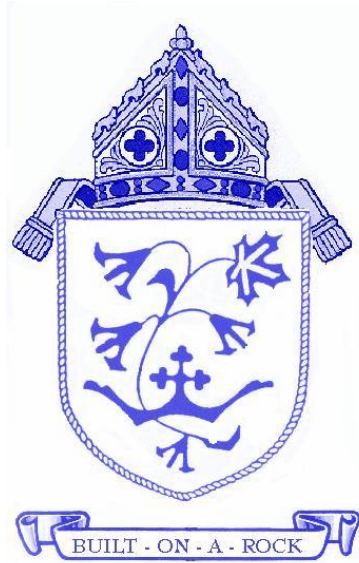


Archdiocese of Kingston



## CHAPTER 6

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# COLLEGE OF CONSULTORS

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## Chapter 6 COLLEGE OF CONSULTORS

### COLLEGE OF CONSULTORS

The College of Consultors is a group of priests chosen by the Archbishop from among the members of the presbyteral council to exercise various functions prescribed by law. They have special powers when the See is vacant.

From among the members of the Council of Priests, the diocesan Bishop freely appoints not fewer than six and not more than twelve priests, who are for five years to constitute the College of Consultors. To it belong the functions determined by law; on the expiry of the five-year period, however, it continues to exercise its functions until the new College is constituted (c. 502 §1).

The diocesan Bishop presides over the College of Consultors. If, however, the See is impeded or vacant, that person presides who, in the interim, takes the Bishop's place, or, if he has not yet been appointed, then the priest in the College of Consultors who is senior by ordination (c. 502 §2).

The Bishops' Conference can determine that the functions of the College of Consultors be entrusted to the cathedral chapter (c. 502 §3).

Unless the law provides otherwise, in a vicariate or prefecture apostolic, the functions of the College of Consultors belong to the council of the mission mentioned in canon 495 §2 (c. 502 §4).

### FUNCTIONS

1. When the See is filled, the Bishop is to:
  - a) Consult the College of Consultors and the diocesan finance council concerning acts of administration of **major importance** (c. 1277);
  - b) For **certain acts of extraordinary** financial administration, the bishop must have the **consent** of the College of Consultors and the diocesan finance council (c. 1277);
  - c) Obtain consent of the College Consultors and the diocesan finance council, as determined by the conference of bishops, for the alienation of temporal goods belonging to the diocese and to juridical persons subject to the bishop (c. 1292, 1);
  - d) The bishop is to **consult** the College in the appointment and removal of the diocesan finance officer (c. 494, 1-2).

## Chapter 6 COLLEGE OF CONSULTORS

2. When the See is impeded, the College is to elect an administrator if no other provision has been made (c. 413, 2).
3. When the See is vacant:
  - a) The College of Consultors fulfils the role of the presbyteral council (c. 501, 2);
  - b) If there is no auxiliary bishop, the College of Consultors governs the diocese initially, provided no other arrangements have been made by the Holy See (c. 419);
  - c) The College of Consultors is to elect an administrator within eight days of the vacancy of the See (c. 421, 1);
  - d) The College of Consultors is to notify the Holy See of the vacancy, if there is no auxiliary bishop (c. 422).
  - e) The Administrator must obtain the **consent** of the College of Consultors for the incardination, excardination, or emigration of clerics after the See is vacant for a year (c. 272) and for the removal of the chancellor or other notaries (c. 485, 1018§ 1, 2<sup>o</sup>).
4. When a new diocesan bishop is to take possession of his See, he does so by showing the apostolic letters of his appointment to the College of Consultors (c. 382, §3);
5. For the appointment of a coadjutor bishop, the papal legate is to seek the view of some of the members of the College of Consultors (c. 377, §3);
6. The coadjutor bishop takes possession of his office by showing the apostolic letters of appointment to the diocesan bishop and the College of Consultors (c. 404, §1);
7. If the diocesan bishop is wholly impeded, the newly appointed coadjutor or auxiliary bishop is to show the letters of appointment to the College of Consultors, (c. 404, §3);
8. Having consulted the College of Consultors and the diocesan finance council, the bishop appoints the diocesan finance officer (c. 494, §1);

## Chapter 6 COLLEGE OF CONSULTORS

9. The bishop can remove the diocesan finance officer before the end of term of office for a grave reason, after hearing from the College of Consultors and the diocesan finance council (c. 494, §2);
10. The diocesan administrator is to make a Profession of Faith in the presence of the College of Consultors (c. 833, 4<sup>o</sup>)