



News Release

May 1, 2017

For Immediate Release

**Anglican Church of Canada's First National Indigenous Bishop
to receive Honorary Degree at AST Convocation**

Halifax, NS – During Convocation ceremonies on May 6, 2017, Atlantic School of Theology (AST) will award a Doctor of Divinity, *honoris causa*, to the Right Reverend Mark MacDonald, National Indigenous Bishop of the Anglican Church of Canada.

Bishop MacDonald is being recognized for his extensive advocacy work and dedication to indigenous issues. His considerable work in this area led to his appointment as the Anglican Church of Canada's first National Indigenous Bishop, after serving about 10 years as Bishop of the U.S. Episcopal Diocese of Alaska, where he was consecrated bishop on September 13, 1997. Prior to that, he had a long and varied ministry in Ontario, Minnesota, Wisconsin, Oregon, and the southeast regional mission of the Diocese of Navajoland. He is presently the North American President of the World Council of Churches and Board Chair for Church Innovations, Inc. He is also a Third Order Franciscan and has numerous published works to his credit.

Bishop MacDonald will give the address at AST's 2017 Convocation, which takes place Saturday, May 6, 2017, at 11:00 a.m., in Saint Benedict Parish, Halifax.

Located on the Northwest Arm in Halifax, Nova Scotia, AST is recognized as one of the finest theological universities in North America, educating postgraduate students for the ethical and theological challenges of today's world.

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