

Statute 783

The Title E Canon II Amendment Statute, 2026

Whereas, this General Synod/te Hīnota Whānui confirms and adopts the following resolution of General Synod Standing Committee on 28 February 2026:

Moved by Archbishop Justin Duckworth/seconded by Mr Fe'iloakita Tevi, that the statement be approved.

In reference to, and to honour, the 2012 GSTHW motion and its preamble principles on St Johns College Trust Board funds, and noting the priority of Te Tiriti in relation to Te Pouhere, Tikanga Māori are charged to initiate discussion on how to exercise Tino Rangatiratanga in regard to the St Johns College Trust funds, and exercising the consequent kaitiakitanga and manaakitanga for the full flourishing of the whole church.'; and

Whereas, this General Synod/te Hīnota Whānui recognises that to give full effect to the intention of that statement;

- a) significant talanoa and wānanga will be needed to guide the ongoing life and promote the flourishing of all three Tikanga of the Church; and
- b) that talanoa and wānanga should be led by Tikanga Māori; and
- c) canonical change to some of the Ministry Bodies and Standing Commissions of the Church contained in Title E of the Canons of the Church is expected to be required; and

Whereas, this General Synod/te Hīnota Whānui wishes to create both space and a mechanism to enable that talanoa and wānanga to proceed and resultant necessary canonical change to be carefully considered;

The General Synod/Te Hīnota Whānui enacts as follows:

- 1. Title.** The Title of this Statute is *The Title E Canon II Amendment Statute 2026*.
- 2. Purpose.** To amend Title E Canon II, to provide for a temporary change to the membership and work of Te Kotahitanga so that body can further the work of talanoa and wānanga the Church needs at this time.
- 3. Amendment.** Title E Canon II Clause 3 is amended for the period from 20 August 2026 to the opening of the 2028 General Synod/te Hīnota Whānui.

1. Clause 3.1 is replaced as follows:

3.1 There is hereby constituted Te Kotahitanga as a Standing Commission of the General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui and comprised of up to seven members appointed by Runanga Whāiti.

2. Clause 3.2 is amended by deletion of the following words:

‘PROVIDED THAT the Standing Committee of General Synod shall act in the case of members appointed under the provisions of Clause 3.1(a) of this Canon.’

3. Clause 3.4 is amended by deletion of the words “by Tikanga”

4. Clause 3.8 is amended by deletion of the following words:

“PROVIDED THAT at least one representative from each Tikanga shall be present.”

5. Clause 3.9 is deleted

6. Clause 3.11 is amended by the replacement of the full stop at the end of subclause (p) with a semicolon and the addition of the following further words:

“PROVIDED THAT General Synod Standing Committee may suspend the obligation to pursue any of the objects set out in subclauses (a) to (p) inclusive for any period between 20 August 2026 and the opening of General Synod/te Hīnota Whānui 2028 as General Synod Standing Committee.

7. In clauses 3.12 subclauses (9) 1 to 10 inclusive and clause 4.1.16 wherever the words “Te Kotahitanga” appear they are replaced by the words “General Synod Standing Committee”.

We certify that this Statute was passed by the General Synod / te Hīnota Whānui on 20 August 2026. As witnessed by my hand 1 October 2026.



*D Tamihere
Primate and Archbishop*



*J Duckworth
Primate and Archbishop*



*S Ulu'ilakepa
Primate and Archbishop*