

ELCPAP
Communications Update
Chapter Six
December 19, 2023

On January 18, 2023, Bishop William T. McGrattan publicly announced the East Lethbridge Catholic Parish Assessment Project (ELCPAP) that will culminate with local recommendations to him in January 2024. This is the sixth in a series of regular Chapter updates to keep you informed of the status of the project and explain how current activities are related to the overall project.

Current Activities

Since Sept 29, the Evaluation and Recommendations Team, led by Ryan Tarnava, has been pouring over all of the information that has been researched from previous teams (Option Generation and Data Collection and Needs Analysis). It is important for Ryan's team to fully understand and digest this data and key learnings as that will form the basis of their recommendations to the Bishop. This information now exceeds 800 pages and more information is coming in weekly.

Unfortunately, we became aware in November that receipt of certain key information from outside third parties has been delayed and will now not be available to Ryan's team until the end of January, 2024. The consequence of this development not only puts undue pressure on that team, but also compresses the time needed for the Bishop's internal Diocesan approval process. As a result, I approached the Bishop for relief against our January, 2024 deadline to provide him with recommendations. The Bishop graciously understood our time challenges, particularly in light of the compounding capacity issues due to the declining number of priests in Southern Alberta.

On December 8, the Bishop informed me by letter that he supported a brief extension of the ELCPAP project timeline. His revised expectation to announce the decision of the ELCPAP project is on Divine Mercy Sunday, April 7, 2024. While we are all disappointed that a project extension was needed, I am convinced it is the right decision to ensure the quality of the recommendations to the Bishop. (The Bishop's Dec. 8 letter will be posted on the All Saints Website).

Next Steps

Ryan's team has currently identified approximately 40 possible scenarios to fulfill the Bishop's project mandate that we be open to all possibilities for the future of All Saint's Parish. These scenarios have been identified from reviewing the data from the previous teams.

The next step is for Ryan's team is to test those scenarios using an Evaluation Criteria Tool and to discern draft recommendations in early January. The missing information from outside third parties will be added to the review process once it is received.

If you have any questions, or would like more information on the project, please ask me directly, or refer to the website including the Bishop's January 18, 2023 PowerPoint.

Father Kevin