic buttons and features of the platform.

**Miss a class?** We will be able to record all sessions delivered through Contact North's platform so that participants and other interested parties may view transcripts and recordings of the sessions.

**What Will a Session Look Like?** A typical session will begin once participants are logged on. The presenter may enable his/her webcam to introduce him/herself. Typically, an agenda, document, spreadsheet, PowerPoint, etc. will have been pre-loaded for participants who can download such content before or during the session. If the session were, for example, a Bible study, the presenter could have the text visible on the screen; someone from the participant group

could read the passage aloud through his/her microphone. The presenter would teach on the passage, solicit input. There may be PowerPoint slides which accompany the lesson—background to Paul’s letter to the Philippians, or pictures. If the training session were for church treasurers, perhaps the presenter would put a spreadsheet on the screen and everyone can work on it collaboratively. No special programs are required as long as participants have high speed Internet and one of the common web browsers such as Internet Explorer.

**Sign Me Up!** As sessions become available, they will be publicized through our usual channels of communications: the FAXWord Network, The Algoma Anglican, Deanery Days, Church announcements...



**Facilitators.** Our immediate need is for techy-minded people within each Deanery who are willing to receive [free] training [through any high speed Internet computer] on how to be the behind-the-scenes person who can help both presenters and participants get logged on, push the right buttons, use headsets and microphones, etc. so that sessions run smoothly so that everyone can fully participate in web conferences.

Are you interested in receiving such training? Please contact Linda Langdon at either 705 476 0791 or [linda@christchurchnorthbay.ca](mailto:linda@christchurchnorthbay.ca)