THE
Ecclesiastical Province
OF BRITISH COLUMBIA AND YUKON

Guide to Safe Church Program (Revised June 2022)

Purpose

The purpose of this program is two-fold:

1. The Ecclesiastical Province wants to promote a safe work and worship environment for employees, volunteers, parishioners and community members of all ages.

2. The Ecclesiastical Province is required to comply with the expectations of insurers to maintain coverage and good standing.

Simply put, the goal of this program is protection of people (as well as the Ecclesiastical Province and its Dioceses) and prevention of abuse in any form.

Safe Church Training- Who Needs It?

The *Safe Church Role Risk Assessment Guide* outlines which employees and volunteers require safe church training which must be retaken every five (5) years. The specific modules required for each role are outlined in the *Safe Church Modules by Role* document.

Safe Church Training- How Do I Complete It?

The current training program (as of June 2022) involves modules from 3 different providers: Praesidium (formerly Armatus), Ecclesiastical Insurance by Vector Solutions and Skillsoft. If you have completed Armatus/Praesidium training and it is not expired, you are not required to complete the new modules until you are due for renewal (every 5 years). Contact your Diocesan Administrator or Safe Church Coordinator to request access to all training modules. You will be set-up with a personal account or a link that will allow you to complete modules

entirely online. When you have completed the training, notify the Diocesan Administrator so they can verify and update their records.

Criminal Record Checks + Sexual Misconduct Policies

Criminal record + vulnerable sector check processes may differ by region and Diocese. As such you are advised to contact your Diocesan Administrator for requirements and instructions. Additionally, each Diocese should have their own sexual misconduct policy for you to familiarize yourself with and confirm with your administrator you have read and agree to abide by the policy. Please refer to your Diocese for their policy.

Notes for Diocesan Administrators/Safe Church Coordinators

Why are we using 3 different programs for training modules?

In an effort to move away from the Praesidium modules that were based on American law and to incorporate modules that are relevant in both the Anglican and Canadian context, we removed 5 of the Praesidium modules and replaced them with the Anglican specific module from Vector Solutions and the Canadian Workplace module from Skillsoft. The breakdown is below.

Praesidium - 9 Modules
1. Preventing Abuse in Pastoral Ministry 2. Recognizing Abuse in Elder Serving Programs 3. Social Media 4. Preventing Bullying 5. Preventing Sexual Activity between Young Children 6. Preventing Sexual Activity between Adolescents 7. Keeping Overnight Camp Safe 8. Behaviour Management 9. A Day at Day Camp
Each Diocese currently has their own administrator account with the ability to add learners and track module completions. Praesidium has support staff available for administrators if you have questions about your account. Email: support@praesidiuminc.com Phone: 1-800-743-6354

Ecclesiastical Insurance by Vector Solutions - 1 Module

1. Anglican: Protecting Our Children, Youth and Vulnerable Adults: Creating a Safe Church Environment

Each Diocese will have their own administrator account with the ability to add learners and track module completions. In order to get your account set-up please email the Provincial Administrator (office@province-bcyukon.anglican.ca) with the name/email/phone number/office address for the person who will be managing Safe Church for your Diocese. Vector Solutions has support staff available by phone or email if you have questions about your account. It is recommended that you attend one of their webinars or watch their recorded training sessions to teach you how to add learners and assign modules. Once registered as an admin, you will receive details on support contacts and training videos.

Skillsoft- 1 Module

1. Preventing Harassment and Violence in the Canadian Workplace

The module is accessible at this link:
https://www2.skillsoft.com/resources/preventing-harassment-and-violence-in-the-canadian-workplace/

We do not have a paid account but this module is free to the public. Without a paid account, we cannot automatically track module completions so learners will be required to save or screenshot the completion certificate and send it to the Diocesan Administrator for record keeping. It is important to note for learners that they must complete this module in one session as their progress will not be maintained if they exit the module before completion.