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For Immediate Release

Atlantic School of Theology (AST) extends President's term of office

The Board of Governors of AST is pleased to announce that at its recent meeting it approved a three year extension to The Reverend Canon Eric Beresford's current contract as the President. He has graciously accepted.

The Board acknowledges with gratitude that during his first term Canon Beresford has done exemplary work in building external relationships and "putting AST on the map." He has worked closely and effectively with the three founding partners and denominations of AST (Anglican, Roman Catholic and United Church) and with Saint Mary's University, with which we are affiliated. He has laid a solid foundation for the further advancement of AST. The Board expects that his efforts will bear much fruit especially as the new Strategic Plans for the School are implemented.

Canon Beresford has earned a reputation for being a fine preacher and for his theological reflection that faithfully relates the Gospel to contemporary life. On campus, he continues his leadership to strengthen and cultivate positive community relations. An advocate of the spiritual and theological connections with art and music, he strongly supports AST's new ventures with the Sacred Music Concert Series and the Art Shows in the library. He also continues his involvement in the Canadian Centre for Ethics in Public Affairs, a joint venture of AST and Saint Mary's University, which is of particular interest to him since Ethics and Theology is one of his special fields of study. While there are many challenges for the President in these difficult times, the Board is confident that under his leadership, and with the support and encouragement of the AST community, these challenges will be met.

The Board extends congratulations to Canon Beresford on this auspicious occasion and looks forward to his continuing work among and on behalf of the AST community. We wish him well for the future with our prayers and blessings.

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