

St. Patrick's Parish Accessibility Fundraising Committee (AFC) Frequently Asked Questions

- 1 Why are the renovations needed?
There are structural, safety, access and legislative issues that must be addressed in the current building. Some of these issues are weeping tiles and leaks in the basement; fire alarm and sprinkler system; access to the church hall and washrooms; and compliance with the Accessibility for Ontarians with Disabilities Act, 2005 (AODA).
- 2 If a parish organization (e.g. Knights, CWL, and Friends of the Church) makes a financial contribution towards the project and the project does not secure the total funds required – what will happen to those funds?
These funds will be procured as this project must and will move forward to make our church accessible. Any remaining funds would remain in the renovation budget to cover future expenditures that will arise.
- 3 If the project were to not move forward, will the funds be returned to the donor organization?
No.
- 4 Does the financial commitment need to be provided immediately?
Committed support is required no later than October 2016.
- 5 Can the financial commitment be given over a period of time with multiple contributions?
Yes.
- 6 Has there been any commitment from the Diocese / Bishop that the parish will remain open once this work has been completed?

St. Patrick's Church has existed for over 150 years and is the only Catholic Church in Caledonia. In NO conversation has the Bishop ever referenced that this church may close. Bishop Bergie has been involved in all discussions regarding renovations to the church over the past 18 months or so. The only thing that will close the church will be not completing the Accessibility Renovations, therefore not complying with legislation, which is a government decision.

- 7 What if the parish is closed after the funds have been raised but prior to work being started / completed? (Follow up from questions 2 and 3)

See Answer 6

- 8 Where will these funds be held once they are collected?

The funds allocated to the Renovations for the Accessibility project are in St. Patrick's bank account. It is possible that some of the funds may be invested through the Diocese in a trust investment that would raise higher interest than a bank account.

- 9 Will the parish be managing these funds or is it the Diocese who will be managing the funds?

The parish manages the funds not the diocese.

- 10 What additional funding options have been investigated (e.g. Trillium Grants).

The AFC has spent considerable efforts in researching eligibility for numerous Grants. Based on the criteria for use, the Catholic Church does not qualify for any grants at this time. We have researched the following:

- ***-Trillium***
- ***-Enabling Accessibility***
- ***-New Horizons for Seniors***
- ***-Seniors Community Grant Program***

- **-Libro Credit Union**
- **-Caledonia Community Foundation**

11 Has a contingency percentage been added to the overall amount to cover increases to the project budget?

Yes.

12 There has been some confusion as to who is managing this project and funds is it the AFC committee or the Parish Financial Council – as I have heard both.

As communicated to the Parish in announcements, the AFC reports to the Finance Council. A member of Finance Council sits on the AFC as the liaison. The AFC responsibility is to raise the funds necessary for the project. The Finance Council is responsible for ensuring that the funds raised by the AFC are used for the Accessibility Renovations.

13 What about monies previously raised?

The Finance Council has resolved all legacy issues. This has no bearing on what we are presently doing.

If you have questions not answered in this FAQ document please email the question(s) to AFC Chair Sharon Sparks at

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(If you do not have access to email please submit handwritten questions in an envelope addressed to the AFC.)