

The Guild of St. Joseph the Carpenter and St. George's Heritage Preservation Trust

In September 2016 Bishop George proposed that the Cathedral Executive establish *The Guild of St Joseph the Carpenter* to support the Fabric Committee in financing our ongoing maintenance needs.

The committee was aware that some work remained to be done on the exterior of the buildings that would probably retire our reserves. At the same time concern was voiced regarding how major structural problems that would require attention over the ensuing few years would be financed. André Scheinman, our Heritage Consultant, in cooperation with Ken Whatley, had warned that work on areas such as the clock tower, which might need to be totally rebuilt, would need to be faced within a few years. The need to replace the fluorescent lighting within the Cathedral was obvious to all. This, in turn, drew attention to problems in the ceiling and walls that had resulted from water leakage prior to the recent re-slating. Mr. Scheinman confirmed that a significant expenditure would be required to bring the Cathedral back to where it was following the McLennan renovation.

The Guild members decided to launch a new initiative: a Trust to attract and accumulate funds that could only be expended when major renovations were required. The Trust would be managed by our duly elected Cathedral Trustees. Furthermore, it would act only upon the advice of a board whose membership comprised individuals within the larger community that had both knowledge and experience in heritage conservation.

A campaign, under the Patronage of Brit Smith, to deal with the current requirements of the Cathedral's interior was launched on Wednesday, September 20th. The focus of this initiative will be to raise funds from the larger community, trusts and corporations.

On Sunday September 24, 2017 the Trust was introduced to the congregation. Though contributions will always be an important source of funds, here the focus will be on bequests and insurance policies that will help to preserve our historic property for future generations.

September 24, 2017