



DIOCESE OF EDMUNDSTON

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MESSAGE FOR PUBLICATION—SEPTEMBER 8, 2010

To the Priests and Faithful of the Diocesan Church of Edmundston

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ:

This message is to inform you that on May 6, a new committee was formed to prepare a Guide that would ensure that all people, especially children and the most vulnerable, are always in a safe and secure environment in their parishes with those who are called to serve them. On May 12, 2010 was held the first meeting of this committee composed of the following members:

THÉRIAULT, Fr. Jacques, Vicar General
DIONNE, Fr. Roger
GODBOUT, Fr. Aurèle, c.j.m.
GRÉGOIRE, Fr. Léo, i.v.d.
ARSENAULT, Mr. Paul
CLAVET, Mr. Normand

LEVASSEUR, Mrs. Martine
LEVESQUE, Mr. Gérald
NADEAU-CYR, Mrs. Lise
PILOTE, Mr. Jean
MARTIN, Mrs. Bernadette

With the Diocesan Committee responsible for the prevention of sexual abuse of children, we have revised a document prepared and applied in 2002, and another document the "Code of Ethics" published in 2006.

In a collective effort with other Dioceses, we are establishing recruitment, screening policies, and procedures to ensure the safety of all children, youth and adults at risk. These procedures will apply to members of the clergy, diocesan and parish employees, as well as to all volunteers in parishes. This will require training sessions, first with the members of the Parish Pastoral Teams and then with the various groups involved in pastoral activities according to their level of commitment. **The meeting for the Southern Victoria Pastoral Zone will be held October 13, at 7:30 P.M. at St. Patrick Church.**

We count on the collaboration and goodwill of all employees and volunteers with these new procedures and different verifications that will be in effect in the very near future. It is important that you are aware of what we are doing since this is a concern for the whole diocese.

Your Brother,

+ *Claude Champagne O.M.I.*

+ Claude Champagne, O.M.I.
Bishop of Edmundston